2013 UEFA EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP
2011/13 SEASON
MATCH PRESS KIT

Group A - Matchday 2
Bloomfield, Tel Aviv
Saturday 8 June 2013
20.30CET (21.30 local time)

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## Previous competitive meetings

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#### UEFA European Under-21 Championship

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Last updated 08/06/13 11:40:02CET
Israel will need to make the most of the backing of a passionate home crowd at Bloomfield Stadium in Tel Aviv when they take on Group A leaders Italy in the second round of games in the UEFA European Under-21 Championship.

• The hosts endured late disappointment in their opening game against Norway, twice going ahead through Nir Biton and Alon Turgeman only to concede a 91st-minute equaliser. Italy had no such trouble, beating England 1-0 courtesy of Lorenzo Insigne’s superb free-kick with 11 minutes remaining.

Previous meetings
• The teams’ only past competitive encounters at U21 level came in the play-offs for the 2009 final tournament, when Pierluigi Casiraghi’s Italy were 3-1 winners in both the second leg in Tel Aviv and overall.

• The first game, in Ancona on 10 October 2008, ended goalless, but Italy seized control of the tie inside the first half-hour of the Bloomfield Stadium return thanks to two goals from Mario Balotelli (4, 25). Although Toto Tamuz raised hopes of an unlikely home comeback by pulling one back nine minutes into the second period, Ignazio Abate confirmed Italy’s progress to the finals in Sweden with a third goal 15 minutes from time.

• The teams in Tel Aviv on 15 October 2008 were:
  **Israel:** Levita, Kende, Chekol, Roash, Gan, Yeini (Natcho 58), Assulin, Cohen, Refaelov (Ben Haim 45), Tamuz, Abuhazira (Avidor 46).
  **Italy:** Consigli, Motta, De Ceglie, Marzoratti, Criscito, Cigarini, Candreva (Bolzoni 60), Morosini, Abate, Lanzafame (Pisano 89), Balotelli (Osvaldo 66).

Match background
• Israel's only previous final tournament appearance came six years ago, when a team coached by Guy Levy lost all three fixtures in the Netherlands, against Portugal (0-4), Belgium and the hosts (both 0-1).

• Prior to their draw against Norway, Israel had won three of their last four competitive U21 contests and both their last two having ended their unsuccessful qualifying campaign for the 2011 finals with a 5-0 home win against Montenegro and a 2-1 success in Sweden.

• Italy did not qualify in 2011, the first time they had missed out on the final tournament since 1998. The Azzurrini were champions in 1992, 1994, 1996 – the only team to win three successive U21 titles – 2000 and 2004 and reached the semi-finals on their last appearance four years ago.

• The five-time U21 champions saw off Sweden 4-2 on aggregate in the play-offs and lost only one of their ten qualifiers, winning eight.

Team ties
• Taleb Twatha was in the Israel side that lost 4-3 to Italy in a U16 tournament on 28 April 2008.

• Omri Altman played against Italy in a U19 friendly international on 29 February 2012. The game finished 1-1.

• Italy coach Devis Mangia worked with Israeli international Eran Zahavi, a former member of Israel’s U21 squad, during his spell in charge of US Città di Palermo in 2011/12.

Italy news
• Mangia has had double reason to celebrate in recent days. The Italy coach led his players to victory against England before toasting his 39th birthday at the team hotel on Thursday.

• However, it is not all good news in the Azzurrini camp. Luca Marrone strained his right hamstring during the latter stages of the England game and is still being assessed.

• After resting on Thursday morning, the team convened for training at 18.00 local time. There was a full session for those players who did not face England and a lighter programme for the rest of the squad.

Israel news
• Marwan Kabha is likely to miss the game against Italy after being withdrawn against Norway because of an abdominal injury. The midfielder is also a doubt for the final Group A game against England.

• Israel coach Guy Luzon has promised that his side will produce an improved performance in their second game and was upbeat ahead of training. "We will look a lot better against Italy," he said.

