



MALTA

VS LIECHTENSTEIN ANDORRA FAROE ISLANDS



UEFA
NATIONS
LEAGUE™

6.00pm, Wednesday
November 11, 2020
Malta vs Liechtenstein (F)
National Stadium, Ta' Qali



UEFA NATIONS LEAGUE
GROUP D1

3.00pm, Saturday
November 14, 2020
Malta vs Andorra

8.45pm, Tuesday
November 17, 2020
Malta vs Faroe Islands
National Stadium, Ta' Qali
(Matches behind closed doors)

OFFICIAL MATCH
PROGRAMME

INTERVIEWS WITH

DEVIS MANGIA

MICHAEL MIFSUD

FEATURES

MIFSUD'S MALTA
CAREER IN NUMBERS

PREVIOUS
ENCOUNTERS

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COVER PHOTOS: Michael Mifsud, Joseph Mbong, Ryan Camenzuli, Steve Borg (Malta)



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Official Matchday Programme

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INFORMATION CORRECT AS OF 09/11/2020

◆ INTERVIEW

SUSTAINED IMPROVEMENT IS KEY FOR MALTA COACH MANGIA

Malta will be striving to build on their recent performances in their upcoming home commitments against Liechtenstein (friendly) and the UEFA Nations League Group D1 matches against Andorra and Faroe Islands. Morale is high after the win over Latvia but Devis Mangia, the Head Coach of the National Teams, is determined to keep everyone focused and fully motivated to maintain the upward trajectory. **Kevin Azzopardi** spoke with the Malta coach...

Malta head into their final commitments for 2020 in a positive frame of mind after going four matches unbeaten, culminating in the thrilling 1-0 victory over Latvia in Riga last month.

Devis Mangia is the mastermind behind this positive run which has been further enhanced by attack-minded and gutsy performances from the national side but the Italian coach is determined to keep everyone grounded and focused ahead of this month's triple-header. Malta kick off their commitments with a friendly match against Liechtenstein (11th November) followed by the final UEFA Nations League matches against Andorra (14th November) and Faroe Islands (17th November), all being played behind closed doors at the National Stadium.

"We have done some positive things but we need to maintain this mentality of pursuing constant improvement," Mangia said.

"If we fail to do this, we will ruin the value of what we have done so far. It's important that we don't put unnecessary pressure on this squad which has a growth path to follow."



Malta have five points from four matches in Group D1. After starting the campaign with an undeserved 3-2 defeat away to Faroe Islands, currently leading the group with 10 points, Malta drew 1-1 at home against Latvia, featured in a goalless stalemate away to Andorra last month and beat Latvia 1-0 away courtesy of Steve Borg's stoppage-time header.

Looking at the challenges awaiting Malta in the coming three games, Mangia said: "If you look at the FIFA rankings, we have just overtaken Liechtenstein (180) but the other two, Faroe Islands (107) and Andorra (145) are ahead of us.

"We must approach these games with a firm intent to put forward our playing philosophy. There will be moments during the matches when we have to defend and others when we will have control of the game."

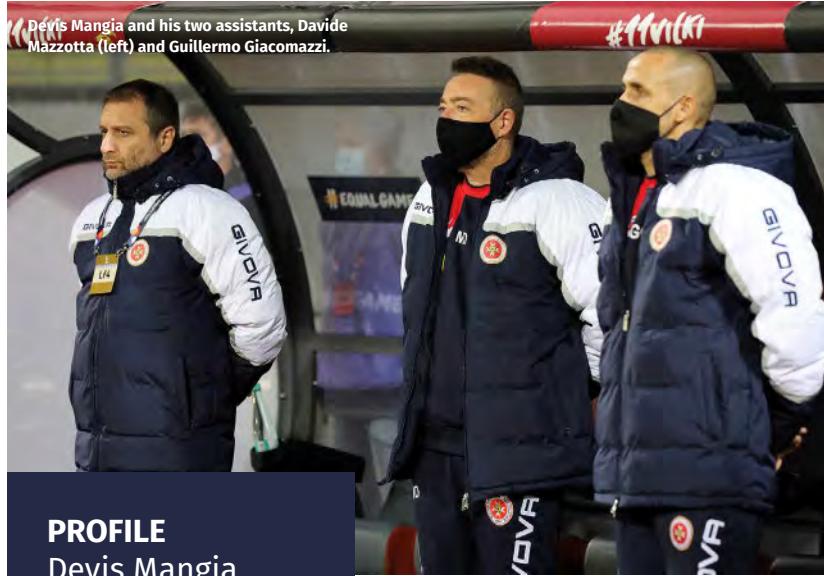
COVID-19 DIFFICULTIES

While Mangia and his coaching team have had a very positive impact on the team, their working plans and preparations have been hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic. Since Mangia took over the reins of the national team in January, the world of football, like every other sector, has been adversely hit by the coronavirus, leading to the cancellation of all national teams' commitments in March and June before international football resumed in September with several restrictions and measures.

The preparations for this month's international matches have not been without complications with Mangia himself spending time in self-isolation as he recovered from COVID-19 while a host of players who were part of recent Malta squads are unavailable.

"We are working in the best way possible," Mangia said about Malta's

Devis Mangia and his two assistants, Davide Mazzotta (left) and Guillermo Giacomazzi.



PROFILE

Devis Mangia

NATIONALITY: Italian

DATE OF BIRTH: 6th June, 1974

PLACE OF BIRTH: Cernusco sul Naviglio (Milan, Italy)

COACHING QUALIFICATIONS:

UEFA PRO Licence (FIGC)

TEAMS COACHED: Italy Under-21; (Clubs) AS Varese 1910, US Città di Palermo, Spezia Calcio, FC Bari 1908, Ascoli Picchio FC 1898, CS Universitatea Craiova.

"We have done some positive things but we need to maintain this mentality of pursuing constant improvement"

preparations in the current circumstances. "It is clear that this is a very complicated period and the programming aspect is problematic. We had to modify some things in our programme but in these circumstances we must adapt.

"We will have three matches in the space of a week, the same as October. The management of these matches will be very similar to last

month's commitments in that we will use the first match, the friendly Liechtenstein, to evaluate players and certain aspects of our game, and based on that assessment we will decide for the following games."

Judging by Malta's lively performances in their last five outings, the players are clearly responding well to Mangia's coaching philosophy and mentality.

"The players believe in what we are doing and they want to be an integral part of this project," Mangia said. "The response has been very positive but it's clear that we have ample room for improvement and that must be our attitude going forward."

INTRODUCTION OF YOUNG PLAYERS

The introduction of more young players, the likes of Shaun Dimech, Paul Mbong, Kurt Shaw and Jean Borg together with Jan Busutil, Aidan Friggieri and Alex Satariano, who received their first senior call-up for the friendly against Liechtenstein, has rejuvenated the squad, signalling



◆ INTERVIEW WITH MALTA COACH DEVIS MANGIA



Steve Borg scores Malta's last-gasp winner against Latvia.

Mangia's intent to think not only about the present but also about the future.

"When I accepted this job, the objective was to work on a long-term project and not just focus on the present," Mangia said. "We want to give more opportunities to young players who show that they deserve to be part of the squad.

