



# GAME NOTES



## IRELAND VS FRANCE



## HEAD TO HEAD

- France and Ireland have met 19 times in the Six Nations, with Ireland winning eight games, losing nine times and drawing twice.
- Ireland failed to win consecutive games against France in the Six Nations between 2001 and 2014 but have won four of the last five clashes (wins in 2014-2015 and 2017-2018).
- The winners of the Six Nations clashes between these nations have scored 22 points or fewer in each of the last five meetings. Seven of the previous eight matches that ended with a winner saw the victors score at least 25 points prior to this run.
- Ireland are unbeaten at home against France in the Six Nations since a 25-22 loss in February 2011. Since then, France have averaged just 11 points in their three trips to Ireland in the competition.
- Ireland have only scored more than 30 points against France on one occasion in the Six Nations - in a 43-31 loss in February 2006. Neither side has eclipsed 19 points in any of the last four meetings in the tournament.

## COMMON STATISTICS

- France (33.3%) and Ireland (32.4%) have both scored more of their points in the opening 20 minutes than any other 20-minute segment so far in the 2019 Championship. However, France have conceded just 14.1% (11) of their 54 points in that segment - the lowest percentage among any 20-minute quarter. Ireland have also conceded just 13 of their 61 points in the same timeframe.

Ireland	Percentage of Points Scored	France
32.4%	0'-20'	33.3%
17.6%	20'-HT	29.6%
25.0%	HT-60'	9.3%
25.0%	60'-80'	27.8%

- Ireland have conceded 49.2% (30) of their 61 points in the 20 minutes before half time, although they are yet to concede a point between the 40th and 60th minutes of a game in the 2019 Six Nations.
- No nation has scored more tries originating from lineouts than Ireland (5) in the 2019 Six Nations, as no side has scored more tries originating from turnovers than France (3) in the competition.

Ireland	Try Origins	France
5	Lineouts	2
1	Scrum	2
2	Turnovers	3
1	Tap Penalties	0

- Ireland are the only side to have scored more than four tries from the same origin in the 2019 Championship thus far.
- No nation has attempted carries with a higher percentage of their possessions than France (43.8%) so far in the 2019 Championship.

Ireland	Types of Play	France
6.2%	Kick	9.5%
40.9%	Carry	43.8%
52.9%	Pass	46.7%

- Ireland have managed a total of just nine offloads thus far in the 2019 Six Nations, while France lead the tournament with 48 at an average of 16 per match.

Nation	Offloads
France	48
Italy	21
Scotland	19
England	18
Wales	18
Ireland	9

- France (48) have over twice as many offloads as any other side, while Ireland have half as many as every other nation.
- Ireland have combined for just nine offloads in their three Six Nations games thus far, while none of their players have more than two. Six French players have four or more offloads, including the trio of Antoine Dupont, Louis Picamoles and Mathieu Bastareaud who lead the competition with six apiece.

Player	Offloads
Antoine Dupont (France)	6
Louis Picamoles (France)	6
Mathieu Bastareaud (France)	6
Elliot Daly (England)	5
Federico Ruzza (Italy)	5
Jayden Hayward (Italy)	5

- No side in the 2019 Six Nations has been penalised more at the scrum than France (6 infringements).

Nation	Penalties from Scrums
France	6
Italy	6
Scotland	5
Wales	3
Ireland	2
England	0

- Ireland (29) have been awarded more penalties than any other side in the 2019 Six Nations.
- Ireland and France are the top two teams in the 2019 Six Nations from scrums - with the Irish yet to lose a scrum and France winning 94.1% of their scrums in the Championship.

Nation	% Scrums Won
Ireland	100%
France	94.1%
England	92.9%
Scotland	92.9%
Wales	91.3%
Italy	75.0%

- Both Ireland and Wales have had just four scrums reset each in the 2019 Six Nations - only Scotland (3) have had fewer.
- Both Ireland and France maintain a 98% breakdown retention rate, but the French excel in breakdown steals - they have eight compared to Ireland's two.
- Wenceslas Lauret (France) and Peter O'Mahony (Ireland) are two of just four players with more than one breakdown steal so far in the 2019 Six Nations.

