



HRVATSKI
NOGOMETNI
SAVEZ
CROATIAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION

2022

— OBITELJ —
FAMILY



RESULTS | PROJECTS | ACHIEVEMENTS



— OBITELJ —

FAMILY

CROATIA @ 1998 FIFA WORLD CUP FRANCE™ - BRONZE MEDAL
CROATIA @ 2018 FIFA WORLD CUP RUSSIA™ - SILVER MEDAL
CROATIA @ 2022 FIFA WORLD CUP QATAR™ - BRONZE MEDAL



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“ If this bronze medal at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar was the only highlight of 2022, it would still be amazing. However, the extraordinary success of our national team was supported by other success, both on and off the field. Over 100 pages of this annual report are barely enough to summarize all the important activities, projects, and results that we have accomplished in the previous year. ”

Marijan Kustić

President of the Croatian Football Federation

MARIJAN KUSTIĆ

Dear friends of football,

we can look back to another amazing year, that will be remembered as one of the most successful, most important, and most beautiful in the history of Croatian football.

If this bronze medal at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar was the only highlight of 2022, it would still be amazing. However, the extraordinary success of our national team was supported by other success, both on and off the field. Over 100 pages of this annual report are barely enough to summarize all the important activities, projects, and results that we have accomplished in the previous year.

Of course, the bronze medal is the peak of all achievements. Even now, it is difficult to really comprehend the value and the meaning of this success. Small Croatia has two consecutive medals, three in total, from the biggest football competition in the world. No matter how many times we repeat this, it seems incredible. We are not even aware that we really are the only country in the world with such a small base and such results. Italy, Germany, Brazil, England, Spain, Portugal, Netherlands - all of these football powerhouses can only wish they were as successful as Croatia in Russia and Qatar.

The bronze medal from Qatar has additional value because it was won with a rather refreshed and rejuvenated team, if compared to Russia '18. Alongside silver-winning veterans Modrić, Perišić, Kovačić, Brozović, Lovren, and Kramarić, we've had new heroes in the leading roles: Livaković, Gvardiol, Sosa, Juranović, Petković, Oršić, Vlašić, Pašalić, Livaja, Majer... this is the unprecedented wealth of Croatian football, and the greatest success of our brilliant head coach Zlatko Dalić. Due to this successful change in generations, Croatia has not only one more medal, but also a team for the next five or ten years. Let's not forget, players like Šutalo, Stanišić, Sučić or Erlić have experienced valuable moments in Qatar, and they represent the future of our national team.

I would like to use this opportunity to congratulate and thank our head coach Dalić, his fantastic staff and the entire delegation - together with our great players, they have created wonderful atmosphere within the team, and brought so much joy to Croatia. This joy culminated in another spectacular welcome in Zagreb, and later in other cities in Croatia.

It is impossible to look back at Qatar, and the entire 2022, without mentioning Luka Modrić. Another Champions League, another brilliant performance in Croatia shirt. Luka has once again reached the utmost heights, both on team and individual level. Even before 2022, Luka has deserved to be called the greatest footballer in Croatian history, and now he has made several steps forward on a global scale. Just a few players have performed at a top level at his age, and Luka is no longer just one of the best midfielders of the previous decade, but one of the best midfielders of all time. Hats off to our maestro!

That Croatia is a quality team on a global scale, we knew even before Qatar. The Vatreni have topped the group with France, Denmark, and Austria to reach the UEFA Nations League Final Four. This is another extraordinary feat, which included impressive victories in Paris and Copenhagen. Full of optimism, we await the Nations League final tournament in Netherlands, proud to see Croatia among the biggest European teams.

What made 2022 extra special are the achievements of other Croatia national teams. The U21s have reached their third consecutive European Championships - congratulations are in order for head coach Igor Bišćan, his coaching staff and all the players. The U19s and U17s have reached the Elite Rounds in their qualifying campaigns, and the respective women's national teams have reached the same level of competition. To round things off, Croatia national futsal team reached the Elite Round of the FIFA Futsal World Cup qualifying campaign, as the group winners. Congratulations to all the head coaches and all the players, these are exceptional results!

On the club level, Dinamo stands out with his European success, especially the victory over Chelsea in the Champions League. The interesting conclusion of the domestic league also saw Dinamo celebrate, while the Hajduk took the trophy in the exciting finale of the Croatian Cup in Split.

Off the field, among the numerous projects and activities, it is worth to mention two steps in the right direction. The record-breaking contract on marketing and television rights has secured significant increase in funding of Croatian clubs, while further investments in infrastructure have resulted in the opening of new football fields with artificial turf all over the country. In several years, HNS has built eight hybrid pitches and 21 artificial turfs, as infrastructure remains among the priorities in the upcoming period. Therefore, we are also extremely happy to see NK Osijek stadium being almost done, and we are eager to see Croatia national team play its first match at this beautiful arena.

I believe that this annual report excellently represents the scope of activities at the Croatian Football Federation. Therefore, I would like to thank all of my colleagues in the HNS management, members of the Assembly and the Executive Committee, HNS employees, county associations, clubs, head coaches and coaches, players, referees, and all other football officials that have contributed to the success of Croatian football, the success that has greatly surpassed the realistic expectations of our country in 2022.

I wish that all of us work with the same enthusiasm in 2023, and we look forward to more success of Croatian football!

Marijan Kustić
President of the
Croatian Football Federation

CROATIA FOR



HISTORY





FIFA World Cup in Doha: The icing on the Croatian football cake in 2022

QATARI BRONZE TO CONTINUE THE FANTASTIC STREAK

With "My homeland" playing from the loudspeakers, and at the Khalifa International Stadium podium overjoyed Croatia internationals were celebrating yet another magnificent success of this "small country for major football achievements".

Led by triumphant head coach Zlatko Dalić and extraordinary captain Luka Modrić, the Vatreni secured the third place at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar,

four years after the phenomenal silver-winning campaign at the FIFA World Cup in Russia. Following the bronze medal in France '98, many have thought: it happened once, who knows when again... They were wrong.

As of 1998, Croatia has won three World Cup medals. In the same period, only France and Germany have more. One more. Moreover, Croatia is only the third nation to win three medals in the

first six World Cup appearances, alongside Brazil and Germany.

The moment when Mislav Oršić waits for Livaja's perfect pass and strikes from his "zone"... The cling when the ball bounces off the post, and the thundering roar of Croatian supporters in the stands. The closure of the magnificent Croatia's performance in Qatar. As if it was meant to be.



A WORLD CUP at Qatar 2022™

In the group stage, Croatia faced Morocco (0:0), Canada (4:1), and Belgium (0:0), gradually raising the bar. The Moroccans were a tough nut to crack, and they confirmed at the very beginning they also have potential to succeed. The second match affirmed Croatia's splendour, as the Vatreni responded to Canada's head coach provoking words and made Milan Borjan to pick up plenty of balls from his own net. Thus, the decider against Belgium brought forward the invincible Dominik Livaković and impassable Joško Gvardiol, as Croatia withstood every challenge and secured a draw

necessary to reach the knockout stages.

The clash with Japan in the Round of 16 provided the first dramatic happy ending and two heroes: the author of the fantastic equalizer, Ivan Perišić, and the penalty shootout master, Dominik Livaković, who saved three spot kicks as Croatia reached the quarterfinals. Then, against Brazil, two heroes: Bruno Petković with the late equalizer, in the second extra-time closing minutes, and again the great Dominik Livaković, who saved Rodrygo's effort and saw Marquinhos hit the post. Another

Croatia's party, another semifinals berth.

The series of unfavourable circumstances and quality Argentine performance have stopped Croatia from reaching the second consecutive FIFA World Cup finals, but the Vatreni did not despair. With heads held high, they were determined to leave Qatar as winners. And they did so. In style. Croatia is no longer the "small country for major football achievements", but the football powerhouse with the continuity of magnificent achievements.

A full-page background image of Croatian footballer Dejan Lovren in action. He is wearing the white and red checkered Croatia national team jersey, white shorts, and red football boots. He is captured in a dynamic pose, leaning forward with his arms outstretched, as if he has just kicked the ball or is about to. The background is a blurred stadium setting.

2022 FIFA WORLD CUP - GROUP F

MOROCCO 0
CROATIA 0

“ I'm not sure what to say, the emotions go both ways. We are a bit disappointed, but also happy with a draw. We could have done better, but in some moments we were not relaxed enough, I don't know why. We'll fix it. It was important to get through the first match, since the expectations are high, but Morocco also had something to say. They are a seriously tough team. They have fantastic players and they fought bravely. I believe that this Croatian team can do a lot better in the next match, and we definitely need to pick up three points. ”

Dejan Lovren

Al Bayt Stadium, Doha,
 23. 11. 2022, 59407 **spectators,**
referees: Fernando Rapallini (ARG),
 Juan Pablo Belatti (ARG), Diego Bonfa (ARG),
fourth official: Kevin Ortega (PER)

MOROCCO 0

- 1 Yassine Bounou
- 2 Achraf Hakimi
- 3 Noussair Mazraoui ▶60'
- 4 Sofyan Amrabat ■78'
- 5 Nayef Aguerd
- 6 Romain Saïss
- 7 Hakim Ziyech
- 8 Azzedine Ounahi ▶81'
- 15 Selim Amallah
- 17 Sofiane Boufal ▶65'
- 19 Youssef En-Nesyri ▶81'

SUBSTITUTES

- 12 Munir Mohand Mohamedi
- 22 Tagnaouti Ahmed
- 9 Abderrazak Hamdallah ◀81'
- 11 Abdelhamid Sabiri ◀81'
- 13 Ilias Chair
- 14 Zakaria Aboukhlal
- 16 Abdessamad Ezzalzouli ◀65'
- 18 Jawad El Yamiq
- 20 Achraf Dari
- 21 Walid Cheddira
- 23 Bilal El Khannous
- 24 Badr Benoun
- 25 Yahia Attiyat Allah ◀60'
- 26 Yahya Jabrane
- 10 Anass Zaroury

HEAD COACH

Walid Regragui

CROATIA 0

- 1 Dominik Livaković
- 4 Ivan Perišić ▶90'
- 6 Dejan Lovren
- 8 Mateo Kovačić ▶79'
- 9 Andrej Kramarić ▶71'
- 10 Luka Modrić
- 11 Marcelo Brozović
- 13 Nikola Vlašić ▶46'
- 19 Borna Sosa
- 20 Joško Gvardiol
- 22 Josip Juranović

SUBSTITUTES

- 12 Ivo Grbić
- 23 Ivica Ivušić
- 2 Josip Stanišić
- 3 Borna Barišić
- 5 Martin Erlić
- 7 Lovro Majer ◀79'
- 14 Marko Livaja ◀71'
- 15 Mario Pašalić ◀46'
- 16 Bruno Petković
- 17 Ante Budimir
- 18 Mislav Oršić ◀90'
- 21 Domagoj Vida
- 24 Josip Šutalo
- 25 Luka Sučić
- 26 Kristijan Jakić

HEAD COACH

Zlatko Dalić





2022 FIFA WORLD CUP - GROUP F

CROATIA **4**
CANADA **1**

“ The words of Canadian head coach have motivated our entire nation. I would like to thank Mr. Herdman, he provided Croatia with extra motivation tonight, and he couldn't have picked better words. Maybe he should have said something different. For me, it is a memorable night, one doesn't score two World Cup goals on everyday basis. ”

Andrej Kramarić

Khalifa Stadium, Doha,
27. 11. 2022, 44374 **spectators,**
referees: Andres Matias Matonte Cabrera (URU),
Nicolás Taran (URU), Martin Soppi (URU)
fourth official: Kevin Ortega (PER)

CROATIA 4

- 1 Dominik Livaković
- 4 Ivan Perišić ▶86'
- 6 Dejan Lovren ■56'
- 8 Mateo Kovačić ▶86'
- 9 Andrej Kramarić ⚽36' ⚽70' ▶72'
- 10 Luka Modrić ■85' ▶86'
- 11 Marcelo Brozović
- 14 Marko Livaja ⚽44' ▶60'
- 19 Borna Sosa
- 20 Joško Gvardiol
- 22 Josip Juranović

SUBSTITUTES

- 12 Ivo Grbić
- 23 Ivica Ivušić
- 2 Josip Stanišić
- 3 Borna Barišić
- 5 Martin Erlić
- 7 Lovro Majer ⚽90'+4' ◀86'
- 13 Nikola Vlašić ◀72'
- 15 Mario Pašalić ◀86'
- 16 Bruno Petković ◀60'
- 17 Ante Budimir
- 18 Mislav Oršić ◀86'
- 21 Domagoj Vida
- 24 Josip Šutalo
- 25 Luka Sučić
- 26 Kristijan Jakić

HEAD COACH

Zlatko Dalić

CANADA 1

- 18 Milan Borjan
- 2 Alistair Johnston
- 4 Kamal Miller ■85'
- 5 Steven Vitória
- 7 Stephen Eustáquio ▶46'
- 11 Tajon Buchanan ■52'
- 13 Atiba Hutchinson ▶72'
- 17 Cyle Larin ▶46'
- 19 Alphonso Davies ⚽2'
- 20 Jonathan David ▶72'
- 22 Richie Laryea

SUBSTITUTES

- 1 Dayne St. Clair
- 16 James Pantemis
- 3 Samuel Ayomide Adegugbe ◀72'
- 6 Samuel Piette
- 8 Liam Fraser
- 9 Lucas Cavallini ◀72'
- 10 David Hoilett ◀62'
- 12 Ike Ugbo
- 14 Mark-Anthony Kaye
- 15 Ismaël Koné ◀46'
- 21 Jonathan Osorio ◀46' ▶62'
- 23 Liam Millar
- 24 David Wotherspoon
- 25 Derek Cornelius
- 26 Joel Waterman

HEAD COACH

John Herdman





2022 FIFA WORLD CUP - GROUP F

CROATIA **0**
BELGIUM **0**

“ I've seen Joško's photo with his mum, it was really heartwarming. That moment is the image of Croatia national team, and I'm proud of it. I congratulate his mother on raising such a son, it gives me goosebumps. That is the photo of the day, of the month, of the year. To have such a son, and such a player - humble and playing at a high level - is a great accomplishment, it is a product of the upbringing and faith. I support these values and I'm proud of it. Our logo is 'family' and it brought us here. Joško is the best centre-back in the world, and we can be proud of that too. Lovren supports him fantastically, both on and off the field, Vida also helps with advice and support... I'm thrilled to see how well they work together and help each other. ”

Zlatko Dalić

Ahmed bin Ali Stadium, Doha,
1. 12. 2022, 43984 spectators,
referees: Anthony Taylor (ENG),
Gary Beswick (ENG), Adam Nunn (ENG),
fourth official: Istvan Kovacs (ROM)

CROATIA 0

- 1 Dominik Livaković
- 4 Ivan Perišić
- 6 Dejan Lovren
- 8 Mateo Kovačić ▶90'+2'
- 9 Andrej Kramarić ▶64'
- 10 Luka Modrić
- 11 Marcelo Brozović
- 14 Marko Livaja ▶64'
- 19 Borna Sosa
- 20 Joško Gvardiol
- 22 Josip Juranović

SUBSTITUTES

- 12 Ivo Grbić
- 23 Ivica Ivušić
- 2 Josip Stanišić
- 3 Borna Barišić
- 5 Martin Erlić
- 7 Lovro Majer ◀90'+2'
- 13 Nikola Vlašić
- 15 Mario Pašalić ◀64'
- 16 Bruno Petković ◀64'
- 17 Ante Budimir
- 18 Mislav Oršić
- 21 Domagoj Vida
- 24 Josip Šutalo
- 25 Luka Sučić
- 26 Kristijan Jakić

HEAD COACH

Zlatko Dalić

BELGIUM 0

- 1 Thibaut Courtois
- 2 Toby Alderweireld
- 5 Jan Vertonghen
- 6 Axel Witsel
- 7 Kevin De Bruyne
- 11 Yannick Carrasco ▶72'
- 14 Dries Mertens ▶46'
- 15 Thomas Meunier ▶87'
- 17 Leandro Trossard ▶59'
- 19 Leander Dendoncker ▶67' ▶72'
- 21 Timothy Castagne

SUBSTITUTES

- 12 Simon Mignolet
- 13 Koen Casteels
- 3 Arthur Theate
- 4 Wout Faes
- 8 Youri Tielemans ◀72'
- 9 Romelu Lukaku ◀46'
- 10 Eden Hazard ◀87'
- 16 Thorgan Hazard ◀59'
- 18 Amadou Onana
- 20 Hans Vanaken
- 22 Charles De Ketelaere
- 23 Michy Batshuayi
- 24 Loïs Openda
- 25 Jeremy Doku ◀72'
- 26 Zeno Debast

HEAD COACH

Roberto Martinez



A full-page background image of Croatian footballer Ivan Perišić in his red and white checkered national kit, celebrating a goal with his right arm raised and a joyful expression. The background is a blurred stadium filled with cheering fans.

2022 FIFA WORLD CUP - ROUND OF 16

JAPAN
CROATIA

1 (1)
1 (3)

“After what happened in Russia, this is really exceptional. We knew it would be difficult against a good team that managed to beat Germany and Spain. We prepared well and deserved to reach the quarterfinals. Just like at the previous World Cup, we showed our mental strength. Even when we were losing, we did not give up, we've had the mentality of a winner. Croatia is a great, strong group and it is difficult to play against us. Every player has to be involved if you want to win, and when you have a quality goalkeeper, everything gets easier. I'm happy for Livaković, this was his night, he earned it through his hard work and I hope he'll keep doing the same.”

Ivan Perišić

Al Janoub Stadium, Doha,
5. 12. 2022, 42523 spectators,
referees: Ismail Elfath (USA),
Corey Parker (USA), Kyle Atkins (USA)
fourth official: Mustapha Ghorbal (ALG)

JAPAN 1 (1)

- 12 Shūichi Gonda
- 3 Shogo Taniguchi
- 5 Yuto Nagatomo ▶64'
- 6 Wataru Endo
- 8 Ritsu Doan ▶87'
- 13 Hidemasa Morita ▶106'
- 14 Junya Ito
- 15 Daichi Kamada ▶75'
- 16 Takehiro Tomiyasu
- 22 Maya Yoshida
- 25 Daizen Maeda ⚽43' ▶64'

SUBSTITUTES

- 1 Eiji Kawashima
- 23 Daniel Schmidt
- 2 Miki Yamane
- 4 Ko Itakura
- 7 Gaku Shibasaki
- 9 Kaoru Mitoma ◀64'
- 10 Takumi Minamino ◀87'
- 11 Takefusa Kubo
- 17 Ao Tanaka ◀106'
- 18 Takuma Asano ◀75' ⚽P
- 19 Hiroki Sakai ◀75'
- 20 Shuto Machino
- 21 Ayase Ueda
- 24 Yuki Soma
- 26 Hiroki Ito

HEAD COACH

Hajime Moriyasu

CROATIA 1 (3)

- 1 Dominik Livaković
- 3 Borna Barišić ▶116'
- 4 Ivan Perišić ⚽55' ▶106'
- 6 Dejan Lovren
- 8 Mateo Kovačić ▶90' ▶99'
- 9 Andrej Kramarić ▶68'
- 10 Luka Modrić ▶99'
- 11 Marcelo Brozović ⚽P
- 16 Bruno Petković ▶62'
- 20 Joško Gvardiol
- 22 Josip Juranović

SUBSTITUTES

- 12 Ivo Grbić
- 23 Ivica Ivušić
- 2 Josip Stanišić
- 5 Martin Erlić
- 7 Lovro Majer ◀99'
- 13 Nikola Vlašić ◀99' ⚽P
- 14 Marko Livaja ◀106'
- 15 Mario Pašalić ◀68' ⚽P
- 17 Ante Budimir ◀62' ▶106'
- 18 Mislav Oršić ◀106'
- 19 Borna Sosa
- 21 Domagoj Vida
- 24 Josip Šutalo
- 25 Luka Sučić
- 26 Kristijan Jakić

HEAD COACH

Zlatko Dalić





2022 FIFA WORLD CUP - QUARTERFINALS

CROATIA	1 (4)
BRAZIL	1 (2)

“Croatia was fighting for 120 minutes, just like it did in the previous match, and now we move on. I don't know how to describe this. Without hesitation, Brazil is individually the best team of the tournament, but we didn't give up, not even when Brazil scored. We also wanted to score, we tried, we played our hearts out, and we're happy. Let's go one match at a time and see how far we can get. We have similar experience from the last World Cup, and we were raised to go all the way, to fight until the end. That is the foundation of this success.”