"This process is important to give a stimulus to the team but moreover to give these young players space to grow. Young players will have positive moments – they will also have difficult games but this is important for their development."

MIFSUD RECOGNITION

The friendly against Liechtenstein will bring the curtains down on the

international career of Michael Mifsud, one of the greatest Maltese players ever.

The proposal to give the 39-year-old Mifsud, the country's most-capped player with 142 appearances to date and all-time leading scorer with 41 goals, a fitting farewell was immediately endorsed by Mangia who said: "This is something I had discussed with Michael and the plan was to do it in June but it was not possible due to COVID-19.

"When the president spoke to me about it, I absolutely supported this idea because it is the right thing to do. It is appropriate to celebrate Michael's career and recognise what he has done for this country." ◆

UEFA NATIONS LEAGUE GROUP D1 CURRENT STANDINGS

| | Played | Won | Draw | Lost | Goals For | Goals Against | Points |
|---------------|--------|-----|------|------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| Faroe Islands | 4 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| Malta | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| Latvia | 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| Andorra | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 2 |



MATCHDAY 1 - 03/09/2020

Latvia 0-0 Andorra

Faroe Islands 3-2 Malta

GOALS: 1-0 Klæmínt Olsen 26, 1-1 Jurgen Degabriele 38, 1-2 Andrei Agius 74, 2-2 Andreas Olsen 88, 3-2 Brandur Hendriksson 90+1

MATCHDAY 2 - 06/09/2020

Andorra 0-1 Faroe Islands

GOALS: 0-1 Klæmínt Olsen 32

Malta 1-1 Latvia

GOALS: 1-0 Kyrian Nwoko 16, 1-1 Matthew Guillaumier 26 (og)

MATCHDAY 3 - 10/10/2020

Faroe Islands 1-1 Latvia

GOALS: 0-1 Jānis Ikaunieks 25, 1-1 Odmar Faerø 28

Andorra 0-0 Malta

MATCHDAY 4 - 13/10/2020

Latvia 0-1 Malta

GOALS: 0-1 Steve Borg 90+7

Faroe Islands 2-0 Andorra

GOALS: 1-0 Klæmínt Olsen 19, 2-0 Klæmínt Olsen 33

MATCHDAY 5 - 14/11/2020

Malta vs Andorra 3.00PM

Latvia vs Faroe Islands 6.00PM

MATCHDAY 6 - 17/11/2020

Malta vs Faroe Islands 8.45PM

Andorra vs Latvia 8.45PM

INFORMATION CORRECT AS OF 09/11/2020.

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♦ INTERVIEW WITH MICHAEL MIFSUD

'I'VE ALWAYS BEEN PROUD AND HONOURED TO REPRESENT MY COUNTRY'

All eyes will be on Michael Mifsud this evening as Maltese football unites to celebrate the international career of one its greatest ambassadors. The long-serving Malta captain has been involved in many important matches but admitted that the friendly against Liechtenstein at the National Stadium will be an emotional occasion as it will be his last for the national team.

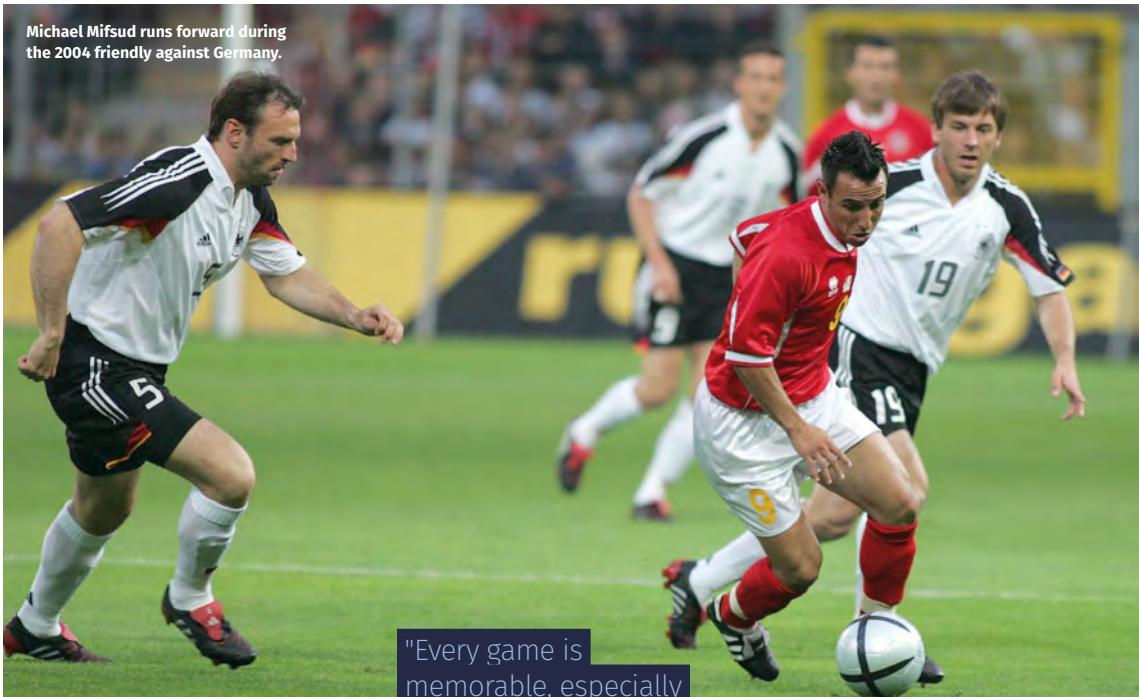
Interview: **Kevin Azzopardi**

Making his international bow at the age of 18 in a friendly tournament match against Albania in 2000, Michael Mifsud has long cemented his status as one of the country's footballing greats. This is backed by statistics as he is the country's most-capped player with over 140 appearances and all-time leading scorer with a total of 41 goals.

Today's match will evoke happy memories for Mifsud as he scored five goals, a record for a Maltese player, in a 7-1 victory over Liechtenstein in a friendly match at the National Stadium, played on March 26, 2008. It will be a fitting



Michael Mifsud runs forward during the 2004 friendly against Germany.



tribute to Mifsud who is grateful for the opportunity to lead out the national team for one last time.

"It's nice to be recognised for what I've done for the national team," Mifsud said. "I'd like to thank Malta FA President Bjorn Vassallo and the national coach (Devis Mangia) for giving me this opportunity."

In an international career spanning two decades, Mifsud has been among the main catalysts of Malta's best moments in the last 20 years. Suffice to say that Mifsud, who came through the youth ranks of Sliema Wanderers, has scored goals in every competition (EURO and World Cup qualifiers and also in the UEFA Nations League group stage) and friendlies, played under nine different national coaches to date and is ranked 61st in the list of international goal scorers.

Now 39 and still playing at the top level with Sirens FC, Mifsud found it difficult to single out the top highlight of his international

"Every game is memorable, especially when you are representing your country"

career before mentioning the goal that gave Malta a 1-0 victory away to Armenia in a 2014 World Cup qualifier on June 7, 2013.

"Every game is memorable, especially when you are representing your country," Mifsud said. "The match against Armenia, when we won away, will remain etched in the history of Maltese football as we achieved a rare away victory. But every match is special."

