

SERIE A · MATCHDAY 6 · 2026-27



Atalanta *v* Venezia

Commentary research notes

Three straight defeats for Sarri's side against the only pointless team in the league

[Intro script](#) · [line-up prep](#) · [storylines](#) · [head-to-head](#) · [team news](#) · [club notes](#) · [bios](#) · [stats](#)

DATE

Monday 12 October
2026

KICK-OFF

18:30 local (CEST)
17:30 UK time

VENUE

New Balance Arena
Bergamo, Lombardy

REFEREE

Paride Tremolada
VAR: Francesco Meraviglia

CONTENTS

Atalanta v Venezia

Scripted parts (01, 02 and the close, 15) are set in large type for reading on air. Team news is as of Monday morning; **FLAG** = unconfirmed.

ATALANTA	VENEZIA	HEAD-TO-HEAD	KICK-OFF
11th · 6 pts	20th · 0 pts	Atalanta unbeaten in 5	18:30 CEST · 17:30 UK

01	Intro script	Part 1 · pre-match, read on air	3
02	Line-up announcement prep	Part 2 · probable XIs with prep stats	6
03	The match in numbers	Table, form and the key team metrics	8
04	Storylines & trivia	Talking points, records and league rankings	9
05	Head-to-head	Recent meetings, the record in Bergamo and the two managers	11
06	Team news & officials	Status as of Monday morning. Red = unconfirmed or conflicting	12
07	Last line-ups	Each side's most recent league XI	14
08	Atalanta · club notes	Honours, Europe, last season, this season	15
09	Venezia · club notes	Honours, last season, recent history, this season	18
10	Internationals, milestones & birthdays	Who did what in the international break	19
11	The managers	Background, system and this season	20
12	Atalanta · squad bios	Number · name · date of birth (age on matchday) · the 2026-27 line in the panel	21
13	Venezia · squad bios	Number · name · date of birth (age on matchday) · the 2026-27 line in the panel	30
14	Stats	Serie A 2026-27 team metrics, match by match, and key individual numbers	39
15	Closing injury recap & referee	End of part 2 · read before kick-off	40

Intro script

966 WORDS

≈ 6 MIN SPOKEN

SCORES IN WORDS

WEATHER: 17°C, PARTLY CLOUDY, DRY

The sun has been trying to break through a thin veil of cloud over Lombardy all afternoon, and as the light fades over Bergamo it is a mild seventeen degrees, with barely a breath of wind. Up on the hill, the Città Alta and its great Venetian walls look down on Borgo Santa Caterina, and down here on Viale Giulio Cesare the stadium in Bergamo, home to this club since 1928, is filling up. Last season's league average was 22,242. The pitch looks immaculate.

Good evening and welcome to Bergamo's stadium for Monday night football in Italy's top flight, as matchweek six closes with Atalanta against Venezia. Before we go any further: this is an independent and unofficial broadcast, bringing you live, unaccredited commentary of tonight's match from our position in the press box.

And there is a neat bit of history in the air, because for almost four centuries, from 1428 to 1797, this city belonged to the Republic of Venice, and the Venetians built those walls. Tonight the Venetians come back as the only side in the division without a point.

Atalanta need a result just as badly. Maurizio Sarri's side won their first two league games, two-one against Sassuolo and one-nil against Bologna, and since then they have lost three in a row: two-one in Rome, two-one at home to Cagliari, and two-nil in Turin against Juventus. That leaves them eleventh on six points, with five scored and seven conceded – and with the rest of the weekend's matchday-six programme already done, Inter and Lazio sit clear on sixteen points at the top. A win tonight would take Atalanta back into the top half before a hectic run of Pafos in European competition on Thursday and AC Milan away on Sunday.

Venezia's numbers make grim reading. Five games, five defeats: two-nil at home to Lecce, two-nil at San Siro, three-two at Frosinone, four-two at home to Fiorentina and two-nil at home to Lazio. Four scored and thirteen conceded, the worst defensive record in the division, and seven straight defeats at this level, going back to their last top-flight season. The last time they lost their first five, in 2001-02, they went down. And yet Venezia have generated close to ten expected goals, the fifth-highest total in the league, from fifty-five per cent possession. No team has a bigger gap between chances and goals.

Atalanta are the opposite case. They pass the ball well, completing nearly eighty-nine per cent of their passes, the fourth-best rate in the league, but they are creating very little: about four and a half expected goals, the third-lowest in the league. Only Frosinone and Cagliari have conceded more shots, which explains why Marco Carnesecchi's twenty-four saves are second only to Wladimiro Falcone's.

The two benches make a contrast too. Sarri is sixty-seven, the former banker from the Tuscan amateur game who won the Italian title with Juventus and Europe's secondary club competition with Chelsea and finished second with Lazio. He arrived in June on a deal to 2029 and has used a 4-3-3 in every competitive game so far. Giovanni Stroppa is fifty-eight. As a player he was a European champion with Arrigo Sacchi's Milan and played for Zdeněk Zeman at Foggia. As a coach he has won promotion from Italy's second tier four times in six years, with Crotone, Monza, Cremonese and, last season, with Venezia as champions on eighty-two points. He sticks with a 3-5-2, and his side average fifty-five per cent of the ball, against forty-seven for Sarri's Atalanta. The two have met only once before, in the second division in 2013-14, when Sarri's Empoli won three-one at Stroppa's Spezia.

History favours the home side as well. Atalanta are unbeaten in their last five meetings with Venezia: four-nil and three-one in 2021-22, two-nil in the Italian cup that season, two-nil at the Penzo in October 2024 and a goalless draw here in March 2025. Venezia have not won in Bergamo since a three-nil second-tier win in September 1994, and have not scored here in four hundred and fifty-one minutes.

The week's talking point came from Sarri himself. Sitting down with L'Eco di Bergamo, he said the time for alibis was over and that, from Monday, he wants to see his team play football. He called the fixture list 'a tonnara', a tuna trap. Stroppa's reply was gracious. He called Sarri 'a maestro' and said the table does not reflect Atalanta's performances.

The key duels are easy to pick out. Venezia's club-record signing Akor Adams, who cost a reported sixteen million euros from Sevilla and scored for Nigeria in the break, will go up against Giorgio Scalvini and the six-foot-six Thomas Kristensen. Out wide, Antoine Hainaut leads both squads for expected assists, and in midfield Kike Pérez, Venezia's chief creator, meets Franck Kessié, back at the club where he made his name.

On team news, Atalanta are without the centre-backs Isak Hien and Odilon Kossounou. Giacomo Raspadori, who was injured with Italy, has trained with the group and Italian press say he is expected back in the squad – we still await the official list. Gianluca Scamacca, who scored for Italy against Turkey a week ago, should lead the line. Venezia's official squad list is out: in come Toma Bašić, Joel Schingtienne and Matteo Dagasso, along with Haps and Sohm; out go Busio, Franjić, Bella-Kotchap, Mazzocchi, Adorante and Šverko. With Busio out, penalties fall to John Yeboah, who missed one against Lazio, or Adams.

Our referee tonight is Paride Tremolada of the Monza section. He showed six yellow cards in his only top-flight game so far this season, which could matter for a Venezia side with more yellow cards, sixteen, than anyone else. The players are emerging from the tunnel; let us examine the confirmed starting lineups.

Line-up announcement prep

Probable XIs with one or two stats per player. Update once the team sheets are out, about 60 minutes before kick-off. Stats cover 2026-27, all competitions.



Atalanta

11th · 6 pts
Probable 4-3-3

Last result: Lost two-nil at Juventus (Sept 20th) – three straight league defeats. **Formation:** 4-3-3 in all seven competitive games; expected 4-3-3 again (some outlets suggest 4-2-3-1).



#	PLAYER	PREP STAT
GOALKEEPER		
29	Marco CARNESECCHI Italy · 26 · 191	Save rate 82%, +2.5 goals prevented; 24 league saves (2nd most in the division)
BACK FOUR		
16	Raoul BELLANOVA Italy · 26 · 188	4.7 interceptions per 90; 1.88m; 6 caps, 0 goals for Italy
31	Thomas KRISTENSEN Denmark · 24 · 198	1.98m; 97% passing – on loan from Udinese
42	Giorgio SCALVINI Italy · 22 · 194	Ever-present – 727 mins; 95.5% pass accuracy; 11 caps, 0 goals for Italy
47	Lorenzo BERNASCONI Italy · 22 · 190	Age 22; 91% passing. Alt: Kolašinac (33)
MIDFIELD THREE		
19	Franck KESSIÉ Côte d'Ivoire · 29 · 183	Back at Atalanta, age 29; won 82% of defensive duels; 108 caps, 17 goals for Côte d'Ivoire
10	Lazar SAMARDŽIĆ Serbia · 24 · 184	Winner v Bologna; 6.0 progressive passes per 90; 30 caps, 1 goal for Serbia
13	ÉDERSON Brazil · 27 · 183	Most minutes of any Atalanta midfielder (628); scored at Roma; 5 caps, 0 goals for Brazil
FRONT THREE		
17	Charles DE KETELAERE Belgium · 25 · 192	684 mins, most of any Atalanta attacker; 70% dribble success; 39 caps, 9 goals for Belgium
9	Gianluca SCAMACCA Italy · 27 · 196	2 goals (1 league, 1 in Europe); scored for Italy v Turkey on Oct 5th; 1.95m; 25 caps, 2 goals for Italy
11	Jonathan ROWE England · 23 · 178	Age 23, on loan from Bologna; 67% dribble success



Venezia

20th · 0 pts
Probable 3-5-2

Last result: Lost two-nil at home to Lazio (Sept 19th) – five league defeats from five. **Formation:** 3-5-2 in every league game; expected 3-5-2.



#	PLAYER	PREP STAT
GOALKEEPER		
1	Filip STANKOVIĆ Serbia · 24 · 187	Every league minute; save rate 57%, -2.0 goals prevented; 2 caps, 0 goals for Serbia
BACK THREE		
2	Matías MORENO Argentina · 23 · 193	Age 23, 1.93m; on loan from Fiorentina; 6.8 interceptions per 90
15	JUAN JESUS Brazil · 35 · 185	Age 35; two Italian titles with Napoli; 95% passing; 4 caps, 0 goals for Brazil
3	Joël SCHINGTIENNE Belgium · 24 · 188	Fit – in convocati; 583 mins; won 67% of defensive duels. Alt: Halhal
MIDFIELD FIVE		
18	Antoine HAINAUT France · 24 · 187	1 goal, 1 assist; 1.77 xA – the most in either squad
71	Kike PÉREZ Spain · 29 · 184	Chief creator: 1.45 xA, 9.5 progressive passes per 90
19	Simon SOHM Switzerland · 25 · 188	90% passing; on loan. Alt: Bašić; 4 caps, 0 goals for Switzerland
21	Pórir HELGASON Iceland · 26 · 187	Iceland international; 198 mins this season; 20 caps, 2 goals for Iceland
14	Thierry CORREIA Portugal · 27 · 176	Free transfer from Valencia; 64% dribble success. Alt: Sagrado (2 goals)
STRIKE PAIR		
10	John YEBOAH Ecuador · 26 · 170	2 goals (1 league, 1 cup); 2.99 xG; penalty taker (missed v Lazio); 30 caps, 3 goals for Ecuador
45	Akor ADAMS Nigeria · 26 · 190	Club-record signing; 3 goals (1 league, 2 cup) from 3.87 xG; 1.90m; 18 caps, 7 goals for Nigeria

FLAG Atalanta: Raspadori trained with the group and is expected in the squad – await the official convocati. Venezia squad list is confirmed (Bašić, Schingtienne, Dagasso, Haps, Sohm all in; Mazzocchi out).

SECTION 03

The match in numbers

Atalanta keep the ball well but create little. Venezia create plenty but can't finish. Every figure below is from Serie A 2026-27 (five games each).

LEAGUE TABLE · POINTS BY POSITION

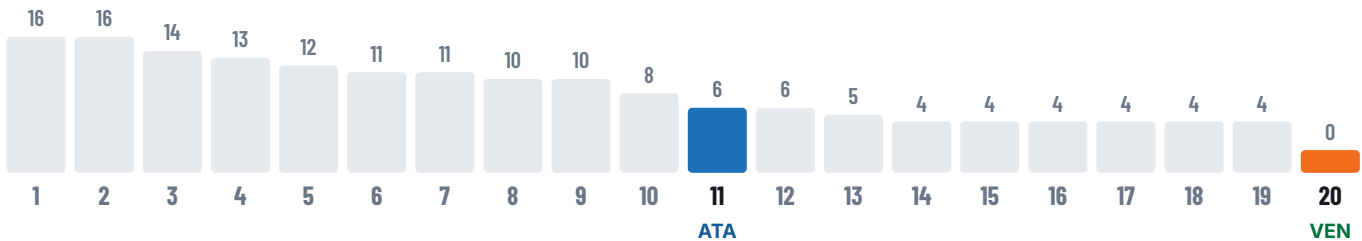


Table correct as of Monday 12 October 2026, 16:20 UK (re-verified; no matches since the morning check). All other matchday-6 results are in; Atalanta–Venezia (17:30 UK) and Torino–Udinese (19:45 UK) still to play tonight. ■ Atalanta ■ Venezia



Atalanta

11th

5 played 2-0-3 W-D-L 5-7 goals 6 pts

LAST SIX · ALL COMPETITIONS

W	W	W	L	L	L
Sassuolo H · 2-1	Hapoel Tel A · 1-0	Bologna H · 1-0	AS Roma A · 1-2	Cagliari H · 1-2	Juventus A · 0-2



Venezia

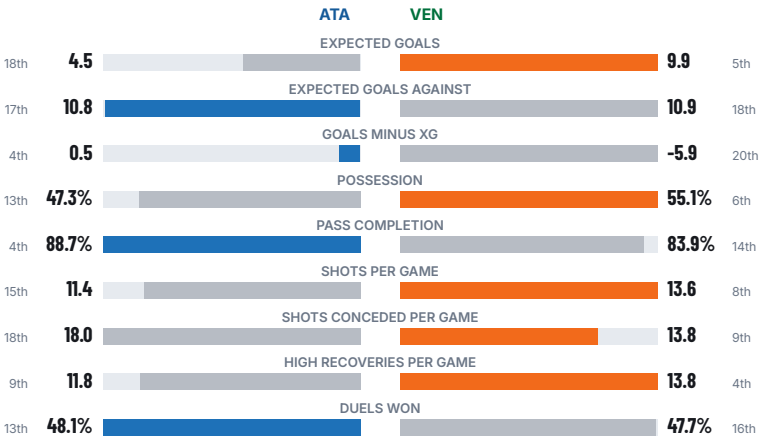
20th

5 played 0-0-5 W-D-L 4-13 goals 0 pts

LAST SIX · ALL COMPETITIONS

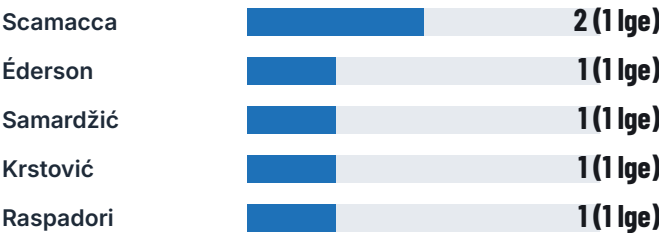
L	L	L	L	L	L
Lecce H · 0-2	AC Milan A · 0-2	Udinese A · 1-2	Frosinone A · 2-3	Fiorentina H · 2-4	Lazio H · 0-2

TEAM COMPARISON · SERIE A 2026-27 (RANK OUT OF 20)



Club-coloured bar = the better figure in each row; grey = the weaker. For "goals minus xG", a smaller shortfall is better. Ranks: 1 = best (for "against" metrics, 1 = fewest).