Player	Breakdown Steals
James Ritchie (Scotland)	4
Wenceslas Lauret (France)	4
Thomas Curry (England)	3
Peter O'Mahony (Ireland)	2

- Ireland have cleared their own rucks on average at a speed of 3.39 seconds - the fastest in the tournament. Conversely, France are the slowest at clearing their attacking rucks, with an average of 4.13 seconds.

Ireland	Ruck Speed	France
406	Total Rucks	321
98.0%	% Rucks Won	97.8%
3.39	Average Ruck Speed	4.13

- Meanwhile, Ireland (16) are the only side to have been involved in more mauls in the 2019 Six Nations than France (13).

- Ireland have made 83.3% of their goal kicks in the 2019 Six Nations - the best conversion percentage in the Championship, as France (42.9%) have the joint-worst success rate (alongside Italy).

Nation	% Kicks Made
Ireland	83.3%
Wales	82.4%
Scotland	81.8%
England	72.2%
Italy	42.9%
France	42.9%

- France remain the only side to have successfully kicked a drop goal in the 2019 Six Nations. Wales are the only other nation to have attempted one.
- French number eight Louis Picamoles leads the 2019 Six Nations in carries (44) but is the only French player with over 25 carries. Tadhg Furlong (34) is the only Irish player in the top five in that metric, but Ireland do have five players with 28 carries or more - two more than any other nation.
- France and Ireland only have a single player each with five or more dominant tackles (Bundee Aki and Louis Picamoles - 5 each). Every other nation has at least two, while the four players with more than ten dominant tackles are all English.

## IRELAND

- Ireland have won their last two games - they have had just one winning streak longer than two matches in the Six Nations since the start of the 2016 Championship when they won six games in a row between 2017 and 2018.
- Ireland lost their opening home game of the 2019 Championship, ending a 14-match unbeaten run at home in the Six Nations. They last lost back-to-back home matches between the 2010 and 2011 Championships, including losing 25-22 against France in 2011, which was their longest home losing streak in Six Nations history.
- Ireland conceded 32 points against England in their opening home game of the 2019 Championship, the highest total number of points conceded in a home game in the Six Nations by the Irish since losing 42-6 against England in 2003.

- Only Italy (37.5%) pass the ball with a higher percentage of their possessions than Ireland (33.8%) when inside their own 22 in the 2019 Six Nations, while only Scotland (58.7%) pass the ball more than Ireland (58.1%) when inside the opposition 22.
- In terms of goal-kicking, Ireland are the only nation to have two kickers with a 100% success rate (Conor Murray and Joey Carbery) while France are the only nation to not have a kicker with a success rate above 50%.

## FRANCE

- France ended a three-match losing run in the Six Nations with their 27-10 win against Scotland. They won back-to-back matches in the Championship prior to that run.
- France have lost their last three away matches in the Six Nations. They have had just one losing run lasting longer than three games away from home in Six Nations history - a five-match streak between the 2015 and 2017 Championships.
- France have won just two of their last 11 away games in the Six Nations - both against Italy.
- Only Scotland (51.8%) have carried the ball with a higher percentage of their possessions when inside their own 22 than France (50.5%) in the 2019 Six Nations thus far, while only Wales (50.3%) carry the ball more inside the opposition 22 than the French (47.3%).
- France are the only nation in the 2019 Six Nations with a player who has more than three linebreaks - Yoann Huget (6) and Antoine Dupont (4).

Player	Linebreaks
Yoann Huget (France)	6
Antoine Dupont (France)	4
Blair Kinghorn (Scotland)	3
Edoardo Padovani (Italy)	3
Jacob Stockdale (Ireland)	3
Liam Williams (Wales)	3
Robert Kearney (Ireland)	3

- Yoann Huget and Antoine Dupont have more combined linebreaks (10) than the entire Welsh team (8) and as many as the entire Scottish side (10). The French lead the category with 17 linebreaks.