

FC Steaua București - Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Steaua Stadium, Bucharest

Wednesday 7 November 2007 - 20.45 CET

Group H - Matchday 4



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Match background

Three successive Group H defeats have left FC Steaua București with little margin for error as they prepare for the return fixture with a Sevilla FC side who defeated them at the Ramón Sánchez-Pizjuán on 23 October. Only a victory will be sufficient to maintain interest in this season's UEFA Champions League for the Romanian side.

- Sevilla's stadium had proved the stage for Steaua's finest hour – their triumph in the 1985/86 European Champion Clubs' Cup final against FC Barcelona on penalties – but they failed to repeat the trick on Matchday 3, falling behind to goals from Frédéric Kanouté and Luis Fabiano inside the opening 18 minutes.
- Last season's Liga 1 runners-up rallied and reduced the deficit through Ovidiu Petre's second-half strike but were unable to find an equaliser and are still looking for their first point in the competition. They began with a 2-1 loss away to SK Slavia Praha in which Dorin Goian scored and were then thwarted by Robin van Persie, who gave Arsenal FC a 1-0 win at the Steaua Stadium.
- Steaua have not won for eight UEFA Champions League outings – not including qualifying ties – and they know it is a case of now or never as they try and achieve what has proved beyond them in their previous four participations in Europe's premier club competition: namely a place in the knockout rounds.
- They have faced Spanish teams on many occasions on the European stage and in the European Cup have never beaten a side from that country apart from that memorable night in Seville 21 years ago. In Bucharest they drew 1-1 with Club Atlético de Madrid in the 1996/97 group stage and lost 4-1 at home to Real Madrid CF in the equivalent stage of the 2006/07 edition. That reverse was part of a run of five successive defeats, home and away, against Spanish teams while at home they have not won in four attempts, a sequence in which they have scored just once. They last celebrated victory in a home game when Valencia CF were in Romania for a UEFA Cup Round of 32 game in 2004/05.
- With Slavia losing away to Arsenal on 23 October Sevilla were left with a three-point advantage in second place and will be hoping to stretch that lead further in this return fixture with Steaua. They might have wondered what their debut UEFA Champions League season had in store for them when it began with a 3-0 defeat away to Arsenal but a 4-2 victory against Slavia, in which Kanouté and Fabiano were also on target, made them feel much more at home in this elite company and their qualifying prospects look strong.



- They will be buoyed before this encounter by the happy memory of a victory in Bucharest against these opponents. They met in last season's UEFA Cup Round of 32 when Sevilla comfortably had the better of things on their way to retaining the trophy, winning 2-0 through Christian Poulsen and a Kanouté penalty. They followed it up with a victory in the home leg thanks to Aleksandr Kerzhakov's goal.

- In the other game in the group Slavia entertain Arsenal.

Match facts

Steaua

- Four Steaua players have appeared in all seven UEFA Champions League games so far this season, including qualifying: **Ionuț Rada**, **Petre Marin**, **Bănel Nicoliță** and **Nicolae Dică**.

- Steaua have been caught offside 21 times so far, more than any other team.

- **Marin** and **Marius Croitoru** are within a booking of a ban having both collected two yellow cards to date.

- Steaua were beaten 2-0 on Sunday away to FC Politehnica 1921 Stiinta Timișoara. The home side took the lead on 12 minutes through Dejan Rusić before sealing victory in the second minute of added time with a spectacular bicycle kick by Gueye Mansour.

- Coach **Marius Lăcătuș** said: "Today's game was further evidence that the only thing that matters in football is goals. We dominated, had six or seven big opportunities and two disallowed goals but still lost. I don't think we played badly, on the contrary, yet football is all about scoring goals. Now we will have to overcome this and analyse what we did wrong and correct it, because there are a lot more matches to be played. The first is against Sevilla."

- Steaua travelled to Timisoara without six players. Alongside long-term injury victims **Mirel Rădoi**, **Mihăiță Pleșan** and **Sorin Ghionea**, who are all recovering from knee surgery, **Lăcătuș** was also without **Eric Bicfalvi** after he picked up an injury to his right leg in training on 2 November. **Valentin Badea** was rested after an intense period of games since recovering from a left ankle injury suffered in a car accident in June, while **Pawel Golański** was not risked despite returning to fitness.

- **Dorin Goian** returned to the Steaua starting lineup after one match out following toe surgery.

- The match was the first league game this season in which Steaua had trailed at half-time.

- It was Politehnica's first home win against Steaua in eleven years.

- The match was the first defeat suffered by Steaua's new coach, **Lăcătuș**, who had made his debut in charge with a 3-1 win on 31 October against FC Otelul Galati.

- It was Steaua's second successive away defeat, following the 2-1 reverse at FC Universitatea Cluj on 27 October. All three of Steaua's losses this season have come away from home.

- With only 12 goals, Steaua have the second-worst attack in the whole of Liga 1. Conversely they have the second best defence, conceding only nine times. CFR 1907 Cluj have the tightest back line, letting in one fewer goal.

- Following the defeat at Sevilla, Steaua had returned to domestic action on 27 October when their stuttering start to the season continued with a 2-1 defeat at struggling Universitatea Cluj. Steaua opened the scoring through **Nicoliță** in the 21st minute but the home side levelled through Nemanja Jovanović 13 minutes later and earned all three points thanks to Dorin Goga's winner six minutes from time.