ATALANTA · TOP SCORERS 2026-27



VENEZIA · TOP SCORERS 2026-27



SECTION 04

Storylines & trivia

HEADLINE

Venezia arrive as the only pointless team in Serie A (P5 W0 D0 L5, F4 A13) – Atalanta have lost their last 3 league games after winning their first 2.

Atalanta's three straight league defeats: 1-2 at Roma (Sept 5th), 1-2 at home to Cagliari (Sept 12th), 0-2 at Juventus (Sept 20th). They have not won a league game since Lazar Samardžić's 90th-minute winner against Bologna on Aug 31st.

HEADLINE

Venezia began the 2001-02 top-flight season with 5 defeats from 5 – they were relegated that season.

Venezia have lost their last 7 top-flight games (2 at the end of 2024-25 + 5 this season). Their last positive result in the competition was a 2-1 home win against Fiorentina on May 12th 2025.

Venezia have conceded more goals than any other top-flight side this season (13) – including the most in the last 15 minutes of games (4, joint with Genoa) and the most in the first 15 minutes of the second half (3, joint with Udinese and Monza). They have also received more yellow cards than anyone else (16).

HEADLINE

Venezia have produced the 5th-highest xG total in Serie A (9.9) but scored only 4 goals – the biggest shortfall in the league (-5.9).

Only Roma (68) have made more offensive recoveries than Venezia (64) in Serie A this season.

Atalanta are one of only 2 top-flight teams to have had a player sent off this season (with Genoa) – Gianluca Gaetano was dismissed in stoppage time at Roma.

Only Frosinone (102) and Cagliari (99) have conceded more shots than Atalanta (91). Only Parma, Lecce, Torino and Cagliari have taken fewer shots than Atalanta (59).

HEADLINE

Only Lecce's Wladimiro Falcone (27) has made more top-flight saves this season than Marco Carnesecchi (24).

Atalanta are one of 3 teams to have completed the fewest crosses in Serie A this season (17, with Cagliari and Lecce).

HEADLINE

Maurizio Sarri and Giovanni Stroppa have met only once before as coaches – Sarri's Empoli won 3-1 at Stroppa's Spezia in Serie B in 2013-14.

Sarri returned to Bergamo in April with Lazio and knocked Atalanta out of the Coppa Italia semi-finals on penalties at the New Balance Arena – he was booked during that game and suspended for the final, which Lazio lost 2-0 to Inter.

Gianluca Busio is Venezia's longest-serving player – his arrival from Sporting Kansas City in Aug 2021 broke the club's transfer record at the time; Akor Adams (Sevilla, reported €16m + €4m) has now broken it again.

With the rest of matchday 6 already played (only tonight's Atalanta–Venezia and Torino–Udinese still to come), Inter and Lazio lead on 16 points; Atalanta remain 11th on 6, Venezia still the only pointless side.

Venezia goalkeeper Matteo Grandi celebrates his 34th birthday today (Oct 12th).

LEAGUE RANKINGS · 2026-27 (FIVE GAMES EACH)

LEAGUE 2026-27 – XG FOR (5 GAMES)	
Inter	16.3
Roma	16.2
Como	13.9
Monza	10.9
Venezia	9.9

GOALS MINUS XG (BIGGEST SHORTFALL)	
Venezia	-5.9
Bologna	-5.9
Como	-4.9
Fiorentina	-3.8
Monza	-2.9

PASS COMPLETION %	
Milan	89.4
Como	89.3
Inter	89.1
Atalanta	88.7
Bologna	88.3

*Approximate figure.

FEWEST XG FOR	
Parma	3.6
Torino	4.3
Atalanta	4.5
Lecce	4.7
Cagliari	4.9

SHOTS CONCEDED PER GAME	
Frosinone	19.4
Cagliari	18.8
Atalanta	18.0
Lecce	16.8*
Venezia	13.8

POSSESSION %	
Inter	60.8
Milan	60.3
Como	58.6
...	
VENEZIA (6th)	55.2

Head-to-head

IN BERGAMO P26 · W15 D6 L5	UNBEATEN RUN Atalanta 5 (W4 D1)	VENEZIA GOAL DROUGHT HERE 451 minutes	LAST VENEZIA WIN IN BERGAMO 25 Sept 1994
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LAST FIVE MEETINGS

DATE	COMPETITION	VENUE	SCORE	NOTE
1 Mar 2025	Serie A	Bergamo	0-0	Zappacosta hit the post
20 Oct 2024	Serie A	Venice	0-2	Pašalić (7') – his 50th top-flight goal; Retegui
23 Apr 2022	Serie A	Venice	1-3	Atalanta win
12 Jan 2022	Coppa Italia	Bergamo	2-0	Atalanta win
30 Nov 2021	Serie A	Bergamo	4-0	Atalanta win

NOTES

- **Atalanta are unbeaten in their last 5 meetings with Venezia in all competitions (W4 D1).**
- Before the 0-0 draw in March 2025, Atalanta had won their previous 6 top-flight matches against Venezia, and 8 of their 10 top-flight home games against them.
- Venezia's last win against Atalanta came in Serie B on Feb 1st 2004 (1-0 in Venice, Paolo Poggi). Their last top-flight win against Atalanta was on Feb 10th 1963 (1-0 at the Penzo).
- At Venezia in Oct 2024, Mario Pašalić scored after 7 minutes – his 50th top-flight goal, making him the highest-scoring Croatian in top-flight history – and Mateo Retegui added a second.
- The last meeting, Atalanta 0-0 Venezia (March 1st 2025), saw Davide Zappacosta hit the post for Gian Piero Gasperini's side.
- On the last day of the 1938-39 Serie B season Venezia won 1-0 in Bergamo (Francesco Pernigo) to overtake Atalanta on goal ratio and take the second promotion place – Pernigo remains Venezia's all-time leading top-flight scorer (45).

AT BERGAMO

- **26 official meetings in Bergamo: Atalanta W15 D6 L5.**
- Last Atalanta home win: 2-0 (the Coppa Italia, 2021-22). Last draw: 0-0 (Serie A, 2024-25). Last Venezia win: 3-0 (Serie B, Sept 25th 1994).
- **Venezia have gone 451 minutes without scoring in Bergamo – their last goal here was Cerbone's 89th-minute strike in that 3-0 win in 1994.**

MANAGERS

- Maurizio Sarri v Giovanni Stroppa: 1 previous meeting – Spezia 1-3 Empoli (second tier, 2013-14).
- Sarri's record v Venezia and Stroppa's record v Atalanta as head coaches: not verified – to be checked.

SECTION 06

Team news & officials

Venezia's official convocati are published (11 Oct). Atalanta's official list still awaited at build time – rows marked **FLAG** need a final check.



Atalanta

PLAYER / ITEM	STATUS	DETAIL
Isak Hien	OUT	Muscle injury. Expected back after the November break (around matchday 12).
Odilon Kossounou	OUT	Thigh. Expected back around matchday 12.
Tommaso Pompei	OUT	Third-choice goalkeeper. Expected back around matchday 12.
Giacomo Raspadori	FLAG	Thigh injury with Italy (left squad after Turkey, 28 Sept). Trained with the group; press expect him in the convocati – await official Atalanta list.
Kamaldeen Sulemana	OUT	Knee. Still individual work / therapies; expected to miss out.
Pašalić / Elmas	INFO	The last internationals to return (Thursday 8 Oct).
Suspensions	FIT	None. Nobody is one booking from a ban.
Probable XI (4-3-3)	INFO	Carnesecchi; Bellanova, Kristensen, Scalvini, Bernasconi (Kolašinac); Kessié, Samardžić (Elmas), Éderson; De Ketelaere, Scamacca, Rowe. Some outlets have a 4-2-3-1 with Elmas behind Scamacca.



Venezia

PLAYER / ITEM	STATUS	DETAIL
Gianluca Busio	OUT	Thigh. Stroppa: "it will take a bit more time". First-choice penalty taker.
Bartol Franjić	OUT	Shoulder. Expected back around matchday 15.
Armel Bella-Kotchap	OUT	Thigh. Not in Venezia's official convocati (11 Oct).
Andrea Adorante	OUT	Hernia rehab. Last season's Serie B MVP (17 goals).
Marko Šverko	OUT	Hip.
Pasquale Mazzocchi	OUT	Not in Venezia's official convocati (11 Oct).
Bašić · Schingtienne · Dagasso	FIT	All three in Venezia's official convocati (11 Oct), with Sohm and Haps. Conflict resolved.
Penalties	INFO	With Busio out: John Yeboah or Akor Adams. Yeboah missed v Lazio (17').
Suspensions	FIT	None. Nobody is one booking from a ban.
Probable XI (3-5-2)	INFO	Stanković; Moreno, Juan Jesus, Schingtienne (Halhal); Hainaut, Kike Pérez, Sohm (Bašić), Helgason, Thierry Correia (Sagrado); Yeboah, Adams.

REFEREE & VAR

top-flight debut: Udinese 1-1 Lecce, Oct 23rd 2023. At least 11 top-flight games before tonight (10 between Oct 2023 and Sept 2025, plus 1 this season).

Assistants: Mattia Regattieri & Lorenzo Giuggioli 4th official: Giovanni Ayroldi

- VAR: Francesco Meraviglia Assistant VAR: Marco Piccinini
- One top-flight game this season: Udinese 1-2 Lazio (Sept 7th) – 6 yellow cards, no penalties.
- Previous games involving tonight's teams: Atalanta 2-3 Como (Sept 2024) and Lazio 3-1 Venezia (Aug 2024).
- Mostly a second-tier referee in recent seasons (14 Serie B games in 2025-26). Across his first 10 top-flight games: 6 home wins, 3 draws, 1 away win; 5 penalties awarded (4 to the home side) and 2 red cards. Card average about 5.5 per game (approximate).

Last line-ups



Atalanta

4-3-3

at Juventus · L 0-2
20 Sept 2026



Venezia

3-5-2

v Lazio · L 0-2
19 Sept 2026



Subs used: Giacomo Raspadori for Lazar Samardžić (63'); Gianluca Gaetano for Franck Kessié (72'); Gianluca Scamacca for Nikola Krstović (72'); Eljif Elmas for Jonathan Rowe (84')

Unused: Thomas Pompei, Marco Sportiello, Sead Kolašinac, Relja Obrić, Jacopo Mirra, Nicola Zalewski, Mario Pašalić, Davide Zappacosta



Subs used: L. Fanne for T. J. Helgason (73'); A. Rrahmani for A. Adams (73'); R. Sagrado for T. Correia (76'); T. Fernandez for J. Yeboah (87')

Unused: L. Montipo, R. Mohammed, R. Halhal, A. Gomes, S. Panada, L. Berardi, L. Laubach, K. Lisman

SECTION 08 · CLUB NOTES

Atalanta · club notes



Atalanta

Founded 1907 · New Balance Arena (opened 1928) · Head coach Maurizio Sarri

COPPA ITALIA 1 x · last 1962-63	EUROPA LEAGUE 1 x · last 2023-24	SERIE B TITLE 6 x · last 2010-11	SERIE C TITLE 1 x · last 1981-82
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Coppa Italia runners-up 5 times (1987, 1996, 2019, 2021, 2024); UEFA Super Cup runners-up 2024.

