

VfB Stuttgart - FC Barcelona

MATCH PRESS KIT

Gottlieb-Daimler, Stuttgart

Tuesday 2 October 2007 - 20.45CET
Group E - Matchday 2



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Match background

Three sets of former team-mates will be reunited as VfB Stuttgart take on FC Barcelona for the first time on UEFA Champions League Matchday 2. On Matchday 1, Stuttgart relinquished a second-half lead against Rangers FC to lose 2-1 while Barcelona scored three goals with no reply in their home match with Olympique Lyonnais.

- The two sides have never met in European club competition.
- Stuttgart have played six competitive games against Spanish opposition - three two-legged UEFA Cup ties - winning one, drawing two and losing three. At home, their record reads won one, drawn one, lost one.
- Barça have played German opponents 41 times, with notable previous meetings seeing them beat Fortuna Düsseldorf 4-3 in the 1978 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup final, and beating Werder Bremen and BV Borussia Dortmund respectively over two legs in the 1992 and 1997 UEFA Super Cups.
- Their overall record against Bundesliga sides reads won 21, drawn nine, lost eleven. In their 19 away games against German sides they have won six, drawn eight and lost five.
- Four of Barça's games against German sides have been played under current coach Frank Rijkaard. Paired with Werder Bremen twice in the UEFA Champions League group stage, the Dutchman has masterminded three wins and a draw against the German side.
- As coach of the Netherlands, Rijkaard twice took on Germany in friendly games, winning one and drawing one. As a Dutch international, he played in five games against Germany, winning two, drawing two and losing one.
- The first European game of Rijkaard's club career saw him score in a 2-1 AFC Ajax win against FC Bayern München on 5 November 1980. In total, his record of games against German sides with both Ajax and AC Milan reads won five, drawn two and lost one.
- The match could see three sets of former team-mates come face to face.
- Stuttgart defender Matthieu Delpierre played alongside his Barça counterpart Eric Abidal at LOSC Lille Métropole between 2003 and 2004. Lille finished tenth in Ligue 1 in their only full season together, 2003/04.



- The Catalan side's Mexican defender Rafael Márquez played with Stuttgart midfielder Pável Pardo at Guadalajara side CF Atlas between 1996 and 1998.
- Stuttgart's left-back Arthur Boka followed former ASEC Abidjan team-mate Yaya Touré to Belgian side KSK Beveren in 2002 - the midfielder had joined the club a year earlier - where the two Ivorian stars played together until 2004. Beveren finished eleventh in the 18-team league in their first season together and twelfth in their second, qualifying for the UEFA Cup as beaten Belgian Cup finalists.
- Stuttgart qualified for the group stage as German champions, while Barça got there by finishing second in Spain.
- Barça travel to face Rangers on Matchday 3 while on the same evening, 23 October, Stuttgart welcome Lyon.

Match facts

Stuttgart

- **Ciprian Marica** celebrates his 22nd birthday on the day of the Barcelona game, 2 October.
- Stuttgart's sorry Bundesliga away form continued on Saturday as early goals from Tobias Rathgeb (16) and Orestes (18) set them on course for a 2-1 defeat at FC Hansa Rostock. **Mario Gómez** halved the deficit 17 minutes from time but the visitors could not find an equaliser.
- Stuttgart coach **Armin Veh** said: "I have had it. We started well today, but it got difficult after the first goal. We have again conceded two early goals - that must not happen. In the second half we increased the pressure and scored, but it was not enough in the end."
- **Yıldıray Baştürk** was not even on the bench as he was rested, replaced by **Alexander Farnerud**, while **Ludovic Magnin** again came in for **Arthur Boka** at left-back. **Thomas Hitzlsperger** (metatarsal) and **Gledson** (ankle ligaments) sat out, as did **Antonio Da Silva**, who tore his calf in training and will be out of action for a few weeks.
- Stuttgart have the worst away record in the Bundesliga, having been defeated in all three of their games on their travels to date. They only lost four away from home all season last term.
- **Gómez** said: "If people think they have to talk about a crisis now, than we have to live with that. What we have offered away from home has been poor - unworthy of a league champion."
- Stuttgart have amassed just ten points from their first eight games, conceding 12, though it is not much better than they had managed by the same stage last term. Then, they had 12 points after shipping 14 goals before a run of four consecutive wins sent them surging up the table.
- **Raphael Schäfer**, **Fernando Meira**, **Vardar Tasci**, **Roberto Hilbert**, **Pável Pardo** and **Ciprian Marica** are all ever-present in the Bundesliga.
- With four strikes, **Gómez** is the only Stuttgart player to score more than one league goal so far.
- Following their defeat by Rangers FC on Matchday 1, Stuttgart returned to domestic action with a demoralising 4-1 loss at Werder Bremen on 22 September. The game was almost over inside five minutes as two goals in 44 seconds from Hugo Almeida put the home side 2-0 up. **Gómez** (13) reduced the deficit but Boubacar Sanogo restored it almost immediately, and Diego compounded the visitors' misery late on.

- "We now have a crisis," admitted **Veh**. "Mistakes happened which simply must not happen. It can't go on like this. We are lacking the necessary aggressiveness. The first two goals we conceded, the way we applied ourselves – it was not worthy of the German champions."
- **Baştürk** made his Bundesliga debut for Stuttgart against Bremen and although he admitted he has "a long way to go". **Veh** insisted: "He will become as important to us as Diego is to Bremen."
- **Veh's** side again failed to spark four days later when they welcomed VfL Bochum 1848 to the Gottlieb-Daimler-Stadion, yet they did claim three points with a 1-0 win. **Hilbert** scored the only goal five minutes after half-time following some fine build-up play from **Cacau**.
- "We have three points, we have a win; nothing else matters," said **Hilbert**.
- **Veh** added: "In this difficult situation it is most important that we get results. That's why we didn't take risks. After conceding ten goals in six games I am especially happy that we did not concede. The players will have to be wise to get through this."
- The triumph stretched Stuttgart's unbeaten home run to 19 league matches – a sequence stretching back to last August when they lost 3-1 to BV Borussia Dortmund. Of those games, they have won 15, drawn four and kept 13 clean sheets.
- **Hilbert** has scored in nine league and cup matches since joining from SPVgg Greuther Fürth in summer 2006 – Stuttgart have won each time.
- **Matthieu Delpierre** could be sidelined until mid-October after damaging tendons in his right knee. Having undergone surgery in France, on 12 September he said: "I have to be realistic; it will take four or five weeks before I can start training".
- **Veh** has signed a one-year extension to his contract, committing to the club until 2009. The 46-year-old's existing deal was due to expire next summer but club chairman Erwin Staudt said: "Armin Veh and his team are doing great work and we are convinced that he is the right man in the right place".
- **Veh** added: "VfB allow me to put my ideas into practice. I believe in the potential of our young team and am sure we are going places."
- **Manuel Fischer** scored twice after coming on as a substitute in Germany's 8-1 triumph over Bosnia-Herzegovina in their opening UEFA European Under-19 Championship qualifier in Moscow on 24 September. Two days later Fischer made another substitute appearance in the 5-1 win against Estonia.

Barcelona

- **Thierry Henry's** goal against Lyon on Matchday 1 was his 51st in UEFA club competition.
- **Rijkaard** celebrated his 45th birthday on Sunday.
- **Henry** scored a hat-trick as Barcelona eased to a 4-1 win at Levante UD on Saturday. Henry had failed to find the net in the Primera División prior to the game but he tapped in his first after 16 minutes when Marco Storari parried a **Lionel Messi** shot into the path of the French international. The striker's second came seven minutes later and he completed his haul shortly after the break, beating Storari at the near post. Messi added his name to the scoresheet moments later. **Carles Puyol** upended Alexandre Geijo to concede a penalty which Emilio Viquería rolled in after 71 minutes.

