
FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup

History

The first confederation to stage an age-group tournament for women was UEFA in 1997 with the European Women's U-19 Championship. In a move to further promote the women's game, FIFA followed suit with its own competition for young women. As was FIFA's intention, the event has encouraged member associations to develop women's football at youth level and to set up teams in younger age groups, including the U-13 and U-15 brackets. Moreover, the championship has also prompted the confederations to organise continental qualifying competitions.

There are more than 20 million women playing football worldwide and 216 of them paraded their impressive skills at the inaugural FIFA U-19 Women's World Cup in 2002. Since the event in Russia in 2006, the tournament is now organised as the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup, with 16 teams divided among the confederations: AFC: 3 teams; CAF: 2; CONCACAF: 3; CONMEBOL: 2; OFC: 1; UEFA: 4 and the host, who qualifies automatically.

General

The first FIFA U-19 Women's World Cup was held in Canada, while the second was played in Thailand, the second Asian country, after China PR (1991 and 2007), to host a FIFA Women's World Cup. The 2008 event was held in Chile as the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup. Chile was the first South American country chosen to stage a FIFA Women's World Cup.

A total of 26 different teams have qualified for at least one of the final competitions (2002-2008). The continental breakdown [AFC (7), CAF (2), CONCACAF (3), CONMEBOL (3), OFC (2) and UEFA (10)] underlines the excellent development work of the leading lights in women's football, as Brazil, Canada, Germany, Nigeria and the USA have all qualified for all four final competitions held to date.

Matches

For the second time, Chile 2008 saw a total of 32 matches played.

The new world champions, the USA, have a proud record at the final competition, with 20 victories in 24 matches and a goal difference of +51 (63 for, 12 against). In 2002, the USA were also the most lethal in front of goal (26 goals) and they boasted the second and third best goalscorers (Kelly Wilson – 9 and Lindsay Tarpley – 6). Canada's Christine Sinclair topped the list with ten goals.

Former world champions Korea DPR increased their total goal tally from 28 to 33. They have played a total of 12 matches, winning ten and losing the other two.

In contrast to 2002, 2004 and 2008, the final in 2006 saw a flood of goals. In 2002, the USA defeated the Canadian hosts with the only goal of the game, while in 2004, Germany overcame China PR 2-0, with the goals scored in the first and last ten minutes of the match. In 2006, the all-Asian final between Korea DPR and China PR ended in a comfortable 5-0 victory for the Koreans.

Goals

In Canada in 2002 Germany's Isabell Bachor scored the 100th goal (her country's equaliser in the playoff for third place against Brazil). Canada's Kaylyn Kyle scored the 200th goal when she put her team 1-0 up against Nigeria in 2006. Two milestone goals were scored in Chile in 2008: the 300th goal was scored by the Nigerian Sarah

Michael when she netted the first goal in her team's 3-2 win over New Zealand. Korea DPR's Gyong Ri Ye scored the 400th goal in the semi-final against France with the deciding goal to win the match 2-1.

After the fourth event in Chile, the total number of goals scored stands at 412.

Intriguingly, the average number of goals per game (3.9) after the inaugural 2002 edition was as high as in women's football in general over the last 20 years.

With ten goals in the 2002 event, Christine Sinclair (CAN) tops the list of goalscorers. She is followed in joint second place by the USA's Kelly Wilson (nine in 2002), Germany's Anja Mittag (three in 2002, six in 2004) and Brazil's Marta (six in 2002, three in 2004, Olympic silver medal in 2004). The top goalscorer in the 2004 event was Canada's Brittany Timko on seven goals. In 2006, Ma Xiaoxu (CHN) and Kim Song Hui (PRK) were the leading scorers with five goals apiece, matched by Sidney Leroux in Chile in 2008.

Ten players, representing eight different countries, have scored a hat trick in the FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup. Inevitably, Christine Sinclair (CAN) is at the front of the pack, having scored five of her country's six goals in a 6-2 victory over England in 2002. It was Brazil's Marta, however, who scored the very first hat trick in a 4-0 victory over France in the same tournament. In 2006, a total of four hat tricks were recorded: Germany's Anna Blaessee (MEX v. GER 1-9), Nigeria's Maureen Eke (FIN v. NGA 0-8), Argentina's Ludmila Manicler (ARG v. COD 4-0) and Korea DPR's Song Hui Kim in her country's 5-0 defeat of China PR in the final. Two hat tricks were scored in Chile 2008: New Zealand's Rosie White, the youngest goalscorer (15 years and 5 months) of the tournament, scored her first hat trick (CHI v. NZL 3-4) and Marie Pollmann of the German team capped her performance with a hat trick in the match for third place (FRA v. GER 3-5).