• Israel’s Thursday evening training session started later than scheduled because the coaching staff sat the players down to watch a video of the Norway match.
• The players were in buoyant mood during training as the majority started the session with a game of football volleyball.
Team facts

Italy

Final tournament record
2009: semi-finals
2007: group stage
2006: group stage
2004: winners
2002: semi-finals
2000: winners
1996: winners
1994: winners
1992: winners
1990: semi-finals
1988: quarter-finals
1986: runners-up
1984: semi-finals
1982: quarter-finals
1980: quarter-finals
1978: quarter-finals

All-time competitive record
P205 W127 D46 L32

2013 qualifying (including play-off)
P10 W8 D1 L1 F31 A10

Top scorers: Manolo Gabbiadini (6), Ciro Immobile (4)

Ever presents: Luca Marrone

Italy U21s capped at senior level
Mattia Destro (4), Marco Verratti (3), Alessandro Florenzi (2), Lorenzo Insigne (1), Manolo Gabbiadini (1), Fabio Borini (1)

Players with previous U21 final tournament experience
Sweden 2009: Alberto Paloschi

Most capped player
All-time: Andrea Pirlo (46)
Current: Luca Marrone (31)

Leading scorer
All-time: Alberto Gilardino (19)
Current: Manolo Gabbiadini (9)

Biggest wins
Final tournament:
Italy 3-0 Czechoslovakia 09/03/1994
1994 quarter-finals, Stadio Arechi, Salerno
Italy 3-0 Serbia and Montenegro 08/06/2004
2004 final, Bochum

Qualifying:
Italy 7-0 Liechtenstein 06/09/2012
2013 qualifying group stage, Stadio Ceravolo, Catanzaro
Italy 8-1 Wales 05/09/2003
2004 qualifying group stage, Stadio Fortunato, Pavia
Italy 7-0 Estonia 23/03/1995
1996 qualifying group stage, Stadio Ceravolo, Catanzaro

Heaviest defeats
Final tournament:
USSR 3-1 Italy, 02/04/1980
1980 quarter-finals, Razdam Stadium, Jereven
England 3-1 Italy, 18/04/1984
1984 quarter-finals, Maine Road, Manchester

**Qualifying:**
Norway 6-0 Italy 05/06/1991
1992 qualifying group stage, Stavanger Stadion, Stavanger
Israel

Final tournament record
2007: group stage

All-time competitive record
P92 W37 D20 L35

2011–13 friendlies
P14 W5 D2 L7 F18 A17

Top scorers: Orr Barouch (5)
Ever presents: None

Israel U21s capped at senior level
Eyal Golasa (7 caps), Nir Biton (6), Taleb Twatha (3), Omri Ben Harush (2)

Players with previous U21 final tournament experience
None

Most capped player
All-time: Arik Benado (39)
Current: Boris Kleyman, Omri Ben Harush, Nir Biton (19)

Leading scorer
All-time: Alon Mizrahi (15)
Current: Orr Barouch (5)

Biggest wins
Final tournament: N/A
Qualifying:
Israel 6-0 Austria 26/10/1993
Group stage, Herzliya Stadium, Herzliya

Heaviest defeats
Final tournament:
Portugal 4-0 Israel 16/06/2007
Group stage, Euroborg Stadium, Groningen

Qualifying:
Austria 5-1 Israel 27/10/1992
Group stage, Bundesstadion Südstadt, Sudstadt
Israel 0-4 Spain 13/10/1998
Group stage, Herzliya Stadium, Herzliya
# Squad list

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Last updated 08/06/13 11:40:02 CET
Head coach

Italy: Devis Mangia

Date of birth: 6 June 1974
Nationality: Italian
Playing career: -

- A goalkeeper at Milanese amateur club FC Enotria 1908 when growing up, he quit aged 20 “when I understood I wouldn’t make it a long way”. Soon started to coach the youth teams at the same club before continuing to work with young players for several amateur clubs in the north of Italy.

- Appointed by Varese in 2010 to coach the youth side, he was promoted to the first team in October that year and led the club to Serie C2 – the Italian fourth tier – with two consecutive promotions.

- A fervent admirer of Arrigo Sacchi, he coached three more teams in the lower divisions, before returning to Varese – who had reached Serie B in his absence – to coach their Primavera youth team. Led an unheralded side to the Scudetto Primavera final, which they eventually lost to AS Roma in extra time.

- Appointed by Palermo to work with their Primavera side the following season, he was promoted to the first team just before the campaign started, replacing the dismissed Stefano Pioli. Was then sacked himself in December despite starting with six wins in as many home games.

- In July 2012 was appointed as U21 coach, replacing the UC Sampdoria-bound Ciro Ferrara, midway through the qualifying campaign and led the Azzurrini to the finals by beating Sweden in the play-offs.