- Barcelona coach **Frank Rijkaard** said: "We have to thank every one of our players for contributing to this victory. We're ecstatic for them all and especially for Thierry. It's not the best of times for our players and our thoughts are with those who are out injured."
- Two players were hurt during the Levante game. **Yaya Touré** suffered a problem to his left thigh although he finished the game while **Gabriel Milito** was substituted at half-time with a hip injury. Tests on Sunday confirmed Touré, who had started every game this season, would be out for a month.
- **Puyol** was included in the Barcelona squad for the first time in three months having recovered from knee ligament damage, and was introduced as a second-half substitute for **Milito**.
- **Ronaldinho** did not travel as he continues to recover from a calf injury. **Rafael Márquez** picked up an achilles injury during a 4-1 win over Real Zaragoza and was not included while **Gianluca Zambrotta** is out for a month after pulling his right thigh muscle in the same game.
- **Samuel Eto'o** is continuing his recovery from a thigh problem picked up during a pre-season friendly while **Edmílson** is continuing his recuperation from knee surgery.
- At 17 years and 22 days, **Bojan Krkić** became the youngest Barça player to appear for the club in European competition when he replaced **Messi** late on against Olympique Lyonnais. Coincidentally, it was Messi's record that he took, the Argentinian forward having made his UEFA Champions League debut against FC Shakhtar Donetsk in December 2004 aged 17 years, five months and 13 days.
- Three days earlier **Bojan** had become the third youngest player to play for Barcelona in the league when he featured against CD Osasuna.
- Barça returned to domestic action with a 2-1 victory against Sevilla FC on 22 September. **Messi** scored twice, breaking the deadlock 17 minutes from time before doubling the lead with a penalty six minutes later. Frédéric Kanouté pulled one back for Sevilla late on.
- Coach **Frank Rijkaard** said: "Everyone who saw that game will have realised that we deserved the victory. **Messi** is playing at a higher level. I really liked the way he celebrated his first goal [mirroring **Ronaldinho's** extended thumb and little finger salute]; it showed support for his injured team-mate."
- Barcelona made it three wins in eight days when they defeated Real Zaragoza 4-1 at Camp Nou on 26 September. **Messi** was again on target, breaking the deadlock early on and although Alberto Zapater equalised, Messi restored the lead almost immediately. Further first-half goals from **Andrés Iniesta** and **Márquez** rounded off the win.
- "I saw a great collective effort out there," said **Rijkaard**. "This was a team performance of hard work and intensity. We displayed great strength to respond to Zapater's equaliser so quickly."
- Their views were echoed by **Iniesta**, who added: "The team is in a very good place at the moment and winning is giving us more and more confidence. We are in the ascendancy."
- During the Zaragoza match brothers Diego and Gabriel **Milito** found themselves on opposing sides for the first time since August 2002. Gabriel had also come out on top then, his CA Independiente side beating Diego's Racing Club de Avellaneda with an identical 4-1 scoreline.
- **Ronaldinho** was ruled out of both the Sevilla and Zaragoza matches with a calf injury.
- Barça are now 13 matches unbeaten in the Primera División, a sequence stretching back to their 2-0 defeat by Villarreal CF in April.

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- They have not lost a home Primera División fixture for almost 20 months, since Club Atlético de Madrid prevailed 3-1 at the Camp Nou on 5 February 2006 thanks to two goals from Fernando Torres. That run extends to 29 matches.
- Barcelona have announced that British architect Lord Foster has been handed the project of refurbishing Camp Nou. The stadium, which recently celebrated its 50th birthday, will be given a €250m facelift, with a mosaic of multicoloured tiles in blue and scarlet, the colours of the football team, and red and yellow, those of Catalonia's flag, encasing it.
- Nine Barcelona players have been included in the 55-man shortlist for the FIFPro World XI Player Awards: **Puyol**, **Zambrotta**, **Deco**, **Iniesta**, **Xavi Hernández**, **Eto'o**, **Henry**, **Messi** and **Ronaldinho**. The winners will be announced on 5 October.

Squad list

Stuttgart

No	Player	Nat.	DoB	Age	BL	Current season						All-time			
						UCLQ		UCL		League		UCL		UEFA	
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers															
1	Raphael Schäfer	GER	30.01.1979	28	-	-	-	1	-	8	-	1	-	1	-
12	Michael Langer	AUT	06.01.1985	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Sven Ulreich	GER	03.08.1988	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	Alexander Stolz	GER	13.10.1983	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders															
2	Andreas Beck	GER	13.03.1987	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
3	Ricardo Osorio	MEX	30.03.1980	27	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	1	-	1	-
4	Gledson	BRA	04.09.1979	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	Serdar Tasci	GER	24.04.1987	20	-	-	-	1	-	8	-	1	-	1	-
6	Fernando Meira	POR	05.06.1978	29	-	-	-	1	-	8	-	9	-	33	2
15	Arthur Boka	CIV	02.04.1983	24	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	9	1
17	Mathieu Delpierre	FRA	26.04.1981	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	25	-
21	Ludovic Magnin	SUI	20.04.1979	28	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	8	-	22	-
26	Tobias Feisthammel	GER	22.02.1988	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
38	David Pisot	GER	06.07.1987	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
42	Marco Pischorn	GER	01.01.1986	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Midfielders															
7	Silvio Meissner	GER	19.01.1973	34	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	7	-	44	1
8	Alexander Farnerud	SWE	01.05.1984	23	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	8	1
10	Yıldıray Baştürk	TUR	24.12.1978	28	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	29	1	43	2
11	Thomas Hitzlsperger	GER	05.04.1982	25	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	11	-
13	Pável Pardo	MEX	26.07.1976	31	-	-	-	1	-	8	1	1	-	1	-
19	Roberto Hilbert	GER	16.10.1984	22	-	-	-	1	-	8	1	1	-	1	-
25	Antonio	BRA	13.06.1978	29	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	1	-	7	-
28	Sami Khedira	GER	04.04.1987	20	-	-	-	1	-	7	1	1	-	1	-
29	Georges Mandjeck	CMR	09.12.1988	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	Christian Träsch	GER	01.09.1987	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36	Peter Perchtold	GER	02.09.1984	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards															
9	Ewerthon	BRA	10.06.1981	26	-	-	-	1	-	6	1	13	-	26	4
18	Cacau	BRA	27.03.1981	26	-	-	-	1	-	5	1	5	-	18	7
20	Ciprian Marica	ROU	02.10.1985	21	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	11	2	34	10
23	Manuel Fisher	GER	19.09.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	Johannes Rahn	GER	16.01.1986	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	Mario Gómez	GER	10.07.1985	22	-	-	-	1	1	6	4	2	1	8	3
Coach															
-	Armin Veh	GER	01.02.1961	46	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	-

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Barcelona

No	Player	Nat.	DoB	Age	BL	Current season						All-time			
						UCLQ		UCL		League		UCL		UEFA	
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers															
1	Víctor Valdés	ESP	14.01.1982	25	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	33	-	41	-
25	Albert Jorquera	ESP	03.03.1979	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
28	Oier Olazabal	ESP	14.09.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders															
3	Gabriel Milito	ARG	07.09.1980	27	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	1	-	11	-
4	Rafael Márquez	MEX	13.02.1979	28	-	-	-	1	-	4	1	25	-	35	-
5	Carles Puyol	ESP	13.04.1978	29	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	65	1	78	1
11	Gianluca Zambrotta	ITA	10.02.1977	30	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	52	-	66	2
15	Edmílson	BRA	10.07.1976	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	43	1	48	1
16	Sylvinho	BRA	12.04.1974	33	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	21	2	37	2
21	Lilian Thuram	FRA	01.01.1972	35	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	61	1	107	1
22	Eric Abidal	FRA	11.09.1979	28	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	22	-	22	-
23	Oleguer	ESP	02.02.1980	27	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	25	-	29	-
Midfielders															
6	Xavi Hernández	ESP	25.01.1980	27	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	65	2	83	3
8	Andrés Iniesta	ESP	11.05.1984	23	-	-	-	1	-	6	1	31	3	35	3
20	Deco	POR	27.08.1977	30	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	62	13	89	18
24	Yaya Touré	CIV	13.05.1983	24	-	-	-	1	-	6	1	7	-	11	1
26	Marc Crosas	ESP	09.01.1988	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards															
7	Eidur Gudjohnsen	ISL	15.09.1978	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	7	45	11
9	Samuel Eto'o	CMR	10.03.1981	26	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	29	12	41	18
10	Ronaldinho	BRA	21.03.1980	27	-	-	-	1	-	3	2	28	13	46	20
14	Thierry Henry	FRA	17.08.1977	30	-	-	-	1	1	6	3	86	43	111	51
17	Giovani	MEX	11.05.1989	18	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	1	-	1	-
18	Santiago Ezquerro	ESP	14.12.1976	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	1	22	6
19	Lionel Messi	ARG	24.06.1987	20	-	-	-	1	1	5	5	13	3	14	3
27	Bojan Krkić	ESP	28.08.1990	17	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	1	-
Coach															
-	Frank Rijkaard	NED	30.09.1962	45	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	29	-	38	-

Head coach

VfB Stuttgart: Armin Veh

Date of birth: 1 February 1961

Nationality: German

Playing career: FC Augsburg, VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach, FC St. Gallen, SpVgg Bayreuth

Coaching career: FC Augsburg, SpVgg Greuther Fürth, SSV Reutlingen, FC Hansa Rostock, FC Augsburg, VfB Stuttgart

Armin Veh's success in leading VfB Stuttgart to the 2006/07 German title was one of the biggest coaching stories in recent years. Veh had previously been seen as something of an underachiever as a Bundesliga coach and Stuttgart's achievement has been compared to that of 1. FC Kaiserslautern in 1997/98 when they won the title as a promoted side under Otto Rehhagel.