- The victory was Universitatea Cluj's first in the league this season since their promotion back to the top flight after an eight-year absence.
- **Ovidiu Petre**, who scored his first goal in UEFA club competition against Sevilla, missed the defeat through suspension. Steaua were also without long-term absentee **Ghionea** (knee), who is not expected to return to action until 2008, when **Rădoi** and **Pleşan** are also expected to be fit again. **Golański** (hamstring) and **Ifeanyi Emeghara** were also missing, with the latter having damaged his left knee against Sevilla.
- There was better news concerning **Florin Lovin**, however, who returned having recovered from an injury to his left ankle.
- "After this defeat I feel a terrible disappointment, I did not expect this," said Steaua owner **George Becali**. The following day **Lăcătuș** was unveiled as Steaua's new coach, replacing **Massimo Pedrazzini**, who remains as an assistant.
- "I have always dreamt of coaching Steaua, the club means everything to me," said **Lăcătuș**. "It is a very important day. Negotiations were very short, because such an opportunity cannot be missed. We can still win the championship and even qualify for the first knockout round of the UEFA Champions League. It's a psychological issue – the players have to regain their confidence, that's the secret. And they have to understand they have in front of them a man who achieved big things as a player and wants to achieve them as a coach as well."
- **Lăcătuș** got his tenure off to a winning start with a 3-1 home victory against Otelul on 31 October. The new coach did not have to wait long for the first goal of his reign, **Dică** opening the scoring after eight minutes, before Steaua doubled their advantage on 32 minutes through a Dorin Semeghin own goal. The visitors pulled one back seven minutes after the break when János Székely struck from a free-kick, but Dică scored again in the 66th minute to secure the points.
- Steaua were deprived of **Goian**, who underwent surgery on a swollen right toe on 30 October, while **Golański** was also absent.
- **Lăcătuș** opted to leave out **Victoraș Iacob**, while a number of regulars, such as **Lovin**, **Marin** and **Adrian Neaga**, started on the bench.
- "I am satisfied about how we played and about the result," said **Lăcătuș**. "I am proud and happy to be Steaua's coach."

Sevilla

- Six Sevilla players have appeared in all five UEFA Champions League games so far this season, including qualifying: **Andrés Palop**, **Ivica Dragutinović**, **Christian Poulsen**, **Seydou Keita**, **Jesús Navas** and **Luis Fabiano**.
- **Luis Fabiano** celebrates his 27th birthday the day after the Steaua game, on 8 November, while **Arouna Koné** is 24 on 11 November and **Dragutinović** turns 32 two days later.
- **Keita**'s next booking will incur a suspension after the midfielder collected yellow cards on Matchdays 1 and 3.
- **Manuel Jiménez** has a 100 per cent home record as Sevilla coach after recording an impressive 2-0 win over Real Madrid CF at the Ramón Sánchez-Pizjuán Stadium on Saturday. **Keita** struck Sevilla's opener in the 18th minute with a strike from 25 metres. **Luis Fabiano** doubled the advantage two minutes later when, after Iker Casillas had blocked a **Frédéric Kanouté** effort, the in-form Brazilian slotted in from close range. Former Sevilla defender Sergio Ramos was dismissed five minutes after half-time as the home side eased through the second period.

- **Jiménez** said: "With a little more luck the final result would have been even more emphatic. We played very well. We thwarted a quality Madrid team that came here spurred on by what they did in Valencia. We defended brilliantly; I can't remember Madrid having a clear chance on goal while we had many opportunities."
- **Kanouté** was back in the Sevilla lineup having missed his side's midweek defeat to Club Atlético de Madrid with a thigh injury, while **Palop** and **José Luis Martí** recovered from strained muscles to take respective positions in the starting XI and on the bench. **Dragutinović** shook off the virus that caused him to sit out the trip to Atlético and returned to the heart of Sevilla's defence.
- **José Angel Crespo** fractured a cheekbone in a challenge with Mahamadou Diarra just before half-time. He is expected to be out of action for a month.
- **Federico Fazio** also picked up an injury against Madrid. The 20-year-old defender pulled his right calf muscle and will miss the game against Steaua.
- Sevilla will be without **Duda** for a month after the midfielder sprained his left ankle in a training session on Monday morning. The 27-year-old was initially thought to have sustained a much more serious injury after being carried off the training pitch on a stretcher but subsequent hospital tests revealed a relatively minor problem.
- Against Madrid **Jesús Navas** celebrated his 100th Primera División appearance for Sevilla. The midfielder made his debut for the Andalusian outfit on 23 November 2003 against RCD Espanyol and has since scored six league goals.
- On 26 October **Juande Ramos** resigned as coach of Sevilla in order to take up the manager's job at Tottenham Hotspur FC. The 53-year-old, who won five trophies in Sevilla's most successful period, admitted it was a very difficult decision to make. "This has been the hardest decision of my life," he said. "My heart remains in Sevilla but for the sake of my family and my career it is impossible not to leave for London."
- Following the departure of Ramos, Sevilla president **José María del Nido** announced that reserve-team coach **Jiménez** would take charge of first-team affairs until the end of the season. A former Sevilla player between 1983 and 1997, Jiménez amassed a club-record 354 appearances as well as earning 15 caps for Spain. "I have finally achieved what I wanted after seven years working in the shadow and that's why it's a special day for me," the new coach said after his first training session with the team. "Sevilla could have signed any coach but they have entrusted me with the job."
- The Matchday 4 contest against Steaua will be **Jiménez's** fourth game in charge after league outings against Valencia CF, Atlético and Madrid.
- **Jiménez** suffered his first defeat as coach when Sevilla lost 4-3 at Atlético on 31 October. Nuno Maniche knocked in a rebound to make it 1-0 to the hosts in the opening minute but **Luis Fabiano** equalised from a free-kick on 13 minutes. Sergio Agüero put Atlético back in front three minutes later when he connected with **Palop's** parry to head in. A José Zé Castro own goal brought Sevilla level once more before the break but they went 3-2 down in the 69th minute when Maxi Rodríguez converted a clever pass from Agüero. José Manuel Jurado made sure Atlético took the points with a late strike before Luis Fabiano scored again on the full-time whistle.
- **Jiménez** said afterwards: "We were defensively very weak. Last Sunday we regained our defensive solidity [when beating Valencia] but this game was more difficult for us because they came at us very early on. At 1-0 Atlético started to control the game and we had to start taking risks. It's a pity we lost because Atlético weren't better than us."
- **Dragutinović** was not included in Sevilla's squad for the defeat as he was suffering from a virus. **Kanouté** also failed to travel due to a recurrence of a thigh injury.

- **Martí**, who along with **Palop** finished the match with a strained muscle, added: "We were the better team even when we were behind at 2-1. When we levelled we were playing at our best and the game was under control. Then we went behind again and we were playing catch-up once more. We have to think about the mistakes we made defensively that cost us goals. Above all, we need to keep this attitude and hold on to this desire to win."

