



INSIGHTS

Matchday 18 Serie A 2022-23
13 - 16 January 2023



13/01/2023 20:45 - DIEGO ARMANDO MARADONA

NAPOLI **Vs** **JUVENTUS**

Napoli are unbeaten in their last two Serie A matches against Juventus (W1 D1), last recording a longer unbeaten streak against the Bianconeri in 2011 (five, with Walter Mazzarri in charge).

Juventus have lost more matches against Napoli than any other side in Serie A (70) as well as conceding more goals against them than any other team in the competition (224) – however, the Partenopei have only lost one of their last five against the Bianconeri, after suffering four defeats in the previous five.

This is only the fourth time in Serie A history that Juventus will face Napoli with at least seven points fewer in the standings: on the previous three occasions (1988, 1989 and 2011), the Bianconeri stayed unbeaten thanks to two wins and a draw.

Napoli have won their last three Serie A home matches against Juventus and only once in their history in the competition have they managed four in a row against the Bianconeri at home (between 2007 and 2011) – Juventus's last win at the Stadio Maradona dates back to March 3rd 2019, via a 2-1 win with goals by Pjanic and Emre Can.

In the last six meetings between the first and second teams in the standings in Serie A, the home team has failed to win: five defeats and one draw - however Napoli have already won one match, while first in the table, against the second-placed side this season (2-1 v Atalanta on November 5th).

Juventus are unbeaten in eight Serie A matches when facing the team top of the table at the start of the matchday (W6 D2), winning the last three, against Inter (twice) and Milan.

This clash sees the best attack (39 goals for Napoli) and the best defence (seven goals conceded for Juventus) in Serie A this season go head to head – these are also two of the three teams (12 for Bianconeri, seven for Partenopei) with the most clean sheets recorded this season in the competition.

Massimiliano Allegri next game will be his 450th in Serie A as a manager; he will become the eighth coach to reach this milestone since 1983/84 - on the other hand, Luciano Spalletti is only one win away from equalling Carlo Ancelotti (275) for wins in Serie A since 1983/84 (Allegri is on 273).

Giovanni Simeone has scored six goals against Juventus in Serie A, only against Lazio (eight) he has netted more – the Bianconeri could also become the first team Cholo scores against with four different teams in the competition (also Genoa, Cagliari and Verona).

Federico Chiesa's last goal in Serie A dates back January 6th 2022, against Napoli - the Partenopei are also the team against which the Juventus forward has mustered the most shots in the competition (43 in 10 matches).

14/01/2023 15:00 - GIOVANNI ZINI



CREMONESE

Vs

MONZA



Cremonese and Monza will face each other for the first time ever in Serie A: they have met four times in Serie B in the 21st century: Cremonese have won three of those matches, whilst Monza won the last one (3-2 on February 6th, 2022).

Cremonese have hosted Monza nine times in Serie B, losing only one of these matches (0-2 in December 2020 – W4 D4).

This will be the 10th Derby of Lombardia in Serie A this season: the home side has won three of the previous nine, while the away side has won two (D4).

Cremonese are only the sixth side in the three points for a win era to have gained no more than seven points after the first 17 Serie A games of the season: the other five were relegated at the end of the campaign.

Monza have drawn their last two Serie A matches (against Fiorentina and Inter), after having drawn only one of the previous 15 (1-1 v Lecce on September 11th away from home).

Cremonese have failed to score in their last four Serie A home matches, and have never gone five in a row without a goal in the competition – they have scored two Serie A home goals so far, the joint-lowest total in the Big-10 European Leagues, level with Sampdoria.

No side has conceded more set-piece goals than Cremonese in Serie A this season (10) – on the other hand, Monza have conceded the joint-fewest such goals so far (two).

Daniel Ciofani, scorer of Cremonese's last Serie A goal against Salernitana on November 5th, has been involved in three goals in four Serie B meetings with Monza, via two goals and one assist – however, those involvements all came in a single game (a 3-2 win on February 6th, 2022).