Having started his playing career with hometown club FC Augsburg, Veh played in 65 Bundesliga games for VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach between 1979 and 1983 and was a member of the side that lost to Eintracht Frankfurt in the 1979/80 UEFA Cup final. In 1983 he moved to Swiss side FC St. Gallen only to return to Mönchengladbach in 1984, where he had to retire after a complicated leg fracture. He later tried his luck at 2. Bundesliga side SpVgg Bayreuth but injury forced him to quit again, this time for good, in November 1990.

Veh started his coaching career at fourth division Augsburg between 1990 and 1995, winning promotion to the third division in 1994. He then led SpVgg Greuther Fürth and SSV Reutlingen into the 2. Bundesliga before moving up to the top flight with FC Hansa Rostock in 2002. In October 2003 he stepped down for family reasons, but following another short spell at Augsburg and a period of unemployment, he got the chance to prove his detractors wrong when Stuttgart hired him as Giovanni Trapattoni's successor in February 2006. Known for developing young talent and playing attacking football, the father of two boys hit peak form in 2006/07 with his side playing the most attractive football in the Bundesliga en route to winning the title.

FC Barcelona: Frank Rijkaard

Date of birth: 30 September 1962

Nationality: Dutch

Playing career: AFC Ajax (twice), Sporting Clube de Portugal, Real Zaragoza, AC Milan

Coaching career: Netherlands, Sparta Rotterdam, FC Barcelona

At the end of his third season at FC Barcelona, Frank Rijkaard became only the fifth man – the others being Miguel Muñoz, Giovanni Trapattoni, Johan Cruyff and Carlo Ancelotti – to have lifted the European Champion Clubs' Cup as both a player and coach.

Cruyff was his mentor as a youngster. The Dutch legend groomed Rijkaard at AFC Ajax in 1979 where the defender progressed so quickly that he was pulling on the Netherlands shirt aged just 19. In 1987, Rijkaard left Amsterdam and had brief spells in Portugal and Spain before committing the key years of his career to AC Milan with whom he twice won the European Cup. Rijkaard played in midfield for Milan but in central defence for his country as they lifted the 1988 UEFA European Championship.

He returned to Ajax in 1993 and helped them defeat Milan in the 1995 UEFA Champions League final in Vienna. When he retired, heads turned as Rijkaard was appointed Netherlands coach before UEFA EURO 2000™. A semi-final place followed but Rijkaard left to pursue a club management career. His first stint ended poorly, as he resigned from Sparta Rotterdam in May 2002 when they were relegated from the Dutch Eredivisie for the first time, although Barça were not put off and have since seen their faith repaid handsomely with league titles in 2004/05 and 2005/06 before UEFA Champions League glory was achieved with a 2-1 win against Arsenal FC in Paris in May 2006.

Match officials

Referee	Martin Hansson (SWE)
Assistant referees	Henrik Andren (SWE), Fredrik Nilsson (SWE)
Fourth official	Daniel Stalhammar (SWE)
UEFA Delegate	Balázs Makray (HUN)
UEFA Referee observer	Vladimir Sajn (SVN)

Referee

Name	Nat.	DoB	UCL	UEFA
Martin Hansson	SWE	06.04.1971	4	21

As a man used to fighting fires, it is no surprise to find referee Martin Hansson in relaxed mood before a testing fixture. He followed in the footsteps of Ľuboš Michel' and Luis Medina Cantalejo when he took charge of the Netherlands' 3-0 defeat of Ukraine in the 2006 UEFA European Under-21 Championship final in Porto.

The appointment capped a memorable campaign for the imposing Swede who eight months earlier had made his UEFA Champions League group stage bow as Juventus defeated SK Rapid Wien. "When I stood in Turin before the game and the theme music started, the hairs on my arms stood up," he said. Based in Holmsjo, Hansson took up refereeing aged 15 as there was a shortage of officials at his club, and his status as a rising star was cemented when he earned his FIFA badge in 2001 before he had reached his 30th birthday.

He first tasted international tournament football at the 2001 UEFA European Under-16 Championship before going on to enjoy a number of high-profile UEFA Cup matches over the ensuing years. Hansson also oversaw Italy's first competitive match as world champions as they started their UEFA EURO 2008™ qualifying campaign with a 1-1 home draw against Lithuania, but refuses to get carried away with the razzamatazz of the modern game. "I work 80 per cent of the time as a fireman which provides me with a balance as otherwise there would be too much football," he said. A family man with two sons, he also takes a keen interest in his children's football team and fishing.

UEFA Champions League matches involving teams from the two countries involved in this match

Date	Comp.	Stage		Res.	Venue
21.02.2007	UCL	1/8	FC Internazionale Milano - Valencia CF	2-2	Milan

Other matches - Matches involving teams from either of the two countries involved in this match

Date	Comp.	Stage		Res.	Venue
22.04.2001	U16	GS - FT	Germany - Belgium	1-2	Durham
16.10.2003	UCUP	R1	FK Teplice - 1. FC Kaiserslautern	1-0	Teplice
16.02.2006	UCUP	1/16	FC Thun - Hamburger SV	1-0	Berne
23.11.2006	UCUP	GS	Bayer 04 Leverkusen - Tottenham Hotspur FC	0-1	Leverkusen

Domestic information

VfB Stuttgart (Bundesliga)

Comp.	Date	Opponent	Res.	Goalscorers
Cup	25/07/07	FC Bayern München (H)	0-2	
Cup	04/08/07	Wehen (A)	2-1	Hilbert 65(pen), 90(pen)
League	10/08/07	FC Schalke 04 (H)	2-2	Khedira 63, Pardo 67(pen)
League	18/08/07	Hertha BSC Berlin (A)	1-3	Hitzlsperger 15
League	25/08/07	MSV Duisburg (H)	1-0	Gómez 34
League	02/09/07	Karlsruher SC (A)	0-1	
League	15/09/07	FC Energie Cottbus (H)	3-0	Cacau 52, Ewerthon 79, Gómez 82
League	22/09/07	Werder Bremen (A)	1-4	Gómez 13
Lineups: Schäfer, Pardo (Antonio 55), Tasci, Osorio (Farnerud 46), Fernando Meira, Magnin, Hilbert, Yıldırım Baştürk (Marica 71), Khedira, Gómez, Cacau				
League	26/09/07	VfL Bochum 1848 (H)	1-0	Hilbert 50
Lineups: Schäfer, Osorio, Tasci, Fernando Meira, Pardo, Boka, Yıldırım Baştürk (Farnerud 67), Hilbert, Khedira, Gómez (Meissner 87), Cacau (Marica 65)				
League	29/09/07	FC Hansa Rostock (A)	1-2	Gómez 73
Lineups: Schäfer, Osorio (Ewerthon 59), Tasci, Fernando Meira, Magnin, Pardo, Farnerud, Hilbert, Khedira (Marica 32), Cacau, Gómez				
League	06/10/07	Hannover 96 (H)		
League	21/10/07	Hamburger SV (A)		
League	28/10/07	Bayer 04 Leverkusen (H)		
League	04/11/07	1. FC Nürnberg (A)		
League	11/11/07	FC Bayern München (H)		
League	25/11/07	Eintracht Frankfurt (A)		
League	02/12/07	BV Borussia Dortmund (H)		
League	09/12/07	VfL Wolfsburg (H)		
League	16/12/07	DSC Arminia Bielefeld (A)		
League	03/02/08	FC Schalke 04 (A)		
League	09/02/08	Hertha BSC Berlin (H)		
League	16/02/08	MSV Duisburg (A)		
League	23/02/08	Karlsruher SC (H)		
League	01/03/08	FC Energie Cottbus (A)		
League	08/03/08	Werder Bremen (H)		
League	15/03/08	VfL Bochum 1848 (A)		
League	22/03/08	FC Hansa Rostock (H)		
League	29/03/08	Hannover 96 (A)		
League	05/04/08	Hamburger SV (H)		
League	12/04/08	Bayer 04 Leverkusen (A)		

