

# UEFA NATIONS LEAGUE - 2018/19 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



**England**

**Wembley Stadium - London**

Sunday 18 November 2018  
15.00CET (14.00 local time)

Group A4 - Matchday 6



**Croatia**

Last updated 03/06/2019 12:25CET



Previous meetings	2
Squad list	3
Head coach	5
Match officials	6
Competition facts	7
Match-by-match lineups	10
Legend	11

## Previous meetings

### Head to Head

#### UEFA Nations League

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
12/10/2018	GS-FT	Croatia - England	0-0	Rijeka	

#### FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
11/07/2018	SF	Croatia - England	2-1 (aet)	Moscow	Perišić 68, Mandžukić 109 ET; Trippier 5

#### FIFA World Cup

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
09/09/2009	QR (GS)	England - Croatia	5-1	London	Lampard 7 (P), 59, Gerrard 18, 67, Rooney 77; Eduardo 71
10/09/2008	QR (GS)	Croatia - England	1-4	Zagreb	Mandžukić 78; Walcott 26, 59, 82, Rooney 63

#### UEFA EURO 2008

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
21/11/2007	QR (GS)	England - Croatia	2-3	London	Lampard 56 (P), Crouch 65; Kranjčar 8, Olić 14, Petrić 77
11/10/2006	QR (GS)	Croatia - England	2-0	Zagreb	Eduardo 59, G. Neville 65 (og)

#### UEFA EURO 2004

Date	Stage reached	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
21/06/2004	GS-FT	Croatia - England	2-4	Lisbon	N.Kovač 5, Tudor 73; Scholes 40, Rooney 45+1, 68, Lampard 79

	Qualifying								Final tournament				Total					
	Home				Away													
	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
<b>Total</b>																		
England	2	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	3	1	1	1	9	4	2	3	19	12
Croatia	2	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	3	1	1	1	9	3	2	4	12	19

# Squad list

## England

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	League phase				
						Pld	Gls			
<b>Goalkeepers</b>										
-	Jack <b>Butland</b>	10/03/1993	25	Stoke	-		0	0		
-	Alex <b>McCarthy</b>	03/12/1989	28	Southampton	-		0	0		
-	Jordan <b>Pickford</b>	07/03/1994	24	Everton	-		3	0		
<b>Defenders</b>										
-	Kyle <b>Walker</b>	28/05/1990	28	Man. City	-		2	0		
-	Michael <b>Keane</b>	11/01/1993	25	Everton	-		0	0		
-	Lewis <b>Dunk</b>	21/11/1991	26	Brighton	-		0	0		
-	Luke <b>Shaw</b>	12/07/1995	23	Man. United	-		1	0		
-	Joe <b>Gomez</b>	23/05/1997	21	Liverpool	-		2	0		
-	John <b>Stones</b>	28/05/1994	24	Man. City	-		2	0		
-	Trent <b>Alexander-Arnold</b>	07/10/1998	20	Liverpool	-		1	0		
-	Ben <b>Chilwell</b>	21/12/1996	21	Leicester	-		2	0		
<b>Midfielders</b>										
-	Fabian <b>Delph</b>	21/11/1989	28	Man. City	-		0	0		
-	Ross <b>Barkley</b>	05/12/1993	24	Chelsea	-		2	0		
-	Raheem <b>Sterling</b>	08/12/1994	23	Man. City	-		2	2		
-	Jesse <b>Lingard</b>	15/12/1992	25	Man. United	-		1	0		
-	Eric <b>Dier</b>	15/01/1994	24	Tottenham	-		3	0		
-	Ruben <b>Loftus-Cheek</b>	23/01/1996	22	Chelsea	-		0	0		
-	Dele <b>Alli</b>	11/04/1996	22	Tottenham	-		1	0		
-	Harry <b>Winks</b>	02/02/1996	22	Tottenham	-		1	0		
<b>Forwards</b>										
-	Harry <b>Kane</b>	28/07/1993	25	Tottenham	-		3	0		
-	Marcus <b>Rashford</b>	31/10/1997	21	Man. United	-		3	2		
-	Jadon <b>Sancho</b>	25/03/2000	18		-		1	0		
-	Callum <b>Wilson</b>	27/02/1992	26	Bournemouth	-		0	0		
<b>Coach</b>										
-	Gareth Southgate	03/09/1970	48		-		3	0		