2025-26 IN REVIEW

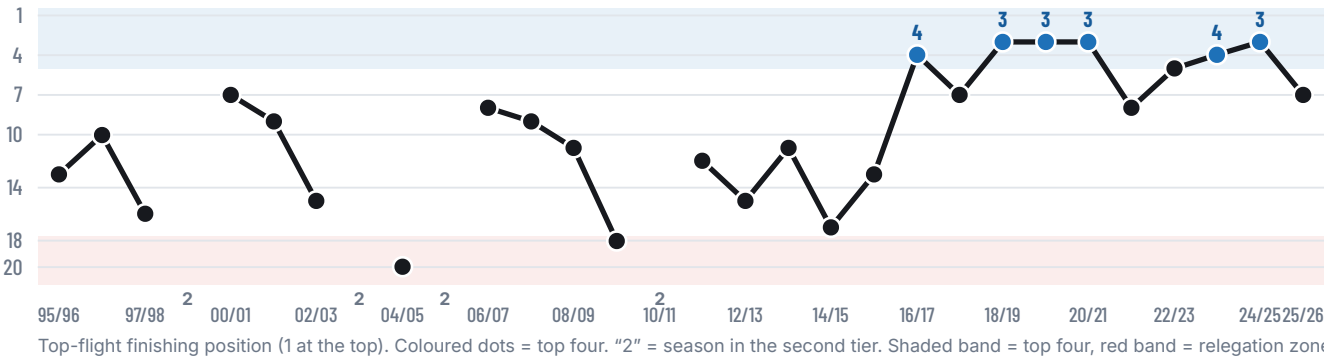
COMPETITION	FINISH	DETAIL
Serie A	7th	P38 W15 D14 L9 F51 A36 Pts59 (qualified for the Conference League)
Champions League	Last 16	Lost 10-2 on aggregate to Bayern Munich
Coppa Italia	Semi-final	Lost on penalties to Lazio (Sarri's side) at Bergamo
Top scorers (Serie A)	Scamacca & Krstović	10 each
Top scorer (all comps)	Gianluca Scamacca	14
Most apps	Marco Carnesecchi	37 league / 50 all comps

- Ivan Jurić was sacked on Nov 10th 2025 after a 3-0 home defeat by Sassuolo, with Atalanta 13th on 13 points from 11 games.
- Raffaele Palladino took 46 points from his 27 league games to finish 7th. He was then dismissed on June 9th 2026, and Maurizio Sarri was appointed on June 15th (contract to June 2029).
- Seventh place was confirmed on the final day despite a 1-0 home defeat by Bologna, thanks to the head-to-head record (Atalanta won 2-0 in Bologna).

EUROPEAN RECORD

SEASON	COMPETITION	STAGE
1963-64	Cup Winners' Cup	1st round
1987-88	Cup Winners' Cup	Semi-final (as a second-tier club)
1989-90	Europa League	1st round
1990-91	Europa League	Quarter-final
2017-18	Europa League	Round of 32
2018-19	Europa League	Play-off round
2019-20	Champions League	Quarter-final
2020-21	Champions League	Last 16
2021-22	Champions League / Europa League	Group stage / Quarter-final
2023-24	Europa League	WINNERS – 3-0 v Bayer Leverkusen (Lookman hat-trick)
2024-25	Champions League / UEFA Super Cup	Knockout play-offs / Runners-up
2025-26	Champions League	Last 16
2026-27	Conference League	League phase (beat Hapoel Tel Aviv 1-0 on agg. in play-off)

LEAGUE FINISHES SINCE 1995-96



2026-27 RESULTS

DATE	COMP	OPPONENT	H/A	RESULT	SCORERS
20 Aug 2026	UECL	Hapoel Tel Aviv	H	D 0-0	
23 Aug 2026	Serie A	Sassuolo	H	W 2-1	Raspadori 6', Krstovic 65'
27 Aug 2026	UECL	Hapoel Tel Aviv	A	W 1-0	Scamacca 72'
31 Aug 2026	Serie A	Bologna	H	W 1-0	Samardzic 90'
5 Sept 2026	Serie A	AS Roma	A	L 1-2	Ederson 47'
12 Sept 2026	Serie A	Cagliari	H	L 1-2	Scamacca 41'
20 Sept 2026	Serie A	Juventus	A	L 0-2	

SCORERS 2026-27

PLAYER	LGE	CUPS	TOTAL
Gianluca SCAMACCA	1	1	2
ÉDERSON	1	0	1
Lazar SAMARDŽIĆ	1	0	1
Nikola KRSTOVIĆ	1	0	1
Giacomo RASPADORI	1	0	1

NEXT FIXTURES

DATE	COMP	OPPONENT	H/A
Thu 15 Oct	Conference League	Pafos	H
Sun 18 Oct	Serie A	AC Milan	A
Thu 22 Oct	Conference League	Ajax	A
Sun 25 Oct	Serie A	Frosinone	H
Thu 29 Oct	Serie A	Fiorentina	A
Mon 2 Nov	Serie A	Parma	H

SEASON BY SEASON

SEASON	DIV	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS	POS	LEAGUE TOP SCORER
1995-96	1	34	11	6	17	38	50	39	13th	Domenico Morfeo 12
1996-97	1	34	11	11	12	44	46	44	10th	Filippo Inzaghi 25
1997-98	1	34	7	11	16	25	48	32	16th	Nicola Caccia 7
1998-99	2	38	14	19	5	44	27	32	6th	Nicola Caccia 19
1999-00	2	Promoted								
2000-01	1	34	10	14	10	38	34	44	7th	Nicola Ventola 11
2001-02	1	34	12	9	13	41	50	45	9th	Cristiano Doni 16
2002-03	1	34	8	14	12	35	47	38	15th	Cristiano Doni 10
2003-04	2	46	19	20	7	59	36	77	5th	Igor Budan / Carmine Gautieri 11
2004-05	1	38	8	11	19	34	45	35	20th	Andrea Lazzari 10
2005-06	2	42	24	9	9	61	39	81	1st	Nicola Ventola 15
2006-07	1	38	12	14	12	56	54	50	8th	Cristiano Doni / Riccardo Zampagna 13
2007-08	1	38	12	12	14	52	56	48	9th	Cristiano Doni 12
2008-09	1	38	13	8	17	45	48	47	11th	Sergio Floccari 12
2009-10	1	38	9	8	21	37	53	35	18th	Simone Tiribocchi 11
2010-11	2	42	22	13	7	61	35	79	1st	Simone Tiribocchi 14
2011-12	1	38	13	13	12	41	43	52	12th	Germán Denis 16
2012-13	1	38	11	9	18	39	56	40	15th	Germán Denis 15
2013-14	1	38	15	5	18	43	51	50	11th	Germán Denis 13
2014-15	1	38	7	16	15	38	57	37	17th	Germán Denis 8
2015-16	1	38	11	12	15	41	47	45	13th	Alejandro Gómez 7
2016-17	1	38	21	9	8	62	41	72	4th	Alejandro Gómez 16
2017-18	1	38	16	12	10	57	39	60	7th	Josip Iličić 15
2018-19	1	38	20	9	9	77	46	69	3rd	Duván Zapata 28
2019-20	1	38	23	9	6	98	48	78	3rd	Josip Iličić 21
2020-21	1	38	23	9	6	90	47	78	3rd	Luis Muriel 26
2021-22	1	38	16	11	11	65	48	59	8th	Luis Muriel / Mario Pašalić 14
2022-23	1	38	19	7	12	66	48	64	5th	Ademola Lookman 15
2023-24	1	38	21	6	11	72	42	69	4th	Gianluca Scamacca 19
2024-25	1	38	22	8	8	78	37	74	3rd	Mateo Retegui 28
2025-26	1	38	15	14	9	51	36	59	7th	—

SECTION 09 · CLUB NOTES

Venezia · club notes



Venezia

Founded 1907 · Stadio Pier Luigi Penzo · Head coach Giovanni Stroppa

COPPA ITALIA

1 x · last 1940-41

SERIE B TITLE

3 x · last 2025-26

SERIE C TITLE

3 x · last 2016-17

2025-26 IN REVIEW

COMPETITION	FINISH	DETAIL
Serie B	CHAMPIONS	P38 W24 D10 L4 F77 A31 Pts82
Coppa Italia	Last 16	
Top scorer	Andrea Adorante	17 goals – Serie B MVP

- Promotion was confirmed with a game to spare after a draw at Spezia (May 2026). It was Venezia's third promotion to the top flight in five seasons, and Stroppa's fourth promotion from the second tier in six years (Crotone 2019-20, Monza 2021-22, Cremonese 2024-25, Venezia 2025-26).
- Frosinone (81 points) were promoted alongside them; Monza came up through the play-offs.
- In May 2026 Venezia completed a €100m fundraising round. The club is US-owned, and the rapper Drake has been an investor since 2024.

RECENT SEASONS

SEASON	DIV	FINISH
2016-17	3	1st – promoted (also won the Coppa Italia Serie C)
2017-18	2	5th – lost play-off semi-final
2018-19	2	15th – lost relegation play-out, reprieved
2019-20	2	11th
2020-21	2	5th – promoted via play-offs
2021-22	1	20th – relegated
2022-23	2	8th
2023-24	2	Promoted via play-offs
2024-25	1	19th – relegated
2025-26	2	CHAMPIONS (82 pts)
2026-27	1	20th after 5 games

2026-27 RESULTS

DATE	COMP	OPPONENT	H/A	RESULT	SCORERS
15 Aug 2026	Coppa	Modena	H	W 3-2	Adams 26', Yeboah 83', Adams 85'
23 Aug 2026	Serie A	Lecce	H	L 0-2	
28 Aug 2026	Serie A	AC Milan	A	L 0-2	
2 Sept 2026	Coppa	Udinese	A	L 1-2	Sagrado 9'
6 Sept 2026	Serie A	Frosinone	A	L 2-3	John Yeboah 66', Richie Sagrado 74'
11 Sept 2026	Serie A	Fiorentina	H	L 2-4	Adams 22', Hainaut 86'
19 Sept 2026	Serie A	Lazio	H	L 0-2	

SCORERS 2026-27

PLAYER	LGE	CUPS	TOTAL
Akor ADAMS	1	2	3
Richie SAGRADO	1	1	2
John YEBOAH	1	1	2
Antoine HAINAUT	1	0	1

NEXT FIXTURES

DATE	COMP	OPPONENT	H/A
Sat 17 Oct	Serie A	Napoli	H
Sun 25 Oct	Serie A	Genoa	A
Wed 28 Oct	Serie A	Inter	H
Sun 1 Nov	Serie A	Como	A
Fri 6 Nov	Serie A	Udinese	H

SECTION 10

Internationals, milestones & birthdays



Atalanta

- 13 Atalanta players were called up for the Sept/Oct window (12 senior + Relja Obrić with Slovenia U21).
- Gianluca Scamacca scored the first goal in Italy's 3-1 Nations League win v Turkey in Bologna (Oct 5th), playing 56 minutes; he also came on in the 4-1 win in Turkey (Sept 28th).
- Giorgio Scalvini played the full game in Turkey (Sept 28th) but was rested for the return in Bologna. Marco Carnesecchi was an unused member of the Italy squad.
- Giacomo Raspadori played the first half in Turkey (Sept 28th) and then left the Italy squad injured.
- Charles De Ketelaere (Belgium) played in all four Nations League games, with an assist v Turkey.
- Mario Pašalić came off the bench in all four of Croatia's Nations League games, including the 7-0 home defeat by England (Oct 3rd).
- Eljif Elmas played every minute of North Macedonia's four Nations League games (all defeats, no goals scored).
- Also called up: Sead Kolašinac (Bosnia & Herzegovina), Franck Kessié (Ivory Coast), Nikola Krstović (Montenegro), Nicola Zalewski (Poland – an assist), Lazar Samardžić (Serbia), Relja Obrić (Slovenia U21).

Birthday on matchday

Venezia goalkeeper **Matteo Grandi** turns 34 today (born 12 Oct 1992).



Venezia

- 7 Venezia players were called up.
- Akor Adams played 182 minutes for Nigeria in their African championship qualifiers (v Madagascar and Guinea-Bissau) and scored.
- John Yeboah played 142 minutes for Ecuador at the Kirin Cup in Japan: Ecuador lost the semi-final to the hosts on penalties and then the third-place play-off to Panama. He also scored a penalty for Ecuador (Stroppa).
- Albion Rrahmani (Kosovo) played 69 minutes; Richie Sagrado played 90 minutes for Belgium U21.
- Also called up: Ridgiciano Haps (Suriname), Redouane Halhal (Morocco), Filip Stanković (Serbia).

Anniversary

Giovanni Stroppa won his first Italy cap on 13 Oct 1993 (v Scotland), 33 years ago tomorrow. No player milestones could be verified for tonight.

SECTION 11

The managers



Maurizio Sarri

Atalanta head coach · born 10.01.59 (67)

- Born in Naples and raised in Tuscany. Worked in banking while coaching in the amateur game, and only went full-time in football in his 40s.
- Won the Italian amateur cup with Sansovino, then worked his way up through the lower leagues before taking Empoli into the top flight (promoted as Serie B runners-up in 2013-14).
- Napoli 2015-18: three top-three finishes, including 91 points and 2nd place in 2017-18.
- Chelsea 2018-19: won the Europa League (and finished as League Cup runners-up).
- Juventus 2019-20: won the Italian title (runners-up in the Coppa Italia and the Supercoppa Italiana).
- Lazio 2021-24: 2nd in Serie A in 2022-23 and the Champions League last 16 in 2023-24. He resigned in March 2024.
- Returned to Lazio in June 2025, reached the 2025-26 the Coppa Italia final (lost 2-0 to Inter while he served a touchline ban), and left by mutual consent in May 2026.
- Appointed Atalanta head coach on June 15th 2026 (to June 2029). The club's statement noted 'more than 800 professional matches'.
- Has used a 4-3-3 in all 7 competitive matches this season. Atalanta average 47% possession (13th in Serie A) but complete 88.7% of their passes (4th).
- In the break: 'The time for alibis is over... from Monday against Venezia I want to see us play football' (L'Eco di Bergamo, Oct 6th).
- Previous meeting with Stroppa: Spezia 1-3 Empoli, second tier, 2013-14.



Giovanni Stroppa

Venezia head coach · born 24.01.68 (58)

- Born in Mulazzano (Lodi). An attacking midfielder who came through Milan's youth system and scored a long-range goal on his top-flight debut (a 3-0 win at Cesena, Aug 27th 1989).
- Won the Champions League, the UEFA Super Cup and the Intercontinental Cup with Arrigo Sacchi's Milan in 1989-90.
- Also played for Lazio, Zdeněk Zeman's Foggia, Udinese, Piacenza, Brescia and Genoa (85 apps and 9 goals for Milan in total). Won 4 caps for Italy under Sacchi – debut v Scotland on Oct 13th 1993, 33 years ago tomorrow.
- Coaching: Milan youth (2010-11), Südtirol, Pescara (top flight, 2012), Spezia, Südtirol again, Foggia (promoted from the third tier in 2016-17), Crotone, Monza, Cremonese and Venezia.
- Four promotions from the second tier in six seasons: Crotone 2019-20, Monza 2021-22, Cremonese 2024-25 and Venezia 2025-26 (champions, 82 points).
- Was in charge of Monza for their first ever top-flight games (2022-23) and was dismissed in Sept 2022.
- Has used a 3-5-2 in every league game this season (a 4-4-2 in the Coppa Italia v Modena). Venezia average 55% possession (6th) and 83.9% pass completion.
- Saturday: 'Sarri is a maestro... the table does not reflect the performances of Atalanta at all.'