- **Jiménez's** first game in charge had been a more joyous affair, a 3-0 triumph over Valencia on 28 October. The first goal came in the ninth minute when **Luis Fabiano's** cross was not dealt with by Raúl Albiol and **Kanouté** pounced to shoot low past Timo Hildebrand. **Poulsen** drove in Sevilla's second with his left foot 18 minutes before the end while Brazilians **Daniel Alves** and **Renato** linked up to provide compatriot Luis Fabiano with the third goal five minutes from time.

- "Today we played a great game thanks to the attitude of our players," **Jiménez** said. "I've tried to add some of my style to the team but I don't want the squad to lose all of the good things it has and that we can take advantage of. With this team there are very few things to change. What we have to do is concentrate a little harder and show more attitude."

Squad list

Steaua

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	Robinson Zapata	COL	30.09.1978	29	-	3	-	3	-	11	-	3	-	6	-
12	Cornel Cernea	ROU	22.04.1976	31	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	11	-
Defenders															
3	Dorin Goian	ROU	12.12.1980	26	-	3	2	2	1	8	-	8	1	31	9
4	Pawel Golański	POL	12.10.1982	25	-	3	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	3	-
5	Ionuț Rada	ROU	06.07.1982	25	-	4	-	3	-	12	1	3	-	34	1
13	Ifeanyi Emeghara	NGA	24.03.1984	23	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	2	-	17	-
15	Mihai Neșu	ROU	19.02.1983	24	-	2	-	-	-	6	-	2	-	27	-
17	Eugen Baciu	ROU	25.05.1980	27	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	1	-	13	-
18	Petre Marin	ROU	08.09.1973	34	*	4	-	3	-	8	-	8	-	52	1
24	Sorin Ghionea	ROU	11.05.1979	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	38	1
29	Valentin Bădoi	ROU	16.12.1975	31	-	3	-	2	-	8	-	2	-	35	-
Midfielders															
7	Eric Bicfalvi	ROU	05.02.1988	19	-	3	-	-	-	7	1	-	-	3	-
8	Ovidiu Petre	ROU	22.03.1982	25	-	3	-	3	1	9	-	13	1	26	1
14	Vasilică Cristocea	ROU	27.09.1980	27	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	4	-	13	-
16	Bănel Nicolită	ROU	07.01.1985	22	-	4	1	3	-	11	2	9	-	36	5
20	Florin Lovin	ROU	11.02.1982	25	-	4	-	1	-	9	-	6	-	36	-
26	Marius Croitoru	ROU	02.10.1980	27	*	4	-	2	-	7	-	2	-	8	-
Forwards															
9	Valentin Badea	ROU	23.10.1982	25	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	8	2	14	4
10	Nicolae Dică	ROU	09.05.1980	27	-	4	1	3	-	12	5	9	4	42	14
19	Victoraș Iacob	ROU	14.10.1980	27	-	-	-	3	-	5	2	3	-	30	11
25	Adrian Neaga	ROU	04.06.1979	28	-	4	1	2	-	10	-	2	-	24	8
30	Dorel Zaharia	ROU	21.02.1978	29	-	3	2	2	-	11	-	2	-	10	5
84	Romeo Surdu	ROU	12.01.1984	23	-	-	-	3	-	7	-	3	-	3	-
Coach															
-	Marius Lăcătuș	ROU	04.04.1964	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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Sevilla

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	Andrés Palop	ESP	22.10.1973	34	-	2	-	3	-	10	-	14	-	48	1
13	Morgan De Sanctis	ITA	26.03.1977	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	18	-
Defenders															
2	Javi Navarro	ESP	06.02.1974	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	-
3	Ivica Dragutinović	SRB	13.11.1975	31	-	2	-	3	-	8	-	3	-	40	-
4	Daniel Alves	BRA	06.05.1983	24	-	1	-	3	-	9	-	3	-	41	2
14	Julien Escudé	FRA	17.08.1979	28	-	1	-	2	1	3	-	11	1	42	1
15	Aquivaldo Mosquera	COL	22.06.1981	26	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	2	-
23	Khalid Boulahrouz	NED	28.12.1981	25	-	1	-	1	-	6	-	6	-	19	-
24	Andreas Hinkel	GER	26.03.1982	25	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	9	1	43	2
26	José Ángel Crespo	ESP	09.02.1987	20	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-
28	Federico Fazio	ARG	17.03.1987	20	-	2	-	1	-	7	-	1	-	3	-
30	David Prieto	ESP	02.01.1983	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
31	Lolo	ESP	22.08.1984	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Midfielders															
5	Duda	POR	27.06.1980	27	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	1	-	10	1
6	Adriano	BRA	26.10.1984	23	-	-	-	2	-	8	-	2	-	31	5
8	Christian Poulsen	DEN	28.02.1980	27	-	2	-	3	-	6	1	9	1	63	2
11	Renato	BRA	15.05.1979	28	-	1	-	2	-	9	-	2	-	27	3
18	José Luis Martí	ESP	28.04.1975	32	-	1	-	2	-	4	-	2	-	37	2
20	Tom De Mul	BEL	04.03.1986	21	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	9	-
21	Seydou Keita	MLI	16.01.1980	27	*	2	1	3	-	10	1	11	-	45	2
25	Enzo Maresca	ITA	10.02.1980	27	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	10	1	32	7
Forwards															
7	Jesús Navas	ESP	21.11.1985	21	-	2	-	3	-	9	1	3	-	30	-
9	Aleksandr Kerzhakov	RUS	27.11.1982	24	-	1	1	1	-	6	3	1	-	34	17
10	Luis Fabiano	BRA	08.11.1980	26	-	2	3	3	2	6	7	7	2	33	11
12	Frédéric Kanouté	MLI	02.09.1977	30	-	1	1	3	2	8	5	3	2	46	17
17	Diego Capel	ESP	16.02.1988	19	-	2	-	2	-	7	-	2	-	6	-
22	Arouna Koné	CIV	11.11.1983	23	-	-	-	1	1	7	1	12	3	21	4
27	Alfaro	ESP	23.11.1986	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
Coach															
-	Manuel Jiménez	ESP	26.01.1964	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Head coach

FC Steaua București: Marius Lăcătuș

Date of birth: 05 April 1964

Nationality: Romanian

Playing career: FC Brașov, FC Steaua București (twice), ACF Fiorentina, Real Oviedo, FC Național București

Coaching career: FC Național București, FC Brașov, FC Oțelul Galați, FCM UTA Arad, FC Steaua București

Nicknamed 'The Beast' for his ferocious commitment on the pitch, Brasov-born Marius Mihai Lăcătuș made the 160km trip from local side FC Brașov to join FC Steaua București when he was only 18. His courage, speed and skill marked him out as one of the best forwards Romania has produced and maybe the best-loved player in the history of Steaua. He appeared in more than 400 league games and scored more than 100 goals in two seven-year spells at the club, from 1983 to 1990 and from 1993 to 2000.