Today's friendly will surely be special for Mifsud as it will mark the end of an extraordinary journey. He admitted to being very excited by the thought of playing his final match for Malta, a year after making his last appearance in the 2-1 home defeat to Norway in a EURO 2020 qualifier.

"It will be a memorable and special occasion," Mifsud said. "I usually manage to keep my emotions in check but I know I'm going to have butterflies in my stomach for this

match with a lot of thoughts and emotions going through my head. It will cap a 20-year chapter in my life, with all the good memories and also the less positive ones... it has been an incredible experience."

It goes without saying that the occasion would have been nicer if the fans were able to attend and pay tribute to one of their all-time favourites but this is not an option due to the current COVID-19 circumstances. Nevertheless, Mifsud has been feeling the affection and gratitude of the supporters since the announcement of his tribute match.

"Football without supporters is not the same," Mifsud said. "I'd have loved to play my final match for the national team in a typical football atmosphere, with the fans supporting us from the stands, but this is not possible at present."

"That said, the Maltese have always been behind the national team and I'm sure many will be watching this game on television and supporting us from their homes."



Michael Mifsud scored five goals in Malta's 7-1 victory over Liechtenstein in 2008.

I've been touched by the gratitude and appreciation shown by the Maltese people ahead of my final match for the national team."

YOUNG PLAYERS

Just as Mifsud got his chance to play for the national team in his late teens, a number of young and up-and-coming players are making the grade to the senior squad, a rejuvenation process which has produced the desired rewards so far with Malta going into the final two matches of the UEFA Nations League, at home to Andorra and Faroe Islands, second in Group D1 with five points.

Players like Joseph Mbong, Matthew Guillaumier, Jurgen Degabriele and Ryan Camenzuli have been featuring regularly for the national team while coach Devis Mangia is also putting faith in younger elements, the likes of Jean Borg, Kurt Shaw, Paul Mbong and Shaun Dimech.

These players grew up looking up to the likes of Mifsud who had words of praise and encouragement for the emerging talents.

"There is potential with a good number of promising players

"I've been touched by the gratitude and appreciation shown by the Maltese people ahead of my final match for the national team"



coming through," Mifsud said. "The future of the national team looks bright. My advice to the young players is to keep their feet on the ground, remain willing to learn and improve, and persevere. They must keep pushing to get better and achieve their dreams because where there is a will there is a way."

Looking back on his own career and the players who left the biggest impression on him, Mifsud said:

"Miroslav Klose is the player I looked up to. I was very young when I joined FC Kaiserslautern and Klose was already a star at the time. Despite his fame and interest surrounding his career at the time, he was very humble and always remained like that. These are important values which also mean a lot to me."

"As for the strongest opponent I've faced during my international career, it has to be Zinedine Zidane. We played France in the EURO 2004 qualifiers and Zidane really stood out with his finesse, the way he shielded the ball and his footballing intelligence."

PRIDE AND HONOUR

As he looked ahead to his Malta swansong, Mifsud said every match he played for the national team filled him with pride.

"I treasure the memories of all the games I've played for the national team... every game, every second you play matters," Mifsud said.

"I've always been honoured to represent my country and proud with what I have achieved. I wish to thank everyone, especially those who helped me to achieve this. It's a very special thing."

At club level, Mifsud remains as focused and motivated as ever to help his current team, Sirens FC, reach their objectives. With regard to the national team, he indicated his willingness to serve in a different role in the future.

"To be honest, I haven't really thought about it but they say everything happens for a reason," he said.

"Football has given me a lot and I would love to share my experience and give something back to Maltese football, especially at national team level."

For the time being, future plans can be put on hold as all the focus should be on Michael Mifsud and his immense contribution to the national team. Thank you Michael! ♦

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TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL MIFSUD

RECORD-BREAKING MALTA CAREER IN NUMBERS



1

Michael Mifsud scored his **first goal for Malta** in the 4-1 defeat to Iceland in a World Cup qualifier. The match was played on 25 April, 2001 at the National Stadium. He had just turned 20 when he opened his Malta account.



5

Mifsud scored **five goals in one match** – a 7-1 victory over Liechtenstein on 26 March, 2008.



5

Total number of **braces scored** during his 20-year international career.

- 12 August 2009 v Georgia (2-0) – Friendly
- 10 August 2011 v Central Africa Rep. (2-1) – Friendly
- 29 February 2012 v Liechtenstein (2-1) – Friendly
- 02 June 2012 v Luxembourg (2-0) – Friendly
- 14 August 2012 v San Marino (3-2) – Friendly



9

Mifsud has represented **nine clubs** during his international career – Sliema Wanderers (20); Kaiserslautern (20); Lillestrom (14); Coventry City (19); Barnsley FC (3); Qormi (3); Valletta (33); Melbourne Heart (4); Birkirkara (11) ... No Club (15)



9

He has played under **nine different Malta coaches** – Josif Ilic (6); Sigfried Held (20); Horst Heese (12); Dusan Fitzel (28); John Buttigieg (20); Robert Gatt (1); Pietro Ghedin (39); Tom Saintfiet (3); Ray Farrugia (13). His final appearance against Liechtenstein today will be his first under Devijs Mangia.



18

Michael Mifsud was **18 years**, nine months and 24 days when he made his senior Malta debut on 10 February, 2000 in a friendly tournament match against Albania (0-1) at the National Stadium. He played for Sliema Wanderers at the time.



24

Total of **opposing teams** who conceded a goal scored by Mifsud – Armenia (1); Austria (1); Azerbaijan (2); Bosnia (1); Bulgaria (2); Canada (1); Central Africa Republic (2); Croatia (1); Cyprus (1); Czech Republic (1); Faroe Islands (3); Finland (2); Georgia (3); Greece (1); Iceland (1); Israel (1); Jordan (1); Liechtenstein (7); Luxembourg (2); Macedonia (1); Moldova (2); Norway (1); San Marino (2); Slovenia (1)



41

Michael Mifsud is Malta's all-time **leading scorer** with 41 goals.

- **World Cup:** 38 matches – Goals (4)
- **Euro:** 42 matches – Goals (10)
- **UEFA Nations League:** 5 matches – Goals (1)
- **Friendlies:** 49 matches – Goals (24)
- **Friendly Tournaments:** 8 matches – Goals (2)



51

Mifsud has **played against** the following teams during his international career – Albania (4); Andorra (1); Angola (1); Armenia (3); Austria (3); Azerbaijan (4); Belarus (2); Bosnia and Herzegovina (3); Bulgaria (6); Canada (1); Cape Verde (1); Central Africa Republic (1); Croatia (5); Cyprus (2); Czech Republic (4); Denmark (5); England (2); Estonia (4); Faroe Islands (6); Finland (3); France (2); Georgia (5); Germany (2); Gibraltar (1); Greece (4); Hungary (5); Iceland (7); Israel (4); Italy (4); Jordan (2); Kosovo (2); Latvia (1); Liechtenstein (2); Lithuania (4); Luxembourg (3); Macedonia (2); Moldova (4); Northern Ireland (2); Norway (4); Portugal (2); Romania (1); San Marino (1); Scotland (1); Slovakia (2); Slovenia (4); South Africa (1); Spain (1); Sweden (4); Switzerland (1); Turkey (2); Ukraine (1)



51

Number of matches in which Mifsud was **captain of Malta**.