VfB Stuttgart - FC Barcelona

MATCH PRESS KIT

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Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	FC Bayern München	8	6	2	0	22	3	20
2	FC Schalke 04	8	4	4	0	15	6	16
3	Karlsruher SC	8	5	0	3	11	11	15
4	Bayer 04 Leverkusen	8	4	2	2	11	4	14
5	Werder Bremen	8	4	2	2	18	13	14
6	Hamburger SV	8	4	2	2	11	7	14
7	Hannover 96	8	4	1	3	11	13	13
8	Eintracht Frankfurt	8	3	3	2	9	8	12
9	Hertha BSC Berlin	8	4	0	4	11	12	12
10	VfB Stuttgart	8	3	1	4	10	12	10
11	DSC Arminia Bielefeld	8	3	1	4	12	21	10
12	VfL Wolfsburg	8	2	3	3	12	13	9
13	VfL Bochum 1848	8	2	3	3	11	13	9
14	FC Hansa Rostock	8	3	0	5	10	13	9
15	BV Borussia Dortmund	8	3	0	5	12	16	9
16	1. FC Nürnberg	8	1	3	4	9	13	6
17	MSV Duisburg	8	2	0	6	9	13	6
18	FC Energie Cottbus	8	0	3	5	5	18	3

FC Barcelona (Primera División)

Comp.	Date	Opponent	Res.	Goalscorers
League	26/08/07	Real Racing Club Santander (A)	0-0	
League	02/09/07	Athletic Club Bilbao (H)	3-1	Ronaldinho 8, 35(pen), Yaya Touré 73
League	16/09/07	CA Osasuna (A)	0-0	
League	22/09/07	Sevilla FC (H)	2-1	Messi 73, 80(pen)
Lineups: Valdés, Zambrotta, Márquez, Milito, Abidal, Yaya Touré (Oleguer 88), Xavi (Giovani 61), Deco, Iniesta, Messi (Bojan 89), Henry				
League	26/09/07	Real Zaragoza (H)	4-1	Messi 5, 11, Iniesta 22, Márquez 45
Lineups: Valdés, Milito, Márquez, Zambrotta (Oleguer 21), Abidal, Xavi, Iniesta, Messi (Bojan 83), Deco (Giovani 73), Yaya Touré, Henry				
League	29/09/07	Levante UD (A)	4-1	Henry 17, 24, 49, Messi 51
Lineups: Valdés, Thuram, Milito (Puyol 46), Oleguer, Abidal (Sylvinho 63), Xavi, Deco, Yaya Touré, Messi (Giovani 52), Henry, Iniesta				
League	07/10/07	Club Atlético de Madrid (H)		
League	21/10/07	Villarreal CF (A)		
League	28/10/07	UD Almeria (H)		
League	31/10/07	Real Valladolid CF (A)		
League	04/11/07	Real Betis Balompíe (H)		
League	11/11/07	Getafe CF (A)		
League	25/11/07	RC Recreativo de Huelva (H)		
League	02/12/07	RCD Espanyol (A)		
League	09/12/07	RC Deportivo La Coruña (H)		
League	16/12/07	Valencia CF (A)		
League	23/12/07	Real Madrid CF (H)		
League	06/01/08	RCD Mallorca (A)		
League	13/01/08	Real Murcia CF (H)		
League	20/01/08	Real Racing Club Santander (H)		
League	27/01/08	Athletic Club Bilbao (A)		
League	03/02/08	CA Osasuna (H)		
League	10/02/08	Sevilla FC (A)		
League	17/02/08	Real Zaragoza (A)		
League	24/02/08	Levante UD (H)		
League	02/03/08	Club Atlético de Madrid (A)		

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Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	Real Madrid CF	6	5	1	0	14	3	16
2	Villarreal CF	6	5	0	1	9	5	15
3	Valencia CF	6	5	0	1	9	7	15
4	FC Barcelona	6	4	2	0	13	4	14
5	Club Atlético de Madrid	6	3	2	1	11	4	11
6	RCD Espanyol	6	3	1	2	8	7	10
7	RCD Mallorca	6	2	2	2	9	8	8
8	Real Murcia CF	6	2	2	2	7	6	8
9	Real Zaragoza	6	2	2	2	8	9	8
10	RC Recreativo de Huelva	6	2	2	2	7	8	8
11	Real Racing Club Santander	6	2	2	2	3	7	8
12	UD Almeria	6	2	1	3	7	7	7
13	Sevilla FC	5	2	0	3	11	9	6
14	CA Osasuna	5	1	2	2	5	5	5
15	Real Betis Balompié	6	1	2	3	7	8	5
16	Athletic Club Bilbao	6	1	2	3	4	8	5
17	Real Valladolid CF	6	1	2	3	8	13	5
18	RC Deportivo La Coruña	6	1	2	3	3	8	5
19	Getafe CF	6	0	2	4	3	9	2
20	Levante UD	6	0	1	5	3	14	1

UEFA information

EXCO meeting

UEFA President Michel Platini has outlined his reasons for writing to European government heads to express his concern about the threat posed by "the malign and ever-present influence of money" within European football. "We are asking the political authorities to help us," Mr Platini said after the UEFA Executive Committee meeting in Istanbul last Thursday. "Football is an enormous social resource which has taken on an enormous dimension, but it exists in no treaty. A lot of money has come into football because of its popularity, but since a lot of money has come into the game, not many rules have come alongside this money, and this is what I regret. We are approaching political people to help us to be able to regulate ourselves in the interests of football."

Turning to the issues of violence and racism in stadiums, Mr Platini repeated the policy of zero tolerance towards those who engage in such conduct. "We can take strong decisions – if we have to exclude supporters from stadiums or suspend clubs, we will, until the day that we have people in the stadiums who come to watch football, not to cause problems." Mr Platini also said he would applaud any referee who, in agreement with the match delegate, decided to stop a game because of racist conduct in stadiums. "Some things are fundamental in life," he explained. "A football match is important but there is conduct that we cannot tolerate in the stadiums."

Coach symposium

UEFA Champions League playing trends was a key theme at the seventh UEFA Symposium for Coach Education Directors in London from 24-26 September. UEFA technical director Andy Roxburgh reviewed last season's competition, based on thoughts by the Technical Study Group, which included Arsène Wenger, Marcello Lippi, Gérard Houllier and Valeri Gazzaev as well as the participants at the recent UEFA Elite Club Coaches Forum in Nyon.

Roxburgh said: "The UEFA Champions League is a benchmark for football standards and a yardstick for coaches." The central core was the small margin between winning and losing – in the knockout stage, two thirds of games were decided by a single goal and Wenger was quoted as saying: "In 2006/07 each of the 16 teams could have gone to the final." Among the trends noted were the importance of quick breaks and counterattacks, the high proportion of late goals – in the final 15 minutes – how adaptable teams needed to be, the vital importance of concentration, how well-organised every side was, and the crucial nature of specialist set-piece takers, combination play, pressing, keeping the ball and individual flair.

Healthy hearts

Liverpool FC captain Steven Gerrard and his former manager Gérard Houllier joined UEFA in supporting the World Heart Federation's World Heart Day initiative on Sunday. "More than skill, technique or athleticism, football is about heart," said Gerrard. "That's why I'm encouraging everyone to team up for healthy hearts for this year's World Heart Day - to eat healthily, take regular exercise and avoid smoking." Sports psychologist Jacques Crevoisier added: "Working at the very top level of football, I know the importance teamwork plays. By working together you are much more likely to achieve your goals."

