2009 UEFA EUROPEAN WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP
MATCH PRESS KIT

Tampere Stadium, Tampere
Monday 24 August 2009 - 19.00CET (20.00 local time)
Group B - Matchday 1

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Iceland's debut match in a UEFA senior final tournament for either gender will be against familiar opposition as they played France twice in qualifying Group 3.

• When these teams met at Reykjavik's Laugardalsvöllur national stadium on 16 June 2007, both sides were yet to drop a point. Top seeds France dominated but none of their 23 shots found a way past Iceland goalkeeper Thóra Helgadóttir and Margrét Lára Vidarsdóttir secured a 1-0 home win nine minutes from time after being set up by Dóra María Lárusdóttir, then her club-mate at Valur Reykjavík.

• The teams were:

**Iceland:** Thóra Helgadóttir, Ásta Árnadóttir, Erla Steina Amardóttir (Dóra María Lárusdóttir), Sif Atladóttir, Edda Gardarsdóttir, Gudrún Sóley Gunnarsdóttir, Asthildur Helgadóttir, Katrín Jónsdóttir, Greta Mjoll Samuelsdóttir (Hólmfrídur Magnúsdóttir), Dóra Stefánsdóttir, Margrét Lára Vidarsdóttir.

**France:** Sarah Bouhaddi, Corine Franco, Ophélie Meilleroux, Sandrine Dusang, Sonia Bompastor, Camille Abily, Sandrine Soubeyard, Elise Bussaglia, Louisa Nécib (Elodie Thomis), Gaetane Thiney (Laetitia Tonazzi), Hoda Lattaf.

• The result was big news in Iceland and five days later their 5-0 defeat of Serbia was watched by 5,976 fans at the Laugardalsvöllur, a national record crowd for a women's international. They lost their next game 2-1 in Slovenia but other than that neither they nor France dropped another point before their final match in La Roche-sur-Yon on 27 September 2008.

• France needed a win to overtake Iceland and took the lead on six minutes through Sandrine Soubeyard. Katrín Jónsdóttir equalised two minutes into the second half but three minutes later Candie Herbert restored the French lead, an advantage they never relinquished.

• The teams were:

**France:** Céline Deville, Corine Franco, Laura Georges, Sabrina Viguier, Sonia Bompastor, Sandrine Soubeyard, Elodie Thomis, Camille Abily, Elise Bussaglia (Delphine Blanc), Louisa Nécib, Candie Herbert (Sandrine Brétigny).

**Iceland:** Thóra Helgadóttir, Ásta Árnadóttir (Harpa Thorsteinsdóttir), Dóra María Lárusdóttir (Rakel Hönnudóttir), Hólmfrídur Magnúsdóttir, Edda Gardarsdóttir, Gudrún Sóley Gunnarsdóttir, Sara Björk Gunnarsdóttir, Katrín Jónsdóttir, Ólína Gudbjörg Vidarsdóttir, Dóra Stefánsdóttir (Katrín Ómarsdóttir), Margrét Lára Vidarsdóttir.

• Their overall qualifying records were:

France P8 W7 D0 L1 F31 A2 PTS21
Iceland P8 W6 D0 L2 F27 A4 PTS18

• Iceland now faced a play-off, having lost at that stage to Germany in the 1997 edition and Norway eight years later. But they made a superb start in the away first leg in the Republic of Ireland with a Hólmfrídur Magnúsdóttir goal after two minutes, although Stephanie Curtis levelled just past the hour.

• The teams met again four days later at a freezing Laugardalsvöllur and two goals from Lárusdóttir either side of a Margrét Lára Vidarsdóttir strike ensured Iceland prevailed 4-1 on aggregate.

• Overall Iceland and France have played six times, all in UEFA European Women's Championship qualifying. In the 1997 edition, France drew 3-3 in Iceland before a 3-0 home win. Eight years later Les Bleues prevailed 2-0 at home and 3-0 away. Overall France have four wins and Iceland one win with one draw, and France lead 13-5 on the goal count.