142

Total number of appearances to date.



MALTA SQUAD

PLAYER PROFILES

GOALKEEPERS



Henry BONELLO

CLUB: Valletta FC
DOB: 13th October, 1988 **CAPS:** 21
National Team Debut: 29/02/2012 – Malta 2 Liechtenstein 1 (Friendly)



Matthew CALLEJA CREMONA

CLUB: Hibernians FC
DOB: 14th September, 1994 **CAPS:** 0



Jake GALEA

CLUB: Sliema Wanderers FC
DOB: 15th April, 1996 **CAPS:** 1
National Team Debut: 07/10/2020 – Malta 2 Gibraltar 0 (Friendly)

DEFENDERS



Andrei AGIUS

CLUB: Hibernians FC
DOB: 12th August, 1986 **CAPS:** 95 (6 goals)
National Team Debut: 25/02/2006 – Malta 0 Moldova 2 (Malta Int. Tournament)



Jean BORG

CLUB: Valletta FC
DOB: 8th January, 1998 **CAPS:** 2
National Team Debut: 22/03/2018 – Malta 0 Luxembourg 1 (Friendly)



Steve BORG

CLUB: Gżira United FC
DOB: 15th May, 1988 **CAPS:** 54 (2 goals)
National Team Debut: 07/10/2011 – Latvia 2 Malta 0 (Euro Champ. Qualifier)



Triston CARUANA

CLUB: Valletta FC
DOB: 15th September, 1991 **CAPS:** 3 (1 goal)
National Team Debut: 26/03/2018 – Finland 5 Malta 0 (Friendly)



Karl MICALLEF

CLUB: Hamrun Spartans FC
DOB: 8th September, 1996 **CAPS:** 2
National Team Debut: 26/03/2019 – Malta 0 Spain 2 (Euro Champ. Qualifier)



Kurt SHAW

CLUB: Sliema Wanderers FC
DOB: 1st April, 1999 **CAPS:** 3
National Team Debut: 12/10/2019 – Malta 0 Sweden 4 (Euro Champ. Qualifier)

MIDFIELDERS



Myles BEERMAN

CLUB: Sliema Wanderers FC
DOB: 13th March, 1999 **CAPS:** 6
National Team Debut: 06/06/2017
– Ukraine 0 Malta 1 (Friendly)



Jan BUSUTTIL

CLUB: Floriana FC
DOB: 6th March, 1999 **CAPS:** 0



Ryan CAMENZULI

CLUB: Floriana FC
DOB: 8th September, 1994 **CAPS:** 9
National Team Debut: 25/03/2015
– Georgia 2 Malta 0 (Friendly)



Juan CORBALAN

CLUB: Hamrun Spartans FC
DOB: 3rd January, 1997 **CAPS:** 11 (1 goal)
National Team Debut: 11/10/2018 –
Kosovo 3 Malta 1 (UEFA Nations League)



Aidan Jake FRIGGIERI

CLUB: Gudja United
DOB: 28th April, 1998 **CAPS:** 0



Matthew GUILLAUMIER

CLUB: Hamrun Spartans FC
DOB: 9th April, 1998 **CAPS:** 6
National Team Debut: 23/03/2019
– Malta 2 Faroe Islands 1 (UEFA Nations League)

MIDFIELDERS



Bjorn KRISTENSEN

CLUB: Hibernians FC
DOB: 5th April, 1993 **CAPS:** 24
National Team Debut: 29/02/2012
– Malta 2 Liechtenstein 1 (Friendly)



Joseph MBONG

CLUB: Hamrun Spartans FC
DOB: 15th July, 1997 **CAPS:** 22
National Team Debut: 29/05/2018
– Armenia 1 Malta 1 (Friendly)



Rowen MUSCAT

CLUB: Valletta FC
DOB: 5th June, 1991 **CAPS:** 49 (1 goal)
National Team Debut: 14/11/2012
– Liechtenstein 0 Malta 1 (Friendly)



Steve PISANI

CLUB: Balzan FC
DOB: 7th August, 1992 **CAPS:** 22
National Team Debut: 28/03/2015
– Azerbaijan 2 Malta 0 (Euro Champ.
Qualifier)



Neil TABONE

CLUB: Zejtun Corinthians FC
DOB: 1st October, 1997 **CAPS:** 0



Teddy TEUMA

CLUB: Royale Union St Gilloise (Belgium)
DOB: 30th September, 1993 **CAPS:** 4
National Team Debut: 03/09/2020
– Faroe Islands 3 Malta 2 (UEFA Nations
League)



FORWARDS



Jurgen DEGABRIELE

CLUB: Hibernians FC
DOB: 10th October, 1996 **CAPS:** 6 (1 goal)
National Team Debut: 29/05/2018 – Armenia 1 Malta 1 (Friendly)



Shaun DIMECH

CLUB: Valletta FC
DOB: 8th August, 2001 **CAPS:** 1
National Team Debut: 07/10/2020 – Malta 2 Gibraltar 0 (Friendly)



Jean Paul FARRUGIA

CLUB: Sliema Wanderers FC
DOB: 21st March, 1992 **CAPS:** 16 (1 goal)
National Team Debut: 04/06/2014 – Gibraltar 1 Malta 0 (Friendly)



Luke GAMBIN

CLUB: Colchester United FC (England)
DOB: 16th March, 1993 **CAPS:** 26
National Team Debut: 27/05/2016 – Czech Republic 6 Malta 0 (Friendly)

FORWARDS



Jake GRECH

CLUB: Hibernians FC
DOB: 18th November, 1997 **CAPS:** 13
National Team Debut: 29/05/2018 – Armenia 1 Malta 1 (Friendly)



Michael MIFSUD

CLUB: Sirens FC
DOB: 17th April, 1981 **CAPS:** 142 (41 goals)
National Team Debut: 10/02/2000 – Malta 0 Albania 1 (Malta International Tournament)



Kyrian NWOKO

CLUB: Valletta FC
DOB: 4th July, 1997 **CAPS:** 16 (3 goals)
National Team Debut: 12/11/2017 – Malta 0 Estonia 3 (Friendly)



Alexander SATARIANO

CLUB: Sliema Wanderers FC
DOB: 25th October, 2001 **CAPS:** 0

COACHING STAFF



**Devis
MANGIA**

Head Coach



**Davide
MAZZOTTA**

Senior Assistant
Coach



**Guillermo
GIACOMAZZI**

Assistant
Coach



**Alessandro
ZINNARI**

Technical
Co-ordinator



**Mario
CAPECE**

Goalkeepers
Coach

OTHER STAFF

Keith FENECH - Team Manager
Luga Pagani - Fitness Coach
Francesco Zanasi - Performance Coach
Facundo Styk - Match Analyst
Kevin AZZOPARDI - Communications
Director/National Team Media Officer
Daniel McKEAN - Team Doctor
Luke BUSUTTIL LEAVER - Physiotherapist
Julian RIZZO NAUDI - Physiotherapist
Aaron ANCILLERI - Masseur
Frankie CIANTAR - Kit Manager
Mark PISCOPO - Kit Manager

INFORMATION CORRECT AS OF 09/11/2020.