Key dates

The 2007/08 UEFA Champions League group stage will be played over six matchdays - 18/19 September, 2/3 October, 23/24 October, 6/7 November, 27/28 November and 11/12 December. The first knockout round will follow over two legs on 19/20 February and 4/5 March after the draw in Nyon on 21 December. The draw for the quarter-finals, semi-finals and final will be staged on 14 March. The last eight will be played on 1/2 and 8/9 April before the semi-finals on 22/23 and 29/30 April. The 2008 UEFA Champions League final will be played in Moscow on 21 May, before UEFA EURO 2008™ kicks off in Austria and Switzerland on 7 June.

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Match-by-match lineups - Group E

Club	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
FC Barcelona	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Rangers FC	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
VfB Stuttgart	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Olympique Lyonnais	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
19.09.2007	Rangers - Stuttgart	2-1	Ibrox, Glasgow
Goals: 0-1 Gómez 56 , 1-1 Adam 62 , 2-1 Darcheville 75			
Stuttgart: Schäfer, Osorio, Tasci, Fernando Meira, Pardo, Boka, Cacau, Hilbert, Antonio (Ewerthon 70), Khedira (Yıldıray Baştürk 78), Gómez			
19.09.2007	Barcelona - Lyon	3-0	Camp Nou, Barcelona
Goals: 1-0 Clerc 21 (o.g.), 2-0 Messi 82 , 3-0 Henry 90+1			
Barcelona: Valdés, Milito, Márquez, Xavi (Giovani 79), Ronaldinho (Iniesta 66), Zambrotta, Henry, Messi (Bojan 88), Deco, Abidal, Yaya Touré			
02.10.2007	Lyon - Rangers	-	Stade de Gerland, Lyon
02.10.2007	Stuttgart - Barcelona	-	Gottlieb-Daimler, Stuttgart
23.10.2007	Stuttgart - Lyon	-	Gottlieb-Daimler, Stuttgart
23.10.2007	Rangers - Barcelona	-	Ibrox, Glasgow
07.11.2007	Lyon - Stuttgart	-	Stade de Gerland, Lyon
07.11.2007	Barcelona - Rangers	-	Camp Nou, Barcelona
27.11.2007	Stuttgart - Rangers	-	Gottlieb-Daimler, Stuttgart
27.11.2007	Lyon - Barcelona	-	Stade de Gerland, Lyon
12.12.2007	Rangers - Lyon	-	Ibrox, Glasgow
12.12.2007	Barcelona - Stuttgart	-	Camp Nou, Barcelona

Competition facts

• UEFA Champions League: Group stage milestones

Holders AC Milan will be keen to avoid becoming the first defending champions to fail to get through a group stage since the UEFA Champions League began. (This record, like the others, includes the seasons between 1999/00 and 2002/03 that featured a second group stage)

In 1992/93, FC Barcelona were the reigning European Champion Clubs' Cup holders and were beaten 4-3 on aggregate in the second round by PFC CSKA Moskva.

S.S. Lazio goalkeeper Marco Ballotta is the oldest player to compete in the UEFA Champions League, taking to the field at Olympiacos CFP on 18 September 2007 at the age of 43 years and 168 days. The custodian shattered the record held by Alessandro Costacurta, the AC Milan defender who played against AEK Athens FC in the 2006/07 season at the age of 40 years and 211 days. Laurent Blanc is the oldest player to score in the competition, aged 36 years and 339 days having found the net for Manchester United FC in their 3-2 defeat of Olympiacos CFP on 23 October 2002.

Celestine Babayaro is the youngest player to have appeared in the UEFA Champions League. He was 16 years and 87 days when he started for RSC Anderlecht against FC Steaua Bucuresti on 23 November 1994. He was then sent off in the 37th minute.

In 2006/07, PFC Levski Sofia joined 1. FC Košice in being the only team to have played in the UEFA Champions League and never picked up a point. The Slovakian side have not returned to the competition since losing all six games in their only campaign to date in 1997/98. Only five other teams have ever gone through a single group stage campaign without picking up a point namely SK Rapid Wien (05/06), RSC Anderlecht (04/05), FC Spartak Moskva and Bayer 04 Leverkusen (02/03, first and second group stage respectively) and Fenerbahçe SK (01/02, first group stage).

Levski also conceded 17 goals in their six outings last term, just two short of the record number let in during a group stage set by Ferencvárosi TC (19) in the 1995/96 campaign.

Before their 3-1 win against Sporting Clube de Portugal on Matchday 6 of the 2006/07 campaign, FC Spartak Moskva went 22 games without a win in the competition, surpassing the unwanted record set by AEK Athens FC on Matchday 3 of the same campaign.

The lowest total for a team qualifying from the group stage is seven points. The first to do it, since three points for a win was introduced in 1995/96, were Legia Warszawa that same season before Bayer 04 Leverkusen managed it in 1999/00 and Liverpool FC in 2001/02. FC Lokomotiv Moskva and eventual finalists Juventus both progressed with seven points in 2002/03, a feat achieved by Rangers FC and Werder Bremen in 2005/06.

• UEFA Champions League: Did you know?

Domestic champions: This season's competition features 13 domestic league winners from last season, but only Group G of the eight groups features four domestic title-holders - namely PSV Eindhoven, FC Internazionale Milano, Fenerbahçe SK and PFC CSKA Moskva. Alongside the 13 champions, there are ten runners-up and six third-placed finishers. The holders AC Milan, Arsenal FC, Valencia CF are the only clubs in the group stage to have finished in fourth place in their domestic league championship.

Consecutive participations: This season, Manchester United FC have extended their consecutive participation in the UEFA Champions League to 12, a record in the competition. PSV Eindhoven, Olympiacos CFP and Real Madrid CF are making their eleventh consecutive appearances, one ahead of Arsenal FC.

Knockout streak: In qualifying for the 2006/07 knockout stage, Real Madrid CF surpassed Manchester United FC's record of nine consecutive seasons (which ended in 2005/06) in advancing past the group stage. Madrid have featured in the knockout phase every time since the 1996/97 campaign. Madrid, have won the competition three times in the last ten years while they advanced as far as the semi-finals twice and the quarter-finals twice. However, in the last three seasons their interest in the competition has ended at the first knockout round.

European return: Of all 32 clubs, S.S. Lazio, Rosenborg BK and VfB Stuttgart did not participate in a UEFA club competition during the 2006/07 season.

Past masters: Six clubs competing in the 2007/08 UEFA Champions League were involved in the competition when it started during the 1992/93 season. Olympique de Marseille were champions, beating AC Milan in the final, while PSV Eindhoven, PFC CSKA Moskva, FC Porto and Rangers FC all participated in the group stage. In addition, VfB Stuttgart, AEK Athens FC and FC Barcelona were knocked out in the two rounds preceding the group stage that marked the competition proper.

Long road for debutants: Six clubs have advanced to the group stage from the European Champion Clubs' Cup second qualifying round including one of this season's two debutants, SK Slavia Praha. They are joined by Rangers, FC Shakhtar Donetsk, FC Steaua Bucuresti, Beşiktaş JK and Rosenborg as clubs who had to play four matches to claim their place in the group stage of the competition. A debutant has not won the competition since Juventus in 1995/96, the Italian side becoming the third club to achieve this following Olympique de Marseille (1992/93, first UEFA Champions League final) and AFC Ajax (1994/95).

Sevilla FC join Slavia in competing in the UEFA Champions League for the first time, although both clubs have previous experience of the European Champion Clubs' Cup.

No qualifiers: Of the 32 clubs involved in the group stage, only AS Roma and FC Schalke 04 have yet to play a qualifying round match in order to reach the UEFA Champions League. Roma are making their fifth appearance in the competition, Schalke their third.

Pedigree: Four of the former winners of the competition since it included a group stage element from the 1992/93 season are not participating in this season's UEFA Champions League, namely AFC Ajax (1994/95), Juventus (1995/96), BV Borussia Dortmund (1996/97) and FC Bayern München (2000/01). Of the last ten winners of the competition, Real Madrid CF (three), Manchester United FC, AC Milan (two), FC Porto, Liverpool FC and FC Barcelona, only FC Bayern München are not involved. Only two winners from the last ten UEFA Cup finals are not involved in this season's UEFA Champions League group stage, namely Parma FC (1998/99) and Feyenoord (2001/02). Liverpool and Porto have won both competitions in the past decade, while the remaining UEFA Cup winners in that time are FC Internazionale Milano, Galatasaray SK, Valencia CF, PFC CSKA Moskva and Sevilla FC (two).