• Whereas Iceland are in their first finals, France have competed in all three editions since the eight-team showpiece stage was introduced, though they departed in the group stage in 1997, 2001 and 2005. Les Bleues suffered the same fate in their sole appearance in the FIFA Women's World Cup finals in 2003.

• Margrét Lára Vidarsdóttir was the leading scorer in the qualifying group stage with eleven goals and, including the play-offs, in qualifying overall with a tally of 12.

**Team facts**

**ICELAND**

UEFA WOMEN'S EURO 2009™ will be the first senior final tournament for either men or women to feature a team from Iceland, though they have entered this competition since its inaugural 1984 edition.
The closest they had come in the past was 1995, when they lost a two-legged quarter-final to England, and they also reached the 1997 and 2005 play-offs, losing respectively to eventual winners Germany and finalists Norway. But this time under coach Siggi Eyjólfsson they made the breakthrough, beating France 1-0 at home. Although they were to lose the group decider 2-1 in France, the Republic of Ireland were dispatched 4-1 on aggregate in the play-offs, Margrét Lára Vidarsdóttir taking her qualifying-leading goal tally to 12.

Tournament record
2005: qualifying play-offs
2001: qualifying
1997: qualifying play-offs
1995: quarter-finals
1993: qualifying
1987/89/91: did not enter
1984: qualifying

2009 qualifying
P10 W7 D1 L2 F31 A5

Top scorer: Margrét Lára Vidarsdóttir 12
Most appearances: Gudrún Sóley Gunnarsdóttir, Katrín Jónsdóttir, Dóra María Lárusdóttir, Margrét Lára Vidarsdóttir 10

Friendly results since qualifying
04/03/09 Iceland 3-1 Norway (Algarve Cup)
06/03/09 Iceland 0-1 United States (Algarve Cup)
09/03/09 Iceland 0-2 Denmark (Algarve Cup)
11/03/09 Iceland 1-2 China (Algarve Cup, sixth place)
25/04/09 Iceland 1-1 Netherlands
16/07/09 England 0-2 Iceland
19/07/09 Iceland 1-2 Denmark (in England)
15/08/09 Iceland 5-0 Serbia (2011 FIFA Women's World Cup qualifier)

Competition record win
10-0 v Poland (h), 13/09/03, 2005 qualifying

Competition record defeat
0-6 v Germany (h), 17/08/00, 2001 qualifying
0-6 v Sweden (a), 09/09/82, 1984 qualifying

FRANCE

The French women's national team played their first international as early as 1971 but it is only in the last decade or so that women's football has attracted widespread interest in the country.

For a long time the French regarded football as a masculine pursuit and girls were not encouraged to practise the sport at school. Interest began to increase following the emergence of one of the game's true stars, Marinette Pichon. After spending much of her youth trying to convince boys she was good enough to play with them – then embarrassing them by scoring a hatful of goals – Pichon made her debut for Les Bleues in 1994. For more than a decade, the striker, who was to play professionally in the United States, stood out as the star performer, helping them to the 1997, 2001 and 2005 final tournaments as well as the 2003 FIFA Women's World Cup. That year they won the UEFA European Women's Under-19 Championship and much of that squad, plus coach Bruno Bini, were part of the side that qualified this time around, winning the decisive match 2-1 at home to Iceland.