Dominik Livaković

Education City Stadium, Doha,
9. 12. 2022, 43893 spectators,
referees: Michael Oliver (ENG),
 Stuart BURT (ENG), Gary Beswick (ENG)
fourth official: Mustapha Ghorbal (ALG)

CROATIA 4 (1)

- 1 Dominik Livaković
- 4 Ivan Perišić
- 6 Dejan Lovren
- 8 Mateo Kovačić ▶106'
- 9 Andrej Kramarić ▶72'
- 10 Luka Modrić ⚽P
- 11 Marcelo Brozović ▶31' ▶114'
- 15 Mario Pašalić ▶72'
- 19 Borna Sosa ▶110'
- 20 Joško Gvardiol
- 22 Josip Juranović

SUBSTITUTES

- 12 Ivo Grbić
- 23 Ivica Ivušić
- 2 Josip Stanišić
- 3 Borna Barišić
- 5 Martin Erlić
- 7 Lovro Majer ◀106' ⚽P
- 13 Nikola Vlašić ◀72' ⚽P
- 14 Marko Livaja
- 16 Bruno Petković ◀72' ⚽117' ▶117'
- 17 Ante Budimir ◀110'
- 18 Mislav Oršić ◀114' ⚽P
- 21 Domagoj Vida
- 24 Josip Šutalo
- 25 Luka Sučić
- 26 Kristijan Jakić

HEAD COACH

Zlatko Dalić

BRAZIL 2 (1)

- 1 Alisson Becker
- 2 Danilo ▶25'
- 3 Thiago Silva
- 4 Marquinhos ▶77'
- 5 Casemiro ▶68' ⚽P
- 7 Lucas Paquetá ▶106'
- 9 Richarlison ▶84'
- 10 Neymar ⚽105'+1'
- 11 Raphinha ▶56'
- 14 Éder Militão ▶106'
- 20 Vinícius Júnior ▶64'

SUBSTITUTES

- 23 Ederson
- 6 Alex Sandro ◀106'
- 8 Fred ◀106'
- 12 Ewerton Ewerton
- 13 Dani Alves
- 15 Fabinho
- 16 Alex Telles
- 17 Bruno Guimarães
- 18 Gabriel Jesus
- 19 Antony ◀56'
- 21 Rodrygo ◀64'
- 22 Éverton Ribeiro
- 24 Bremer
- 25 Abreu dos Santos Pedro ◀84' ⚽P
- 26 Gabriel Martinelli

HEAD COACH

Adenor Leonardo Bacchi Tite





2022 FIFA WORLD CUP - SEMIFINALS

ARGENTINA 3 CROATIA 0

“ We were playing well, but then conceded a goal from the penalty spot. It is now irrelevant if it was a penalty or not, that is done. We've soon conceded the second, and against Argentina, at this level of football, we cannot allow that. Every mistake gets punished. Realistically speaking, before the World Cup we would all agree on reaching the semis, but in this situation, we were all dreaming about the gold medal. Still, we have to give everything we've got to try and take the bronze. ”

Lovro Majer

Lusail Stadium, Doha,
13. 12. 2022, 88966 **spectators,**
referees: Daniele Orsato (ITA),
Ciro Carbone (ITA), Alessandro Giallatini (ITA)
fourth official: Mohammed Abdulla (UAE)

ARGENTINA 3

- 23 Emiliano Martínez
- 3 Nicolás Tagliafico
- 5 Leandro Paredes ▶62'
- 7 Rodrigo De Paul ▶74'
- 9 Julián Álvarez ⚽39' ⚽69' ▶74'
- 10 Lionel Messi ⚽34'
- 13 Cristian Romero ■68'
- 19 Nicolás Otamendi ■71'
- 20 Alexis Mac Allister ▶86'
- 24 Enzo Fernandez
- 26 Nahuel Molina ▶86'

SUBSTITUTES

- 1 Franco Armani
- 12 Gerónimo Rulli
- 2 Juan Foyth ◀86'
- 6 Germán Pezzella
- 11 Ángel Di María
- 14 Exequiel Palacios ◀74'
- 15 Ángel Correa ◀86'
- 16 Thiago Almada
- 18 Guido Rodríguez
- 21 Paulo Dybala ◀74'
- 22 Lautaro Martínez
- 25 Lisandro Martínez ◀62'

HEAD COACH

Lionel Scaloni

CROATIA 0

- 1 Dominik Livaković ■32'
- 4 Ivan Perišić
- 6 Dejan Lovren
- 8 Mateo Kovačić ■32'
- 9 Andrej Kramarić ▶72'
- 10 Luka Modrić ▶81'
- 11 Marcelo Brozović ▶50'
- 15 Mario Pašalić ▶46'
- 19 Borna Sosa ▶46'
- 20 Joško Gvardiol
- 22 Josip Juranović

SUBSTITUTES

- 12 Ivo Grbić
- 23 Ivica Ivušić
- 2 Josip Stanišić
- 3 Borna Barišić
- 5 Martin Erlić
- 7 Lovro Majer ◀81'
- 13 Nikola Vlašić ◀46'
- 14 Marko Livaja ◀72'
- 16 Bruno Petković ◀50'
- 17 Ante Budimir
- 18 Mislav Oršić ◀46'
- 21 Domagoj Vida
- 24 Josip Šutalo
- 25 Luka Sučić
- 26 Kristijan Jakić

HEAD COACH

Zlatko Dalić



2022 FIFA WORLD CUP - THIRD PLACE MATCH

CROATIA **2**
MOROCCO **1**

“ This was a great achievement for us and for Croatian football, we can be happy and proud of our performances, and of our behaviour at this World Cup. There is a small regret about missing out on the final, but we have a medal and we go home as winners, that was very important. In time, we will comprehend how important it was to reaffirm Croatia's success from Russia four years ago. This proves that the 1998 and 2018 medals are no coincidence, this confirms that Croatian football has enough quality to belong to world's elite. We need to keep going.”

Luka Modrić, bronze-winning team captain

Khalifa Stadium, Doha,
17. 12. 2022, 44137 **spectators,**
referees: Abdulrahman Al Jassim (QAT),
Taleb Al Marri (QAT), Saoud Al Maqaleh (QAT)
fourth official: Raphael Claus (BRA)

CROATIA 2

- 1 Dominik Livaković
- 2 Josip Stanišić
- 4 Ivan Perišić
- 7 Lovro Majer ▶66'
- 8 Mateo Kovačić
- 9 Andrej Kramarić ▶61'
- 10 Luka Modrić
- 14 Marko Livaja ▶66'
- 18 Mislav Oršić ⚽42' ▶90'+5'
- 20 Joško Gvardiol ⚽7'
- 24 Josip Šutalo

SUBSTITUTES

- 12 Ivo Grbić
- 23 Ivica Ivušić
- 3 Borna Barišić
- 5 Martin Erlić
- 6 Dejan Lovren
- 11 Marcelo Brozović
- 13 Nikola Vlašić ◀61'
- 15 Mario Pašalić ◀66'
- 16 Bruno Petković ◀66'
- 17 Ante Budimir
- 19 Borna Sosa
- 21 Domagoj Vida
- 22 Josip Juranović
- 25 Luka Sučić
- 26 Kristijan Jakić ◀90'+5'

HEAD COACH

Dalić Zlatko

MOROCCO 1

- 1 Yassine Bounou
- 2 Achraf Hakimi
- 4 Sofyan Amrabat
- 7 Hakim Ziyech
- 11 Abdelhamid Sabiri ▶46'
- 17 Sofiane Boufal ▶64'
- 18 Jawad El Yamiq ▶66'
- 19 Youssef En-Nesyri
- 20 Achraf Dari ⚽9' ▶64'
- 23 Bilal El Khannous ▶56'
- 25 Yahia Attiyat Allah

SUBSTITUTES

- 12 Munir Mohand Mohamedi
- 22 Tagnaouti Ahmed
- 3 Noussair Mazraoui
- 5 Nayef Aguerd
- 6 Romain Saïss
- 8 Azzedine Ounahi ◀56' ▶69'
- 9 Abderrazak Hamdallah
- 13 Ilias Chair ◀46'
- 14 Zakaria Aboukhlal
- 15 Selim Amallah ▶84'
- 16 Abdessamad Ezzalzouli ◀66'
- 21 Walid Cheddira
- 24 Badr Benoun ◀64'
- 26 Yahya Jabrane
- 10 Anass Zaroury ◀64'

HEAD COACH

Walid Regragui



BRONZE



- 1 Dominik Livaković
- 2 Josip Stanišić
- 3 Borna Barišić
- 4 Ivan Perišić
- 5 Martin Erlić
- 6 Dejan Lovren
- 7 Lovro Majer
- 8 Mateo Kovačić
- 9 Andrej Kramarić
- 10 Luka Modrić
- 11 Marcelo Brozović
- 12 Ivo Grbić
- 13 Nikola Vlašić


- 14 Marko Livaja
- 15 Mario Pašalić
- 16 Bruno Petković
- 17 Ante Budimir
- 18 Mislav Oršić
- 19 Borna Sosa
- 20 Joško Gvardiol
- 21 Domagoj Vida
- 22 Josip Juranović
- 23 Ivica Ivušić
- 24 Josip Šutalo
- 25 Luka Sučić
- 26 Kristijan Jakić

FOR HISTORY



Zlatko Dalić, Head coach
Stipe Pletikosa, Technical director
Dražen Ladić, Coach
Ivica Olić, Coach
Vedran Ćorluka, Coach
Mario Mandžukić, Coach
Marjan Mrmić, Goalkeeping coach
Luka Milanović, Fitness coach
Marin Dadić, Fitness coach
Marc Rochon, Video analyst
Iva Olivari, Team manager
Saša Janković, Doctor
Eduard Rod, Doctor
Nenad Krošnjar, Physical therapist
Nderim Redžaj, Physical therapist
Goran Beloglavec, Physical therapist
Miroslav Jamnić, Physical therapist
Neven Golubar, Physical therapist
Dennis Luka Lukančić, Kit man
Mladen Pilčić, Kit man
Goran Vincek, Kit man
Luka Karlo, Kit man

Marijan Kustić, President
Tomislav Svetina, Executive director
Neven Šprajcer, Head of Competitions
Tomislav Pacak, Head of communications
Jurica Jurjević, Head of prevention, safety, and integrity
Ante Cicvarić, Marketing manager
Nikša Martinac, Ticketing manager
Helena Puškar, Event manager
Miroslav Marković, Security officer
Marko Cvijanović, Media officer
Drago Sopta, Photographer
Dominik Kumek, Cameraman
Tomica Đukić, Chef
Blago Jakovljević, Protocol
Marija Kopričanec, Protocol
Andrea Dokuš, Protocol
Antonija Burazer, Protocol
Tihomir Maloča, Logistics
Mislav Krznarić, member of the delegation



“ Once again, we managed to unite Croatia – the boys showed unity, humility, bravery, determination, patriotism, and faith. And, because of that, God awarded them! This is no coincidence. We are once again the proudest nation in the world. This is the Croatia of our dreams, this is my Croatia, and this is the Croatia that we deserve to have. We embody our values in everything we do. Thank you for your support and belief in this team! ”

Zlatko Dalić





THE SPECTACULAR WELCOME FOR THE BRONZE-WINNING VATRENI

Croatia has thrilled the nation once again. The bronze-winning Vatreni have enjoyed a spectacular welcome in Zagreb. The welcome they have been dreaming of, and the welcome they have truly deserved.

It was a privilege to repeat the sharing the joy of extraordinary football success with ten or hundred thousands of fans in Croatian capital. Despite the cold, the people have shown how much this success of the Vatreni means to them. Indeed, every single fan who came to greet the team, from the Zagreb airport to the main square, deserves respect.

The path was the same as in 2018, when the Vatreni travelled from the Zagreb airport to the Ban Jelačić Square following the silver-winning FIFA World Cup campaign. The rest is history... and another story of the unity of Croatia national football team and overjoyed supporters. One soul. One heart, a big heart of

Croatian people and the Vatreni. That feeling of pride and the surge of emotions that is impossible to stop. Faces of people who welcome you with open hearts full of love. An experience to remember, a memory for a lifetime. The Advent fairytale for all time.

Driving through the city, the Vatreni stopped for moment, at the main fire station, to change the bus: to enter the open, panoramic vehicle with the visible sign "Family", that brought them to Zagreb's main square, the square that was very much alive for hours.

Many have answered the call of the Croatian Football Federation and the national team: Daleka obala, Dalmatino, Opća opasnost, Slavonia bend, Zaprešić Boys, Sv. Juraj - Croatian Navy band that performed the national anthem, and Sv. Mihovil, the police band. The iconic band Prljavo kazalište set the main square

on fire just like they did in 1989, while Jura Stublić & Film performed the songs that spontaneously became the hits of the Vatreni in Qatar.

Many thanks go to Croatian government and the City of Zagreb, for their cooperation and support in the organization of this spectacular welcome, as well as the Ministry of the Interior and all the police officers who took care of the national team and fan security issues, firefighters, street cleaners, and all the others who did their jobs in a professional manner, including HNS employees for their efforts.

Even more people deserve thanks: event coordinator Joško Lokas, HRT and other media, technical staff, presenters Iva Šulentić and Luka Bulić, and every other person who contributed to the event, sending a beautiful picture from the streets of Zagreb to the entire world.





YOU ARE OUR CAPTAIN, WE ARE YOUR LUKA (ENG. HAVEN)

In 2022, Croatia national team captain **Luka Modrić** has continued to thrill the football world with his skills and youthful longevity, with the World Cup bronze medal coming to crown the entire year. Luka has won a number of prestigious individual awards.

Luka Modrić led Croatia to bronze at the World Cup in Qatar, and thanks to his inspired performances, he earned the Bronze Ball in the selection for the best players of the World Cup. The Golden Ball for the best player of the tournament went to **Lionel Messi**, and **Kylian Mbappé** was the second.

He came ninth in the France Football's Ballon d'Or awards, when his Real Madrid teammate **Karim Benzema** took the trophy. Luka, the 2018 Ballon d'Or winner, was as successful as Benzema in Real Madrid, being one of the key players on the road towards the Champions League title.

Moreover, Luka Modrić came fifth in the UEFA Player of the Year awards, courtesy of the votes from sports journalists all over Europe, and the representatives of the clubs involved in UEFA competitions.

Following another Champions League season, UEFA has selected the UCL Team of the Season, with Real Madrid and Croatia

midfielder securing his place for the sixth time. In the ideal midfield, he was selected alongside **Fabinho** and **De Bruyne**, with **Courtois** between the posts, **Robertson**, **Van Dijk**, **Rudiger**, and **Alexander-Arnold** in defence, and **Vinicius Junior**, **Benzema**, and **Mbappe** in attack.

Furthermore, Luka Modrić was included in the Top 100 footballers of all-time according to prominent British magazine FourFourTwo, at No. 79. Croatia captain has also earned the Spanish newspaper Marca Leyenda award, intended for true greats with impressive careers.

What Luka was especially excited about in 2022 is a major jubilee: in June, at the Nations League encounter with France in Split, he celebrated his 150th Croatia cap. That evening, he received a special Croatia shirt from the hands of HNS president **Marijan Kustić** and technical director **Stipe Pletikosa**, while the supporters in the stands prepared a spectacular performance - his image covered the stand before the kick-off.

On a giant flag, they wrote: **"You are our captain, we are your haven"** (eng. haven = cro. luka).

Nothing more to add...





CROATIA'S NATIONS LEAGUE FAIRYTALE PROVIDES A HAPPY ENDING

«UEFA Nations League was no fairytale», admitted Croatia head coach Zlatko Dalić after his team finally managed to prove its quality in that competition, from June to September 2022, writing another glorious chapter of Croatian football.

In the first two UEFA Nations League seasons, Croatia defeated Spain and Sweden, drew with England, but other results were no smooth sailing for head coach Dalić and his men. Even the third season did not look very promising: in Osijek, Austria added to

the anxiety overcoming the Vatreni (0:3).

Still, as is often the case with Croatia national team, when the going gets tough, the tough get going. Against France in Split, Croatia secured the first point, courtesy of Kramarić's calmly converted spot kick, and then Pašalić struck in the second half of the Copenhagen encounter to beat the strong Danish side.

If four matches in ten days were not demanding enough, the fourth was a visit to Stade de France, to face the

world champions and seek the first every victory over the French team. With just five minutes gone, Croatia captain Modrić converted a penalty - and the fantastic, defying Croatians maintained the lead to celebrate a historic win.

«There aren't many team that can come back in the way we did. This is definitely one of my favourite victories, and we have expanded the squad with several important players», emphasized Dalić following the triumphant return from Paris, aware of some excellent



young solutions for the World Cup in Qatar.

The job in the UEFA Nations League, however, was far from finished, regarding the possibility of winning the group. In September, Denmark visited Zagreb, managed to equalize after Sosa provided the lead, but it was Majer who found the net ten minutes from time (2:1). This win allowed Croatia plenty of hope as the Vatreni travelled to Vienna.

At Ernst Happel Stadium, Modrić was quick to score, but Baumgartner

was even quicker to equalize. The decisive moments came after one hour of play: Livaja and Lovren (3:1) enthroned Croatia at the top of the UEFA Nations League group and secured the first Final Four appearance!

«Now we have the opportunity to win this trophy, and that's a major achievement for Croatian football, an important success. I believe every Croat can be proud, since these players wear the shirt with pride and fight until the very end. I'm happy, now you see

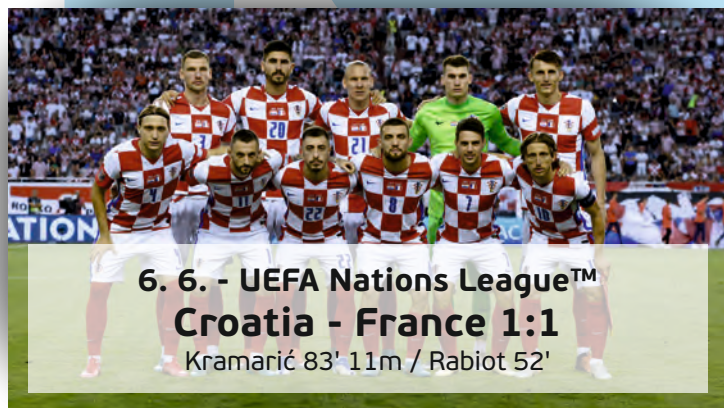
how Croatia can rejoice. Croatian sport is like that, the guys were pushing hard even in difficult moments», summarized Dalić.

Croatia's affair with the UEFA Nations League was no love at first sight, yet things are warming up, with the best part of this romance perhaps in the making. The semifinal clash with the hosts Netherlands is scheduled for 14 June - the other encounter sees Italy take on Spain - and the trophy isn't elusive...

Four players were capped
in **all 16 matches** that the Croatian
national team played in 2022 -
Andrej Kramarić, Mateo Kovačić,
Luka Modrić and Mario Pašalić



26. 3. - friendly match
Croatia - Slovenia 1:1
Kramarić 39' / Bijol 90'+1'



6. 6. - UEFA Nations League™
Croatia - France 1:1
Kramarić 83' 11m / Rabiot 52'

Three Croatian players
had their senior team
debut in 2022 -
Josip Šutalo, Martin Erlić
and **Nikola Moro**



13. 6. - UEFA Nations League™
France - Croatia 0:1
Modrić 5' 11m



22. 9. - UEFA Nations League™
Croatia - Denmark 2:1
Sosa 49', Majer 79' / Eriksen 77'



23. 11. - WC Qatar 2022™ - group F
Morocco - Croatia 0:0



27. 11. - WC Qatar 2022™ - group F
Croatia - Canada 4:1
Kramarić 36' and 70', Livaja 44', Majer 90'+4' / Davies 2'



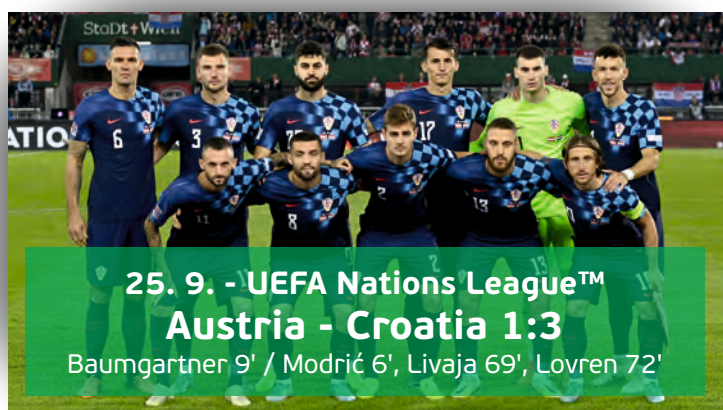
5. 12. - WC Qatar 2022™ - Round of 16
Japan - Croatia 1:1 (1:3 11m)
Maeda 43' / Perišić 55'



9. 12. - WC Qatar 2022™ - quarterfinals
Croatia - Brazil 1:1 (4:2 11m)
Petković 117' / Neymar 105'+1'



With **six** goals,
Andrej Kramarić is the
 Croatian national team's
 top goalscorer for 2022



There were **88 966 spectators**
 at the semifinal match in Qatar on
 December 13 – this match now holds
 the record for the highest attendance in
 a single Croatia national team
 match in history





THE YOUNG VATRENI REACH THIRD CONSECUTIVE U-21 EUROS

Croatia U-21 national team, led by head coach Igor Bišćan, secured third consecutive U-21 European Championships, via play-offs, and awaits the final tournament in Romania and Georgia in June and July 2023.

The young Vatreni have started the calendar year at the top of its qualifying group, with six consecutive victories and 18 points, but complicated the matters with the draw against Austria (0:0) and the loss

against Finland (2:3).

Later on, Croatia U-21 completed the group stage with a defeat at Norway (2:3) and the victory at Estonia (4:0), finishing behind Norway to reach the play-off stage. In Nyon, Croatia drew Denmark as the final opponent on the road to the EURO.

«Denmark is a really tough team, they missed on the direct qualification just because of the goal-difference. They play in high rhythm, full of energy, they are aggressive and full of quality, especially going forward. However, our

expectations are clear, there isn't much philosophy: we need to do everything possible to reach our objective», said Bišćan before the matches.

In the first leg, Croatia defeated Denmark 2:1 at Aldo Drosina Stadium in Pula, taking the lead through **Gabriel Vidović** on nine minutes, and doubling the lead on 37 minutes, when **Dion Drena Beljo** scored. Then, Denmark found the net, courtesy of **Tengstedt** on 59 minutes.

Following the encounter in Pula,



Croatia travelled to Danish city of Vejle, to see the hosts open the second leg in extraordinary manner. Ten minutes gone, **O'Riley** headed one in, and nine minutes later **Frendrup** struck from distance to make it 2:0. This result stood until the 84th minute, when Croatia substitutes create a move to force the game into extra-time - **Biuk** crossed, **Šimić** assisted, and **Matanović** scored.

In extra-time, Croatia missed a couple of promising opportunities, but finally it all came down to a penalty shootout. **Kotarski** managed to save **Kristensen's** and **Ross'** efforts, and **Marco Pašalić** sealed the aggregate

win. Croatia was going to the U-21 EURO for the third time in a row!

«This is a major success for Croatian football, and for these players. They have presented mental strength, fighting for Croatia with all their hearts, and their quality was never in doubt. They have all given their contribution. It was not easy, there were health and injury issues, we were missing plenty of standard players. We did not complain, we invested further effort to reach the objective. It makes us even more happy», said Bišćan following the successful completion of the qualifying campaign.

At the final tournament, Croatia will play in the Group B, alongside

hosts Romania, Ukraine and Spain. The first match is scheduled for 21 June (18:00) in Bucharest against Ukraine, at Giulesti Stadium. The same stadium will host the match with Spain, on 24 June (20:45), while Croatia faces Romania at Steaua Stadium in Bucharest, on 27 June (20:45).

«We can be happy with the draw. Romania is one of the hosts, there are Ukraine and Spain, and we have enough time to prepare. The most important thing is to have as many quality players as possible, then we can be really competitive. We believe in our boys, and we believe we can reach the second round», said head coach Igor Bišćan.



YOUNGSTERS RECORD EXCELLENT RESULTS

Croatia national futsal team participated in the 2022 Futsal EURO in Netherlands, and was eliminated in the group stage following the defeat against Slovakia (3:5) in the third match. Marinko Mavrović's men opened the tournament with the

victory over Poland (3:1), and later lost to Russia (0:4).

