

## NFL EUROPE LEAGUE 2001 STANDINGS: THE ROAD TO ...

	W	L	T	PF	PA	Streak	Home	Road	
x-Barcelona	7	1	0	216	158	W3	4-0	3-1	
Amsterdam	4	4	0	156	151	L1	4-0	0-4	
Rhein	4	4	0	136	132	W1	3-1	1-3	
Berlin	4	4	0	195	201	L1	3-1	1-3	
Scotland	3	5	0	127	141	L2	3-1	0-4	
Frankfurt	2	6	0	160	207	W1	2-2	0-4	



x-Clinched World Bowl berth. NOTE: Tied teams separated by: 1: Head-to-head. 2: Combined offensive/defensive rankings (based on total net yards). 3: Overall points differential

## Calculators at the ready as race does down to the wire

NFL Europe League teams have made an addition to their staffs for the final two weeks of the season -- a calculator coach.

With four teams vying for the remaining World Bowl berth, it's time for a refresher course in NFL Europe League tie-breakers. This year's system includes a new second step that will guarantee a nail-biting finish to the season and may mean that teams have to reach certain targets in yardage in the final games of the season:

The tie-breaker system is:

1. **Head-to-head (best won-lost-tied percentage in games among the tied clubs)**
2. **Best combined offensive and defensive rankings, as listed in the official NFLEL statistics. *Note:* Offensive rankings are based on total net yards gained (passing plus rushing). Defensive rankings are based on fewest net yards allowed (passing plus rushing). *Example:* Team A is ranked 1 on offense and 3 on defense (4 ranking points). Team B is ranked 3 on offense and 2 on defense (5 ranking points). Team A wins tie-breaker by virtue of lower ranking points total.**
3. **Best points differential in all games**
4. **Best net touchdowns**
5. **Coin toss**

Any teams tying for second place will all have split their season series, which means any tiebreaker is guaranteed to move to Step 2, combined offensive and defensive rankings.

That means teams could go into Week 10, not only needing to win their game but to reach certain targets in terms of yards gained by the offense and yards allowed by the defense.

Even that may not be enough to separate the teams. Currently the three teams tied for second place, Amsterdam, Berlin and Rhein, would all be tied on combined offensive and defensive rankings:

	Offense	Defense	Total
Amsterdam	5	4	9
Berlin	3	6	9
Rhein	4	5	9

If that was the case after Week 10, the tiebreaker would move to Step 3, overall points differential. Even when it was the second step in the tiebreaker process, overall points differential has never been called upon to determine a World Bowl berth.

Meanwhile, Barcelona Dragons head coach **JACK BICKNELL** can watch with detached interest as the teams battle for the right to take on his team in World Bowl IX.

"From the standpoint of our offense, then Rhein would be the most difficult opponents," he said. "The offense that would give us the most problems would be Berlin.

"And if Amsterdam is in the World Bowl, then that's a home game for them and that bothers me, with the home fans and all the noise."

The possible tiebreaker scenarios mean that no team contending for second place in the standings is fully in control of its own destiny:

**AMSTERDAM:** Qualifies for World Bowl as second placed team with two wins against Berlin and a Fire loss or tie. If Fire wins both games, Admirals would need a tie-breaker to beat them. Could also qualify with one win against Berlin and a Fire loss, depending on tie-breakers.

**BARCELONA:** Qualified for World Bowl and guaranteed first place in the NFLEL standings.

**BERLIN:** Qualifies for World Bowl as second placed team with two wins against Amsterdam and a Fire loss or tie. If Fire wins both games, Thunder would need a tie-breaker to beat them. Could also qualify with one win against Amsterdam and a Fire loss, depending on tie-breakers.

**FRANKFURT:** Eliminated from World Bowl contention.

**RHEIN:** Qualifies for World Bowl with two victories and a split in the Berlin-Amsterdam series. A sweep by one team in the Berlin-Amsterdam series would leave Rhein needing a tie-breaker to qualify. One Fire victory and a split in the Berlin-Amsterdam series would also create a tie-breaker.

**SCOTTISH CLAYMORES:** Can be involved in a tie-breaker by winning final two games, while Berlin and Amsterdam split their series. Currently, Claymores currently have a better combined offensive and defensive rankings total than the other three teams in contention for second place (ranked sixth on offense and second on defense).

**RANKINGS (based on net yardage)**

Total offense	Total	Rush	Pass
Barcelona	2835	1207	1628
Frankfurt	2540	943	1597
Berlin	2489	802	1687
Rhein	2208	845	1363
Amsterdam	2002	693	1309
Scotland	1998	602	1396

Total defense	Total	Rush	Pass
Frankfurt	2123	826	1297
Scotland	2145	764	1381
Barcelona	2219	809	1410
Amsterdam	2259	905	1354
Rhein	2306	716	1590
Berlin	3020	1072	1948

There are 64 possible combinations of results in Week 9 and 10 of the NFLEL season. Here is what each one means to the World Bowl picture:

WEEK 9 WINNERS			WEEK 10 WINNERS			WORLD BOWL	TIEBREAKER EXPLANATION
Scot @ Bar	Amst @ Berlin	Frank @ Rhein	Rhein @ Scot	Barc @ Frank	Ber @ Amst		
Scot	Berlin	Rhein	Rhein	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 7-3 vs Rhein 6-4	None
Bar	Berlin	Rhein	Rhein	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Rhein 6-4	None
Scot	Ams	Rhein	Rhein	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 7-3 vs Rhein 6-4	None
Bar	Ams	Rhein	Rhein	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Rhein 6-4	None
Scot	Berlin	Frank	Rhein	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 7-3 vs Ber or Rhein or Amst 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Berlin	Frank	Rhein	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Ber or Rhein or Amst 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Ams	Frank	Rhein	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 7-3 vs Amsterdam 6-4	None
Bar	Ams	Frank	Rhein	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Amsterdam 6-4	None
Scot	Berlin	Rhein	Rhein	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Rhein 6-4	None
Bar	Berlin	Rhein	Rhein	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 9-1 vs Rhein 6-4	None
Scot	Ams	Rhein	Rhein	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Amsterdam or Rhein 6-4	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Ams	Rhein	Rhein	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 9-1 vs Amsterdam or Rhein 6-4	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Berlin	Frank	Rhein	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Ber or Rhein or Amst 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Berlin	Frank	Rhein	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 9-1 vs Ber or Rhein or Amst 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Ams	Frank	Rhein	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Amsterdam 6-4	None
Bar	Ams	Frank	Rhein	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 9-1 vs Amsterdam 6-4	None
Scot	Berlin	Rhein	Rhein	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 7-3 vs Berlin or Rhein 6-4	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Berlin	Rhein	Rhein	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Berlin or Rhein 6-4	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Ams	Rhein	Rhein	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 7-3 vs Rhein 6-4	None
Bar	Ams	Rhein	Rhein	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Rhein 6-4	None
Scot	Berlin	Frank	Rhein	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 7-3 vs Berlin 6-4	None
Bar	Berlin	Frank	Rhein	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Berlin 6-4	None
Scot	Ams	Frank	Rhein	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 7-3 vs Amst or Rhein or Ber 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Ams	Frank	Rhein	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Amst or Rhe or Ber 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Berlin	Rhein	Rhein	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Rhein or Berlin 6-4	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Berlin	Rhein	Rhein	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 9-1 vs Rhein or Berlin 6-4	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Ams	Rhein	Rhein	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Rhein 6-4	None
Bar	Ams	Rhein	Rhein	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 9-1 vs Rhein 6-4	None
Scot	Berlin	Frank	Rhein	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Berlin 6-4	None
Bar	Berlin	Frank	Rhein	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 9-1 vs Berlin 6-4	None
Scot	Ams	Frank	Rhein	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Ams or Rhein or Ber 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Ams	Frank	Rhein	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 9-1 vs Ams or Rhein or Ber 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Berlin	Rhein	Scot	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 7-3 vs Scot/Ber/Rhein/Ams 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Berlin	Rhein	Scot	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Ber or Rhein or Ams 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Ams	Rhein	Scot	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 7-3 vs Amsterdam 6-4	None
Bar	Ams	Rhein	Scot	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Amsterdam	None
Scot	Berlin	Frank	Scot	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 7-3 vs Scot or Ber or Ams 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Berlin	Frank	Scot	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Berlin or Amsterdam 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Ams	Frank	Scot	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 7-3 vs Amsterdam 6-4	None
Bar	Ams	Frank	Scot	Frank	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Amsterdam 6-4	None
Scot	Berlin	Rhein	Scot	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Sco/Ber/Rhein/Ams 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Berlin	Rhein	Scot	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 9-1 vs Ber or Rhein or Ams 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Ams	Rhein	Scot	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Amsterdam 6-4	None
Bar	Ams	Rhein	Scot	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 9-1 vs Amsterdam 6-4	None
Scot	Berlin	Frank	Scot	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Scot or Berlin or Ams 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Berlin	Frank	Scot	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 9-1 vs Berlin or Amsterdam 5-5	Tied on head-to-head: tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Ams	Frank	Scot	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 8-2 vs Amsterdam 6-4	None

Bar	Ams	Frank	Scot	Bar	Ams	Barcelona 9-1 vs Amsterdam 6-4	None
Scot	Berlin	Rhein	Scot	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 7-3 vs Berlin 6-4	None
Bar	Berlin	Rhein	Scot	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Berlin 6-4	None
Scot	Ams	Rhein	Scot	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 7-3 vs Sco/Ams/Rhein/Ber 5-5	Tied on head-to-head; tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Ams	Rhein	Scot	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Ams or Rhein or Ber 5-5	Tied on head-to-head; tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Berlin	Frank	Scot	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 7-3 vs Berlin 6-4	None
Bar	Berlin	Frank	Scot	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Berlin 6-4	None
Scot	Ams	Frank	Scot	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 7-3 vs Sco or Ams or Berlin 5-5	Tied on head-to-head; tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Ams	Frank	Scot	Frank	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Amsterdam or Berlin 5-5	Tied on head-to-head; tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Berlin	Rhein	Scot	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Berlin 6-4	None
Bar	Berlin	Rhein	Scot	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 9-1 vs Berlin 6-4	None
Scot	Ams	Rhein	Scot	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Sco/Ams/Rhein/Ber 5-5	Tied on head-to-head; tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Bar	Ams	Rhein	Scot	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 9-1 vs Ams or Rhein or Ber 5-5	Tied on head-to-head; tie broken by combined off/def rankings
Scot	Berlin	Frank	Scot	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 8-2 vs Berlin 6-4	None
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Bar	Ams	Frank	Scot	Bar	Berlin	Barcelona 9-1 vs Amsterdam or Berlin 5-5	Tied on head-to-head; tie broken by combined off/def rankings