SECTION 12 · SQUAD

Atalanta · squad bios

GOALKEEPERS

1

Piotr PARDEL

31.01.05 (21)

THE PLAYER

Goalkeeper. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

CAREER

- Polish goalkeeper.
- Product of the Atalanta academy.

22

T. POMPEI

— (DOB unverified)

THE PLAYER

Goalkeeper. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile. Currently injured.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season. **OUT – INJURED**

CAREER

- Goalkeeper; joined from Cosenza in Aug 2026 (fee undisclosed).

29

Marco CARNESECCHI

01.07.00 (26)

THE PLAYER

Atalanta's No.1: an agile, reflex shot-stopper rather than a giant (1.91m) who is quick off his line. Last season the data ranked him the most effective goalkeeper in the league after Maignan. Under Sarri he is being asked to play more out from the back in a 4-3-3, and that is still a work in progress – watch his short passing under pressure as much as his saves.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 5 apps (5 starts), 450 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 7 apps (7 starts), 630 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- save rate: 82% – 83rd percentile among 27 league goalkeepers (rank 5)
- goals prevented per 90: +0.33 – 80th percentile among 27 league goalkeepers (rank 6)
- passes per 90: 27.5 – 61st percentile among 27 league goalkeepers (rank 11)
- sweeper exits per 90: 1.3 – 54th percentile among 27 league goalkeepers (rank 13)

ON AIR

QUOTE “A fantastic season for me personally too, but a goalkeeper depends on how the team performs.” – Carnesecchi, pre-match interview (translated), 11 Apr 2026

STAT 82% save rate – 5th of 27 in the league in his position

FACT Only Wladimiro Falcone (27) has made more top-flight saves this season than his 24.

FACT Atalanta's most-used player last season (37 league apps, 50 in all competitions).

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Italy U20 3 caps, 0 goals; Italy U21 22 caps, 0 goals.

CAREER

- Italian goalkeeper, born in Rimini; joined from Cremonese in July 2023.
- Previous clubs: Trapani, Cremonese.
- Loaned to Trapani in July 2019.
- Honours: UEFA Europa League (2023/24).

31

Francesco ROSSI

27.04.91 (35)

THE PLAYER

Goalkeeper, 1.93m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Italy U20 3 caps, 0 goals. **unverified: youth totals from records without an update date**

CAREER

- Italian goalkeeper, born in Merate; joined from Teramo in Jan 2017.
- Previous clubs: Lumezzane, Cuneo, Pavia, Lupa Roma, Prato, Teramo.

57

Marco SPORTIELLO

10.05.92 (34)

THE PLAYER

Goalkeeper, 1.92m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

CAREER

- Italian goalkeeper, born in Desio; joined from AC Milan in July 2025 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Poggibonsi, Carpi, Fiorentina, Frosinone, AC Milan.

DEFENDERS

3 Kouakou KOSSOUNOU 04.01.01 (25)

THE PLAYER

Plays as a right-sided centre-back in Atalanta's 4-3-3, 360 league minutes so far. Right-footed, 1.91m, tall, powerful and quick. Statistically a ball-playing centre-back. Strengths: tidy and secure in possession and accurate over long distance. Less convincing: not a natural interceptor. On the ball, watch for him keeping it simple.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (4 starts), 360 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 6 apps (6 starts), 540 mins, 0 G, 0 A. **OUT – THIGH INJURY**

- pass completion: 97% – 99th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 1)
- long-pass accuracy: 67% – 85th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 10)
- progressive passes per 90: 5.7 – 54th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 34)
- progressive carries per 90: 0.47 – 47th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 39)

ON AIR

STAT 97% pass completion – 1st of 73 in the league in his position

INTERNATIONAL

Côte d'Ivoire: 40 caps, 0 goals (records to 30.06.2026). Tournament squads: AFCON 2021, AFCON 2023, AFCON 2025. **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; debut date not verified; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Ivorian defender, born in Abidjan; joined from Bayer Leverkusen in July 2025 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Hammarby FF, Club Brugge KV, Bayer Leverkusen.
- Moved from ASEC Mimosas to Hammarby FF in Jan 2019 on a free transfer.
- Honours: Super Cup (2024); CAF Africa Cup of Nations (2024); DFB Pokal (2023/24); Bundesliga (2023/24); Super Cup (2021); First Division A (2020/21).

4 Isak HIEN 13.01.99 (27)

THE PLAYER

Defender, 1.91m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile. Currently injured.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season. **OUT – MUSCLE INJURY**

INTERNATIONAL

Sweden: 32 caps, 0 goals (records to 26.06.2026). Debut: 24.09.2022 v Serbia (aged 23). Tournament squads: World Cup 2026. **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Swedish defender, born in Kista; joined from Verona in Jan 2024 for a reported fee of €8.5M.
- Previous clubs: Vasalund, Djurgardens IF, Hellas Verona.

23 Sead KOLAŠINAC 20.06.93 (33)

THE PLAYER

Plays as a left-back in Atalanta's 4-3-3, 238 league minutes so far. Left-footed, 1.83m, medium-built. Statistically a ball-winning full-back. Strengths: reads the game and steps in to intercept. Less convincing: is not quick off the mark. On the ball, watch him step in to cut out passes.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (3 starts), 238 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 5 apps (4 starts), 309 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- interceptions per 90: 4.0 – 68th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 20)
- defensive duels won: 54% – 50th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 32)
- expected assists per 90: 0.05 – 34th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 41)
- accelerations per 90: 0.00 – 21st percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 37)

INTERNATIONAL

Bosnia and Herzegovina: 73 caps, 0 goals. Tournament squads: World Cup 2014, World Cup 2026. **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; debut date not verified; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Bosnian defender, born in Karlsruhe; joined from Marseille in July 2023 on a free transfer.
- Previous clubs: FC Schalke 04, Arsenal, Marseille.
- Moved from Arsenal to FC Schalke 04 in Jan 2021 on loan.
- Honours: UEFA Europa League (2023/24); Community Shield (2020); FA Cup (2019/20); Community Shield (2017).

31 Thomas KRISTENSEN 17.01.02 (24)

THE PLAYER

A towering 1.98m Dane on loan from Udinese, picked by Sarri alongside Scalvini after injuries to Hien and Kossounou. Right-footed and composed in possession, with 97% passing in his limited league minutes so far. He dominates in the air at both ends. Without great recovery pace, he can be exposed when the line is turned, so watch Venezia's runners in behind him.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 1 apps (1 starts), 90 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 2 apps (1 starts), 154 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- pass completion: 97% – 99th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 2)
- aerial duels won: 78% – 91st percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 7)
- long-pass accuracy: 67% – 85th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 10)
- progressive passes per 90: 7.7 – 82nd percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 14)
- (small sample: under 270 minutes)

ON AIR

STAT 97% pass completion – 2nd of 73 in the league in his position

FACT On loan from Udinese. Expected to start in central defence with Hien and Kossounou injured.

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Denmark U20 1 cap, 0 goals; Denmark U21 15 caps, 1 goal. **unverified: youth totals from records without an update date**

CAREER

- Danish defender, born in Aarhus; joined from Udinese in Aug 2026 on loan.
- Previous clubs: Aarhus, Udinese.
- Moved from Aarhus to Udinese in Sept 2023 for a reported fee of €3M.

40 Relja OBRIC

11.04.06 (20)

THE PLAYER

Defender, 1.94m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Slovenia U19 11 caps, 0 goals; Slovenia U21 5 caps, 0 goals. **unverified: youth totals from records without an update date**

CAREER

- Slovenian defender, born in Belgrade.
- Product of the Atalanta academy.

42 Giorgio SCALVINI

11.12.03 (22)

THE PLAYER

A 1.94m, right-footed centre-back who reads danger early – he has twice finished in the league's top five for interceptions. Raised in Gasperini's man-to-man system, he has adapted to Sarri's zonal back four and says it has helped him with Italy. Calm on the ball and happy to step into midfield. Ever-present in the league this season, and back in the Italy side after two and a half years of injuries.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 5 apps (5 starts), 450 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 7 apps (7 starts), 566 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- pass completion: 95% – 97th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 3)
- progressive passes per 90: 6.3 – 71st percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 22)
- aerial duels won: 64% – 62nd percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 28)
- long-pass accuracy: 54% – 55th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 33)

ON AIR

QUOTE "Playing in Sarri's back four has let me adapt to the national team's current system, whereas before I was more used to playing man-to-man." – Scalvini, Italy press conference at Coverciano (translated), 30 Sep 2026

STAT 95% pass completion – 3rd of 73 in the league in his position

FACT Missed Euro 2024 after rupturing a cruciate ligament days before Italy left for Germany, and watched from the stand in Zenica as Italy missed out on the World Cup.

FACT Has just signed a new contract to 2031: 'If I've renewed it's because I've always been happy in Bergamo.'

FACT Sarri this week: 'Scalvini must become a big player.'

INTERNATIONAL

Italy: 11 caps, 0 goals. Debut: 14.06.2022 v Germany (aged 18), away in the Nations League. Last cap: 02.10.2026 v France (1-1, Paris). Missed Euro 2024 through injury.

CAREER

- Italian defender, born in Chiari.
- Product of the Atalanta academy.
- Honours: UEFA Europa League (2023/24).

43 Jacopo MIRRA

10.07.06 (20)

THE PLAYER

Defender. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

CAREER

- Italian defender, born in Rome; joined from AS Roma in June 2026 on a free transfer.
- Previous clubs: AS Roma.

77 Davide ZAPPACOSTA

11.06.92 (34)

THE PLAYER

Plays as a right-back in Atalanta's 4-3-3, 197 league minutes so far. Right-footed, 1.82m, medium-built. Strengths: carries the ball forward, takes on his man and has a burst of acceleration. Less convincing: creates few chances. On the ball, watch him drive forward with the ball.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 3 apps (2 starts), 197 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 3 apps (2 starts), 197 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- progressive carries per 90: 3.3 – 96th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 3)
- dribbles per 90: 2.1 – 74th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 17)
- accelerations per 90: 0.41 – 74th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 17)
- crosses per 90: 2.5 – 52nd percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 31)
- (small sample: under 270 minutes)

ON AIR

STAT 3.3 progressive carries per 90 – 3rd of 63 in the league in his position

INTERNATIONAL

Italy: 14 caps, 0 goals (records to 06.06.2025). Debut: 12.11.2016 v Liechtenstein (aged 24). Tournament squads: Euro 2016. **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Italian defender, born in Sora; joined from Chelsea in Aug 2021 for a reported fee of €9M.
- Previous clubs: Avellino, Torino, AS Roma, Genoa, Chelsea.
- Moved from AS Roma to Chelsea in Sept 2020.
- Honours: UEFA Europa League (2023/24); UEFA Europa League (2018/19); FA Cup (2017/18).

MIDFIELDERS

2 Javison IDELE

23.01.07 (19)

THE PLAYER

Midfielder. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

CAREER

- Italian midfielder.
- Product of the Atalanta academy.

8 Mario PASALIC

09.02.95 (31)

THE PLAYER

A Croatian midfielder who has been at Atalanta since 2018 (on loan from Chelsea at first, permanent since 2020), with 93 caps for Croatia. A clever, late-arriving midfielder with a knack for goals from the edge of the box. At 31 he is now a tidy, reliable squad player for Sarri (92% passing), more of a game-manager than a goal threat.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (2 starts), 184 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 6 apps (2 starts), 226 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- pass completion: 92% – 83rd percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 13)
- interceptions per 90: 3.5 – 75th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 19)
- key passes per 90: 0.58 – 72nd percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 21)
- passes per 90: 49.8 – 58th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 32)

ON AIR

FACT Scored his 50th top-flight goal at Venezia in Oct 2024, becoming the highest-scoring Croatian in top-flight history.

INTERNATIONAL

Croatia: 93 caps, 12 goals (debut 2014). October 2026 window: four Nations League appearances off the bench; last cap 06.10.2026 v Spain (1-2, Split). Tournament squads: World Cup 2022, World Cup 2026. ▶

unverified: debut date not verified

CAREER

- Croatian midfielder, born in Mainz; joined from Chelsea in Sept 2020 for a reported fee of €15M.
- Previous clubs: HNK Hajduk Split, Elche, Monaco, AC Milan, Spartak Moscow, Chelsea.
- Moved from Chelsea to Monaco in July 2015 on loan.
- Honours: UEFA Europa League (2023/24); Super Cup (2016); Cup (2012/13).

10 Lazar SAMARDŽIĆ

24.02.02 (24)

THE PLAYER

A left-footed, creative midfielder converted by Sarri from a No.10 into an interior. He has a sweet left foot, breaks lines with forward passes (6.0 progressive passes per 90) and shoots from range. His 96th-minute winner against Bologna was Atalanta's last-gasp highlight of the season. Defensively he is still adapting to the role. Watch his late runs and that left foot from the edge of the box.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 5 apps (3 starts), 257 mins, 1 G, 0 A. All competitions: 7 apps (5 starts), 395 mins, 1 G, 0 A.

- passes to the final third per 90: 8.5 – 85th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 12)
- defensive duels won: 60% – 67th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 24)
- key passes per 90: 0.43 – 59th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 31)
- progressive passes per 90: 6.0 – 55th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 34)

ON AIR

QUOTE “*Samardžić lived us up.*” – Sarri after the 1-0 win over Bologna (translated), 31 Aug 2026

FACT His 96th-minute winner against Bologna on 31 August is Atalanta's latest league winner this season.

FACT Scored the 90th-minute winner v Bologna (Aug 31st).

