

Facts & Figures

Key facts

- Argentina have won seven of the nine meetings played between the two countries since the start of the new millennium.
- FELIPE CONTEPOMI has played 11 matches against France, winning seven and losing four and scoring 118 points. He has played more times and scored more points against France than any other country. Five of his 13 international tries have also been scored against France, including two in the 2007 Rugby World Cup play off match in Paris.
- France lost at home to Argentina six years ago to the day. Argentina won 24-14 in Marseille on 20 November 2004, with 14 points by FELIPE CONTEPOMI.
- YANNICK JAUZION is the only player in the French squad to score a try against Argentina, which came in a 33-32 defeat in Buenos Aires in June 2003, his first of five appearances against them.

Team news

- Only one player is in the French starting line up from the side that started against Fiji last weekend, fly half DAMIEN TRAILLE, retaining his place. Five players who started against Argentina in the 41-13 defeat in Buenos Aires in June are included in the team for Saturday's match; prop NICOLAS MAS, lock forward LIONEL NALLET, flankers THIERRY DUSAUTOIR, who captains the side, and JULIEN BONNAIRE and scrum half MORGAN PARRA.
- Argentina have only made one change to their starting line up from the side that beat Italy 22-16 last weekend, with PATRICIO ALBACETE coming into the second row in place of Manuel Carizza.

Coaches corner

- France have won 17 out of 29 matches played under Head Coach, MARC LIEVREMONT, who led 'Les Bleus' to the Grand Slam in this year's Six Nations Championship. They have won 12 out of 15 at home since he took over the reins, with only England, Australia and New Zealand achieving victories in France.
- Argentina have won six and lost 10 under Head Coach SANTIAGO PHELAN, a success rate of 38%. This compares with 16 wins and four defeats (80% success) in 20 matches from 2006 until he took over in March 2008.

A tale of two centuries

- France won 29 out of 34 matches against Argentina between 1949 and 1999 but since the turn of the century the Pumas have turned the tables, winning seven of the nine matches played between the two sides, including three wins in five matches on French soil.
- Two of those wins came in the 2007 Rugby World Cup finals, with Argentina winning 17-12 in the Pool stages and 34-10 in the play off for third place.
- There have been three matches played in Nantes, with two wins for France and one for Argentina. The most recent game saw France winning 34-14 in November 1998.

On this day in history

- On 20 November 2003, France lost 40-13 to New Zealand in the third place play off at the Rugby World Cup finals in Australia. SEBASTIEN CHABAL, DAMIEN TRAILLE and DIMITRI YACHVILI were all in the starting line up that day.
- France lost 24-14 to Argentina on 20 November 2004 in Marseille. WILLIAM SERVAT, YANNICK JAUZION and AURELIEN ROUGERIE all started that game for France and are also in the starting line up on Saturday. FELIPE CONTEPOMI kicked 14 points that day and is one of four Argentina players from the match who are in the starting line up again this weekend, the others being RODRIGO RONCERO, MARIO LEDESMA and PATRICIO ALBACETE.

The man in the middle

- JONATHAN KAPLAN of South Africa takes charge of this match on Saturday, the third time he has been appointed to a fixture between France and Argentina.
- Argentina won 24-14 in Marseille exactly six years ago to the day, whilst France won 12-6 in November 2008, also in Marseille.
- It will be the ninth time Kaplan has officiated in a match involving France, who have won four and lost four so far, whilst it will be the fourth match for Argentina with this referee.

Facts & Figures

FRANCE FACTS AND FIGURES

Tough opponents

- Between them the starting line up for France have played 39 tests against Argentina, with 11 wins and 28 defeats. AURELIEN ROUGERIE has the worst record, having lost all six games he has played against the Pumas and they are one of only two sides that he has failed to beat in test match rugby, along with New Zealand.

Sole man

- YANNICK JAUZION is the only player in the French squad to score a try against Argentina, which came in a 33-32 defeat in Buenos Aires in June 2003, his first of five appearances against them.

300 approaching

- DIMITRI YACHVILI, who starts on the replacements bench on Saturday, is now the fourth highest points scorer in test history for France with 283 after moving ahead of both Gerald Merceron and Jean-Pierre Romeu when scoring 19 points against Fiji last weekend. He now needs 17 points to reach 300 in test matches.

Debutant

- 23 year old YOANN HUGET will make his debut for France this weekend on the right wing.