## Croatia

No.	Player	DoB	Age	Club	D	League phase		Pld	Gls
<b>Goalkeepers</b>									
1	Dominik Livaković	09/01/1995	23	Dinamo Zagreb	-			1	0
12	Lovre Kalinić	03/04/1990	28	Gent	-			2	0
23	Karlo Letica	11/02/1997	21	Club Brugge	-			0	0
<b>Defenders</b>									
2	Šime Vrsaljko	10/01/1992	26	Internazionale	-			2	0
3	Antonio Milić	10/03/1994	24	Anderlecht	-			0	0
5	Matej Mitrović	10/11/1993	25	Club Brugge	-			1	0
6	Dejan Lovren	05/07/1989	29	Liverpool	-			2	0
13	Duje Ćaleta-Car	17/09/1996	22	Marseille	-			0	0
16	Tin Jedvaj	28/11/1995	22	Leverkusen	-			2	2
21	Domagoj Vida	29/04/1989	29	Beşiktaş	-			3	0
22	Josip Pivarić	30/01/1989	29	Dynamo Kyiv	-			2	0
<b>Midfielders</b>									
4	Ivan Perišić	02/02/1989	29	Internazionale	-			3	0
8	Nikola Vlašić	04/10/1997	21	CSKA Moskva	-			1	0
10	Luka Modrić	09/09/1985	33	Real Madrid	-			3	0
11	Marcelo Brozović	16/11/1992	26	Internazionale	-			2	0
14	Filip Bradarić	11/01/1992	26	Cagliari	-			0	0
15	Mario Pašalić	09/02/1995	23	Atalanta	-			0	0
17	Marko Rog	19/07/1995	23	Napoli	-			1	0
19	Milan Badelj	25/02/1989	29	Lazio	-			1	0
<b>Forwards</b>									
7	Josip Brekalo	23/06/1998	20	Wolfsburg	-			1	0
9	Andrej Kramarić	19/06/1991	27	Hoffenheim	-			2	1
18	Ante Rebić	21/09/1993	25	Frankfurt	-			2	0
20	Marko Pjaca	06/05/1995	23	Fiorentina	-			3	0
<b>Coach</b>									
-	Zlatko Dalić	26/10/1966	52		-			3	0

## Head coach

---

### Gareth Southgate

---

**Date of birth:** 3 September 1970

**Nationality:** English

**Playing career:** Crystal Palace, Aston Villa, Middlesbrough

**Coaching career:** Middlesbrough, England Under-21s, England

- Came through the ranks at Palace, initially as a midfielder, becoming captain and leading the club to promotion to the Premier League in 1993/94. Moved on to Villa following relegation in 1995 and was converted into a centre-back, winning the League Cup in his first season and helping the team reach the 2000 FA Cup final.
- Won 57 caps for England, although perhaps best known for missing a crucial penalty against Germany in the EURO '96 semi-final at Wembley; also appeared at the 1998 FIFA World Cup and UEFA EURO 2000.
- Left Villa for Middlesbrough in 2001 and became the first Boro captain to lift a trophy, skippering the side to victory against Sam Allardyce's Bolton in the 2004 League Cup final; also helped Boro reach the UEFA Cup final in memorable fashion two years later.
- Defeat by Sevilla in Eindhoven proved Southgate's last game as he moved into the Middlesbrough dug-out to succeed Steve McClaren following the latter's departure for England; kept them in the Premier League until 2009, when they were relegated with Southgate dismissed that October.
- Joined the Football Association in 2011, initially as head of elite development before taking over as Under-21 coach two years later; appointed caretaker manager of the national side in September 2016 following Allardyce's departure. Subsequently took the role full time and led the side to the 2018 World Cup in Russia, England ultimately reaching the semi-finals for the first time since 1990.