INTERNATIONAL

Serbia: 30 caps, 1 goal. ▶ **unverified: caps total not confirmed; October window: one appearance, v Germany as a 66th-minute sub; debut not verified**

CAREER

- Serbian midfielder, born in Berlin; joined from Udinese in July 2025 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Hertha BSC, RB Leipzig, Udinese.
- Moved from Hertha BSC to RB Leipzig in Sept 2020.

13 ÉDERSON

07.07.99 (27)

THE PLAYER

Brazilian engine room, now wearing the captain's armband after Marten de Roon's departure. A tireless, powerful box-to-box runner who covers ground, wins the ball back and carries it forward. Under Sarri he has a more attacking role, arriving in the box. His summer move to Manchester United fell through and he signed a new deal to 2031. He has played the most minutes of any Atalanta midfielder.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 5 apps (5 starts), 417 mins, 1 G, 0 A. All competitions: 7 apps (7 starts), 597 mins, 1 G, 0 A.

- interceptions per 90: 3.1 – 65th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 27)
- pass completion: 89% – 54th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 35)
- key passes per 90: 0.29 – 42nd percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 44)
- passes per 90: 44.7 – 41st percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 45)

ON AIR

FACT Inherited the captain's armband from Marten de Roon, calling it 'a real honour'. Renewed to 2031 in July.

INTERNATIONAL

Brazil: 5 caps, 0 goals; not called up for the September/October 2026 window. Tournament squads: Copa América 2024, World Cup 2026. **unverified: debut and last cap not verified**

CAREER

- Brazilian midfielder, born in Campo Grande; joined from Salernitana in July 2022 for a reported fee of €21M.
- Previous clubs: Desportivo Brasil, Cruzeiro, Corinthians, Fortaleza EC, Salernitana.
- Moved from Desportivo Brasil to Cruzeiro in July 2019.
- Honours: UEFA Europa League (2023/24); Copa do Brasil (2018).

16 Raoul BELLANOVA

17.05.00 (26)

THE PLAYER

An attacking right-back with genuine top-end pace. He made his name as a wing-back, bombing forward and crossing on the run. Sarri has turned him into a full-back in a four and praises his speed and late runs into the box. The defending is improving but can still be loose one-on-one. Watch for him overlapping the right winger and arriving at the far post.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (3 starts), 282 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 6 apps (5 starts), 462 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- interceptions per 90: 4.7 – 90th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 7)
- accelerations per 90: 0.36 – 71st percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 19)
- progressive carries per 90: 2.0 – 67th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 21)
- crosses per 90: 2.5 – 55th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 29)

INTERNATIONAL

Italy: 6 caps, 0 goals. Last cap 13.11.2025 v Moldova (2-0, World Cup qualifier, full 90). Tournament squads: Euro 2024. **unverified: debut date not verified; no cap since Nov 2025 (October 2026 squad not checked)**

CAREER

- Italian midfielder, born in Rho; joined from Torino in Aug 2024 for a reported fee of €20M.
- Previous clubs: AC Milan, Pescara, Bordeaux, Cagliari, Inter, Torino.
- Moved from Bordeaux to Cagliari in Aug 2021 on loan.
- Honours: Super Cup (2023); Coppa Italia (2022/23).

17 Charles DE KETELAERE

10.03.01 (25)

THE PLAYER

Elegant and two-footed: a 1.92m forward with silky close control who links play, glides past people and has a knack for big goals. A centre-forward for Belgium (three goals at the 2026 World Cup, including the only goal Spain conceded), he has been used on the right of Sarri's front three. He has said publicly that he is better centrally. Watch him drift inside to combine; he is Atalanta's most creative attacker.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 5 apps (4 starts), 355 mins, 0 G, 1 A. All competitions: 6 apps (4 starts), 385 mins, 0 G, 1 A.

- attacking duels won: 57% – 99th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 1)
- passes received per 90: 25.0 – 88th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 6)
- aerial duels won: 50% – 80th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 9)
- expected assists per 90: 0.09 – 51st percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 22)

ON AIR

QUOTE "If they asked me what my role in football is, I would say centre-forward." – De Ketelaere to La Dernière Heure (translated), Oct 2026

STAT 57% attacking duels won – 1st of 47 in the league in his position

FACT 32 goals and 32 assists for Atalanta. In November 2024 he scored twice and made three in a 6-1 win at Young Boys.

FACT Says he has scored seven times since Belgium's coach moved him up front.

INTERNATIONAL

Belgium: 39 caps, 9 goals (incl. all four Nations League games in Sept/Oct 2026; last cap 05.10.2026 v France, sub). Tournaments: World Cup 2026 (3 goals). **unverified: debut date not verified**

CAREER

- Belgian midfielder, born in Bruges; joined from AC Milan in July 2024 for a reported fee of €22M.
- Previous clubs: Club Brugge KV, AC Milan.
- Moved from Club Brugge KV to AC Milan in Aug 2022 for a reported fee of €32M.
- Honours: UEFA Europa League (2023/24); Super Cup (2022); First Division A (2021/22); Super Cup (2021); First Division A (2020/21); First Division A (2019/20).

19 Franck KESSIÉ

19.12.96 (29)

THE PLAYER

The prodigal son: a powerful, all-action box-to-box midfielder who left Atalanta for Milan nine years ago and has come back on a free from Al-Ahli. He can play as an interior or in front of the defence, wins his duels, carries the ball through midfield and is a cool penalty taker. He is not the quickest any more, but he reads the game and protects the back four. Watch him drive forward from deep.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 3 apps (2 starts), 169 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 3 apps (2 starts), 169 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- defensive duels won: 82% – 100th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 1)
- passes to the final third per 90: 11.9 – 96th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 4)
- passes per 90: 59.5 – 79th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 17)
- pass completion: 91% – 75th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 20)
- (small sample: under 270 minutes)

ON AIR

QUOTE “Coming back here was a choice from the heart... I’ve come home.” – Kessié, presentation press conference (translated), Sep 2026

STAT 82% defensive duels won – 1st of 75 in the league in his position

FACT Bergamo was the first European city he saw after leaving Côte d'Ivoire at 18. He returned nine years after his sale to Milan, turning down other clubs.

FACT Signed on a free transfer (three-year contract) after leaving Al-Ahli. Second spell at Atalanta – he broke through in Bergamo in 2016-17 before joining Milan.

INTERNATIONAL

Côte d'Ivoire: 108 caps, 17 goals (records to 24.09.2026). Tournament squads: AFCON 2017, AFCON 2021, AFCON 2023. **unverified: caps total differs between sources (93 or 108); October window: captain v Ghana (scored, 24.09) and v Somalia (29.09); last cap not confirmed**

CAREER

- Ivorian midfielder, born in Ouragahio; joined from Al-Ahli Jeddah in Aug 2026 on a free transfer.
- Previous clubs: Cesena, AC Milan, Barcelona, Al-Ahli Jeddah.
- Moved from AC Milan to Barcelona in July 2022 on a free transfer.
- Honours: Super Cup (2025); AFC Champions League Elite (2024/25); CAF Africa Cup of Nations (2024); Super Cup (2023); La Liga (2022/23); Serie A (2021/22).

21 Federico STEFFANONI

04.09.08 (18)

THE PLAYER

Midfielder. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Italy U18 3 caps, 0 goals; Italy U19 2 caps, 0 goals.

CAREER

- Italian midfielder.
- Product of the Atalanta academy.

47 Lorenzo BERNASCONI

16.11.03 (22)

THE PLAYER

A 22-year-old left-back, left-footed and energetic. He is competing with Kolašinac and Zalewski for a left-back spot that Sarri has not yet settled. Willing up and down the flank and a decent crosser, but still learning the positional side of a back four. One of the less experienced players in the side.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 3 apps (2 starts), 183 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 5 apps (3 starts), 292 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- interceptions per 90: 4.3 – 75th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 16)
- defensive duels won: 60% – 72nd percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 18)
- accelerations per 90: 0.29 – 67th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 21)
- progressive carries per 90: 0.57 – 12th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 56)

CAREER

- Italian midfielder, born in Crema; joined from Cremonese in July 2024 for a reported fee of €950K.
- Previous clubs: Cremonese.
- Honours: UEFA Europa League (2023/24).

47 Sergej LEVAK

03.05.06 (20)

THE PLAYER

Midfielder. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Croatia U18 6 caps, 0 goals; Croatia U19 1 cap, 0 goals.

CAREER

- Croatian midfielder, born in Osijek.
- Previous clubs: AS Roma.

52 Alberto MANZONI

25.06.05 (21)

THE PLAYER

Midfielder. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Italy U19 1 cap, 0 goals; Italy U20 4 caps, 0 goals.

CAREER

- Italian midfielder.
- Product of the Atalanta academy.

59 Nicola ZALEWSKI

23.01.02 (24)

THE PLAYER

A Poland international, comfortable on both flanks and used by Sarri as both a winger and a full-back. A neat, quick-footed dribbler (75% dribble success) who links play and delivers from wide. He doesn't shoot much. He is an option either to freshen the attack or to replace Bernasconi at left-back.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 3 apps (1 starts), 119 mins, 0 G, 1 A. All competitions: 5 apps (3 starts), 281 mins, 0 G, 1 A.

- dribble success: 75% – 78th percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 14)
- key passes per 90: 0.96 – 68th percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 24)
- progressive carries per 90: 2.9 – 62nd percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 28)
- expected assists per 90: 0.17 – 62nd percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 27)

INTERNATIONAL

Poland: 40 caps, 4 goals. Debut 05.09.2021 v San Marino (aged 19). October 2026 window: started v Romania (6-0, 02.10); last cap 05.10.2026 v Bosnia and Herzegovina (0-1, Zenica, full 90). Tournament squads: Euro 2024. **unverified: debut from one source only**

CAREER

- Polish midfielder, born in Tivoli; joined from Inter in Aug 2025 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Inter, AS Roma.
- Moved from AS Roma to Inter in Feb 2025 on loan.
- Honours: UEFA Conference League (2021/22).

70 Gianluca GAETANO

05.05.00 (26)

THE PLAYER

Plays as a holding midfielder in Atalanta's 4-3-3, 288 league minutes so far. Right-footed, 1.83m, medium-built. Statistically a ball-progressing holding midfielder. Strengths: breaks lines with forward passes and tidy and secure in possession. Less convincing: not a natural interceptor. On the ball, watch for his passes through the lines.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (3 starts), 288 mins, 0 G, 1 A. All competitions: 6 apps (5 starts), 468 mins, 0 G, 1 A.

- progressive passes per 90: 8.4 – 89th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 9)
- pass completion: 91% – 74th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 20)
- passes per 90: 51.9 – 63rd percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 28)
- progressive carries per 90: 1.1 – 54th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 34)

ON AIR

FACT Signed from Cagliari in the summer for a reported €12m.

FACT Sent off in stoppage time at Roma (Sept 5th).

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Italy U20 1 cap, 0 goals; Italy U21 3 caps, 1 goal.

CAREER

- Italian midfielder, born in Cimitile; joined from Cagliari in July 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Cremonese, Napoli, Cagliari.
- Moved from Napoli to Cagliari in Aug 2024 on loan.
- Honours: Serie A (2022/23).

99 Eljif ELMAS

24.09.99 (27)

THE PLAYER

Plays as a left-sided forward in Atalanta's 4-3-3, 118 league minutes so far. Right-footed, 1.84m, medium-built. Statistically a ball-winning winger. No single standout area in the numbers so far. Less convincing: is not quick off the mark.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (1 starts), 118 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 4 apps (1 starts), 118 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- dribbles per 90: 2.4 – 29th percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 52)
- accelerations per 90: 0.00 – 22nd percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 42)
- progressive carries per 90: 1.2 – 16th percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 62)
- dribble success: 33% – 8th percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 67)
- (small sample: under 270 minutes)

ON AIR

FACT On loan from RB Leipzig (reported €2m loan fee). Played every minute of North Macedonia's four Nations League games during the break.

INTERNATIONAL

North Macedonia: 83 caps, 13 goals. **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; debut date not verified; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- North Macedonian midfielder, born in Skopje; joined from RB Leipzig in Aug 2026 on loan.
- Previous clubs: FK Rabotnicki, Fenerbahçe, Torino, RB Leipzig, Napoli, FYR Macedonia.
- Moved from RB Leipzig to Torino in Jan 2025 on loan.
- Honours: Serie A (2022/23); Coppa Italia (2019/20).

FORWARDS

7 Kamaldeen SULEMANA

15.02.02 (24)

THE PLAYER

Forward, 1.75m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile. Currently injured.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season. **OUT – KNEE, INDIVIDUAL WORK**

INTERNATIONAL

Ghana: 30 caps, 1 goal (records to 27.06.2026). Tournament squads: AFCON 2021, World Cup 2022, World Cup 2026. **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; debut date not verified; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Ghanaian forward, born in Techiman; joined from Southampton in July 2025 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: FC Nordsjaelland, Rennes, Southampton.

9 Gianluca SCAMACCA

01.01.99 (27)

THE PLAYER

A 1.95m centre-forward with unusual technique for his size: a lovely first touch, a powerful long-range shot and a knack for the spectacular volley. He wants the ball to feet and drops deep to link, rather than just playing on the shoulder. Injuries have interrupted the last two seasons, and Sarri has called getting him to 100% 'the big challenge'. He came off the bench to score the winner that took Atalanta into the European league phase.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 5 apps (4 starts), 259 mins, 1 G, 0 A. All competitions: 7 apps (5 starts), 341 mins, 2 G, 0 A.

- aerial duels won: 58% – 90th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 5)
- expected assists per 90: 0.17 – 79th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 10)
- passes received per 90: 17.6 – 71st percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 14)
- attacking duels won: 34% – 39th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 29)

ON AIR

QUOTE "He is a strong centre-forward, but I'm convinced he has the attributes to do more. The big challenge is getting him to 100%." – Sarri at his presentation (translated), 16 Jul 2026

QUOTE "The dream I have is to win a league title. One title – I said one." – Scamacca (translated), Jun 2026

STAT 58% aerial duels won – 5th of 47 in the league in his position

FACT Came off the bench in Miskolc to score the winner against Hapoel Tel Aviv that put Atalanta into the European league phase.