• **UEFA Champions League:** All-time records

Biggest wins

7-0: Juventus v Olympiacos CFP (10.12.2003)

7-1: Manchester United FC v AS Roma (10.04.2007)

6-0: Olympique de Marseille v PFC CSKA Moskva (17.03.1993)

6-0: Leeds United AFC v Beşiktaş JK (26.09.2000)

6-0: Real Madrid CF v KRC Genk (25.09.2002)

Most goals in a game

8-3: AS Monaco FC v RC Deportivo La Coruña (05.11.2003)

7-2: Paris Saint-Germain FC v Rosenborg BK (24.10.2000)

7-2: Olympique Lyonnais v Werder Bremen (08.03.2005)

Only one team has scored more than five goals in an away game, Manchester United FC, winning 6-2 at Brøndby IF in 1998/99.

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Leading scorer in a season

12: Ruud van Nistelrooy (Manchester United FC, 2002/03)

Kaká finished as top scorer in 2006/07 with ten goals for AC Milan.

Four goals in a match

Marco van Basten (**AC Milan** 4-0 IFK Göteborg, 25.11.1992)

Simone Inzaghi (**S.S. Lazio** 5-1 Olympique de Marseille, 14.03.2000)

Dado Pršo (**AS Monaco FC** 8-3 RC Deportivo La Coruña, 05.11.2003)

Ruud van Nistelrooy (**Manchester United FC** 4-1 AC Sparta Praha, 03.11.2004)

Andriy Shevchenko (Fenerbahçe SK 0-4 **AC Milan**, 23.11.2005)

Of these four-goal hauls, Dado Pršo's against Deportivo was the quickest. He scored his first goal 26 minutes into the game and his fourth just 23 minutes later.

Fastest goal in a match

10.03 secs: Roy Makaay (**FC Bayern München** 2-1 Real Madrid CF, 07.03.2006)

20.07 secs: Gilberto (PSV Eindhoven 0-4 **Arsenal FC**, 25.09.2002)

20.12 secs: Alessandro Del Piero (Manchester United FC 3-2 **Juventus**, 01.10.1997)

21.20 secs: Clarence Seedorf (FC Schalke 04 2-2 **AC Milan**, 28.09.2005)

25.40 secs: Marek Kincl (Club Brugge KV 3-2 **SK Rapid Wien**, 02.11.2005)

Fastest hat-tricks

9 mins: Mike Newell (**Blackburn Rovers FC** 4-1 Rosenborg BK, 06.12.1995)

19 mins: Marco Simone (Rosenborg BK 1-4 **AC Milan**, 25.09.1996)

19 mins: Dado Pršo (**AS Monaco FC** 8-3 RC Deportivo La Coruña, 05.11.2003)

21 mins: Sigurd Rushfeldt (**Rosenborg BK** 3-0 Galatasaray SK, 21.10.1998)

21 mins: Simone Inzaghi (**S.S. Lazio** 5-1 Olympique de Marseille, 14.03.2000)

Youngest players to score

17 years, 195 days: Peter Oforiquaye (Rosenborg BK 5-1 **Olympiacos CFP**, 01.10.1997)

17 years, 218 days: Cesc Fabregas (**Arsenal FC** 5-1 Rosenborg BK, 07.12.2004)

17 years, 241 days: Martin Klein (Panathinaikos FC 2-1 **AC Sparta Praha**, 27.02.2002)

17 years, 353 days: Karim Benzema (**Olympique Lyonnais** 2-1 Rosenborg BK, 06.12.2005)

18 years, 61 days: Sammy Kuffour (**FC Bayern München** 2-2 FC Spartak Moskva, 02.11.1994)

18 years, 70 days: Andriy Shevchenko (**FC Dynamo Kyiv** 1-4 FC Bayern München, 07.12.1994)

Peter Oforiquaye became the youngest player to score, but Celestine Babayaro is still the youngest to appear, having begun RSC Anderlecht's game against FC Steaua Bucuresti on 23 November 1994, aged 16 years and 87 days.

Appearances: UEFA Champions League

Note: This list considers group stage to final only;

108 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)

108 Roberto Carlos (Real Madrid CF, Fenerbahçe SK)

105 Paolo Maldini (AC Milan)

103 David Beckham (Manchester United FC, Real Madrid CF)

103 Oliver Kahn (FC Bayern München)

98 Gary Neville (Manchester United FC)

98 Luís Figo (FC Barcelona, Real Madrid CF, FC Internazionale Milano)

96 Ryan Giggs (Manchester United FC)

96 Paul Scholes (Manchester United FC)

95 Clarence Seedorf (AFC Ajax, Real Madrid CF, AC Milan)

90 Andriy Shevchenko (FC Dynamo Kyiv, AC Milan, Chelsea FC)

86 Thierry Henry (AS Monaco FC, Arsenal FC, FC Barcelona)

Goals: UEFA Champions League

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57 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)
50 Ruud van Nistelrooy (PSV Eindhoven, Manchester United FC, Real Madrid CF)
47 Andriy Shevchenko (FC Dynamo Kyiv, AC Milan, Chelsea FC)
43 Thierry Henry (AS Monaco FC, Arsenal FC, FC Barcelona)
39 Filippo Inzaghi (Juventus, AC Milan)
37 Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus)

Appearances: UEFA club competition

168 Paolo Maldini (AC Milan)
137 Luís Figo (Sporting, FC Barcelona, Real Madrid CF, FC Internazionale Milano)
134 Oliver Kahn (Karlsruher SC, FC Bayern München)
130 Frank de Boer (AFC Ajax, FC Barcelona, Galatasaray SK)
127 Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (FC Bayern München, FC Internazionale Milano, Servette FC)
126 Clarence Seedorf (AFC Ajax, UC Sampdoria, Real Madrid CF, FC Internazionale Milano, AC Milan)
122 Zinédine Zidane (AS Cannes, FC Girondins de Bordeaux, Juventus, Real Madrid CF)
121 Alessandro Costacurta (AC Milan)
121 Phillip Cocu (SBV Vitesse, PSV Eindhoven, FC Barcelona)
120 Roberto Carlos (FC Internazionale Milano, Real Madrid CF, Fenerbahçe SK)

Goals: UEFA club competition

62 Gerd Müller (FC Bayern München)
60 Filippo Inzaghi (Parma FC, Juventus, AC Milan)
60 Andriy Shevchenko (FC Dynamo Kyiv, AC Milan, Chelsea FC)
59 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)
56 Eusébio (SL Benfica)
54 Ruud van Nistelrooy (PSV Eindhoven, Manchester United FC, Real Madrid CF)
52 Henrik Larsson (Feyenoord, Celtic FC, FC Barcelona, Manchester United FC, Helsingborgs IF)
51 Thierry Henry (AS Monaco FC, Juventus, Arsenal FC, FC Barcelona)
50 Alfredo Di Stéfano (Real Madrid CF)
47 Carlos Santillana (Real Madrid CF)

Goals: UEFA Champions League/European Champion Clubs' Cup

Note: This list considers the all-time goalscorers list in both competitions including all qualifying round matches.

57 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)
56 Andriy Shevchenko (FC Dynamo Kyiv, AC Milan, Chelsea FC)
54 Ruud van Nistelrooy (PSV Eindhoven, Manchester United FC, Real Madrid CF)
49 Alfredo Di Stéfano (Real Madrid CF)
47 Eusébio (SL Benfica)
43 Thierry Henry (AS Monaco FC, Arsenal FC, FC Barcelona)
43 Filippo Inzaghi (Juventus, AC Milan)

Last updated: 27.09.2007

Team facts

VfB Stuttgart

UEFA club competition milestones

- Although a long interest in UEFA club competition dating back to the 1973/74 UEFA Cup, Stuttgart have never lifted a major trophy aside from the UEFA Intertoto Cup.
- They have played in two UEFA finals – the 1988/89 UEFA Cup and the 1997/98 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup. They lost 5-4 on aggregate to SSC Napoli in the first and nine years later went down 1-0 to Chelsea FC in Stockholm.

