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The AFLE announces Italian Football Team to join the league in 2026

The American Football League of Europe (AFLE) is pleased to announce the launch of a new Italian football team that will join the league for the 2026 season. This marks an important step in bringing professional American football to a growing audience in Italy.

Building a professional football experience in Italy

The new franchise aims to deliver a professional, American-style football experience while helping the sport grow across the country. The project focuses on building a strong team identity, supporting player development, and giving Italian athletes the opportunity to become recognized local heroes in their communities.

Bart Iaccarino named General Manager

As part of this launch, Bart Iaccarino has been officially appointed General Manager of the new Italian franchise. He brings significant international experience, having served as General Manager of the Barcelona Dragons for three seasons. During his tenure, he helped build the franchise from the ground up and guided it to become one of the respected teams in European football at that time, including a semifinal appearance.

In Italy, Iaccarino's vision is to create a professional home for Italian players and to develop a team that brings together top domestic talent. The goal is to provide a strong structure that supports player growth and prepares athletes to compete at the highest European level.

Vision for the future of Italian football

With a focus on organization, development, and professional standards, the new Italian football team is expected to play an important role in strengthening the sport in the country and inspiring the next generation of players and fans.

"It is an honor for me to be appointed as the new General Manager of the Italian franchise that will represent our country in the American Football League of Europe," said Bart Iaccarino. "I am proud to be part of this new project and to have the opportunity to work for my country, helping Italian players earn prominent roles on the European stage. I will do everything possible to place Italian football where it truly belongs in continental competitions."

Under Iaccarino's leadership, the new Italian football team is set to become a key part of AFLE's growth and the future of American football in Italy. Work on the franchise brand is already well underway, with the official team name and logo planned to be revealed in March.



About The AFLE

The AFLE (American Football League of Europe) is a newly established professional football league dedicated to building a sustainable, team-driven competition across Europe. Headquartered in Hamburg, Germany, the league operates as an association owned and governed by its participating teams.

Founded on principles of transparency, collaboration and long-term development, The AFLE was created to provide stability and professional structures for European football after years of uncertainty across the landscape.

The league's inaugural season will take place in summer 2026, featuring teams from multiple countries across Europe. The AFLE aims to connect fans across borders and establish a truly international competition platform.

Backed by long-term private investment, The AFLE focuses on responsible growth, modern governance and strong media engagement. The league works closely with clubs, players, officials and partners to develop football sustainably for the next generation.

The AFLE's mission is to create a trusted home for European football, built on stability, professionalism and community.

Digital Presence

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