No one has won more trophies with Steaua – the 1985/86 European Champion Clubs' Cup and subsequent UEFA Super Cup, ten league titles, seven Romanian Cups and three Romanian Super Cups – and he also played in the 1988/89 European Cup final and three UEFA Champions League group stages. Capped 84 times by Romania and a veteran of two FIFA World Cups as well as EURO '96™, Lăcătuș went abroad in 1990 to ACF Fiorentina and spent the next two seasons with Real Oviedo. He retired from playing in 2000 at FC National București, where he took his first coaching role.

Lăcătuș then went to assist compatriot Mihai Stoichiță as Panama coach before returning to lead Brașov, taking them to fourth place. Appointed No2 to Romania coach Anghel Iordănescu, Lăcătuș gained further club coaching experience before becoming Steaua's executive president in October 2005. Happier on the pitch than in an office job, Lăcătuș left in May 2006 and went on to coach FCM UTA Arad until his "biggest dream came true": he was asked to lead Steaua on 28 October 2007 after the short reigns of Gheorghe Hagi and Massimo Pedrazzini.

Sevilla FC: Manuel Jiménez

Date of birth: 26 January 1964

Nationality: Spanish

Playing career: Sevilla FC, Real Jaén CF

Coaching career: Sevilla Atlético Club, Sevilla FC

Born in the Andalusian town of El Arahál, Manuel Jiménez spent almost his entire playing career at Sevilla FC. Having graduated from reserve outfit Sevilla Atlético Club, he made his senior debut in 1983 and the left-back went on to make a club record 354 top-flight appearances over 14 years. He also earned 15 caps for Spain between 1988 and the 1990 FIFA World Cup.

After seeing out the last year of his playing days with Real Jaén CF, Jiménez returned to football in 2000 as coach of Sevilla Atlético. He won promotion to Segunda División B in his first term and in a successful reign brought on the likes of José Antonio Reyes, Kepa Blanco, Sergio Ramos and Antonio Puerta. A further promotion to Segunda División A, after three play-off near misses, arrived in 2007 with an extra-time defeat of Burgos CF – one day after the first team beat Getafe CF to lift the Copa del Rey.

Jiménez's men made a successful start to the second division proper, yet he was not to remain long at the helm. Following the departure of head coach Juande Ramos to Tottenham Hotspur FC after UEFA Champions League Matchday 3, Sevilla allowed Jiménez to fulfil his long-held ambition of leading the club he had played for with such distinction. And he enjoyed a superb debut, masterminding a 3-0 victory over Valencia CF little more than 24 hours after his appointment.

Match officials

Referee	Herbert Fandel (GER)
Assistant referees	Carsten Kadach (GER), Volker Wezel (GER)
Fourth official	Günter Perl (GER)
UEFA Delegate	Armen Minasyan (ARM)
UEFA Referee observer	Nikolay Levnikov (RUS)

Referee

Name	Nat.	DoB	UCL	UEFA
Herbert Fandel	GER	09.03.1964	25	46

Whether performing a classical piano piece for an appreciative audience, or refereeing football's superstars in front of a packed crowd, Herbert Fandel keeps cool and delivers. Stage fright is out of the question. The German, who took charge of Sevilla FC's 4-0 UEFA Cup final defeat of Middlesbrough FC in May 2006 a year before orchestrating the 2007 UEFA Champions League showpiece when AC Milan beat Liverpool FC 2-1 in Athens, is used to the big occasion, both as a full-time pianist with his own highly successful music school and as one of Europe's leading referees.

Fandel, a father of two who lives in Kyllburg, close to the Luxembourg border, became the first German to take charge of a one-off UEFA Cup final in Eindhoven. Having started his refereeing career in 1989, he joined the élite band of Bundesliga officials in 1996 and earned his FIFA badge two years later. His break on the international stage came at the UEFA European Under-16 Championship in 1998 before he travelled to the 1999 UEFA-CAF Meridian Cup in South Africa. Appointments at the UEFA European Under-21 Championship and Sydney Olympics followed in 2000 ahead of the step up to FIFA World Cup qualifying in 2002. Fandel also did the 2005 FIFA Confederations Cup on home soil before taking charge of his second German Cup final in three campaigns, with FC Bayern München lifting the 2005/06 trophy after a 1-0 win against Eintracht Frankfurt. He has also been a UEFA EURO 2008™ qualifying regular.

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

Date	Comp.	Stage		Res.	Venue
17.10.2001	UCL	GS1	Manchester United FC - RC Deportivo La Coruña	2-3	Manchester
17.09.2002	UCL	GS1	Valencia CF - Liverpool FC	2-0	Valencia
22.10.2002	UCL	GS1	Real Madrid CF - AEK Athens FC	2-2	Madrid
26.11.2002	UCL	GS2	RC Deportivo La Coruña - Juventus	2-2	La Coruna
30.09.2003	UCL	GS1	Galatasaray AS - Real Sociedad de Fútbol	1-2	Istanbul
27.09.2006	UCL	GS	Valencia CF - AS Roma	2-1	Valencia
06.03.2007	UCL	1/8	Liverpool FC - FC Barcelona	0-1	Liverpool

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

Date	Comp.	Stage		Res.	Venue
28.04.1998	U16	GS - FT	Scotland - Spain	1-1	Perth
30.03.1999	U21	QR	Netherlands - Spain	0-1	Enschede
04.11.1999	UCUP	R2	Montpellier Hérault SC - RC Deportivo La Coruña	0-2	Montpellier
08.08.2000	UIC	F	RC Celta de Vigo - FC Zenit St. Petersburg	2-1	Vigo
02.09.2000	WC	QR	Bosnia-Herzegovina - Spain	1-2	Sarajevo
07.12.2000	UCUP	R3	FC Barcelona - Club Brugge KV	1-1	Barcelona
24.03.2001	WC	QR	Romania - Italy	0-2	Bucharest
14.04.2004	UCUP	QF	Valencia CF - FC Girondins de Bordeaux	2-1	Valencia
10.05.2006	UCUP	F	Middlesbrough FC - Sevilla FC	0-4	Eindhoven