SHEER
DELIGHT

October 13, 2020 – UEFA Nations League
Daugava Stadium – Riga

Latvia vs Malta 0-1

Malta players are ecstatic as they celebrate Steve Borg's last-gasp goal in the 1-0 victory over Latvia in a UEFA Nations League Group D1 match. It is Malta's first victory in the UEFA Nations League competition.
PHOTO: DOMENIC AQUILINA



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GOALKEEPERS

Büchel Benjamin

CLUB: FC Vaduz DOB: 04-07-1989

Hobi Thomas

CLUB: FC Balzers DOB: 20-06-1993

Ospelt Justin

CLUB: FC Vaduz DOB: 07-09-1999

DEFENDERS

Brändle Daniel

CLUB: SV Pullach DOB: 23-01-1992

Göppel Maximilian

CLUB: FC Vaduz DOB: 31-08-1997

Hofer Jens

CLUB: FC Biel-Bienne 1896 DOB: 01-10-1997

Kaufmann Daniel

CLUB: USV Eschen/Mauren DOB: 22-12-1990

Malin Andreas

CLUB: FC Dornbirn DOB: 31-01-1994

Marxer Alexander

CLUB: FC Ruggell DOB: 04-04-1994

Wolfinger Sandro

CLUB: USV Eschen/Mauren DOB: 24-08-1991

Yildiz Seyhan

CLUB: FC Balzers DOB: 30-04-1989

MIDFIELDERS

Büchel Marcel

CLUB: Ascoli Calcio DOB: 18-03-1991

Büchel Martin

CLUB: FC Red Star Zürich DOB: 19-02-1987

FORWARDS

Frick Noah

CLUB: Neuchâtel Xamax FCS DOB: 16-10-2001

Frick Yanik

CLUB: FC Energie Cottbus DOB: 27-05-1998

Kardesoglu Ridvan

CLUB: FC Balzers DOB: 12-10-1996

Salanovic Dennis

CLUB: FC Thun DOB: 26-02-1996

COACH

HEAD COACH: Helgi Kolviðsson

PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS

MALTA AIM TO EXTEND UNBEATEN RECORD AGAINST LIECHTENSTEIN

Malta have a very positive record against Liechtenstein, winning three matches and drawing the other. The 7-1 victory in a 2008 friendly match at the National Stadium is Malta's biggest win so far.

16/06/1985 South Korea President's Cup (Dac-Jon)

Liechtenstein 1-1 Malta

MALTA SCORER: Norman Buttigieg

MALTA John Bonello, Edwin Farrugia, John Holland, Norman Buttigieg, Costantino Consiglio (Emmanuel Farrugia), George Xuereb, Guži Xuereb (Paul Xuereb), Michael Degiorgio, Emmanuel Fabri, Nardu Farrugia, Raymond Xuereb.

COACH: Victor Scerri.

26/03/2008 Friendly (Ta' Qali)

Malta 7-1 Liechtenstein

MALTA SCORERS: Michael Mifsud (5), Jamie Pace, Brian Said

MALTA Andrew Hogg, Josef Mifsud (Brian Said), Shaun Bajada, Roderick Briffa (Kenneth Scicluna), Luke Dimech, Jamie Pace, Gilbert Agius (Ryan Fenech), Kevin Sammut (Ivan Woods), Udo Nwoko, (George Mallia), Etienne Barbara (Andrew Cohen), Michael Mifsud.

COACH: Dusan Fitzel.

29/02/2012 Friendly (Ta' Qali)

Malta 2-1 Liechtenstein

MALTA SCORERS: Michael Mifsud (2)

MALTA Henry Bonello (Justin Haber), Clayton Failla, Steve Borg (Luke Dimech), Andrei Agius (Gareth Sciberras), Jonathan Caruana, Roderick Briffa (Alex Muscat), Björn Kristensen (Edmond Agius), André Schembri, Andrew Cohen (Shaun Bajada), Danijel Bogdanovic, Michael Mifsud.

COACH: Robert Gatt.

14/11/2012 Friendly (Vaduz)

Liechtenstein 0-1 Malta

MALTA SCORER: Jonathan Caruana

MALTA Justin Haber, Jonathan Caruana, Gareth Sciberras (Rowen Muscat), Andrei Agius, Luke Dimech, Clayton Failla (Alex Muscat), Edward Herrera, Roderick Briffa (Shaun Bajada), Terrence Vella, Andrew Cohen (Paul Fenech), André Schembri.

COACH: Pietro Ghedin.