### Zlatko Dalić

---

**Date of birth:** 26 October 1966

**Nationality:** Croatian

**Playing career:** Hajduk Split (twice), Budućnost Titograd, Velež, Varteks (twice)

**Coaching career:** Varteks, Rijeka, Dinamo Tirana, Slaven Belupo (twice), al-Faisaly, al-Hilal, al-Ain, Croatia

- A midfielder, he spent the best years of his playing career at Varteks, scoring 13 goals in 108 matches from 1992–96.
- Played for Varteks in two spells, and after hanging up his boots in 2000, worked simultaneously as the club's assistant coach and sporting director. Took sole command on the field for the first time in 2005.
- Dalić more recently found success in the Middle East with al-Hilal (Saudi Arabia) and al-Ain (United Arab Emirates); in 2016, he led al-Ain to the AFC Champions League final, where they lost to South Korea's Jeonbuk FC over two legs.
- Assistant coach of Croatia under-21s from 2006-11, he returned to the national-team set-up as boss of the senior side on 7 October 2017, stepping in following the departure of Ante Čačić.
- A win away to Ukraine two days after Dalić's appointment earned a 2018 FIFA World Cup play-off place, where Greece were defeated as Croatia reached the finals, prompting Dalić to sign a contract running until 2020. They went on to excel in Russia, reaching the knockout stages for the first time since 1998 courtesy of wins against Nigeria, Argentina and Iceland; Denmark and hosts Russia were beaten on penalties en route to the semi-finals, where England were overcome in extra time, but France proved a step too far in the final.

## Match officials

<b>Referee</b>	Tasos Sidiropoulos (GRE)
<b>Assistant referees</b>	Polychronis Kostaras (GRE) , Lazaros Dimitriadis (GRE)
<b>Additional assistant referees</b>	Anastasios Papapetrou (GRE) , Ioannis Papadopoulos (GRE)
<b>Fourth official</b>	Damianos Efthimiadis (GRE)
<b>UEFA Delegate</b>	Martin Sturkenboom (NED)
<b>UEFA Referee observer</b>	Herbert Fandel (GER)

## Referee

Name	Date of birth		UEFA matches
Tasos Sidiropoulos	09/08/1979	1	62

## UEFA Nations League matches between the two teams

No such matches refereed

## Other matches involving teams from either of the two countries involved in this match

Date	Competition	Stage reached	Home	Away	Result	Venue
11/05/2013	U17	GS-FT	Ukraine	Croatia	1-2	Zlate Moravce
28/08/2014	UEL	PO	Torino FC	RNK Split	1-0	Turin
05/11/2014	UCL	GS	Manchester City FC	PFC CSKA Moskva	1-2	Manchester
26/11/2015	UEL	GS	Qarabağ FK	Tottenham Hotspur FC	0-1	Baku
16/08/2016	UCL	PO	GNK Dinamo Zagreb	FC Salzburg	1-1	Zagreb
14/09/2016	UCL	GS	Club Brugge	Leicester City FC	0-3	Bruges
07/03/2017	UCL	R16	Arsenal FC	FC Bayern München	1-5	London
12/09/2017	UCL	GS	Chelsea FC	Qarabağ FK	6-0	London

## Competition facts

---

### What is the background to the UEFA Nations League?

---

The rejuvenation of national team football – and the UEFA Nations League – stems from the desire of UEFA and its 55 member associations to improve the quality and standing of national team football. UEFA and its associations wanted more sporting meaning in national team football, with associations, coaches, players and supporters increasingly of the opinion that friendly matches are not providing adequate competition for national teams.

