

Olympiacos CFP - Werder Bremen

MATCH PRESS KIT

Georgios Karaiskakis Stadium, Athens
Tuesday 11 December 2007 - 20.45 CET
Group C - Matchday 6



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Match background

Olympiacos CFP stand on the threshold of the UEFA Champions League last 16, requiring just a point from their Matchday 6 meeting with Werder Bremen – their 100th match in the competition – to secure qualification. However, they can expect fierce resistance from the visitors who can qualify themselves with victory at the Georgios Karaiskakis Stadium.

- Olympiacos go into the game in second place in Group C, level on eight points with leaders Real Madrid CF, while Bremen lie two points behind in third place.
- For the Greek champions, progress to the first knockout round would be a major cause for celebration. Not since 1998/99, when they were quarter-finalists, have they got beyond the initial group stage and the irony of their present situation is that their away form – so often their achilles heel in Europe – has been the key to their success.
- Olympiacos had not recorded a single away win in 31 attempts in the UEFA Champions League prior to this season yet their 2-1 victory at S.S. Lazio on Matchday 5 was their second in three matches on the road.
- Olympiacos came from behind to win 2-1 in Rome, goals from Luciano Galletti (35 minutes) and Darko Kovačević (64) overturning Goran Pandev's opener.
- That victory followed a hoodoo-ending 3-1 success in Germany on Matchday 2, when Panagiotis Lemonis's team also overcame a deficit to win. After Hugo Almeida had given Bremen a 32nd-minute lead, strikes from Ieroklis Stoltidis (73), Christos Patsatzoglou (82) and Kovačević (87) turned the game on its head.
- By contrast, Olympiacos have not won at home yet, drawing with both Lazio (1-1) and Madrid (0-0). Indeed, their last home victory in the UEFA Champions League was on 6 December 2005 when they beat Madrid 2-1. It was also against the Spanish champions that they registered their solitary defeat in this year's competition, 4-2 at the Santiago Bernabéu.
- Bremen revived their hopes by beating Madrid 3-2 on Matchday 5. Markus Rosenberg gave the Bundesliga side a fourth-minute lead and although Robinho levelled for the visitors (14), further goals from Boubacar Sanogo (40) and Aaron Hunt (56) ensured that Ruud van Nistelrooy's 71st-minute effort had no effect on the final outcome.



- Prior to that, coach Thomas Schaaf's team had recorded away defeats against Madrid (1-2) and Lazio (1-2) in addition to losing to Olympiacos at the Weserstadion. The only shaft of light had come from a 2-1 home success over Lazio on Matchday 3, where Sanogo and Hugo Almeida found the net.
- This is Bremen's fourth consecutive season in the UEFA Champions League and they are aiming to reach the last 16 for the third time. They advanced previously in the 2004/05 and 2005/06 campaigns before losing in the first knockout round on both occasions.
- Olympiacos's past encounters with German opposition on Greek soil have produced one win and two defeats. They lost home ties in the European Champion Clubs' Cup to FC Bayern München (2-4) in 1980 and Hamburger SV (0-4) in 1982 – the second match of which coach Lemonis featured in the home midfield.
- Lemonis, then in his first spell as coach, was in charge when they beat Bayer 04 Leverkusen 6-2 in the UEFA Champions League group stage in 2002/03. Predrag Djordjević scored a hat-trick in that match and two other current squad members, Patsatzoglou and Paraskevas Antzas, also played.
- Bremen lost 2-1 at Panathinaikos FC in the 2005/06 group stage on their only previous visit to Greece. A more positive omen may be found in the fact they subsequently beat Panathinaikos 5-1 in their final group fixture to reach the knockout stage – then, as now, despite having suffered three reverses.
- Bremen are not the only team to have advanced from the group stage despite three defeats. Celtic (2007/08 and 2006/07), FC Lokomotiv Moskva, Bayer 04 Leverkusen and Newcastle United FC (2002/03), Arsenal FC (2001/02), Olympique Lyonnais (2000/01), Manchester United FC and Rosenborg BK (1996/97), and Legia Warszawa (1995/96) all achieved the feat.
- In 2005/06, Bremen qualified despite losing their first two games. The only other clubs to have come back in this way are FC Internazionale Milano (2006/07), Leverkusen and Newcastle (2002/03).
- Petri Pasanen, Bremen's Finnish defender played alongside Olympiacos forward Lomana LuaLua at Portsmouth FC in the second half of the 2003/04 season, after the pair had both arrived at the Premier League club on loan.
- Two of Serbian club FK Proleter's favourite sons will be on opposing sides in Piraeus. Olympiacos striker Kovačević spent two years with the Zrenjanin side – now FK Banat Zrenjanin – between 1992 and 1994 before joining FK Crvena Zvezda. Bremen defender Duško Tošić, meanwhile, was plucked from the youth ranks at the same club by OFK Beograd in 2002.

