

AS Roma - Sporting Clube de Portugal

MATCH PRESS KIT

Stadio Olimpico, Rome

Tuesday 23 October 2007 - 20.45 CET

Group F - Matchday 3



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Match background

Second meets third in Group F when AS Roma welcome Sporting Clube de Portugal to the Italian capital, with both sides eager for three points to maintain the pressure on early leaders Manchester United FC. Roma go into the game aiming to make amends for their Matchday 2 defeat in Manchester but Sporting, who trail their opponents on goal difference alone, should arrive buoyed by their victory at FC Dynamo Kyiv last time out – their first success on their travels in the UEFA Champions League group stage.

- Roma went down 1-0 at Old Trafford on 2 October, yielding to a 70th-minute Wayne Rooney strike. They had opened their campaign a fortnight earlier by beating Dynamo 2-0 at the Stadio Olimpico, Simone Perrotta and Francesco Totti the scorers as Luciano Spalletti's men made it six home games unbeaten in the competition.

- After losing 1-0 at home to United on Matchday 1, Sporting found the perfect response with their 2-1 victory in Kiev. Tonel opened the scoring after 14 minutes and although Vaschuk equalised for the hosts, Anderson Polga's 38th-minute strike proved enough for Sporting to take the three points.

- Prior to beating Dynamo, Sporting had a disappointing record on the road in the UEFA Champions League, having registered five defeats and one draw in their two previous group stage campaigns. Indeed you had to go back to the 1970/71 season for their last away victory in Europe's elite club competition – a 4-0 success at Malta's Floriana FC in the first round of the European Champion Clubs' Cup.

- The two teams sit level on three points in Group F with United top of the section with six points. Given both sides have been beaten already by the English champions, neither will want to lose further ground with another defeat here.

- Paulo Bento's Sporting will hope to do better than on their last visit to Italy, at FC Internazionale Milano last November, when Hernán Crespo's solitary effort ended their hopes of reaching the knockout rounds. That defeat was their sixth in succession away to Italian opposition.

- Sporting may have beaten Inter 1-0 in the sides' earlier fixture in Lisbon in September 2006, Marco Caneira scoring, but it was the Lisbon club's only victory in their last 12 matches against Italian teams.

- Roma have previously met Portuguese opposition in five two-legged ties in UEFA club competition, winning three and losing two. Their record in their home games reads two victories, two draws and one defeat.



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• The Giallorossi's most recent Portuguese opponents were Boavista FC, whom they faced in the second round of the 2000/01 UEFA Cup. Vincenzo Montella scored the only goal of the first leg in Porto while Hidetoshi Nakata found the net in a 1-1 draw in the return leg in the Italian capital.

• Sporting coach Bento has unhappy memories of facing a couple of Roma's players. He was in the Portugal team beaten 2-0 by Italy in a friendly in April 2000 in which Giallorossi captain Totti scored the second goal. Bento was also on the receiving end of a 2-0 loss when his then side SL Benfica played an AC Milan team that included Christian Panucci in the 1994/95 UEFA Champions League quarter-finals.

Match facts

Roma

- **Doni** celebrated his 28th birthday the day before the Sporting match, on 22 October.
- Roma have no players suspended or within a yellow card of a ban.
- Roma were held to a 4-4 draw by SSC Napoli at the Stadio Olimpico on Saturday. After falling behind on two minutes to an Ezequiel Lavezzi goal, a **Francesco Totti** penalty (30) and an effort by **Simone Perrotta** (43) gave Roma the edge at the break. Marek Hamšík (46) restored parity for the visitors before **Daniele De Rossi** (52) and Walter Gargano (64) swapped goals. There was still time for **David Pizarro** (80) to give Roma the lead again but Marcelo Zalayeta (84) claimed a draw for Napoli.
- Coach **Luciano Spalletti** said: "We have worked hard to correct recent mistakes in defence and today we made other mistakes just because we were too scared of making those. We are disappointed with the result. The lads had their heads down after the game, but I know what we can do and I'm sure we will soon solve all our problems."
- **Doni** and **Juan** both missed the game after returning late from international duty with Brazil. **Taddei** was ruled out because of a calf strain, while a thigh injury kept out **Alberto Aquilani**.
- **Marco Cassetti** recovered from an injury to his left thigh to feature as a second-half substitute against Napoli.
- **Totti's** goal was his seventh in as many Serie A appearances this season.
- **De Rossi** and **Pizarro** both found the net for the first time this campaign to become the eight and ninth different Roma players to score.
- Roma have now conceded four goals in consecutive Serie A home games following the 4-1 defeat by FC Internazionale Milano.
- **Gianluci Curci**, who played instead of Doni against Napoli, became a father on 18 October to a son named Gianfranco.
- **Aquilani** tore a thigh muscle during the defeat at Old Trafford. The midfielder will miss Roma's home match against Sporting and is also a major doubt for the return in Lisbon on 7 November.
- Four days after the United reverse, Roma returned to winning ways in Serie A with a 3-0 win at Parma FC. **Totti** opened the scoring on two minutes after being set up by **Mirko Vučinić** and **Mancini** made it two 19 minutes later. On 24 minutes Parma were left with ten men when Bernardo Corradi was dismissed and Totti claimed his second goal of the game eight minutes from time.

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• With **Aquilani** and **Taddei** injured and **Ludovic Giuly** suspended, **Spalletti** fielded **Mancini**, **Perrotta** and **Vučinić** in support of **Totti**. **Christian Panucci** played as right-back instead of the injured **Cassetti**. **Philippe Mexes** missed out with a back problem and was replaced by **Matteo Ferrari** in central defence.

• **Spalletti** said: "We started well, scoring two early goals. Then, when Parma were left with ten men, we sat back too much without trying to kill off the game. This is our most common mistake."

• With the two goals he scored against Parma, **Totti** took his Serie A tally to 157, overtaking former Italy star Luigi Riva and current FC Internazionale Milano coach Roberto Mancini in 14th place in the all-time rankings. "It's great to pass those great players and I have to thank my team-mates for this," Totti said. "We can compete for the Scudetto."

• During the game **Perrotta** twisted his right knee and was replaced by **Matteo Brighi** with five minutes to play. The injury forced him to miss the subsequent Italy matches and the following Serie A game against SSC Napoli.