Extensive consultation and discussions started as far back as the 2011 UEFA Strategy Meeting in Cyprus and continued at a series of Top Executive Programme (TEP) meetings over the following three years. The UEFA Nations League was unanimously adopted at the XXXVIII Ordinary UEFA Congress in Astana on 27 March 2014.

### What is the basic format?

---

The format of the UEFA Nations League features promotion and relegation. The 55 European national teams have been divided into four leagues in accordance with UEFA's national association coefficient rankings on 11 October 2017.

League A includes the top-ranked sides and League D includes the lowest:

#### League A

---

Group A1: Germany, France, Netherlands

Group A2: Belgium, Switzerland, Iceland

Group A3: Portugal, Italy, Poland

Group A4: Spain, England, Croatia

Teams have been split into four groups of three, with the group winners then contesting the UEFA Nations League Finals (semi-finals, third-place match and final) in June 2019 to become the UEFA Nations League winners. One host country will be appointed in December 2018 from among the finalist teams.

The four teams that finish bottom of their groups will be relegated to League B for the 2020 edition.

The top four ranked teams that do not qualify for UEFA EURO 2020 will enter a play-off in March 2020, with one finals place on offer.

#### League B

---

Group B1: Slovakia, Ukraine, Czech Republic

Group B2: Russia, Sweden, Turkey

Group B3: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Northern Ireland

Group B4: Wales, Republic of Ireland, Denmark

Teams have been split into four groups of three.

The four group winners are promoted to League A, with the four sides that finish bottom relegated to League C for the next competition to be played in 2020.

The top four ranked teams that do not qualify for UEFA EURO 2020 will enter a play-off in March 2020, with one finals place on offer

#### League C

---

Group C1: Scotland, Albania, Israel

Group C2: Hungary, Greece, Finland, Estonia

Group C3: Slovenia, Norway, Bulgaria, Cyprus

Group C4: Romania, Serbia, Montenegro, Lithuania

Teams have been split into one group of three (containing teams from Pots 1, 2 and 3 only) and three groups of four. Due to winter venue restrictions, a group could contain a maximum of two of these teams: Norway, Finland, Estonia, Lithuania.

The four group winners are promoted to League B, with the four sides that finish bottom relegated to League D for the 2020 edition.

The top four ranked teams that do not qualify for UEFA EURO 2020 will enter a play-off in March 2020, with one finals place on offer.

#### League D

---

Group D1: Georgia, Latvia, Kazakhstan, Andorra

Group D2: Belarus, Luxembourg, Moldova, San Marino

Group D3: Azerbaijan, Faroe Islands, Malta, Kosovo

Group D4: FYR Macedonia, Armenia, Liechtenstein, Gibraltar

Teams have been split into four groups of four.

Due to excessive travel restrictions, any group could not contain a maximum of one of these pairs: Andorra & Kazakhstan, Faroe Islands & Kazakhstan, Gibraltar & Kazakhstan, Gibraltar & Azerbaijan

The four group winners are promoted to League C for the 2020 edition.

The top four ranked teams that do not qualify for UEFA EURO 2020 will enter a play-off in March 2020, with one final place on offer.

Leagues A and B consist of four groups of three teams

League C comprises one group of three teams and three groups of four sides

League D is formed by four groups of four teams

The League Phase Draw for the UEFA Nations League took place at the SwissTech Convention Centre in Lausanne on 24 January 2018.

In each league, four group winners are promoted (or play in the Finals, see below) and four teams are relegated for the next competition to be played in 2020.

The overall UEFA Nations League rankings will determine the composition of the draw pots for the subsequent European Qualifiers.

In addition, the UEFA Nations League will provide teams with another chance to qualify for the UEFA EURO final tournament, with four sides qualifying through play-off matches which take place in March 2020 (see below).

## **When will the UEFA Nations League take place?**

---

The UEFA Nations League will take place as follows:

See the full fixture list.

The UEFA Nations League group games are being held over six matchdays, during the 'double-headers' in September, October and November 2018. The UEFA Nations League Finals competition for the teams that win the four groups within the top division is scheduled for June 2019.