Thanks to his first Serie A goal the last time out against Inter, Patrick Ciurria has now been involved in five Serie A goals for Monza this season (four assists), the joint-most for the club so far – among players to have delivered more than three assists, he has registered the fewest chances created (17).

Carlos Augusto is Monza's top-scorer in Serie A this season, thanks to four goals, at least two more than any teammate – Monza are the only side in the competition to have a defender as the outright top-scorer so far.

14/01/2023 18:00 - VIA DEL MARE - E.GIARDINIERO



LECCE

Vs

MILAN



Lecce have won only two of their 32 Serie A meetings against AC Milan (2-1 in 1997 and 1-0 in 2006): a 6.3% win rate, their second lowest among sides they've faced 10+ times in the top-flight (6.1% v AS Roma).

AC Milan are unbeaten in their last eight Serie A meetings with Lecce (W5 D3), scoring 20 goals in the process (2.5 per match).

The 1-0 win via Axel Konan's strike in April 2006 was Lecce's only Serie A win at home against AC Milan: the Rossoneri have won seven such games (D8).

Lecce are unbeaten in their last five Serie A games, and they could go six in a row in the competition for the first time since April 2012 under Serse Cosmi. In fact, Lecce could also keep a clean sheet in two top-flight matches in a row for the first time since 2012.

Lecce have won their last two Serie A matches at the Via del Mare, and they could win three in a row at home for the first time since 2004 (six between the 2003/04 and the 2004/05 campaigns).

AC Milan drew nil-nil in their last Serie A match against a promoted side (vs Cremonese in November) and could fail to score in two such matches in a row for the first time since 2016 (vs Bologna and Carpi).

Lecce are one of two sides yet to score in the opening 15 minutes of play in Serie A this season (alongside Atalanta); on the other hand, AC Milan have scored seven goals in the same period, the joint-most in the competition.

Lorenzo Colombo has been directly involved in more Serie A goals than any other Lecce player this season (four goals, two assists). Indeed, the striker previously played 11 games for AC Milan and scored one goal in the 2020/21 UEFA Europa League qualifying process against Bodø/Glimt.

Among the goalkeepers with at least eight Serie A appearances this season, Wladimiro Falcone has the second highest save percentage (75%), behind only Wojciech Szczesny (89%).

Sandro Tonali will miss this game due to disqualification: since he joined the club in 2020, AC Milan have won 67% of their games with him on the field, while the percentage drops to 59% without him (also the points/game ratio drops from 2.2 to 1.9).

14/01/2023 20:45 - GIUSEPPE MEAZZA



INTER

Vs

HELLAS VERONA



Inter are unbeaten in their last 22 Serie A meetings against Hellas Verona, thanks to 18 victories and four draws (50 goals scored in the process & 2.3 per game on average). Indeed, Hellas Verona's last win against Inter was back on February 9th 1992 (1-0), thanks to Ezio Rossi's strike.

Among the sides against which Inter have never lost a Serie A home match, Hellas Verona are the one they have played the most times (31 matches), with 20 wins for the Nerazzurri and 11 draws.

Inter have found the net in each of their last 12 Serie A home matches against Hellas Verona: they last failed to score at home against them on March 11th 1990, with a goalless draw under Giovanni Trapattoni.

Since the 2018/19 campaign, Inter have played 40 Serie A matches against sides with 25+ points fewer than the Nerazzurri at the beginning of the match-day, recording only three defeats (W30 D7), each of them against Bologna.

After their 2-0 win against Cremonese the last time out, Hellas Verona could win two Serie A matches in a row for the first time since January 2022 and they could keep a clean sheet in two consecutive matches for the first time since September 2020.

Hellas Verona have failed to keep a clean sheet in their last 31 Serie A away matches, with their last one coming back on April 3rd 2021, against Cagliari. In the last 25 years, only Venezia (42 between 1999 and 2021) have had a longer such run in the competition.