After the tournament, Mavrović started a certain change in generations, and introduced younger players to the team that went on to

perform well and win the Group 7 of the 2024 FIFA Futsal World Cup first round qualifying, and reached the Elite Round.

Croatia U-19 futsal team, led by head coach Duje Maretić, also





appeared at the European Championship; now it gets the opportunity to play at the next one as the host team, in September in Poreč.

Led by head coach Josip Šimunić, Croatia U-19 national team reached the Elite Round in the qualifying campaign for the European Championships in Malta, while the Croatia U-17 national team secured the Elite Round berth led by Robert Jarni, on the road towards the

European Championships in Hungary. The women's national teams were equally successful: Božidar Miletić's WU-19 team won all qualifiers to reach the second stage on the road towards the European Championships in Belgium, while Stella Gotal's WU-17 team managed to reach the second qualifying stage seeking the European Championships in Estonia.

With Nenad Gračan at the helm, Croatia women senior national team

continued to improve, on both performance and outcome levels. The World Cup qualifying campaign was closed with a victory over Lithuania, courtesy of a farewell goal by Iva Lažeta. The long-term Croatia captain retired from international duty following an impressive career. Earlier in Karlovac, she enjoyed a ceremony to bid her farewell in front of the home crowd. Later on, Croatia faced Azerbaijan in two friendlies, securing a win (2:1) and a draw (0:0).





HEAD COACHES



ZLATKO DALIĆ A National team	STIPE PLETIKOSA Technical director A and U-21	IGOR BIŠČAN U-21	PETAR KRPAN Head instructor	OGNJE VUKOJEVIĆ U-20	JOSIP ŠIMUNIĆ U-19 / U-18	ROBERT JARNI U-17 / U-16	SRETEN ČUK U-15 / U-14
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NENAD GRAČAN Women's A National team	BOŽIDAR MILETIĆ Women's U-19	STELLA GOTAL Women's U-17 / U-15	MARINKO MAVROVIĆ Futsal A National team	DUJE MARETIĆ Futsal U-21 / U-19	LUKA MARINOVIĆ Women's Futsal A National team	EMANUEL MELON Beach soccer National team
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RESULTS IN 2022

115 MATCHES / 54 WINS / 24 DRAWS / 37 LOSSES / GOAL DIFFERENCE 204:212

A National team

26.03.	Friendly	CRO - SVN	1:1
29.03.	Friendly	CRO - BUL	2:1
03.06.	UNL	CRO - AUT	0:3
06.06.	UNL	CRO - FRA	1:1
10.06.	UNL	DEN - CRO	0:1
13.06.	UNL	FRA - CRO	0:1
22.09.	UNL	CRO - DEN	2:1
25.09.	UNL	AUT - CRO	1:3
16.11.	Friendly	KSA - CRO	0:1
23.11.	WC 2022 G	MAR - CRO	0:0
27.11.	WC 2022 G	CRO - CAN	4:1
01.12.	WC 2022 G	CRO - BEL	0:0
05.12.	WC 2022 1/8	JPN - CRO	1:1 (11m 1:3)
09.12.	WC 2022 1/4	CRO - BRA	0:0 (11m 4:2)
13.12.	WC 2022 1/2	ARG - CRO	3:0
17.12.	WC 2022 3rd	CRO - MAR	2:1

U-21 National team

25.03.	Qualifiers	CRO - AUT	0:0
29.03.	Qualifiers	CRO - FIN	2:3
03.06.	Qualifiers	NOR - CRO	3:2
08.06.	Qualifiers	EST - CRO	0:4
23.09.	Qualifiers	CRO - DEN	2:1
27.09.	Qualifiers	DEN - CRO	2:1 (11m 4:5)
17.11.	Friendly	CRO - POL	3:1
21.11.	Friendly	CRO - AUT	1:1

U-20 National team

23.03.	Friendly	JPN - CRO	1:0
26.03.	Friendly	VIE - CRO	0:1
29.03.	Friendly	QAT - CRO	2:2
01.06.	Friendly	CZE - CRO	3:0
22.09.	Friendly	CRO - KSA	1:1
25.09.	Friendly	CRO - ALB	3:1

U-19 National team

09.03.	Friendly	SRB - CRO	3:0
23.03.	Qualifiers	CRO - ISL	2:1
26.03.	Qualifiers	CRO - ROM	1:2
29.03.	Qualifiers	GEO - CRO	1:0
21.09.	Friendly	SCO - CRO	0:2
23.09.	Friendly	SAD - CRO	4:3
25.09.	Friendly	MTA - CRO	1:2
16.11.	Qualifiers	CRO - FRO	6:0
19.11.	Qualifiers	CRO - FIN	1:2
22.11.	Qualifiers	ISR - CRO	0:3

U-18 National team

24.03.	Friendly	CRO - LVA	1:2
27.03.	Friendly	CRO - LVA	3:2
07.06.	Friendly	CRO - WAL	2:4
10.06.	Friendly	CRO - AUT	3:0
13.06.	Friendly	CRO - ENG	0:0
15.11.	Friendly	CRO - JPN	2:1
18.11.	Friendly	CRO - POR	1:2
21.11.	Friendly	CRO - IRL	0:0

U-17 National team

07.02.	Friendly	CRO - RUS	2:1
10.02.	Friendly	CRO - RUS	0:0
16.08.	Friendly	TUR - CRO	2:2
18.08.	Friendly	HUN - CRO	2:2
20.08.	Friendly	ISL - CRO	1:6
13.09.	Friendly	CRO - SVN	2:0
15.09.	Friendly	SVN - CRO	2:2
20.10.	Qualifiers	WAL - CRO	2:0
23.10.	Qualifiers	CRO - ALB	1:0
26.10.	Qualifiers	CRO - SWE	2:2
14.12.	Friendly	CRO - MNE	2:0
16.12.	Friendly	CRO - MNE	3:1

U-16 National team

27.04.	Friendly	CRO - ARM	4:3
29.04.	Friendly	CRO - GRE	3:1
02.05.	Friendly	CRO - SVN	3:1

U-15 National team

12.04.	Friendly	HUN - CRO	1:0
14.04.	Friendly	HUN - CRO	3:1
11.05.	Friendly	CRO - UZB	3:0
12.05.	Friendly	CRO - MNE	3:0
13.05.	Friendly	CRO - IRL	2:1
15.05.	Friendly	CRO - BIH	2:0
19.10.	Friendly	CRO - ESP	1:1
21.10.	Friendly	CRO - CYP	4:2
24.10.	Friendly	CRO - IRL	3:2

Women's A National team

19.02.	Friendly	CRO - SVN	0:0
08.04.	Qualifiers	MDA - CRO	0:1
12.04.	Qualifiers	CRO - ROM	0:1
02.09.	Qualifiers	CRO - SUI	0:2
06.09.	Qualifiers	LTU - CRO	0:1
10.11.	Friendly	AZE - CRO	0:0
13.11.	Friendly	AZE - CRO	1:2

Women's U-19 National team

17.02.	Friendly	CRO - SRB	2:1
19.02.	Friendly	CRO - SRB	0:3
06.04.	Qualifiers	DEN - CRO	2:0
09.04.	Qualifiers	SWE - CRO	4:0
12.04.	Qualifiers	CRO - POL	0:6
04.10.	Qualifiers	CRO - CYP	1:0
07.10.	Qualifiers	CRO - MNE	5:0
10.10.	Qualifiers	AZE - CRO	0:1

Women's U-17 National team

01.03.	Friendly	CRO - SVN	0:5
03.03.	Friendly	SVN - CRO	0:0
24.03.	Qualifiers	POL - CRO	5:0
27.03.	Qualifiers	FRA - CRO	5:0
30.03.	Qualifiers	CRO - ENG	0:8
14.09.	Friendly	CRO - WAL	1:1
16.09.	Friendly	CRO - WAL	2:1
09.11.	Qualifiers	BUL - CRO	0:5
12.11.	Qualifiers	CRO - FRO	1:0

Women's U-16 National team

03.05.	Friendly	ITA - CRO	9:1
05.05.	Friendly	CRO - CZE	3:2
08.05.	Friendly	BEL - CRO	1:1

Futsal A National team

21.01.	EURO	POL - CRO	1:3
25.01.	EURO	CRO - RUS	0:4
29.01.	EURO	SVK - CRO	5:3
07.10.	Qualifiers	CRO - HUN	5:1
12.10.	Qualifiers	ISR - CRO	0:7
08.11.	Qualifiers	CRO - ISR	6:1

Futsal U-19 National team

17.03.	Qualifiers	AZE - CRO	1:6
19.03.	Qualifiers	CRO - LVA	5:4
04.09.	EURO	UKR - CRO	6:4
05.09.	EURO	CRO - ESP	1:11
07.09.	EURO	CRO - ROM	8:0

Women's Futsal A National team

19.10.	Qualifiers	CRO - POL	0:2
20.10.	Qualifiers	CRO - UKR	1:5
22.10.	Qualifiers	NED - CRO	1:0

Beach Soccer A National team

24.08.	Friendly	CRO - FRA	0:13
25.08.	Friendly	CRO - FRA	2:14



GNK Dinamo Zagreb
HT 1st Division winners



ŽNK Split
1. HNLŽ winners



MNK Novo vrijeme Makarska
1. HMNL winners



DINAMO CONTINUES STREAK THEN DOWNS CHELSEA. HAJDUK LIFTS THE CUP TROPHY

Last year, Dinamo continued to dominate in the domestic league, winning their fifth consecutive title, no. 23 in total since Croatia gained independence. Dinamo finished top with seven points in front of second-placed Hajduk and ten points in front of third-placed Osijek.

Hajduk icon Marko Livaja was the top goalscorer with 28 goals, while Hrvatski dragovoljac was relegated, to be replaced by second-tier champions Varaždin, who were quickly promoted back to the elite.

In Split, the long-standing wait for the trophy was finally over after the

HNK Hajduk won the SuperSport Croatian Cup and lifted up the iconic "Rabuzin's Sun" trophy for the seventh time



HNK Hajduk Split
SuperSport Croatian Cup winners

GNK Dinamo won their 23rd Croatian championship title

Croatian Cup final, that was played at their home Poljud Stadium. Following the victories over Primorac Biograd, Belišće, Lokomotiva, and Gorica, it was a victory over Rijeka (3:1) that finished the job.

In July, Croatian Supercup was played in Zagreb. After a 0:0 draw, Dinamo lifted the trophy courtesy of a penalty shootout win over Hajduk (4:1).

As league title holders, in 2022 Dinamo successfully overcame Shkupi from North Macedonia, Ludogorets from Bulgaria, and finally the Norwegian sensation Bodo/Glimt in a dramatic extra-time of the return leg, to reach the elite European club competition.

The highlight of this Champions League campaign, however, was the victory against the recent champions Chelsea at Maksimir Stadium. Mislav Oršić provided the run and the goal. Later on, Dinamo completed the group stage challenge behind Kovačić's team, Milan, and RB Salzburg.

It is worth mentioning that UEFA president Čeferin, UEFA chief of football Boban and HNS president Kustić all attended the Dinamo - Chelsea clash. "This victory echoes in Europe. This is a great night for Dinamo, Zagreb, and Croatia", Kustić sincerely congratulated.

Remaining Croatian representatives appeared in Europa Conference League qualifying: Osijek bid farewell in the second round against Kazakh side Kyzylzhar, while Rijeka bowed out against Swedish Djurgarden.

Hajduk started the qualifying campaign in the third round, and performed well in Split to eliminate Portuguese side Vitoria Guimaraes. Next stop was the strong Villarreal, with the Spaniards progressing with both wins.

Split and Osijek clashed once again to decide to women's domestic league title, and Split came out on top in 2022, only to take the Croatian Cup as well. Following the two-year reign of Olmisum, Novo vrijeme returned the futsal league title to Makarska.

Novo vrijeme Makarska won their third championship title

ŽNK Split won their third title of Croatian champions in women's football, as well as winning the Croatian Cup for the fifth consecutive time

FIFA/COCA-COLA WORLD RANKING (TOP 50)

1	Brazil	1840.77
2	Argentina	1838.38
3	France	1823.39
4	Belgium	1781.30
5	England	1774.19
6	Netherlands	1740.92
7	CROATIA	1727.62
8	Italy	1723.56
9	Portugal	1702.54
10	Spain	1692.71
11	Morocco	1672.35
12	Switzerland	1655.02
13	USA	1652.74
14	Germany	1646.91
15	Mexico	1635.78
16	Uruguay	1627.45
17	Colombia	1612.78
18	Denmark	1608.11
19	Senegal	1603.98
20	Japan	1593.08
21	Peru	1564.30
22	Poland	1559.83
23	Sweden	1558.45
24	Iran	1551.73
25	South Korea	1539.49
26	Ukraine	1536.99
27	Australia	1533.97
28	Wales	1530.28
29	Serbia	1526.46
30	Tunis	1526.20
31	Chile	1506.91
32	Costa Rica	1500.18
33	Cameroon	1499.30
34	Austria	1497.24
35	Nigeria	1494.32
36	Hungary	1493.33
37	Russia	1491.26
38	Czechia	1490.61
39	Egypt	1490.34
40	Algeria	1486.72
41	Ecuador	1477.32
42	Scotland	1476.94
43	Norway	1475.05
44	Türkiye	1465.38
45	Mali	1449.05
46	Paraguay	1445.06
47	Ivory Coast	1441.49
48	Rep. of Ireland	1438.59
49	Saudi Arabia	1438.13
50	Burkina Faso	1434.81

UEFA RANKING FOR CLUB COMPETITIONS

1	England	106.641
2	Spain	96.141
3	Italy	76.902
4	Germany	75.213
5	France	60.081
6	Portugal	53.382
7	Netherlands	49.300
8	Austria	38.850
9	Scotland	36.900
10	Russia	34.482
11	Serbia	33.375
12	Ukraine	31.800
13	Belgium	30.600
14	Switzerland	29.675
15	Greece	28.200
16	Czechia	27.800
17	Norway	27.250
18	Denmark	27.175
19	CROATIA	27.150
20	Türkiye	27.100
21	Cyprus	26.375
22	Israel	24.375
23	Sweden	22.875
24	Bulgaria	19.500
25	Romania	17.150
26	Azerbaijan	17.000
27	Hungary	16.375
28	Poland	15.875
29	Kazakhstan	15.750
30	Slovakia	15.625
31	Slovenia	15.000
32	Belarus	12.500
33	Moldova	11.250
34	Lithuania	10.000
35	BIH	9.125
36	Finland	8.875
37	Luxembourg	8.750
38	Latvia	8.625
39	Kosovo	8.166
40	Ireland	8.125
41	Armenia	8.125
42	N. Ireland	8.083
43	Albania	8.000
44	Faroe Islands	7.250
45	Estonia	7.041
46	Malta	7.000
47	Georgia	7.000
48	N. Macedonia	7.000
49	Liechtenstein	6.500
50	Wales	5.500
51	Gibraltar	5.416
52	Iceland	5.375
53	Montenegro	4.875
54	Andorra	4.665
55	San Marino	1.332

CROATIAN CLUBS IN EUROPEAN COMPETITIONS



Champions League (2022/23 autumn) Dinamo

2nd round: Škupi (MKD)	2:2, 1:0
3rd round: Ludogorec (BUL)	2:1, 4:2
Play-off: Bodø/Glimt (NOR)	0:1, 4:1
Group H, 4th place:	
Chelsea (ENG)	1:0, 1:2
Milan (ITA)	1:3, 0:4
RB Salzburg (AUT)	0:1, 1:1

Europa League (2021/22 spring)

Dinamo

play-off: Sevilla (ESP)	1:3, 1:0
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Europa Conference League

Osijek

2nd round: Kyzylzhar (KAZ)	2:1, 0:2
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Rijeka

2nd round: Djurgårdens (SWE)	1:2, 0:2
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Hajduk

3rd round: Vitória de Guimarães (POR)	3:1, 0:1
play-off: Villarreal (ESP)	4:2, 2:0

Women's Champions League

Osijek

Qualifying tournament 3 in Split:	
Semifinal: BIIK Kazygurt (KAZ)	1:5
3rd place match: Lanchkhuti (GEO)	2:0

Youth League (2021/22 spring)

Hajduk

play-off:	
Atlético Madrid (ESP)	0:0 (2:3 11m)

Youth League (2022/23 autumn)

Dinamo

Champions League path, Group E,	
3rd place:	
Chelsea (ENG)	4:2, 0:4
Milan (ITA)	1:2, 0:3
RB Salzburg (AUT)	0:2, 2:1

Hajduk

Domestic champions path:	
1st round: Gabala (AZE)	3:0, 2:1
2nd round: Apolonia (ALB)	3:0, 3:1
* qualified for further competition	

Futsal Champions League

Novo vrijeme Makarska

Qualifying group 2 in Makarska:	
Ayat (KAZ)	2:2
Futsal Pula (CRO)	2:0
Sporting (POR)	0:7

Elite qualifying round,
Group B in Palma de Mallorca:

Piast Gliwice (POL)	1:4
Dobovec (SVN)	1:1
Palma Futsal (ESP)	1:2

Futsal Pula

Qualifying group 2 in Makarska:	
Sporting (POR)	3:5
Novo vrijeme (CRO)	0:2
Ayat (KAZ)	5:2

Elite qualifying round, Group B u Pula:	
Anderlecht (BEL)	2:3
United Galati (ROM)	5:2
Barcelona (ESP)	2:7

HNS COMPETITIONS WINNERS



MEN

HT 1st Division	Dinamo Zagreb
SuperSport Croatian Cup	
	Hajduk Split
II. HNL	Varaždin
III. HNL East	Vukovar 1991
III. HNL South	Jadran LP Ploče
III. HNL North	
	Polet Sveti Martin na Muri
III. HNL Center	Zagorec Krapina
III. HNL West	Crikvenica
I. HNL U-19	Hajduk Split
I. HNL U-17	Dinamo Zagreb
I. HNL U-15	Dinamo Zagreb
U-19 Cup	Varaždin
U-17 Cup	Rijeka
U-15 Cup	Dinamo Zagreb

WOMEN

1. HNLŽ	Split
2. HNLŽ group A	Hajduk Split
2. HNLŽ group B	Koprivnica
Croatian Cup	Split
HNLŽ U-17	Agram Zagreb
HNLŽ U-15	Osijek
	FUTSAL
I. HMNL	Novo vrijeme Makarska
Croatian Cup	Olmissum Omiš
II. HMNL	Osijek
U-19	Novo vrijeme Makarska
U-17	Autodijelovi Tokić Požega
1. HMNLŽ	Dinamo Zagreb
	VETERANS
Outdoor	Sabunjar Privlaka
Indoor	Sabunjar Privlaka



HNS SECURES 44 MILLION EUROS FOR TV AND MEDIA RIGHTS

THE MOST LUCRATIVE CONTRACT IN HNL HISTORY

In 2022, HNS has signed one of its most important contracts, as the partner was selected for the television and media rights for the HNS competitions in the next four-year period.

Following the contract termination with Endorphin Magine, HNS management held meetings with companies interested in purchasing TV and media rights. Three official bids were received, by A1 Hrvatska, Hrvatski Telekom, and AB SportConsulting, alongside SuperSport bid for media rights.

HNS Executive Committee discussed the bids and opted for **Hrvatski Telekom** bid, the most lucrative bid that amounted to nine million euros per year. In four years, as per contract, Hrvatski Telekom will pay HNS **36 million euros** for TV rights.

Moreover, **SuperSport** bid for media rights in amount of **1,5 million euro** per year for sponsorship rights and **500.000 euros** per years for betting rights was accepted. In total, HNS secured **44 million euros** for television and media rights in the next four years. In addition, **Hrvatski**

Telekom and **HRT** agreed to broadcast one game per matchday on the national television.

The leaders of Croatian Football Federation, Hrvatski Telekom, and SuperSport have signed the television and marketing rights contract at a special ceremony in Hotel Westin in Zagreb. Thus, Hrvatski Telekom become the owner of television rights, and SuperSport of marketing rights for all the HNS matches. The contracts were signed until the end of 2025/2026 season.

This is the most lucrative agreement on television and marketing rights in history of domestic club football.

«I would like to thank the Hrvatski Telekom and SuperSport management for their confidence, and the respect they have showed to domestic football with such significant investment. We are especially happy to sign these important contracts with proven friends and partners of Croatian football. This gives us additional faith that together we will create even stronger, more attractive, and better domestic competitions.

There is no need to emphasize how much these funds mean to Croatian clubs - this is the most important contract in the history of domestic football and it affirms its market value. I am convinced that this value will increase further, due to this contract, and that this investment will be a smart move for our partners», said HNS president **Marijan Kustić**.

«I am overjoyed to continue our long-term cooperation with HNS. We always try to offer the best sports content to our users, and Croatian football definitely belongs to this category, since this content is interesting to fans of all Croatian clubs. This four-year partnership with HNS sets the foundation for further development of Croatian clubs, with the aim to enjoy in even better competitions, in better matches, in production of the leading pay-TV platform in Croatia», said Hrvatski Telekom board director **Kostas Nebis**, with board member **Nataša Rapaić** adding:



«Croatia is a sports nation where football has a special place and a special meaning, while the domestic league has never been so interesting. It's a pleasure to have the opportunity to transmit this excitement, these emotions, to Croatian public. These are the values we support as a company - connectivity, positivity, and creating new opportunities».

SuperSport, the new owner of marketing and betting rights, is happy to see this contract signed, says board member **Goran Đurić**:

«We're proud to become the direct partner of Croatian football, since we have already heavily invested in it. I believe we can all agree that the domestic competitions have never been so interesting, and we are convinced that this contract will allow the further development of both clubs and competitions. I

would like to thank HNS for their confidence and we are truly happy to cooperate with HNS and Hrvatski Telekom in the further marketing, commercial and media development of domestic football».

«Football is the most popular, most important, and most followed sport in Croatia. The top tier produces the same viewership numbers and importance as the strongest football competitions such as the UEFA Champions League. Therefore, we are happy to sign this valuable contract that will enable the domestic football to grow, by all criteria. As market leaders, we are proud to offer the best content to our players», added SuperSport board member **Radim Haluza**.