• **Ahmed Apimah Barusso**, who was signed from Serie B side Rimini Calcio in the summer, made his debut three minutes from the end of the Parma game.

• **Curci**, **Panucci** and **De Rossi** were named in the Italy squad for the game against Georgia. Only Panucci played, getting a full 90 minutes in the Azzurri's 2-0 win.

• **Panucci** returned to Rome ahead of the friendly against South Africa. **De Rossi** played from the start wearing the captain's armband for the first time in his Azzurri career but was replaced after one hour of Italy's 2-0 win.

• **Mexes** was named in the France squad for the games against the Faroe Islands and Lithuania but did not play.

• **Vučinić** scored the winner for Montenegro in their first away victory since joining the international football family, a 1-0 friendly success in Estonia.

• **Doni** and **Juan** were named in the Brazil squad for the 2010 FIFA World Cup qualifiers against Colombia and Ecuador. Juan played as Brazil were held to a 0-0 draw by Colombia and defeated Ecuador 5-0. Doni was on the bench for both matches.

Sporting

• Sporting have no players suspended or within a yellow card of a ban.

• After eliminating Portuguese champions FC Porto in the previous round, second division CD Fátima surprised Sporting on Saturday with a 2-1 away win in the first leg of the fourth round of the Portuguese League Cup. The underdogs took the lead on 15 minutes with a Cícero penalty and although Sporting managed to level matters through **Liedson** (52), Fátima scored the winner on 81 minutes thanks to Filipe Falardo.

• The second leg of the tie, to be played at Fátima's home ground, is scheduled for 31 October.

• Sporting coach **Paulo Bento** said: "What worried me was the way we played, particularly the lack of organisation, even after we scored the equaliser. It's my responsibility but we have to analyse what happened. This is certainly the defeat that hurts me the most. We must not repeat it but nothing is lost yet. Tuesday is another match, a different competition, and we must respond and play better."

• Bento made eight changes to his lineup from the team which started Sporting's previous match against Vitória SC. Only **Abel**, **Tonel** and **Liedson** began both games.

• **Marián Had** and **Celsinho** both made their first starts for Sporting, while youngsters **Rui Patrício** and **Paulo Renato** were also offered an opportunity to impress.

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- **Vladimir Stojković** was left out after arriving back in Portugal late from international duty with Serbia in Belgrade.
- **Anderson Polga** returned to fitness after a thigh injury but was not risked against Fátima. **Simon Vukčević** was also rested after suffering a knock to his right knee on international duty with Montenegro.
- Other injury problems concern **Bruno Pereirinha**, who left training on 9 October with an ankle problem, and long-term absentees **Pedro Silva** and **Derlei**, who both have knee complaints that will keep them sidelined for six months.
- **Stojković** was also left out of the 19-man squad to face Roma, although **Adrien Silva** came into the party and **Vukčević** and **Anderson Polga** were also included.
- The match against Fátima was played at CF Os Belenenses' Estádio do Restelo ground as Sporting had to change the turf at their usual Estádio José Alvalade home. It will be the fifth time it has needed to be done since the ground was inaugurated in August 2003.
- Sporting defeated Guimarães 3-0 at home on 6 October. After a goalless opening period, substitute **Marat Izmailov** scored twice inside eight minutes (61, 69) before **Tonel**'s 86th-minute strike.
- **Bento** said: "The team did not play well in the first half. In the second we were more aggressive and dominant. We deserved to win because of how we played in the second half but considering what our opponents did the result was generous."
- **Izmailov**'s goals were his first Liga strikes, though he did score the winner against champions FC Porto in the Portuguese Super Cup back in August.
- **Tonel**'s strike was his second in four days as he had also scored during the Matchday 2 triumph against FC Dynamo Kyiv. It took his season's tally to two, as he had also registered in the opening day 4-1 Liga win against A. Académica de Coimbra. He said: "I'm having chances to score but the credit goes to the team. Congratulations to **Leandro Romagnoli**, as he delivers balls that seem to have a remote control."
- Another scorer in Kyiv, **Anderson Polga**, limped off in the 75th minute against Guimarães after pulling a thigh muscle in his right leg. The Brazilian was replaced by debutant **Had**.
- **Romagnoli** made his 50th appearance for Sporting in all competitions against Guimarães, while **João Moutinho** reached a century of matches in domestic competition.
- **Polga**'s winning goal in Kyiv was his first in 162 games for Sporting, since his arrival ahead of the 2003/04 season. "I'm very happy, first because we won and then for having scored," he said. "After the defeat [at home against Manchester United FC on Matchday 1] this result keeps us in a qualification spot."
- Sporting were awarded with September's Fair Play prize by the Portuguese Professional Players' Union after the club picked up just five cards.
- **Miguel Veloso** made his debut for Portugal in the 2-0 UEFA EURO 2008™ qualifying Group A victory against Azerbaijan in Baku. Four days later on 17 October he earned his second cap in Kazakhstan, which Portugal won 2-1.
- **João Moutinho** was an unused substitute against Azerbaijan but came on after 85 minutes in Kazakhstan to earn his eleventh cap. **Tonel** was called up by coach Luiz Felipe Scolari was not part of the final 18 selected for either game.
- In the same section, **Stojković** featured in both of Serbia's matches against Armenia in Yerevan (0-0) and the 6-1 rout of Azerbaijan in Baku.

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- **Vukčević** started for Montenegro in the 1-0 friendly victory against Estonia in Tallinn on 17 October.
- **Yannick Djaló** was taken off in the second half of Portugal's UEFA European Under-21 Championship qualifying round matches away to Bulgaria (0-1) and Montenegro (2-1) on 12 and 16 October respectively.
- Portuguese football mourned the loss of Sporting legend **Júlio Cernadas Pereira**, better known as **Juca**, who passed away at the age of 78 on 11 October. He was the first player to score at the old Estádio José Alvalade and before hanging up his boots in 1958 he played 178 games for the club, winning five Portuguese titles, one Portuguese Cup and earning eight caps. He then became the youngest coach ever to win the Portuguese title, leading Sporting to glory in 1961/62 at the age of 33. He led the club again in 1964/65 and 1975/76 and also enjoyed three spells with the national team (1977-78, 1980-81 and 1987-89).