Tournament record
2005: group stage
2001: group stage
1997: group stage
1995: qualifying
1993: qualifying
1991: qualifying
1989: quarter-finals
1987: qualifying
1984: qualifying

Other honours
2003 UEFA European Women's Under-19 Championship winners

**2009 qualifying**
P8 W7 D0 L1 F31 A2

Top scorer: Camille Abily 5
Most appearances: Camille Abily, Sonia Bompastor, Elise Bussaglia, Elodie Thomis 8

**Players with previous European final tournament experience**

*Did not appear

**Friendly results since qualifying**
14/12/08 France 0-2 Netherlands
12/02/09 France 2-0 Republic of Ireland
05/03/09 France 2-0 Scotland (Cyprus Women's Cup)
07/03/09 France 2-2 England (Cyprus Women's Cup)
10/03/09 France 3-2 South Africa (Cyprus Women's Cup)
12/03/09 France 1-1 New Zealand, 6-5pens (Cyprus Women's Cup, third place)
22/04/09 France 2-0 Switzerland
25/04/09 France 1-0 Switzerland
01/08/09 France 0-4 Japan
12/08/09 France 4-0 Scotland

**Competition record win**
8-0 v Serbia (a), 27/10/07, 2009 qualifying

**Competition record defeat**
0-4 v Denmark (h), 02/05/92, 1993 qualifying
**Iceland**

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**Key:** Squad list is ordered by position and then numerically

D Disciplinary: * Misses next match if booked, $ Suspended, # Suspended for at least one match

Last updated 24/08/09 12:33:09CET
### France

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**Key:** Squad list is ordered by position and then numerically.  
D Disciplinary: * Misses next match if booked, S Suspended, # Suspended for at least one match.
Group B

Standings

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Matchday 1 (24/08/09)
Germany v Norway

Matchday 1 (24/08/09)
Iceland v France

Matchday 2 (27/08/09)
France v Germany

Matchday 2 (27/08/09)
Iceland v Norway

Matchday 3 (30/08/09)
Germany v Iceland

Matchday 3 (30/08/09)
Norway v France

Knockout Phase
## Tournament schedule

### Final tournament

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**Tournament schedule**

Last updated 24/08/09 12:33:09 CET
Head coach

Iceland: Siggi Eyjólfssson
Date of birth: 1 December 1973

Playing career: KR Reykjavík, ÍA Akranes (twice), UNC Greensboro Spartans, Walsall FC, Chester City FC, KRC Harelbeke

Coaching career: Iceland women

The first man to lead an Iceland team to a senior final tournament in either men's or women's football, Siggi Eyjólfssson had a cosmopolitan playing career before moving into coaching.

Born in December 1973 and entering the youth ranks of KR Reykjavík at a young age, he graduated to the first team and helped them win the 1994 Icelandic Cup. In 1995, he moved to the United States for a bachelor's degree in exercise and sports science and then a master's in exercise and sports psychology at the University of North Carolina in Greensboro. Returning home with ÍA Akranes in 1998, the following year he joined English club Walsall FC, scoring in a 3-1 win against Oldham Athletic FC that secured promotion to the second tier.

He was loaned to Chester City FC for the first three months of 2000, before leaving Walsall for KRC Harelbeke of Belgium that November. Six months later, Eyjólfssson was back at KR, winning two league titles in as many years, and he ended his career in 2005 at IA. In 2002 he also began working at the Football Association of Iceland as technical director, and in that time he studied for UEFA's coaching qualifications. He earned the UEFA Pro Licence in 2007 in England, making him one of just two people from Iceland to hold that qualification at the time.

In January 2007, Eyjólfssson was appointed to the helm of the Iceland women's team, taking a particular interest in the psychological side of coaching as befitting his academic speciality. Success in UEFA WOMEN'S EURO 2009™ qualification was immediate, with his charges beating France 1-0 that June. Although Les Bleues ultimately pipped them to first place in the group, Iceland defeated the Republic of Ireland 4-1 in the play-offs, with an overall home record in the competition of five wins from five games and 21 unanswered goals.

France: Bruno Bini
Date of birth: 1 October 1954


Coaching career: France Under-16 women, France U20 women, France U18 women, Méditerranée Amateur, France U19 women, France women

Bruno Bini took over from Elisabeth Loisel at the helm of the France senior team on 16 February 2007, having previously won a European title at youth level. His predecessor had been in charge for ten years and had plenty of achievements to her name, but Bini lived up to expectations by reaching the UEFA European Women's Championship finals at the first attempt.

