










22 June 2018

Match highlights

Denmark-Australia

-  Australia ended a run of four successive World Cup defeats.
-  Christian Eriksen became the second Eriksen to score for Denmark at the World Cup. John Eriksen netted in a 2-0 victory over West Germany at Mexico 1986 – a goal famous for emanating from Henrik Andersen’s bizarre chipped goal-kick. Curiously, both Christian and John Eriksen were born on the Danish island of Funen.
-  Australia have scored all four of their penalties in the World Cup, three of them courtesy of Mile Jedinak.
-  Australia’s last three World Cup goals have come via Mile Jedinak penalties. They haven’t scored in open play in the competition in over five-and-a-half-hours of action.

France-Peru

-  Kylian Mbappe, at 19 years and 183 days, became the youngest player to score for France in the World Cup, breaking the record of David Trezeguet, who was 20 years and 246 days when he was on target against Saudi Arabia in 1998.
-  Kylian Mbappe became the fifth France No10 to score in the World Cup, emulating Hector de Bourgoing (1966), Michel Platini (1982 and ‘86), Zinedine Zidane (1998 and 2006) and Karim Benzema (2014).
-  Peru are now winless in eight World Cup matches since a 4-1 win over IR Iran in 1978.
-  South American sides have failed to score in their last seven encounters with France in the World Cup, with the last coming from Brazil’s Careca at Mexico 1986.
-  Hugo Lloris won his 100th cap for France, becoming the first goalkeeper and seventh player to join their century club.

Argentina-Croatia

-  Croatia, following four defeats, recorded their maiden victory over South American opposition at the World Cup.
-  Argentina are winless in four World Cup games – their longest-ever drought in the competition – since a 1-0 reverse of Belgium in the 2014 quarter-finals.
-  Argentina’s 11-match unbeaten run in the group stage of the World Cup, which included eight victories and three draws, was ended. Their last first-phase loss had been 1-0 to England, courtesy of a David Beckham penalty, in 2002.
-  Croatia, after three straight group-stage eliminations – in 2002, 2006 and 2014 – qualified for the Round of 16 for the first time since 1998, when, despite a 1-0 loss to Argentina in their third outing, they went all the way to the semi-finals.
-  Uzbek referee Ravshan Irmatov extended his record of World Cup matches overseen to ten.
-  Javier Mascherano made his 18th World Cup appearance to go joint-second on Argentina’s list of most-capped players in the competition alongside Mario Kempes, with Diego Maradona leading on 21. Lionel Messi moved on to 17 outings.

On this day in the past

1974

Australia win their first point at a FIFA World Cup after drawing 0-0 with Chile.

Germany FR and Germany DR play each other in Hamburg, with Jürgen Sparwasser scoring the only goal of the game in the 77th minute to give Germany DR a 1-0 victory.



1986

Argentina defeat England 2-1 in a historic quarter-final match in Mexico City. Diego Maradona nets both Argentinian goals, the first of which is remembered as the infamous “Hand of God” goal, while the second remains one of the greatest goals ever seen in FIFA World Cup history.

2002

A golden goal against Senegal by İlhan Mansız in the 94th minute ensures Turkey reach a historic semi-final.

2006

Ghana become the only newcomers in the 2006 tournament to advance to the second stage, courtesy of their 2-1 victory over the USA, with fellow debutants Angola, Côte d’Ivoire, Togo, and Trinidad and Tobago all eliminated at the end of the group stage.

In the group-stage match between Brazil and Japan, Carlos Alberto Parreira becomes the first coach in FIFA World Cup history to have faced national teams from all six confederations.

2010

Ten days after beating Cesare Maldini’s record as the oldest coach in the history of the World Cup, Greece’s German coach Otto Rehhagel sets a new record at the age of 71 years and 317 days in his team’s 2-0 defeat by Argentina.

