



**GUINNESS**  
**SIX NATIONS**



***MATCH PREVIEW***  
***ITALY VS SCOTLAND***

SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH



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## ITALY VS SCOTLAND

### ITALY

#### Passing

- Italy have the second-highest pass-to-kick ratio in the Men's Six Nations (6.4 passes to every kick.)

#### Kicking

- Italy have made 22 fewer kicks in play than any other team this season, a total of 61 at an average of only 20.3 per match.

#### Paolo Garbisi

- Has the highest average pass distance of all fly-halves – 6.5m
- Made the second-most passing metres of any fly-half, a total of 474.
- Has the longest goal kick of the Championship - 43.9m

#### Stephen Varney

- Varney has the highest box kick hangtime of the Championship – 4.6secs.

### SCOTLAND

#### Passing

- Scotland have passed the ball the least in the Six Nations with only 121 passes per game for a pass distance of only 741m per game. This contrasts to 2023 where they averaged the most pass metres per game of all teams – 1064m.
- Scotland have the lowest Pass/Kick Ratio in this year's Championship – only 3.3 passes to every kick.

#### Kicking

- Scotland have kicked the ball more than any other team – averaging 37 in-play kicks per match.
- They also have the highest kick distance total per match, averaging over 1087m. They are the only team to average over 1km.
- Scotland have the second highest average kick distance with 34.0m. Only France are higher with 34.7m.

#### Half-backs

- Finn Russell and Ben White have made more kicks than any other players in the opening two rounds: 57 and 37 times respectively. Russell and White are the only players to have made over 1000 kick metres with 1830m and 1019m respectively.

#### Finn Russell

- Finn Russell remains 100% off the tee in the Championship. Against England, three of his six kicks at goal were an angle of greater than 40 degrees from the posts.
- Finn Russell- has made the most 50m + kicks in the Championship with 7. James Lowe is 2nd with 6.

#### Duhan van der Merwe

- Long range specialist van der Merwe, collected the ball for his second try against England 62.5 metres from the try line. Against England last season, his wonder try – Try of the Season 2023 – started 57.5 metres from the try line. In Round 1, he scored from 46.5 metres against Wales.

#### Territory Conceded

- Scotland are conceding nearly two pitches worth of territory from opposition penalty kicks to touch, with an average of 191m per match, the most of any team.

#### Lineout

- Scotland have thrown more long lineouts than any other team, a total of 5. They also average the longest lineout in the Championship with 10.4m.

## PASSES

### Total Pass Count

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg.	Total
England	142	96	136	124.666...	374
France	113	108	185	135.333...	406
Ireland	165	243	252	220	660
Italy	133	95	168	132	396
Scotland	135	138	89	120.666...	362
Wales	188	143	136	155.666...	467

### Total Pass Distance (m)

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg.	Total
England	917	630	811	786	2,358
France	659	642	1,153	818	2,454
Ireland	1,055	1,355	1,457	1,289	3,867
Italy	865	583	965	804	2,413
Scotland	824	850	547	741	2,222
Wales	1,191	896	769	952	2,857

### Average Pass Distance (m)

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg.
England	6.5	6.6	6.0	6.3
France	5.8	5.9	6.2	6.0
Ireland	6.4	5.6	5.8	5.9
Italy	6.5	6.1	5.7	6.1
Scotland	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.1
Wales	6.3	6.3	5.7	6.1

### Average Pass Speed (km/h)

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg.
England	31.8	31.8	31.7	31.7
France	30.9	31.0	31.3	31.1
Ireland	33.8	30.7	32.0	32.1
Italy	32.4	30.7	31.2	31.5
Scotland	33.0	33.1	33.5	33.2
Wales	32.7	33.5	30.8	32.4