No side has scored more Serie A goals than Inter before half-time this season (19); on the other hand, Hellas Verona have conceded the most goals in the second half so far (20).

Edin Dzeko has scored each of his four Serie A goals against Hellas Verona in home matches, including one in his last meeting, at the Meazza last April. Indeed, he made his Serie A debut against the Gialloblu on August 22nd 2015, for AS Roma.

Joaquín Correa has scored three goals in six Serie A meetings against Hellas Verona, including his first two for Inter, a brace as a substitute in August 2021 – he has scored each of his last seven goals in the top-flight at the Meazza.

Thanks to the brace scored the last time out, Darko Lazovic has already scored more goals than he did last term (one in 34 appearances) – he is now only one strike away from his best tally in a single campaign in the competition (three in 2018/19, 2019/20 and 2020/21).

15/01/2023 12:30 - MAPEI STADIUM - CITTA' DEL TRICOLORE



SASSUOLO

Vs

LAZIO



Lazio have won 10 Serie A meetings against Sassuolo, losing five and drawing the other three, with the last draw back in April 2019.

Having won only one of their first seven Serie A games against Lazio at the Mapei Stadium, Sassuolo have won their last two, both played in 2021.

Sassuolo have lost their last three Serie A matches: they last lost four league games in a row in November 2016, under Eusebio Di Francesco.

Sassuolo have gained 16 points from 17 Serie A matches so far this season, their second worst tally at this stage of the competition: only in their debut campaign, in 2013/14, have they had fewer (14).

Lazio have failed to win in their last two Serie A matches, despite having taken the lead in both: they last lost points from leading situations in three league games in a row in 2018.

Following defeats against Juventus and Lecce, Lazio could lose three Serie A away matches in a row for the first time since May 2021, their last four away league games under Simone Inzaghi.

Sassuolo are one of the two sides to have scored the fewest goals in the opening 30 minutes of play in Serie A this season (two) – Lazio, on the other hand, have scored 12 goals during this period, the joint-most in the competition.

Only against AC Milan (10), has Domenico Berardi scored more Serie A goals than against Lazio (nine in 13 appearances) – he has scored six goals from penalties against them, more than against any other side in the top-flight.

Ciro Immobile, who is only one goal away from equalling Kurt Roland Hamrin (190 goals) as the eighth-top scorer in the history of the Serie A, has scored eight league goals against Sassuolo – however, Sassuolo are the side against which he has scored the most goals without a single brace or hat-trick in the competition.

Sergej Milinkovic-Savic has scored four Serie A goals, assisting none, against Sassuolo - after having found the net in his last two meetings against them, the Lazio midfielder could score in three successive top-flight appearances against a single opponent only for the second time in his career (four in a row against Inter between February 2020 and October 2021).

15/01/2023 15:00 - OLIMPICO GRANDE TORINO



TORINO

Vs

SPEZIA



Spezia are unbeaten in three of their four Serie A meetings against Torino (W2 D1), losing the last one in April last year, at the Olimpico Grande Torino.

Torino are unbeaten at home against Spezia in the Serie A: a 0-0 draw on January 16th, 2021, and a 2-1 win on April 23rd, 2022.

Torino have drawn their last three Serie A games (each of them 1-1); they last had more draws in a row in February 2021 (five back then).

Spezia have gone unbeaten in their last four Serie A matches (W1 D3); they have never gone for five in a row in their history in the competition.

Following draws against Atalanta and Lecce, Spezia could draw three Serie A matches in a row for the first time.

Torino have scored the highest share of their Serie A goals from open play this season: 89% (16/18), including each of their last five.

No side has drawn more Serie A matches from leading positions than Spezia this season: five, level with Empoli.

Sasa Lukic scored the first of his two Serie A braces against Spezia, on April 23rd, 2022, at the Olimpico Grande Torino.

Antonio Sanabria has scored each of his last four Serie A goals away from home (including the three this term): his last league goal at home came back on January 23rd, 2022, against Sassuolo.