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Squad list

Roma

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	Gianluca Curci	ITA	12.07.1985	22	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	9	-
27	Julio Sergio	BRA	08.11.1978	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
32	Doni	BRA	22.10.1979	27	-	-	-	1	-	7	-	11	-	13	-
Defenders															
2	Christian Panucci	ITA	12.04.1973	34	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	62	8	92	11
3	Cicinho	BRA	24.06.1980	27	-	-	-	1	-	7	-	3	-	3	-
4	Juan	BRA	01.02.1979	28	-	-	-	2	-	5	1	12	3	24	5
5	Philippe Mexes	FRA	30.03.1982	25	-	-	-	2	-	7	1	16	-	39	-
13	Marco Andreolli	ITA	10.06.1986	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-
21	Matteo Ferrari	ITA	05.12.1979	27	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	10	-	32	-
22	Max Tonetto	ITA	18.11.1974	32	-	-	-	2	-	8	-	9	-	14	-
26	Adrian Florin Pit	ROU	16.07.1983	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
77	Marco Cassetti	ITA	28.05.1977	30	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	9	-	9	-
Midfielders															
7	David Pizarro	CHI	11.09.1979	28	-	-	-	2	-	4	1	15	2	22	2
8	Alberto Aquilani	ITA	07.07.1984	23	-	-	-	2	-	5	2	11	-	19	1
11	Taddei	BRA	06.03.1980	27	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	9	2	19	3
15	Antunes	POR	01.04.1987	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Daniele De Rossi	ITA	24.07.1983	24	-	-	-	2	-	8	1	15	3	28	4
20	Simone Perrotta	ITA	17.09.1977	30	-	-	-	2	1	6	2	16	2	26	3
29	Ahmed Apimah Barusso	GHA	26.12.1984	22	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
33	Matteo Brighi	ITA	14.02.1981	26	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	6	-
Forwards															
9	Mirko Vučinić	MNE	01.10.1983	24	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	7	1	7	1
10	Francesco Totti	ITA	27.09.1976	31	-	-	-	2	1	7	7	31	11	61	21
14	Ludovic Giuly	FRA	10.07.1976	31	-	-	-	2	-	7	2	40	8	71	19
18	Mauro Esposito	ITA	13.06.1979	28	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	9	-
30	Mancini	BRA	01.08.1980	27	-	-	-	2	-	5	2	13	1	28	5
36	Claudio Della Penna	ITA	12.05.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coach															
-	Luciano Spalletti	ITA	07.03.1959	48	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	12	-	31	-

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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	Rui Patrício	POR	15.02.1988	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
16	Tiago	POR	16.04.1975	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	11	-
34	Vladimir Stojković	SRB	28.07.1983	24	-	-	-	2	-	7	-	2	-	12	-
50	André Martins	POR	12.10.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders															
2	Pedro Silva	BRA	25.04.1981	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Marián Had	SVK	16.09.1982	25	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
4	Anderson Polga	BRA	09.02.1979	28	-	-	-	2	1	7	-	8	1	26	1
8	Ronny	BRA	11.05.1986	21	-	-	-	2	-	7	-	3	-	3	-
13	Tonel	POR	13.04.1980	27	-	-	-	2	1	6	2	8	1	11	1
26	Gladstone	ITA	29.01.1985	22	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	1	-
44	Paulo Renato	POR	14.05.1987	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
46	Michael Santos	POR	04.06.1990	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
52	Jorge Abreu	POR	29.03.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
54	Rui Figueiredo	POR	04.09.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
56	Tiago Pedrosa	POR	15.06.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
78	Abel	POR	22.12.1978	28	-	-	-	2	-	7	-	4	-	8	-
Midfielders															
5	Carlos Paredes	PAR	16.07.1976	31	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	17	-	31	1
6	Adrien Silva	POR	15.03.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
7	Marat Izmailov	RUS	21.09.1982	25	-	-	-	2	-	4	2	18	2	34	4
9	Milan Purović	MNE	07.05.1985	22	-	-	-	1	-	4	1	1	-	13	3
10	Simon Vukčević	MNE	29.01.1986	21	-	-	-	2	-	7	1	2	-	19	2
21	Pontus Farnerud	SWE	04.06.1980	27	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	10	1	21	3
24	Miguel Veloso	POR	11.05.1986	21	-	-	-	2	-	7	-	7	-	7	-
25	Bruno Pereirinha	POR	02.03.1988	19	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	1	-
28	João Moutinho	POR	08.09.1986	21	-	-	-	2	-	7	2	8	-	21	-
30	Leandro Romagnoli	ITA	17.03.1981	26	-	-	-	2	-	7	-	3	-	3	-
40	Diogo Jorge Rosado	POR	21.02.1990	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
42	Andre Renato Soares Martins	POR	21.01.1990	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
43	Diogo Amado	POR	21.01.1990	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	Diogo Viana	POR	22.02.1990	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
49	André Santos	POR	02.03.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
51	Bruno Matias	POR	04.03.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
88	Celsinho	BRA	25.08.1988	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards															
11	Derlei	BRA	14.07.1975	32	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	13	3	34	15
20	Yannick Djaló	POR	05.05.1986	21	-	-	-	2	-	7	-	7	-	7	-
31	Liedson	BRA	17.12.1977	29	-	-	-	2	-	7	3	7	-	26	11
41	Wilson Eduardo	POR	08.07.1990	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
53	Marco Matias	POR	10.05.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
57	Vivaldo	POR	28.06.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
58	Luís Paez	ESP	19.12.1989	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coach															
-	Paulo Bento	POR	20.06.1969	38	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	2	-

AS Roma: Luciano Spalletti

Date of birth: 7 March 1959

Nationality: Italian

Playing career: AC Entella Chiavari 1914, Spezia Calcio 1906, FC Esperia Viareggio, Empoli FC

Coaching career: Empoli FC, UC Sampdoria, Venezia Calcio, Udinese Calcio (twice), Ancona Calcio, AS Roma

A hard-working midfielder in his playing days, Luciano Spalletti has kept the same mentality since starting his coaching career in 1993/94 at his former club Empoli FC. Spalletti enjoyed immediate success with successive promotions; in his first full season, he led the Tuscan club to Serie B before taking them to Serie A the following campaign. After a good first term in the top flight, Spalletti left to join UC Sampdoria but was sacked after 28 games of the 1998/99 season. It was the beginning of a difficult period for Spalletti who had brief stays at Venezia Calcio, Udinese Calcio and Ancona Calcio before returning to Udinese in summer 2002.