## PASSES

### Pass/Kick Count Ratio

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg.
England	4.7	3.3	4.4	<b>4.2</b>
France	5.9	2.8	9.3	<b>5.2</b>
Ireland	5.0	9.7	10.1	<b>8.0</b>
Italy	6.7	4.5	8.0	<b>6.4</b>
Scotland	3.6	3.5	2.7	<b>3.3</b>
Wales	5.5	4.8	6.5	<b>5.5</b>

### Pass Breakdown for All Rounds

Team	Short 0-5m	Medium 5-10m	Long >10m
England	42.51%	41.98%	15.51%
France	50.49%	35.47%	14.04%
Ireland	46.06%	42.73%	11.21%
Italy	42.93%	45.20%	11.87%
Scotland	46.69%	38.95%	14.36%
Wales	45.49%	38.84%	15.67%

## KICKS IN-PLAY

### Kicks In-Play Breakdown

Team	50-22	Box	Chip	Clearance	Crossfield	Grubber	Up and Under	Total
England	1	35	10	20	4	5	14	89
France		20	11	34	1	6	5	77
Ireland		21	10	37	3	7	5	83
Italy		20	4	25	4	4	4	61
Scotland	1	27	8	57	8	6	3	110
Wales		19	14	30	6	3	12	84

### Total Kicks In-Play Count

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg.	Total
England	30.0	28.0	31.0	29.7	89
France	19.0	38.0	20.0	25.7	77
Ireland	33.0	25.0	25.0	27.7	83
Italy	20.0	21.0	20.0	20.3	61
Scotland	37.0	40.0	33.0	36.7	110
Wales	34.0	29.0	21.0	28.0	84

### Total Kick Distance (m)

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg.	Total
England	741	697	692	710	2,130
France	531	1027	525	694	2,083
Ireland	952	660	747	787	2,360
Italy	582	502	606	563	1,690
Scotland	1076	1312	873	1087	3,262
Wales	809	723	714	749	2,247

## KICKS IN-PLAY

### Average Kick Distance (m)

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg.
England	27.5	29.0	23.9	26.6
France	37.9	34.2	32.8	34.7
Ireland	30.7	30.0	29.9	30.3
Italy	30.6	25.1	33.7	29.6
Scotland	34.7	37.5	29.1	34.0
Wales	27.9	27.8	34.0	29.6

### Total Territory Gain (m)

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg.	Total
England	665	598	586	616	1,849
France	470	955	439	621	1,864
Ireland	734	617	629	660	1,980
Italy	454	424	501	460	1,379
Scotland	960	1,160	738	953	2,859
Wales	761	581	671	671	2,013

### Average Territory Gain per Kick (m)

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg.
England	24.6	24.9	20.2	23.1
France	33.6	31.8	27.4	31.1
Ireland	23.7	28.1	25.2	25.4
Italy	23.9	21.2	27.8	24.2
Scotland	31.0	33.2	24.6	29.8
Wales	26.2	22.4	31.9	26.5

## PENALTY KICKS TO TOUCH

### Total Penalty Kicks to Touch Count

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg.	Total
England	5.0	3.0	8.0	5.3	16
France	8.0	3.0	9.0	6.7	20
Ireland	6.0	9.0	11.0	8.7	26
Italy	6.0	10.0	8.0	8.0	24
Scotland	2.0	3.0	2.0	2.3	7
Wales	13.0	6.0	9.0	9.3	28

### Total Territory Gain from Penalty Kicks to Touch (m)

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg.	Total
England	103	70	229	134	402
France	112	88	201	133	400
Ireland	121	175	185	160	481
Italy	167	186	218	190	571
Scotland	72	28	61	53	160
Wales	258	138	154	183	549

### Total Territory Conceded from Penalty Kicks To Touch (m)

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Avg. per Match	Total
England	167	138	61	122	366
France	121	28	218	122	366
Ireland	112	186	154	151	452
Italy	103	175	201	160	479
Scotland	258	88	229	191	574
Wales	72	70	185	109	327