Photo FIFA Archive

Next matches – 22 June



Nigeria – Iceland









Group D				
Match #	Date	Referee designation	City	Time (LT) UTC +3
24	22-06-2018	Matt CONGER (NZL)	VOLGOGRAD	18:00

1 previous head-to-head ([click](#) to view full match list)

	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA
Iceland	1	1	0	0	3	0
Nigeria	1	0	0	1	0	3

Facts & figures

-  The only prior meeting between the duo was a friendly game played in 1981, which Iceland won 3-0 in Reykjavik.
-  This is the 20th World Cup fixture contested by Nigeria, who have made more appearances in the event than any other African team except for Cameroon (who remain on 23).
-  Against Argentina, Alfred Finnbogason became the scorer of Iceland's historic maiden goal at the World Cup.
-  Nigeria are on a three-match losing streak at the World Cup.
-  Iceland are the third European debutants that Nigeria have encountered at the World Cup, after Greece in 1994 and Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2014; on both previous occasions, the Super Eagles emerged 2-0 and 1-0 victors respectively.
-  Nigeria have already played a World Cup game on 22 June, drawing 2-2 with Korea Republic in South Africa back in 2010.



Brazil - Costa Rica





Group E				
Match #	Date	Referee designation	City	Time (LT) UTC +3
25	22-06-2018	Bjorn KUJIPERS (NED)	ST. PETERSBURG	15:00


10 previous head-to-heads ([click](#) to view full match list)

	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA
Brazil	10	9	0	1	32	9
Costa Rica	10	1	0	9	9	32


Facts & figures


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The pair have crossed paths on ten previous occasions and Brazil have much the better track record with nine victories to one. The only Costa Rican success was a 3-0 victory in the Panamerican Championship dating back to 1960. The most recent meeting took place in Hamilton, USA, in September 2015 and ended 1-0 in favour of the South Americans, following Hulk's winner. This fixture is traditionally a high-scoring affair, averaging 4.1 goals per match in the ten past meetings.
- 

This is the third showdown between Brazil and Costa Rica in the World Cup. The previous encounters finished 1-0 in 1990, thanks to a goal by Muller, and 5-2 in 2002, following strikes from Ronaldo (2), Edmilson, Rivaldo and Junior for Brazil, with Paolo Wanchope and Ronald Gomez replying for Costa Rica.
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Brazil are unbeaten for 13 successive games (ten victories and three draws) in the group round, their last defeat coming against Norway in 1998. However, *A Seleção* have gone three games without victory in the FIFA World Cup™, one short of their longest winless streak of four between 1974 and 1978.
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Costa Rica's current coach Oscar Gonzalez wore the No10 shirt in the sides' 1990 World Cup showdown in Turin.
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Brazil have a 100% winning record in World Cup fixtures contested on 22 June, having beaten Zaire 3-0 in 1974 and Japan 4-1 in 2006.
- 

Christian Bolanos became the first Costa Rican to play in three World Cups when he took to the field against Serbia.
- 

Brazil are undefeated against CONCACAF representatives after seven meetings, notching six victories to none, plus a draw with Mexico four years ago. The only goals conceded by *A Canarinho* were both netted by Costa Rica in 2002.



Serbia – Switzerland



Group E				
Match #	Date	Referee designation	City	Time (LT) UTC +2
26	22-06-2018	Felix BRYCH (GER)	KALININGRAD	20:00

No previous head-to-heads against Serbia - ([13 head-to-heads against Yugoslavia](#))

	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA
Yugoslavia	13	6	5	2	29	16
Switzerland	13	2	5	6	16	29

Facts & figures

-  All 13 previous engagements between the pair were contested between Switzerland and Yugoslavia, with the latter team dominating with six victories to two, in addition to five draws. Their only previous World Cup tussle yielded a 3-0 win to Yugoslavia in 1950.
-  The last encounter was a World Cup qualifier in 2001, which Yugoslavia won 2-1 in Basel. The winning goal on 72 minutes was struck by Serbia's current coach Mladen Krstajic, the first of two international goals he netted during his playing career.
-  The last four World Cup victories achieved by Serbia (including those under the banner of Yugoslavia) ended 1-0.
-  Valon Behrami became the first Swiss to play in four World Cups. Meanwhile in this match, Stephan Lichtsteiner could top his country's World Cup appearance table by making his ninth outing in the event.
-  On 22 June 1994, Switzerland got back to winning ways in the global showpiece after a 40-year winless streak, overpowering Romania 4-1 in Detroit following a run of seven defeats and one draw since their previous success, a 4-1 victory over Italy in 1954.