MALTA'S NATIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM CHOSE



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ANDORRA SQUAD

GOALKEEPERS

Josep Antoni Gomes

CLUB: Inter Club Escaldes DOB: 03-12-1985

Francesc Pires

CLUB: UE Engordany DOB: 25-01-1998

Iker Alvarez de Eulate

CLUB: Villarreal CF DOB: 25-07-2001

DEFENDERS

Emili Garcia

CLUB: Inter Club Escaldes DOB: 11-01-1989

Marc Garcia

CLUB: CF Montañesa DOB: 21-03-1988

Max Llovera

CLUB: EC Granollers DOB: 08-01-1997

Jordi Rubio

CLUB: UE Santa Coloma DOB: 01-11-1987

Moisés San Nicolás

CLUB: Atlètic Club Escaldes DOB: 17-09-1993

Jesús Rubio

CLUB: Atlètic Club Escaldes DOB: 09-09-1994

Joan Cervós

CLUB: Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC

DOB: 24-02-1998

MIDFIELDERS

Cristian Martínez

CLUB: Inter Club Escaldes DOB: 16-10-1989

Marc Rebés

CLUB: FC Santa Coloma DOB: 03-07-1994

Marc Vales

CLUB: Sandefjord DOB: 04-04-1990

Marc Pujol

CLUB: Inter Club Escaldes DOB: 21-08-1982

Ludovic Clemente

CLUB: Inter Club Escaldes DOB: 09-05-1986

Marc Ferré

CLUB: UE Santa Coloma DOB: 11-01-1994

Sebas Gómez

CLUB: UE Engordany DOB: 01-11-1983

Marcio Vieira

CLUB: CA Monzón DOB: 10-10-1984

FORWARDS

Àlex Martínez

CLUB: FC Santa Coloma DOB: 10-10-1998

Jordi Aláez

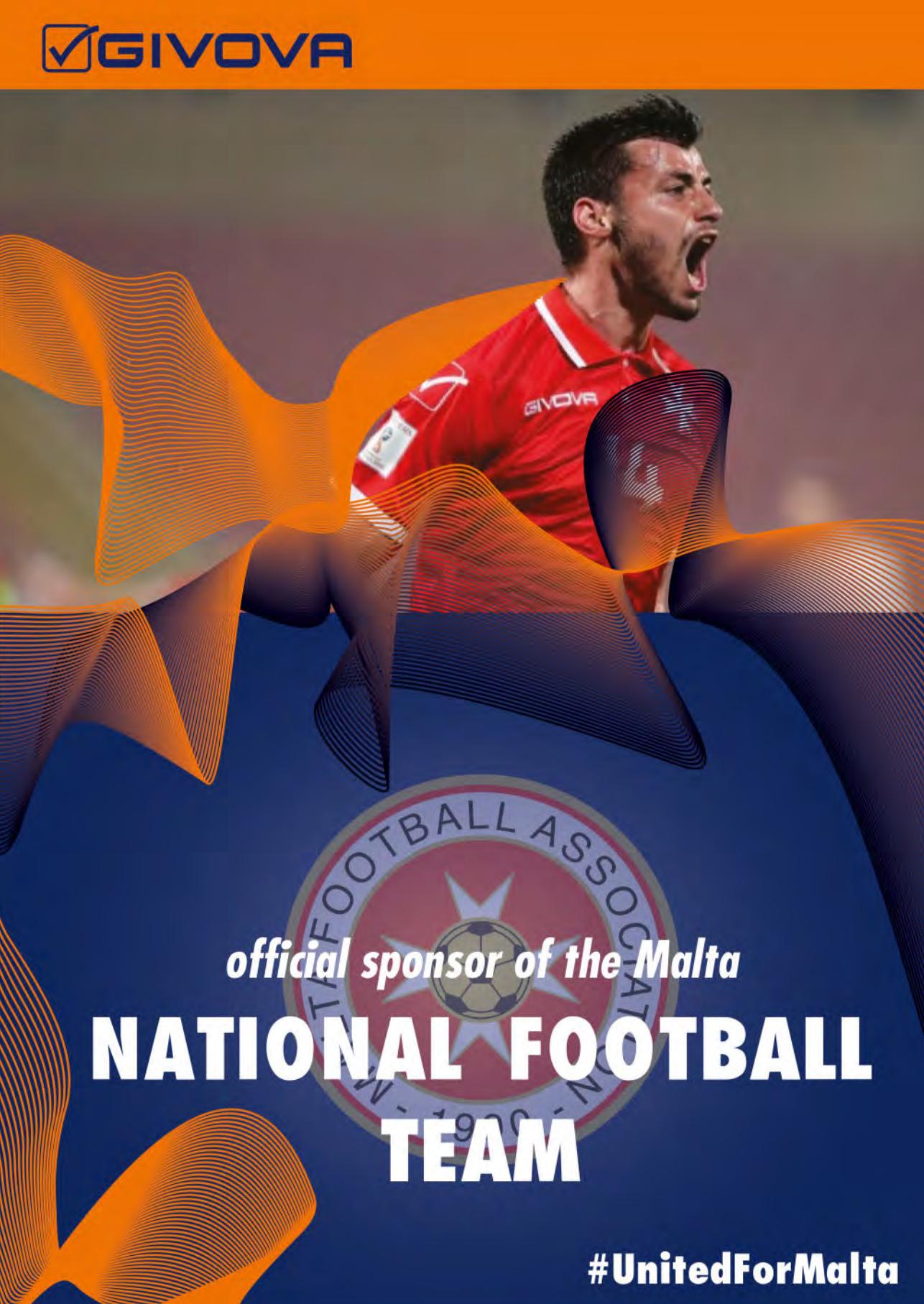
CLUB: Diagoras Rodou DOB: 23-01-1998

Ricard Fernández

CLUB: SD Formentera DOB: 19-03-1999

COACH

HEAD COACH: Koldo Álvarez



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NATIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM



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FAROE ISLANDS SQUAD

GOALKEEPERS

Gunnar Nielsen
CLUB: FH (Iceland) DOB: 07-10-1986
Teitur Matras Gestsson
CLUB: HB DOB: 19-08-1992
Tórður Thomsen
CLUB: NSÍ DOB: 11-06-1986

DEFENDERS

Jóannes Kalsø Danielsen
CLUB: KÍ DOB: 10-09-1997
Gilli Rólantsson Sørensen
CLUB: SK Brann (Norway) DOB: 11-08-1992
Viljormur Davidsen
CLUB: Vejle BK (Denmark) DOB: 19-07-1991
Ári Mohr Jónsson
CLUB: Sandnes ULF (Norway) DOB: 22-07-1994
Odmar Færø
CLUB: KÍ DOB: 01-11-1989
Heini Vatnisdal
CLUB: KÍ DOB: 18-10-1991

HEÐIN HANSEN

CLUB: HB DOB: 30-07-1993

SONNI RAGNAR NATESTAD

CLUB: B36 DOB: 05-08-1994

MIDFIELDERS

JÓANNES BJARTALÍÐ

CLUB: KÍ DOB: 10-07-1996

MEINHARD EGILSSON OLSEN

CLUB: GAIS (Sweden) DOB: 10-04-1997

GUNNAR VATNHAMAR

CLUB: Vikingur DOB: 29-03-1995

MAGNUS HOLM JACOBSEN

CLUB: B36 DOB: 23-05-2000

DAN Í SOYLU

CLUB: HB DOB: 09-07-1996

HALLUR HANSSON

CLUB: AC Horsens (Denmark) DOB: 08-07-1992

BRANDUR HENDRIKSSON OLSEN

CLUB: Helsingborg (Sweden) DOB: 19-12-1995

SØLVI VATNHAMAR

CLUB: Vikingur DOB: 05-05-1986

JÓAN SÍMUN EDMUNDSSON

CLUB: Arminia Bielefeld (Germany) DOB: 26-07-1991

FORWARDS

RÓGVI BALDVINSSON

CLUB: Bryne BK (Norway) DOB: 06-12-1989

KAJ LEO Í BARTALSSTOVU

CLUB: Valur (Iceland) DOB: 23-06-1991

KLÆMINT ANDRASSON OLSEN

CLUB: NSÍ DOB: 17-07-1990

ANDREAS LAVA OLSEN

CLUB: Vikingur DOB: 09-10-1987

PATRÍK JOHANNESSEN

CLUB: KÍ DOB: 07-09-1995

COACH

HEAD COACH: HÅKAN ERICSON

INFORMATION CORRECT AS OF 09/11/2020



◆ PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS

THREE DRAWS IN THREE MATCHES AGAINST ANDORRA

The previous three encounters between Malta and Andorra have ended in a draw with the last being the goalless stalemate at Andorra la Vella in the UEFA Nations League last month.

08/02/2000 Malta Rothmans International Tournament (National Stadium, Ta' Qali)

Malta 1-1 Andorra

MALTA SCORER: George Mallia

MALTA Ernest Barry, Jeffrey Chetcuti, John Buttigieg, Darren Debono, Daniel Theuma, Noel Turner, Jonathan Holland (Adrian Ciantar), Nenad Veselji, George Mallia (Stefan Giglio), Carmel Busuttil (Gilbert Agius), Michael Galea.

COACH: Josif Ilic.

27/03/2002 Friendly (National Stadium, Ta' Qali)

Malta 1-1 Andorra

MALTA SCORER: Daniel Theuma

MALTA Mario Muscat, Carlo Mamo (Miguel Mifsud), Jeffrey Chetcuti, Brian Said, Ian Ciantar, William Camenzuli, Noel Turner, Daniel Theuma, George Mallia (Danijel Bogdanovic), Chucks Nwoko (Adrian Mifsud), Michael Mifsud.

COACH: Sigi Held.