Bini was an excellent amateur football player. Twice a South-East Junior champion in the early 1970s with Laragne Sports and AS Aix-en-Provence, he had an apprenticeship at AS Nancy-Lorraine in 1973/74 but never turned professional, subsequently playing for Tours FC, US Orléans, FC Meung-sur-Loire and FC Orléans.

Working as a regional coach, as well as at the Ministry of Justice, Bini was appointed to lead the France women's Under-16 and U20 teams in 1993. Four years later, he took over the U18 side, finishing second at the 1998 UEFA European Women's U18 Championship. He repeated that in the first U19 event in 2002 and the following year France took the title in Germany.

Stepping down in 2004, three years later he returned to succeed Loisel with the senior side and they topped their UEFA WOMEN'S EURO 2009™ qualifying group ahead of Iceland, with a team familiar to him from his youth squads. Married with one daughter, Bini has said: "Coaching women, I think, suited me more than anything else." A man of letters, he is able to conjure a Paulo Coelho quotation or deploy Jean de la Fontaine fables in his team talks.
Competition facts

- The UEFA European Competition for Representative Women's Teams was introduced in 1982, with the first final two years later, and further competitions were played in 1987 and 1989 before becoming the current UEFA European Women's Championship.

- The 1991 and 1993 editions ended, like the 1987 and 1989 events, in four-team knockout final tournament. The 1995 edition was two-leg knockout from the quarter-finals onwards, with a one-off final. For 1997, 2001 and 2005 an eight-team final tournament was played, expanding to 12 for 2009.

- The full rundown of finals is (hosts in brackets):
  **UEFA European Women's Championship**
  2005: Germany 3-1 Norway (Blackburn, England)
  2001: Germany 1-0 Sweden, aet golden goal; (Ulm, Germany)
  1997: Germany 2-0 Italy (Oslo, Norway)
  1995: Germany 3-2 Sweden (Kaiserslautern, Germany)
  1993: Norway 1-0 Italy (Cesena, Italy)
  1991: Germany 3-1 Norway aet (Aalborg, Denmark)
  **UEFA European Competition for Representative Women's Teams**
  1989: West Germany 4-1 Norway (Osnabruck, West Germany)
  1987: Norway 2-1 Sweden (Oslo, Norway)
  1984: Sweden 1-1 England, 4-3 pens (two legs, Gothenburg and Luton)


- The first final went to penalties after two home 1-0 wins between Sweden and England, with no extra time. Sweden prevailed 4-3 in the Luton shoot-out.

- There have been three other penalty competitions, all in semi-finals; hosts West Germany beat Italy 4-3 in 1989, Norway defeated hosts Denmark 8-7 in 1991 and hosts Italy overcame Germany 4-3 in 1993. Only West Germany in 1989 went on to win the final.

**Biggest wins**

- Qualifying: Spain 17-0 Slovenia (1995); Norway 17-0 Slovakia (1997)
- Two-legged knockout: Commonwealth of Independent States 0-7 Germany (1993)
- Final tournament: Denmark 0-5 Norway (1997); Germany 5-0 Russia (2001)

**Individual match goalscoring**

- Qualifying: 6 – Mari Mar Prieto (Spain) v Slovenia, 1995; Gabriela Chlumecká (Czech Republic) v Estonia, 1997; Marianne Pettersen (Norway) v Slovakia, 1997
- Final tournament: 4 – Marianne Pettersen (Norway) v Denmark, 1997

**Overall competition top scorers**

- 2005: Birgit Prinz (Germany) 17
- 2001: Gitte Krogh (Denmark) 14
- 1997: Gabriela Chlumecká (Czech Republic), Marianne Pettersen (Norway) 13
- 1995: Patricia Brocker (Germany) 18
- 1993: Carolina Morace (Italy) 13
- 1991: Heidi Mohr (Germany) 10