Next matches – 23 June



Germany - Sweden











Group F				
Match #	Date	Referee designation	City	Time (LT) UTC +3
27	23-06-2018	Szymon MARCINIAK (POL)	SOCHI	21:00

36 previous head-to-heads ([click](#) to view full match list)

	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA
Germany	36	15	9	12	70	60
Sweden	36	12	9	15	60	70

Facts & figures

-  Of all the group-round games at Russia 2018, Germany-Sweden is historically the most-played fixture. The two sides are meeting for the 37th time and the Germans lead the head-to-head series with 15 wins to 12, the other nine encounters having ended drawn.
-  The pair have crossed paths four times in the FIFA World Cup™ and Germany have had the better of the previous meetings with three victories to one, by the scorelines of 2-1 in 1934, 4-2 in 1974 and 2-0 in 2006. Sweden's only success was a 3-1 win in the 1958 semi-finals.
-  The sides first locked horns over a century ago on 18 June 1911, when the Germans plundered a 4-2 win in Stockholm. The last encounter in October 2013 was also a high-scoring affair, finishing 5-3 in favour of Germany on the qualification trail for Brazil 2014.
-  The loss to Mexico ended Germany's eight-game unbeaten run in the competition and is their first opening-matchday defeat as reigning World Cup holders. *Die Nationalmannschaft* are also the sixth team to lose the opening match of their title defence after Italy in 1950, Argentina in 1982 and 1990, France in 2002 and Spain in 2014.
-  Sweden have kicked off a World Cup campaign with victory for the first time in 60 years, since overcoming Mexico 3-0 in 1958.
-  Sweden have not beaten Germany for exactly 40 years. Their last victory in this fixture dates back to 19 April 1978, when the *Blågult* won a friendly match 3-1 in Stockholm.
-  Germany won both of the past World Cup matches that they played on 23 June, seeing off Turkey 7-2 in 1954 and Ghana 1-0 in 2010. Sweden also won their only previous fixture contested on 23 June, overpowering Uruguay 3-0 in 1974.
-  This is the third meeting between Sweden and defending champions in the World Cup. The Swedes emerged victorious on both previous occasions, beating Italy 3-2 in 1950 and Germany FR 3-1 in 1958.



Korea Republic - Mexico



Group F				
Match #	Date	Referee designation	City	Time (LT) UTC +3
28	23-06-2018	Milorad MAZIC (SRB)	ROSTOV-ON-DON	18:00

12 previous head-to-heads ([click](#) to view full match list)

	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA
Korea Republic	12	4	2	6	15	24
Mexico	12	6	2	4	24	15

Facts & figures

This is the 13th encounter between the two teams. Mexico have marginally the better track record with six wins to four, plus two draws. The pair first faced each other 70 years ago in the Olympic Football Tournament 1948 in London, which produced a 5-3 Korean victory. The last meeting was a friendly held in January 2014 in San Antonio, USA, which was won 4-0 by Mexico.

Besides the Olympic tournament in 1948, Mexico and Korea Republic have squared up in another three competitions: in the FIFA Confederations Cup in 2001 (when the Taeguk Warriors prevailed 2-1), in the 2002 quarter-finals of the Gold Cup (another Korean victory but on penalties) and in the 1998 World Cup, when Mexico emerged 3-1 victors in the group round, with Pelaez netting once and Luis Hernandez twice after Ha Seokju had opening the scoring.

Mexico have won three out of three showdowns against Asian opposition in the World Cup, beating Iraq 1-0 in 1986, Korea Republic 3-1 in 1998 and IR Iran 3-1 in 2006.

Korea Republic have faced CONCACAF representatives twice in the World Cup and are yet to win. After losing 3-1 to Mexico in 1998, the East Asians drew 1-1 with USA in 2002.

The defeat by Sweden extended Korea Republic's winless streak in the World Cup to seven games (two draws and five defeats). The South Koreans last won in 2010, overcoming Greece 2-0.

