

GNK Dinamo Zagreb Academy

GNK Dinamo Zagreb Academy, also known as **Hitrec-Kacian** (Croatian pronunciation: [xître̩ts kâ̩tsijaːn]), are the youth team of Dinamo Zagreb. The academy was founded on 27 December 1967. There are a total of ten age categories within the academy, the oldest being the Junior Team (under-19) and youngest being the Zagići II Team (under-8). They have produced many of the Croatia national team stars including Luka Modrić, Vedran Ćorluka, Eduardo, Robert Prosinečki and Zvonimir Boban.^[1]

History

The first junior team was formed in 1945 and the coach was the famous Građanski Zagreb goalkeeper Maks Mihelčić. Soon after that, Márton Bukovi joined the youth squad as an expert coach, but left after two years following his disappointment with the disbanding of Građanski. The junior team won a treble in 1950 (Zagreb's, Croatian and Yugoslav championships) under the leadership of Mirko Kokotović.^[2]

In 1952 Branko Horvatek started training one of the best junior generations the club ever had. Some of the famous players that played in that generation were Dražan Jerković, Mladen Koščak, Marijan Kolonić and Mladen Klobučar. The decision to form the youth academy *Hitrec-Kacian* was brought on 27 December 1967 with Horvatek being elected as its first director.^[2] Apart from him, many other famous Croatian coaches worked with the generation that was very successful in the period of 1972-1974 in Yugoslav junior competitions. Some of them include: Zorislav Srebrić, Marko Jurić, Pero Dujmović, Vladimir Ćonč, Ivan Đalma Marković, Mirko Belić, Rudolf Cvek and Zdenko Kobešćak.^[2]

Honours

Domestics

Croatian football league system

- Croatian U-19 Prva HNL
 - **Winner (10):** 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2016, 2018, 2019
- Croatian U-17 Prva HNL
 - **Winner (17):** 1992, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019
- Croatian U-15 Prva HNL
 - **Winner (10):** 1997, 1998, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2007, 2010, 2015, 2016, 2017
- **Croatian Cup U-19**
 - **Winner (7):** 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2013
- **Croatian Cup U-17**
 - **Winner (4):** 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017
- **Croatian Cup U-15**
 - **Winner (3):** 2015, 2016, 2018

Yugoslav football league system

- **Yugoslav Championship U-19**

Dinamo Zagreb II

Full name	Građanski nogometni klub Dinamo Zagreb II
Founded	27 December 1967
Ground	Stadion Hitrec-Kacian
Capacity	5,000
Chairman	Mirko Barišić
League	Druga HNL
2020–21	Druga HNL, 13th
Website	Club website (https://www.gnkdinamo.hr)

- **Winner (5):** 1950, 1955, 1972, 1973, 1974
- **Croatian Championship U-19**
 - **Winner (17):** 1950, 1951, 1954, 1955, 1963, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1976, 1979, 1980, 1983, 1984, 1986
- **Croatian Championship U-17**
 - **Winner (2):** 1959, 1985
- **Yugoslav Cup U-19**
 - **Winner (2):** 1967, 1973
- **Croatian Cup U-19**
 - **Winner (5):** 1963, 1967, 1968, 1973, 1978

Internationals

- **FIFA Youth Cup**
 - **Winner (1):** 2018
- **Manchester United Premier Cup**
 - **Winner (1):** 2012–13
- **Premier League International Cup**
 - Runners-up (1): 2018–19
- **UEFA Youth League**
 - Quarterfinals (2): 2018–19, 2019–20
- **Kvarnerska rivijera**
 - **Winner (9):** 1961, 1967, 1977, 1981, 1984, 1986, 1999, 2008, 2019
- **International Nereo Rocco Tournament**
 - **Winner (2):** 2002, 2009

Modern times

After the formation of HNL in 1991. Dinamo youth teams play important role with 6 **U19** and 9 **U17** titles (as of 2010).^[3] Since the mid-2000s Dinamo's youth academy is considered one of the best in Europe with their teams winning notable international tournaments.^[4] Some of the former Dinamo youth players include Croatian internationals Vedran Ćorluka, Luka Modrić, Eduardo da Silva, Niko Kranjčar, Dejan Lovren, Milan Badelj, Ivan Kelava, Mateo Kovačić and Šime Vrsaljko.