«For HNS, and especially for Croatian clubs, the contract we signed today is of really historic

importance. I would like to thank our partners, Hrvatski Telekom and SuperSport, for their confidence, and congratulate all the club who have raised the quality levels, with the support of Croatian Football Federation. They have created an interest that allowed this contract to be signed. An important role was also played by HNS project of field renovations. That shows that everyone - clubs, HNS, and local communities - should make the further development of stadium infrastructure a strategic point, in order to increase the value of our product», said HNS executive director **Tomislav Svetina**.

Following the signing and appropriate toasts, HNS management handed over Croatia national team shirts to Hrvatski Telekom and SuperSport leader, with numbers 2022 and 2026, in accordance with the contract duration.

INFRASTRUCTURE REMAINS AMONG THE HNS TOP PRIORITIES

In 2022, Croatian Football Federation continued to improve football infrastructure through various projects.

One of the projects that started in 2019 was continued in 2022 through opening nine more football fields with artificial turf, in **Metković, Zagreb (Kustošija), Zelina, Karlovac, Kutina, Novi Marof, Požega, Gospić, and Osijek.**

In total, artificial turf area in Croatian cities is **46,533 m²**. The renovation of the aforementioned fields was jointly financed by local communities, cities, or clubs, in cooperation with Croatian Football

Federation. The local communities have supported the preparatory tasks and the necessary equipment, while the HNS took care of the purchase and the installation of the artificial turf.

Furthermore, in 2022 contracts were signed to renovate the fields in **Labin, Vinkovci, and Zabok**. These works were expected to be completed in 2022, but due to delays regarding certain obligations of the city governments and currently unfavourable weather conditions, they are now expected to be completed in the first half of 2023.

Back in 2021, Croatian Football Federation has applied to FIFA

Foundation Recovery Programme, the project intended to help with the damage caused by the earthquakes, to rebuild the damaged football infrastructure in the County of Sisak-Moslavina, in Karlovac, and in Zagreb. Following this application, in 2022 Croatian Football Federation was granted **500,000 USD** to be donated to aid the earthquake-struck regions.

Croatian Football Federation Executive Committee has decided to allocate **150,000 USD** of these FIFA-donated funds to football clubs in Zagreb and the Zagreb Football Federation, and **350,000 USD** to the County of Sisak-Moslavina and Karlovac.

46.533 M²

9

football fields were renovated with artificial turf in 2022





INTERNATIONAL DEPT.

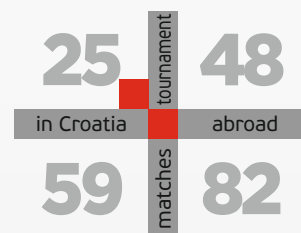
Fees paid by Croatian clubs and players for the services of 60 registered intermediaries in 81 transactions

6 430 783.06 €

(January 1 – December 21, 2022)

Source: FIFA TMS IRT

Number of approved international club matches and tournaments

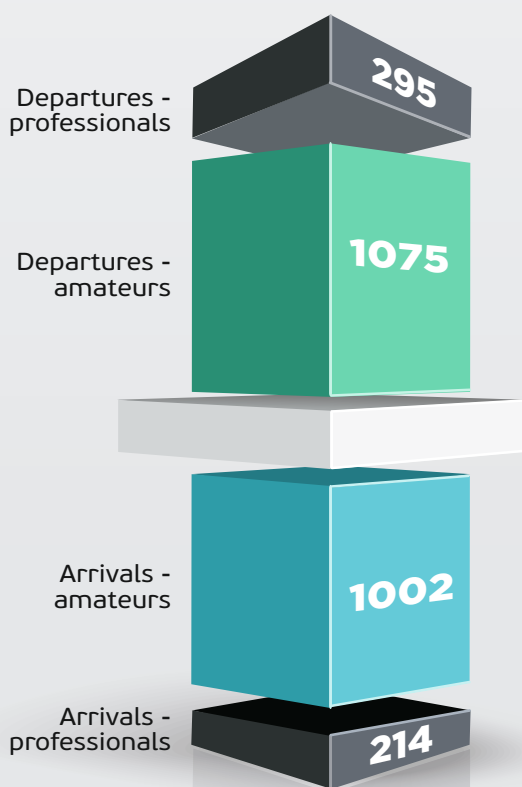


- Croatia is **27th** among FIFA's member associations (and **21st** among UEFA's member associations) by the **number of incoming international transfers of professional players**
- Croatia is **18th** among FIFA's member associations (and **13th** among UEFA's member associations) by the **number of outgoing international transfers of professional players**
- Croatia is **33rd** among FIFA's member associations (and **24th** among UEFA's member associations) by the **overall agreed-upon amount of transfer fees for incoming international players**
- Croatia is **25th** among FIFA's member associations (and **20th** among UEFA's member associations) by the **overall agreed-upon amount of transfer fees for outgoing international players**
- Croatia is **12th** among FIFA's member associations (and **11th** among UEFA's member associations) by the **number of incoming international transfers of amateur players**
- Croatia is **12th** among FIFA's member associations (and **10th** among UEFA's member associations) by the **number of outgoing international transfers of amateur players**
- Croatia is among the **top ten** states with the biggest number of amateur transfers between two NAs – there were a total of **423** amateur player transfers **from Croatia to Germany**
- Croatia is among the **top ten** states with the biggest number of professional transfers between two NAs – there were a total of **63** professional player transfers **from Croatia to Slovenia**
- GNK Dinamo Zagreb occupies the **second** place on UEFA's Top 10 list of clubs with the **highest number of outgoing player transfers** (a total of 40 players)
- Croatian nationals are **number 8** on FIFA's Top 10 list of nationalities with the **highest number of amateur transfers** between FIFA's member NAs

Number of players' transfers

01. 01. - 31. 12. 2022

Source: FIFA TMS Global Transfer Report 2022



Remaining players (outbound and inbound)(first player registrations, international futsal player transfers, in-country transfers of minors): **1420**

Expenditure/income from international transfers for the 2022 winter and summer transfer windows:

Source: FIFA TMS

		Winter transfer window	Summer transfer window
Total fees for incoming transfers into Croatian clubs (EXPENDITURES)	EUR	2 691 002.00 1 331 002.00 fixed 57 500.00 conditionally paid 0.00	10 724 590.27 8 040 656.46 fixed 2 650 061.81 conditionally paid 360 298.00
	GBP		75 000.00 - fixed 75 000.00 conditionally paid - paid
Total fees for outgoing transfers from Croatian clubs (INCOME)	EUR	6 619 500.00 3 143 500.00 fixed 326 000.00 conditionally paid 504 281.60	40 903 900.00 27 463 000.00 fixed 13 440 900.00 conditionally paid 8 111 260.27
	USD		400 000.00 300 000.00 fixed 100 000.00 conditionally paid 150 000.00

Source: FIFA TMS Transfers

CLUB LICENSING DEPT.

1012

clubs have participated in the club licensing process since 2004

19

central licensing processes

18

clubs have participated in UEFA's Financial Fair Play (FFP) process

260

licences issues for the Croatian First Division

1600

licences issued for UEFA competitions

licences issues for the Croatian Second Division

352

A total of **41** clubs participated in the club licensing process for the 2022/23 season. During 2022, the HNS licensing department received and processed more than **28 185** documents.

The licensing for the UEFA Women's Champions League began with the 2020/21 season. **Three clubs** applied for a UEFA Women's Champions League licence for the 2022/23 season and all three received said licence.

In 2022, the total number of members in the managing bodies of Licence Applicants for the 2022/23 season was **1580**, out of which there were **1536** men and **44** women, which points to a low level of representation (only **2,8%** women).



FIFA AND UEFA PRESIDENTS HOST HNS MANAGEMENT

High delegation of Croatian Football Federation, led by president **Marijan Kustić**, visited UEFA president **Aleksander Čeferin** and his closest associates in April.

The meeting of UEFA and HNS leaders was held in the UEFA headquarters in Nyon. Alongside president Kustić, president Čeferin welcomed HNS executive director **Tomislav Svetina** and technical director **Stipe Pletikosa**. Among the hosts, there were UEFA chief of football **Zvonimir Boban** and head of national associations **Zoran Laković**.

«We are proud to see Croatian football so respected within UEFA, as well as to enjoy the quality cooperation with UEFA involving many projects. We are glad that UEFA president following Croatian domestic competitions, and we have also discussed the number of challenges in modern European football», said president Kustić.

«It was a pleasure to host the HNS delegation, since HNS is both on and off the field one of the most successful medium-sized association in Europe. In previous years, HNS made significant steps forward in building the infrastructure throughout the country, and will continue to enjoy UEFA support to keep on that track», said president Čeferin.

In September, HNS delegation led by president Kustić was also welcomed to the FIFA office in Paris, with president **Gianni Infantino** as the host.

Alongside president Kustić, HNS delegation included first vice-president **Ante Vučemilović-Šimunović**, executive director **Tomislav Svetina**, technical director **Stipe Pletikosa** and head of international affairs and licensing **Ivančica Sudac**.

«It was a great pleasure to welcome my friend, president Kustić. Since his election in 2021,

Croatian football has continued to grow, from grassroots level to the biggest stage of international football, FIFA World Cup. This beautiful country remains an extraordinary example of good management, elite football development and continuous progress», emphasized Infantino.

The HNS delegation also discussed the alternative sources of funding for national associations, as well as infrastructure investments, women's and grassroots football.

«HNS is successfully using the available funds, and we have discussed other options to cooperate with FIFA to further develop football in Croatia. It was nice to hear all the praise for Croatian football and our national team, and our obligation remains to continue with hard work and to invest, in order to justify the image Croatia enjoys in the world of football», said Kustić.



HVAR HOSTS UEFA EXCO MEETING AND "FOOTBALL IN SCHOOLS" GRASSROOTS FESTIVAL

This summer, one of the focal points of European football was the island of Hvar, that hosted the UEFA Executive Committee meeting, alongside Grassroots festival "Football in Schools".

UEFA Executive Committee, with **Davor Šuker** as the Croatian representative, reached several decisions, including the appointment of Croatia as the host of the U-19 Futsal EURO final tournament in 2023.

Grassroots festival "Football in Schools" was held at the NK Hvar ground, and many famous names of Croatian and European football came to the beautiful Croatian island.

"Football in Schools" is a modern

football festival that promotes the values of massification of football and the importance of football development in schools, with the support of legendary players.

The festival was the introduction of UEFA Grassroots Week, and was attended by UEFA president **Aleksander Čeferin**, HNS president **Marijan Kustić**, and football superstars **Luis Figo**, **Zvonimir Boban**, **Davor Šuker**, **Dejan Savićević**, **Robbie Keane**, **Darijo Srna**, **Nadine Kessler**, **Ricardinho**, and others. At the opening ceremony, they have played a friendly match with girls and boys from Hvar.

Following the Hvar festival, UEFA

announced that 2.4 million children from 44,000 schools already takes part in the programme, just two years since the beginning. Over 100,000 teachers have completed the education for football practice sessions. Throughout the first four years, UEFA will invest 24 million euros.

«We have seen true football legends and our children in the same place. The kids will cherish this days as an inspiration to play football. Led by president Čeferin, UEFA puts in a lot of effort to develop and promote grassroots football. HNS does the same», said HNS president Marijan Kustić.



CROATIAN REFEREES CONTINUE TO APPEAR AT THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE

The referees from Croatia have left a significant mark at the international 2022 scene.

FIFA showed confidence in Croatia women's referees **Ivana Martinčić** and **Sanja Rođak-Karšić**, who have been selected for the FIFA Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand - Ivana Martinčić as the referee, and Sanja Rođak-Karšić as the assistant referee. They will be among the 33 referees and 55 assistant referees at the competition that is scheduled from 20 July to 20 August 2023.

Ivana Martinčić took part as one of the four European referees at the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup in India.

Alongside Sanja Rođak-Karšić, she was also at the European Championships in England, where **Blaženka Logarušić** was appointed the referee observer. Martinčić was selected among 13 referees, and

Rođak-Karšić among the 25 assistant referees.

Dario Bel and **Luka Pušić** were appointed among the referee officials in the U-17 European Championship final in Israel: Bel as the fourth referee, and Pušić as the second assistant referee, as France faced Netherlands. At this tournament, Bel was among the 12 referees, and Pušić among the 12 assistant referees. In group stage, they were appointed at three matches (Spain - Turkey, Scotland - Denmark, Germany - Israel), they've continued in the knockout stages, including the Germany - France quarterfinal, and the France - Portugal semifinal.

Nikola Jelić and **Vedran Babić** were appointed to the UEFA Futsal Champions League final. Another proof of how much UEFA trusts them and their quality is the UEFA Futsal EURO semifinal between Portugal and Spain. There, in Netherlands, Croatian referee

expert **Ivan Novak** was appointed referee observer for the final match. That was his tenth Futsal EURO tournament: three times he was among the referees, and seven times as the instructor and observer, including two finals.

Edi Šunjić got the vote of confidence as he was appointed referee observer at the UEFA Women's Futsal EURO in Porto.

UEFA has also trusted the vice-president of the Croatian Football Federation Referees' Committee **Vlado Svilokos**. He was appointed the referee observer at the UEFA Champions League group stage match between Real Madrid and Celtic. During the previous three years, he was one of the four coaches for young

referees in CORE Excellence Programme, working in a team that included well-known names such as **Manuel Diaz Vega** from Spain, **Nuno Castro** from Portugal and leader coach **Kyros Vassaras** from Greece, a member of UEFA Referees' Committee. CORE Excellence Programme is intended for 24 young referees in eight teams. They are also supported by two assistant referees' coaches and two fitness coaches.

Croatian Football Federation started to cooperate with Cyprus FA and Bulgaria Football Union and agreed the referee exchanges and knowledge development.

The agreement with Cyprus FA included the exchange of elite or talented and perspective referees with expert knowledge, technical and game management skills at the highest level in both countries, to be implemented on reciprocity basis in 2022/2023 season. The objectives were the exchange of technical knowledge and experience, gaining international experience and improving the quality, with minimum requirements including a place at the active top list of officials in the country for the 2022/2023 season, understanding of English language and no discipline sanctions in respective domestic leagues.

The exchange programme brought the Bulgarian referees to SuperSport HNL encounter Varaždin - Gorica on Matchday 8, while Croatian officials were appointed in Bulgaria's Efbet League. BFU and HNS agreed the exchange of referees from the UEFA Core Programme for one top-tier match.

In SuperSport HNL, **Radoslav Gidzhenov** was appointed referee, with **Georgi Minev** and **Georgi Stamboldzhiev** as assistant referees. On the other hand, on 3 September, **Ante Čulina** was the appointed referee at the Spartak Varna - CSKA Sofia encounter, with **Darko Kolarević** and **Ivan Starčević** as assistant referees. A day later, Čulina was the fourth referee at the Ludogorets - Hebar league encounter. The BFU head of refereeing is the famous **Victor Kassai**, a mentor of Croatian referees Ante Čulina and Dario Bel.

FIFA®

Referees (M):

Ivan BEBEK, Dario BEL, Fran JOVIĆ, Igor PAJAČ, Duje STRUKAN and Mario ZEBEC

Assistant referees (M):

Alen JAKŠIĆ, Ivan MIHALJ, Kristijan NOVOSEL, Luka PAJIĆ, Goran PATAKI, Luka PUŠIĆ, Hrvoje RADIĆ, Kruno ŠARIĆ, Marjan TOMAS and Bojan ZOBENICA

VAR (M):

Ivan BEBEK, Duje STRUKAN and Mario ZEBEC

Referees (W):

Sabina BOLIĆ, Jelena KUMER, Ivana MARTINČIĆ and Jelena PEJKOVIĆ

Assistant referees (W): **Gordana KATUŠIĆ, Martina NERALIĆ, Ivona PEJIĆ, Maja PETRAVIĆ, Sanja ROĐAK KARŠIĆ and Barbara VIDOVIĆ VOLENIK**

Futsal referees: **Vedran BABIĆ, Josip DUJMIĆ, Mislav DŽEKO and Nikola JELIĆ**

Beach soccer referees:

Sanja ČUBELIĆ, Goran DUVNJAK and Nikola SEDLAR

Referee observers (M):

Draženko KOVAČIĆ, Igor PRISTOVNIK, Vlado SVILOKOS, Ante VUČEMILOVIĆ ŠIMUNOVIĆ and Domagoj VUČKOV

Referee observers (W):

Snježana FOČIĆ and Blaženka LOGARUŠIĆ

Referee observers (Futsal):

Ivan NOVAK, Edi ŠUNJIĆ

FIFA AND UEFA FULL OF CONFIDENCE IN CROATIAN OFFICIALS

In 2022, numerous Croatian officials have continued to provide quality contribution to many UEFA and FIFA bodies.

Croatian Football Federation president **Marijan Kustić** participated as a member at the UEFA National Team Competitions Committee session, that included several topics, such as the preparations for the EURO 2024. The Committee discussed the suggested modifications in the competition rules and the final tournament calendar. The Committee members received the newest information on the preparations for the upcoming June competitions - Nations League and the Finalissima, the encounter of the European and South American champions, Italy and Argentina. Furthermore, the Committee received the report on the current state of affairs regarding the sales of marketing and television rights in the 2022 - 2028 period, and the status of bids for the EURO 2028 and EURO 2032 hosts. Finally, the Committee members received the report on the preparations for the U-21 European Championship 2023, and the bids for the final tournament in 2025.

Croatian Football Federation delegation took part at the 46th ordinary UEFA Congress in Vienna, where UEFA has significantly increased the funding for the development of football throughout the continent. HNS delegation in Vienna included president **Marijan Kustić**, executive director **Tomislav Svetina** and first vice-president **Ante Vučemilović Šimunović**. **Davor Šuker** attended the UEFA Congress as the UEFA Executive Committee member, while **Zvonimir Boban** attended as UEFA's Chief of Football. The agenda included, among other topics, the increase in funding the HatTrick programme.

HNS management also participated at the 72nd FIFA Congress in Doha, with president **Marijan Kustić**, first vice-president **Ante Vučemilović Šimunović**, and executive director **Tomislav Svetina**

again representing Croatia. Technical director **Stipe Pletikosa** attended the FIFA Congress as one of the FIFA legends.

FIFA Summit in Doha was held before the start of the 2022 World Cup, and president **Kustić** led the HNS delegation, that included competitions manager **Neven Šprajcer**, and head of international affairs **Josip Tomaško**. At the Fairmont Doha Hotel, FIFA president **Gianni Infantino** managed the event, while Qatari emir **Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani** also participated.

At the Croatian Football Federation headquarters in Zagreb, president **Kustić** and HNS management hosted FIFA representative **Ged Roddy**, the leader of the talent development project at national associations. HNS delegation included the executive director **Tomislav Svetina**, secretary **Vladimir Iveta**, technical director **Stipe Pletikosa**, and senior advisor **Zorislav Srebrić**.

During his three-day stay in Croatia, Roddy held several meetings in order to further plan and implement the project. The leader of the project within HNS is **Hrvoje Hrkač**, youth competitions administrator and youth competitions, women's football, and futsal match manager.

Moreover, Roddy also spoke to **Stipe Pletikosa** regarding the diaspora camps organization, to HNS Academy director **Boris Kubla** on educational system, to women and futsal national teams secretary **Denis Lukša** and women's football coordinator **Božidar Miletić** on the development of women's football and competitions, and to grassroots manager **Antonio Grahovac** on national youth competitions.

Roddy took the opportunity to visit the HNS summer camp in Ludbreg, where he met the head instructor **Petar Krpan** and Croatia U-15 and U-16 head coaches, **Sreten Ćuk** and **Robert Jarni**.



Executive Committee:
Davor Šuker, member

Chief of Football:
Zvonimir Boban

Chief medical officer and head of Medical department: **Zoran Bahtijarević**

National associations committee:
Davor Šuker, deputy chairman

Youth and Amateur Football Committee:
Davor Šuker, deputy chairman

Club Licensing Committee:
Ivančica Sudac, first vice-chairwoman

Futsal and Beach Soccer Committee:
Boris Durlen, first vice-chairman

Medical Committee:
Zoran Bahtijarević, deputy chairman

National Team Competitions Committee:
Marijan Kustić, member

Legal Committee: **Vladimir Iveta**, member

Development and Technical Assistance Committee: **Petar Krpan**, member

Players' Status, Transfer and Agents and Match Agents Committee: **Tomislav Svetina**, member

UEFA Protocol Advisory Panel (UPAP):
Zoran Bahtijarević, chairman

Anti-Doping Panel: **Zoran Bahtijarević**

Stadium Construction and Management Panel:
Nenad Črnko

Administrative Expert Panel:
Ante Vučemilović-Šimunović

Delegates: **Duško Grabovac**, **Iva Olivari Uliša**, **Ivančica Sudac**, **Alojzije Šupraha**, **Josip Tomaško**

Venue director:
Helena Puškar

Futsal delegates:
Boris Durlen, **Dario Skender**

Doping control officers:
Zoran Bahtijarević, **Tomislav Vlahović**

Security officers:
Miroslav Marković

Technical instructor:
Boris Kubla, **Petar Krpan**

FIFA®

Organising Committee for FIFA Competitions:
Davor Šuker, member

Audit and Compliance Committee:
Ivančica Sudac, member

Technical instructor for futsal refereeing:
Ivan Novak

Technical instructor for refereeing in women's football: **Lada Rojč**



FIRST ŠIME'S POST NO ONE IS GOING TO LIKE

Šime Vrsaljko decided to close his international career: another member of silver-winning generation to step down. Tired of numerous injuries that interfered with his continuity in Croatia national team following the World Cup in Russia.

Šime stopped at 52 caps, including the four major competitions - two World Cups (2014, 2018) and two European Championships (2016, 2021). He made his first appearance on 9 February 2011 in a friendly vs. Czech Republic in Pula, and his international career grew with every new encounter, and peaked four years ago in Russia, when Croatia won the silver medal.

His Instagram live from Croatia dressing room following the semifinal victory over England has immediately become a part of contemporary Croatian social sphere anthology, a theme of behind the scenes events during the World Cup in Russia, when Croatia internationals thrilled the world not just with football skills, but also with openness, spontaneity, sense

of humor, youthful cheerfulness, infectious optimism, pride, sporting defiance...

Šime stopped at 52 caps, including the four major competitions - two World Cups (2014, 2018) and two European Championships (2016, 2021).

It is actually difficult to say what was a more iconic moment from these glorious days in Moscow: Vrsaljko's urbi et orbi from the dressing room, or the photo where he is blissfully sleeping - making his football dreams come true, securing a berth to the World Cup final.

