

## Men's internationals – 29 February

### World Rugby Men's Rankings highlights:

- Poland could move back into the world's top 30 for the first time in six years
- A new high of 28th is possible for Switzerland
- Germany could fall to their lowest position since May 2012

### RUGBY EUROPE TROPHY

#### **NETHERLANDS (25) 60.08 v POLAND (34) 51.11**

Netherlands win by 15 points or less – Netherlands 60.08, Poland 51.11 (No change)

Netherlands win by more than 15 points – Netherlands 60.08, Poland 51.11 (No change)

Draw – Netherlands 59.08, Poland 52.11

Poland win by 15 points or less – Netherlands 58.08, Poland 53.11

Poland win by more than 15 points – Netherlands 57.08, Poland 54.11

#### Head-to-head

Played: 17 – Split 8-8 with one draw

Points for: Netherlands 417 / Poland 308

Average score: Netherlands 25-18 Poland

First meeting: 1 October, 1981 – Netherlands 9-19 Poland

Last meeting: 17 November, 2018 – Netherlands 49-0 Poland – Arena Lublin, Lublin

- The Netherlands have won the last two meetings, scoring 120 points in the process
- Poland have won four times on Dutch soil in 10 previous attempts
- The Netherlands have won their opening games with a bonus-point to top the embryonic Rugby Europe table with 10 points; Poland are second from bottom having won one, lost one
- The Netherlands cannot improve their rating this weekend due to the near nine-point differential between the teams before home weighting is factored in
- A rise of between three to six places is possible for Poland depending on results. To achieve the latter, Poland would have to win by more than 15 points while hoping Switzerland beat Germany by a lesser margin.
- There would be just one place between the teams in the rankings if that scenario pans out, with Poland at their highest position since October 2013 of 28th
- Defeat for the Netherlands would see them drop below Brazil to 26th

#### **GERMANY (28) 54.64 v SWITZERLAND (31) 52.60**

Germany win by 15 points or less – Germany 55.13, Switzerland 52.11

Germany win by more than 15 points – Germany 55.38, Switzerland 51.86

Draw – Germany 54.13, Switzerland 53.11

Switzerland win by 15 points or less – Germany 53.13, Switzerland 54.11

Switzerland win by more than 15 points – Germany 52.38, Switzerland 54.86

#### Head-to-head

Played: 3 – Germany leads 3-0

Points for: Germany 66 / Switzerland 22

Average score: Germany 22-7 Switzerland



First meeting: 28 October, 1978 – Switzerland 0-18 (West) Germany

Last meeting: 1 December, 1985 – Switzerland 10-18 (West) Germany

- This is the first meeting between the two nations for 35 years
- Just two points separates them in the Rugby Europe Trophy table with the Swiss in second and Germany fourth
- Germany are not able to improve on their current ranking of 28th, as Belgium have a near three-point cushion over them and the maximum they can gain is 0.74
- Defeat for Switzerland could cost them up to three places, depending on the margin
- A victorious Switzerland could break back into the world's top 30 and possibly climb to a new record high of 28th
- Germany could drop as many as four places to 32nd, a position they last held in May 2012

*The World Rugby Men's Rankings update every Monday at 12:00 GMT*