Three of the leading countries in women's football topped the goalscoring charts at the 2002 FIFA U-19 Women's World Cup: once again, the USA led the way with 26 goals (at an average of 4.3 goals per game). In similar fashion, the teams with the most goals in 2004 were Germany with 19 goals (an average of 3.2 per game) ahead of Canada on 13 goals in four games (3.2). In 2006, world champions Korea DPR scored 18 goals in six games (at an average of 3.0 per match), while Germany notched 16 goals in four matches (4.0) and Nigeria scored 12 in four (3.0). The teams with the most goals in 2008 were again Germany with 16 (an average of 3.2 per game) ahead of Korea DPR on 15 goals in five matches (3.0) and Brazil on 13 goals in four games (3.2)

The fastest goal ever was scored by Loredana Roverso (CAN) after just 40 seconds in Chile 2008. In 2002, the quickest goal was scored by the USA's Megan Kakadelas just three minutes into the match against Chinese Taipei her team went on to win 6-0. Her record was beaten in 2004 by Angie Woznuk's (USA) second-minute goal against Russia.

Ten goals were scored in the match with the most successful strikes on goal: Germany beat Mexico 9-1 in 2006. Nigeria also defeated Finland 8-0 in the same year, the most emphatic victory in the history of this competition. With eight goals in a match Germany beat France 5-3 in 2008.

Although the golden goal rule has now been abolished, one other statistic underlines the excitement of women's football at youth level: only three of the eight matches in the second phase of the 2002 event were decided in regular playing time. The golden goal rule came into play three times, with a penalty shootout decisive twice. In 2004, two quarter-finals could not be decided in regular playing time. In 2006, the semi-final between China PR and the USA and the playoff for third place (Brazil v. USA) were both decided by a penalty shootout after 120 minutes of football had failed to produce a goal. The Americans drew the short straw on both occasions and eventually finished fourth despite not conceding a goal in their last two matches.

Players, coaches, referees, fans

The youngest player to have taken part in this competition is Canada's Sydney Leroux, who was just 14 years and 6 months old. Mexico's Charlyn Corral became the competition's youngest goalscorer (at just 14 years and 11 months) when she scored against Switzerland in August 2006.

Three male and three female coaches also appeared in a final competition as a player before leading their charges to this event: Ian Bridge (Canada) played in the FIFA World Cup™ (1986), the FIFA World Youth Championship (1979) and the Olympic Football Tournament (1984); Silvia Neid (Germany) played in the FIFA Women's World Cup™ (1991 and 1995) and the Olympic Football Tournament (1996). Bridge and Neid took Canada and Germany respectively to the 2002 and 2004 U-19 World Cups. In 2006, Bridge led Canada to the event for the third consecutive time. Neid's successor Maren Meinert can also look back upon a successful playing career. Before taking over from Neid, Meinert played in three FIFA Women's World Cups™ (1995, 1999 and 2003, winning the latter) and an Olympic Football Tournament (2000). Leon Cuellar (Mexico) played in the FIFA World Cup™ (1978) and took his team to Canada in 2002 and to Russia in 2006. Elisabetta Bavagnoli (Italy) coached her team to the 2004 tournament in Thailand – during her playing career she played in the FIFA Women's World Cup™ (1991). Finally, Australia's Alistair Edwards played in the FIFA World Youth Championship (1987) and led his team to Russia in 2006. So far, only Tracey Leone (née Bates) of the USA has won a world title as a player (FIFA Women's World Cup 1991™) and as a coach (FIFA U-19 Women's World Cup 2002).

With a total of 295,133 fans at an average of 11,351 per match, the FIFA U-19 Women's World Cup Canada 2002 set a benchmark that will be difficult to beat. Although in Chile 2008 a total of 351,309 fans at an average of 10,978 per match was counted. The record attendance for a single match is held by the 2002 final, with an impressive 47,784 fans watching the USA defeat Canada 1-0 with a golden goal in Edmonton's Commonwealth Stadium to claim the title. The 2004 event in Thailand attracted 288,324 spectators overall: 11,089 per match on average.

Overview

FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup Chile 2008

Teams/Matches: 16/32

Champions: USA

Final: Korea DPR – USA 1-2 (0-2)

07.12.2008 - La Florida, Santiago

Attendance: 12,000

Referee: Alexandra IHRINGOVA (ENG)

Goals scored: Sydney LEROUX (USA) 23', Alex MORGAN (USA) 42', CHA Hu Nam (PRK) 90'+2

Match for 3rd place: FRA – GER 3-5 (1-3)

Awards

Fair Play Prize: USA

Golden Shoe: Sydney LEROUX (USA)

Golden Ball: Sydney LEROUX (USA)

Golden Glove: Alyssa NAEHER (USA)

FIFA U-20 Women's World Championship Russia 2006

Teams/Matches 16/32

Champions: Korea DPR

Final: Korea DPR – China PR 5-0 (3-0)

03.09.2006 - Moscow / Lokomotiv

Attendance: 8,500

Referee: BENNETT Jennifer (USA)

Goals scored: JO Yun Mi (PRK) 29', KIM Song Hui (PRK) 39', KIM Song Hui (PRK) 47'+,
KIM Song Hui (PRK) 52', KIL Son Hui (PRK) 56'