Domestic information

FC Steaua București (Divizia A)

Comp.	Date	Opponent	Res.	Goalscorers
League	27/07/07	FC Ceahlăul Piatra Neamt (H)	2-1	Dică 15(pen), 63
League	03/08/07	FC Farul Constanta (A)	1-0	Dică 61
League	11/08/07	FC Politehnica Iasi (H)	1-0	Bicfalvi 78
League	19/08/07	CFR 1907 Cluj (A)	0-0	
League	02/09/07	AFC Unirea Valahorum Urziceni (A)	0-1	
League	16/09/07	FC Rapid București (H)	0-0	
League	22/09/07	FCM UTA Arad (A)	1-1	Nicoliță 57
League	29/09/07	SC Vaslui (H)	1-0	Rada 65
League	07/10/07	CS Dacia Mioveni (A)	2-1	Iacob 45, 89
League	27/10/07	FC Universitatea Cluj (A)	1-2	Nicoliță 21

Lineups: Zapata, Marin, Goian, Rada, Neșu, Nicoliță (Zaharia 68), Lovin (Surdu 84), Dică, Croitoru, Badea (Neaga 49), Iacob

League 31/10/07 FC Otelul Galati (H) 3-1 Dică 7, 66(pen), Own goal

Lineups: Zapata, Emeghara, Baci, Rada, Neșu, Nicoliță, Petre, Croitoru (Neaga 81), Dică, Zaharia (Bicfalvi 84), Surdu (Lovin 61)

League 04/11/07 FC Politehnica 1921 Stiinta Timișoara 0-2 (A)

Lineups: Zapata, Emeghara, Goian, Rada, Marin, Nicoliță, Petre, Dică, Croitoru (Neaga 72), Iacob, Surdu (Zaharia 65)

League 10/11/07 FC Universitatea Craiova (H)

League 24/11/07 FC Dinamo 1948 Bucuresti (H)

League 01/12/07 FC Gloria Buzau (A)

League 05/12/07 CF Gloria 1922 Bistrita (H)

Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	CFR 1907 Cluj	14	11	3	0	24	8	36
2	FC Politehnica 1921 Stiinta Timișoara	14	8	4	2	30	20	28
3	AFC Unirea Valahorum Urziceni	14	8	4	2	19	11	28
4	FC Dinamo 1948 Bucuresti	14	7	5	2	24	12	26
5	FC Rapid București	13	7	5	1	22	11	26
6	SC Vaslui	14	7	4	3	23	14	25
7	FC Steaua București	12	6	3	3	12	9	21
8	CF Gloria 1922 Bistrita	13	6	3	4	17	18	21
9	FC Ceahlăul Piatra Neamt	13	5	2	6	15	16	17
10	CS Dacia Mioveni	14	4	4	6	15	18	16
11	FC Otelul Galati	14	5	0	9	20	32	15
12	FC Universitatea Craiova	14	4	2	8	13	18	14
13	FC Gloria Buzau	14	4	2	8	13	26	14
14	FC Farul Constanta	14	3	3	8	7	16	12
15	CS Pandurii Lignitul Târgu Jiu	13	3	2	8	13	17	11
16	FCM UTA Arad	14	2	5	7	13	19	11
17	FC Politehnica Iasi	14	3	2	9	12	20	11
18	FC Universitatea Cluj	14	1	5	8	18	25	8

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Sevilla FC (Primera División)

Comp.	Date	Opponent	Res.	Goalscorers
League	25/08/07	Getafe CF (H)	4-1	Jesús Navas 46, Luis Fabiano 67, Kanouté 70, Kerzhakov 82
League	16/09/07	RC Recreativo de Huelva (H)	4-1	Kerzhakov 13, 74, Kanouté 36, 54
League	22/09/07	FC Barcelona (A)	1-2	Kanouté 90
League	25/09/07	RCD Espanyol (H)	2-3	Own goal, Arouna Koné 69
League	29/09/07	Real Zaragoza (A)	0-2	
League	07/10/07	RC Deportivo La Coruña (H)	0-1	
League	20/10/07	Levante UD (A)	2-0	Luis Fabiano 7, 14(pen)
League	28/10/07	Valencia CF (H)	3-0	Kanouté 10, Poulsen 73, Luis Fabiano 86
Lineups: Palop, Daniel Alves, Fazio, Crespo, Dragutinović, Jesús Navas, Poulsen, Keita, Adriano (Diego Capel 61), Luis Fabiano (Arouna Koné 90), Kanouté (Renato 80)				
League	31/10/07	Club Atlético de Madrid (A)	3-4	Luis Fabiano 14, 90, Own goal
Lineups: Palop, Daniel Alves, Fazio, Boulahrouz, Crespo, Jesús Navas (Diego Capel 79), Martí, Keita, Adriano (Duda 60), Luis Fabiano, Arouna Koné (Kerzhakov 68)				
League	03/11/07	Real Madrid CF (H)	2-0	Keita 19, Luis Fabiano 21
Lineups: Palop, Daniel Alves, Crespo (Diego Capel 41), Fazio (Mosquera 35), Dragutinović, Jesús Navas, Poulsen, Keita, Adriano, Luis Fabiano (Renato 77), Kanouté				
League	11/11/07	Villarreal CF (A)		
League	25/11/07	RCD Mallorca (H)		
League	02/12/07	UD Almería (A)		
League	05/12/07	CA Osasuna (A)		
League	09/12/07	Real Murcia CF (H)		
League	16/12/07	Real Valladolid CF (A)		
League	23/12/07	Real Racing Club Santander (H)		
League	06/01/08	Real Betis Balompíe (H)		
League	13/01/08	Athletic Club Bilbao (A)		
League	20/01/08	Getafe CF (A)		
League	27/01/08	CA Osasuna (H)		
League	03/02/08	RC Recreativo de Huelva (A)		
League	10/02/08	FC Barcelona (H)		
League	17/02/08	RCD Espanyol (A)		
League	24/02/08	Real Zaragoza (H)		
League	02/03/08	RC Deportivo La Coruña (A)		
League	09/03/08	Levante UD (H)		
League	16/03/08	Valencia CF (A)		
League	23/03/08	Club Atlético de Madrid (H)		
League	30/03/08	Real Madrid CF (A)		

