

First Football League (Croatia)

The **Prva nogometna liga** (English: First football league),^{[1][2]} commonly **Prva NL** or **1. NL**, is the second tier of the football league system in Croatia. The league was formed in 1991 with the breakup of Yugoslavia and the dissolution of the Yugoslav Second League. The 1. NL is operated by the Croatian Football Federation, which also was formed in 1991, contributing (along with the newly formed Football Association of Slovenia) to the dissolution of the Football Association of Yugoslavia.

Between the 2001–02 season and 2005–06 season, the league was split in two divisions, one being the Northern Croatian Second League and the other being the Southern Croatian Second League. Each of these two leagues comprised twelve teams playing under a system pretty much identical to the one in the HNL. However, since the start of the 2006–07 season, the First Football League consisted of at least twelve teams from the entire country. Relegation from this division is into the 2. NL.

From the inaugural merged season in 2006–07 until 2021–22, the division was known as the **Second Football League** (Croatian: *Druga nogometna liga*), but was renamed as were the other leagues of the Croatian football system for the start of the 2022–23 season.^[3]

Winning clubs

Key

	Winners that haven't been promoted due to various reasons
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Prva NL	
Organising body	 HNS
Founded	1991
Country	 Croatia
Confederation	UEFA
Number of teams	12
Level on pyramid	2
Promotion to	 HNL
Relegation to	2. NL
Domestic cup(s)	 Hrvatski nogometni kup
Current champions	 Rudeš (2nd title) (2022–23)
Most championships	 Cibalia Inter Zaprešić Marsonia RNK Split Hrvatski Dragovoljac (3 titles)
TV partners	MAX Sport
Website	www.druga-hnl.com (http://www.druga-hnl.com)
Current: 2023–24 season	

Season	Divisions	Division winners	Clubs promoted to HNL	Top scorer	Goals
1992	Zagreb (6 clubs)	Radnik Velika Gorica	Radnik Velika Gorica Segesta Belišće Pazinka		
	Dalmatia (8 clubs)	Primorac Stobreč			
	Rijeka & Istra (4 clubs)	Pazinka			
1992–93	North (16 clubs)	Dubrava Zagreb	Dubrava Zagreb Primorac Stobreč		
	South (16 clubs)	Primorac Stobreč			
1993–94	North (16 clubs)	Marsonia	Marsonia Neretva		
	South (16 clubs)	Neretva			
1994–95	North (16 clubs)	Slavonija Požega	Slavonija Požega Orijent Mladost 127 Uskok Klis Dubrovnik Hrvatski Dragovoljac		
	South (17 clubs)	Uskok Klis			
	West (19 clubs)	Hrvatski Dragovoljac			
1995–96	North (16 clubs)	Slaven Belupo	Slaven Belupo Olimpija Osijek Graničar Čakovec Union Junak Sinj Mosor Samobor Ponikve Zagorec Krapina Napredak Velika Mlaka		
	South (16 clubs)	Junak Sinj			
	West (18 clubs)	Samobor			
1996–97	Center (16 clubs)	Lučko	None		
	East (16 clubs)	Croatia Đakovo			
	North (16 clubs)	Budućnost Hodošan			
	South (19 clubs)	RNK Split			
	West (16 clubs)	Jadran Poreč			
1997–98	Center (17 clubs)	Segesta	Cibalia		
	East (16 clubs)	Cibalia			
	North (16 clubs)	Čakovec			
	South (17 clubs)	RNK Split			
	West (16 clubs)	Jadran Poreč			
1998–99	19 clubs	Vukovar '91	Vukovar '91 Istra Pula	 Dubravko Zdrilić	29
1999–00	17 clubs	Marsonia	Marsonia Čakovec	 Miroslav Vukić	26
2000–01	18 clubs	Kamen Ingrad	Kamen Ingrad Pomorac Kostrena Zadar TŠK Topolovac		
2001–02	North (16 clubs)	Vukovar '91	None		