Israel: Guy Luzon

Date of birth: 7 August 1975
Nationality: Israeli
Playing career: Maccabi Petach-Tikva FC
Coaching career: Maccabi Petach-Tikva FC, Hapoel Tel-Aviv FC, Bnei Yehuda Tel-Aviv FC, Israel Under-21s

- Luzon was forced to retire just three years into his professional career with Maccabi Petach-Tikva, at the age of 21, after losing his battle with injury. He moved into coaching, taking charge of his club’s Under-19 side before moving up to the Maccabi Petach-Tikva senior team in 2001/02.

- Won the 2004 League Cup (Toto Cup) before guiding his side to second place in the Israeli Premier League the following season. That led to his biggest coaching achievement – qualifying for the UEFA Cup group stage after a famous 5-2 win at FK Partizan.

- In 2007 he made his first move away from Petach-Tikva and stepped into the Hapoel Tel-Aviv hot seat. Another stab at the UEFA Cup group stage followed, but disappointing domestic results led to his resignation after seven months.

- The nephew of Israel Football Association (IFA) president Avi Luzon, he returned to Petach-Tikva for a brief spell but moved to Bnei Yehuda Tel-Aviv for the 2008/09 season. In August 2010, after two years at the club, he was appointed as the U21 national team manager.
Match officials

Referee

Ovidiu Hațegan (ROU)

Assistant referees

Johann Gudmundsson (ISL), Alan Mulvanny (SCO)

Additional assistant referees

Kristo Tohver (EST), Ilias Spathas (GRE)

Fourth official

Vencel Tóth (HUN)

UEFA Delegate

Jean Paul Mievis (BEL)

UEFA Referee observer

Hugh Dallas (SCO)

Referee

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date of birth</th>
<th>Under-21 matches</th>
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<td>Ovidiu Hațegan</td>
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• A doctor from the Romanian city of Arad, Ovidiu Alin Hategan has enjoyed a rapid rise since becoming an international referee in 2008 and received his first UEFA Champions League group stage appointment in December 2011.

• Given his first European assignment as a fourth official in the UEFA Cup second qualifying round in August 2007, by the following March he was working as a referee in the UEFA European Under-17 Championship elite round.

• Worked in the UEFA Cup and European U19 Championship as both a referee and a fourth official in 2008/09, finishing that season by being involved in three matches at the U19 finals in Ukraine. Hategan was an additional assistant referee for five UEFA Europa League matches in 2009/10.

• Continued to be a regular at U19 level over the next two seasons, and also became a regular in the UEFA Europa League; also selected as an additional assistant referee for the AC Milan-AJ Auxerre UEFA Champions League group stage game in September 2010.

• Took charge of two UEFA EURO 2012 qualifiers – Czech Republic against Liechtenstein, and Norway versus Iceland – before being given his first UEFA Champions League refereeing assignment when FK Shkëndija 79 took on FK Partizan in the 2011/12 second qualifying round; his group stage bow followed later that season.

UEFA European Under-21 Championship matches featuring teams from the two countries involved in this match

No matches found

Other matches

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>0-2</td>
<td>Jablonec nad Nisou</td>
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Match-by-match lineups

Final tournament Group A

Standings

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</table>

**Matchday 1** (05/06/13)
Israel 2-2 Norway
Goals: 1-0 Biton (pen), 1-1 Pedersen 24, 2-1 Turgeman 71, 2-2 Singh 90+1
Israel: Kleyman, Dasa, Kabha (Krieff 38), Biton (Zaguri 75), Kalibat, Golasa, Dabbur, Gotlib, Twatha, Barouch (Turgeman 57), Ben Harush

England 0-1 Italy
Goals: 0-1 Insigne 79
Italy: Bardi, Donati, Biraghi, Verratti, Caldirola, Florenzi, Marrone (Rossi 87), Immobile (Gabbiadini 60), Insigne, Bianchetti, Borini (Destro 78)

**Matchday 2** (08/06/13)
Italy v Israel
**Matchday 3** (11/06/13)
Israel v England
Norway v Italy
Competition facts

Under-21 historical statistics (competitive matches)