Spalletti steered Udinese to sixth and seventh-placed finishes before writing his name into the club's history as the first coach to guide Udinese to UEFA Champions League football with a fourth place in 2004/05. That June, however, Spalletti answered a call from AS Roma, who had avoided relegation on the last day of term and had been struggling to fill the gap left by Fabio Capello. He signed a two-year contract.

After a difficult opening to 2005/06, Spalletti managed to gain the faith of the Roma squad. Without injured captain Francesco Totti, Roma set a record of consecutive Serie A wins (eleven) and came fifth before the Italian match-fixing tribunal punished Juventus, AC Milan and ACF Fiorentina. That resulted in the Giallorossi moving up to second, earning them an automatic UEFA Champions League place. After a knockout stage berth was secured, Roma handed Spalletti a new contract until 2011 and he rewarded them with second place again in Serie A and Coppa Italia glory.

Sporting Clube de Portugal: Paulo Bento

Date of birth: 20 June 1969

Nationality: Portuguese

Playing career: CF Estrela da Amadora, Vitória SC, SL Benfica, Real Oviedo CF, Sporting Clube de Portugal

Coaching career: Sporting Clube de Portugal

A former international midfielder who made an instant impact upon rising to the top job at Sporting Clube de Portugal in October 2005, Paulo Bento has been a winner throughout his footballing life. He began his playing career at CF Estrela da Amadora, helping them win the Portuguese Cup in 1989/90. He then moved on to Vitória SC before a switch to SL Benfica brought him another cup triumph in 1995/96. He then spent four seasons in Spain with Real Oviedo CF.

He returned to Portuguese football and Sporting for the 2000/01 campaign, and a season later helped them win the Portuguese double. He retired from playing at the end of 2003/04, and quickly accepted a role in the Sporting coaching setup where he guided the youth team to the national title in 2004/05. In October 2005 he was promoted to first-team coach after the sacking of José Peseiro, and quickly improved the side's fortunes, leading Sporting on a run of ten straight victories between January and April 2006.

Overall, in his 27 league games in charge in 2005/06, he achieved 18 wins and six draws, although a 1-0 defeat against FC Porto in a decisive meeting meant a second-place finish. Sporting also lost to Porto on a penalty shoot-out in the Portuguese Cup semi-finals but the club had seen enough for the future. He was rewarded for his efforts in ensuring a 2006/07 UEFA Champions League group-stage berth with a two-year contract in May 2006. The following campaign Sporting were again just pipped to the title by Porto but glory did come with a 1-0 win against CF Os Belenenses in the Portuguese Cup final. The 2007/08 season was Paulo Bento's first as a fully qualified coach for UEFA club competition purposes.

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Match officials

Referee	Terje Hauge (NOR)
Assistant referees	Steinar Holvik (NOR), Jan Petter Randen (NOR)
Fourth official	Tommy Skjerven (NOR)
UEFA Delegate	Gerhard Kapl (AUT)
UEFA Referee observer	Nikolay Levnikov (RUS)

Referee

Name	Nat.	DoB	UCL	UEFA
Terje Hauge	NOR	05.10.1965	38	63

Terje Hauge became the first Norwegian to referee a UEFA Champions League final when he took charge of the 2006 meeting of FC Barcelona and Arsenal FC in Paris. The Bergen-born official began his refereeing career as a teenager in 1982, was taking charge of top-flight matches by 1990, and joined the FIFA international list in 1993. A health official by profession, he has also been working as a referee consultant in his local football association.

His rise began with the UEFA European Under-18 Championship in Spain in 1994, and was followed in 1997 by the UEFA-CAF Meridian Cup in Portugal and the FIFA U-17 World Cup. A UEFA EURO 2000™ fourth official, he was on board for the 2004 finals in Portugal having also travelled to the 2002 FIFA World Cup. A regular in UEFA club competition since 2001, he also took charge of the 2004 UEFA Super Cup.

At home, he has been regarded as one of his nation's shining lights since the Norwegian FA Cup final between FK Bodø/Glimt and Tromsø IL in October 1996. Seven years later, he assumed control of his second domestic cup final between Bodø/Glimt and Rosenborg BK before being asked to be the man in the middle for the Ukrainian Cup final in May 2005. He was also awarded the 2005 FIFA U-20 World Cup final in the Netherlands, when Argentina overcame Nigeria.

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

Date	Comp.	Stage		Res.	Venue
19.10.1999	UCL	GS1	NK Maribor - S.S. Lazio	0-4	Maribor
30.10.2001	UCL	GS1	FC Nantes Atlantique - S.S. Lazio	1-0	Nantes
26.02.2002	UCL	GS2	FC Bayern München - Boavista FC	1-0	Munich
08.04.2003	UCL	QF	AFC Ajax - AC Milan	0-0	Amsterdam
06.05.2003	UCL	SF	Real Madrid CF - Juventus	2-1	Madrid
22.10.2003	UCL	GS1	Chelsea FC - S.S. Lazio	2-1	London
23.03.2004	UCL	QF	FC Porto - Olympique Lyonnais	2-0	Porto
15.03.2005	UCL	1/8	FC Internazionale Milano - FC Porto	3-1	Milan
04.05.2005	UCL	SF	PSV Eindhoven - AC Milan	3-1	Eindhoven
23.08.2005	UCL	QR3	Udinese Calcio - Sporting Clube de Portugal	3-2	Udine
23.11.2005	UCL	GS	Fenerbahçe SK - AC Milan	0-4	Istanbul
04.04.2006	UCL	QF	AC Milan - Olympique Lyonnais	3-1	Milan
22.08.2006	UCL	QR3	SL Benfica - FK Austria Wien	3-0	Lisbon
18.10.2006	UCL	GS	Sporting Clube de Portugal - FC Bayern München	0-1	Lisbon
20.02.2007	UCL	1/8	Celtic FC - AC Milan	0-0	Glasgow