«I just felt like it, to lie down on the flag, and the expression on my face says it all. I am happy that this image of me lying down on Croatian flag, with my eyes closed,

and a smile on my face, left such an impression and now clearly represents how passionate and proud we are to play for the national team. I am happy that it became a symbol of our achievement in Russia».

Thus spoke Šime on the greatest moment of his international career - and the careers of his international teammates. Besides great performances, he will be remembered as the team spirit's creative force and positive energy generator. On and off the field. In good days, and bad days. Anyway, it is enough to check the video co-production by Vrsaljko and Lovren from Russia '18 once again, to laugh at Šime's caricatured derivative **»Aj laaajk«** that went viral on social media those days.

The social media will go viral these days too... with a significant difference. His post, for the first time, will not be liked.

DOMAGOJ VIDA: TO LIVE A HUNDRED!

It was 23 May 2010. Croatia was playing a friendly against Wales at Gradski Vrt Stadium, and team captain **Darijo Srna** was substituted on 80 minutes. On came a promising 21-year-old.

Many years have passed, but the memories remain fresh.

«How would they not be? I'll remember the first Croatia appearance for the rest of my life, at a stadium that will always be dear to me. I was so proud, my childhood dream came true...».

On one of the most significant days of his career, thus spoke **Domagoj Vida**, who celebrated his 100th Croatia cap in a friendly in Riyadh, against Saudi Arabia. From Gradski Vrt to Riyadh... 100 matches in his favourite shirt. All played with the same enthusiasm and boyish rapture as the first one. With equal desire and passion, with equal approach. He never feared the opponent or backed down. Always playing with an open stance and an open heart. For Croatia. He simply doesn't know any other way.

«I'm at 100 percent in every match. If I fall to 80 percent, it's very much visible on the field. It

cannot be hidden, one can see from a plane if I'm not going all the way. Fortunately, there haven't been many such matches, I'm always completely focused and it's never difficult to invest maximum effort for the team. I was playing even at right back and left back when the head coaches decided it was necessary. I was always a team player, and it remains so. I was never counting my achievements - I was always in the service of team's success. And that will never change».

There was grief, too. For instance, in Lens. The «most beautiful game» played a cruel joke on the Vatreni that day. It was a game that happens once in a lifetime. Until **Quaresma's** goal in the 117th minute, the attacking potential of both teams was shackled by a careful approach, and among many superstar forwards such as **Cristiano Ronaldo** and **Mario Mandžukić**, Domagoj Vida missed the best opportunities. The first, the second, the third...

«Each time I was getting closer and closer. The first one flew half a metre by the post, the second one

just inches wide, and the last one was measured in milimetres. I have already seen it go in. It just wouldn't go in. I was guarding Cristiano Ronaldo that day, one of the best players of all-time, and he didn't touch the ball until 117th minute. As a defender, I did my job very well. Still... I was wondering what have I done wrong in life to have such misfortune».

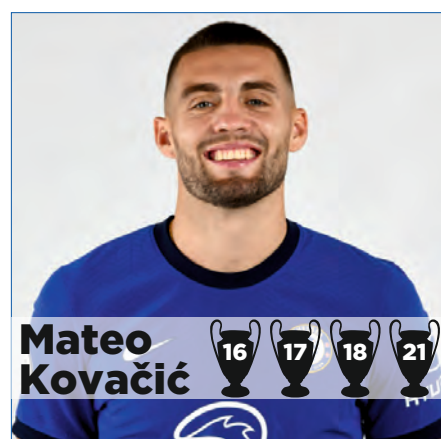
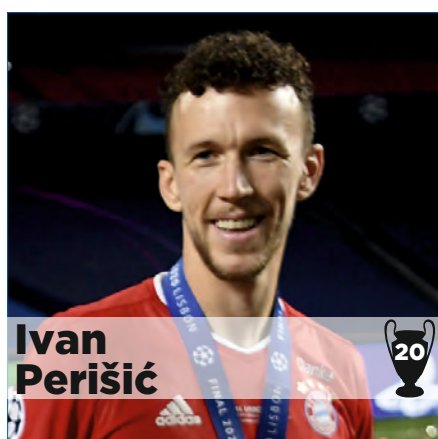
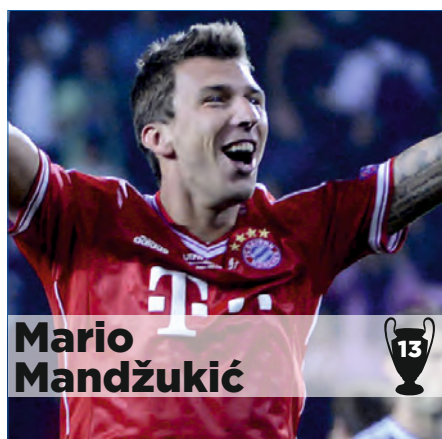
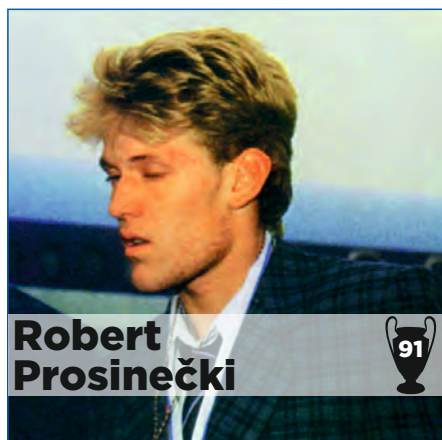
The tide finally turned in Russia. In Vida's case, especially in Sochi, in the World Cup quarterfinals, in the match where he proved that the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. His dad **Rudika**, a former striker, could have been proud of Domagoj's goalscoring skills. First, he scored a header in extra-time, and then beautifully converted a penalty in the shootout, when Croatia secured the semifinal berth. The rest is history, gilded silver history.

Time flies. Before the World Cup in Qatar, where Vatreni arrived as the current vice-champions of the world, with Domagoj Vida as one of the most experienced players. Important both on and off the field. The magical barrier is broken, Domagoj Vida has entered the club of the rare, privileged players.

He's earned it, 100 percent!



CROATIAN FOOTBALL PLAYERS WINNERS OF THE UEFA EUROPEAN CUP AND THE UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE





LUKA MODRIĆ WINS FIFTH CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TITLE, ADDS A SUPERCUP

In 2022, Croatia captain **Luka Modrić** added another chapter to the story of how age is just a number, winning the prestigious Champions League once again, and the European Supercup later on.

Real Madrid climbed to the European throne for the 14th time, defeating Liverpool 1:0 in Paris, with Luka Modrić providing spectacular performances on the road to the final, against PSG, Chelsea, and Manchester City. In the final, he contributed from the first

minute, until the closing stages.

That was Modrić's fifth Champions League title, after his triumphs in 2014, 2016, 2017, and 2018.

With that trophy in his hands, he continued the fantastic streak of Croatian footballer, who are winning the Champions League title every single season since 2013 (**Mandžukić, Modrić, Rakitić, Modrić/Kovačić, Modrić/Kovačić, Modrić/Kovačić, Lovren, Perišić, Kovačić, Modrić**).

As the champions of Europe, Real Madrid did not miss out on the opportunity to win the European Supercup as well, in August, against Europa League champions Eintracht Frankfurt.

In Helsinki, Modrić was in the starting lineup, to be substituted on 67 minutes, with Real Madrid overcoming **Kristijan Jakić** and **Hrvoje Smolčić's** team 2:0. Thus, Croatia captain celebrated his fourth European Supercup trophy, following 2014, 2016, and 2017.





JAKIĆ AND BARIŠIĆ MEET IN EUROPEAN FINAL:

TROPHY GOES TO FRANKFURT

The Europa League final of the 2021/2022 season saw two Croatian internationals in action: **Kristijan Jakić** and **Borna Barišić**. After the final whistle, Eintracht's Jakić had more reasons to celebrate.

Barišić was named in the Glasgow Rangers' starting lineup, and his team took the lead on 57 minutes, courtesy of **Aribo**, while the German side equalized as **Borre** found the net 12

minute later.

In the closing minutes, Jakić came on as a substitute for **Rode**, and the match went into extra-time, and later in the penalty shootout drama. Barišić was substituted just minutes before due to injury.

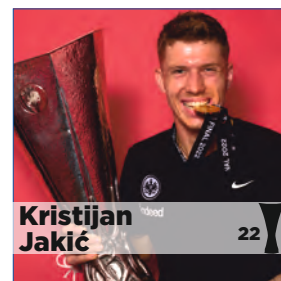
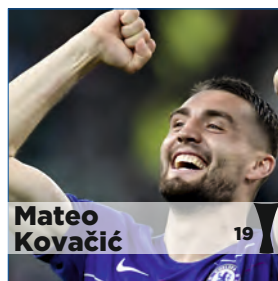
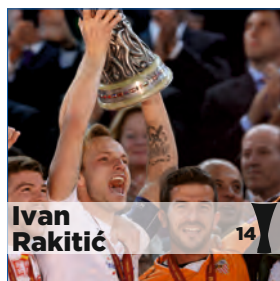
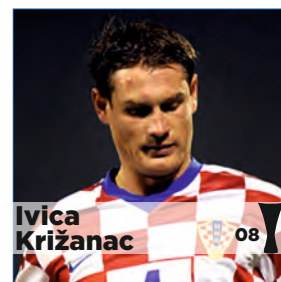
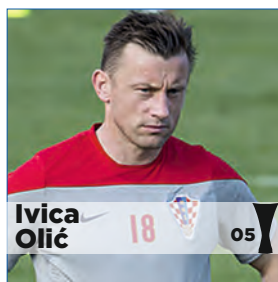
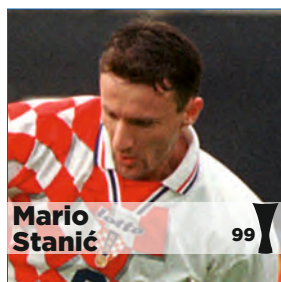
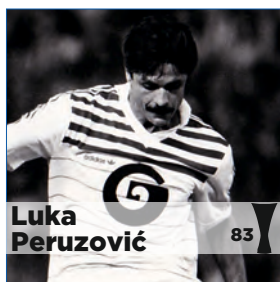
All of Eintracht penalty takers converted the kicks, while goalie **Trapp** stopped **Ramsey's** shot, and sent Eintracht fans into rapture.

Thus, Jakić managed to win a major European trophy in his first season at Eintracht, the team he joined from Dinamo Zagreb. His Europa League campaign will be also remembered by an excellent streak without defeat, that included the elimination of Barcelona in the quarterfinals.

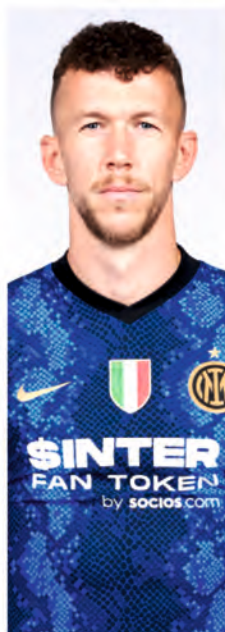
As 2022 was coming to an end, Jakić and Barišić made the year even better. In Qatar...



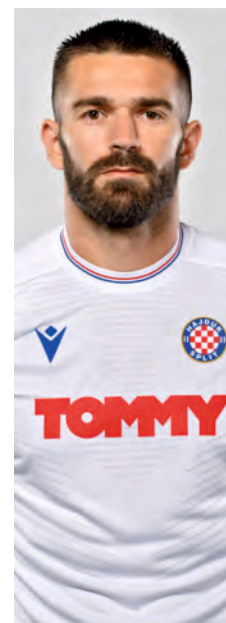
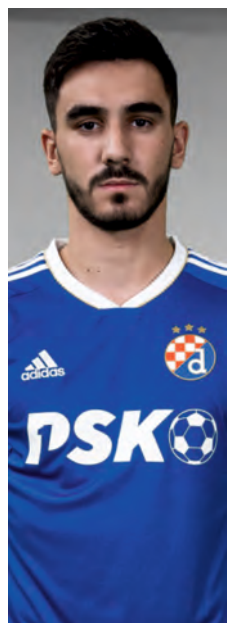
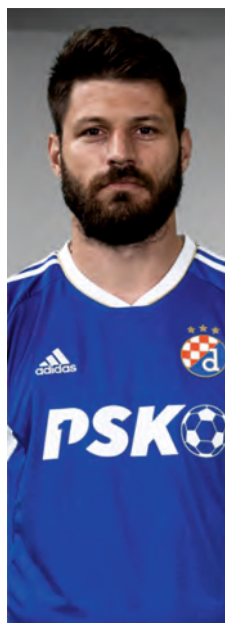
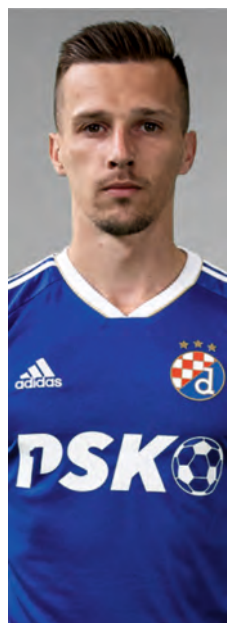
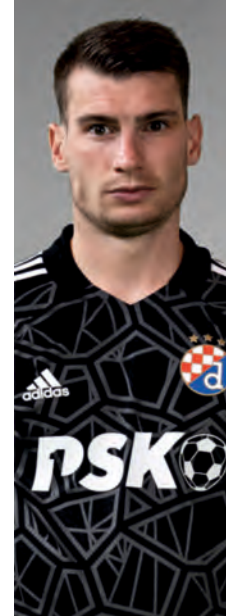
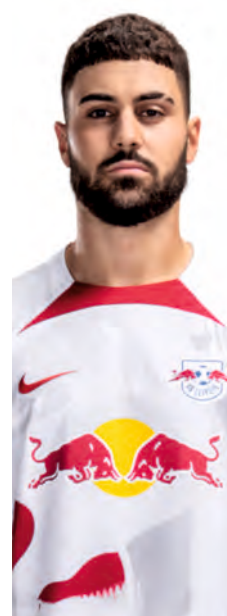
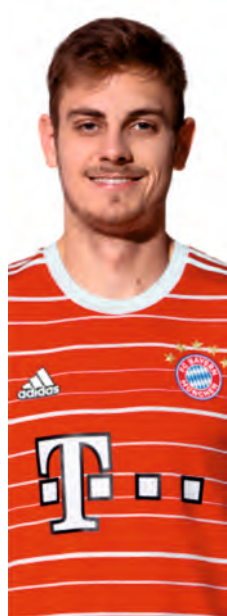
CROATIAN FOOTBALL PLAYERS WINNERS OF THE UEFA CUP AND THE UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE



CROATIA INTERNATIONALS IN NATIONAL COMPETITIONS



It was a very successful year for Croatian players in their respective national competitions. Among the current Croatia internationals, **Luka Modrić** celebrated his third Spanish league title with Real Madrid, **Ivan Perišić** and **Marcelo Brozović** won the Italian Cup and Supercup with Inter, while **Dejan Lovren** won the Russian championship with Zenit. **Josip Stanišić** won the Bundesliga title with Bayern, and **Josip Juranović** took both the league and league-cup titles with Celtic. Scottish Cup title went to **Borna Barišić** and Glasgow Rangers, while **Joško Gvardiol** took the German Cup title with Red Bull Leipzig. **Domagoj Vida** celebrated the Turkish Supercup title with Besiktas. In Croatia, Dinamo's **Domagoj Livaković**, **Mislav Oršić**, **Bruno Petković**, and **Josip Šutalo** became the domestic champions and Supercup winners, and **Marko Livaja** of Hajduk claimed the remaining Croatian trophy, the Croatian Cup.





HNS JOINS UEFA AND DISNEY TO PRESENT THE INNOVATIVE PLAYMAKERS PROGRAMME

Since March 2022, girls throughout Croatia have the opportunity to join the UEFA Playmakers programme and to learn to love football through innovative, fun practice sessions that follow the storylines of the most popular Disney animated movies.

UEFA Playmakers is a pan-European programme to promote women's football, created in UEFA's cooperation with Disney, and Croatian Football Federation introduced it to Croatia in March 2022. It is intended for girls aged 5 to 8, and it is adapted to the girls that haven't played football before, or any other sport. Following 2022, the programme will be also active in 2023.

In Croatia, these events are held in 30 football centers throughout the country. In most cases, the practice sessions are held at the fields or in the halls of the women's football clubs, in order to allow girls to join these clubs after participating in the UEFA Playmakers programme, and to continue to play football.

UEFA Playmakers' ambassador in Croatia is the famous former Vatreni, the current Croatia U-19 coach **Niko Kranjčar**, who emphasized the importance of playtime to encourage kids to join sports activities:

«I like this programme for more than one reason. I'm a big fan of animated movies, especially Disney, and I'm a big fan of sports, and I believe that every kid should have the opportunity to join practice sessions. This initiative is a great way to develop the sports' habit among girls, through games and playfulness - that is, I believe, the most important part of sports».

In the first campaign only, over 730 girls participated in the programme. Over 150 answered the call in Zadar, while many came in Osijek, Vinkovci, Slavonski Brod, Koprivnica, Pula, and Zagreb.

«The development of women's football and encouraging girls to play football are important

objectives of the Croatian Football Federation. We believe that this programme, alongside other women's football development programmes already in motion, can be very useful to develop our women's football base. As an experienced coach who worked in youth categories, and as the head instructor who works with young players, I really see plenty of potential in the UEFA Playmakers' approach. I believe that games and acting are an excellent way of presenting football to girls, to lay the foundation for their careers through a positive, fun experience», said HNS head instructor **Petar Krpan**.





HNS PRESENTS THE PREVENTIVE CAMPAIGN "WE ARE ALL ONE FAMILY"

In November 2022, Croatian Football Federation presented the promotional campaign "We are all one family", with the objective of sending a strong, unique message of the football family, that any kind of discrimination is not acceptable.

In three promotional videos of the Croatian Football Federation, players of all ten clubs from the SuperSport Croatian Football League are represented, as well as the players from the Football Club Parag, the club of the Roma national minority. Alongside Croatia internationals **Dominik Livaković, Bruno Petković, Mislav Oršić, Lovre Kalinić, Marko Livaja, Ivica Ivušić, and Nedjeljko Labrović**, videos include players of all 32 nationalities that are represented in the top tier of Croatian football. Each of them sends a simple, powerful

message in his mother tongue: "We are all one family".

This campaign is the product of the October meeting, where HNS Committee for Professional Football and HNS Security Committee representatives were joined by all SuperSport Croatian Football League clubs. In the meeting, HNS warned of the increase of the unacceptable and discriminatory messages, as well as hate speech in the stands. Simultaneously, HNS presented the decision to use the fines collected from the clubs for racist and other discriminatory behaviour for preventive projects, in order to decrease the frequency of unacceptable behaviour.

«I am happy to see all the clubs cooperate with HNS in this project. This is the best confirmation of the unique stance of the entire football

family, that racism and any other form of discrimination at our stadiums are unacceptable. I would like to thank all the clubs and players: they have been an example, to show that there is no room for racism and discrimination in Croatia, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, nationality, or any other orientation», said HNS president **Marijan Kustić**.

«To think out of the box, to cooperate with the scientific community, is a strategic HNS objective. We would like to thank the Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation - their expertise and scientific contribution have helped to create this preventive video campaign, aimed at the entire population. The targeted group are especially the young ones, who will see this video on digital platforms and social media», said **Jurica Jurjević**, HNS head of prevention, safety and integrity.

The videos from the "We are all one family" campaign were broadcasted during the live broadcasts of the SuperSport Croatian Football League at MAXSport TV, and were posted at the Croatian Football Federation official social media channels.



**svi smo
#jednaobitelj**



CROATIAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION HOLDS DEVELOPMENT CAMPS IN NORTH AMERICA

Led by president **Marijan Kustić**, HNS delegation travelled to North America in July 2022, to oversee the development camps in Norval and Cleveland.

Alongside president **Kustić**, HNS delegation in North America included vice-president **Mario Smodlaka**, Executive Committee member and Diaspora Committee president **Ante Kulušić**, HNS head instructor **Petar Krpan**, and technical director of senior and U-21 national teams **Stipe Pletikosa**. Moreover, women's football coordinator **Božidar Miletić**, Football Center Osijek instructor **Marin Smoje**, Football Center Rijeka instructor **Mladen Ivančić**, fitness instructor **Ivan Krakan** and goalkeeping coach **Darko Staneković** have also contributed to camps' activities.

The diaspora camps were aimed to gather young players with Croatian citizenship in various age categories, in order to discover and recognize talented players and coordinate their development, as well as promote Croatian Football Federation in North America. Furthermore, the objective was also to create and strengthen sporting and business relations, to gather Croatian experts in working with youth categories, and to allow young, developing coaches to follow the workflow in the camp.

The first of these two diaspora camps was organized by Football Club Croatia Norval, in the Canadian city of Norval. During four days, it hosted 86 boys and girls aged 12 to 15. The second camp, held in the USA, was organized by Croatia Cleveland Football Club, hosting 55 boys and girls.

«These camps in Norval and Cleveland were superbly organized, and they have confirmed that there is plenty of interest of our expatriates for the Croatian Football Federation activities in this part of the world. That makes us happy, as we are aware of the great diaspora potential, and I am glad that many of our young players - through decisions to play for Croatia - have affirmed the commitment to Croatia national team, that is very much alive in Croatian families living abroad. With that in mind, these camps aim to further strengthen this segment of action, since Croatia is a small country and we have to find every talented player, whether at home or abroad», said the HNS president Marijan Kustić.





OBITELJ

FAMILY

2 075 000



FACEBOOK
605,000

No 1 in Croatia*



INSTAGRAM
692,000

No 1 in Croatia*



TWITTER
290,000

No 1 in Croatia*



YOUTUBE
31,000



WEIBO
457,000

*The HNS has the most followed social media accounts among all Croatian sports organisations

HOO REWARDS THE VATRENI AND HEAD COACH DALIĆ

At the annual ceremony of the Croatian Olympic Committee, bronze-winning national football team has been voted the best men's team in 2022, alongside the gold-winning waterpolo national team. Moreover, the Vatreni have been voted the biggest Croatian sports promoter, while head coach Zlatko Dalić has been voted the most successful coach.



THE VATRENI, MODRIĆ, AND DALIĆ AMONG SPORTSKE NOVOSTI LAUREATES

Croatia national football team has been voted the best team, and team captain Luka Modrić the best athlete in Croatia, at the traditional 71st Sportske novosti award ceremony. The head coach of the bronze-winning team Zlatko Dalić has received a special recognition for an extraordinary success.