Champions (hosts)
2011 Spain (Denmark)*
2009 Germany (Sweden)*
2007 Netherlands (Netherlands)*
2006 Netherlands (Portugal)*
2004 Italy (Germany)*
2002 Czech Republic (Switzerland)*
2000 Italy (Slovakia)
1998 Spain (Romania)
1996 Italy (Spain)
1994 Italy (France)
1992 Italy
1990 USSR
1988 France
1986 Spain
1984 England
1982 England
1980 USSR
1978 Yugoslavia

*Current format

Leading scorers

All-time
15 Lampros Choutos (Greece), Tomáš Pekhart (Czech Republic)
14 Roy Makaay (Netherlands), Klaas-Jan Huntelaar (Netherlands)

In a final tournament since 2000
7 Marcus Berg (Sweden, 2009)
5 Adrián López (Spain, 2011)
3 Ola Toivonen (Sweden, 2009), Robert Acquafresca (Italy, 2009), Thomas Kahlenberg (Denmark, 2006) Leroy Lita (England, 2007), Massimo Maccarone (Italy, 2002), Giorgio Chiellini (Italy, 2007), Nicky Hofs (Netherlands, 2006), Hugo Almeida (Portugal, 2004), Markus Rosenberg (Sweden, 2004)

Leading scorers per U21 campaign (qualifying to final) since 1990
2011: 10 Tomáš Pekhart (Czech Republic)
2009: 8 Robert Acquafresca (Italy)
2007: 4 Theo Walcott (England), Maceo Rigters (Netherlands), Igor Denisov (Russia), Nikita Bazhenov (Russia), Dragan Mrdja (Serbia)
2006: 14 Klaas Jan Huntelaar (Netherlands)
2004: 11 Alberto Gilardino (Italy)
2002: 9 Ricardo Cabanas (Switzerland)
2000: 15 Lampros Choutos (Greece)
1998: 9 Steffen Iversen (Norway)
1996: 10 Roy Makaay (Netherlands), Ole Gunnar Solskjær (Norway)
1994: 8 Nicolas Ouedec (France), Nelson Antonio Soares Gama (Portugal)
1992: 9 Peter Møller (Denmark)
1990: 9 Igor Kolyvanov (USSR)

Biggest win:

All-time
14-0: Spain v San Marino 08/02/2005
2006 qualifying group stage, Santo Domingo, El Ejido

Final tournament
6-0: England v Turkey 29/05/2000
2000 final tournament group stage, Tehelné Pole Stadium, Bratislava

Final
4-0: Germany v England 29/06/2009
2009, Malmö New Stadium, Malmo, Sweden

Most goals in a game:
14: Spain 14-0 San Marino 08/02/2005
2006 qualifying group stage, Santo Domingo, El Ejido

Final tournament
7: Czech Republic 4-3 Croatia 01/06/2000
2000 group stage, Mestský Stadium, Trencin, Slovakia

Final
8: Yugoslavia 4-4 German Democratic Republic 31/05/1978
(second leg, Yugoslavia won 5-4 on agg), Mostar, Yugoslavia

Record attendance:
42,000: Turkey 1-1 Germany 18/11/2003
2004 qualifying play-off, Sükrü Saraçoğlu Stadium, Istanbul

Final tournament
35,500: Italy 1-1 Spain (Italy won 5-4 on pens) 31/05/1996
1996 final, Olímpico de Montjuïc, Barcelona
Competition information

- **Eligibility:** Players are eligible to play in the competition if they were born on or after 1 January 1990.

- **Qualifying:** Qualifying began on 25 March 2011 and ran until 16 October 2012 with a group stage followed by play-offs to determine which seven nations joined Israel, who qualified automatically as hosts, at the eight-team final tournament.

- **How the 2013 finals works:** The group stage is based on a league system (three points for a win, one for a draw, none for a defeat) to produce four semi-finalists.

  If two or more teams are equal on points on completion of all the matches in their group, the following criteria will be used to determine the rankings in the order given:
  a) number of points obtained in the matches between the teams in question;
  b) goal difference in the matches between the teams in question;
  c) number of goals scored in the matches between the teams in question (if more than two teams finish equal on points);
  d) goal difference in all the group matches;
  e) number of goals scored in all the group matches;
  f) position in the coefficient ranking used for the final draw;

  If two teams with the same number of points, goals scored and conceded play their last group match against each other and are still equal at the end of that match, the ranking of the two teams will be determined by penalties, provided that no other team within the group has the same number of points on completion of all group matches.