FACT Scored the opening goal in Italy's 3-1 win v Turkey in Bologna on Oct 5th.

FACT Atalanta's top scorer in all competitions last season (14), and joint top scorer in the league (10, with Krstović).

INTERNATIONAL

Italy: 25 caps, 2 goals. Last cap 05.10.2026 v Türkiye (3-1, Bologna, Nations League): he scored his second international goal, 1,084 days after his first (v England, Wembley, Oct 2023). **unverified: debut date not verified**

CAREER

- Italian forward, born in Rome; joined from West Ham in Aug 2023 for a reported fee of €25M.
- Previous clubs: Cremonese, PEC Zwolle, Ascoli, Genoa, Sassuolo, West Ham.
- Moved from Sassuolo to Genoa in Oct 2020 on loan.
- Honours: UEFA Europa League (2023/24); UEFA Conference League (2022/23).

11 Jonathan ROWE

30.04.03 (23)

THE PLAYER

A quick, direct English winger signed from Bologna in September. He likes to cut in on his stronger foot, run at full-backs and shoot. Sarri wants him decisive in the final third while also helping defensively. He can drift out of games, and his end product is the area to judge.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 2 apps (2 starts), 174 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 2 apps (2 starts), 174 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- progressive carries per 90: 4.1 – 84th percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 12)
- dribbles per 90: 5.0 – 83rd percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 13)
- touches in the box per 90: 4.5 – 78th percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 16)
- accelerations per 90: 0.41 – 69th percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 23)
- (small sample: under 270 minutes)

ON AIR

FACT Joined from Bologna in September. He says his dream remains a senior England cap.

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: England U21 10 caps, 3 goals. **unverified: youth totals from records without an update date**

CAREER

- English forward, born in London; joined from Bologna in Aug 2026 on loan.
- Previous clubs: Norwich, Marseille, Bologna.
- Moved from Norwich to Marseille in June 2025 (fee undisclosed).
- Honours: UEFA U21 Championship (2025).

18 Giacomo RASPADORI

18.02.00 (26)

THE PLAYER

A small, clever forward who can play anywhere across the front line. A European champion with Italy in 2021 and a league winner with Napoli in 2023. He is two-footed and sharp in the box, and he shoots readily. He is back after a thigh problem on international duty, so expect him to be one of Sarri's first changes.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (2 starts), 179 mins, 1 G, 0 A. All competitions: 6 apps (4 starts), 329 mins, 1 G, 0 A. **FLAG – TRAINED WITH GROUP; PRESS EXPECT IN SQUAD (AWAIT OFFICIAL LIST)**

- shots per 90: 2.8 – 73rd percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 20)
- touches in the box per 90: 3.4 – 57th percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 32)
- expected assists per 90: 0.14 – 50th percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 35)
- key passes per 90: 0.69 – 42nd percentile among 73 league attacking midfielders/wingers (rank 43)

ON AIR

FACT Thigh injury on international duty – trained with the group; press expect him in the squad (await official list).

INTERNATIONAL

Italy: 47 caps, 11 goals. Last cap 28.09.2026 v Türkiye (Bursa, Nations League): started, then went off at half-time with a thigh injury. Tournament squads: Euro 2020 (winner). **unverified: debut date not verified; caps total from one source**

CAREER

- Italian forward, born in Bentivoglio; joined from Atletico Madrid in Jan 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Sassuolo, Napoli, Atletico Madrid.
- Moved from Sassuolo to Napoli in Aug 2022 on loan.
- Honours: Serie A (2024/25); Serie A (2022/23); UEFA European Championship (2021).

90 Nikola KRSTOVIĆ

05.04.00 (26)

THE PLAYER

A Montenegro centre-forward who lives in the penalty area. He is fifth among the league's centre-forwards for shots per 90 (4.1) and in the top 10 for touches in the box and xG, so he gets chances whenever he plays. He is an aggressive presser and a willing runner but rarely creates for others. He has mostly come off the bench behind Scamacca.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 5 apps (1 starts), 191 mins, 1 G, 0 A. All competitions: 7 apps (2 starts), 289 mins, 1 G, 0 A.

- shots per 90: 4.1 – 90th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 5)
- touches in the box per 90: 6.2 – 84th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 8)
- xG per 90: 0.66 – 80th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 10)
- aerial duels won: 43% – 69th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 15)

ON AIR

STAT 4.1 shots per 90 – 5th of 47 in the league in his position

FACT Joint top scorer in Serie A for Atalanta last season (10).

INTERNATIONAL

Montenegro: 38 caps, 10 goals. Debut 28.03.2022 v Greece (aged 21).
 October 2026 window: 4 games, 2 goals (v Cyprus and v Armenia in September); last cap 05.10.2026 v Armenia (0-0). ■ unverified: debut from one source only

CAREER

- Montenegrin forward, born in Golubovci; joined from Lecce in Aug 2025 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Zeta, Grafičar, FK Crvena Zvezda, Dunajska Streda, Lecce.
- Moved from Grafičar to FK Crvena Zvezda in July 2020.
- Honours: Super Liga (2020/21); Cup (2020/21).

SECTION 13 · SQUAD

Venezia · squad bios

GOALKEEPERS

1 Filip STANKOVIĆ 25.02.02 (24)

THE PLAYER

Venezia's first-choice goalkeeper and a Serbia international. Son of Dejan Stanković, he came through Inter's academy. He is heavily involved in Stroppa's build-up: no keeper in the league makes more passes per 90 (43.8), and he is accurate when he goes long. Brave and quick off his line. His shot-stopping numbers so far are only modest, so Atalanta may test him from distance.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

- League: 5 apps (5 starts), 450 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 6 apps (6 starts), 540 mins, 0 G, 0 A.
- passes per 90: 43.8 – 98th percentile among 27 league goalkeepers (rank 1)
 - long-pass accuracy: 62% – 76th percentile among 27 league goalkeepers (rank 7)
 - sweeper exits per 90: 1.4 – 57th percentile among 27 league goalkeepers (rank 12)
 - goals prevented per 90: -0.31 – 31st percentile among 27 league goalkeepers (rank 19)

ON AIR

- STAT** 43.8 passes per 90 – 1st of 27 in the league in his position
- FACT** Son of the former Inter and Lazio midfielder Dejan Stanković.

INTERNATIONAL

Serbia: 2 caps, 0 goals (records to 05.06.2026). **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; debut date not verified; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Serbian goalkeeper, born in Rome; joined from Inter in July 2025 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Sampdoria, FC Volendam, Inter.
- Moved from FC Volendam to Inter in July 2023.
- Honours: Serie A (2020/21).

23 Matteo GRANDI 12.10.92 (34)

THE PLAYER

Goalkeeper, 1.90m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

ON AIR

- FACT** Celebrates his 34th birthday today.

CAREER

- Italian goalkeeper, born in Faenza; joined from Sangiuliano City in July 2023 on a free transfer.
- Previous clubs: Sudtiroi, Pergolettese, Cesena, Catanzaro, Latina, Bassano Virtus, Sangiuliano City, Vicenza Virtus.

28 A. POZZI — (DOB unverified)

THE PLAYER

Goalkeeper. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

CAREER

- Goalkeeper; joined from Vis Pesaro in July 2026 (fee undisclosed).

96 Lorenzo MONTIPÒ 20.02.96 (30)

THE PLAYER

Goalkeeper, 1.91m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 0 apps (0 starts), 0 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 1 apps (1 starts), 90 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Italy U20 1 cap, 0 goals; Italy U21 2 caps, 0 goals. **unverified: youth totals from records without an update date**

CAREER

- Italian goalkeeper, born in Novara; joined from Hellas Verona in Aug 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Robur Siena, Carpi, Novara, Benevento, Hellas Verona.
- Moved from Novara to Benevento in July 2019.
- Honours: Serie B (2019/20).

DEFENDERS

2 Matías MORENO 24.09.03 (23)

THE PLAYER

A 1.93m, powerful centre-back who plays on the right of the back three. He is aggressive and front-foot: 6.8 interceptions per 90, fourth in the league among centre-backs, and he wins 80% of his aerial duels. He also hits accurate long passes. Because he steps out so readily, he can be exposed one-on-one if the striker turns him. That will be the test against Scamacca.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

- League: 3 apps (2 starts), 174 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 3 apps (2 starts), 174 mins, 0 G, 0 A.
- interceptions per 90: 6.8 – 95th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 4)
 - aerial duels won: 80% – 93rd percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 5)
 - long-pass accuracy: 67% – 85th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 10)
 - progressive passes per 90: 7.7 – 84th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 12)
 - (small sample: under 270 minutes)

ON AIR

- STAT** 6.8 interceptions per 90 – 4th of 73 in the league in his position

CAREER

- Argentine defender; joined from Fiorentina in July 2026 on loan.
- Previous clubs: Belgrano Cordoba, Fiorentina, Levante.
- Moved from Belgrano Cordoba to Fiorentina in Aug 2024 for a reported fee of €5M.

3 Joël SCHINGTIENNE

14.08.02 (24)

THE PLAYER

A tall, left-footed Belgian centre-back who plays on the left of Venezia's back three. Strong in the air and comfortable carrying the ball out. He is back from injury.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 5 apps (5 starts), 450 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 6 apps (6 starts), 540 mins, 0 G, 0 A. **FIT – IN CONVOCATI**

- defensive duels won: 67% – 85th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 10)
- progressive passes per 90: 6.2 – 64th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 27)
- aerial duels won: 55% – 38th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 46)
- progressive carries per 90: 0.15 – 19th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 59)

ON AIR

QUOTE “Bašić, Schingtienne and Dagasso are in.” – Stroppa, pre-match press conference (translated), 10 Oct 2026

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Belgium U21 1 cap, 0 goals. **unverified: youth totals from records without an update date**

CAREER

- Belgian defender; joined from OH Leuven in Aug 2024 for a reported fee of €3M.
- Previous clubs: OH Leuven.

5 Ridgesciano HAPS

12.06.93 (33)

THE PLAYER

Plays as a left-sided centre-back in Venezia's 3-5-2, 257 league minutes so far. Left-footed, 1.75m, compact. Statistically a ball-carrying centre-back. Strengths: carries the ball forward and breaks lines with forward passes. Less convincing: can be loose in possession. On the ball, watch him drive forward with the ball.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (3 starts), 257 mins, 0 G, 1 A. All competitions: 6 apps (4 starts), 333 mins, 0 G, 1 A.

- progressive carries per 90: 1.3 – 91st percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 7)
- progressive passes per 90: 7.1 – 76th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 18)
- long-pass accuracy: 57% – 63rd percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 26)
- pass completion: 83% – 13th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 64)

INTERNATIONAL

Surname: 26 caps, 2 goals. Debut: 04.06.2021 v Bermuda (aged 27). Tournament squads: Gold Cup 2021. **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Surinamese defender, born in Utrecht; joined from Genoa in July 2024.
- Previous clubs: GO Ahead Eagles, AZ Alkmaar, Feyenoord, Genoa.
- Moved from AZ Alkmaar to GO Ahead Eagles in Feb 2014 on loan.
- Honours: Super Cup (2018); KNVB Beker (2017/18); Super Cup (2017); KNVB Beker (2012/13).

14 Thierry CORREIA

09.03.99 (27)

THE PLAYER

A Portuguese wing-back who loves to run with the ball. Among the league's full-backs and wing-backs he is in the top 10 for dribbles per 90 (3.0), and he carries and crosses well. He is not especially quick off the mark and has shared the left side with Sagrado, who often replaces him late on.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (2 starts), 185 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 6 apps (3 starts), 307 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- dribbles per 90: 3.0 – 85th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 10)
- progressive carries per 90: 2.2 – 75th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 16)
- crosses per 90: 3.3 – 74th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 17)
- expected assists per 90: 0.15 – 69th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 19)

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Portugal U20 9 caps, 0 goals; Portugal U21 10 caps, 0 goals. **unverified: youth totals from records without an update date**

CAREER

- Portuguese defender, born in Amadora; joined from Valencia in June 2026 on a free transfer.
- Previous clubs: Sporting CP, Valencia.
- Moved from Sporting CP to Valencia in Sept 2019 for a reported fee of €12M.
- Honours: Taça da Liga (2018/19); Taça de Portugal (2018/19); UEFA U19 Championship (2017/18); Júniores U19 (2016/17); UEFA U17 Championship (2015/16).

15 JUAN JESUS

10.06.91 (35)

THE PLAYER

The veteran of the back three at 35: a left-footed Brazilian centre-back with Inter, Roma and Napoli on his CV. He keeps things simple on the ball (95% passing, sixth among the league's centre-backs) and organises the line. He is not the quickest any more and is no longer a big ball-winner, so Atalanta's movement in behind could test him. He has limited league minutes so far.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 2 apps (1 starts), 111 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 2 apps (1 starts), 111 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- pass completion: 95% – 92nd percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 6)
- defensive duels won: 58% – 45th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 41)
- long-pass accuracy: 50% – 43rd percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 39)
- interceptions per 90: 3.0 – 12th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 65)
- (small sample: under 270 minutes)

ON AIR

FACT Joined on a free transfer on Aug 30th after leaving Napoli, where he won two Italian titles.

INTERNATIONAL

Brazil: 4 caps, 0 goals. Debut: 26.05.2012 v Denmark (aged 20). **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Brazilian defender, born in Belo Horizonte; joined from Napoli in Aug 2026 on a free transfer.
- Previous clubs: Internacional, Inter, AS Roma, Napoli.
- Moved from Inter to AS Roma in July 2017 for a reported fee of €8M.
- Honours: Serie A (2024/25); Serie A (2022/23); CONMEBOL U20 (2011); FIFA U20 World Cup (2011); CONMEBOL Recopa (2011); CONMEBOL Libertadores (2010).