Match facts

Olympiacos

- **Antonios Nikopolidis** made his 50th UEFA Champions League appearance against Lazio on Matchday 5.
- **Predrag Djordjević's** next match in UEFA club competition will be his 75th appearance.
- **Djordjević** has provided four assists so far, together with Andrea Pirlo the most in the competition.
- **Djordjević** is suspended against Bremen having collected his third booking of the group stage on Matchday 5. **Christos Patsatzoglou** and **Cristián Raúl Ledesma** are both a yellow card away from a ban.
- Olympiacos have collected 13 yellow cards to date, the most of the 32 teams in the group stage.

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- **Nikopolidis'** appearance against Lazio on Matchday 5 was his 77th in UEFA club competition, the highest total for a Greek player. AEK Athens FC forward Nikolaos Liberopoulos played his 76th game in Europe in his side's 1-0 win at FK Mladá Boleslav in UEFA Cup Group C on 5 December.
- Olympiacos were in fine form on Saturday evening with a 4-0 defeat of Levadiakos FC in the Greek Super League, taking a 23rd-minute lead through **Ieroklis Stoltidis**. **Darko Kovačević** doubled the advantage from a **Djordjević** cross 12 minutes later before the latter made it 3-0 from the penalty spot seven minutes into the second half after **Luciano Galletti** had been brought down. Substitute **Konstantinos Mitroglou** made it 4-0 in the 63rd minute, a minute after replacing Kovačević, and the visitors were reduced to ten men with 13 minutes left as Nikos Karakostas again brought down Galletti to give Olympiacos another penalty and earn a red card. Paris Andralas took over in goal and produced a fine save to keep out **Anastasios Pantos'** spot-kick.
- "We sealed our victory rather early and had the opportunity to rest several players," said coach **Panagiotis Lemonis**. "Tuesday's match against Werder Bremen is crucial for our future in the UEFA Champions League, but it will not distract us from our course in the league. We're waiting for the game impatiently."
- Olympiacos have won all six home matches in the league this season, scoring 18 goals and conceding only four. **Kovačević** has found the net in all six games and is the league's top scorer with nine goals from ten matches.
- The goal against Levadiakos made **Djordjević** the most successful penalty taker in the history of the Greek league, taking his total to 54 goals from 63 spot-kicks taken. He was previously level with Dimitrios Saravakos, who converted 53 of his 69 penalty kicks.
- **Djordjević** has now played 302 league matches for Olympiacos having made his 300th appearance against GAS Veria on 24 November. He became the third Olympiacos player to reach the mark, after Kyriakos Karataidis (363 games) and Ioannis Gaitatzis (346). In total Djordjević has featured in 332 matches in the Greek league after his spell with Paniliakos FC and only two other foreign players have played more: Krzysztof Warzych (390 matches for Panathinaikos FC) and Toni Savevski (357 for AEK Athens FC).
- **Georgios Katsikogiannis** made his league debut against Levadiakos, replacing **Ledesma** early in the second half, while **Mitroglou's** goal was his first in the Super League. He had opened his Olympiacos scoring account in the Greek Cup four days earlier.
- **Patsatzoglou** was rested due to a thigh injury, while **Michał Żewłakow** was again left out due to a calf problem picked up the previous weekend. **Michalis Konstantinou** was ruled out for two weeks after suffering a groin injury in the Greek Cup game against GS Diagoras Rodou on 5 December.
- "The encounter against Bremen is like a final for us," said **Konstantinos Mendrinis**. "We will give it all in order to qualify. With strength, passion and individual quality we will get what we want out of the match."
- **Júlio César** will miss the Bremen match having not played since damaging his right thigh against Madrid on 6 November.
- **Raúl Bravo** is still sidelined with an achilles tendon injury that has kept him out since Matchday 4, while **Didier Domi** has not played since the trip to Bremen on 3 October due to a thigh problem.
- After three draws and one defeat, Olympiacos recorded their first away league win of the season on 2 December with a 3-1 victory at Atromitos FC. **Stoltidis** opened the scoring in the eleventh minute and **Lomana LuaLua** doubled the advantage on the half-hour – both from **Djordjević** assists – before **Mendrinis** provided the through-ball from which **Kovačević** made it three in the 71st minute. **Nikopolidis** was sent off for a second bookable offence with nine minutes to go, before Georgios Korakakis guided a 90th-minute consolation past substitute goalkeeper **Mihalis Sifakis**, who was making his league debut for Olympiacos.