10/10/2020 UEFA Nations League (Andorra-la-Vella)

Malta 0-0 Andorra

MALTA Henry Bonello, Ryan Camenzuli, Steve Borg, Andrei Agius, Zach Muscat, Joseph Mbong, Steve Pisani (Bjorn Kristensen), Teddy Teuma, Jorgen Degabriele (Luke Montebello), Paul Mbong (Jake Grech), Luke Gambin.

COACH: Devis Mangia.



The Malta team that faced Andorra in a friendly match at the National Stadium in 2002.



Malta midfielder Teddy Teuma controls the ball during last month's 0-0 UNL draw against Andorra.

10TH MATCH AGAINST FAROE ISLANDS

The final UEFA Nations League Group D1 match will be the 10 overall meeting between Malta and Faroe Islands.

30/04/1997 World Cup Qualification (National Stadium, Ta' Qali)

Malta 1-2 Faroe Islands

MALTA SCORER: Stefan Sultana

MALTA Mario Muscat, Lawrence Attard (Noel Turner), Jeffrey Chetcuti, Silvio Vella, Darren Debono, Ivan Zammit, Nicky Saliba, Antoine Zahra, Joe Brincat, Gilbert Agius, Stefan Sultana.

COACH: Milorad Kosanovic.

08/06/1997 World Cup Qualification (Toftir)

Faroe Islands 2-1 Malta

MALTA SCORER: Gilbert Agius.

MALTA Mario Muscat, David Carabott, Jeffrey Chetcuti (Hubert Suda), Silvio Vella, Darren Debono (Lawrence Attard), Ivan Zammit, Noel Turner, Nicky Saliba, Joe Brincat, Gilbert Agius, Stefan Sultana.

COACH: Milorad Kosanovic.

18/08/2004 Friendly (Toftir)

Faroe Islands 3-2 Malta

MALTA SCORERS: Stefan Giglio, Michael Mifsud

MALTA Mario Muscat, Luke Dimech, Stephen Wellman (Ian Azzopardi), Brian Said, Roderick Briffa, Peter Pullicino, Stefan Giglio,

Antoine Zahra, Ivan Woods, Andrew Cohen (Etienne Barbara), Michael Mifsud.

COACH: Horst Heese.

19/11/2013 Friendly (National Stadium, Ta' Qali)

Malta 3-2 Faroe Islands

MALTA SCORERS: Ryan Fenech, Michael Mifsud, Jonathan Caruana.

MALTA Andrew Hogg, Alex Muscat, Jonathan Caruana, Andrei Agius, Clayton Failla, Roderick Briffa (Terrence Vella), Ryan Fenech, John Mintoff, Andrew Cohen (Mark Scerri), Michael Mifsud, André Schembri.

COACH: Pietro Ghedin.

07/09/2018 UEFA Nations League (Torshavn)

Faroe Islands 3-1 Malta

MALTA SCORER: Michael Mifsud.

MALTA Andrew Hogg, Steve Borg, Andrei Agius, Zach Muscat (Jean Paul Farrugia), Joseph Zerafa, Joseph Mbong, Alfred Effiong (Andrew Cohen), Paul Fenech, Rowen Muscat (Steve Pisani), André Schembri, Michael Mifsud.

COACH: Raymond Farrugia.

20/11/2018 UEFA Nations League (National Stadium, Ta' Qali)

Malta 1-1 Faroe Islands

MALTA SCORER: Juan Corbalan.

MALTA Andrew Hogg, Steve Borg, Andrei Agius, Zach Muscat, Clayton Failla (Kyrian

The first meeting between Malta and Faroe Islands was a 1998 World Cup qualifier at the National Stadium.



Malta celebrate Kyrian Nwoko's opener in the 2-1 win over Faroe Islands on March 23, 2019.

Nwoko), Joseph Mbong, Juan Corbalan (Joseph Zerafa), Rowen Muscat (Jonathan Caruana), Paul Fenech, André Schembri, Michael Mifsud.

COACH: Raymond Farrugia.

23/03/2019 European Championship Qualification (National Stadium, Ta' Qali)

Malta 2-1 Faroe Islands

MALTA SCORERS: Kyrian Nwoko, Steve Borg (p)

MALTA Henry Bonello, Jonathan Caruana, Steve Borg, Andrei Agius, Matthew Guillaumier, Joseph Mbong, Paul Fenech, Michael Mifsud (Joseph Zerafa), Kyrian Nwoko, Rowen Muscat (John Mintoff), Juan Corbalan (Zach Muscat).

COACH: Raymond Farrugia.

15/10/2019 European Championship Qualification (Torshavn)

Faroe Islands 1-0 Malta

MALTA Henry Bonello, Steve Borg, Andrei Agius, Zach Muscat, Joseph Mbong, Paul Fenech (Luke Gamin), Dunstan Vella, Kyrian Nwoko, Rowen Muscat (Joseph Zerafa), Jake Grech, Michael Mifsud (Alfred Effiong).

COACH: Raymond Farrugia.

03/09/2020 UEFA Nations League (Torshavn)

Faroe Islands 3-2 Malta

MALTA SCORERS: Jürgen Degabriele, Andrei Agius.

MALTA Henry Bonello, Steve Borg, Andrei Agius, Zach Muscat, Ryan Camenzuli, Joseph Mbong, Matthew Guillaumier (Teddie Teuma), Steve Pisani (Rowen Muscat), Luke Gamin, Jürgen Degabriele (Paul Mbong), Kyrian Nwoko.

COACH: Devis Mangia. ♦

STATISTICS COMPILED BY LENNARD KELDER



◆ 120TH ANNIVERSARY

CELEBRATING 120 YEARS OF THE MALTA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

The Malta Football Association is 120 years old. The officially-recognised year of birth of the Malta FA is 1900 with Major William Henry Russel Prever becoming the first president of the Association in 1909.

The 120th anniversary of the Malta FA is an occasion to cherish and revive those moments, those epic matches and unforgettable events, throughout this long and emotional journey of a footballing nation.

"This is a prestigious anniversary for the Malta FA, which is one of the oldest football associations in the world," said Malta FA President



Bjorn Vassallo. "We are naturally very proud of this."

"We are commemorating this anniversary during unprecedented times owing to the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, it's

important for our association to commemorate this 120-year journey of a footballing nation, with its highs and lows, and celebrate the efforts of all those who have contributed to the development of Maltese football."

Celebrations rolled off with the unveiling of the 120th anniversary logo during a special online event broadcast on the Association's Facebook page and YouTube channel.

MALTA STALWARTS

Football stalwarts who have etched their names in the annals of Maltese football enlivened the

Malta made its official international debut in a friendly match against Austria (2-3) on 24 February, 1957, at the Empire Stadium.



discussion in the first part of the programme.

The guests were Joe Cini, who was part of the Malta team that faced Austria in the country's first official international match, played on 24 February, 1957, former Malta captains Raymond Vella and Gilbert Agius, Sirens FC forward Michael Mifsud, the country's most representative player with 142 appearances to date and a record tally of 41 goals for the national team, and Dorianne Theuma who recently became the first female player to reach 100 appearances for the Maltese national team.

Cini reminisced over that historic occasion which saw the national team, under the guidance of the late Joe Griffiths, produce a bold rally with Tony Cauchi and Sammy Nicholl scoring late goals in a 3-2 defeat to Austria.