## LINEOUTS

### Lineout Throwing

Team	Total	Front	Middle	Back	Long
England	38	19 (50%)	17 (45%)	1 (3%)	1 (3%)
France	44	27 (61%)	10 (23%)	7 (16%)	
Ireland	40	19 (48%)	15 (38%)	5 (13%)	1 (3%)
Italy	42	24 (57%)	11 (26%)	3 (7%)	4 (10%)
Scotland	36	13 (36%)	10 (28%)	8 (22%)	5 (14%)
Wales	48	25 (52%)	16 (33%)	3 (6%)	4 (8%)

### Lineout Success by Round

Team	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
England	11/12 (92%)	11/12 (92%)	13/14 (93%)
France	14/18 (78%)	7/10 (70%)	14/16 (88%)
Ireland	13/13 (100%)	13/13 (100%)	11/14 (79%)
Italy	10/15 (67%)	8/13 (62%)	11/14 (79%)
Scotland	4/6 (67%)	12/14 (86%)	14/16 (88%)
Wales	14/20 (70%)	14/16 (88%)	11/12 (92%)

### Lineout Distance vs. Success

Team	Front Success / Count (%)	Middle Success / Count (%)	Back Success / Count (%)	Long Success / Count (%)	Success / Total (%)
England	19/19 (100%)	14/17 (82%)	1/1 (100%)	1/1 (100%)	35/38 (92%)
France	23/27 (85%)	6/10 (60%)	6/7 (86%)		35/44 (80%)
Ireland	19/19 (100%)	14/15 (93%)	3/5 (60%)	1/1 (100%)	37/40 (93%)
Italy	20/24 (83%)	7/11 (64%)	0/3 (0%)	2/4 (50%)	29/42 (69%)
Scotland	13/13 (100%)	9/10 (90%)	5/8 (63%)	3/5 (60%)	30/36 (83%)
Wales	23/25 (92%)	12/16 (75%)	3/3 (100%)	1/4 (25%)	39/48 (81%)

### Lineout Throw Averages

Team	Avg. Distance (m)	Avg. Speed (km/h)	Avg. Spin Rate (rpm)	Avg. of Efficiency (%)
England	8.0	28.6	330	96
France	8.0	31.8	306	93
Ireland	8.5	31.8	333	97
Italy	8.4	29.8	320	94
Scotland	10.4	30.0	343	96
Wales	8.5	31.9	297	95

## PASSES

### Total Pass Distance (m)

#### Scrum Halves

Player	Team	Total
Jamison Gibson-Park	Ireland	1,472
Tomos Williams	Wales	1,300
Ben White	Scotland	1,106
Maxime Lucu	France	794
Alex Mitchell	England	753
Craig Casey	Ireland	707
Stephen Varney	Italy	669
Nolann Le Garrec	France	537
Danny Care	England	446

### Average Pass Distance (m)

#### Scrum Halves

Player	Team	Avg.
Alex Mitchell	England	8.0
Danny Care	England	8.0
Jamison Gibson-Park	Ireland	7.6
Craig Casey	Ireland	7.6
Martin Page-Relo	Italy	7.5
Stephen Varney	Italy	7.5
George Horne	Scotland	7.5
Kieran Hardy	Wales	7.4
Alessandro Garbisi	Italy	7.4

### Average Pass Speed (km/h)

#### Scrum Halves

Player	Team	Avg.
Gareth Davies	Wales	39.0
Alessandro Garbisi	Italy	38.3
Jamison Gibson-Park	Ireland	37.6
Stephen Varney	Italy	37.2
Danny Care	England	37.0
Ben White	Scotland	36.9
Martin Page-Relo	Italy	36.3
George Horne	Scotland	36.3
Alex Mitchell	England	36.0

### Average Pass Spiral Efficiency (%)

#### Scrum Halves

Player	Team	Avg.
Nolann Le Garrec	France	94.6
Ben White	Scotland	93.4
Conor Murray	Ireland	92.8
George Horne	Scotland	92.5
Danny Care	England	92.2
Martin Page-Relo	Italy	92.0
Jamison Gibson-Park	Ireland	91.5
Tomos Williams	Wales	90.7
Gareth Davies	Wales	90.4