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- **Lemonis** said: "This victory was very important for us, not just for the three points, but also for the commanding way we achieved it. The fact that we hadn't won away until today was irritating us, but our will prevailed."
- The Olympiacos coach was forced into a late reshuffle after **Żewłakow** picked up a calf injury in the warm-up so **Anastasios Pantos** was moved into central defence and **Mendrinis** came in at right-back for his first start with Olympiacos.
- **Kyriakos Papadopoulos** came on as a late substitute for his league debut, becoming at the age of 15 years and 283 days the youngest player to represent Olympiacos in the top flight. He is also the second youngest player to feature in the Super League after SKODA Xanthi FC's Georgios Stergalas, who was 15 years and 194 days when he made his debut on 8 May 2002.
- Olympiacos reached the last 16 of the Greek Cup on 5 December with a 2-1 win away to third division side Diagoras Rodou FC. The visitors had the opportunity to take the lead in the 35th minute as Pantos was brought down in the area but **Konstantinou's** spot-kick was saved by Diagoras goalkeeper Michalis Vellidis. Anastasios Triantafyllou gave the home side the lead from the spot two minutes before the hour having been fouled by **Papadopoulos** but **Mitroglou** levelled within eight minutes and settled the match in the 89th minute, heading in a **Galletti** free-kick.
- "It's great we've won three matches in a row in three different competitions and hopefully we will continue this streak," said **Lemonis**. "Greek Cup matches are tricky and one needs to be extra careful."
- It was an unfamiliar Olympiacos lineup with **Nikopolidis** suspended and **Djordjević** and **Galletti** coming on as second-half substitutes. **Kovačević** was missing with flu and **Stoltidis**, **LuaLua** and **Ledesma** were all rested.
- Four days after the Bremen game, Olympiacos play host to Super League leaders AEK Athens FC.
- Poland defender **Żewłakow** is hoping to have more to celebrate against Bremen, saying: "I got to experience some unforgettable moments with my team-mates in the national team when we celebrated with our fans our qualification to UEFA EURO 2008™. I hope I will get to live such moments again after the match against Bremen, with my club-mates and the fans of Olympiacos this time."

Bremen

- Four Bremen players have appeared in all seven UEFA Champions League games so far this season, including qualifying: **Petri Pasanen**, **Naldo**, **Per Mertesacker** and **Daniel Jensen**.
- **Diego** has been fouled 24 times to date, more than any other player.
- **Clemens Fritz** turned 27 on 7 December while **Carlos Alberto** turns 23 on 11 December, the day of the Olympiacos game. **Tim Wiese** and **Boubacar Sanogo** both celebrate birthdays on 17 December, when they are 26 and 25 respectively.
- **Diego** is available again after serving a one-match suspension on Matchday 5 having been sent off in Rome.
- Bremen's ten-game unbeaten streak in the Bundesliga was ended on Saturday as they suffered a 4-3 defeat by Hannover 96. **Markus Rosenberg** had given them the lead on ten minutes, but two goals by Mike Hanke and an own goal by **Frank Baumann** turned the game in Hannover's favour. A **Diego** penalty four minutes before the interval reduced arrears to 3-2 and nine minutes after the restart, Rosenberg levelled matters. But Hanke (77) completed his hat-trick and Bremen's misery was compounded by a late red card for **Hugo Almeida**.
- Coach **Thomas Schaaf** said: "My team played really well, but unfortunately they also made too many mistakes. We started out well but were unable to get the second goal. We came back after we went two down but another error prevented us recording a good result."