Birthday boy captain

- THIERRY DUSAUTOIR will lead out France on Saturday, two days after his 29th birthday. This will be his 13th match as captain, having won seven and lost five.

ARGENTINA FACTS AND FIGURES

Front row combination

- The front row of RODRIGO RONCERO, MARIO LEDESMA and MARTIN SCELZO will be making their 15th appearance together as a starting combination, which extends their record for Argentina, who have won eight and lost six with this partnership.
- They have only played together as a front row combination once against France, when winning 17-12 during the pool stages of the 2007 Rugby World Cup in St.Denis.

Favourite opponents

- FELIPE CONTEPOMI has played 11 matches against France, winning seven and losing four and scoring 118 points. He has played more times and scored more points against France than any other country. Five of his 13 international tries have also been scored against France, including two in the 2007 Rugby World Cup play off match in Paris.

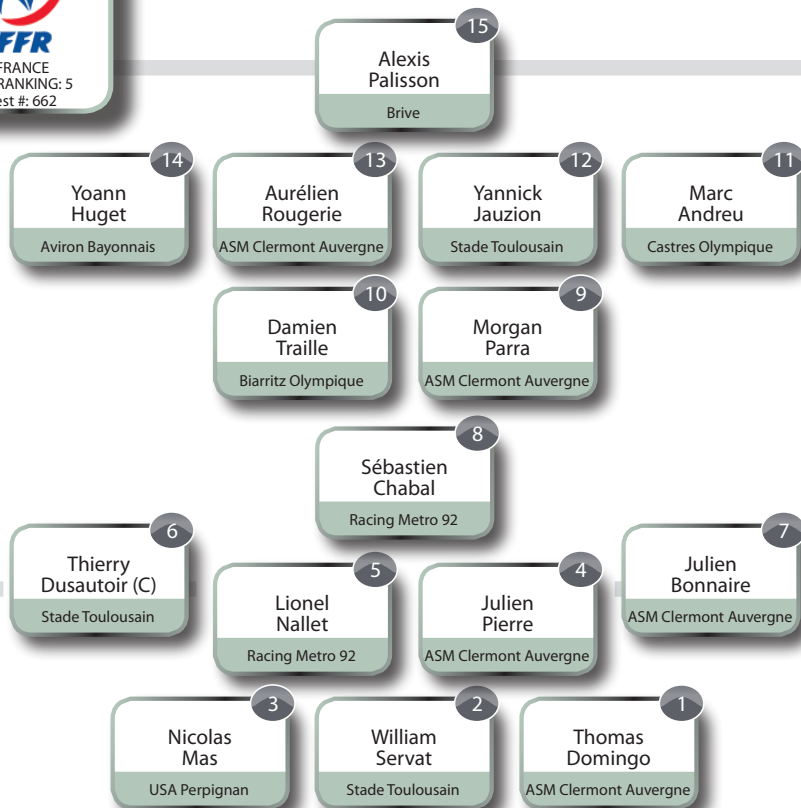
Birthday boy

- JUAN MARTIN FERNANDEZ LOBBE celebrates his 29th birthday on Friday 19 November. He has played against France five times and scored a try in the most recent encounter between the two sides when Argentina won 41-13 in Buenos Aires in June.

Debutant

- JULIO FARIAS CABELLO will make his debut for Argentina if he comes off the replacements bench on Saturday.

Team Sheets



Replacements

16 Guilhem Guirado (USA Perpignan)
17 Luc Ducalcon (Castres Olympique)
18 Jérôme Thion (Biarritz Olympique)
19 Imanol Harinordoquy (Biarritz Olympique)
20 Dimitri Yachvili (Biarritz Olympique)
21 Fabrice Estebanez (Brive)
22 Jerome Porical (USA Perpignan)

Key Stats

Caps Starting Lineup: 523
Avg Age Starting Lineup: 28
Oldest Player: Lionel Nallet (34)
Youngest Player: Morgan Parra (22)
Avg Weight Forwards: 104 kg