For the UEFA Nations League Finals, the group winners of UEFA Nations League A will play in a knockout format (semi-finals, third-place match and final) in June 2019 to become the UEFA Nations League winners. One host country will be formally appointed by the UEFA Executive Committee in December 2018 from one of the nations competing in the final four. Italy, Poland and Portugal (all in Group A3) have expressed interest.

The play-off matches will be staged in March 2020 (see below).

## **Will qualifying for the UEFA EURO change?**

---

The changes to UEFA EURO qualifying will make it more streamlined. The equation is now simple: ten groups with the top two teams in each group qualifying automatically, and the other four places being awarded to European Qualifiers play-off winners, in which the 16 group winners of the UEFA Nations League will be in contention.

The UEFA EURO 2020 qualifying draw will be made after the completion of the UEFA Nations League and allow for the four UEFA Nations League Finals participants to be drawn into groups of five teams.

But the key principle of the qualifiers remains: that every team can play every team.

The European Qualifiers for UEFA EURO 2020 commence in March 2019. There will be two matchdays in each of March, June, September, October and November 2019. In total, there will be five groups of five teams and five groups of six teams (ten groups in all) playing over ten matchdays (the same number as now). The winner and runner-up in each of the ten groups will qualify automatically for the UEFA EURO 2020 final tournament (June 2020).

The last four EURO places will be won through the European Qualifiers play-offs, which will take place in March 2020 and which will be contested by the 16 UEFA Nations League group winners.

If a group winner has already qualified via the European Qualifiers, then their spot will go to the next best-ranked team in their league. If a league does not have four teams to compete, the remaining slots are allocated to teams from another league, according to the overall UEFA Nations League ranking.

Each league will have a path of its own and each path will feature two single-leg semi-finals and one single-leg final. The winner of each path will win a ticket to UEFA EURO 2020.

## **How are the overall UEFA Nations League rankings calculated?**

---

Within each league (A, B, C and D), the overall ranking will be calculated based on position in the group then points, goal difference, goals scored, away goals scored, wins, away wins, disciplinary points, coefficient ranking.

## **What are the advantages for national associations and teams?**

---



National associations and coaches, in consultations with UEFA, revealed that they feel that friendly internationals are not providing adequate sporting competition. The UEFA Nations League creates more meaningful and competitive matches for teams and a dedicated calendar and structure for national team football.

Top teams can also aspire to take part in the UEFA Nations League Finals, a new top-level event.

For middle-ranking and smaller nations, the UEFA Nations League will offer an extra way to qualify for UEFA EURO final tournaments. Lower-tier countries – the bottom 16 in the rankings – are now guaranteed one of the 24 qualifying slots for UEFA EURO.

Lower-ranking teams who have struggled against sides ranked considerably higher than them will now get the chance to take part in balanced matches. Teams do not learn and progress by repeatedly losing; now some sides will start winning.

While the UEFA Nations League will replace most friendly internationals, there will still be space in the calendar for friendlies, especially for top teams who may want to face opposition from outside Europe as they will be in groups of three teams.

Associations and teams benefit from clarity of the fixture calendar, and there is now a clear buffer between the end of the UEFA EURO and FIFA World Cup, and vice versa, as well as stability of income.

## **What are the advantages for supporters?**

---

Supporters more than most realise that most friendlies fail to deliver competitive and meaningful football. Now they will have the opportunity to see their teams play in more competitive matches, take part in a new competition and get a second chance to qualify for the major tournaments.

In every even year there are World Cup or UEFA EURO champions; now in every odd year there will be a UEFA Nations League winners. Football is about competition and now, just like in club football, there will be a national team champion at the close of every season.