### Total Pass Count

Player	Team	Count
Jamison Gibson-Park	Ireland	193
Tomos Williams	Wales	177
Ben White	Scotland	153
Maxime Lucu	France	123
Jack Crowley	Ireland	110
Alex Mitchell	England	94
Craig Casey	Ireland	93
Stephen Varney	Italy	89
Nolann Le Garrec	France	73

## PASSES

### Total Pass Distance (m)

Fly Half

Player	Team	Total
Jack Crowley	Ireland	527
Paolo Garbisi	Italy	474
George Ford	England	371
Finn Russell	Scotland	357
Matthieu Jalibert	France	251
Ioan Lloyd	Wales	154
Sam Costelow	Wales	113
Harry Byrne	Ireland	78
Fin Smith	England	46
Leonardo Marin	Italy	18

### Average Pass Distance (m)

Fly Half

Player	Team	Avg.
Paolo Garbisi	Italy	6.5
Matthieu Jalibert	France	6.1
Finn Russell	Scotland	6.1
Fin Smith	England	5.8
George Ford	England	5.5
Jack Crowley	Ireland	4.8
Harry Byrne	Ireland	4.6
Ioan Lloyd	Wales	4.5
Sam Costelow	Wales	4.5

### Average Pass Speed (km/h)

Fly Half

Player	Team	Avg.
Matthieu Jalibert	France	33.0
Fin Smith	England	32.4
Finn Russell	Scotland	31.2
Paolo Garbisi	Italy	31.0
Jack Crowley	Ireland	29.9
Ioan Lloyd	Wales	28.3
George Ford	England	27.8
Harry Byrne	Ireland	27.1
Sam Costelow	Wales	26.6

### Top 10 Longest Passes (m)

Player	Team	Distance
Nick Tompkins	Wales	25.9
George Ford	England	25.5
Jamison Gibson-Park	Ireland	25.1
Matthieu Jalibert	France	25.0
Harry Paterson	Scotland	24.3
Robbie Henshaw	Ireland	23.9
Robbie Henshaw	Ireland	23.9
Finn Russell	Scotland	23.8
Paolo Garbisi	Italy	23.5

## KICKS IN-PLAY

### Total Kicks In-Play Count

Player	Team	Count
Finn Russell	Scotland	57
Ben White	Scotland	37
Tomos Williams	Wales	30
James Lowe	Ireland	26
Thomas Ramos	France	24
Alex Mitchell	England	22
Paolo Garbisi	Italy	22
George Ford	England	21
Jack Crowley	Ireland	19

### Total Kick Distance (m)

Player	Team	Total
Finn Russell	Scotland	1,830
Ben White	Scotland	1,019
James Lowe	Ireland	958
Tomos Williams	Wales	854
Thomas Ramos	France	781
Paolo Garbisi	Italy	670
George Ford	England	536
Jack Crowley	Ireland	500
Alex Mitchell	England	459

### Top 10 Longest Kicks (m)

Player	Team	Distance
James Lowe	Ireland	56.5
James Lowe	Ireland	55.4
Finn Russell	Scotland	54.9
Maxime Lucu	France	54.1
Freddie Steward	England	53.1
Harry Paterson	Scotland	53.0
James Lowe	Ireland	53.0
Finn Russell	Scotland	52.8
James Lowe	Ireland	52.8

### Average Kick Distance (m)

Player	Team	Avg.
Kyle Rowe	Scotland	48.2
Harry Paterson	Scotland	46.4
James Lowe	Ireland	41.7
Freddie Steward	England	41.4
Thomas Ramos	France	39.1
Finn Russell	Scotland	36.6
Damian Penaud	France	34.5
Josh Adams	Wales	34.4
Matthieu Jalibert	France	33.7