**Finals top scorers**

- 2005: Inka Grings (Germany) 4
- 2001: Claudia Müller (Germany), Sandra Smisek (Germany) 3
- 1997: Carolina Morace (Italy), Marianne Pettersen (Norway), Angélique Rouhas (France) 4
- 1995: Lena Videkull (Sweden) 3
- 1993: Susan Mackensie (Denmark) 2
- 1991: Heidi Mohr (Germany) 4

Last updated 24/08/09 12:33:09CET
All time (final tournaments)
Heidi Mohr (Germany) 11
Birgit Prinz (Germany) 8
Carolina Morace (Italy) 7

All time (including qualifying)
Birgit Prinz (Germany) 38
Carolina Morace (Italy) 36
Heidi Mohr (Germany) 32

2009 qualifying top scorers
Preliminary round: Sarit Shenar (Israel), Katarína Dugovicová (Slovakia) 6
Qualifying round: Margrét Lára Vidarsdóttir (Iceland) 11
Play-offs: Pauline Hamill (Scotland) 4
Overall: Margrét Lára Vidarsdóttir (Iceland) 12

Highest attendances
Qualifying: Germany v Belgium, Lubeck 2009, 17,000
Final tournament: England v Finland, Manchester 2005, 29,092

2009 Highest attendances
Preliminary round: Croatia v Turkey, Tarsus-Mersin, 5,000
Qualifying round: Germany v Belgium, Lubeck, 17,000

(Final tournament only)
Oldest player: Elisabeth Leidinge (Sweden) v Germany, 26.03.1995, 38 years 20 days
Oldest goalscorer: Heidi Støre (Norway) v Denmark, 30.06.1997, 33 years 361 days
Youngest player: Isabell Herlovsen (Norway) v Germany, 06.06.2005, 16 years 348 days
Youngest goalscorer: Isabell Herlovsen (Norway) v France, 09.06.2005, 16 years 351 days
Tournament preview

• **Knockout phase:** The top two from each group go through, plus the two best third-placed teams.

• **Quarter-finals:**
  3 September: QF1, A1 v B3/C3, Turku Stadium, 16.00 local time; QF4, A2 v B2, Tampere Stadium, 20.00.
  4 September: QF2, B1 v C2, Lahti Stadium, 16.00; QF 3C1 v A3/B3, Helsinki Football Stadium, 20.00.

• **Semi-finals:**
  6 September: QF1 v QF4, Tampere Stadium, 19.00
  7 September: QF2 v QF3, Helsinki Football Stadium, 19.00

• **Final:**
  10 September: Olympic Stadium, Helsinki, 19.00.

• **Medals:** 35 gold medals are presented to the winning team, 35 silver medals to the runners-up and 35 bronze medals to the two losing semi-finalists.

• **Carlsberg Player of the Match:** The UEFA Technical Study Group will select a player of the match at every game in the finals. The player will receive her award at the post-match press conference.

• **adidas Golden Boot award:** Will be presented to the leading scorer at the UEFA European Women's Championship after the final.

• **Official ball:** The 2009 finals in Finland will be the first UEFA European Women's Championship to boast its own match ball, with the adidas TERRAPASS – featuring a design inspired by the northern lights – unveiled at the draw in Helsinki on 18 November 2008. Just like EUROPASS, the official matchball of UEFA EURO 2008™, adidas TERRAPASS features the revolutionary PSC-Texture, a sophisticated and extremely fine structure on the ball's outer skin which allows players to control and direct the ball perfectly in all weather conditions. adidas first started manufacturing footballs in 1963 and has provided all the official match balls for all major UEFA and FIFA finals tournaments since 1970.