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

Date	Comp.	Stage		Res.	Venue
28.07.1994	U18	GS - FT	Portugal - Netherlands	1-0	Merida
07.02.1997		SF	Portugal - Nigeria	0-2	
07.06.1997	WC	QR	Portugal - Albania	2-0	Porto
05.09.1998	EURO	PR	Wales - Italy	0-2	Liverpool

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Date	Comp.	Stage		Res.	Venue
08.12.1998	UCUP	R3	Parma FC - Rangers FC	3-1	Parma
13.11.1999	U21	P-O	Portugal - Croatia	2-0	Faro
07.03.2000	UCUP	R4	Udinese Calcio - SK Slavia Praha	2-1	Udine
01.09.2001	WC	QR	Andorra - Portugal	1-7	Lleida
16.06.2004	EURO	GS - FT	Russia - Portugal	0-2	Lisbon
27.08.2004	SCUP	F	FC Porto - Valencia CF	1-2	Monaco

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Domestic information

AS Roma (Serie A)

Comp.	Date	Opponent	Res.	Goalscorers
League	26/08/07	US Città di Palermo (A)	2-0	Mexes 4, Aquilani 28
League	02/09/07	AC Siena (H)	3-0	Aquilani 17, Giuly 82, Totti 88
League	16/09/07	Reggina Calcio (A)	2-0	Juan 49, Totti 83
League	23/09/07	Juventus (H)	2-2	Totti 30, 35
League	26/09/07	ACF Fiorentina (A)	2-2	Mancini 19, Giuly 37
League	29/09/07	FC Internazionale Milano (H)	1-4	Perrotta 54

Lineups: Doni, Juan, Mexes, Panucci (Cicinho 70), Tonetto, De Rossi, Mancini (Vučinić 70), Perrotta, Pizarro, Giuly, Totti (Esposito 76)

League 07/10/07 Parma FC (A) 3-0 Totti 2, 82, Mancini 20

Lineups: Doni, Panucci, Ferrari, Juan, Tonetto, De Rossi (Barusso 85), Pizarro, Mancini, Perrotta (Brighi 40), Vučinić (Cicinho 71), Totti

League 20/10/07 SSC Napoli (H) 4-4 Totti 30(pen), Perrotta 43, De Rossi 52, Pizarro 80

Lineups: Curci, Cicinho (Cassetti 60), Mexes, Ferrari, Tonetto, Pizarro, De Rossi, Perrotta, Mancini (Vučinić 65), Totti, Giuly (Panucci 90)

League	28/10/07	AC Milan (A)		
League	31/10/07	S.S. Lazio (H)		
League	04/11/07	Empoli FC (A)		
League	11/11/07	Cagliari Calcio (H)		
League	24/11/07	Genoa Cricket and Football Club (A)		
League	02/12/07	Udinese Calcio (H)		
League	09/12/07	AS Livorno Calcio (A)		
League	16/12/07	Torino FC (A)		
League	23/12/07	UC Sampdoria (H)		
League	13/01/08	Atalanta BC (A)		
League	20/01/08	Calcio Catania (H)		
League	27/01/08	US Città di Palermo (H)		
League	03/02/08	AC Siena (A)		
League	10/02/08	Reggina Calcio (H)		
League	17/02/08	Juventus (A)		
League	24/02/08	ACF Fiorentina (H)		
League	27/02/08	FC Internazionale Milano (A)		
League	02/03/08	Parma FC (H)		
League	09/03/08	SSC Napoli (A)		
League	16/03/08	AC Milan (H)		

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Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	FC Internazionale Milano	8	6	2	0	17	5	20
2	Juventus	8	5	2	1	17	7	17
3	ACF Fiorentina	8	4	4	0	16	7	16
4	AS Roma	8	4	3	1	19	12	15
5	US Città di Palermo	8	3	3	2	11	11	12
6	Genoa Cricket and Football Club	8	3	3	2	8	8	12
7	Udinese Calcio	8	3	3	2	9	11	12
8	SSC Napoli	8	3	2	3	14	10	11
9	UC Sampdoria	8	3	2	3	8	7	11
10	Atalanta BC	8	2	5	1	10	10	11
11	AC Milan	8	2	4	2	13	8	10
12	Calcio Catania	8	2	4	2	6	7	10
13	S.S. Lazio	8	2	4	2	9	11	10
14	Torino FC	8	1	5	2	9	11	8
15	Cagliari Calcio	8	2	2	4	8	11	8
16	Empoli FC	8	2	2	4	5	10	8
17	AC Siena	8	1	3	4	7	12	6
18	Parma FC	8	1	3	4	7	14	6
19	Reggina Calcio	8	0	4	4	5	14	4
20	AS Livorno Calcio	8	0	2	6	6	18	2

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Sporting Clube de Portugal (SuperLiga)

Comp.	Date	Opponent	Res.	Goalscorers
League	17/08/07	A. Académica de Coimbra (H)	4-1	Derlei 26, Liedson 45, Tonel 69, João Moutinho 90(pen)
League	26/08/07	FC Porto (A)	0-1	
League	02/09/07	CF Os Belenenses (H)	1-0	Liedson 80
League	16/09/07	CF Estrela da Amadora (A)	2-0	Liedson 8, Vukčević 29
League	23/09/07	Vitória FC (H)	2-2	João Moutinho 65(pen), Purović 86
Cup	26/09/07	Vitória SC (A)	0-0	
League	29/09/07	SL Benfica (A)	0-0	
Lineups: Stojković, Tonel, Abel, Polga, Ronny, Vukčević (Farnerud 69), Miguel Veloso, João Moutinho, Romagnoli, Liedson, Yannick Djaló (Celsinho 83)				
League	06/10/07	Vitória SC (H)	3-0	Izmailov 61, 69, Tonel 86
Lineups: Stojković, Abel, Tonel, Ronny (Purović 46), Polga (Had 76), Miguel Veloso, João Moutinho, Vukčević, Romagnoli, Yannick Djaló (Izmailov 46), Liedson				
Cup	20/10/07	Fatima (H)	1-2	Liedson 52
Lineups: Tiago, Had, Abel, Gladstone (João Moutinho 46), Tonel, Paredes, Izmailov, Celsinho (Romagnoli 46), Farnerud (Miguel Veloso 46), Purović, Liedson				
League	27/10/07	CD Nacional (A)		
League	04/11/07	A. Naval 1° Maio (H)		
League	11/11/07	SC Braga (A)		
League	25/11/07	Leixões SC (A)		
League	02/12/07	UD Leiria (H)		
League	16/12/07	CS Marítimo (A)		
League	23/12/07	FC Paços de Ferreira (H)		
League	06/01/08	Boavista FC (A)		
League	13/01/08	A. Académica de Coimbra (A)		
League	27/01/08	FC Porto (H)		
League	03/02/08	CF Os Belenenses (A)		
League	17/02/08	CF Estrela da Amadora (H)		
League	24/02/08	Vitória FC (A)		
League	02/03/08	SL Benfica (H)		
League	09/03/08	Vitória SC (A)		
League	16/03/08	CD Nacional (H)		
League	30/03/08	A. Naval 1° Maio (A)		
League	06/04/08	SC Braga (H)		
League	13/04/08	Leixões SC (H)		
League	20/04/08	UD Leiria (A)		