### Average Territory Gain (m)

Player	Team	Avg.
Kyle Rowe	Scotland	47.5
Harry Paterson	Scotland	46.0
Freddie Steward	England	38.0
James Lowe	Ireland	36.1
Cameron Winnett	Wales	36.1
Thomas Ramos	France	35.3
Damian Penaud	France	34.3
Josh Adams	Wales	33.5
Matthieu Jalibert	France	32.5

### Top 10 Territory Gain (m)

Player	Team	Distance
James Lowe	Ireland	54.9
Finn Russell	Scotland	54.7
James Lowe	Ireland	54.1
Maxime Lucu	France	53.4
Harry Paterson	Scotland	52.9
Finn Russell	Scotland	52.8
James Lowe	Ireland	52.6
Kyle Rowe	Scotland	52.4
Finn Russell	Scotland	52.1

## KICKS IN-PLAY

### Total Territory Gain (m)

Player	Team	Total
Finn Russell	Scotland	1,517
Ben White	Scotland	954
James Lowe	Ireland	831
Tomos Williams	Wales	779
Thomas Ramos	France	705
Paolo Garbisi	Italy	522
Alex Mitchell	England	439
George Ford	England	413
Matthieu Jalibert	France	390
Jack Crowley	Ireland	386

### Average Box Kick Hangtime (s)

Player	Team	Avg.
Maxime Lucu	France	4.2
Ben Spencer	England	4.0
Jamison Gibson-Park	Ireland	4.0
Alex Mitchell	England	4.0
Tomos Williams	Wales	3.9
Gareth Davies	Wales	3.9
Martin Page-Relo	Italy	3.9
Ben White	Scotland	3.7
Alessandro Garbisi	Italy	3.7
Nolann Le Garrec	France	3.6

### Average Restart Kick Distance (m)

Player	Team	Avg.
Thomas Ramos	France	35.9
Finn Russell	Scotland	35.8
George Ford	England	35.6
Paolo Garbisi	Italy	35.4
Sam Costelow	Wales	35.2
Jack Crowley	Ireland	35.1
Matthieu Jalibert	France	34.9
Ioan Lloyd	Wales	32.5

### Average Restart Kick Hangtime (s)

Player	Team	Avg.
Jack Crowley	Ireland	3.9
George Ford	England	3.9
Sam Costelow	Wales	3.8
Thomas Ramos	France	3.7
Matthieu Jalibert	France	3.7
Paolo Garbisi	Italy	3.6
Ioan Lloyd	Wales	3.6
Finn Russell	Scotland	3.5

### Top 10 Box Kick Hangtimes (s)

Player	Team	Hangtime
Stephen Varney	Italy	4.6
Maxime Lucu	France	4.5
Maxime Lucu	France	4.5
Maxime Lucu	France	4.5
Alex Mitchell	England	4.4
Alex Mitchell	England	4.4
Jamison Gibson-Park	Ireland	4.4
Tomos Williams	Wales	4.4
Jamison Gibson-Park	Ireland	4.4

### Top 10 Longest Goal Kicks (m)

Player	Team	Distance
Paolo Garbisi	Italy	43.9
Thomas Ramos	France	42.0
Jack Crowley	Ireland	40.4
Finn Russell	Scotland	39.9
Jack Crowley	Ireland	39.3
Thomas Ramos	France	39.3
Harry Byrne	Ireland	39.1
Ioan Lloyd	Wales	39.0
Jack Crowley	Ireland	38.9

## LINEOUTS

### Average Lineout Throw Speed (km/h)

Player	Team	Avg.
Ryan Elias	Wales	33.9
Péato Mauvaka	France	32.5
Ronan Kelleher	Ireland	32.5
Julien Marchand	France	31.6
Dan Sheehan	Ireland	31.6
Ewan Ashman	Scotland	31.1
Elliot Dee	Wales	30.6
Gianmarco Lucchesi	Italy	29.6
Giacomo Nicotera	Italy	29.2
George Turner	Scotland	29.2