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- The defeat came after four straight wins in the Bundesliga and was their first reverse since a 3-0 loss at BV Borussia Dortmund on 14 September.
- **Wiese** was back for the Hannover game, having recovered from a torn muscle. His inclusion in goal, in place of **Christian Vander**, was Schaaf's only change compared to the last Bundesliga match against Hamburger SV.
- Even though **Hugo Almeida**, who tore a thigh muscle during Portugal's last UEFA EURO 2008™ qualifier, and **Tim Borowski** (groin problems) were back in time for the Hannover match, both began the match on the bench. Borowski came on with 12 minutes to play and Almeida ten.
- **Mertesacker** was taken off at half-time in the Hannover game after suffering from a cold in the days prior to the match, but he is expected to be fit for the UEFA Champions League contest.
- **Fritz** tore a thigh muscle in the match against Real Madrid CF and could not play in Hannover although he has returned to training. "I am recovering as planned. My goal is the match in Piraeus," he said.
- **Patrick Owomoyela** is still recovering from an ankle injury and **Pierre Womé** has a groin problem. Neither has played a single competitive match this season.
- **Torsten Frings** will not play again this year after suffering ligament damage to his left knee.
- **Peter Niemeyer** has undergone surgery to remove loose pieces of bone from his ankle joint and will not return until after the winter break. He has not played since Bremen's 8-1 win against DSC Arminia Bielefeld on 29 September.
- **Mertesacker**, **Naldo** and **Diego** are all ever-present in the league for Bremen, playing all 16 of their games.
- Bremen have won their last seven Bundesliga home matches, last losing to FC Bayern München 4-0 on 18 August. They are the league's strongest home team, losing just one out of eight games and scoring more goals (24) than anyone.
- Bremen are the Bundesliga's top scorers with 37 goals; Bayern are next with 31.
- After Matchday 5 Bremen had returned to domestic action on 1 December by collecting a seventh win in eight Bundesliga outings with a 2-1 triumph at home to Hamburg in the Hanseatic derby. **Sanogo** broke the deadlock on 15 minutes following sublime work from **Jurica Vranješ** but despite dominating, the home side found themselves pegged back to 1-1 when Rafael van der Vaart (61) capitalised on a lax pass from **Vander**. Three minutes later Hamburg goalkeeper Frank Rost returned the compliment, letting a deflected **Pasanen** cross creep in as Bremen won.
- **Schaaf** said: "We played well and fought well. It was a northern derby full of passion, in which my team accomplished the extraordinary. I like the way we have gone about things in recent weeks."
- **Vander** added: "I am really relieved that my mistake did not cost us the points. I have to thank the team, they have straightened it out."
- The result sent Bremen three points clear of their opponents and **Sanogo**, who struggled to make an impression at Hamburg last season, said: "That was a super day, a special game with a very special goal. I had my most difficult time at HSV, but today I am a Green and White."
- The win, coming only four days after beating Real Madrid, left **Mertesacker** struggling for words. "I don't like to employ superlatives, but it was a perfect week for us," he said. "We have shown that we are back in all competitions."

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- With **Pasanen**'s contract running out at the end of the season, general manager **Klaus Allofs** has stated his determination to keep him, saying: "Given how he is performing at the moment, we have to extend his contract. He is impressive."
- Werder's contingent of Germany internationals could meet Croatia's **Vranješ** and Austria's **Martin Harnik** next summer after the teams were all drawn in Group B. "This was a world-class draw," said Harnik. "It doesn't get any better than this. There will surely be some taunts during Werder training over the next months."
- Bremen's winter break stretches from 15 December to 3 February, and they will travel to Belek in Turkey for a training camp between 8 and 16 January.

Squad list

Olympiacos

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	Leonidas Panagopoulos	GRE	03.01.1987	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
71	Antonios Nikopolidis	GRE	14.01.1971	36	-	-	-	5	-	11	-	50	-	77	-
87	Michalis Sifakis	GRE	09.09.1984	23	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders															
2	Christos Patsatzoglou	GRE	19.03.1979	28	*	-	-	5	1	8	-	25	1	27	1
3	Didier Domi	FRA	02.05.1978	29	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	11	-	32	-
5	Júlio César	BRA	18.11.1978	29	-	-	-	3	1	5	2	9	2	9	2
14	Michał Żewłakow	POL	22.04.1976	31	-	-	-	4	-	7	-	23	-	39	-
15	Raúl Bravo	ESP	14.04.1981	26	-	-	-	3	-	5	-	26	-	26	-
18	Paraskevas Antzas	GRE	18.08.1976	31	-	-	-	4	-	8	-	22	1	27	1
30	Anastasios Pantos	GRE	05.05.1976	31	-	-	-	3	-	4	-	20	-	23	-
35	Vassilis Torosidis	GRE	10.06.1985	22	-	-	-	4	-	10	1	4	-	7	-
92	Kyriakos Papadopoulos	GRE	23.02.1992	15	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Midfielders															
6	Ieroklis Stoltidis	GRE	02.02.1975	32	-	-	-	5	1	11	3	28	4	44	6
8	Rodrigo Javier Archubi	ARG	06.06.1985	22	-	-	-	1	-	4	-	1	-	1	-
11	Predrag Djordjević	SRB	04.08.1972	35	S	-	-	5	-	10	3	60	9	74	14
16	Marko Né	CIV	17.07.1983	24	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	8	2
19	Konstantinos Mendrinou	GRE	28.05.1985	22	-	-	-	2	-	5	-	2	-	2	-
22	Konstantinos Mitroglou	GRE	12.03.1988	19	-	-	-	1	-	5	1	1	-	1	-
28	Cristián Raúl Ledesma	ARG	29.11.1978	29	*	-	-	4	-	7	-	4	-	4	-
Forwards															
7	Luciano Galletti	ARG	09.04.1980	27	-	-	-	5	3	10	2	5	3	17	5
9	Darko Kovačević	SRB	18.11.1973	34	-	-	-	5	2	10	9	19	5	41	24
10	Leonel Núñez	ARG	13.10.1984	23	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	1	-	1	-
20	Lefteris Matsoukas	GRE	07.03.1990	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23	Michalis Konstantinou	CYP	19.02.1978	29	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	35	11	53	16
32	Lomana LuaLua	COD	28.12.1980	26	-	-	-	5	-	11	4	12	1	22	4
Coach															
-	Panagiotis Lemonis	GRE	13.01.1960	47	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	14	-	16	-