Since mid-October, only Victor Osimhen (nine) and Lautaro Martínez (seven) have been involved in more Serie A goals than MBala Nzola (six, five goals one assist). The Spezia striker has scored two goals against Torino in the competition, a brace on May 15th, 2021, at the Picco).

15/01/2023 15:00 - DACIA ARENA - STADIO FRIULI



UDINESE

Vs

BOLOGNA



Udinese are unbeaten in nine of their last 10 Serie A meetings against Bologna (W4 D5); with their only defeat coming back in September 2018 (2-1 at the Dall'Ara).

Udinese and Bologna have drawn their last five Serie A meetings. Only against Napoli, between 1959 and 1961, have Udinese drawn six in a row against a single opponent. Meanwhile, Bologna have only done that against Sampdoria between 1968 and 1970.

Bologna have won only one of their last 13 Serie A away matches against Udinese (D6 L6): 0-1 on February 14th, 2016, via a Mattia Destro strike.

After six victories in a row, Udinese have failed to win their last nine Serie A matches (D6 L3) - they last had a longer winless run in the competition in May 2018 (14 in a row).

Bologna have lost their last two league games, both in 2023. While in 2022, they only lost three Serie A matches in a row once, also in January.

Udinese have picked up the most points when losing across the Big-5 European Leagues this season (16), while Bologna have lost the most from winning situations (20).

Udinese's last seven Serie A goals have been scored by seven different players: Nehuén Pérez, Deulofeu, Beto, Lovric, Nestorovski, Samardzic and Pereyra.

Since the start of last season, Destiny Udogie is the youngest defender to have been involved in 10+ goals in the Big-5 European Leagues (seven goals and six assists).

Riccardo Orsolini (32 goals, 18 assists) is one of three Italian players born since 1997 to have been involved in 50+ Serie A goals, alongside Federico Chiesa (65) and Nicolò Barella (52).

Roberto Soriano has scored three Serie A goals against Udinese: only against Hellas Verona and Parma has he had more in the competition (four against each), However, his last strike in the top-flight was back on March 14th, 2021, against Sampdoria.

15/01/2023 18:00 - GEWISS STADIUM



ATALANTA

Vs

SALERNITANA



Atalanta are unbeaten in their four Serie A meetings against Salernitana (W1 D3). They have drawn their last two games in Bergamo (0-0 in 1947 and 1-1 on May 2nd, 2022).

Atalanta have lost their last three Serie A matches at the Gewiss Stadium. In their Serie A history, only on three occasions have they lost more such consecutive games: four in November 1997, five in November 1978 and four in March 1952.

Atalanta have conceded 18 Serie A goals this season - they last shipped so few goals after 17 games in the 2000/01 campaign (15 back then).

Salernitana have failed to win each of their last five Serie A games (D2 L3); only once have they had a longer winless run under Davide Nicola - in their first seven matches under their current manager (between February and April 2022).

Salernitana are winless in their 11 Serie A away meetings against sides from Lombardia (D2 L9), scoring only five goals while conceding 23.

Atalanta are one of the two sides, alongside Lecce, yet to score in the opening 15 minutes of play in Serie A this season; on the other hand, Salernitana have shipped the joint-most in the same period (six).

Atalanta are the side to have started the most U20 players (three) in Serie A this season in at least five games, Giorgio Scalvini (10), Brandon Sopyy (7) and Rasmus Højlund (5).

Teun Koopmeiners has scored five Serie A goals from outside the box for Atalanta. Since he joined the club (2021/22), only Ruslan Malinovskyi and Fabián Ruiz (six both) have netted more in the competition. Furthermore, in 2022/23 (five goals in 17 matches), the Dutchman has already scored more goals than he did last term (four in 30 games played).

Atalanta are Krzysztof Piatek's favourite opponents in Serie A: he has scored four goals in four meetings against them - including a brace on February 16th, 2019, for AC Milan.