Match for 3rd place: BRA – USA 0-0 AET 6-5 PSO

Awards

Fair Play Prize: Korea DPR/Russia

Golden Shoe: MA (CHN), 5 goals

Golden Ball: MA (CHN)

FIFA U-19 Women's World Championship Thailand 2004

Teams/Matches: 12/26

Champions: Germany

Final: Germany – China PR 2-0 (1-0)

27.11.2004 - Bangkok / Rajamangala (National Stadium)

Attendance: 23,000

Referee: TOVAR Virginia (MEX)

Goals scored: Simone LAUDEHR (GER) 4', Melanie BEHRINGER (GER) 83'

Match for 3rd place: USA – BRA 3-0 (2-0)

Awards

Fair Play Prize: USA

Golden Shoe: TIMKO (CAN), 7 goals

Golden Ball: MARTA (BRA)

FIFA U-19 Women's World Championship Canada 2002

Teams/Matches: 12/26

Champions: USA

Final: Canada – USA 0-1 AET

01.09.2002 – Edmonton / Commonwealth Stadium

Attendance: 47,784

Referee: FERREIRA-JAMES Dianne (GUY)

Goal scored: Lindsay TARPLEY (USA) 109'

Match for 3rd place: BRA – GER 1-1 (1-0) 3-4 PSO

Awards

Fair Play Prize: Japan

Golden Shoe: SINCLAIR (CAN), 10 goals

Golden Ball: SINCLAIR (CAN)

Golden Shoe: top goal scorer -- Golden Ball: most outstanding player

Winners/finalists of other FIFA Competitions

	matches/goals
TARPLEY Lindsay, USA (22.09.1983)	
FIFA U-19 Women's World Championship Canada 2002	6/6
Olympic Football Tournaments Athens 2004	6/1
Olympic Football Tournaments Beijing 2008	6/1
O REILLY Heather, USA (02.01.1985)	
FIFA U-19 Women's World Championship Canada 2002	5/4
Olympic Football Tournaments Athens 2004	4/1
Olympic Football Tournaments Beijing 2008	6/2
CHALUPNY Lori, USA (29.01.1984)	
FIFA U-19 Women's World Championship Canada 2002	5/0
Olympic Football Tournaments Beijing 2008	5/1
LAUDEHR Simone, GER (12.07.1986)	
FIFA U-19 Women's World Championship Thailand 2004	6/2
FIFA Women's World Cup China 2007	5/1
BEHRINGER Melanie, GER (18.11.1985)	
FIFA U-19 Women's World Championship Thailand 2004	6/2
FIFA Women's World Cup China 2007	6/2
KRAHN Annike, GER (01.07.1985)	
FIFA U-19 Women's World Championship Thailand 2004	6/1
FIFA Women's World Cup China 2007	5/1

TOP TEN - All-time Ranking											Canada 2002	Thailand 2004	Russia 2006	Chile 2008
Rank	Team	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts.	Avg. Pts.	Part.				
1	USA	24	20	2	2	63	12	62	2.58	4	1	3	4	1
2	Germany	22	13	3	6	60	29	42	1.91	4	3	1	5	3
3	Brazil	22	12	5	5	43	27	41	1.86	4	4	4	3	5
4	Korea DPR	12	10	0	2	33	11	30	2.5	2			1	2
5	China PR	15	9	2	4	21	14	29	1.93	3		2	2	10
6	Canada	16	8	2	6	38	21	26	1.62	4	2	5	10	11
7	Nigeria	15	5	4	6	27	23	19	1.27	4	10	6	6	7
8	France	13	6	0	7	21	23	18	1.38	3	9		7	4
9	Japan	8	4	1	3	12	12	13	1.62	2	7			6
10	Australia	11	3	2	6	18	20	11	1	3	5	7	9	

Ranking by tournament/ Classement par tournoi/Clasificación por torneo/Ranglisten

YEAR	COUNTRY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
2002*	Canada	USA	CAN	GER	BRA	AUS	ENG	JPN	DEN	FRA	NGA	MEX	TPE	-	-	-	-
2004*	Thailand	GER	CHN	USA	BRA	CAN	NGA	AUS	RUS	KOR	ESP	ITA	THA	-	-	-	-
2006	Russia	PRK	CHN	BRA	USA	GER	NGA	FRA	RUS	AUS	CAN	ARG	MEX	NZL	COD	FIN	SUI
2008	Chile	USA	PRK	GER	FRA	BRA	JPN	NGA	ENG	NZL	CHN	CAN	NOR	ARG	CHI	MEX	COD

* FIFA U-19 Women's World Cup

Competition records/ La compétition en chiffres/Datos de la competición/Statistik

YEAR	COUNTRY	TEAMS	MATCHES	GOALS	Ø	SPECTATORS	Ø
2002*	Canada	12	26	101	3.88	295,133	11,351
2004*	Thailand	12	26	92	3.54	288,324	11,089
2006	Russia	16	32	106	3.31	52,630	1,645
2008	Chile	16	32	113	3.53	351,309	10,978
	TOTAL		116	412	3.55	987,396	8,512

* FIFA U-19 Women's World Cup