

General information about the SWARCO RAIDERS Tirol

American football has a long and successful history in Innsbruck. On September 15, 1992, the birthday of the Raiders, a group of "greenhorns" met for the first time to discuss the founding of an American Football team in Innsbruck. After months of preparations, Gerwin Wichmann along with other people founded the Raiders.

In 1997 the Raiders made their way up to the Austrian Football League, the highest division in the country. In their third season in the AFL the Raiders advanced to their first Austrian Bowl, losing 28-34 to Vienna in the final. The following year they participated in the European Football League (EFL) for the very first time.

After another 2nd place finish in 2001 the Tyroleans finally won the national championship in 2004. They also won the EFAF Cup that year. The Raiders repeated that success in 2006, again winning both the Austrian Bowl. It was the first season the team went under the name SWARCO RAIDERS Tirol.

They played two more times in the Austrian Bowl (2008, 2010), but had their finest hours in the 2008 Eurobowl, winning the European crown for the very first time. The Tyroleans repeated as Eurobowl champions in 2009. In 2011 they celebrated the team's best season ever, winning the Austrian Bowl and the Eurobowl. It was the first year under head coach Shuan Fatah, who led the Tyroleans to three more championship finals in 2012 and 2013.

Partnership between The Oakland Raiders and the SWARCO RAIDERS Tirol:

In the spring of 2008 The Oakland Raiders and the SWARCO RAIDERS Tirol started a partnership unlike any other in the world of American Football. Never before has an NFL franchise worked together with a European team.

Both sides share experiences and information on and off the field. The team's homepages feature articles and game previews and recaps on a regular basis. Every summer The Oakland Raiders invite two to three Austrian coaches to training camp as part of the International Guest Coach Program.

Important people within the organization:



Elisabeth Swarovski:

Mrs. Swarovski is the president of the SWARCO RAIDERS Tirol and became a member of the board in 2008. She is also a member of the SWARCO AG supervisory board.



Peter Schwazer:

Doctor Schwazer was named club manager in early 2012. He was an active member of the SWARCO RAIDERS team until 2011 and won the Austrian Bowl and Eurobowl in his last season as a player. Before becoming the club manager of the team doctor Schwazer worked as a portfolio manager for a Tyrolean power supply company.



Shuan Fatah:

In November of 2010 Mr. Fatah was named head coach of the SWARCO RAIDERS Tirol. He led the team to its first ever double championship in his inaugural season, winning the Austrian Bowl and the Eurobowl. In the last two seasons the team has reached three more finals. Before coming to Innsbruck, Fatah won four World Bowl titles in NFL Europe as well as six German Bowl titles.