Guillermo Ochoa has made 16 Serie A saves in 2023, whilst also avoiding 2.6 goals based on the Expected Goals, both records in the competition this calendar year.

15/01/2023 20:45 - OLIMPICO



ROMA

Vs

FIorentINA



60 previous Serie A meetings between AS Roma and Fiorentina have ended in a draw, more than any other fixture, level with AS Roma and Lazio.

AS Roma have gone unbeaten in seven of their last eight Serie A meetings against Fiorentina (W5 D2), though Viola's only win in the process was in the most recent game (2-0 home win in May 2022). Fiorentina could win two such matches in a row for the first time since December 2011-April 2012.

After the 2-0 win in May 2022, Fiorentina could keep a clean sheet in two successive Serie A meetings against AS Roma for the first time since 1978.

AS Roma have won eight of their last 10 Serie A games against Fiorentina at the Olimpico (D1 L1), scoring 25 goals in the process (2.5 per game).

AS Roma have drawn three of their last four league games (W1), as many as in their previous 18 fixtures (W9 L6).

Fiorentina have failed to win each of their last 13 Serie A matches against sides from Lazio in the first half of the season (D3 L10), losing each of their last seven.

AS Roma are the side to have scored a higher proportion of their Serie A goals from set pieces this season 48% (10/21).

AS Roma have scored six of their last seven Serie A goals since the 80th minute of play, while Fiorentina have scored the most goals in the 90th minute (5).

Andrea Belotti has scored five Serie A goals against Fiorentina, including a brace in February 2017 for Torino. However, he has failed to find the net in his last 16 league appearances, and he has never had a longer such run in the competition (also 16 between February and May 2015 for Palermo).

Antonín Barak has scored in each of his last two Serie A meetings against AS Roma, after having failed to find the net in each of his first six games against them in the competition. After scoring against AC Milan at the Meazza, he could score in two league away games in a row for the second time in the top-flight (three between September and October 2021 for Hellas Verona).

16/01/2023 20:45 - CARLO CASTELLANI



EMPOLI

Vs

SAMPDORIA



Sampdoria have remained unbeaten in 11 of their last 12 matches against Empoli in Serie A (W7 D4), the only defeat in his time was back to May 2019 (1-2 at Ferraris).

Empoli have picked up just two points in their last six Serie A home games against Sampdoria, losing the last three; their last win at the Castellani against the Blucerchiati in the top-flight dates back to January 2007 (2-0 with Luigi Cagni as manager).

Since last season, Sampdoria are the team that have lost the most matches in Serie A (34/55), while only Udinese have drawn more matches (21) than Empoli (18/55) since 2021-22.

Empoli drew the first two games of 2023 in the league (against Udinese and Lazio), only in 2017 have they remained unbeaten in their first three matches of a calendar year in their history in Serie A (W2 D1), with Giovanni Martusciello as a coach.

Empoli have won their last two home league games without conceding, the Azzurri haven't won three consecutive games at Castellani in the tournament since December 2018, while only twice in their history in Serie A have they recorded three consecutive home wins without conceding a goal (three in January 2017 and four in February 2007).

After a 2-1 away win against Sassuolo, Sampdoria could win back-to-back Serie A away games for the first time since October 2020, with Claudio Ranieri in charge at the time.

With Razvan Marin's goal on the last matchday against Lazio, Empoli have scored five goals from outside the box - no team have more in this Serie A season (Atalanta and Inter also 5).

Empoli and Sampdoria are two of the three teams, together with Torino, to have scored the fewest goals (two) from set-piece situations in Serie A this season.

Francesco Caputo made 51 appearances, scoring 12 goals, for Sampdoria in Serie A, before returning to Empoli; the striker has scored two goals against the Blucerchiati in Serie A (with Empoli in December 2018 and with Sassuolo in December 2020).

Sampdoria are one of only two sides, along with Hellas Verona, not to have any player with at least three goals in this league, with two goals Manolo Gabbiadini and Filip Djuricic are the two Sampdoria top scorers in Serie A this season.