



# GAME NOTES



## ITALY VS IRELAND



## HEAD TO HEAD

- Italy's only Six Nations win over Ireland came in March 2013 - a 22-15 victory at the Stadio Olimpico.
- Italy's 19-point haul in these sides' last Six Nations meeting was their highest points tally in defeat against Ireland since 2007 when they scored 20 points in a Rugby World Cup warm-up test.
- Ireland's 177 points scored in their last three Six Nations clashes with Italy is more than Italy scored against Ireland in their last 13 meetings in the competition.
- Italy's only Six Nations win over Ireland came in 2013 - the only Six Nations clash between the two where Ireland have failed to score a try against the Azzurri. They notched 15 points on the day from five Paddy Jackson penalties.
- Italy have averaged just 8.25 points per match in their last four Six Nations defeats to Ireland at the Stadio Olimpico, while scoring 22 points in their sole win over this period. Ireland have averaged 35 points per match in their four wins over this period.

## COMMON STATISTICS

- Both Ireland (38.2%) and Italy (39.9%) have the lowest territorial advantage in the Six Nations thus far. France are the only other side who have had a sub-50% territorial percentage.

Team	Territory %
England	62.5%
Scotland	60.9%
Wales	50.1%
France	47.6%
Italy	39.9%
Ireland	38.2%

- Ireland still lead all teams in terms of possession in the Six Nations thus far, averaging 56.6% possession - edging ahead of France (56.5%).
- Italy have scored a tournament-high 22 points in the final 20 minutes of play in the 2019 Six Nations - 62.9% of their total points scored. Ireland have conceded 40% of their points in the same period.

Team	Points scored between 60-80 minutes
Italy	22
Wales	17
England	15
Ireland	10
Scotland	10
France	3

- Italy have scored just 10 points in the previous 40 minutes of games - six fewer than any other team.
- Ireland and Italy are two of the three sides who have yet to score a try from a counter attack. Both nations have scored multiple tries originating from lineouts.

Italy	Try Origins	Ireland
2	Lineout	3
1	Turnover	1
1	Scrum	1
1	Tap Penalty	0

- Each of Ireland's five tries have come within seven phases or less, while 80% of Italy's tries have been scored after seven or more phases.
- Ireland remain the only side not to have scored a try that has taken 11 phases or more.
- Ireland (95.7%) and Italy (95.8%) have both won over 95% of their respective lineouts - the only sides to have won over 90% of their lineouts.

Team	Lineouts Won %
Italy	95.8%
Ireland	95.7%
France	85.7%
Scotland	82.6%

England	81.8%
Wales	65.0%

Both sides also jointly lead the lineouts stolen category with five each (alongside France).

- Italy have been penalised at scrums more than any other team in the 2019 Six Nations - conceding four penalties and three free kicks. Ireland have been penalised just once.

Italy	Scrum	Ireland
4	Penalties conceded	1
3	Free kicks conceded	0

- Italy (105) and Ireland (107) led the dominant tackle count in last year's Six Nations, but both nations trail Scotland (52) and England (77) in this year's tournament after the opening two games.

Italy	Dominant Tackles / Match	Ireland
21.0	2018	21.4
7.0	2019	15.0

- Four different Italians have made more tackles than the leading Irish tackler Josh van der Flier (29) - Leonardo Ghiraldini (35), Luca Morisi (31), Sebastian Negri (31) and Braam Steyn (30).
- Two of the top three ball carriers in the 2019 Six Nations belong to Ireland and Italy - James Ryan (31) and Sergio Parisse (26) respectively. They trail France's Louis Picamoles (35).

## ITALY

- Italy have lost 6% of their rucks in the 2019 Six Nations - more than double the percentage of any other nation in the competition.

Team	% Rucks Lost
England	1.1%
Wales	2.1%
France	2.3%

Ireland	2.5%
Scotland	2.6%
Italy	6.0%

- Italy have conceded the fastest opposition ruck speed in the tournament at 3.56 seconds.
- The 35 points scored by Italy in this year's Six Nations tournament is the highest total they've accumulated in their opening two games in the competition since the 2003 tournament (43).
- Braam Steyn has taken most lineouts (10) but is also one of just two players with more than a single lineout steal (2) in the 2019 Six Nations - alongside England's Courtney Lawes.

## IRELAND

- Ireland are yet to lose any of their 13 scrums in the 2019 Championship. They've retained 11 of them and were awarded penalties from two other two.

Team	Scrum Won %
Ireland	100%
England	100%
Scotland	100%
Wales	94.1%
France	91.7%
Italy	66.7%

- Four of Ireland's scrum wins have led to immediate turnovers.
- Jacob Stockdale (201m) trails only Blair Kinghorn (277m) in terms of running metres in the 2019 Championship.
- Only Ben Youngs (31) has attempted more kicks than Conor Murray (30) so far in the 2019 Championship.
- Ireland have five players in the top eight in terms of attacking ruck arrivals in the 2019 Six Nations - James Ryan (77), Rory Best (74), Quinn Roux (69), Tadhg Furlong (56) and Josh van der Flier (52).