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Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	Real Madrid CF	11	8	1	2	25	9	25
2	FC Barcelona	11	7	3	1	23	8	24
3	Villarreal CF	11	8	0	3	22	16	24
4	Valencia CF	11	7	0	4	17	19	21
5	Club Atlético de Madrid	11	6	2	3	23	14	20
6	RCD Espanyol	11	5	4	2	15	12	19
7	Real Zaragoza	11	5	2	4	18	17	17
8	Real Racing Club Santander	11	4	5	2	9	9	17
9	RCD Mallorca	11	4	4	3	18	15	16
10	Sevilla FC	10	5	0	5	21	14	15
11	Real Murcia CF	11	3	4	4	8	10	13
12	Athletic Club Bilbao	11	3	4	4	9	12	13
13	CA Osasuna	10	3	3	4	13	13	12
14	RC Deportivo La Coruña	11	3	3	5	10	16	12
15	Getafe CF	11	3	2	6	11	15	11
16	UD Almería	11	3	2	6	10	14	11
17	Real Valladolid CF	11	2	4	5	15	22	10
18	RC Recreativo de Huelva	11	2	3	6	7	15	9
19	Real Betis Balompíe	11	1	5	5	8	15	8
20	Levante UD	11	1	1	9	6	23	4

UEFA information

FARE Action Week

The eighth annual Football Against Racism in Europe (FARE) network Action Week closes with organisers delighted at the pan-European drive to emphasise the message that racism, intolerance and violence have no place in football. The FARE Action Week is co-ordinated by the FARE network in co-operation with UEFA. Activities have been designed to raise awareness of the issues and underline football's determination to tackle them. Initiatives have been led by – among others – campaigning non-governmental organisations, fan groups, clubs, national associations, ethnic minorities, youth groups and schools.

Every high-profile platform has been used by the football community to highlight the fight against racism. From UEFA Champions League and UEFA EURO 2008™ matches to domestic league games across the continent, the signal to the racists has been clear – get out of our game. UEFA's flagship club competition, the UEFA Champions League, showcased the FARE/UEFA activities on Matchday 3, with all 32 teams displaying their opposition to racism as part of UEFA's contribution to the FARE Action Week.

Europe's leading leagues have also been making a stand against racism. All professional clubs in England and Scotland regularly participate and the German Bundesliga expanded its engagement over two weekends so all sides in the top two divisions had the chance to take part in the anti-racist activity at a home match. The leagues were also active in Austria, the Republic of Ireland, F.Y.R. Macedonia, Portugal, Serbia and Slovenia. For the first time, Israel has joined in the Action Week, together with Greece, Sweden and Switzerland as much-valued newcomers. Anti-racist activities have been organised by fan clubs at league fixtures in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, England, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Scotland, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and Ukraine.

FARE match

UEFA gave further support to the FARE Action Week by staging a match in Nyon, Switzerland, on 29 October. A team composed of UEFA staff members played against footballers from the Organisation Sportive Africa-Suisse at the Colovray Stadium opposite UEFA's headquarters. Before the game, the visitors were shown around UEFA's House of European Football and viewed the many European trophies on display, before emerging as 3-1 winners on the pitch.

"We want to see the 'beautiful game' played without the cancer of racism," says FARE. "Football is the biggest sport in the world and belongs to us all. It should be the right of every person to play, watch and discuss it freely, without fear. Unfortunately, at all levels of the game, from amateur to international, there are incidents of racism. Be it from fans, players, clubs or other football bodies, FARE believes that such behaviour, on and off the field, is unacceptable and unwanted by the majority of fans and players."

Cerebral Palsy finals

The Cerebral Palsy International Sports and Recreation Association (CPISRA) – which received UEFA's annual CHF1m charity cheque in 2007 – has held the draw for the CPISRA Football Seven-a-Side World Championship to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in mid-November with 16 teams divided into four groups of four. Founded in 1978, CPISRA is an international governing sports body for athletes with cerebral palsy or traumatic brain injury, stroke and other related conditions. CPISRA has its own version of football, a modified seven-a-side game that has been played by athletes with cerebral palsy for many years.

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 H

Club	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Arsenal FC	3	3	0	0	11	0	9
Sevilla FC	3	2	0	1	6	6	6
SK Slavia Praha	3	1	0	2	4	12	3
FC Steaua București	3	0	0	3	2	5	0

