



# GAME NOTES



# IRELAND VS ENGLAND



## HEAD TO HEAD

- This will be the 20th Six Nations meeting between the sides. Ireland have won 11 of their 19 clashes, while England have won just eight games.
- Ireland have held England to 15 points or less in five of their last six meetings in the Six Nations.
- The average margin of victory between the sides in Six Nations clashes has been 13.8 points; however, none of the last six games have been decided by more than 11 points. In comparison, four matches were decided by 30 or more points between 2000 and 2007.

Date	Winner	Margin of Victory
March 30, 2003	England	36
February 16, 2002	England	34
February 5, 2000	England	32
February 24, 2007	Ireland	30

- The hosts have won on 13 occasions when England and Ireland have met in the Six Nations, while only six wins have gone to the visitors.
- The visiting nation has only scored more than 20 points on three occasions since the start of the Six Nations era in 2000, including Ireland's 15 - 24 win at Twickenham in 2018 (England in 2003 - 6-42; Ireland in 2006 - 24-28).

## COMMON STATISTICS

- The primary origin of both Ireland (45%) and England's (50%) tries in the 2018 Six Nations were from lineouts.

Ireland	Try Origins	England
45%	Lineout	50%
20%	Scrum	29%
35%	Turnover	14%
5%	Other	7%

England also conceded seven (77.8%) of their nine tries also came from that set play.

- Since Wales in 2008 (+82), Ireland (2018, 2014) and England (2014) are the only sides to finish a Six Nations Championship with a points differential exceeding 70.

Team	Points Differential
Ireland (2014)	+83
Ireland (2018)	+78
England (2014)	+73
France (2010)	+66
England (2017)	+65

- Only England (193) and Ireland (167) had more than 125 rucks set in their opponent's 22 in the 2018 Six Nations.

Team	Rucks Set in Opposition 22
England	193
Ireland	167
Scotland	121

However, Ireland (498) bypassed England (479) in terms of rucks set in opposition territory.

- England (65) and Ireland (64) had the highest number of offensive rucks that lasted over six seconds in the 2018 Six Nations

Team	Number of offensive rucks > 6 seconds
England	65
Ireland	64
France	62

- England led this category defensively - with 79 defensive rucks of over six seconds in the 2018 Six Nations.
- England conceded most of their points (30.4%) in the 10-minute period before half-time in the 2018 Six Nations - the same period in which Ireland scored most of their points (21.3%).

## 10-minute interval % English points conceded

31'-HT	30.4%
21'-30'	16.3%
11'-20'	13.0%

- England scored most of their points (23.5%) in the final 10 minutes of games in the 2018 Six Nations - the same period in which Ireland conceded most of their points (29.3%).

## 10-minute interval % Irish points conceded

71'-80	29.3%
61'-70'	23.2%
51'-60'	18.3%

- Ireland and England both scored 29 points in the opening 20 minutes of 2018 Six Nations games, but Ireland outscored England 58-20 in the remainder of the first half throughout the tournament.

Team	0'-20'	21'-40'	41'-60'	61'-80'
England	29	20	17	36
Ireland	29	58	41	32

- Ireland scored at least three tries in each 20-minute interval in the 2018 Six Nations. England scored just four in total between the 20th minute and the hour mark.
- Only Ireland (9) won more penalties from their own scrums than England (7) during the Autumn Internationals.
- Rory Best (166) and Maro Itoje (148) led all players in terms of attacking ruck arrivals during the 2018 Six Nations tournament. The top seven players in that category were either English or Irish.

Player	Ruck Arrivals
Rory Best (Ireland)	166
Maro Itoje (England)	148
Peter O'Mahony (Ireland)	141

CJ Stander (Ireland)	135
Chris Robshaw (England)	128

- Eight different Ireland players had over 100 offensive ruck arrivals in the 2018 Six Nations.
- CJ Stander had 93 carries during the 2018 Six Nations, 22 more than the next-highest total (Sebastian Negri - 71). Chris Robshaw led England in this category with 57.