	<i>South (16 clubs)</i>	<u>Istra Pula</u>			
<u>2002–03</u>	<i>North (16 clubs)</i>	<u>Marsonia</u>	<u>Marsonia</u> <u>Inker Zaprešić</u>		
	<i>South (16 clubs)</i>	<u>Inker Zaprešić</u>			
<u>2003–04</u>	<i>North (16 clubs)</i>	<u>Međimurje</u>	<u>Međimurje</u> <u>Pula 1856</u>		
	<i>South (16 clubs)</i>	<u>Pula 1856</u>			
<u>2004–05</u>	<i>North (16 clubs)</i>	<u>Cibalia</u>	<u>Cibalia</u>		
	<i>South (16 clubs)</i>	<u>Novalja</u>			
<u>2005–06</u>	<i>North (16 clubs)</i>	<u>Belišće</u>	<u>Šibenik</u>		
	<i>South (16 clubs)</i>	<u>Šibenik</u>			
<u>2006–07</u>	<i>16 clubs</i>	<u>Inter Zaprešić</u>	<u>Inter Zaprešić</u> <u>Zadar</u>	 <u>Zdravko Popović</u>	30
<u>2007–08</u>	<i>16 clubs</i>	<u>Croatia Sesvete</u>	<u>Croatia Sesvete</u>	 <u>Marijan Maruna</u>	19
<u>2008–09</u>	<i>16 clubs</i>	<u>Istra 1961</u>	<u>Istra 1961</u> <u>Karlovac</u> <u>Lokomotiva</u> <u>Međimurje</u>	 <u>Marijan Vuka</u>	19
<u>2009–10</u>	<i>14 clubs</i>	<u>RNK Split</u>	<u>RNK Split</u> <u>Hrvatski Dragovoljac</u>	 <u>Romano</u> <u>Obilinović</u>	17
<u>2010–11</u>	<i>16 clubs</i>	<u>Gorica</u>	<u>Lučko</u>	 <u>Hrvoje Tokić</u>	19
<u>2011–12</u>	<i>15 clubs</i>	<u>Dugopolje</u>	<i>None</i>	 <u>Alen Guć</u>	16
<u>2012–13</u>	<i>16 clubs</i>	<u>Hrvatski Dragovoljac</u>	<u>Hrvatski Dragovoljac</u>	 <u>Dražen Pilčić</u>	18
<u>2013–14</u>	<i>12 clubs</i>	<u>NK Zagreb</u>	<u>NK Zagreb</u>	 <u>Ilija Nestorovski</u>	20
<u>2014–15</u>	<i>12 clubs</i>	<u>Inter Zaprešić</u>	<u>Inter Zaprešić</u>	 <u>Ilija Nestorovski</u>	24
<u>2015–16</u>	<i>12 clubs</i>	<u>Cibalia</u>	<u>Cibalia</u>	 <u>Frane Vitaić</u>	15
<u>2016–17</u>	<i>12 clubs</i>	<u>Rudeš</u>	<u>Rudeš</u>	 <u>Benjamin Tatar</u>	13
<u>2017–18</u>	<i>12 clubs</i>	<u>Gorica</u>	<u>Gorica</u>	 <u>Domagoj Drožđek</u>	16
<u>2018–19</u>	<i>14 clubs</i>	<u>Varaždin</u>	<u>Varaždin</u>	 <u>Leon Benko</u>	21
<u>2019–20^[4]</u>	<i>16 clubs</i>	<u>Šibenik</u>	<u>Šibenik</u>	 <u>Mijo Šabić</u>	12
<u>2020–21</u>	<i>18 clubs</i>	<u>Hrvatski Dragovoljac</u>	<u>Hrvatski Dragovoljac</u>	 <u>Marko Dabro</u>	30
<u>2021–22</u>	<i>16 clubs</i>	<u>Varaždin</u>	<u>Varaždin</u>	 <u>Ivan Durdov</u>	13
<u>2022–23</u>	<i>12 clubs</i>	<u>Rudeš</u>	<u>Rudeš</u>	 <u>Ivor Ljubanović</u>	14

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- "Od sezone 2024./25. Prva NL će imati deset klubova" (<https://www.hntv.hr/vijesti/od-sezone-2024-25-prva-nl-ce-imati-deset-klubova>). Retrieved 3 July 2022.

3. Fabijan Hrnčić (6 June 2022). "HNL still remains, and the second league is now the first" (<https://www.24sat.a.hr/sport/izvrsni-odbor-odlucio-hnl-ipak-ostaje-a-druga-liga-sad-je-prva-840460>). *24 Sata*. Retrieved 24 July 2022.
4. "Nastavak nogometnih natjecanja 30. svibnja" (<https://hns-cff.hr/news/21365/nastavak-nogometnih-natjecanja-30-svibnja/>). *hns-cff.hr* (in Croatian). 6 May 2020. Retrieved 6 May 2020.

External links

- Official website (<http://www.druga-hnl.com>) (in Croatian)
 - 2. HNL at Soccerway (<https://uk.soccerway.com/national/croatia/2-hnl/20182019/regular-season/r48392/>)
 - League 321 tables (<http://www.league321.com/croatia-football-historic-league-tables.html>)
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