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Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	FC Porto	7	7	0	0	12	1	21
2	Sporting Clube de Portugal	7	4	2	1	12	4	14
3	CS Marítimo	7	4	2	1	10	3	14
4	SL Benfica	7	3	4	0	9	2	13
5	Vitória SC	7	3	3	1	9	7	12
6	Vitória FC	7	2	5	0	9	5	11
7	SC Braga	7	3	1	3	7	7	10
8	CF Os Belenenses	7	3	1	3	8	9	10
9	CD Nacional	7	1	3	3	4	7	6
10	Leixões SC	7	0	6	1	6	7	6
11	CF Estrela da Amadora	7	1	3	3	6	8	6
12	A. Académica de Coimbra	7	1	3	3	4	9	6
13	FC Paços de Ferreira	7	1	2	4	5	10	5
14	A. Naval 1º Maio	7	1	2	4	4	13	5
15	Boavista FC	7	0	4	3	3	9	4
16	UD Leiria	7	0	3	4	3	10	3

FARE Action Week

This week's UEFA Champions League matches provide a platform for the Action Week being staged by UEFA's partner, the Football Against Racism in Europe (FARE) network. Announcements will be made over stadium tannoy, captains will wear "Unite against Racism" armbands, "Unite against Racism" logos will appear on stadium screens and children escorting players on to the pitch will wear "Unite against Racism" T-shirts in all 16 games, in just some of the activities planned to put over the message that racism and intolerance have no place in football.

FARE Action Week is the focus of European football's symbolic stand against racism and discrimination. Activities are designed to raise awareness of the issue and underline football's determination to tackle the problem. Initiatives are led by campaigning non-governmental organisations, fan groups, clubs, national associations, ethnic minorities, youth groups and schools. In all, more than 2,000 activities will take place in 37 European countries.

FIFPro memorandum

UEFA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the European section of the professional footballers' union FIFPro. The agreement was signed by UEFA President Michel Platini and the president of FIFPro Division Europe, Philippe Piat, at a ceremony at RSC Anderlecht's Stade Constant Vanden Stock in Brussels on 15 October. The memorandum takes into account the two bodies' common interest in football, its development in harmony with those involved in the game and respect for football's core values. It is motivated by a common quest for solutions to the challenges and threats that the sport's various parties – UEFA, associations, leagues, clubs and players – are facing.

The memorandum covers a wide range of areas as the basis for co-operation including key values such as solidarity, equality and fraternity, the equitable redistribution of wealth, collective rather than individual exploitation of wealth, a commitment to democracy, the need to preserve the values of sport in the face of growing corporate control, and the protection and development of a large and healthy professional football sector in Europe. Both parties underline the need for a balance between national and European labour legislation, as well as the specificity of sport – meaning the integrity of football and competitions, the regularity of competitions and competitive balance. There is also accord about the benefits of the national-team game as an essential balance to club football.

Stewarding seminar

UEFA attended an international seminar on stewarding, hosted in Rome by the Italian interior ministry on 10 October. Representatives from 24 European countries, the European Commission, the Council of Europe, UEFA and Italian football clubs were present at the seminar. Michel Platini recently reiterated his policy of zero tolerance towards violence and racism in stadiums, calling on clubs to help UEFA by implementing a system of qualified stewards and by only recognising supporters' associations which clearly and unambiguously reject violence and racism.

"Our common task is to protect football, to allow the game to take centre stage and to deliver the perfect match experience for everybody involved," said UEFA's head of stadium and security, Marc Timmer. "This can only be achieved by working in partnership, ensuring professional safety management and comfortable, safe stadiums. In this respect, UEFA called upon the authorities present to recognise the role of stewarding and the need for well-equipped, fence-free stadiums."

Key dates

The 2007/08 UEFA Champions League group stage is 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 held 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 F

Club	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Manchester United FC	2	2	0	0	2	0	6
AS Roma	2	1	0	1	2	1	3
Sporting Clube de Portugal	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
FC Dynamo Kyiv	2	0	0	2	1	4	0

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
19.09.2007	Roma - Dynamo Kyiv	2-0	Stadio Olimpico, Rome
Goals: 1-0 Perrotta 9 , 2-0 Totti 70			
Roma: Doni, Juan (Ferrari 82), Mexes, Aquilani (Pizarro 83), Totti, Taddei, De Rossi, Perrotta, Tonetto, Mancini (Giuly 61), Cassetti			
19.09.2007	Sporting - Man. United	0-1	José Alvalade, Lisbon
Goals: 0-1 Cristiano Ronaldo 62			
Sporting: Stojković, Polga, Izmailov (Vukčević 56), Ronny (Pereirinha 74), Tonel, Yannick Djaló, Miguel Veloso, João Moutinho, Romagnoli (Purović 68), Liedson, Abel			
02.10.2007	Man. United - Roma	1-0	Old Trafford, Manchester
Goals: 1-0 Rooney 70			
Roma: Curci, Cichinho, Juan, Mexes, Aquilani (Pizarro 62), Totti, Giuly (Esposito 80), De Rossi, Perrotta, Tonetto, Mancini (Vučinić 74)			
02.10.2007	Dynamo Kyiv - Sporting	1-2	NSC Olympiyskiy Stadium, Kiev
Goals: 0-1 Tonel 14 , 1-1 Vaschuk 28 , 1-2 Polga 38			
Sporting: Stojković, Polga, Ronny, Vukčević (Izmailov 68), Tonel, Yannick Djaló (Gladstone 92), Miguel Veloso, João Moutinho, Romagnoli (Paredes 77), Liedson, Abel			
23.10.2007	Dynamo Kyiv - Man. United	-	NSC Olympiyskiy Stadium, Kiev
23.10.2007	Roma - Sporting	-	Stadio Olimpico, Rome
07.11.2007	Man. United - Dynamo Kyiv	-	Old Trafford, Manchester
07.11.2007	Sporting - Roma	-	José Alvalade, Lisbon
27.11.2007	Dynamo Kyiv - Roma	-	NSC Olympiyskiy Stadium, Kiev
27.11.2007	Man. United - Sporting	-	Old Trafford, Manchester
12.12.2007	Roma - Man. United	-	Stadio Olimpico, Rome
12.12.2007	Sporting - Dynamo Kyiv	-	José Alvalade, Lisbon