Notable academy graduates

-  Milan Badelj
-  Igor Bišćan
-  Zvonimir Boban
-  Tomislav Butina
-  Vedran Ćorluka
-  Eduardo
-  Joško Gvardiol
-  Alen Halilović
-  Ivan Kelava
-  Mateo Kovačić
-  Andrej Kramarić

-  [Niko Kranjčar](#)
-  [Jerko Leko](#)
-  [Dejan Lovren](#)
-  [Luka Modrić](#)
-  [Robert Prosinečki](#)
-  [Zvonimir Soldo](#)
-  [Dario Šimić](#)
-  [Šime Vrsaljko](#)
-  [Dino Drpić](#)

UEFA Youth League record

Season	Stage	Round	Opponent	Home	Away	Agg.
2015–16	Champions League Path	GS	 Arsenal	0–2	2–1	1st out of 4
			 Bayern Munich	0–1	2–1	
			 Olympiacos	2–2	3–1	
	Knockout stage	R.16	 Anderlecht		2–0	0–3 (awd.) ^{[5][6]}
2016–17	Champions League Path	GS	 Juventus	2–1	1–0	4th out of 4
			 Lyon	1–2	0–2	
			 Sevilla	2–4	1–1	
2018–19	Domestic Champions Path	1.R	 Viitorul Constanța	2–0	1–0	3–0
		2.R	 Astana	3–1	1–1	4–2
	Knockout stage	PO	 Lokomotiv Moscow	1–1 (5–4 p)		
		R.16	 Liverpool	1–1 (4–3 p)		
		QF	 Chelsea		2–2 (2–4 p)	
2019–20	Champions League Path	GS	 Atalanta	1–0	0–2	2nd out of 4
			 Manchester City	1–0	2–2	
			 Shakhtar Donetsk	1–0	1–1	
	Knockout stage	PO	 Dynamo Kyiv		0–0 (4–3 p)	
		R.16	 Bayern Munich		2–2 (6–5 p)	
		QF	 Benfica	1–3		
2020–21	Knockout stage	R.64	 Rosenborg	<i>Tournament cancelled</i>		
2022–23	Champions League Path	GS	 Chelsea	4–2	0–4	3rd out of 4
			 Milan	1–2	0–3	
			 Red Bull Salzburg	2–1	0–2	
2023–24	Domestic Champions Path	1.R	 İstanbul Başakşehir	2–1	3–1	5–2
		2.R	 Basel	–	–	–

Players

GNK Dinamo Zagreb II

As of 14 January 2023^[7]

Note: Flags indicate national team as defined under [FIFA eligibility rules](#). Players may hold more than one non-FIFA nationality.

No.	Pos.	Nation	Player	No.	Pos.	Nation	Player
—	 GK	 BIH	Faris Krkalić	—	 FW	 CRO	Vito Batistić
—	 DF	 CRO	Leon Sopić	—	 FW	 SRB	Luca Bigboy
—	 FW	 MNE	Andrija Kolundžić	—	 MF	 CRO	Jovan Blagojevic

References

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- "Football school info" (<http://www.nk-dinamo.hr/skola/en/default.aspx>). Dinamo Zagreb. Retrieved 2010-07-24.
- "prvaci" (<https://web.archive.org/web/20130811115450/http://prva-hnl.hr/blog/prva-hnl-juniorikadeti/pobjednici-u-obje-kategorije-do-sada-2/>) (in Croatian). HNL. Archived from the original (<http://prva-hnl.hr/blog/prva-hnl-juniorikadeti/pobjednici-u-obje-kategorije-do-sada-2/>) on 11 August 2013. Retrieved 3 February 2011.
- "news" (<http://www.nk-dinamo.hr/page/17/vijest/prikaz/1693/default.aspx>) (in Croatian). Dinamo Zagreb. Retrieved 3 February 2011.
- Match originally finished 0–2 in favour of Dinamo Zagreb, but was awarded by UEFA as 3–0 win for Anderlecht due to Dinamo Zagreb fielding suspended player [Matija Fintić](#).
- "UEFA rejects Valencia penalty shootout protest after Chelsea youth game" (<http://www.espnfc.com/valencia/story/2818189/uefa-rejects-valencia-penalty-shootout-protest>). ESPN FC. 29 February 2016.
- "Druga Momčad | Dinamo Zagreb" (<https://gnkdinamo.hr/hr/Momcadi/Druga-Momcad>). *GNK Dinamo* (in Croatian). Retrieved 20 August 2022.

External links

- Official website (<https://web.archive.org/web/20100729150344/http://www.nogometnaskola-dinamo.hr/>) (archived 29 July 2010)

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