UEFA Champions League milestones

- Stuttgart's only previous foray was in the 2003/04 season when they reached the first knockout round before losing 1-0 to Chelsea on aggregate. In the 1992/93 season they missed out on playing for a group-stage place by losing to Leeds United AFC in the first round.

UEFA club competition honours

- UEFA Intertoto Cup: 2000, 2002

Ten-year record

- 2006/07: Did not compete in UEFA club competition.
- 2005/06: UEFA Cup - Round of 32
- 2004/05: UEFA Cup - Round of 32
- 2003/04: UEFA Champions League - first knockout round
- 2002/03: UEFA Cup - fourth round (having qualified as UEFA Intertoto Cup winners)
- 2001/02: Did not compete in UEFA club competition
- 2000/01: UEFA Cup - fourth round (having qualified as UEFA Intertoto Cup winners)
- 1999/00: Did not compete in UEFA club competition
- 1998/99: UEFA Cup - second round
- 1997/98: UEFA Cup Winners' Cup - runners-up

2006/07 season

Domestic record: Stuttgart won their first Bundesliga title since 1992 by finishing two points above FC Schalke 04 and four ahead of Werder Bremen. It was the fifth championship in the club's history but a 3-2 cup final defeat by 1. FC Nürnberg meant they missed out on the double.

European record: After finishing ninth in the 2005/06 Bundesliga, the club had to sit out the next European campaign.

Key facts

UEFA club competition

- Pld: 141 W: 76 D: 24 L: 41 GF: 257 GA: 152

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final)

- Pld: 9 W: 4 D: 1 L: 4 GF: 10 GA: 9

European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

- Pld: 14 W: 5 D: 3 L: 6 GF: 17 GA: 17

VfB Stuttgart - FC Barcelona

MATCH PRESS KIT

Tuesday 2 October 2007 - 20.45CET

Gottlieb-Daimler, Stuttgart

Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest win

9-0: VfB Stuttgart v Olympiakos Nicosia FC
17.09.73, UEFA Cup first round first leg

- Biggest home win

9-0: VfB Stuttgart v Olympiakos Nicosia FC (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

1-6: Neuchâtel Xamax FC v VfB Stuttgart
01.07.2000, UEFA Intertoto Cup second round first leg

- Heaviest defeat

4-0: ASVS Dukla Praha v VfB Stuttgart
06.12.1978, UEFA Cup third round second leg

- Heaviest home defeat

3-5: VfB Stuttgart v Torpedo Moskva
05.11.1986, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup second round second leg

2-4: VfB Stuttgart v KFC Germinal Ekeren
06.11.1997, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup second round second leg

1-3: VfB Stuttgart v Feyenoord
15.09.1998, UEFA Cup first round first leg

0-2: VfB Stuttgart v R. Standard de Liège
13.07.1996, UEFA Intertoto Cup group stage

0-2: VfB Stuttgart v Parma FC
24.02.2005, UEFA Cup Round of 32 second leg

0-2: VfB Stuttgart v FC Shakhtar Donetsk
03.11.2005, UEFA Cup group stage

- Heaviest away defeat

4-0: ASVS Dukla Praha v VfB Stuttgart (see above for details)

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

- Biggest win

1-3: Panathinaikos FC v VfB Stuttgart
04.11.2003, UEFA Champions League group stage

2-0: VfB Stuttgart v Panathinaikos FC
22.10.2003, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Biggest home win

2-0: VfB Stuttgart v Panathinaikos FC (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

1-3: Panathinaikos FC v VfB Stuttgart (see above for details)

- Heaviest defeat

2-0: Manchester United FC v VfB Stuttgart
09.12.2003, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Heaviest home defeat

0-1: VfB Stuttgart v Chelsea FC
25/02/2004, UEFA Champions League first knockout round first leg

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- Heaviest away defeat
- 2-0: Manchester United FC v VfB Stuttgart (see above for details)

Last updated: 20.09.2007

FC Barcelona

UEFA club competition milestones

- In total, Barcelona have appeared in five European Champion Clubs' Cup finals, winning the 1991/92 competition against UC Sampdoria thanks to a 112th-minute Ronald Koeman free-kick before their triumph in the 2005/06 campaign.
- They lost on penalties to FC Steaua București in the 1985/86 season, 3-2 to SL Benfica in 1960/61 and 4-0 to AC Milan in 1993/94. Four-time UEFA Cup Winners' Cup winners, they lost in the 1968/69 and 1990/91 finals.

UEFA Champions League milestones

- With Barcelona now in their 12th campaign, the highlight remains the 2-1 win against Arsenal FC in Paris that made them European champions in 2006. Only Manchester United FC and FC Porto (13) have taken part on more occasions.

UEFA club competition honours

- European Champion Clubs' Cup: 1991/92, 2005/06
- UEFA Cup Winners' Cup: 1978/79, 1981/82, 1988/89, 1996/97
- UEFA Super Cup: 1992, 1997

Ten-year record

- 2006/07: UEFA Champions League - first knockout round
- 2005/06: UEFA Champions League - winners
- 2004/05: UEFA Champions League - first knockout round
- 2003/04: UEFA Cup - fourth round
- 2002/03: UEFA Champions League - quarter-finals
- 2001/02: UEFA Champions League - semi-finals
- 2000/01: UEFA Cup -semi-finals (having transferred from UEFA Champions League group stage)
- 1999/00: UEFA Champions League - semi-finals
- 1998/99: UEFA Champions League - group stage
- 1997/98: UEFA Champions League - group stage

2006/07 season

Domestic record: Barça relinquished the title they had won in the two previous seasons by the narrowest of margins. Having finished level on points, Real Madrid CF were crowned champions by virtue of their better head to head record. Barcelona, who reached the semi-finals of the Copa del Rey, were five points ahead of third-placed Sevilla FC.

European record: After the campaign began with a 3-0 humbling by Sevilla in the UEFA Super Cup, Barça were drawn in a tough Group A with the champions of England and Germany, Chelsea FC and Werder Bremen, along with the Bulgarian title-holders PFC Levski Sofia. They recorded three victories and two draws from their six engagements to finish two points behind Chelsea in second. They fell at the next hurdle though, a 1-0 win at Liverpool FC not enough to prevent an away-goals loss after a 2-1 home defeat.

Key facts

UEFA club competition

- Pld: 345 W: 189 D: 77 L: 79 GF: 660 GA: 354

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final)

- Pld: 110 W: 60 D: 27 L: 23 GF: 209 GA: 121

VfB Stuttgart - FC Barcelona

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Gottlieb-Daimler, Stuttgart

European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

• Pld: 170 W: 96 D: 38 L: 36 GF: 323 GA: 177

Records

UEFA club competition

• Biggest win

8-0: FC Barcelona v ŠKM Púchov

15.10.2003, UEFA Cup first round second leg

8-0: FC Barcelona v Apollon Limassol FC

15.09.1982, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup first round first leg

• Biggest home win

8-0: FC Barcelona v ŠKM Púchov (see above for details)

8-0: FC Barcelona v Apollon Limassol FC (see above for details)

• Biggest away win

0-7: Hapoel Beer-Sheva FC v FC Barcelona

12.09.1995, UEFA Cup first round first leg

• Heaviest defeat

0-4: FC Barcelona v FC Dynamo Kyiv

05.11.1997, UEFA Champions League group stage

4-0: AC Milan v FC Barcelona

18.05.1994, European Champion Clubs' Cup final

0-4: FC Barcelona v 1. FC Köln

05.11.1980, UEFA Cup second round second leg

• Heaviest home defeat

0-4: FC Barcelona v FC Dynamo Kyiv (see above for details)

0-4: FC Barcelona v 1. FC Köln (see above for details)

• Heaviest away defeat

0-3: FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

25.08.2006, UEFA Super Cup (played at a neutral venue, included here for information purposes)

3-0: AS Roma v FC Barcelona

26.02.2002, UEFA Champions League second group stage

3-0: Beşiktaş JK v FC Barcelona

19.09.2000, UEFA Champions League first group stage

4-1: Valencia CF v FC Barcelona

02.05.2000, UEFA Champions League semi-final first leg

3-0: FC Dynamo Kyiv v FC Barcelona

22.10.1997, UEFA Champions League group stage

3-0: Manchester United FC v FC Barcelona

21.03.1984, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final second leg

3-0: Aston Villa FC v FC Barcelona

26.01.1983, UEFA Super Cup final second leg

3-0: RSC Anderlecht v FC Barcelona

18.10.1978, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup second round first leg