16 Rufai MOHAMMED

15.03.06 (20)

THE PLAYER

Defender. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

CAREER

- Ghanaian defender; joined from IF Elfsborg in Aug 2026 on loan.
- Previous clubs: IFK Varnamo, IF Elfsborg.

17 Armel BELLA-KOTCHAP

11.12.01 (24)

THE PLAYER

Plays as a centre-back in Venezia's 3-5-2, 196 league minutes so far. Right-footed, 1.90m, tall, powerful. Statistically a intercepting centre-back. Strengths: wins his individual battles, dominant in the air and accurate over long distance. Less convincing: seldom carries the ball. On the ball, watch his one-v-one defending.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 3 apps (3 starts), 196 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 5 apps (5 starts), 376 mins, 0 G, 0 A. **OUT – THIGH; NOT IN CONVOCATI**

- defensive duels won: 72% – 92nd percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 6)
- aerial duels won: 74% – 79th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 16)
- long-pass accuracy: 63% – 77th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 17)
- progressive passes per 90: 6.9 – 75th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 19)

INTERNATIONAL

Germany: 2 caps, 0 goals (records to 16.11.2022). Tournament squads: World Cup 2022. **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; debut date not verified; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- German defender, born in Paris; joined from Hellas Verona in June 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: VfL Bochum, PSV Eindhoven, Hellas Verona, Southampton.
- Moved from PSV Eindhoven to Southampton in July 2024.
- Honours: Eredivisie (2023/24); 2. Bundesliga (2020/21).

20 Richie SAGRADO

30.01.04 (22)

THE PLAYER

A 22-year-old Belgian left wing-back who usually comes on for Correia late in games. Right-footed, gets forward and arrives in the box; he has two goals in all competitions this season from limited minutes. He is defensively still developing.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (1 starts), 166 mins, 1 G, 0 A. All competitions: 6 apps (2 starts), 272 mins, 2 G, 0 A.

- dribbles per 90: 1.5 – 55th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 29)
- defensive duels won: 54% – 45th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 35)
- accelerations per 90: 0.00 – 21st percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 37)
- expected assists per 90: 0.03 – 17th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 50)

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Belgium U19 3 caps, 0 goals; Belgium U21 1 cap, 0 goals. **unverified: youth totals from records without an update date**

CAREER

- Belgian defender; joined from OH Leuven in Aug 2024 for a reported fee of €2M.
- Previous clubs: OH Leuven.

25 Redouane HALHAL

05.03.03 (23)

THE PLAYER

Plays as a left-sided centre-back in Venezia's 3-5-2, 136 league minutes so far. Right-footed, 1.87m, tall. Statistically a ball-carrying centre-back. Strengths: dominant in the air, tidy and secure in possession and carries the ball forward. Less convincing: his long passing is erratic. On the ball, a target at set pieces.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 2 apps (1 starts), 136 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 4 apps (3 starts), 316 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- aerial duels won: 83% – 97th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 3)
- pass completion: 93% – 76th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 18)
- progressive carries per 90: 0.78 – 73rd percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 20)
- interceptions per 90: 5.0 – 52nd percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 34)

ON AIR

STAT 83% aerial duels won – 3rd of 73 in the league in his position

INTERNATIONAL

Morocco: 5 caps, 0 goals (records to 04.07.2026). Tournament squads: World Cup 2026. **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; debut date not verified; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Moroccan defender, born in Montpellier; joined from KV Mechelen in July 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Montpellier, Helmond Sport, KV Mechelen.
- Moved from KV Mechelen to Helmond Sport in Aug 2024 on loan.
- Honours: CAF U23 Cup of Nations (2023).

33 Marin ŠVERKO

04.02.98 (28)

THE PLAYER

Defender, 1.87m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile. Currently injured.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season. **OUT – HIP**

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Croatia U20 1 cap, 0 goals; Croatia U21 11 caps, 1 goal.

CAREER

- Croatian defender, born in Pforzheim; joined from Groningen in July 2023.
- Previous clubs: FSV Mainz 05, Karlsruher SC, SG Sonnenhof Grossaspach, FC Saarbrücken, Groningen.

70 Pasquale MAZZOCCHI

27.07.95 (31)

THE PLAYER

Defender, 1.83m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile. Currently injured.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season. **OUT – NOT IN CONVOCATI**

ON AIR

FACT On loan from Napoli. OUT – not in Venezia's official convocati (11 Oct).

INTERNATIONAL

Italy: 1 cap, 0 goals (records to 26.09.2022). **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; debut date not verified; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Italian defender, born in Naples; joined from Napoli in Aug 2026 on loan.
- Previous clubs: PRO Piacenza, Rimini, Parma, Perugia, Salernitana, Napoli.

95 A. GOMES

— (DOB unverified)

THE PLAYER

Defender. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 0 apps (0 starts), 0 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 1 apps (1 starts), 72 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

CAREER

- Defender; joined from Zaragoza in July 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Zaragoza.

MIDFIELDERS

4 Bartol FRANJIĆ

14.01.00 (26)

THE PLAYER

Plays as a left-sided centre-back in Venezia's 3-5-2, 134 league minutes so far. Left-footed, 1.86m, tall. Statistically a ball-carrying centre-back. Strengths: wins his individual battles, carries the ball forward and breaks lines with forward passes. Less convincing: not a natural interceptor. On the ball, watch his one-v-one defending.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 2 apps (2 starts), 134 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 2 apps (2 starts), 134 mins, 0 G, 0 A. **OUT – SHOULDER**

- defensive duels won: 80% – 99th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 2)
- progressive carries per 90: 1.9 – 99th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 2)
- progressive passes per 90: 9.4 – 93rd percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 6)
- long-pass accuracy: 62% – 77th percentile among 73 league centre-backs (rank 18)
- (small sample: under 270 minutes)

ON AIR

STAT 80% defensive duels won – 2nd of 73 in the league in his position

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Croatia U20 1 cap, 0 goals; Croatia U21 15 caps, 1 goal.

CAREER

- Croatian midfielder, born in Zagreb; joined from VfL Wolfsburg in June 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: SV Darmstadt 98, Dinamo Zagreb, Shakhtar Donetsk, VfL Wolfsburg.
- Moved from Shakhtar Donetsk to VfL Wolfsburg in Jan 2025.
- Honours: HNL (2021/22); HNL (2020/21); Cup (2020/21); HNL (2019/20); Super Cup (2019); 1. HNL Juniori (2018/19).

6 Gianluca BUSIO

28.05.02 (24)

THE PLAYER

Plays as a holding midfielder in Venezia's 3-5-2, 314 league minutes so far. Right-footed, 1.72m, compact. Statistically a ball-progressing holding midfielder. Strengths: wins his individual battles, carries the ball forward and tidy and secure in possession. On the ball, watch his one-v-one defending.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (4 starts), 314 mins, 0 G, 2 A. All competitions: 5 apps (5 starts), 404 mins, 0 G, 2 A. **OUT – THIGH**

- defensive duels won: 81% – 99th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 1)
- progressive carries per 90: 1.6 – 82nd percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 14)
- pass completion: 92% – 79th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 16)
- progressive passes per 90: 6.8 – 73rd percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 21)

ON AIR

QUOTE “It will take a bit more time.” – Stroppa on Busio's thigh injury, Oct 2026

STAT 81% defensive duels won – 1st of 75 in the league in his position

FACT Out (thigh). Venezia's first-choice penalty taker.

INTERNATIONAL

United States: 17 caps, 1 goal. Debut: 04.04.2018 (aged 15). **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; debut opponent not verified; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- American midfielder, born in Greensboro; joined from Sporting Kansas City in Aug 2021.
- Previous clubs: Sporting Kansas City.
- Honours: Concacaf Nations League (2022/23); Concacaf Gold Cup (2021).

8 Lamine FANNE

30.01.04 (22)

THE PLAYER

Midfielder, 1.85m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 1 apps (0 starts), 17 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 3 apps (0 starts), 37 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

CAREER

- Spanish midfielder, born in Kandioukou; joined from Luton in Jan 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Pescara, Luton, AIK Stockholm.
- Moved from Luton to AIK Stockholm in Aug 2024 on loan.

10 John YEBOAH

23.06.00 (26)

THE PLAYER

Venezia's No.10 and their most dangerous dribbler: a small, low-centre-of-gravity forward who plays international football for Ecuador. He drifts in from the left, beats people in tight spaces and is the side's penalty taker this season. Sometimes over-elaborates. Watch for him running at Bellanova.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 5 apps (4 starts), 382 mins, 1 G, 0 A. All competitions: 6 apps (5 starts), 471 mins, 2 G, 0 A.

- passes received per 90: 27.5 – 93rd percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 4)
- shots per 90: 3.3 – 74th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 12)
- xG per 90: 0.55 – 67th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 16)
- expected assists per 90: 0.10 – 61st percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 17)

ON AIR

QUOTE *"I've never been so happy; I'm really well here."* – Yeboah (translated), Jan 2026

STAT 27.5 passes received per 90 – 4th of 47 in the league in his position

FACT Missed a penalty v Lazio (Sept 19th). Played 142 minutes for Ecuador at the Kirin Cup in the break.

INTERNATIONAL

Ecuador: 30 caps, 3 goals. October 2026 window: Kirin Cup in Japan, on 01.10 v Japan (semi-final, lost on penalties, off 67') and 05.10 v Panama (third-place play-off, started). Tournament squads: World Cup 2026. **unverified: caps total from one source only; debut not verified**

CAREER

- German midfielder, born in Hamburg; joined from Raków Częstochowa in Aug 2024 for a reported fee of €2.5M.
- Previous clubs: VVV Venlo, VfL Wolfsburg, Almere City FC, MSV Duisburg, Śląsk Wrocław, Raków Częstochowa.
- Moved from Śląsk Wrocław to Raków Częstochowa in July 2023.

18 Antoine HAINAUT

18.02.02 (24)

THE PLAYER

Venezia's most productive wide player: a tall, right-footed wing-back who gets forward at every opportunity. He ranks third among the league's full-backs and wing-backs for expected assists per 90 and eighth for crosses. He has a goal and an assist in five league starts and has started every game. He can be got at one-on-one, so watch his duel with Rowe or Bernasconi down that flank.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 5 apps (5 starts), 445 mins, 1 G, 1 A. All competitions: 6 apps (6 starts), 519 mins, 1 G, 1 A.

- expected assists per 90: 0.29 – 96th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 3)
- crosses per 90: 4.6 – 88th percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 8)
- progressive carries per 90: 2.1 – 72nd percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 18)
- dribbles per 90: 2.0 – 72nd percentile among 63 league full-backs/wing-backs (rank 18)

ON AIR

STAT 0.29 expected assists per 90 – 3rd of 63 in the league in his position

FACT His 1.77 expected assists this season (all comps) are the most in either squad.

CAREER

- French midfielder, born in Boulogne; joined from Parma in Aug 2025 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Boulogne, Parma.
- Moved from Boulogne to Parma in July 2022.
- Honours: Serie B (2023/24).

19 Simon SOHM

11.04.01 (25)

THE PLAYER

A tall, hard-working midfielder who gives Venezia's middle three balance. He is a tidy passer (90% completion) who keeps the ball moving rather than playing it forward, and he does the running for the more creative players around him. He is back after minor knocks.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (3 starts), 240 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 6 apps (5 starts), 388 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- pass completion: 90% – 70th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 23)
- passes per 90: 43.8 – 38th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 47)
- progressive passes per 90: 4.4 – 29th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 54)
- progressive carries per 90: 0.66 – 27th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 55)

ON AIR

QUOTE *"We have also got Sohm back from a few minor knocks."* – Stroppa, pre-match press conference (translated), 10 Oct 2026

INTERNATIONAL

Switzerland: 4 caps, 0 goals. Debut: 07.10.2020 v Croatia (aged 19). **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Swiss midfielder, born in Zürich; joined from Fiorentina in Aug 2026 on loan.
- Previous clubs: FC Zurich, Parma, Fiorentina, Bologna.
- Moved from FC Zurich to Parma in Oct 2020 for a reported fee of €6.5M.
- Honours: Serie B (2023/24).

21 Þórir HELGASON

28.09.00 (26)

THE PLAYER

An Icelandic midfielder, 1.87m, with only 119 league minutes this season. His numbers so far are modest: middling for interceptions (2.7 per 90) and among the less involved midfielders in build-up (40.5 passes per 90). A functional option rather than a creative one.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 2 apps (1 starts), 119 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 3 apps (2 starts), 190 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- key passes per 90: 0.45 – 62nd percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 28)
- interceptions per 90: 2.7 – 46th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 41)
- passes per 90: 40.5 – 25th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 56)
- pass completion: 84% – 23rd percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 58)
- (small sample: under 270 minutes)

INTERNATIONAL

Iceland: 20 caps, 2 goals (records to 09.09.2025). Debut: 29.05.2021 v Mexico (aged 20). **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Icelandic midfielder, born in Hafnarfjörður; joined from Lecce in June 2026 on a free transfer.
- Previous clubs: Haukar, FH hafnarfjordur, Eintracht Braunschweig, Lecce.
- Moved from FH hafnarfjordur to Lecce in July 2021.
- Honours: Baltic Cup (2022); Serie B (2021/22).

26 Toma BAŠIĆ

25.11.96 (29)

THE PLAYER

A tall Croatian midfielder with a cultured left foot, back from injury and in the squad. He likes to receive between the lines and play forward passes, and he can strike the ball well from distance. He isn't a natural ball-winner. A likely second-half option if Venezia need control.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 2 apps (2 starts), 150 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 2 apps (2 starts), 150 mins, 0 G, 0 A. **FIT – IN CONVOCATI**

- progressive passes per 90: 7.5 – 79th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 17)
- key passes per 90: 0.57 – 71st percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 23)
- passes to the final third per 90: 6.3 – 55th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 35)
- passes per 90: 46.4 – 44th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 43)
- (small sample: under 270 minutes)

ON AIR

QUOTE “Bašić, Schingtienne and Dagasso are in.” – Stroppa, pre-match press conference (translated), 10 Oct 2026

INTERNATIONAL

Croatia: 2 caps, 0 goals. Tournament squads: Euro 2020. **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; debut date not verified; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Croatian midfielder, born in Zagreb; joined from Lazio in June 2026 on a free transfer.
- Previous clubs: Rudes, HNK Hajduk Split, Bordeaux, Salernitana, Lazio.
- Moved from Bordeaux to Lazio in Aug 2021 for a reported fee of €6.9M.