Against Germany, Rafael Marquez became only the third player to take to the field in five World Cups, after Antonio Carbajal and Lothar Matthaus.

For the second consecutive edition, Mexico play a match on 23 June. Four years ago, *El Tri* saw off Croatia 3-1 in Recife.

Korea Republic have never scored in World Cup fixtures contested on 23 June, having drawn 0-0 with Bolivia in 1994 before losing 2-0 to Switzerland in 2006.

Shin Taeyong was also in the Korea Republic dugout when his charges edged Mexico 1-0 in the Olympic Football Tournament 2016.



Belgium - Tunisia



Group G				
Match #	Date	Referee designation	City	Time (LT) UTC +3
29	23-06-2018	Jair MARRUFO (USA)	MOSCOW	15:00

3 previous head-to-heads ([click](#) to view full match list)

	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA
Belgium	3	1	1	1	3	3
Tunisia	3	1	1	1	3	3

Facts & figures

-  The pair are evenly matched in tournament history, having met three times with one victory apiece and one draw. The last skirmish was a friendly in 2014 in Brussels, where Dries Mertens struck to earn the Europeans a 1-0 win.
-  On 26 February 1992, Tunisia became the first African side to play Belgium. The match was a friendly that took place in Rades and culminated in a 2-1 Tunisian victory.
-  The two sides previously went toe-to-toe in the 2002 World Cup, drawing 1-1 after goals from Marc Wilmots and Raouf Bouzaiene inside the first 17 minutes of play.
-  Tunisia are winless in their last 12 World Cup matches (four draws, eight losses) since recording the momentous first victory by an African team in the World Cup, beating Mexico 3-1 in 1978.
-  Belgium remain undefeated after playing three matches against African opposition in the World Cup, with two victories and one draw. Besides that stalemate with Tunisia, the Red Devils edged Morocco 1-0 in 1994 and 2-1 Algeria four years ago.
-  The 3-0 opening-day victory over Panama equalled Belgium's most emphatic win in the World Cup, which dates back to 1970, when they achieved an identical result against El Salvador.
-  This is the second time that Tunisia have played a World Cup match on 23 June. In 2006 the *Eagles of Carthage* were defeated 1-0 by Ukraine.

Metro to Moscow

A 33-stop journey through Russian and Soviet football history as we countdown towards the FIFA World Cup Final at the Luzhniki on July 15th.

23 days to the FINAL

At 23 years old, Cristiano Ronaldo won his first UEFA Champions League title in the final held at the Luzhniki in Moscow. The Portuguese forward scored first for Manchester United against Chelsea when he headed home a cross, but with the score locked at 1-1 at the end of extra time, the match went to penalties. And while Ronaldo was the only United player to miss from 12 yards, the Manchester club nevertheless emerged victorious. On 20 June, Cristiano once again played at the stadium that holds such happy memories for him, and he scored the goal to Portugal's victory over Morocco.

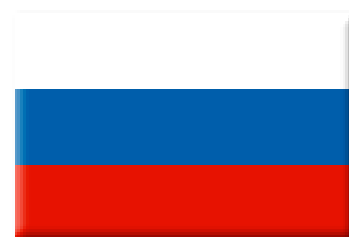
Russian Football Dictionary

How to say...

Gloves
Shirt
Shorts

in Russian

Перчатки / peerchatky
Футболка / footballka
Шорты / shorty



Happy Birthday

Players, coaches and referees celebrating their Birthday

When	Turning...
22 JUNE	
NO BIRTHDAYS TODAY	

From Russia with Love

Remembering the teams missing out in this year's FIFA World Cup

CHINA PR

FIFA World Cup™ facts & figures

Participations	1 (2002)
Best achievement	Group stage in 2002



China PR were the last of five sides coached by Bora Milutinovic in the FIFA World Cup.

During the group stage of their only campaign in 2002, China PR locked horns with the future world champions Brazil (becoming the first Asian team to face A Seleção in the World Cup) and eventual third-place play-off winners Turkey.



Also in that 2002 edition, China PR became the last of 11 Asian sides to make their World Cup debut.