## **Will this mean more demands on players and clubs?**

---

No: the UEFA Nations League and European Qualifiers will adhere to the existing agreed international match calendar. UEFA is always keen to preserve the balance between club and international football. The new competition should, in fact, reduce demands on players and clubs with less travel envisaged for friendly games while national teams will be playing more consistently at their own level. With double-header matchweeks, players will even go back to their clubs earlier than is currently the case.

## **Is this just about generating more revenue?**

---

No, finances are not a driver for the new competition. However, the competition will have the same centralised media rights as have recently been introduced for all European Qualifiers so associations will have even more stability in their income.

## **Will there be no more friendly internationals?**

---

There will certainly be fewer friendly internationals and undoubtedly fewer meaningless friendlies. However, there will still be space in the calendar for friendly internationals – particularly warm-up matches for final tournaments. UEFA is also keen that European teams will still have the chance to play opponents from other confederations.

## Match-by-match lineups

---

### England

---

#### UEFA Nations League - Group stage – final tournament

##### Group A4

Team	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Spain	4	2	0	2	12	7	6
<b>England</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>

##### Matchday 1 (08/09/2018)

###### England 1-2 Spain

**Goals:** 1-0 Rashford 11, 1-1 Saúl Ñíguez 13, 1-2 Rodrigo 32

**England:** Pickford, Trippier, Shaw (53 Rose), Gomez, Stones, Maguire, Lingard, Henderson (64 Dier), Kane, Rashford (94 Welbeck), Alli

##### Matchday 3 (12/10/2018)

###### Croatia 0-0 England

**England:** Pickford, Walker, Chilwell, Dier, Stones, Maguire, Barkley, Henderson, Kane, Sterling (78 Sancho), Rashford

##### Matchday 4 (15/10/2018)

###### Spain 2-3 England

**Goals:** 0-1 Sterling 16, 0-2 Rashford 30, 0-3 Sterling 38, 1-3 Paco Alcácer 58, 2-3 Ramos 90+8

**England:** Pickford, Trippier (85 Alexander-Arnold), Chilwell, Dier, Gomez, Maguire, Barkley (75 Walker), Winks (90 Chalobah), Kane, Sterling, Rashford

##### Matchday 6 (18/11/2018)

England-Croatia

### Croatia

---

#### UEFA Nations League - Group stage – final tournament

##### Matchday 2 (11/09/2018)

###### Spain 6-0 Croatia

**Goals:** 1-0 Saúl Ñíguez 24, 2-0 Asensio 33, 3-0 Kalinić 35 (og) , 4-0 Rodrigo 49, 5-0 Ramos 57, 6-0 Isco 70

**Croatia:** Kalinić, Vrsaljko (20 Rog), Perišić, Mitrović, Rakitić, Kovačić, Modrić, Brozović (62 Pjaca), Santini (71 Livaja), Vida, Pivarić

##### Matchday 3 (12/10/2018)

###### Croatia 0-0 England

**Croatia:** Livaković, Perišić (68 Pjaca), Lovren, Rakitić, Kovačić (73 Badelj), Kramarić, Modrić, Jedvaj, Rebić (80 Livaja), Vida, Pivarić

##### Matchday 5 (15/11/2018)

###### Croatia 3-2 Spain

**Goals:** 1-0 Kramarić 54, 1-1 Ceballos 56, 2-1 Jedvaj 69, 2-2 Ramos 78 (P) , 3-2 Jedvaj 90+3

**Croatia:** Kalinić, Vrsaljko, Perišić, Lovren, Rakitić (67 Vlašić), Kramarić (89 Pjaca), Modrić, Brozović, Jedvaj, Rebić (73 Brekalo), Vida

##### Matchday 6 (18/11/2018)

England-Croatia

# Legend

---

## Competitions

---

**Disclaimer:** Although UEFA has taken all reasonable care that the information contained within this document is accurate at the time of publication, no representation or guarantee (including liability towards third parties), expressed or implied, is made as to its accuracy, reliability or completeness. Therefore, UEFA assumes no liability for the use or interpretation of information contained herein. More information can be found in the competition regulations available on UEFA.com.