Officials

Referee:
Jonathan Kaplan (South Africa) - 61 Tests

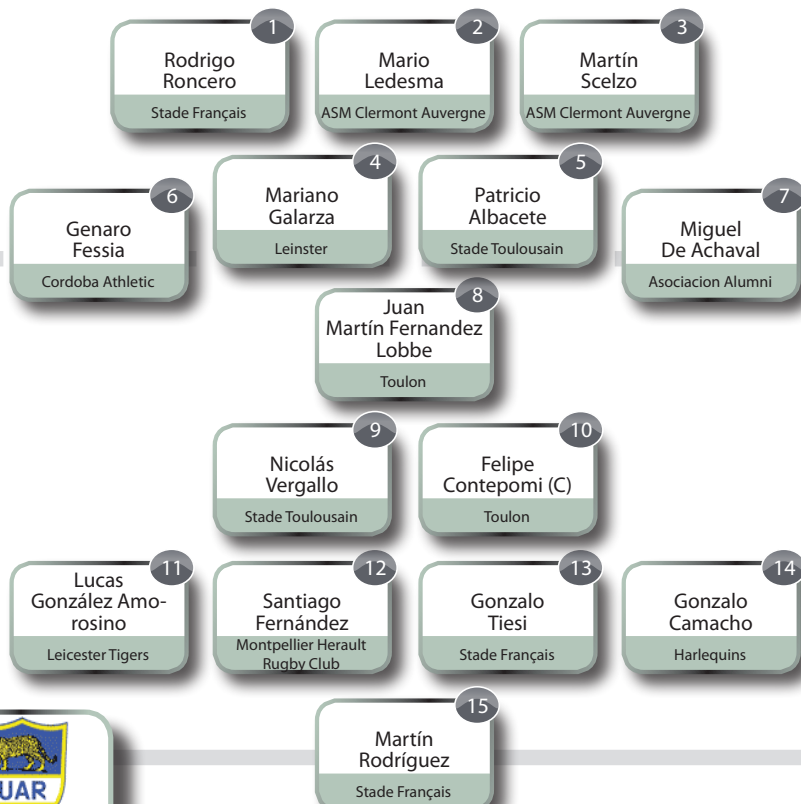
Tests at Venue: 1 Tests
France: 8 Tests
Argentina: 3 Tests
Test Debut: 04/05/1996 - Zimbabwe v Namibia

Assitant Referee 1:
Nigel Owens (Wales)

Assistant Referee 2:
Andy MacPherson (Scotland)

TV Match Official:
Jim Yuille (Scotland)

Citing Commissioner:
Achille Reali (Italy)



Replacements

16 Agustín Creevy (ASM Clermont Auvergne)
17 Marcos Ayerza (Leicester Tigers)
18 Santiago Guzmán (Tucumán RC)
19 Julio Fariás Cabello (Tucumán RC)
20 Alvaro Galindo (Racing Metro 92)
21 Alfredo Lalanne (London Irish)
22 Marcelo Bosch (Biarritz Olympique)

Key Stats

Caps Starting Lineup: 389
Avg Age Starting Lineup: 29
Oldest Player: Mario Ledesma (37)
Youngest Player: Santiago Guzmán (21)
Avg Weight Forwards: 111 kg



Head to Head

Recent Results

Date	Team A	Result	Team B	Venue
26/06/2010	Argentina	41 - 13	France	Buenos Aires
08/11/2008	France	12 - 6	Argentina	Marseille
19/10/2007	France	10 - 34	Argentina	Paris
07/09/2007	France	12 - 17	Argentina	St Denis
25/11/2006	France	27 - 26	Argentina	St Denis

Summary

France		43 Matches (1 Draw)	Argentina	
31	Won			11
1033	Points			672
133	Tries			45
76	Conversions			31
95	Penalties			123
11	Drop Goals			11

Player Records

For France against Argentina		For Argentina against France	
Philippe Sella - 11	Appearances	13 - Agustín Pichot	
Jean-Pierre Romeu - 63	Points	139 - Hugo Porta	
2 Players - 6	Tries	5 - Felipe Contepomi	
Michel Vannier - 14	Conversions	12 - Felipe Contepomi	
Jean-Pierre Romeu - 14	Penalties	40 - Hugo Porta	
Michel Vannier - 3	Drop Goals	6 - Lisandro Arbizu	

Player Records in a Match

For France against Argentina		For Argentina against France	
Christophe Lamaison on 24/10/1999 - 22	Points	31 - Felipe Contepomi on 26/06/2010	
On 20 Occasions - 2	Tries	2 - On 3 Occasions	
On 3 Occasions - 5	Conversions	3 - On 3 Occasions	
Jean-Michel Aguirre on 02/07/1977 - 6	Penalties	7 - On 2 Occasions	
Michel Vannier on 12/09/1954 - 2	Drop Goals	1 - On 11 Occasions	