Player	Carries
CJ Stander (Ireland)	93
Sebastian Negri (Italy)	71
Chris Robshaw (England)	57
Dan Leavy (Ireland)	57
Stuart Hogg (Scotland)	55

- Ireland had five players with 50 or more carries in the 2018 Six Nations. No other nation had more than two.
- England kicked out of their own 22 with 35.9% of their possessions, the highest percentage in the 2018 Six Nations. In comparison, Ireland kicked out of their own 22 with 23.0% of their possessions in 2018, the lowest percentage in the tournament.

Ireland	Type of Play – Own 22	England
23.0%	Kick	35.9%
36.2%	Carry	39.4%
40.8%	Pass	25.7%

England (25.7%) were the only nation to attempt passes with fewer than 35% of their own 22 possessions in 2018.

## IRELAND

- Ireland outscored their Autumn international opponents by 108 points; trailing for a total of just 39 minutes across the four tests.
- Ireland conceded just six points in the second half of games during their four Autumn Internationals.

- Ireland scored 35% (7) of their 20 tries from turnovers during the Autumn Internationals - compared to 30% (6) in their 2018 Six Nations campaign.

Try Origin	Ireland
Lineouts	30%
Counter Attacks	20%
Turnovers	35%
Scrum	15%

- One in every five Irish tries originated from a counter-attack during the Autumn Internationals, compared to just a single try from their 20 tries in the 2018 Six Nations.
- Only Stuart Hogg (10.5m) and Remy Grosso (10.0m) averaged a longer distance per carry among players with 30 carries or more, than Jacob Stockdale (9.9m) in the 2018 Six Nations.

Player	Average Carry Distance (m)
Stuart Hogg	10.5
Remy Grosso	10.0
Jacob Stockdale	9.9

Jonny May led England in terms of average carry distance among players with 30 or more carries (7.9m).

## ENGLAND

- Half of England's 10 tries (5) were scored within one phase of play during their Autumn Internationals.

Phases	1	5	6	7	10+
Percentage of Tries	50%	10%	10%	10%	20%

Only England (2) had more than a single 10+ phase try during the Autumn Internationals.

- No nation had more lineout steals than England during the 2018 Six Nations (9 – alongside Ireland and France) and only Wales managed more among Six Nations-competing sides in the Autumn internationals with nine.

Team	Lineouts Stolen
Wales	9
England	8
Ireland	6
Italy	4
France	3
Scotland	2

- Owen Farrell was successful with just seven of his 14 conversion attempts during the 2018 Six Nations. His success rate increased by 15.6% when England were winning compared to when they were trailing.

Conversion % When Leading 55.6%

Conversion % When Trailing 40.0%

- Farrell failed to score any points in his last Six Nations game (v Ireland). It was the first time that he failed to score in a Six Nations match (29<sup>th</sup> appearance). He had scored in each of England's previous 14 games in the competition after missing the 2015 tournament.
- Three of the nine players who played every minute of their team's 2018 Six Nations campaign were English: Jonny May, Maro Itoje and Owen Farrell. Farrell has actually played every minute of England's last 12 Six Nations matches.

Player	Minutes Played – 2018 Six Nations
Jonny May	400
Maro Itoje	400
Owen Farrell	400
Chris Robshaw	386

No single Irish player featured in every minute of their nation's 2018 Six Nations campaign.

- The six successful penalties kicked by England in the 2018 Six Nations were a joint-low for the side in the tournament.

Player	Number of penalties	Opposition
Owen Farrell	1	Italy
Owen Farrell	2	Scotland
Owen Farrell	2	France
Elliot Daly	1	France

They also kicked just six penalty goals in 2006 and 2010.

- Only Wales (9.7%) spent more of their possession inside the opposition 22 in the 2018 Six Nations than England (8.4%).

Team	% Possession in Opposition 22
Wales	9.7%
England	8.4%
Scotland	7.0%
Italy	6.3%