KUSTIĆ AND HNS AWARDED AT SIMPOSAR

At the International Sports Symposium "Simposar 2022" in Sarajevo, on behalf of the Croatian Football Federation, president Marijan Kustić received the award for the most successful football federation in the region. Later on, he also received the individual award for top results in managing Croatian Football Federation.



SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS PRESIDENTS VISIT THE PRIME MINISTER



Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenković held a meeting at Banski dvori with the presidents of national sports associations, with president Marijan Kustić representing the Croatian Football Federation. The president have expressed their satisfaction at the increase of government funding, and the topic of sustainable sports system development was also addressed, as well as further increases in funding and encouraging investment in sports, and further implementation of National Sports Programme.

"CROATIAN SPORTS 2030" CONFERENCE HELD IN ZAGREB



Croatian Football Federation president Marijan Kustić was speaking at the "Croatian sports 2030" conference on strategy and development, alongside other distinguished names in Croatian sports.

Different topics were addressed, such as investment in athletes and sports infrastructure, the role of sports considering the negative demographic trends, school sports, and objectives and strategies for further development.

SECURITY PROTOCOL AT HIGH-RISK MATCHES



In the Ministry of Interior headquarters, the Security protocol at high-risk matches was signed in June. This Protocol defines the coordinated activities of HNS, clubs, and the police at the high-risk matches, in the stadium zone and at the stadium, during the preparation and the implementation of measures for the fans' arrival, stay, and departure, in order to prevent illegal behaviour.

HNS SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH SAUDI ARABIAN FF

On the eve of the friendly international between Saudi Arabia and Croatia in Riyadh, before the start of the FIFA World Cup, the Croatian and Saudi Arabian football federations have signed a Memorandum of Understanding, in order to explore the areas of cooperation at all levels of football. This agreement was signed by HNS president Marijan Kustić and Saudi Arabian FF president Yasser al-Misehal.



HNS MANAGEMENT HOSTS DYNAMO KYIV DELEGATION

HNS president Marijan Kustić and his closest associates hosted the delegation of Dynamo Kyiv, as the Ukrainian side visited Zagreb to play a charity match with Dinamo Zagreb, to aid the people of Ukraine. "We are very aware of the value of peace and we sincerely wish peace to the people of Ukraine and the entire country", said HNS president Kustić to the guests from the war-torn Ukraine.



JURJEVIĆ APPOINTED AS THE HEAD OF PREVENTION, SAFETY AND INTEGRITY

In January 2022, Croatian Football Federation appointed Jurica Jurjević as the Head of the Prevention, Safety, and Integrity. "I believe there is plenty of potential in this Department, especially regarding prevention - we will emphasize this in the upcoming period", said the new head of the Department, Jurica Jurjević.



DFB PRESIDENT VISITS HNS



HNS president Marijan Kustić and his close associates hosted DFB president Bernd Neuendorf in the HNS headquarters in Zagreb. "It is an honour to visit the Croatian Football Federation and I would like to use this opportunity to congratulate you on exceptional results. I came here to present our projects, but also to see how other national associations work, to see their organization and to see what we can learn from each other", said DFB president Bernd Neuendorf.

HNS HOLDS ANTI-DOPING WORKSHOPS



In cooperation with the anti-doping department of Croatian Institute for Public Health, HNS began to hold regular anti-doping workshops. Following the successful pilot-programme of education in the youth categories, the regular workshops aim to familiarize young Croatian footballers on detriments of using the illegal substances and the process of doping control as a everyday part of their future careers.

CICO KRANJČAR MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT



In Ferenščica neighbourhood in Zagreb, the second memorial tournament "Zlatko Cico Kranjčar" was held in memory of the prematurely deceased legend of Croatian football. The three-day veteran event saw 18 teams in action, and on the final day, Dinamo legends and popular Kutija šibica legends faced each other in an exhibition match. Among the numerous familiar faces, it was especially nice to see Niko Kranjčar, while HNS president Marijan Kustić also came to support the tournament.

LONG-TERM HNS EMPLOYEES CELEBRATED

At HNS Assembly in November, at a special ceremony, HNS employees who celebrated 30 years of their employment in the top organization of Croatian football: Ružica Bajrić, Nikša Martinac, Željko Mesić, Milka Močilac, and Iva Olivari. A loud applause welcomed the long-term general secretary Zorislav Srebrić, today the senior advisor to the HNS president, who received the award for 60 years in Croatian football.



HNS MANAGEMENT AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF YOUTH SPORTS GAMES

HNS president Marijan Kustić and vice-president Damir Mišković supported one of the most significant sports projects in Croatia, joining a number of guests at the Youth Sports Games opening ceremony. In its 26th edition, Youth Sports Games have gathered over 100,000 kids and youngsters in Croatia only.



HNS DELEGATION VISITS CARDINAL BOŽANIĆ

The archbishop of Zagreb, cardinal Josip Božanić, welcomed at Kaptol the HNS delegation led by president Marijan Kustić and head coach Zlatko Dalić. The cardinal congratulated the HNS delegation on a major success, the bronze medal at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar, and on the affirmation of many values among Croatian people, that were transmitted through the actions of the Croatia national team.



REFEREES

NUMEROUS ACTIVITIES OF THE REFEREES' COMMITTEE



The Referees' Committee has organized a number of activities in 2022, including traditional seminars for referees. In January, the 60th seminar for HNL referees was held in Medulin. In July, the referees from the elite group met in Sv. Martin na Muri, where they prepared for the new season through presentations and workshops.

REFEREES' PRESENTATION FOR CLUBS AND MEDIA



In January 2022, HNS Referees' Committee held a meeting with the representatives from top tier clubs and domestic media, including a constructive discussion on refereeing issues before the second part of the domestic season. The president of the Committee, Bruno Marić, presented to the guests the main guidelines for referees, given at the seminar in Medulin.

REFEREE EXCHANGE WITH BULGARIA AND CYPRUS



Croatian Football Federation has reached an agreement on referee exchange with the national associations of Cyprus and Bulgaria. For the first time, foreign referees took part in HNL matches. "I am convinced that these exchanges will prove very useful for the further development of our referees, primarily due to the valuable international experience. I am happy to see refereeing greats such as Kassai and Mažić, who manage referees in Bulgaria and Cyprus, appreciate Croatian referees and are willing to cooperate in this manner", said HNS Referees' Committee president Bruno Marić.

MATEO KOVAČIĆ WINS CLUB WORLD CUP

Croatia international Mateo Kovačić won the Club World Cup title with Chelsea, courtesy of the final victory over Palmeiras in extra-time (2:1). Kovačić lifted this trophy for the third time - it was his first title with Chelsea, following two titles with Real Madrid.



GVARDIOL ON TOP OF THE WORLD IN HIS AGE GROUP

Croatia international Joško Gvardiol, an irreplaceable member of RB Leipzig squad, was the first on the list of players born in 2002, from 59 national leagues all over the world. The International Center for Sports Studies Cies conducted the research via InStat technical values, through the refreshed Impact Score (IS) method. Moreover, Gvardiol was nominated for the Italian Tuttosport award Golden Boy, among the 40 best youngsters, where he was joined by Luka Sučić and Martin Baturina.



MODRIĆ, LIVAKOVIĆ, AND GVARDIOL AMONG THE BEST

Croatia captain Luka Modrić (Real Madrid) and internationals Dominik Livaković (Dinamo Zagreb) and Joško Gvardiol (RB Leipzig) were among the best players in the world according to the International Federation of Football History and Statistics (IFFHS). Modrić was ranked at No. 4 in the "best player" category, behind Messi, Mbappe, and Benzema. Livaković was also ranked at No. 4 in the "best goalkeeper" category, while Gvardiol was No. 3 in the "best young player" category.



BROZOVIĆ THE BEST MIDFIELDER IN SERIE A



Following yet another great season in Inter shirt, Croatia international Marcelo Brozović received the official Serie A award as the best midfielder in the 2021/2022 season.

MAJER IN L'EQUIPE TEAM OF THE SEASON



Croatia international in Rennes squad, Lovro Majer, received a major recognition for an excellent season in Ligue 1. After scoring six goals and providing eight assists, Majer was selected in the ideal XI by the prestigious L'Equipe.

TRIBUTE TO DALIĆ IN MOSTAR



In May, at the University campus in Rodoč, Mostar, the sports hall was opened and named by the Croatia national team head coach Zlatko Dalić. During this ceremony, Dalić sent a message to the students: «If you are hardworking, brave, determined, and humble, you can achieve your goal and make your dream come true, like I did».

YOUTH CATEGORIES

JARNI APPOINTED THE CROATIA U-17 HEAD COACH

The famous ex-Vatreni, Robert Jarni, has been appointed Croatia U-17 head coach. In autumn, he successfully completed the Qualifying Round for the European Championships. "HNS is well-known throughout the world by its quality work in youth categories. Therefore, I'm not only honoured, I feel a major responsibility to contribute to further development of young players", says Jarni.



HRVOJE ČUSTIĆ INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT

At the initiative of the Zadar County Football Federation, the organization procedure of the Hrvoje Čustić International Tournament has been started. The first edition is scheduled for April 2023. The tournament is intended for the U-18 teams, and will be organized with the support of Croatian Football Federation and included in the official match calendar. It's been 14 years since Hrvoje Čustić's tragic demise, and this international tournament that will bear his name and aim to become a tradition, is another proof of how deep was the mark he left in Zadar and Croatian football in general.



CROATIA TRIUMPHS AT VLATKO MARKOVIĆ TOURNAMENT

Croatia U-15 national team won the fourth edition of the Vlatko Marković International Tournament. The host cities were Sv. Martin na Muri, Ludbreg, Čakovec, and Varaždin, and Sergej Milivojević's men defeated Bosnia and Herzegovina in the final 2:0. The best player of the tournament Lovro Chelfi, and best goalkeeper Ivan Bosančić, have represented Croatia.



YOUTH CATEGORIES

ROBERT LJUBIČIĆ ELIGIBLE TO PLAY FOR CROATIA



FIFA informed Croatian Football Federation that Robert Ljubičić's application to change football nationality has been accepted. Dinamo's 23-year-old midfielder can now wear Croatia national team shirt. «Croatia is in my blood, it's the people of my family and I have felt the strong desire to represent Croatia as my homeland», said Robert Ljubičić.

18TH MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT OF VUKOVAR WAR VETERANS



Croatian Football Federation organized the 18th Memorial Tournament of Vukovar Defenders, for players under the age 14, in Vukovar, Bogdanovci, and Borovo Naselje. This was the first tournament following a two-year break due to the pandemic. "I am proud to see HNS continuously organizing one of our most important and most prominent youth tournaments here. Every year, these boys also get to visit significant sights from the Homeland War, which gives this tournament extra value", said HNS president Marijan Kustić. In 2022, Lokomotiva won the trophy, with Patrik Horvat from Dinamo awarded as the best player. Matej Grahovac of Osijek was the best goalkeeper, and Niko Kolega (Team North America) was the top goalscorer with five goals.

MATANOVIĆ ALLOWED TO WEAR CROATIA SHIRT



FIFA approved the football nationality change for forward Igor Matanović, who is now eligible to play for Croatia national team. "We have presented unity - everybody was involved in this process, and Igor and his family recognized our efforts", said HNS president Marijan Kustić, who also expressed thanks to Stipe Pletikosa, Igor Bišćan, Ivica Olić, Zlatko Dalić, and Josip Tomaško for their contribution.

YOUTH CATEGORIES

VARAŽDIN, RIJEKA, AND DINAMO YOUNGSTERS WIN CUP TROPHIES

Dugopolje hosted the Croatian Cup finals for youth categories, with Varaždin (U19), Rijeka (U17), and Dinamo (U15) lifting the respective trophies.



SELECTION TOURNAMENTS HELD IN MEDULIN

In Medulin, HNS organized spring and autumn selection tournaments for boys and girls. In May, Karlo Pajsar was awarded as the best player among boys, with Matej Grahovac the best goalkeeper and Krešimir Vidić the top goalscorer. Lana Ciglević was the best player among the girls, with Nika Radolović the best goalkeeper, and Stela Veseli the top goalscorer. In December, it was Karlo Matko who took the best player award, while Mateo Milković and Josip Perajica took the best goalkeeper and top goalscorer awards respectively. Among girls, Marta Skopljak became the best player, Lana Klobučarević the best goalkeeper, and Lara Momčilović the top goalscorer.



PLETIKOSA AND KRPAAN MEET COUNTY INSTRUCTORS

HNS head instructor Petar Krpan and technical director Stipe Pletikosa held a meeting in March with the county instructors in the HNS Football Academy headquarters. The topics included the spring selection process, activities related to the recently signed contract with Croatian School Sports Federation, and other current affairs of the county instructors.



YOUTH CATEGORIES

SUMMER CAMPS

Following the women's U-15 summer camp in Koprivnica, Ludbreg and Koprivnica hosted the UEFA Development Tournament for the same age category. Furthermore, Ludbreg hosted the men's U-15 and U-16 summer camp, under the supervision of the Croatia U-15 head coach Sreten Ćuk, Croatia U-16 head coach Robert Jarni, and head instructor Petar Krpan.



WINTER CAMP IN MEDULIN, FUTSAL YOUTH IN PRELOG

From 12 to 16 December, Medulin hosted Croatia U-15, U-16, and U-17 winter camp. In Prelog, Croatia U-19 head coach Duje Maretić led the winter camp for futsal U-17 and U-19 selections, with senior national team head coach Marinko Mavrović also attending the event.



DEVELOPMENT TOURNAMENTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

Every year, various youth tournaments for different categories are organized throughout Croatia. Alongside traditional tournaments like Kvarnerska rivijera, Mladen Ramljak, Međimurec, or Branko Čavlović-Čavlek, HNS delegations visited other events as well, such as the tournaments in Novalja, Slavonski Brod, Zelina, Sesvetski Kraljevec, Bedekovčina, and Poznanovec.



VETERANS

SABUNJAR PRIVLAKA VETERANS THE CHAMPIONS OF CROATIA

Sabunjar Privlaka won the domestic veterans' title at the 22nd edition of this championship, held in Metković in October. The team from Privlaka managed to defeat the hosts Neretva Metković in a penalty shootout (4:2), following a goalless draw in the final match.



PRIVLAKA CELEBRATES THE INDOOR VETERANS' TITLE

Before winning the veterans's championship, Sabunjar Privlaka also won the indoor Croatian championship for veterans, that was held in Beli Manastir and Darda. In the final, Sabunjar overcame Bilice (3:1), with Neretva Metković coming in third, due to a 1:0 victory over Jadran Poreč.



CROATIA LEGENDS HONOUR POSAVAC'S 50TH BIRTHDAY

HNS veterans' selection honoured the Football Club Posavac's 50th birthday party, in front of many spectators at Staro Polje. Prominent names such as team captain Ivica Olić led Croatia's selection. Olić made his first football steps in Posavac, and the Vatreni legends celebrated a 5:3 victory, courtesy of Mario Mandžukić's hat-trick, and Niko Kranjčar and Miro Bičanić goals.



FUTSAL

CROATIA TO HOST THE U-19 FUTSAL EURO



In September 2023, Croatia will host the U-19 Futsal European Championships in Poreč. As hosts, Croatia U-19 futsal team will be joined by seven winners from the main qualifying round. Spain won the first two European titles: in 2022 as the hosts in Jaen, and in 2019 in Riga, with a victory over Croatia in the final.

SUTON THE BEST CROATIAN FUTSAL PLAYER



At the beginning of 2022, Josip Suton was awarded as the best futsal player in Croatia in 2021. The award was presented by CROfutsal, the specialized website for Croatian futsal. The expert jury included Croatia senior futsal team head coach Marinko Mavrović and his assistant Duje Maretić, Croatia U-19 futsal head coach.

DELNICE HOST FUTSAL ACTIVITIES



In August, Delnice hosted the futsal camp for U-17 and U-19 youth categories. Croatia senior national team head coach Marinko Mavrović and Croatia U-19 national futsal team Duje Maretić, alongside their coaching staff, worked with the youngsters. In Delnice, Croatia U-19 futsal team prepared for the U-19 Futsal EURO, held in September in Spain.

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

IVA LAŽETA CLOSES HER PLAYING CAREER CHAPTER

Long-term Croatia women's national team captain, Iva Lažeta (nee Landeka), played her final game in Lithuania in September. The international appearances record-holder (96) bid her farewell from the home crowd in Karlovac against Switzerland, and in her final match, she scored the game-winning goal for Croatia. "I have always played with a full heart and full throttle. Besides, the national team is not here for the players, but the players have to give everything for the national team", said Lažeta following her retirement, after a lavish playing career.



I always played with my whole heart for the national team, I gave it my all at every match - after all, the national team is bigger than any player, and it's up to us to give our all for Croatia.



Iva Lažeta

NEW YORK TIMES ON WOMEN IN CROATIAN FOOTBALL

The New York Times

Meet the First Ladies of Croatian Soccer

Iva Olivari and Ivancica Sudac have served Croatia's federation since before it joined FIFA. They have had, in different ways, the job of a lifetime.



Iva Olivari has spent more time on Croatia's bench than Manager Zlatko Dalić, right, and most of his assistants. Pete Kichart for The New York Times



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WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

PROMOTING WOMEN'S FOOTBALL: PILOT-PROJECT

Organized by Football Centre Zagreb, the NK Sesvetski Kraljevec field hosted the first part of the WU-13 development tournament. This is the pilot-project with the objective of promotion women's football, through animating as many girls to try sports. Ten women's teams participated in this tournament, with later tournaments being held in Radoboj, Šenkovec, and Gornji Laduč in autumn.



A UNITED LEAGUE FOR U-15 GIRLS

Following the last year's successful implementation of the united league for U-13 girls, Football Centre Split started the united league for U-15 girls from the 2022/2023 season. Nine teams participated, with the first tournament held in Trogir in November. The same city hosted the first tournament of the new U-13 season.



PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S FOOTBALL IN SUTINSKA VRELA

Approximately 60 girls from eight clubs of the Football Centre Zagreb participated in women's futsal promotion event at the practice session of the senior women's national futsal team at the Sutinska Vrela Sports Hall. Croatia international welcomed the girls from ŽNK Dinamo, ŽNK Agram, ŽNK Graničar Županja, ŽNK Savica CC, NK Sesvetski Kraljevec, NK ŠN Maksimira, NK Ponikve, and NK Sutla Laduč.



INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR "FITNESS PREPARATION IN FOOTBALL 2022"

Udruga kondicijskih trenera Hrvatske, u suradnji s Hrvatskim nogometnim savezom i Kineziološkim fakultetom u Zagrebu, organizirala je u veljači Međunarodni seminar "Kondicijska priprema u nogometu 2022." Svoja znanja i iskustva iz kondicijske pripreme u nogometu predstavili su najuspješniji hrvatski i inozemni stručnjaci, uključujući kondicijskog trenera hrvatske A reprezentacije Luku Milanovića.



ANNUAL COACHES' SEMINAR IN ZAGREB

In September in Zagreb, the mandatory annual coaches' seminar for the 2022/2023 season was held, as well as the seminar for refreshing the UEFA PRO licences in organization of HNS Coaching Committee and HNS Football Academy. Head coach Nenad Gračan gave a lecture on specific context in senior women's national team, the head of HNS Referees' Committee Bruno Marić gave a lecture on the new developments in Football Laws of the Game, the Portuguese expert Jorge Castelo on football and coaching trends, Zoran and Ivan Tomić on media relations, and Darko Kolesarić on competition integrity.



EDUCATION IN GDANSK

The mentors and educators from the HNS Football Academy visited Gdansk to attend the UEFA SHARE workshop "Education of coaches' educators". HNS Football Academy representatives were the director Boris Kubla and mentors and educators Tomislav Gričar, Zdravko Marić, Jozo Bebić, and Damir Jagačić. The main topics included the sharing of experience, new educational trends, education of the educators, practical educational examples, and new guidelines for educators.



COACHES

HNS AND BIŠČAN AGREE TO EXTEND CONTRACT



In February, HNS president Marijan Kustić and Croatia U-21 head coach Igor Bišćan have signed the extension of a very successful cooperation. Bišćan took over the U-21 national team in October 2019, and secured the European Championship berth. There, he celebrated the first ever Croatia U-21 group stage victory, while reaching the quarterfinals was the top achievement in history of this national selection. HNS confidence in Bišćan was rewarded with yet another success and the place at the U-21 EURO final tournament in 2023.

PLETIKOSA TECHNICAL OBSERVER AT CHAMPIONS LEAGUE MATCHES



Technical director of Croatia senior and U-21 national team, Stipe Pletikosa, has been appointed the member of UEFA Champions League Study Group, becoming the first Croatian representative in this UEFA body. Technical observers are required to produce the technical report, to identify and analyse the current trends, to select players of the match, and to take part in selecting best team and best goal of the competition.

"CROATIAN SCHOOL OF FOOTBALL" BOOK PRESENTATION



The book "Croatian School of Football", published by HNS, was presented in September in Zagreb. It thoroughly summarizes the theoretical and practical knowledge of the football experts in Croatia. It was edited by HNS head instructor Petar Krpan and HNS fitness instructor Ivan Krakan. Eminent guest attended the presentation, including the HNS delegation led by president Marijan Kustić, technical director Stipe Pletikosa, head coach Zlatko Dalić and his staff, internationals Luka Modrić, Domagoj Vida, Mateo Kovačić, Dominik Livaković, and Joško Gvardiol, as well as the representatives from Dinamo, Hajduk, Rijeka, and Osijek, the quality carriers in Croatian football, since they were directly involved in the creation of this valuable text.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND PREVENTION

VALUABLE DONATION BY VATRENO SRCE

At the UEFA Nations League encounter between Croatia and France in Split, HNS president Marijan Kustić, head coach Zlatko Dalić, team captain Luka Modrić, and Josip Paladino handed over the checks on the behalf of the Vatreno srce

Foundation. 400,000 HRK was donated to KBC Split and the Step into life activities.

The funds were raised through auctioning of the Croatia shirts, with indispensable, substantial aid from HNS. The Step into life action will use the donation to obtain four five-year scholarships, while KBC Split will invest in the building of Centre for Children with Neurodevelopmental Disorders Care.



FOOTBALL FOR PEACE

Croatian top-tier teams have hosted the charity friendly with Ukrainian clubs after the war broke out in Ukraine.