Team Records in a Match

For France against Argentina		For Argentina against France	
On 2 Occasions - 47	Points	41 - On 26/06/2010	
On 23/07/1960 - 9	Tries	5 - On 19/10/2007	
On 3 Occasions - 5	Conversions	3 - On 3 Occasions	
On 2 Occasions - 6	Penalties	7 - On 2 Occasions	
On 12/09/1954 - 2	Drop Goals	2 - On 20/06/2003	



Head Coach: Marc Lievremont

Debut: 03/02/2008 v Scotland (W 27-6)
Winning Ratio: 58.62%
Average Tries per Match: 2.21

France Record Under Marc Lievremont

17 Wins	0 Drawn	12 Lost
634 For	Points	588 Against
64 For	Tries	55 Against
46 For	Conversions	41 Against
66 For	Penalties	74 Against
8 For	Drop Goals	3 Against

Recent Matches

Date	Opponent	Result	Venue
13/11/2010	Fiji	W 34 12	Nantes
26/06/2010	Argentina	L 13 41	Buenos Aires
12/06/2010	South Africa	L 17 42	Cape Town
20/03/2010	England	W 12 10	St Denis
14/03/2010	Italy	W 46 20	St Denis
Points For		122	
Points Ag		125	
Tries For		12	
Tries Ag		12	

Player Info For France

Player	Pos	Age	Debut	Caps	Caps as Sub	Caps v Opponent	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	Tries	Cons	Pens	DGs
Thomas Domingo	1	25	27/02/2009	11	4	0	8	0	3	5	1	0	0	0
William Servat	2	31	14/02/2004	30	8	1	21	1	8	10	2	0	0	0
Nicolas Mas	3	30	28/06/2003	37	12	3	23	0	14	0	0	0	0	0
Julien Pierre	4	29	02/06/2007	10	5	1	6	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Lionel Nallet	5	34	28/05/2000	56	16	4	38	0	18	30	6	0	0	0
Thierry Dusautoir (C)	6	29	17/06/2006	35	1	3	22	0	13	25	5	0	0	0
Julien Bonnaire	7	32	21/03/2004	54	15	3	37	1	16	30	6	0	0	0
Sébastien Chabal	8	32	04/03/2000	56	27	5	32	1	23	30	6	0	0	0
Morgan Parra	9	22	03/02/2008	20	8	2	14	0	6	111	0	21	22	1
Damien Traille	10	31	10/11/2001	75	12	5	49	2	24	115	12	8	12	1
Marc Andreu	11	24	26/02/2010	4	2	0	3	0	1	10	2	0	0	0
Yannick Jauzion	12	32	16/06/2001	68	7	5	44	1	23	103	20	0	0	1
Aurélien Rougerie	13	30	10/11/2001	57	5	6	38	0	19	110	22	0	0	0
Yoann Huget	14	23		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alexis Palisson	15	23	28/06/2008	10	4	1	7	0	3	10	2	0	0	0
Total				523	126	39	342	6	175	589	84	29	34	3
Guilhem Guirado	16	24	09/03/2008	6	5	1	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Luc Ducalcon	17	26	07/02/2010	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jérôme Thion	18	32	14/06/2003	48	4	5	33	0	15	5	1	0	0	0
Imanol Harinordoquy	19	30	16/02/2002	63	10	6	41	1	21	60	12	0	0	0
Dimitri Yachvili	20	30	23/11/2002	45	20	2	27	1	17	283	2	39	63	2
Fabrice Estebanez	21	28	13/11/2010	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jerome Porical	22	25	26/06/2010	2	0	1	1	0	1	3	0	0	1	0

Records For France

Caps

118 - Fabien Pelous
111 - Philippe Sella
98 - Raphaël Ibanez

Tries

38 - Serge Blanco
32 - Philippe Saint-Andre
30 - Philippe Sella

Points

380 - Christophe Lamaison
367 - Thierry Lacroix
354 - Didier Camberabero

Player Records (In a Match)

Points: 30 - Didier Camberabero v Zimbabwe on 02/06/1987
Tries: 4 - 2 players
Conversions: 11 - Jean-Baptiste Elissalde v Namibia on 16/09/2007
Penalties: 8 - Thierry Lacroix v Ireland on 10/06/1995
Drop Goals: 3 - 3 players