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
19.09.2007	Arsenal - Sevilla	3-0	Arsenal Stadium, London
Goals: 1-0 Fabregas 27 , 2-0 Van Persie 59 , 3-0 Eduardo 90+2			
Sevilla: Palop, Dragutinović, Daniel Alves, Jesús Navas, Poulsen, Luis Fabiano (Kerzhakov 46), Kanouté, Escudé, Diego Capel (Renato 67), Martí (Keita 66), Fazio			
19.09.2007	Slavia - Steaua	2-1	Evzena Rošického, Prague
Goals: 1-0 Šenkeřík 13 , 1-1 Goian 33 , 2-1 Belaid 63			
Steaua: Zapata, Goian, Rada, Petre, Dică, Cristocea (Croitoru 53), Nicolîță, Marin, Iacob (Badea 71), Lovin (Surdu 62), Bădoi			
02.10.2007	Steaua - Arsenal	0-1	Steaua Stadium, Bucharest
Goals: 0-1 Van Persie 76			
Steaua: Zapata, Rada, Petre, Badea (Iacob 60), Dică, Emeghara, Nicolîță, Baci, Marin, Neaga (Zaharia 77), Surdu (Bădoi 84)			
02.10.2007	Sevilla - Slavia	4-2	Ramón Sánchez-Pizjuán, Sevilla
Goals: 1-0 Kanouté 8 , 1-1 Pudil 19 , 2-1 Luis Fabiano 27 , 3-1 Escudé 58 , 4-1 Arouna Koné 68 , 4-2 Kalivoda 90+2			
Sevilla: Palop, Dragutinović, Daniel Alves, Adriano (Hinkel 81), Jesús Navas (Duda 75), Poulsen, Luis Fabiano (Arouna Koné 64), Kanouté, Escudé, Keita, Boulahrouz			
23.10.2007	Sevilla - Steaua	2-1	Ramón Sánchez-Pizjuán, Sevilla
Goals: 1-0 Kanouté 5 , 2-0 Luis Fabiano 17 , 2-1 Petre 63			
Sevilla: Palop, Dragutinović, Daniel Alves, Adriano, Jesús Navas, Poulsen, Luis Fabiano, Kanouté (Renato 71), Mosquera, Diego Capel (Martí 85), Keita			
Steaua: Zapata, Goian, Rada, Petre, Dică (Badea 46), Emeghara, Nicolîță, Marin, Iacob (Zaharia 71), Croitoru, Surdu (Neaga 46)			
23.10.2007	Arsenal - Slavia	7-0	Arsenal Stadium, London
Goals: 1-0 Fabregas 5 , 2-0 Hubáček 24 (o.g.) , 3-0 Walcott 41 , 4-0 Hleb 51 , 5-0 Walcott 55 , 6-0 Fabregas 58 , 7-0 Bendtner 89			
07.11.2007	Steaua - Sevilla	-	Steaua Stadium, Bucharest
07.11.2007	Slavia - Arsenal	-	Evzena Rošického, Prague
27.11.2007	Sevilla - Arsenal	-	Ramón Sánchez-Pizjuán, Sevilla
27.11.2007	Steaua - Slavia	-	Steaua Stadium, Bucharest
12.12.2007	Arsenal - Steaua	-	Arsenal Stadium, London
12.12.2007	Slavia - Sevilla	-	Evzena Rošického, Prague

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 against Werder Bremen on 24 October 2007 at the age of 43 years and 204 days. The record was previously 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: Arsenal FC v SK Slavia Praha (23.10.2007)

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;

111 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)

110 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)

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

98 Gary Neville (Manchester United FC)

98 Ryan Giggs (Manchester United FC)

97 Paul Scholes (Manchester United FC)

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

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

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

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

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

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Goals: UEFA Champions League

58 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)
139 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) 128 Clarence Seedorf (AFC Ajax, UC Sampdoria, Real Madrid CF, FC Internazionale Milano, AC Milan)
127 Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (FC Bayern München, FC Internazionale Milano, Servette FC)
122 Roberto Carlos (FC Internazionale Milano, Real Madrid CF, Fenerbahçe SK)
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)

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)
60 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.

58 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: 25.10.2007

Team facts

FC Steaua București

UEFA club competition milestones

- Steaua are the only Romanian club to have triumphed in Europe, winning the European Champion Clubs' Cup in 1985/86 by defeating FC Barcelona in a penalty shoot-out. They then followed up that success with the UEFA Super Cup, winning 1-0 against FC Dynamo Kyiv.
- Steaua reached the final of European club football's premier competition again in 1988/89 but could not repeat the glory of three years earlier as they succumbed to a 4-0 defeat at the hands of AC Milan.

UEFA Champions League milestones

- Steaua are the only Romanian club to have qualified for the group stage in three successive seasons. However, each time (1994/95, 1995/96 and 1996/97) they failed to qualify for the next round. These were their only involvements before their return in 2006/07.

UEFA club competition honours

- European Champion Clubs' Cup: 1985/86
- UEFA Super Cup: 1986

Ten-year record

- 2006/07:** UEFA Cup - Round of 32 (having transferred from UEFA Champions League group stage)
- 2005/06:** UEFA Cup - semi-finals (having transferred from European Champion Clubs' Cup third qualifying round)
- 2004/05:** UEFA Cup - Round of 16
- 2003/04:** UEFA Cup - second round
- 2002/03:** Did not compete in UEFA club competition
- 2001/02:** UEFA Cup - first round (having transferred from European Champion Clubs' Cup third qualifying round)
- 2000/01:** Did not compete in UEFA club competition
- 1999/00:** UEFA Cup - third round
- 1998/99:** UEFA Cup - first round (having transferred from European Champion Clubs' Cup second qualifying round)
- 1997/98:** UEFA Cup - third round (having transferred from European Champion Clubs' Cup second qualifying round)

2006/07 season

Domestic record: Steaua's domination in Romania in the previous two seasons ended as they finished six points behind champions FC Dinamo 1948 București. They also lost in the semi-finals of the Romanian Cup.

European record: Steaua overcame NK Gorica (agg: 5-0) and R. Standard de Liège (agg: 4-3) in the second and third qualifying rounds respectively to take their place in the UEFA Champions League group stage for the first time since 1996/97. By finishing third in Group E, behind Olympique Lyonnais and Real Madrid CF but ahead of FC Dynamo Kyiv, Steaua transferred to the UEFA Cup. They were unfortunate to come up against holders and eventual winners Sevilla FC in the Round of 32, losing 3-0 on aggregate.

Key facts

UEFA club competition

- Pld: 208 W: 79 D: 57 L: 72 GF: 290 GA: 270

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final)

- Pld: 27 W: 4 D: 9 L: 14 GF: 23 GA: 42

European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

- Pld: 104 W: 41 D: 27 L: 36 GF: 157 GA: 143

FC Steaua București - Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Wednesday 7 November 2007 - 20.45 CET

Steaua Stadium, Bucharest

Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest win

6-0: CSA Steaua Bucuresti v BSC Young Boys
03.10.1979, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup first round second leg

- Biggest home win

6-0: CSA Steaua Bucuresti v BSC Young Boys (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

1-5: TJ Sparta CKD Praha v CSA Steaua Bucuresti
07.09.1988, European Champion Clubs' Cup first round first leg

- Heaviest defeat

5-0: Paris Saint-Germain FC v CSA Steaua Bucuresti
27.08.1997, European Champion Clubs' Cup second qualifying round second leg

5-0: Montpellier Hérault SC v CSA Steaua Bucuresti
24.10.1990, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup second round first leg