Dinamo Zagreb faced Dynamo Kyiv, Hajduk welcome Shakhtar, while Rijeka played against the Ukraine national team. The income is intended to aid the people of Ukraine, and Croatian teams also organized charity auctions to sell their jerseys. These activities gathered over one million kunas of funds.



THE VATRENO SRCE FOUNDATION CHARITY AUCTION

The shirts that Croatia internationals wore in the UEFA Nations League encounter with Denmark have been sold for 31,919 euros, at online charity auction for the Vatreno Srce Foundation. Every Croatia international at the match sheet has donated his signed shirt, with Croatia captain Luka Modrić's shirt being sold for the top price of 8,003 euros.



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND PREVENTION

U-21 INTERNATIONALS DONATE FOR KIDS FROM UKRAINE



In March in Varaždin, Croatia U-21 internationals met children and their mothers from the war-torn Ukraine. On behalf of the Croatian Football Federation, they have presented them with gifts. The event with the young Ukrainians was attended by HNS Executive Committee member and the president of the Varaždin County Football Federation Nenad Horvatić, with U-21 internationals Boško Šutalo, Mario Vušković, and Roko Šimić joining forces to make children happy.

HNS AND THE YOUNG VATRENI FOR DOWN SYNDROME CENTRE PULA



Over 100,000 HRK was donated to Down Syndrome Centre Pula following a joint action by Croatian Football Federation, the City of Pula, Football Club Istra 1961 and the Istria County Football Federation. The sale of tickets for U-21 EURO play-off match between Croatia and Denmark provided 49,000 HRK, HNS management decided to double that amount, with young Croatia internationals adding to the tally.

INTEGRATION OF PERSONS WITH INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION



Head of HNS Prevention, Safety, and Integrity Department Jurica Jurjević and social responsibility expert associate Nika Bahtijarević were among the guests at the "Integration of persons with international protection - good practice at European and international level" conference, in organization of government's Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities. Jurjević and Bahtijarević were the panelists on social participation and the inclusive role of local communities, and they have also presented the HNS cooperation with NK Novi susjedi (FC New Neighbours).

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND PREVENTION

SPECTACULAR CHARITY EVENT IN TRAVNIK

Many famous names of Croatian Football have visited the spectacular charity event in Travnik, collecting funds for the Catholic School Centre Petar Barbarić and the Travnik High School, that is being built. Alongside HNS high delegation led by president Marijan Kustić, Croatia head coach Zlatko Dalić also came to Travnik, as well as the honorary Croatia head coach, the legendary Miroslav Ćiro Blažević, who received standing ovations in his hometown. As an introduction to this football happening, he was awarded as the honorary citizen of Travnik.



HNS COOPERATES WITH CENTRE FOR CULTURAL DIALOGUE

Croatian Football Federation and Centre for Cultural Dialogue have signed an agreement of cooperation and donation of funds for the "New Neighbours" project, aimed at integration of refugees in Croatia through football activities. "We are happy to be recognized by HNS as a strong foundation for quality integration, since sport is what relaxes both body and soul", said Aziz Hasanović, the president of Centre for Cultural Dialogue.



CROATIA U-21 SUPPORTS THE CHILDREN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Croatia U-21 head coach Igor Bišćan and young internationals Dion Drena Beljo and Mauro Perković have visited the tournament for children with developmental disabilities held in Medulin. The tournament was a part of HNS and Health Life Academy inclusion project "Special Power League", that organizes tournaments for football teams of children with developmental disabilities.



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND PREVENTION

SPORT AS THE MEDIUM FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION AND PARTICIPATION



At the Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb, the first International conference "Sport as the medium for social inclusion and participation" was held. HNS head of Prevention, Security, and Integrity Department Jurica Jurjević and social responsibility expert associate Nika Bahtijarević took part at the "Evaluation of the Social Impact of Grassroots Football" round table.



INTERNATIONAL ROMA DAY

President's advisors Zorislav Srebrić and Stjepan Merkaš, as the HNS delegation, honoured the celebration of the 51st International Roma Day. The World Roma Organization, led by Toti Dedić, organized the photo exhibition and the football encounter of Roma stars and friends, and members of the association, with a round table on topics of Roma issues in society.

NATIONAL MINORITY CAMPS



HNS and World Roma Organization cooperated to organize the 19th and 20th national minority football camps in Slavonski Brod and Gunja. Over one hundred kids took part under the motto of "Say no to violence, hate, and racism at sports grounds and in schools".

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND PREVENTION

HEALTHY HABITS PROMOTED AMONG THE YOUTH

Croatian Football Federation joined the UEFA #FeelWellPlayWell campaign, with football managers and coached from many European national associations promote healthy nutrition, sports, mental health care and avoiding alcohol and tobacco. On behalf of HNS, Croatia senior national team head coach Zlatko Dalić, U-21 head coach Igor Bišćan, women's senior national team head coach Nenad Gračan, and technical director Stipe Pletikosa took part.



COOPERATION WITH FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION

Croatian Football Federation agreed to cooperate with the Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation in Zagreb, in all areas of common interest and relevant activities. "Together, HNS and ERF can strongly impact the creation of public policies and the advancement of the entire society, towards the higher levels of tolerance, inclusion, and quality coexistence", said the ERF dean Ante Bilić Prčić.



NATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR CHILD SAFEGUARDING IN SPORTS

HNS head of Prevention, Security, and Integrity Department Jurica Jurjević participated at the presentation of the national Guidelines for the Implementation of the Efficient Strategy for Child Safeguarding in Sports", within the framework of the European Union and Council of Europe joint project "Child Safeguarding in Sport", organized by Croatian Ministry of Tourism and Sports.



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND PREVENTION

HNS DONATES EQUIPMENT TO CROATIAN DEAF SPORT ASSOCIATION

At HNS headquarters, HNS president Marijan Kustić welcomed the technical secretary of Croatian Deaf Sport Association Matej Bagarić, and handed over the valuable donation of sports equipment. This marked the continuation of quality cooperation of HNS with Croatian Deaf Sport Association. HNS donated two sets of Croatia kits, a set of sweatshirts and sweatpants for players and coaching staff, and practice session equipment for deaf football and futsal national teams for the upcoming activities.



SPECIAL POWER LEAGUE CONTINUES

In April, Special Power League - the sports league for children and adults with developmental disabilities - continued in Rovinj. The idea behind the project is to motivate the children with developmental disabilities to actively seek their place in society through sports activities. The project also helps the people with developmental disabilities to improve their health, mental health and quality of life, increasing their abilities to perform everyday activities.



DONATION FOR THE FRIEND ASSOCIATION

In Metković, HNS president Marijan Kustić handed over the symbolic plaque to the Friend Association, which received 52,630 euros from the UEFA Foundation for Children, after HNS application. This association of disabled people from Metković aids the disabled, especially children. UEFA Foundation for Children selected the HNS application as one of the recipient of the donation. Thus, HNS successfully applied a project for this donation for five consecutive years.



MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

ŽUJA AND HNS CONTINUE TOGETHER

Simultaneously with the announcement of Croatia's FIFA World Cup squad in Qatar, the representatives of Zagrebačka pivovara and HNS have signed the new sponsorship contract, reaffirming the partnership that started back in 1998.

"Ožujsko is truly a loyal, dedicated, and active partner not only of Croatian Football Federation and the national team, but of entire Croatian football", said HNS president Marijan Kustić, who signed the contract with Zagrebačka pivovara board director Miroslav Holjevac.



CROATIA OSIGURANJE BECOMES HNS SPONSOR

At the beginning of 2022, the business cooperation contract was signed between HNS and Croatia osiguranje.

The leading insurance company in Croatia thus became the sponsor of HNS and Croatia national team. The multi-year contract was signed by HNS president Marijan Kustić and Croatia osiguranje board director Davor Tomašković. Following the ceremony, Kustić presented personalized Croatia national team shirt to Tomašković.



HNS AND CROATIA AIRLINES CONTINUE TO FLY TOGETHER

In June, HNS and Croatia Airlines signed a contract to continue the previous cooperation, as the national airline remains the official airline of the Croatia national team. Following the celebratory flight that returned the silver-winning Croatia squad from the 2018 FIFA World Cup in Russia, the national airline returned the national heroes to their homeland once again, wearing World Cup bronze medals in December 2022.



MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

HNS AND JGL AGREE EXPERT HEALTH COOPERATION



HNS and Jadran-galenski laboratorij (JGL) agreed expert health cooperation that united two internationally recognized, respected, and successful brands - Croatia national football team and Aqua Maris. The original Croatian product, Aqua Maris, that relieves respiratory difficulties and strengthens natural defence from the cold and the flu, is nowadays present in over 30 countries, and is supported by over 100 million customers all over the world.

PSK AND HNS PRESENT "SHOW YOUR HEART" PROJECT



The social responsibility project "Show Your Heart" was presented in June in Split. The project was created with the support of the Croatian Football Federation and Prva sportska kladionica, the Institute for Sports Medicine and Health Improvement, Poliklinika Life, and other expert and medicine organizations. The project was created in order to improve healthcare of athletes through targeted education, that includes providing emergency care with rapid resuscitation - if done properly, it can significantly contribute to saving lives.

NEW DIGITAL CONTENT FOR CROATIAN FOOTBALL AFICIONADOS

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HRVATSKA NOGOMETNA LIGA

 <p>MIHAİL CAIMACOV MIDFIELDER AGE 21</p>	 <p>MARKO LIVAJA FORWARD AGE 28</p>	 <p>ALIYU IBRAHIM FORWARD AGE 27</p>	 <p>IVICA IVUŠIĆ GOALKEEPER AGE 27</p>	 <p>IGOR POSTONJSKI MIDFIELDER AGE 27</p>
 <p>MISLAV ORŠIĆ MIDFIELDER AGE 28</p>	 <p>MARIO ĆURIĆ MIDFIELDER AGE 27</p>	 <p>LINDON SELAHI MIDFIELDER AGE 23</p>	 <p>VINKO ŠKRBIN MIDFIELDER AGE 23</p>	 <p>MAURO PERKOVIĆ DEFENDER AGE 23</p>

Sorare, the digital sports game owned by players through NFTs has agreed an exclusive multi-year partnership with HNS and SuperSport HNL. Players from all over the world can collect, trade, and play with digital cards from the strongest, most prestigious football league in Croatia. This cooperation with Sorare also enables SuperSport HNL clubs increased visibility among the fans throughout the world, while Sorare will promote SuperSport HNL values on an international scene.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

UHLSPORT THE OFFICIAL BALL OF SUPERSPORT HNL

Croatian Football Federation has signed a multi-year contract with uhlsport, the company that becomes the official ball supplier for the SuperSport HNL matches.

"This is another confirmation that SuperSport HNL is getting even more recognizable, and that its quality increases by each season", said HNS president Marijan Kustić.



SELECT BECOMES THE OFFICIAL BALL OF PRVA NL AND PRVA HMNL

Croatian Football Federation signed a contract with Mercury, as the Select ball becomes the official ball of second-tier Prva NL, and futsal top-tier Prva HMNL.

The prominent Danish company Select Sport is one of the leading football, futsal, and handball manufacturers in the world, and is the official ball supplier of the numerous respectable leagues and competitions, including German Bundesliga.



SPORTSDYNAMICS BECOMES HNS PARTNER FOR THE WORLD CUP IN QATAR

HNS agreed an exclusive cooperation with the innovative GaTa platform by SportsDynamics, one of the leading platforms for football analytics in the world. The contract was signed for the duration of the World Cup in Qatar. By selecting HNS as its exclusive partner, SportsDynamics considered football, technological, and financial criteria, with the ultimate objective of supporting the national association that progressively thinks about its future.



MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS



HNS REACHES AN AGREEMENT WITH EA SPORTS

HNS reached an agreement with Electronic Arts, the global leader in digital interactive entertainment content. Therefore, in EA SPORTS™ FIFA 23, the players will be able to play with Croatia national team.

"We are aware that the players from the entire world, and especially Croatia fans, have been waiting for such news for many years. I'm happy that now they can play EA SPORTS FIFA with their favourite team in the most beautiful shirt in the world", said HNS president Marijan Kustić.



CRYPTO TOKEN VATRENI PRESENTED

HNS joined the world football technological revolution: in cooperation with two Croatian companies, AMPnet and Biznisport, the loyalty crypto token VATRENI was issued. Thus, HNS provided millions of loyal Croatia fans with more opportunities to interact with players, take part in the HNS decisions, and other options that will be exclusively available for VATRENI token owners.



PARTICIPATION AT THE FIFA eNATIONS CUP

In cooperation with FIFA and Challengermode - the platform FIFA employed to organize the selection process - HNS organized the qualifying tournaments to select Croatia team to represent the country in the FIFA eNations Cup 2022.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

NEW CROATIA KIT REVEALED

HNS and its technical partner Nike revealed the Croatia national football team kits with legendary checkers. Their premiere was scheduled for the September UEFA Nations League matches. The Vatreni wore the redesigned red-and-white first kit, and nature-inspired second kit, at the FIFA World Cup in Qatar, where they won the bronze medal.



THE PREMIERE OF THE "CROATIA: DEFINING A NATION" DOCUMENTARY

Organized by HNS, the Croatian premiere of the "Croatia: Defining a Nation" documentary was held in Zagreb. Many prominent guests from the football and social scene attended to see the film on how football managed to unite Croatia in the 90s. Alongside HNS management and other football dignitaries, Croatia internationals led by head coach Zlatko Dalić and his coaching staff also came to watch the film.



"BRONZE-WINNING, SILVER-WINNING - VATRENI" EXHIBITION

The photos of the HNS official photographer Drago Sopta were a part of the Croatian Sports Museum exhibition "Bronze-winning, silver-winning - Vatreni" in Zagreb. The exhibition honours the magnificent success of Croatia national football team at the World Cups in France '98 and Russia '18, where the Vatreni won historic bronze and silver medals. Alongside Drago Sopta, who covered the World Cup in Russia, Robert Valai and his photos brought the story of the World Cup in France.



MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

HNS SELECTION TOPS MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES



HNS selection, that included several legends of the Vatreni alongside HNS employees, faced the media representatives on two occasions and convincingly won both matches. These nice events confirmed the quality, open relations between HNS and the media representatives, while everyone could enjoy watching former internationals such as Vedran Ćorluka, Mario Mandžukić, Ivica Olić, Niko Kranjčar, Stipe Pletikosa, Igor Bišćan, Petar Krpan, Ognjen Vukojević and others in action.

HNS REACHES AN AGREEMENT WITH CROATIAN SPORTS MUSEUM



HRVATSKI
ŠPORTSKI
MUZEJ

The common awareness of the importance of cherishing the sports memories, and the athletes who contribute to Croatian sports legacy on everyday basis, has encouraged Croatian Football Federation to cooperate with Croatian Sports Museum. The Agreement on cooperation regarding preservation of sports legacy will stand as a foundation for future cooperation, and it will ensure the preservation of Croatian sports legacy for future generations in Croatian Sports Museum.

DARIJO SRNA PRESENTS AUTOBIOGRAPHY

AUTOBIOGRAFIJA
**DARIJO
SRNA**

Životna priča Darija Srne, legendarnog bivšeg kapetana hrvatske nogometne reprezentacije, ispričana u suradnji s Milanom Vlaović.



At the Esplanade Hotel in Zagreb, the prominent Croatian international and team captain Darijo Srna presented his autobiography "Zašto te zovu Srna" ("Why do they call you Srna"), written in cooperation with writer Milana Vlaović. In 270 pages, the former Croatia captain reveals many known and unknown stories from his life and extensive playing career. Many dignitaries attended the book presentation, including HNS president Marijan Kustić and Croatia head coach Zlatko Dalić.

FAVBET BENUSSI MOREL & ANDRÉON Hennessy FONDACIJE CROPIK v/b z



OFFICIALS

IVA OLIVARI PERFORMS DELEGATE DUTIES AT WOMEN'S EURO FINAL

Croatia's team manager Iva Olivari performed delegate duties at the spectacular UEFA Women's EURO final, that was played at the sold-out Wembley Stadium. "I am thankful that UEFA has recognized my previous work, and that HNS has always been a major support", said Olivari. Back in 2020, Olivari was the delegate at the Women's Champions League final, and now she combined the two biggest finals in the European women's football.



BAHTIJAREVIĆ APPOINTED AS UEFA HEAD OF MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

Dr. Zoran Bahtijarević, long-term Croatia national football team's doctor, bid an emotional farewell to the Vatreni, as he has accepted the new challenge as the Head of Medical at UEFA. The popular «Bahta» leaves HNS following 30 years as the national team doctor in all youth and adult categories. With the senior national team, he participated in seven major tournaments, and won the silver medal at the 2018 FIFA World Cup in 2018.



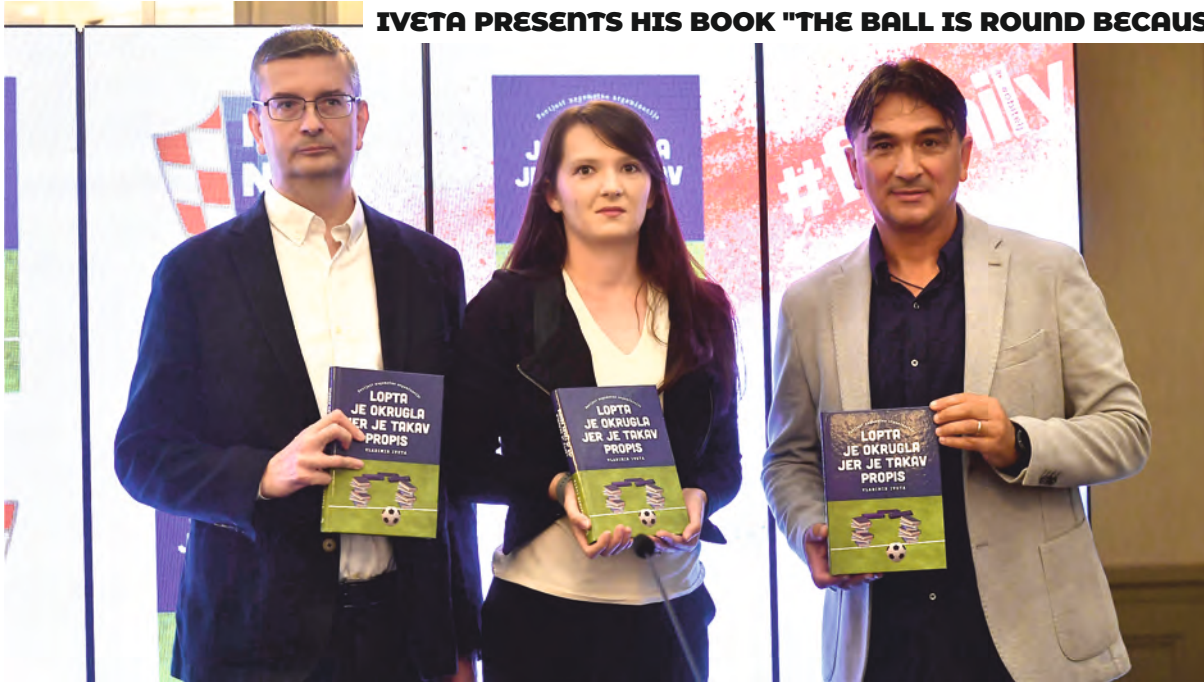
CROATIANS AT THE U-17 FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Croatian Football Federation was represented at the U-17 FIFA Women's World Cup, that was held in India. Ivana Martinčić was among the referees, Lada Rojc was the refereeing technical instructor, while Miroslav Marković was the FIFA security officer.



OFFICIALS

IVETA PRESENTS HIS BOOK "THE BALL IS ROUND BECAUSE THE RULE SAYS SO"



In September, Zagreb hosted the presentation of HNS secretary Vladimir Iveta's book "The ball is round because the rule says so. The history of football organizations". The book presents and analyzes the development of football structures, primarily through the foundation and development and football associations, and their structure, operations, and norms. "This is a very valuable, original contribution to knowing your football associations developments - in Croatia, as well as Europe and the world", said Dora Kosorčić on behalf of the publishing house "Srednja Europa".

NIKA BAHTIJAREVIĆ COMPLETES PRESTIGIOUS UEFA EDUCATION



HNS expert associate in PR and social responsibility, Nika Bahtijarević, has successfully completed the prestigious UEFA Diploma in Football Leadership and Management education programme, and received the corresponding certificate of the University of Lausanne. Alongside the Advanced Studies Certificate, Bahtijarević also earned the Certificate of Distinction as one of the two best students. "I am convinced that this UEFA Academy programme, as well as the knowledge sharing experience with the colleagues from other national associations, can significantly help in my further career", said Bahtijarević.

HNS EMPLOYEES AT UEFA GRASSROOTS CONFERENCE



HNS youth competitions administrator and youth, women, and futsal national teams match manager Hrvoje Hrkač, and grassroots assistant Helenna Hercigonja Moulton, have attended the four-day UEFA Grassroots Conference in Madrid. During the conference, many workshops, panels, and presentations were organized, to minutely show the progress in the desire to keep the foundations of the "most beautiful game" as firm as ever.

OFFICIALS

LAW & FOOTBALL CONFERENCE HELD IN OPATIJA

Organized by student associations of the Faculties of Law of the Universities in Zagreb, Rijeka, Osijek, and Split, Opatija hosted the expert conference "Law & Football 2022". Several distinguished HNS officials attended: secretary Vladimír Iveta held a lecture on "Eligibility to play for the national team", while head of licensing Ivančica Sudac, expert associate on international affairs and licensing Tanja Peraković, and women's football instructor at Football Centre Zagreb Marija Margareta Damjanović participated in the "Women in Football" panel.



HNS REPRESENTATIVES AT THE SPORTS MANAGEMENT IN TOURISM CONGRESS

HNS head of communications Tomislav Pacak and head of marketing Ante Cicvarić attended the 5th Sports Management in Tourism Congress in Osijek. Pacak and Cicvarić represented Croatian Football Federation in the panel on Croatia's appearance at the 2022 FIFA World Cup and Croatia's international promotion through football.



UEFA SEMINAR OF CHILD SAFEGUARDING

HNS grassroots assistant Helenna Hercigonja-Moulton represented Croatian Football Federation at the UEFA seminar on child safeguarding in football, that was held mid-November in Belgium. Alongside the topic of introducing child safeguarding measures in European national associations, the topics of child medical care in football and child abuse prevention were also discussed, as well as the examples of good practice when working with children in the national associations and clubs, and the latest research on child safeguarding in sports.