• **Official song:** Veteran singer-songwriter Geir Rönning and local star Karoliina Kallio have recorded the official song of the UEFA European Women's Championship entitled Champions of the Day, performed live for the first time at the tournament's opening ceremony in Helsinki's Olympic Stadium on 23 August. The pair have both represented Finland at the Eurovision Song Contest. Rönning not only composed the tune together with co-writers André Noël Chaker and Jukka Karjalainen; he sings it with Kallio, who is famous in Finland as the lead female vocalist of the group Waldo's People. Now a fully fledged pop star, Kallio's music career dates back two decades to her appearance as a ten-year-old on a television talent show.

**Eurovision experience**
Norwegian-born Rönning was the Finnish representative at Eurovision in 2005. The same year he sang the official song of the IAAF World Championships in Athletics, which took place in Helsinki. Kallio, 29, flew the flag for the Nordic nation at Eurovision in Moscow earlier this year. Champions of the Day will also be performed in Finnish (as Pallo pyörimään) and in Swedish (Varje steg för varann). UEFA WOMEN'S EURO 2009™ runs from 23 August to 10 September, with the Finnish cities of Helsinki, Lahti, Tampere and Turku staging a total of 25 matches.

• **Qualifying:** The 20-team preliminary round ran from 18 to 23 November 2006 with five group winners joining 25 top-ranked nations in the qualifying group stage from 1 April 2007 until 2 October 2008. Group winners England, Sweden, France, Germany, Denmark and Norway qualified automatically, with the six runners-up and four third-placed teams going into the two-legged play-offs on 25/26 and 29/30 October 2008. Italy, the Netherlands, Russia, Iceland and Ukraine respectively defeated the Czech Republic, Spain, Scotland, the Republic of Ireland and Slovenia.

• **Disciplinary information:** A player is automatically suspended for the next match after two cautions in two different matches. Yellow cards are not cancelled after the group stage but do expire on completion of the competition.

• **uefa.com:** A team of reporters in Finland is helping uefa.com provide unrivalled coverage in eight European languages – English, Finnish, French, German, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Russian – including a live MatchCentre for every game. The Finnish version is run in close co-operation with the host national association.

• **Ambassadors:** Former international goalkeepers Antti Niemi and Satu Kunnas are the ambassadors for UEFA WOMEN'S EURO 2009™ in their native Finland. Niemi was capped 67 times between 1992 and 2007 while Kunnas helped Finland to the UEFA European Women's Championship semi-finals in 2005.
Legend

:: Squad list
No: number
DoB: date of birth
Qual: qualifying
FT: final tournament
Pld: played
Gs: goals
WChamp: UEFA European Women's Championship

:: Match officials
Nat: nationality
DoB: date of birth

WChamp: Total matches officiated in the UEFA European Women's Championship including all qualifying round matches. Matches as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

UEFA: Total matches officiated in all UEFA competitions including all qualifying round matches. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

:: Group statistics/Tournament schedule
Pos: position
Pld: matches played
W: won
D: drawn
L: lost
GF: goals for
GA: goals against
Pts: points

:: NOTE: All-time statistics
Goals totals include the outcome of disciplinary decisions (e.g. match forfeits when a 3-0 result is determined). Goals totals do not include goals scored from the penalty mark during a penalty shoot-out.

:: Competitions
Club competitions
ECCC: European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League
UCUP: UEFA Cup • UCWC: UEFA Cup Winners' Cup
SCUP: UEFA Super Cup • UIC: UEFA Intertoto Cup
ICF: Inter-Cities Fairs Cup

:: Other Abbreviations
AP: Appearances
Comp.: Competition
D: Drawn
DoB: Date of birth
GA: Goals against
GF: Goals for
L: Lost
Nat.: Nationality
N/a: Not Applicable
No.: Number
Pld: Matches played
Pos.: Position
Pts: Points
R: Sent off (red card)
Res.: Result
W: Won
Y: Booked
Y/R: Sent off (yellow card then direct red)

:: Statistics
(+): Denotes player introduced
(-): Denotes player substituted
(+/-): Denotes player introduced and substituted

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