- Heaviest home defeat

1-4: FC Steaua București v Real Madrid CF
17.10.2006, UEFA Champions League group stage
0-3: FC Steaua București v Olympique Lyonnais
26.09.2006, UEFA Champions League group stage
0-3: CSA Steaua Bucuresti v BV Borussia Dortmund
25.09.1996, UEFA Champions League group stage
0-3: CSA Steaua Bucuresti v Montpellier Hérault SC
07.11.1990, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup second round second leg
0-3: CSA Steaua Bucuresti v PSV Eindhoven
04.11.1970, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup second round second leg

- Heaviest away defeat

5-0: Paris Saint-Germain FC v CSA Steaua Bucuresti (see above for details)
5-0: Montpellier Hérault SC v CSA Steaua Bucuresti (see above for details)

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

- Biggest win

1-4: FC Dynamo Kyiv v FC Steaua București
13.09.2006, UEFA Champions League group stage
1-4: HNK Hajduk Split v CSA Steaua Bucuresti
07.12.1994, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Biggest home win

1-0: CSA Steaua Bucuresti v RTS Widzew Łódź
16.10.1996, UEFA Champions League group stage
1-0: CSA Steaua Bucuresti v Rangers FC
13.09.1995, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Biggest away win

1-4: FC Dynamo Kyiv v FC Steaua Bucuresti (see above for details)
1-4: HNK Hajduk Split v CSA Steaua Bucuresti (see above for details)

FC Steaua București - Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

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Steaua Stadium, Bucharest

• Heaviest defeat

4-0: Club Atlético de Madrid v CSA Steaua Bucuresti
11.09.1996, UEFA Champions League group stage

• Heaviest home defeat

1-4: FC Steaua Bucuresti v Real Madrid CF (see above for details)
0-3: FC Steaua Bucuresti v Olympique Lyonnais (see above for details)
0-3: CSA Steaua Bucuresti v BV Borussia Dortmund (see above for details)

• Heaviest away defeat

4-0: Club Atlético de Madrid v CSA Steaua Bucuresti (see above for details)

Last updated: 24.10.2007

Sevilla FC

UEFA club competition milestones

• Sevilla are experiencing the greatest period in their history after becoming only the second team to successfully defend the UEFA Cup in 2006/07. Previously, Sevilla's best season in UEFA club competition came in 1957/58 as they advanced to the quarter-finals of the European Champion Clubs' Cup.

UEFA club competition honours

- UEFA Cup: 2005/06, 2006/07
- UEFA Super Cup: 2006

Ten-year record

2006/07: UEFA Cup - winners
2005/06: UEFA Cup - winners
2004/05: UEFA Cup - Round of 16
2003/04: Did not compete in UEFA club competition
2002/03: Did not compete in UEFA club competition
2001/02: Did not compete in UEFA club competition
2000/01: Did not compete in UEFA club competition
1999/00: Did not compete in UEFA club competition
1998/99: Did not compete in UEFA club competition
1997/98: Did not compete in UEFA club competition

2006/07 season

Domestic record: Sevilla finished third in the Primera División, five points behind champions Real Madrid CF and FC Barcelona and five ahead of third-placed Valencia CF, enough to enter the UEFA Champions League third qualifying round.

European record: The UEFA Cup holders began by brushing aside Atromitos FC 6-1 over two legs in the first round. In the group stage, a 0-0 draw at FC Slovan Liberec was followed by defeats of SC Braga (2-0) and Grasshopper-Club (4-0) before a 2-1 home defeat by Group C winners AZ Alkmaar. In the Round of 32, FC Steaua București were dispatched 3-0 on aggregate but it was harder work in the Round of 16 with a 5-4 triumph against FC Shakhtar Donetsk, with extra time needed in the second leg. Tottenham Hotspur FC were beaten 4-3 on aggregate in the last eight before Spanish rivals CA Osasuna lost 2-1 over two legs in the semi-finals. More familiar opposition waited in the final with RCD Espanyol pushing Sevilla to a penalty shoot-out after a 2-2 draw in Glasgow. Yet the holders were not to be denied and triumphed 3-1 on spot-kicks.

Key facts

UEFA club competition

• Pld: 73 W: 38 D: 17 L: 18 GF: 117 GA: 76

FC Steaua București - Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Wednesday 7 November 2007 - 20.45 CET

Steaua Stadium, Bucharest

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final)

• Pld: 3 W: 2 D: 0 L: 1 GF: 6 GA: 6

European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

• Pld: 11 W: 6 D: 2 L: 3 GF: 21 GA: 20

Records

UEFA club competition

• Biggest win

0-4: Grasshopper-Club v Sevilla FC

29.11.2006, UEFA Cup group stage

0-4: Middlesbrough FC v Sevilla FC

10.05.2006, UEFA Cup final (neutral venue)

4-0: Sevilla FC v Atromitos FC

28.09.2006, UEFA Cup first round second leg

4-0: Sevilla FC v PAOK Saloniki

03.11.1982, UEFA Cup second round second leg

4-0: Sevilla FC v AGF Århus

27.11.1957, European Champion Clubs' Cup first round first leg

• Biggest home win

4-0: Sevilla FC v Atromitos FC (see above for details)

4-0: Sevilla FC v PAOK Saloniki (see above for details)

4-0: Sevilla FC v AGF Århus (see above for details)

• Biggest away win

0-4: Grasshopper-Club v Sevilla FC (see above for details)

• Heaviest defeat

8-0: Real Madrid CF v Sevilla FC

23.01.1958, European Champion Clubs' Cup quarter-finals first leg

• Heaviest home defeat

1-2: Sevilla FC v AZ Alkmaar

14.12.2006, UEFA Cup group stage

• Heaviest away defeat

8-0: Real Madrid CF v Sevilla FC (see above for details)

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final)

• Biggest win

4-2: Sevilla FC v SK Slavia Praha

02.10.2007, UEFA Champions League group stage

• Biggest home win

4-2: Sevilla FC v SK Slavia Praha (see above for details)

• Heaviest defeat

3-0: Arsenal FC v Sevilla FC

19.09.2007, UEFA Champions League group stage

• Heaviest away defeat

3-0: Arsenal FC v Sevilla FC (see above for details)

Last updated: 24.10.2007

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.

• **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.

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