• **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 home to Real Madrid CF on 3 October 2007 at the age of 43 years and 183 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.

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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;

110 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)

109 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)

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

98 Gary Neville (Manchester United FC)

97 Ryan Giggs (Manchester United FC)

97 Paul Scholes (Manchester United FC)

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

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

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

85 Claude Makelele (FC Nantes Atlantique, Real Madrid CF, Chelsea FC)

85 Fernando Morientes (Real Madrid CF, AS Monaco FC, Liverpool FC, Valencia CF)

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Goals: UEFA Champions League

57 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)
52 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)
138 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)
127 Clarence Seedorf (AFC Ajax, UC Sampdoria, Real Madrid CF, FC Internazionale Milano, AC Milan)
122 Zinedine 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)
121 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)
56 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)
56 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: 04.10.2007

AS Roma

UEFA club competition milestones

- This is Roma's 24th season in UEFA club competition following their debut in the 1969/70 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup first round. They have twice lost out in UEFA finals - the 1983/84 European Champion Clubs' Cup and the 1990/91 UEFA Cup.

UEFA Champions League milestones

- Roma are in their fifth campaign, having had to wait until the 2001/02 edition for their bow. Last season's run to the quarter-finals was their first time in the knockout stage.

UEFA club competition honours

- N/A.

Ten-year record

2006/07: UEFA Champions League - quarter-finals

2005/06: UEFA Cup - Round of 16

2004/05: UEFA Champions League - group stage

2003/04: UEFA Cup - third round

2002/03: UEFA Champions League - second group stage

2001/02: UEFA Champions League - second group stage

2000/01: UEFA Cup - fourth round

1999/00: UEFA Cup - fourth round

1998/99: UEFA Cup - quarter-finals

1997/98: Did not compete in UEFA club competition

2006/07 season

Domestic record: Roma finished as runners-up behind champions FC Internazionale Milano for the second season. They were 22 points adrift but 13 ahead of third-placed S.S. Lazio, who began the season with a three-point deduction after the Italian sporting fraud tribunal. Roma did win the Coppa Italia for the first time since 1991 by beating Inter 7-4 on aggregate in the final, their eighth such success.

European record: The Italian side recorded three victories and a draw from their six outings to finish second in Group D, three points behind Valencia CF but four and seven ahead of FC Shakhtar Donetsk and Olympiacos CFP respectively. A 2-0 win at Olympique Lyonnais took them through the first knockout round by the same score before Roma came unstuck at Manchester United FC in the last eight. A 7-1 defeat at Old Trafford wiped out their 2-1 home success.

Key facts

UEFA club competition

- Pld: 174 W: 81 D: 39 L: 54 GF: 239 GA: 164

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final)

- Pld: 42 W: 12 D: 15 L: 15 GF: 41 GA: 51

European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

- Pld: 51 W: 17 D: 16 L: 18 GF: 55 GA: 58

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Records

UEFA club competition

• Biggest win

7-0: AS Roma v NK Gorica

28.09.2000, UEFA Cup first round second leg

7-0: AS Roma v Vitória FC

16.09.1999, UEFA Cup first round first leg

• Biggest home win

7-0: AS Roma v NK Gorica (see above for details)

7-0: AS Roma v Vitória FC (see above for details)

• Biggest away win

0-3: Valencia CF v AS Roma

26.02.2003, UEFA Champions League second group stage

0-3: Hamburger SV v AS Roma

07.12.2000, UEFA Cup third round second leg

1-4: NK Gorica v AS Roma

14.09.2000, UEFA Cup first round first leg

1-4: FC Wacker Innsbruck v AS Roma

16.09.1992, UEFA Cup first round first leg

• Heaviest defeat

7-1: Manchester United v AS Roma

10.04.2007, UEFA Champions League quarter-finals second leg

• Heaviest home defeat

0-3: AS Roma v Real Madrid CF

08.12.2004, UEFA Champions League group stage

0-3: AS Roma v FC Dynamo Kyiv (match forfeited)

15.09.2004, UEFA Champions League group stage

0-3: AS Roma v Real Madrid CF

17.02.2002, UEFA Champions League first group stage

• Heaviest away defeat

7-1: Manchester United FC v AS Roma (see above for details)

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

• Biggest win

4-0: AS Roma v FC Shakhtar Donetsk

12/09/2006, UEFA Champions League group stage

• Biggest home win

4-0: AS Roma v FC Shakhtar Donetsk (see above for details)

• Biggest away win

0-3: Valencia CF v AS Roma (see above for details)

• Heaviest defeat

7-1: Manchester United FC v AS Roma (see above for details)

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• Heaviest home defeat

0-3: AS Roma v Real Madrid CF (see above for details)

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

0-3: AS Roma v Real Madrid CF (see above for details)

• Heaviest away defeat

7-1: Manchester United FC v AS Roma (see above for details)

Last updated: 03.10.2007

Sporting Clube de Portugal

UEFA club competition milestones

• Of Portugal's 'big three', Sporting are the only club never to have won the European Champion Clubs' Cup. They did lift the 1963/64 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup though, with a 4-3 aggregate win against MTK Budapest.

• Sporting's most recent shot at European success came in the 2004/05 UEFA Cup, when they got all the way to the final at their own Estádio José Alvalade in Lisbon only to lose 3-1 to PFC CSKA Moskva. Their best European Cup run came in reaching the 1982/83 quarter-finals but they lost 2-1 on aggregate to Real Sociedad de Fútbol despite winning the first leg 1-0 at home.