Cini, who had a brilliant career both at club and national team level, paid tribute to his talented team-mates in that 1957 match, the likes of Salvino Schembri, Lolly Borg, Tony Cauchi, who passed away recently, and Sammy Nicholl.

Another Maltese football legend, Raymond Vella, shared his memories of another famous

match, the 3-2 home defeat to West Germany in 1984, saying that the enthusiasm of the capacity crowd at the National Stadium was a great source of inspiration for the Maltese side who produced a terrific performance on the day.

Gilbert Agius, who has made 119 appearances for Malta and scored eight goals, said he treasures all the successful moments of his career, especially the time between 2006 and 2008 when Malta obtained five points in the EURO 2008 qualifiers under Dusan Fitzel, and all the trophies won with his club Valletta.

Michael Mifsud singled out the goal he scored in the away 2014 World Cup qualifier against Armenia on June 7, 2013 as one of the top highlights of his international career. "That was perhaps my most memorable goal as it earned our national team a rare away victory," Mifsud said.



Malta FA President Bjorn Vassallo.



◆ 120TH ANNIVERSARY



The Malta women's squad that played against Romania in the first competitive match in 2003.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

Long-serving national team midfielder Dorianne Theuma spoke about the significant progress made by the Maltese team and women's football in general since making her international debut in a EURO qualifier against Romania in 2003.

The discussion also featured the participation of Malta FA President Bjorn Vassallo, football journalists and President Emeritus and former Malta FA President Dr George Abela.

Despite the unprecedented difficulties caused by the COVID-19 crisis, Vassallo struck an upbeat note. "The 120th year of the Malta FA will certainly be remembered for the extraordinary challenges caused by the coronavirus," he said. "I'm very confident that Maltese football will overcome the current difficulties and make an opportunity out of it."

"The Maltese people have always shown courage and resilience in times of adversity, and as a nation, we have always managed to come back stronger.

Malta celebrate their 2-1 win over Georgia in a UEFA Women's EURO qualifier, played on 5 March, 2020.



We look forward to consolidating the association's footballing mission, as well as the social aspect, which is also at the heart of our work, in the months and years to come."

To mark the 120th anniversary, the Malta FA will soon open a new Maltese football museum on Level 2 of the Millennium Stand.

Team captains of all the local clubs are wearing a commemorative armband for domestic matches and all clubs and member associations will

be presented with commemorative mementos in the coming weeks.

There is also an environmental initiative associated with this anniversary as a total 120 trees are being planted in the National Stadium surroundings. ◆



120
ANNIVERSARY
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MALTA UNDER-21

MALTA U-21 WRAP UP CAMPAIGN WITH HOME MATCHES AGAINST UKRAINE AND FINLAND



The Malta Under-21 team will wrap up their UEFA Under-21 Championship Group 8 qualifying campaign with two matches, against Ukraine and Finland, at the Centenary Stadium.

Malta Under-21 coach Silvio Vella has selected a squad of 22 players for this double-header with a number of players making a welcome return after injuries and COVID-19 issues seriously hampered the Malta U-21 team's preparations for last month's qualifiers at home to Denmark and away to Romania.

Goalkeeper Timothy Aquilina, Nicholas Pulis, Jamie Zerafa, Marcus Grima and Ayrton Attard, all experienced players at this level, are back in the frame for the Malta Under-21 team's final Group 8 outings.

Goalkeeper Rashed Al-Tumi and Carlo Zammit Lonardelli, who are based in Italy, are also back in the squad while San ġwann striker Andrea Zammit, the youngest player in the squad at 17 years of age, has retained his place in the 22-strong group.

The Malta Under-21 team meet Ukraine on Friday with the match kicking off at 17.00 before rubbing shoulders with Finland in their

final group match on Tuesday 17th November (15.00).

Malta have one point in Group 8 while Ukraine and Finland are level on 10 points but out of the running for a top-two finish. Denmark have already secured top spot with 25 points, six clear of Romania ahead of their direct clash on 17th November.

MALTA UNDER-21 SQUAD

GOALKEEPERS Cain Formosa (San ġwann); Timothy Aquilina (Sliema Wanderers); Rashed Al-Tumi (Arzachena, Italy).

DEFENDERS Gary Camilleri (Balzan), Nicholas Pulis (Valletta), David Xuereb (Senglea Athletic), Matthew Ellul (Hibernians), Owen Spiteri (San ġwann), Carlo Zammit Lonardelli (Fidelis Andria, Italy).

MIDFIELDERS Zachary Grech (Hibernians), Darren Borg (Hamrun Spartans), Liam McKay (Santa Lucia), Andreas Vella (Santa Lucia), Jamie Zerafa (Santa Lucia), Marcus Grima (Balzan), Ayrton Attard (Hibernians), Bradley Sciberras (Marsaxlokk).

FORWARDS Sebastian Grech (Sliema Wanderers), James Scicluna (Pietà Hotspurs), Omar Elouni (Gżira United), Andrea Zammit (San ġwann), Andrei Spiteri (Mosta). ♦

MATCHDAY 1 - 06/09/2019

N. Ireland 0-0 Malta

MATCHDAY 2 - 10/09/2019

Ukraine 4-0 Malta

GOALS: 1-0 Topalov 17, 2-0 Rusyn 21, 3-0 Lednev 40, 4-0 Tsitaishvili 83

MATCHDAY 3 - 10/10/2019

Finland 4-0 Malta

GOALS: 1-0 Assehnoun 24, 2-0 Källman 32, 3-0 A. Vella 38 (og), 4-0 Valakari 66

MATCHDAY 4 - 19/11/2019

Denmark 5-1 Malta

GOALS: 1-0 Bruun Larsen 1, 2-0 Nelsson 4, 3-0 Odgaard 15, 4-0 Bruun Larsen 40 (p), 4-1 Pulis 44, 5-1 Olsen 67

MATCHDAY 5 - 04/09/2020

Malta 0-2 N. Ireland

GOALS: 0-1 Larkin 58, 0-2 Parkhouse 68

MATCHDAY 6 - 08/09/2020

Malta 0-3 Romania

GOALS: 0-1 Man 7, 0-2 Costache 42 (p), 0-3 Harut 84

MATCHDAY 7 - 09/10/2020

Malta 1-3 Denmark

GOALS: 1-0 Attard 52, 1-1 Laursen 68, 1-2 Damsgaard 84, 1-3 Lindstrøm 90+3

MATCHDAY 8 - 13/10/2020

Romania 4-1 Malta

GOALS: 1-0 Mățan 17, 2-0 Man 27, 3-0 Ganea 36, 4-0 Man 40 (p), 4-1 Elouni 51

MATCHDAY 9 - 13/11/2020

Malta vs Ukraine 5.00PM

MATCHDAY 10 - 16/11/2020

Malta vs Finland 3.00PM

UEFA U-21 QUALIFYING GROUP 8 CURRENT STANDINGS

| | Played | Won | Draw | Lost | Goals For | Goals Against | Points |
|--------------|--------|-----|------|------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| Denmark | 9 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 20 | 7 | 25 |
| Romania | 9 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 19 | 6 | 19 |
| Ukraine | 8 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Finland | 9 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 12 | 15 | 10 |
| N. Ireland | 9 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 10 | 9 |
| Malta | 8 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 23 | 1 |



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