30 Matteo DAGASSO

01.04.04 (22)

THE PLAYER

A 22-year-old left-footed deep-lying playmaker, back fit. In his limited minutes his passing numbers have been among the best in the league: 11.7 progressive passes per 90 and 75.8 passes per 90. He could come on to give Venezia more control of the ball.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 1 apps (0 starts), 20 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 2 apps (1 starts), 102 mins, 0 G, 0 A. **FIT – IN CONVOCATI**

- progressive passes per 90: 11.7 – 99th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 2)
- passes per 90: 75.8 – 95th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 5)
- passes to the final third per 90: 10.8 – 93rd percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 6)
- interceptions per 90: 4.2 – 91st percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 8)
- (small sample: under 270 minutes)

ON AIR

QUOTE “Bašić, Schingtienne and Dagasso are in.” – Stroppa, pre-match press conference (translated), 10 Oct 2026

STAT 11.7 progressive passes per 90 – 2nd of 75 in the league in his position

INTERNATIONAL

Italy: 2 caps, 0 goals. **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; debut date not verified; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Italian midfielder; joined from Pescara in Jan 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Pescara.

32 Joseph DUNCAN

10.03.93 (33)

THE PLAYER

Midfielder, 1.78m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

INTERNATIONAL

Ghana: 10 caps, 0 goals (records to 29.03.2021). Debut: 14.11.2012 v Cape Verde (aged 19). **unverified: caps not confirmed to include the October 2026 window; last cap date/opponent not verified**

CAREER

- Ghanaian midfielder, born in Accra; joined from Fiorentina in July 2024 on a free transfer.
- Previous clubs: Livorno, Inter, Sampdoria, Sassuolo, Cagliari, Fiorentina.

36 Lorenzo BERARDI

05.04.05 (21)

THE PLAYER

Midfielder. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season.

CAREER

- Italian midfielder; joined from Pescara in June 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Pescara.

55 Simone PANADA

02.06.02 (24)

THE PLAYER

Midfielder. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 0 apps (0 starts), 0 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 2 apps (0 starts), 40 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Italy U19 1 cap, 0 goals; Italy U20 1 cap, 0 goals.

CAREER

- Italian midfielder; joined from Atalanta in Jan 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Modena, Sampdoria, Atalanta.
- Moved from Modena to Atalanta in July 2023.
- Honours: Super Cup Primavera (2020/21); Campionato Primavera 1 (2019/20); Super Cup Primavera (2019/20).

71 Kike PÉREZ

14.02.97 (29)

THE PLAYER

The metronome of Venezia's midfield: a left-footed passer who looks forward every time. He is third in the league among midfielders for progressive passes per 90 (9.5) and is one of their main chance creators. He has started every league game. He takes risks in possession and can be loose, so Atalanta's press will target him.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 5 apps (5 starts), 420 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 6 apps (6 starts), 494 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- progressive passes per 90: 9.5 – 97th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 3)
- key passes per 90: 0.69 – 78th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 17)
- passes per 90: 58.2 – 75th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 19)
- progressive carries per 90: 1.4 – 74th percentile among 75 league midfielders (rank 20)

ON AIR

STAT 9.5 progressive passes per 90 – 3rd of 75 in the league in his position

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Spain U18 2 caps, 1 goal; Spain U19 1 cap, 0 goals. **unverified: youth totals from records without an update date**

CAREER

- Spanish midfielder, born in Gálvez; joined from Valladolid in Jan 2025 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Elche, Valladolid, Rayo Vallecano.
- Moved from Elche to Valladolid in July 2022.

FORWARDS

7 Albion RRAHMANI

31.08.00 (26)

THE PLAYER

A target man signed from Sparta Prague: a tall, two-footed centre-forward who wins headers, holds the ball up and brings others into play. He has mostly come off the bench this season, and replaced Adams in the 73rd minute of the last game, against Lazio. A focal point and a threat from set pieces.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 4 apps (1 starts), 81 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 6 apps (2 starts), 171 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- aerial duels won: 50% – 80th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 9)
- passes received per 90: 17.3 – 69th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 15)
- shots per 90: 2.9 – 61st percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 19)
- xG per 90: 0.38 – 47th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 25)
- (small sample: under 270 minutes)

ON AIR

FACT Signed from Sparta Prague for a reported €7.5m plus €2m in add-ons (contract to 2029).

INTERNATIONAL

Kosovo: 26 caps, 7 goals. Last cap 01.10.2026 at Israel (0-0, Nations League, 69 mins); unused sub v Austria on 04.10. **unverified: debut date not verified**

CAREER

- Kosovan forward; joined from Sparta Praha in July 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Ballkani, Rapid, Sparta Praha.
- Moved from Malisheva to Ballkani in July 2021 on a free transfer.
- Honours: Super Cup (2023); Superliga (2022/23); Superliga (2021/22).

9 Andrea ADORANTE

05.02.00 (26)

THE PLAYER

Forward, 1.84m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile. Currently injured.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

No competitive appearances yet this season. **OUT – HERNIA REHAB**

ON AIR

FACT Serie B MVP and Venezia's top scorer last season (17 goals). Out (hernia rehab).

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Italy U15 7 caps, 1 goal; Italy U16 4 caps, 0 goals.

CAREER

- Italian forward, born in Parma; joined from Juve Stabia in July 2025 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Inter, Virtus Francavilla, Parma, Messina, Triestina, Juve Stabia.

29 **Lion LAUBERBACH**

15.02.98 (28)

THE PLAYER

Plays as a centre-forward in Venezia's 3-5-2, 40 league minutes so far. Left-footed, 1.94m, tall, powerful. Statistically a target 9. Strengths: dominant in the air. Less convincing: does not shoot much. On the ball, a target at set pieces.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 3 apps (0 starts), 40 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 4 apps (1 starts), 122 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

- aerial duels won: 60% – 94th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 3)
- attacking duels won: 40% – 55th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 22)
- xG per 90: 0.39 – 51st percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 23)
- passes received per 90: 12.9 – 38th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 30)
- (small sample: under 270 minutes)

ON AIR

STAT 60% aerial duels won – 3rd of 47 in the league in his position

CAREER

- German forward, born in Erfurt; joined from KV Mechelen in Jan 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: FC Rot-Weiß Erfurt, FSV Zwickau, Hansa Rostock, Holstein Kiel, Eintracht Braunschweig, KV Mechelen.
- Moved from Hansa Rostock to Holstein Kiel in July 2021.

45 **Akor ADAMS**

29.01.00 (26)

THE PLAYER

A Nigerian centre-forward and Venezia's club-record signing. Strong, quick and hard-running, he attacks the space behind defenders and finishes with either foot. He scored twice on his debut against Modena in the cup and got his first league goal against Fiorentina. Watch his runs off the shoulder of the last defender.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 5 apps (5 starts), 413 mins, 1 G, 0 A. All competitions: 7 apps (6 starts), 511 mins, 3 G, 1 A.

- shots per 90: 3.8 – 88th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 6)
- xG per 90: 0.63 – 74th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 12)
- touches in the box per 90: 5.8 – 74th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 12)
- aerial duels won: 36% – 49th percentile among 47 league centre-forwards (rank 24)

ON AIR

FACT Scored twice on his Venezia debut against Modena in the Coppa Italia; his first Serie A goal, at home to Fiorentina, was set up by Busio.

FACT Venezia's record signing – from Sevilla in July for a reported €16m plus €4m in add-ons (contract to 2030).

FACT Scored for Nigeria during the international break.

INTERNATIONAL

Nigeria: 18 caps, 7 goals. Debut 04.10.2025 v Lesotho (aged 25). Last cap 06.10.2026 v Russia (3-3): scored a stoppage-time equaliser. **unverified: debut from one source only**

CAREER

- Nigerian forward, born in Kogi; joined from Sevilla in July 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Sogndal, Lillestrom, Montpellier, Sevilla.
- Moved from Sogndal to Lillestrom in Jan 2022.

56 **Kornel LISMAN**

20.02.06 (20)

THE PLAYER

Forward, 1.86m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 0 apps (0 starts), 0 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 1 apps (0 starts), 16 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Poland U18 3 caps, 0 goals; Poland U20 2 caps, 0 goals.

CAREER

- Polish forward, born in Szczecin; joined from Lech Poznan in June 2026 (fee undisclosed).
- Previous clubs: Lech Poznan.
- Honours: Ekstraklasa (2024/25).

77 **Toni FERNÁNDEZ**

15.07.08 (18)

THE PLAYER

Forward, 1.74m. Too few league minutes this season for a statistical profile.

SEASON SO FAR (2026-27)

League: 3 apps (0 starts), 58 mins, 0 G, 0 A. All competitions: 3 apps (0 starts), 58 mins, 0 G, 0 A.

ON AIR

FACT On loan from Barcelona (deadline day). Aged 18.

INTERNATIONAL

Uncapped at senior level. Youth: Spain U17 6 caps, 1 goal; Spain U18 3 caps, 1 goal.

CAREER

- Spanish forward, born in Rubí; joined from Barcelona in Aug 2026 on loan.
- Previous clubs: Barcelona.
- Honours: Super Cup (2025); La Liga (2024/25); Copa del Rey (2024/25).

SECTION 14

Stats

METRIC	ATALANTA	RANK	VENEZIA	RANK
Expected goals (total)	4.5	18	9.9	5
Expected goals against (total)	10.8	17	10.9	18
xG difference	-6.2	18	-0.9	12
Goals minus xG	0.5	4	-5.9	20
Possession	47.3%	13	55.1%	6
Passes per game	507	6	489	7
Pass completion	88.7%	4	83.9%	14
Shots per game	11.4	15	13.6	8
Shots conceded per game	18.0	18	13.8	9
High recoveries per game	11.8	9	13.8	4
Duels won	48.1%	13	47.7%	16

MATCH BY MATCH · LEAGUE

TEAM	DATE	MATCH	SCORE	XG	XG OPP	SHOTS	OPP SHOTS	POSS
Atalanta	2026-08-23	Atalanta - Sassuolo 2:1	2-1	1.17	1.98	14	22	51%
Atalanta	2026-08-31	Atalanta - Bologna 1:0	1-0	0.14	1.51	6	15	39%
Atalanta	2026-09-05	Roma - Atalanta 2:1	1-2	1.10	4.87	6	35	38%
Atalanta	2026-09-12	Atalanta - Cagliari 1:2	1-2	1.68	1.13	22	5	62%
Atalanta	2026-09-20	Juventus - Atalanta 2:0	0-2	0.43	1.26	9	13	48%
Venezia	2026-08-23	Venezia - Lecce 0:2	0-2	2.98	1.55	18	10	69%
Venezia	2026-08-28	Milan - Venezia 2:0	0-2	1.34	2.48	9	16	41%
Venezia	2026-09-06	Frosinone - Venezia 3:2	2-3	2.26	1.74	14	14	59%
Venezia	2026-09-11	Venezia - Fiorentina 2:4	2-4	1.21	3.18	10	17	60%
Venezia	2026-09-19	Venezia - Lazio 0:2	0-2	2.15	1.93	17	12	46%

KEY INDIVIDUAL NUMBERS · ALL COMPETITIONS

ATALANTA	METRIC	VALUE	VENEZIA	METRIC	VALUE
Marco CARNESECCHI	Save rate %	82	Akor ADAMS	xG	3.87
Marco CARNESECCHI	Goals prevented	2.49	John YEBOAH	xG	2.99
Nikola KRSTOVIĆ	xG	3.72	Antoine HAINAUT	xA	1.77
Gianluca SCAMACCA	xG	1.21	Kike PÉREZ	xA	1.45
Charles DE KETELAERE	Key passes per 90	1.05	Gianluca BUSIO	Defensive duels won %	81
Nicola ZALEWSKI	xA	0.89	Armel BELLA-KOTCHAP	Aerial duels won %	74
Gianluca GAETANO	Progressive passes per 90	8.4	Filip STANKOVIĆ	Save rate %	57
Giorgio SCALVINI	Pass completion %	95.5	Filip STANKOVIĆ	Goals prevented	-1.98

xG = expected goals; xA = expected assists. Ranks are out of 20.

Closing injury recap & referee

Before we get under way, a reminder of who misses out. For Atalanta, the central defenders Isak Hien and Odilon Kossounou are both injured, which is why the six-foot-six Thomas Kristensen, on loan from Udinese, partners Giorgio Scalvini. Giacomo Raspadori, who picked up a thigh problem with Italy, has trained with the group and is expected back in the squad – we still await the official list – while Kamaldeen Sulemana and the third-choice goalkeeper Tommaso Pompei are missing. Scamacca, Krstović, De Ketelaere and the new arrivals Rowe and Elmas remain the attacking options.

For Venezia, the big loss is Gianluca Busio. He is their metronome in midfield and their first-choice penalty taker, and without him a lot depends on Kike Pérez to make the side tick. The official squad list confirms Bartol Franjić, Armel Bella-Kotchap, Andrea Adorante, Marko Šverko and Pasquale Mazzocchi are all out – but Toma Bašić, Joel Schingtienne and Matteo Dagasso are available. If a penalty is given tonight, it will be John Yeboah or Akor Adams who steps up.

In charge is Paride Tremolada, thirty-eight, from the Monza section. He made his top-flight debut three years ago and has refereed mostly in the division below since. He took charge of Udinese against Lazio in September and showed six yellow cards that afternoon, so he has no problem reaching for his pocket. On VAR duty tonight is Francesco Meraviglia.

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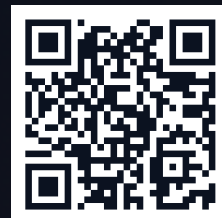
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