Team Records (In a Match)

Points: 87 v Namibia on 16/09/2007
Tries: 13 on 3 Occasions
Conversions: 11 v Namibia on 16/09/2007
Penalties: 8 v Ireland on 10/06/1995
Drop Goals: 3 on 5 Occasions



Head Coach: Santiago Phelan

Debut: 07/06/2008 v Scotland (W 21-15)
 Winning Ratio: 37.50%
 Average Tries per Match: 0.94

Recent Matches

6 Wins	0 Drawn	10 Lost
248 For	Points	340 Against
15 For	Tries	25 Against
10 For	Conversions	22 Against
48 For	Penalties	49 Against
3 For	Drop Goals	8 Against

Date	Opponent	Result	Venue
13/11/2010	Italy	W 22 16	Verona
26/06/2010	France	W 41 13	Buenos Aires
19/06/2010	Scotland	L 9 13	Mar del Plata
12/06/2010	Scotland	L 16 24	Tucumán
23/05/2010	Chile	W 48 9	Santiago
Points For		136	
Points Ag		75	
Tries For		15	
Tries Ag		3	

Player Info For Argentina

Player	Pos	Age	Debut	Caps	Caps as Sub	Caps v Opponent	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	Tries	Cons	Pens	DGs
Rodrigo Roncero	1	33	15/09/1998	41	5	5	23	0	18	20	4	0	0	0
Mario Ledesma	2	37	18/09/1996	76	17	12	39	1	36	15	3	0	0	0
Martín Scelzo	3	34	14/09/1996	51	20	9	31	1	19	45	9	0	0	0
Mariano Galarza	4	24	13/11/2010	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Patricio Albacete	5	29	27/04/2003	38	1	7	21	0	17	5	1	0	0	0
Genaro Fessia	6	29	26/05/2007	6	1	1	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Miguel De Achaval	7	28	13/11/2010	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
JM Fernandez Lobbe	8	29	28/04/2004	37	1	5	23	0	14	20	4	0	0	0
Nicolás Vergallo	9	27	03/12/2005	16	3	2	9	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
Felipe Contepomi (C)	10	33	10/10/1998	68	10	11	37	0	31	539	13	60	115	3
Lucas González Amorosino	11	25	15/12/2007	7	4	1	4	0	3	5	1	0	0	0
Santiago Fernández	12	24	15/11/2008	11	2	1	5	0	6	3	0	0	1	0
Gonzalo Tiesi	13	25	04/12/2004	26	3	2	15	0	11	30	6	0	0	0
Gonzalo Camacho	14	26	06/06/2009	3	0	0	2	0	1	5	1	0	0	0
Martín Rodríguez	15	25	14/11/2009	7	0	1	3	0	4	42	2	1	9	1
Total				389	67	57	218	2	169	729	44	61	125	4
Agustín Creevy	16	25	23/04/2005	8	7	1	5	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Marcos Ayerza	17	27	04/12/2004	30	16	4	18	0	12	5	1	0	0	0
Santiago Guzmán	18	21	19/06/2010	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Julio Farias Cabello	19	32		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Alvaro Galindo	20	28	28/04/2004	10	5	1	5	0	5	10	2	0	0	0
Alfredo Lalanne	21	27	09/08/2008	6	2	0	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0
Marcelo Bosch	22	26	09/06/2007	2	0	0	1	0	1	6	0	0	2	0

Records For Argentina

Caps
86 - Lisandro Arbizu
86 - Rolando Martin
78 - Pedro Sporleder

Tries
29 - José María Nuñez Piossek
28 - Diego Cuesta Silva
24 - Gustavo Jorge

Points
593 - Hugo Porta
539 - Felipe Contepomi
483 - Gonzalo Quesada

Player Records (In a Match)
Points: 50 - Eduardo Morgan v Paraguay on 14/10/1973
Tries: 11 - Uriel O'Farrell v Brazil on 13/09/1951
Conversions: 16 - Jose Cilley v Paraguay on 01/05/2002
Penalties: 8 - 3 players
Drop Goals: 3 - 5 players

Team Records (In a Match)
Points: 152 v Paraguay on 01/05/2002
Tries: 24 on 2 Occasions
Conversions: 16 on 2 Occasions
Penalties: 8 on 3 Occasions
Drop Goals: 3 on 6 Occasions