3-0: PSV Eindhoven v FC Barcelona

29.03.1978, UEFA Cup semi-finals first leg

3-0: Ipswich Town FC v FC Barcelona

23.11.1977, UEFA Cup third round first leg

3-0: OGC Nice v FC Barcelona

19.09.1973, UEFA Cup first round first leg

VfB Stuttgart - FC Barcelona

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Gottlieb-Daimler, Stuttgart

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

- Biggest win

5-0: FC Barcelona v PFC Levski Sofia

12.09.2006, UEFA Champions League group stage

5-0: FC Barcelona v Panathinaikos FC

02.11.2005, UEFA Champions League group stage

5-0: FC Barcelona v Beşiktaş JK

08.11.2000, UEFA Champions League first group stage

5-0: FC Barcelona v AC Sparta Praha

08.12.1999, UEFA Champions League second group stage

5-0: FC Barcelona v AIK Solna

27.10.1999, UEFA Champions League first group stage

- Biggest home win

5-0: FC Barcelona v PFC Levski Sofia (see above for details)

5-0: FC Barcelona v Panathinaikos FC (see above for details)

5-0: FC Barcelona v Beşiktaş JK (see above for details)

5-0: FC Barcelona v AC Sparta Praha (see above for details)

5-0: FC Barcelona v AIK Solna (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

0-3: Fenerbahçe SK v FC Barcelona

18.09.2001, UEFA Champions League first group stage

- Heaviest defeat

0-4: FC Barcelona v FC Dynamo Kyiv (see above for details)

4-0: AC Milan v FC Barcelona (see above for details)

- Heaviest home defeat

0-4: FC Barcelona v FC Dynamo Kyiv (see above for details)

- Heaviest away defeat

3-0: AS Roma v FC Barcelona (see above for details)

3-0: Beşiktaş JK v FC Barcelona (see above for details)

4-1: Valencia CF v FC Barcelona (see above for details)

3-0: FC Dynamo Kyiv v FC Barcelona (see above for details)

Last updated: 20.09.2007

Competition information

UEFA's most prestigious club competition was originally created as the European Champion Clubs' Cup for the 1955/56 season, before its revamping as the UEFA Champions League in 1992.

• **Format:** The UEFA Champions League group stage draw in Monaco on 31 August saw the 32 teams divided into eight groups of four. Clubs from the same association could not be drawn into the same group. Each club plays one home and one away match against each other club in its group. Three points are awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a defeat. If two or more teams are equal on points on completion of the group matches, the following criteria are applied to determine the rankings.

- a) higher number of points obtained in the group matches played among the teams in question;
- b) superior goal difference from the group matches played among the teams in question;
- c) higher number of goals scored away from home in the group matches played among the teams in question;
- d) superior goal difference from all group matches played;
- e) higher number of goals scored;
- f) higher number of coefficient points accumulated by the club in question as well as its association, over the previous five seasons.

The eight group-winners and eight runners-up of the group stage qualify for the first knockout round, to be played over two legs on 19/20 February and 4/5 March 2007. The clubs that finish this stage in third position in their group move into the Round of 32 of the UEFA Cup. The clubs that finish this stage in fourth position in their group are eliminated from UEFA club competition for the season. This year's UEFA Champions League final is in Moscow on 21 May 2008.

• **Locally-trained players rule:** In February 2005, UEFA announced the 'A' list that teams submit for UEFA club competitions will continue to be limited to 25 players, and from season 2007/08, at least six places will be reserved for players trained by the club's own football academy of which half can be players trained by other clubs from within the same association of the said club. The 'B' list will also continue to exist - involving an unlimited number of Under-21 players who have been at the club for two seasons. In 2006/07, the number of locally-trained players required began at four but the current six will rise to eight in 2008/09, with up to half of each figure allowed to be association trained.

A club-trained player is defined as a player who has been registered for a minimum of three seasons with the club between the age of 15 and 21, whereas an association-trained player is one who has been registered for at least three seasons by the club or by other clubs affiliated to the same association between the age of 15 and 21. UEFA is concerned some clubs are not training enough of their own players, but simply taking them from elsewhere. The proposed measures have the objective of creating a better balance in domestic competitions, preventing clubs from simply 'hoarding' players in squads and creating a system whereby locally-trained players would be given a greater opportunity to play regularly in club sides - ensuring a large reservoir of talent for national teams as a consequence.

• **Player registration:** UEFA regulations state that for all UEFA Champions League matches from the start of the first knockout round, a club may register a maximum of three new eligible players within their squad of 25 for the remaining matches in the current competition. Such registration must be completed by 1 February at the latest. One player from the above quota of three who has played UEFA club competition matches for another competing club in the current season may exceptionally be registered, provided that the player has not been fielded by another club in the UEFA Champions League this season.

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Legend

:: All-time statistics

The all-time record of the competing clubs in UEFA club competition.

UEFA club competition: These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in UEFA club competition defined as the European Champion Clubs' Cup, the UEFA Champions League, the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup (1960-1999), the UEFA Cup, the UEFA Super Cup (1973 -), the UEFA Intertoto Cup and the European/South American Cup (1960-2004). Matches in the Inter-Cities' Fairs Cup and the 1972 Super Cup are included only for information as these were not held under UEFA auspices, while the FIFA Club World Cup is excluded.

Goals for/against: Goals totals include the outcome of disciplinary decisions (eg. match forfeits when a 3-0 result is determined). Goals totals do not include goals scored from the penalty mark during a penalty shoot-out after a tie ended in a draw.

:: Squad list

The eligible list of players ordered first by playing position and then numeric order.

Current season - UCLQ: Total UEFA Champions League appearances in qualifying rounds only.

Current season - UCL: Total UEFA Champions League appearances from the group stage onwards prior to the current matchday.

All-time - UCL: Total appearances in the UEFA Champions League from the 1992/93 season, group stage to final only. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

All-time - UEFA: Total appearances in UEFA club competition (as defined above) including all qualifying round matches. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

Age: based on the date press kit was last updated

BL: Booking list (*: misses next match if booked, S: suspended)

:: Match officials

The match officials appointed to officiate the fixture.

UCL: Total matches officiated in the UEFA Champions League from 1992/93 season, group stage to final only. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records.

UEFA: Total matches officiated in UEFA club competition including all qualifying round matches. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records.

:: Competitions

Club competitions

ECCC: European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

UCUP: UEFA Cup • **UCWC:** UEFA Cup Winners' Cup

SCUP: UEFA Super Cup • **UIC:** UEFA Intertoto Cup

National team competitions

EURO: UEFA European Football Championship • **U21:** UEFA European Under-21 Championship

WC: FIFA World Cup • **CONFCUP:** Confederation Cup

FRIE: Friendly internationals • **U21FRIE:** Under-21 friendly internationals

U21: UEFA European Under-21 Championship

U19: UEFA European Under-19 Championship • **U18:** UEFA European Under-18 Championship

:: Competition stages

F: Final

GS: Group stage

GS1: First group stage

GS2: Second group stage

KO1: First knockout round

PR: Preliminary round

QF: Quarter-finals

QR: Qualifying round

QR1: First qualifying round

QR2: Second qualifying round

FT: Final tournament

QR3: Third qualifying round

R1: First round

R2: Second round

R3: Third round

R4: Fourth round

SF: Semi-finals

1/8: Eighth-finals

1/16: Sixteenth-finals

1st: first leg

2nd: second leg

P-O: Play-off

:: Other Abbreviations

AP: Appearances

Comp.: Competition

D: Drawn

DoB: Date of birth

GA: Goals against

GF: Goals for

L: Lost

Nat.: Nationality

N/a: Not Applicable

No: Number

Pld: Matches played

Pos.: Position

Pts: Points

R: Sent off (red card)

Res.: Result

W: Won

Y: Booked

Y/R: Sent off (yellow card then direct red)

:: Statistics

(-) : Denotes player substituted

(*) : Denotes player dismissed/sent off

(+) : Denotes player introduced

(+/-) : Denotes player introduced and substituted