

In sport the **numbers** always make the difference between winning and losing.

The numbers never lie. They are all we need to tell the story of the growth of **American football** in Italy. Just a few years ago **FIDAF** had fourteen teams. Now it has over **a hundred** with about **7,000** members representing every region in Italy and new teams eager to join.

American football is now recognized by the **Italian National Olympic Committee (CONI)** as an Associated Sport Discipline and will soon be a full-fledged National Sport Federation.

The work of the **Italian Federation of American Football** covers all aspects of the game from tackle football, the "real" football, to flag football, which is similar but has no contact between the players during the game.

Every year **FIDAF** organizes and manages the senior men's and women's championships and the junior championships for younger players.

Last but not least, the **Italian National Team** is the reigning European Champion!





The American Football **leagues** (or national championships) in Italy are the **First** and **Second** Divisions and the Nine-Man Football Championship. The teams playing the main senior tournaments for men in **2022** were as follows:

Division I: 9 teams

Division II: 12 teams

Nine-Man Football Championship: 36 teams

FIDAF GAMEDAY is a national service that enables players, coaches and Italian fans of American football to follow the latest **results** from all games in real time every week.

application with a graphic interface that can be used just like any other app designed for desktops and mobile devices, such as tablets and smartphones. The service is so quick and easy to consult that it has become an invaluable tool for all the players, coaches and fans of American football in Italy in recent years.

Over 100 countries worldwide have

Over 15,000 visits every weekend

visited FIDAF Gameday

The **Italian Federation of American Football** (fidaf.org) website also has an entire section dedicated to statistics that is constantly updated throughout the season.

Numbers and **statistics** for American football teams and individual players are immensely important not just for those involved in the sport, but also for the fans who devotedly follow every move the players make out on the field.



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The Italian teams

The **Italian Football League** (IFL) is the main tackle senior tournament in Italy and in 2023 the competing teams will be nine, each of them based in some of the most beautiful cities of the country, rich in history and culture.

Guelfi Firenze (Florence) Lazio Ducks (Rome) Rhinos Milano (Milan) Dolphins Ancona (Ancona) Panthers Parma (Parma) Warriors/Vipers (Bologna) Mastini Verona (Verona) Skorpions Varese (Varese) Frogs Legnano (Milan)

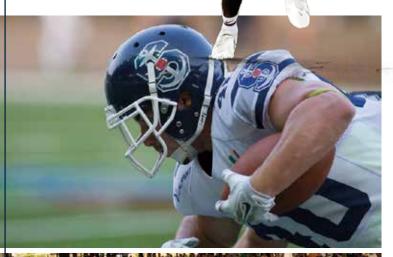
IFL Teams can also select foreign players (up to 3 per team), and these are often American. This gives the game an added edge. **The season starts in March**. The teams face each other in a preliminary phase of rounds (regular season), at the end of which the six top finishers go through the playoffs in a single-elimination tournament. The IFL championship bowl is known as the Italian Bowl and in **2023** it will be played in **Toledo**, **Ohio**, on July 1st, for the very first time in the history of European sport.





Second Division

LIONS Bergamo GIAGUARI Torino PIRATES Savona **DAEMONS** Cernusco **AQUILE Ferrara** SAINTS Padova **REAPERS Torino** SENTINELS Isonzo HOGS Reggio Emilia **REDSKINS Verona**







Nine-Man Football Championship

ROOSTERS Romagna **BENGALS** Brescia **CAVALIERS** Castelfranco PRETORIANI Roma **EAGLES UNITED Palermo BLUE STORMS Busto Arsizio RAMS Milano LEONI** Basiliano **RAIDERS West Coast Toscana THUNDERS Trento ACHEI Crotone**

DOVES Bologna HURRICANES Vicenza

GORILLAS Varese

MAD BULLS Barletta

BLITZ Balangero

ELEPHANTS Catania

WOLVERINES Piacenza

TRAPPERS Cecina

GIANTS Bolzano

PREDATORI Golfo del Tigullio

CRUSADERS Cagliari

MULI Trieste

ANGELS Pesaro

LEGIO XIII Roma

BRAVES Bologna

LANCIERI Novara

EAGLES Salerno

HONEY BADGERS Formigine

VENEZIA Football

GUELFI NERI Firenze

MEXICANS Pederobba

HAMMERS Monza Brianzo







The Blue Team: The Italian national American football team

On 31 October 2021, in Malmö, the Italian National Team Italian became the **European Champion** for the third time in its history. By beating the Swedish Team 41 to 14, the European Championships trophy finally returned to Italy after 34 years.

The Blue Team is a sport and social miracle. It is a model of inclusion that perfectly encapsulates the modern, multifaceted Italian reality: with a mixture of non-professional coaches and players unified by the love of Football from all walks of life. They range from students, architects, engineers, university professors, managers, entrepreneurs, workers, and the unemployed. They represent every region of Italy but also Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, and the United States; some are ex-pats or second/third-generation Italians with one thing in common: they are all immensely proud of their roots and ready to give everything for "maglia azzurra."