Photo by Ben Radford/Getty Images

INDONESIA (DUTCH EAST INDIES)

Participations 1 (1938)
Best achievement 1st round 1938

Indonesia, then under the name of Dutch East Indies, were the first Asian team to take part in the finals.

They are also the only team to have contested just one fixture in the FIFA World Cup.

In their only World Cup match, played in Reims, Indonesia lost 6-0 to a Hungary team that went on to finish runners-up.



Photo POZZO Archive FIFA Museum

Switching Roles

Nine of the coaches competing in Russia 2018 have playing experience in the FIFA World Cup. They will feature in our Stats of the Day together with other players/managers who have shaped the competition's history.

BERTI VOGTS

The stalwart Borussia Mönchengladbach defender wore the German national team shirt for 11 years, taking part in three FIFA World Cups between 1970 and 1978, winning the title in 1974 and contesting a total of 19 matches in the event (earning him 11th place in the overall appearance ranking). Vogts subsequently coached Germany at two global showpieces, in 1994 and 1998, exiting in the quarter-finals both times.



Photo by Rolls Press/Popperfoto/Getty Images & Photo by Bongarts/Getty Images

Football Fashion

Korea Republic in 1954

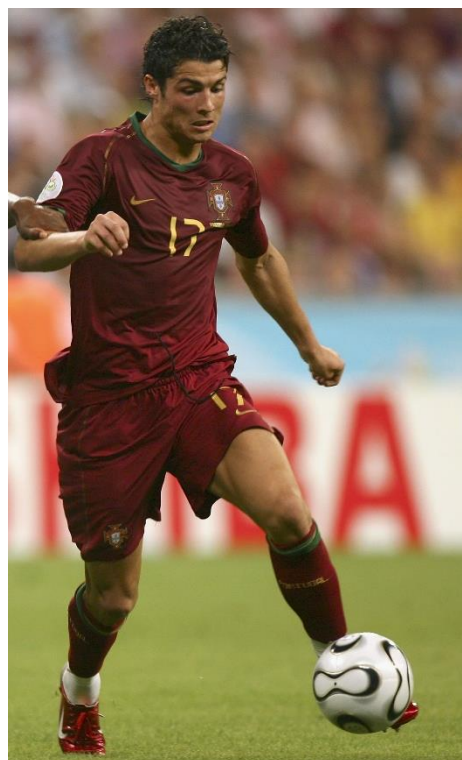


...and now



Photo POZZO Archive / FIFA Museum & Getty Images

Striking snaps from tournaments past



In 2006, their World Cup journeys were just beginning. As their goal tallies have increased, the squad numbers have decreased...

Photo by Getty Images

Tantalizing World Cup Trivia

Today's question

Who is the most substituted player?

→ *Solution will be revealed in tomorrow's edition*

Yesterday's solution

Which three coaches managed their sons in a FIFA World Cup after having already participated in a previous edition as a player?

→ *Cesare Maldini, Vladimir Weiss, and Ilija Petkovic (however his son Dusan was not fielded)*



Memorabilia marvel

Designed to showcase the extraordinary history of the FIFA World Cup, the FIFA World Football Museum in Zurich covers all aspects of international football's rich heritage and shows how the beautiful game connects and inspires the world. With an interactive, multimedia display of exhibits, the museum explores the emotions that football awakens around the world on a daily basis. Exhibition space of more than 3,000 square meters offers a fascinating journey through time. During the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™ we are happy to present a few of the many objects.

2014

Gloves worn by Costa Rica's Keylor Navas during the 2014 FIFA World Cup™ in Brazil

Costa Rica's extraordinary run to the quarter-finals of the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil owed a great deal to the safe hands of goalkeeper Keylor Navas. In five games he conceded just one goal from open play, an injury-time equaliser against Greece in the Round of 16. He then went on to save the penalty from Gekas in the shoot-out which ensured a first appearance in the quarter-finals for the Central Americans. Costa Rica missed out on the semi-finals by the narrowest of margins, losing another penalty shoot-out, this time against the Netherlands. Although he had held the Dutch at bay during the match, he couldn't stop any of the four Dutch penalties. His performances earned him a dream move to Real Madrid where he won successive UEFA Champions League titles in 2016 and 2017.



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