### Average Lineout Throw Distance (m)

Player	Team	Avg.
Ewan Ashman	Scotland	11.2
George Turner	Scotland	9.8
Ronan Kelleher	Ireland	9.6
Thomas Ramos	France	9.6
Ryan Elias	Wales	9.1
Gianmarco Lucchesi	Italy	8.8
Julien Marchand	France	8.6
Jamie George	England	8.2
Dan Sheehan	Ireland	8.2
Elliot Dee	Wales	8.1

### Average Lineout Throw Spin Rate (rpm)

Player	Team	Avg.
Theo Dan	England	367
Gianmarco Lucchesi	Italy	357
Ewan Ashman	Scotland	351
George Turner	Scotland	337
Dan Sheehan	Ireland	333
Ryan Elias	Wales	333
Ronan Kelleher	Ireland	330
Jamie George	England	322
Julien Marchand	France	321

### Average Lineout Throw Spiral Efficiency (%)

Player	Team	Avg.
Thomas Ramos	France	97.0
Dan Sheehan	Ireland	96.9
George Turner	Scotland	95.8
Ryan Elias	Wales	95.7
Jamie George	England	95.7
Theo Dan	England	95.7
Ronan Kelleher	Ireland	95.6
Gianmarco Lucchesi	Italy	95.4
Ewan Ashman	Scotland	95.1

## SCRUM HALVES

### Player Comparison

Team Logo	Name	Kicks In-Play Count	Box Kick Count	Box Kicks Constested	Box Kicks Retained	Box Kicks Avg. Distance (m)	Box Kicks Avg. Hangtime (s)	Avg. Pass Distance (m)	Avg. Pass Speed (km/h)
	Alessandro Garbisi	5	5			17.0	3.7	7.4	38.3
	Alex Mitchell	22	18	2	2	26.8	4.0	8.0	36.0
	Ben Spencer	7	6	2	2	24.8	4.0	6.6	35.2
	Ben White	37	25	2	2	29.6	3.7	7.2	36.9
	Conor Murray	1						6.6	34.1
	Craig Casey	8	6	1	1	22.8	3.2	7.6	34.8
	Danny Care	13	11	4	4	25.8	3.5	8.0	37.0
	Gareth Davies	6	4	1	1	21.2	3.9	7.3	39.0
	George Horne	2	2	1	1	22.3	3.6	7.5	36.3
	Jamison Gibson-Park	16	15			28.2	4.0	7.6	37.6
	Kieran Hardy							7.4	34.9
	Martin Page-Relo	6	5	1	1	30.1	3.9	7.5	36.3
	Maxime Lucu	17	14	1	1	30.9	4.2	6.5	33.3
	Nolann Le Garrec	9	6	1	1	29.0	3.6	7.4	34.3
	Stephen Varney	11	9			27.4	3.5	7.5	37.2
	Tomos Williams	30	15	1	1	29.2	3.9	7.3	35.6

## FLY HALVES

### Player Comparison

Team Logo	Name	Kicks In-Play Count	Kicks Consteded	Kicks Retained	Avg. Kick Distance (m)	Avg. Pass Distance (m)	Avg. Pass Speed (km/h)
	.. Ben Healy	1			35.0		
	.. Fin Smith	1			46.9	5.8	32.4
	.. Finn Russell	57	5	5	36.6	6.1	31.2
	.. George Ford	21	4	4	28.2	5.5	27.8
	.. Harry Byrne	1			19.9	4.6	27.1
	.. Ioan Lloyd	14	2	2	31.3	4.5	28.3
	.. Jack Crowley	19	2	2	26.3	4.8	29.9
	.. Leonardo Marin					4.5	29.8
	.. Matthieu Jalibert	15	1	1	33.7	6.1	33.0
	.. Paolo Garbisi	22	2	2	33.5	6.5	31.0
	.. Sam Costelow	11	1	1	31.1	4.5	26.6



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