UEFA Champions League milestones

• All three of the club's previous campaigns - in 1997/98, 2000/01 and 2006/07 - have ended in the group stage.

UEFA club competition honours

• UEFA Cup Winners' Cup: 1963/64

Ten-year record

2006/07: UEFA Champions League - group stage

2005/06: UEFA Cup - first round (having transferred from European Champion Clubs' Cup third qualifying round)

2004/05: UEFA Cup - runners-up

2003/04: UEFA Cup - second round

2002/03: UEFA Cup - first round (having transferred from European Champion Clubs' Cup third qualifying round)

2001/02: UEFA Cup - third round

2000/01: UEFA Champions League - first group stage

1999/00: UEFA Cup - first round

1998/99: UEFA Cup - first round

1997/98: UEFA Champions League - group stage

2006/07 season

Domestic record: Sporting again finished second to champions FC Porto, but this time they were just a point behind rather than seven adrift, as they had been in 2005/06. They were also a point ahead of third-placed SL Benfica and had the satisfaction of winning the Portuguese Cup for the 14th time with a 1-0 defeat of CF Os Belenenses.

European record: Sporting failed to shine in Group B, winning just one fixture as they finished bottom of the section. That success came on Matchday 1, a 1-0 home defeat of FC Internazionale Milano, who won by the same scoreline in the return contest. Sporting also had a draw and a defeat against both FC Spartak Moskva and FC Bayern München.

Key facts

UEFA club competition

• Pld: 195 W: 81 D: 42 L: 72 GF: 311 GA: 248

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MATCH PRESS KIT

Stadio Olimpico, Rome

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final)

• Pld: 20 W: 4 D: 5 L: 11 GF: 19 GA: 34

European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

• Pld: 54 W: 14 D: 12 L: 28 GF: 65 GA: 88

Records

UEFA club competition

• Biggest win

16-1: Sporting Clube de Portugal v APOEL FC

13.11.1963, European Champion Clubs' Cup first round first leg

• Biggest home win

16-1: Sporting Clube de Portugal v APOEL FC (see above for details)

• Biggest away win

0-9: ÍA Akranes v Sporting Clube de Portugal

17.09.1986, UEFA Cup first round first leg

• Heaviest defeat

5-0: Celtic FC v Sporting Clube de Portugal

02.11.1983, UEFA Cup second round second leg

6-1: Hibernian FC v Sporting Clube de Portugal

27.09.1972, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup first round second leg

5-0: Vasas SC v Sporting Clube de Portugal

05.10.1966, European Champion Clubs' Cup first round first leg

• Heaviest home defeat

0-3: Sporting Clube de Portugal v Gençlerbirliği SK

27.11.2003, UEFA Cup second round second leg

0-3: Sporting Clube de Portugal v FC Spartak Moskva

17.10.2000, UEFA Champions League first group stage

• Heaviest away defeat

5-0: Celtic FC v Sporting Clube de Portugal (see above for details)

6-1: Hibernian FC v Sporting Clube de Portugal (see above for details)

5-0: Vasas SC v Sporting Clube de Portugal (see above for details)

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

• Biggest win

3-0: Sporting Clube de Portugal v AS Monaco FC

17.09.1997, UEFA Champions League group stage

• Biggest home win

3-0: Sporting Clube de Portugal v AS Monaco FC (see above for details)

• Biggest away win

1-2: FC Dynamo Kyiv v Sporting Clube de Portugal

02.10.2007, UEFA Champions League group stage

• Heaviest defeat

4-0: Real Madrid CF v Sporting Clube de Portugal

25.10.2000, UEFA Champions League first group stage

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- Heaviest home defeat

0-3: Sporting Clube de Portugal v FC Spartak Moskva (see above for details)

- Heaviest away defeat

4-0: Real Madrid CF v Sporting Clube de Portugal (see above for details)

Last updated: 03.10.2007

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.

• **Disciplinary information:** As a rule, a player who is sent off the field of play is suspended for the next match in a UEFA club competition. The Control and Disciplinary Body is entitled to augment this punishment. In the case of repeated cautions, a player is suspended for one match after three cautions in three different matches, as well as following any subsequent odd-numbered caution (fifth, seventh, ninth, etc). Single yellow cards and pending suspensions are always carried forward either to the next stage of the competition or to another club competition in the current season.

• **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.

• **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.

• **Financial information:** UEFA says the estimated gross income for the 2007/08 UEFA Champions League is €824.5m – slightly higher than the 2006/07 campaign revenue. Under the competition regulations, 75 per cent of the total revenue received from television and commercial contracts concluded by UEFA, up to a maximum of €530m will go to the 32 teams taking part in the group stage of Europe's premier club competition. The remaining 25 per cent is earmarked for European football and remains with UEFA to cover organisational and administrative costs, as well as for solidarity payments to associations, clubs and leagues.

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It is also stipulated that participating clubs will receive 82 per cent of any revenue received from the same stream in excess of €530m, with the remaining 18 per cent allocated to UEFA for European football. In addition, 50 per cent of the revenue received from new media contracts concluded by UEFA will also be available for distribution to the clubs, and the remaining 50 per cent will be allocated to the above-mentioned European football portion/quota.

The gross income for 2007/08 is estimated at €824.5m, and according to projections, will be made up of €819m from TV and commercial contracts and €5.5m from new media contracts. The total amount to be distributed to the clubs is €588.6m. Each of the 32 clubs in the group stage will receive a starting bonus of €3m. In addition, they will receive a match bonus of €400,000 per match. Performance bonuses will amount to €600,000 for a win and €300,000 for a draw in the group stage. The 16 teams playing in the first knockout round will receive €2.2m, the eight quarter-finalists €2.5m each and the four semi-finalists €3m each. The UEFA Champions League winners will receive €7m, and the runners-up €4m.

This means that a total minimum amount of €5.4m per club is guaranteed for the group stage. A club could receive, at best, up to €23.7m, not counting the market pool share and gate receipts. The remaining €280m will be distributed according to the proportional value of each TV market represented by the clubs taking part in the UEFA Champions League, and to be split among the number of teams – four, three, two or one – participating from a given association.

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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