HNS COOPERATES WITH CROATIAN SCHOOL SPORTS FEDERATION



HNS and Croatian School Sports Federation have agreed to cooperate regarding the new school competition "Mini Football" for boys and girls up to 13 years of age (5th and 6th grade of elementary school), the first that the HSSS will organize and implement in cooperation with the football clubs, outside educational institutions, in the form of extracurricular activities. The agreement was signed by HNS president Marijan Kustić, HSSS general secretary Ivan Dujić, in the presence of HNS head instructor Petar Krpan and HNS grassroots manager Antonio Grahovac.



PEER ABUSE PREVENTION

In the HNS headquarters, the first meeting was held of the PINBALL (Preventing bullying in and through football) project coordinators. The objective of the project is to prevent peer abuse among the young men and women players. In the three upcoming years, PINBALL project wants to implement the programme of the uniform education of coaches on recognizing peer abuse and timely and adequate reaction to peer abuse in clubs and national teams, and to promote awareness of bullying among the youth in football world, and their families as well.



GRASSROOTS FESTIVAL AT HVAR

UEFA Grassroots Festival "Football in Schools" was held at the NK Hvar ground. This beautiful Croatian island hosted the legends of Croatian and European football. The festival was the introduction of UEFA Grassroots Week, and was attended by UEFA president Aleksander Čeferin, HNS president Marijan Kustić, and football superstars Luis Figo, Zvonimir Boban, Davor Šuker, Dejan Savičević, Robbie Keane, Darijo Srna, and others. At the opening ceremony, they have played a friendly match with girls and boys from Hvar.

CROATIA @ FIFA WORLD



CUP QATAR 2022™



IN MEMORIAM

ZLATAN ARNAUTOVIĆ
IVAN BABIĆ
ZDENKO BLAŽIČEVIĆ
ROBERT BOLJAT
ANTUN BOŠKOVIĆ
BRANKO BUBIĆ
MARIO BUDIMIR
MARIN ČAČIĆ
MLADEN FRANČIĆ
DRAŽEN GOVIĆ
JOŠKO HAJDER
IVAN HORVAT
EMIL HUDIN

STJEPAN JUKIĆ-PELADIĆ
MATEJ KNEŽEVIĆ
DINKO KUSIĆ
DAVOR LUJIĆ
VLADIMIR LUKARIĆ
ZLATKO MIHALEC
ŽELJKO MIJAČ
SERĐO MILETIĆ
ZVONIMIR NOVOSEL
IVICA OSIM
STOJAN PAPEC
ZLATKO PERUŠIĆ
IVAN PEŠUT
BRANIMIR PETERFAI

ALBERT POBOR
SLAVKO PODGORELEC
LUKŠA POKLEPOVIĆ
DRAGUTIN KARLO POLJAK
IVAN SADRIĆ
ANTE SALEČIĆ
DRAŽEN STRUŠKI
TOMO ŠEMPER
IVICA ŠPOLJARIĆ
MARIJO ŠVIGIR
SRDAN VRANČIĆ
DARIO VUPORA
REMZO ZALIHIC



Several legends of Croatian football, who have significantly contributed to the development of the beautiful game, have passed away in 2022.

In January, Ante Pavlović and Stjepan «Štef» Lamza died. Ante Pavlović was one of the most prominent and most longevous officials in Croatian football, the man who made a couple of key moves to allow Croatia national team to play its historic first match against the United States on 17 October 1990. Stjepan Lamza was a long-standing player of Dinamo, a member of a fabulous generation that rewrote history by winning a European trophy in 1967, the Inter-Cities Fair Cup.

Ante Pavlović was born on 5 July 1933 in Metković. He graduated in Zagreb at the Technical Faculty, at the Mining, Geology, and Oil Department. An injury cut his playing career short in 1953, but that became the beginning of his rise as an official. He left a deep mark in Croatian football.

Throughout his career, he retained his commitment and love towards working with younger generations.

From 1962, he was working as the HNS secretary. He strongly contributed to the development of the sports infrastructure in Zagreb, as well as to the development of futsal and women's football in Croatia. Pavlović was the founder of many competitions, tournaments, and awards, all the while keeping in touch with Croats living abroad.

Twenty years later, in 1982 he took the job of the managing director in Dinamo, and immediately won the Yugoslav league title, after 23 years of waiting in Zagreb.

In the late 80s, Pavlović became the chief secretary of the Yugoslav Football Federation, where he remained until 1991, helping to found the independent Croatian Football Federation.

Coming back to Croatian Football Federation in 1992, he had an advisory role. For ten months in 1995, Pavlović has been holding the office of the HNS chief secretary, and in 1995 and 1996 he was a member of the Executive Committee. Pavlović retired in 2013, in a well-deserved move.

Among other awards, he received the HNS Trofej podmlatka award, national award Red Danice Hrvatske, state award for sports Franjo Bučar, and prestigious UEFA Order of Merit in Emerald. In 2018, Pavlović was proclaimed the first HNS honorary chief secretary.

Stjepan Lamza was born on 23 January 1940 in Sisak, where he started his playing career, and before joining Dinamo he has defended the colours of Branik Maribor. Lamza was a versatile midfielder who won over the crowds with fantastic moves, and his epic performance in the return semi-final leg of the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup against Eintracht is still remembered. Driven by Lamza, Dinamo responded to the first-leg defeat: winning 4:0 to reach the final. He appeared 281 times in Dinamo's shirt and scored 72 goals.

In March, **Željko Huber** passed away. He was the former HNS president during the 1980s, and the president of NK Osijek on two occasions. Born on 26 February 1930 in Babina Greda, he quickly fell in love with football, started to practice and play as a goalkeeper in Hajduk (Osijek), Proleter, Šparta Beli Manastir, and Lovor Nijemci. As a prominent sports official, he became the HNS president from 1981 to 1982, and the distinguished president of the Slavonia-Baranja Football Association for six years. In 2017, he won the Trofej podmlatka award.



ŽELJKO HUBER
(1930 - 2022)



ANTE PAVLOVIĆ
(1933 - 2022)



STJEPAN LAMZA
(1940 - 2022)

CROATIAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION

Founded: **13. 06. 1912**

FIFA affiliation: **17. 07. 1941**

/ renewed membership: **03. 07. 1992**

UEFA affiliation: **17. 06. 1993**

Registered clubs: **1,446**

Registered players: **126,871**

FIFA World Ranking (12/2022): **7th place**

National team all time score:

362 matches;

189 wins,

97 draws,

76 losses;

goal difference: **625:367**

Most caps (50+):

162	Luka Modrić
134	Darijo Srna
123	Ivan Perišić
114	Stipe Pletikosa
106	Ivan Rakitić
105	Josip Šimunić
104	Ivica Olić
103	Vedran Ćorluka
100	Dario Šimić
	Domagoj Vida
91	Mateo Kovačić
89	Mario Mandžukić
84	Robert Kovač
83	Marcelo Brozović
	Niko Kovač
81	Robert Jarni,
	Andrej Kramarić,
	Niko Kranjčar
78	Dejan Lovren
69	Davor Šuker
64	Eduardo da Silva,
62	Aljoša Asanović
61	Zvonimir Soldo
59	Dražen Ladić,
	Jerko Leko
58	Danijel Pranjić
55	Milan Badelj,
	Igor Tudor,
	Ognjen Vukojević
53	Igor Štimac
52	Šime Vrsaljko
51	Zvonimir Boban,
	Goran Vlaović

Top scorers (10+):

45	Davor Šuker
33	Mario Mandžukić
	Ivan Perišić
29	Eduardo da Silva
23	Luka Modrić
22	Andrej Kramarić,
	Darijo Srna
20	Ivica Olić
16	Niko Kranjčar
15	Nikola Kalinić,
	Ivan Rakitić,
	Goran Vlaović
14	Niko Kovač
13	Mladen Petrić,
	Franjo Wöfl
12	Zvonimir Boban,
	Ivan Klasnić
10	Boško Balaban,
	Alen Bokšić,
	Robert Prosinečki

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1996	King Hassana II Trophy:
1998	FIFA World Cup France:
1998	Highest FIFA World Ranking
1998	UEFA U-18 EURO Cyprus:
1999	Highest FIFA World Ranking
1999	Korea Cup:
2001	UEFA U-16 EURO England:
2018	FIFA World Cup Russia:
2019	UEFA Futsal U-19 EURO Latvia:
2022	FIFA World Cup Qatar:

Winners
Bronze medal
3 rd place
Bronze medal
3 rd place
Winners
Bronze medal
Silver medal
Silver medal
Bronze medal

AWARDS

1992	Croatian Olympic Committee award "Matija Ljubek"
1994	FIFA Best mover of the Year
1997	Team of the Year (Croatian daily "Sportske novosti")
1998	FIFA Best mover of the Year
1998	Državna nagrada za sport «Franjo Bučar»
1998	Team of the Year (Croatian daily "Sportske novosti")
2001	Best promoter of Croatia (Croatian Olympic Committee)
2001	Team of the Year (Croatian daily "Sportske novosti")
2005	Best promoter of Croatia (Croatian Olympic Committee)
2006	Best promoter of Croatia (Croatian Olympic Committee)
2007	Best promoter of Croatia (Croatian Olympic Committee)
2008	Team of the Year (Croatian daily "Sportske novosti")
2008	Blue flower - Croatian National Tourist Board award
2014	Best promoter of Croatia (Croatian Olympic Committee)
2015	Best promoter of Croatia (Croatian Olympic Committee)
2018	State award for sport "Franjo Bučar"
2018	Charter of Republic of Croatia
2018	Best promoter of Croatia (Croatian Olympic Committee)
2018	Team of the Year (Croatian Olympic Committee)
2018	Team of the Year (Croatian daily "Sportske novosti")
2022	Best promoter of Croatia (Croatian Olympic Committee)
2022	Team of the Year (Croatian Olympic Committee)
2022	Team of the Year (Croatian daily "Sportske novosti")

WORLD CUPS AND EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Senior national team

1996	UEFA EURO England:	Quarter finals
1998	FIFA WC France:	3rd place
2002	FIFA WC Korea/Japan:	Group stage
2004	UEFA EURO Portugal:	Group stage
2006	FIFA WC Germany:	Group stage
2008	UEFA EURO Austria/Switzerland:	Quarter finals
2012	UEFA EURO Poland/Ukraine:	Group stage
2014	FIFA WC Brazil:	Group stage
2016	UEFA EURO France:	Round of 16
2018	FIFA WC Russia:	2nd place
2021	UEFA EURO Europe:	Round of 16
2022	FIFA WC Qatar:	3rd place

Youth teams

1996	UEFA U-16 EURO Austria:	Quarter finals
1998	UEFA U-16 EURO Scotland:	Quarter finals
1998	UEFA U-18 EURO Cyprus:	3rd place
1999	FIFA U-20 WC Nigeria:	Round of 16
1999	UEFA U-16 EURO Czechia:	Group stage
2000	UEFA U-21 EURO Slovakia:	Group stage
2000	UEFA U-18 EURO Germany:	Group stage
2001	UEFA U-16 EURO England:	3rd place
2001	FIFA U-17 WC Trinidad and Tobago:	Group stage
2004	UEFA U-21 EURO Germany:	Group stage
2005	UEFA U-17 EURO Italy:	Semi finals
2010	UEFA U-19 EURO France:	Semi finals
2011	FIFA U-20 WC Columbia:	Group stage
2012	UEFA U-19 EURO Estonia:	Group stage
2013	UEFA U-17 EURO Slovakia:	Group stage
2013	FIFA U-20 WC Türkiye:	Round of 16
2013	FIFA U-17 WC UAE:	Group stage
2015	UEFA U-17 EURO Bulgaria:	Quarter finals
2015	FIFA U-17 WC Chile:	Quarter finals
2016	UEFA U-19 EURO Germany:	Group stage
2017	UEFA U-17 EURO Croatia:	Host/Group stage
2019	UEFA U-21 EURO Italy/San Marino:	Group stage
2021	UEFA U-21 EURO Hungary/Slovenia:	Quarter finals
2023	UEFA U-21 EURO Romania/Georgia:	<i>Qualified</i>

Futsal

1999	UEFA EURO Spain:	Group stage
2000	FIFA WC Guatemala:	Group stage
2001	UEFA EURO Russia:	Group stage
2008	UEFA U-21 EURO Russia:	Group stage
2012	UEFA EURO Croatia:	Host/Semi finals
2014	UEFA EURO Belgium:	Quarter finals
2016	UEFA EURO Serbia:	Group stage
2019	UEFA U-19 EURO Latvia:	2nd place
2022	UEFA EURO Netherlands:	Group stage
2022	UEFA U-19 EURO Spain:	Group stage
2022	UEFA U-19 EURO Croatia:	<i>Host</i>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Marijan Kustić
president



Ante Vučemilović-Šimunović
first vice-president



Nenad Črnko
vice-president



Damir Mišković
vice-president



Slavko Prišćan
vice-president



Mario Smodlaka
vice-president



Đuro Bukvić
ExCo member



Nenad Horvatić
ExCo member



Davor Ivić
ExCo member



Mato Kljajić
ExCo member



Ante Kulušić
ExCo member



Josip Kuterovac
ExCo member



Drago Lucić
ExCo member



Robert Markulin
ExCo member



Darko Raić Sudar
ExCo member



Božidar Šikić
ExCo member



Ile Topuzović
ExCo member

HNS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Tomislav Svetina

HNS SECRETARY



Vladimir Iveta

HONORARY MEMBERS



Vlatko Marković
honorary president



Branko Mikša
honorary president



Mladen Vedriš
honorary president



Ante Pavlović
honorary
general secretary



Miroslav Ćiro Blažević
honorary head coach



Rudolf Sabljak
honorary treasurer



Stanko Hautz
honorary member

COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATIONS

BJELOVAR-BILOGORA

President: **Slavko Prišćan**
Secretary: **Miroslav Jurišić**
Instructor: **Igor Blagojević**
Registered clubs: **63**
Registered players: **4048**

LIKA-SENJ

President: **Marijan Kustić**
Secretary: **Vladimir Romić**
Instructor: **Ivan Kolak**
Registered clubs: **13**
Registered players: **1066**

ŠIBENIK

President: **Stipe Grubišić**
Secretary: **Hrvoje Kulušić**
Instructor: **Ivo Šupe**
Registered clubs: **40**
Registered players: **2600**

SLAVONSKI BROT-POSAVINA

President: **Dubravko Galović**
Secretary: **Mario Filipović**
Instructor: **Ivo Babić**
Registered clubs: **85**
Registered players: **6048**

MEĐIMURJE

President: **Kristijan Antolović**
Secretary: **Igor Križarić**
Instructor: **Damir Lepen-Jurak**
Registered clubs: **75**
Registered players: **5036**

VARAŽDIN

President: **Nenad Horvatić**
Secretary: **Ivan Novak**
Instructor: **Nikica Bunić**
Registered clubs: **68**
Registered players: **5841**

DUBROVNIK-NERETVA

President: **Blaž Pezo**
Secretary: **Srđan Vrtikapa**
Instructor: **Jozo Bebić**
Registered clubs: **54**
Registered players: **4268**

OSIJEK-BARANJA

President: **Ante Vučemilović-Šimunović**
Secretary: **Željko Bel**
Instructor: **Marko Babić**
Registered clubs: **169**
Registered players: **10740**

VIROVITICA-PODRAVINA

President: **Đuro Bukvić**
Secretary: **Krunoslav Moslavac**
Instructor: **Krešimir Crvenka**
Registered clubs: **60**
Registered players: **3825**

ISTRIA

President: **Darko Raić Sudar**
Secretary: **Robi Fonović**
Instructor: **Ecio Krizmanić**
Registered clubs: **71**
Registered players: **6702**

POŽEGA-SLAVONIA

President: **Drago Lucić**
Secretary/instructor: **Damir Bognar**
Registered clubs: **55**
Registered players: **3066**

VUKOVAR-SRIJEM

President: **Josip Kuterovac**
Secretary: **Ivica Sabljaković**
Instructor: **Goran Meštrović**
Registered clubs: **85**
Registered players: **6517**

KARLOVAC

President: **Neven Šprajcer**
Secretary: **Tomislav Kuzman**
Instructor: **Dražen Tuškan**
Registered clubs: **37**
Registered players: **3203**

PRIMORJE-GORSKI KOTAR

President: **Damir Mišković**
Secretary: **Ivan Peraić**
Instructor: **Mladen Ivančić**
Registered clubs: **51**
Registered players: **5637**

ZADAR

President: **Darko Banić**
Secretary: **Miroslav Knežević**
Instructor: **Darko Pantalon**
Registered clubs: **35**
Registered players: **4419**

KOPRIVNICA-KRIŽEVCI

President: **Robert Markulin**
Secretary: **Danijel Lončar**
Instructor: **Hrvoje Kodrić**
Registered clubs: **62**
Registered players: **4772**

SISAK-MOSLAVINA

President: **Davor Ivić**
Secretary: **Damir Nogić**
Instructor: **Mile Buinac**
Registered clubs: **67**
Registered players: **5358**

ZAGREB COUNTY

President: **Nenad Črnko**
Secretary: **Mladen Žugec**
Instructor: **Stjepan Bašić**
Registered clubs: **123**
Registered players: **12651**

KRAPINA-ZAGORJE

President: **Stjepan Merkaš**
Secretary: **Juraj Sirovec**
Instructor: **Franjo Kučko**
Registered clubs: **32**
Registered players: **4478**

SPLIT-DALMATIA

President: **Marko Erceg**
Secretary: **Stipe Rogošić**
Instructor: **Zdravko Marić**
Registered clubs: **86**
Registered players: **10740**

CITY OF ZAGREB

President: **Tomislav Svetina**
Secretary: **Davor Blašković**
Instructors: **Željko Bogadi, Zoran Joksović**
Registered clubs: **115**
Registered players: **16141**

CROATIAN FOOTBALL FEDERATION OFFICE

Ulica grada Vukovara 269 A | 10000 Zagreb | Phone: +385 1 2361 555 | e-mail: info@hns-cff.hr

Marijan Kustić
president

Tomislav Svetina
executive director

Vladimir Iveta
secretary

Neven Šprajcer
head of competitions

Zorislav Srebrić
Stjepan Merkaš
advisors to the president

Blago Jakovljević
operational assistant of the president

Marija Kopričanec
business secretary of the president

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

Ante Cicvarić
head of marketing and promotion
Iva Vilenica
marketing and promotion assistant

ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Ružica Bajrić
head of department
Milka Močilac
independent accountant

Nikolina Barabaš
Nives Horvat
Nikolina Ivanović
Gordana Janton
Željka Zuanović
Iva Milinković
accounting assistants

COMMUNICATIONS

Tomislav Pacak
head of communications
and spokesperson
Marko Cvijanović
website editor
Nika Bahtijarević
expert associate for
socially responsible projects
Drago Sopta
expert associate for
photography and video

FOOTBALL ACADEMY

Boris Kubla
head of academy
Zdravko Marić
Tomislav Gričar
expert associates
Mate Prskalo
Marta Sokolić
Danijel Šutić
administrators

COMPETITIONS, FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Antonija Burazer
expert associate

ORGANIZATION OF MATCHES

Helena Puškar
event and logistics manager

Nikša Martinac
ticketing manager

SAFETY, PREVENTION AND INTEGRITY

Jurica Jurjević
safety, prevention and integrity
commissioner

Miroslav Marković
security commissioner

Vlado Dominić
Marko Svilić
security officers

Miroslav Cindrić
Velimir Strinić
security commissioner assistants

NATIONAL TEAMS

Iva Olivari
"A" National team manager
Stipe Pletikosa
technical director of
A and U-21 national teams
Petar Krpan
head instructor
Denis Lukša
youth teams manager

Hrvoje Hrkač
Laura Jurčević
women's football and futsal
team managers

Ivan Krakan
fitness instructor
Dennis Luka Lukančić
main kit manager

Mladen Pilčić
Luka Karlo
kit managers

Krešimir Čivrag
stockkeeper

COMPETITIONS

Josip Brezni
HNL, 1. NL and 2. NL commissioner
Andrea Brezni
administrator
Romeo Čižmešija
futsal competitions commissioner

FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT

Antonio Grahovac
grassroots manager
Helenna Hercigonja-Moulton
grassroots assistant

INFRASTRUCTURE AND INVESTMENTS

Andrea Dokuš
head of infrastructure
Filip Mamić
expert associate

MEDICAL SERVICE

dr. sc. Tomislav Vlahović
chief medical officer

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Josip Tomaško
head of international affairs
Tanja Peraković
Vlatka Jandel
Maja Nikolić
expert associates
for international affairs

CLUB LICENSING

Ivančica Sudac
head of club licensing
Snježana Drkulec
Adna Mustedanagić
expert associates
for club licensing

LEGAL AFFAIRS

Matija Puhak
legal advisor
Mia Škrljac
legal affairs department and
arbitration court administrator
Robert Uroić
registration of clubs and players

GENERAL AFFAIRS

Jurica Bodrožić
head of general affairs
Katarina Miloš
general affairs and archive assistant
Ivana Haring
receptionist
Željko Mesić
Mijo Šarčević
technical service
Mira Perković
kitchen host
Kristina Terek
Mihaela Tominac
cleaning workers
Hrvoje Čendo
occupational health and safety expert

FOOTBALL REFEREES

Igor Pristovnik
head of referees department
Ante Vučemilović-Šimunović, jr
national referent for refereeing
development
Zora Hunjadi
administrator

INFORMATION-MULTIMEDIA CENTER «BE PROUD»

Boris Durlen
head of IMC

HNS FOOTBALL CENTERS

OSIJEK

Secretary:
Željko Bel
Instructor:
Marin Smoje
Instructor for
women's football:
Branka Juhas

RIJEKA

Secretary:
Branko Kajfeš
Instructor:
Mladen Ivančić
Instructor for
women's football:
Nenad Glušica
Technical secretary:
Zvonko Sobol

NORTH

Secretary:
Ivan Novak
Instructor:
Sergej Milivojević
Instructor for
women's football:
Stella Gotal
Technical secretary:
Dino Kramar

SPLIT

Secretary:
Dino Knezović
Instructor:
Ivan Gudelj
Instructor for
women's football:
Božidar Miletić
Technical secretary:
Frane Plazibat

ZAGREB

Secretary:
Damir Stipković
Instructor:
Sreten Ćuk
Instructor for
women's football:
Marija Margareta
Damjanović



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KONZUM



PBZ



Jana



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