  The final tournament consists of two groups of four, with the top two from each progressing to the semi-finals (A1 v B2 and B2 v A1) where it becomes a knockout competition (extra time and then penalties apply).

- **Disciplinary information:** Yellow cards that do not result in a suspension expire at the end of the group stage and are not carried forward to the semi-finals.

- **Top scorer:** adidas will award a golden boot to the leading scorer at the tournament after the final, along with silver and bronze boots for the players finishing second and third in the scoring chart.

- **Official ball:** The official match ball of the tournament was unveiled during the finals draw in November. Made by adidas, it features the blue and white colours of hosts Israel and its design has the same thermally bonded triangular patterns as the adidas Tango 12, match ball of UEFA EURO 2012.

- **Official song:** Former player Eyal Golan collaborated with some of Israel's best musicians to help produce Always My Number 1, the official tune of the finals. The 42-year-old sung it at the opening ceremony at the Netanya Municipal Stadium on 5 June; it will be subsequently played at every match.

- **Match officials:** Six referees were chosen to officiate in Israel: Ivan Bebek (Croatia), Antony Gautier (France), Paweł Gil (Poland), Ovidiu Hătegan (Romania), Matej Jug (Slovenia) and Serhiy Boiko (Ukraine). Also, for the first time at an Under-21 finals, there will be a team of additional assistant referees.

- **Trophy:** The original trophy, which is used for the official presentation ceremony at the final, remains in UEFA's keeping at all times. A full-size replica is awarded to the winning association. Each association that competes in the final tournament will receive a commemorative plaque.

- **Medals:** 35 gold medals are presented to the winning team and 35 silver medals to the runners-up. The teams beaten in the semi-finals will each receive 35 bronze medals.

- **Ambassadors:** Avi Nimni and Eli Ohana are the tournament's two ambassadors. With over 130 caps between them, they are two of Israel's foremost former players. Nimni is also Maccabi Tel-Aviv FC's all-time leading goalscorer while Ohana won the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1988 with KV Mechelen.

- **UEFA.com:** A team of reporters in Israel will provide unrivalled coverage in ten languages, with live coverage, player interviews, full statistics and video. There is also full social media coverage including dedicated Twitter (@UEFAUnder21) and Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/under21) pages.

- **Next finals:** The Czech Republic were selected as hosts of the 2015 UEFA European Under-21 Championship finals at the UEFA Executive Committee meeting on 20 March 2012. Players are eligible to play in the competition if they were born on or after 1 January 1992.
Legend

:: Squad list
No: number DoB: date of birth Qual: qualifying FT: final tournament Pld: played Gls: goals Overall U21: final tournament only
:: Match officials
Nat: nationality DoB: date of birth
Under-21: Total matches officiated in the UEFA European U21 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
:: NOTE: All-time statistics
Goals totals include the outcome of disciplinary decisions (eg. 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
UCL: UEFA Champions League
ECCC: European Champion Clubs’ Cup/UEFA Champions League
UEL: UEFA Europa League
UCUP: UEFA Cup/UEFA Europa League
UCWC: UEFA Cup Winners’ Cup
SCUP: UEFA Super Cup • UIC: UEFA Intertoto Cup
ICF: Inter-Cities Fairs Cup

National team competitions
EURO: UEFA European Football Championship
WC: FIFA World Cup • CONFUC: FIFA Confederations Cup
FRIE: Friendly internationals • U21FRIE: Under-21 friendly internationals
U21: UEFA European Under-21 Championship
U17: UEFA Under-17 Championship • U16: UEFA European Under-16 Championship
U19: UEFA Under-19 Championship • U18: UEFA European Under-18 Championship
WWC: FIFA Women's World Cup • WCHAMP: UEFA European Women's Championship

:: Competition stages
F: Final
GS: Group stage
GS1: First group stage
GS2: Second group stage
KO1: First knockout round
PR: Preliminary round
QR: Quarter-finals
QR1: First qualifying round
QR2: Second qualifying round
FT: Final tournament
ELITE: Elite round
3rdPO: Third-place play-off
GS-F: Group stage – final tournament

PROM/O: Promotion/relegation
PO•FT: Play-off for Final
Prom/rel PO: Promotion/relegation

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

:: Squad list
D: Disciplinary
#: Suspended for at least one match
*
S: Suspended

Overall U21: Total appearances in the UEFA European Under-21 Championship final tournament only

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