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Bremen

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	Tim Wiese	GER	17.12.1981	25	-	2	-	3	-	14	-	10	-	21	-
33	Christian Vander	GER	24.10.1980	27	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	2	-	2	-
40	Nico Pellatz	GER	08.07.1986	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders															
2	Sebastian Boenisch	GER	01.02.1987	20	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-
3	Petri Pasanen	FIN	24.09.1980	27	-	2	-	5	-	14	2	27	1	41	1
4	Naldo	BRA	10.09.1982	25	-	2	-	5	-	16	2	18	1	30	2
5	Pierre Womé	CMR	26.03.1979	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	29	-
8	Clemens Fritz	GER	07.12.1980	27	-	-	-	4	-	7	-	11	-	19	1
13	Duško Tošić	SRB	19.01.1985	22	-	1	-	4	-	9	-	4	-	15	2
15	Patrick Owomoyela	GER	05.11.1979	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	16	-
16	Leon Andreassen	DEN	23.04.1983	24	-	1	-	2	-	9	2	8	-	10	-
29	Per Mertesacker	GER	29.09.1984	23	-	2	-	5	-	16	1	10	1	17	2
Midfielders															
6	Frank Baumann	GER	29.10.1975	32	-	2	-	3	-	11	-	20	2	48	5
7	Jurica Vranješ	CRO	31.01.1980	27	-	1	-	2	-	14	-	26	-	48	1
10	Diego	BRA	28.02.1985	22	-	2	2	4	1	16	8	20	4	31	7
19	Carlos Alberto	BRA	11.12.1984	22	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	12	1	15	1
20	Daniel Jensen	DEN	25.06.1979	28	-	2	1	5	-	15	1	19	2	33	4
22	Torsten Frings	GER	22.11.1976	31	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	36	5	77	10
24	Tim Borowski	GER	02.05.1980	27	-	-	-	3	-	8	-	20	2	29	6
31	Kevin Artmann	GER	21.04.1986	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
38	Amaury Bischoff	FRA	31.03.1987	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
39	Norman Theuerkauf	GER	24.01.1987	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards															
9	Markus Rosenberg	SWE	27.09.1982	25	-	1	-	5	1	14	4	11	2	21	6
14	Aaron Hunt	GER	04.09.1986	21	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	13	1	20	1
18	Boubacar Sanogo	CIV	17.12.1982	24	-	2	1	4	3	12	7	10	5	15	6
23	Hugo Almeida	POR	23.05.1984	23	-	2	1	4	2	13	7	18	3	28	8
28	Kevin Schindler	GER	21.05.1988	19	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	4	-
34	Martin Harnik	AUT	10.06.1987	20	-	2	-	2	-	6	1	2	-	4	-
Coach															
-	Thomas Schaaf	GER	30.04.1961	46	-	2	-	5	-	-	-	27	-	65	-

Head coach

Olympiacos CFP: Panagiotis Lemonis

Date of birth: 13 January 1960

Nationality: Greek

Playing career: APO Attikos, Olympiacos CFP, Levadiakos FC, Ionikos FC, Panionios NFC, Ethnikos Piraeus FC

Coaching career: Asteras Zografou, Olympiacos CFP, APOEL FC, Kallithea FC, Levadiakos FC, Skoda Xanthi FC, Olympiacos

Panagiotis Lemonis began his playing career as a midfielder at local Athens club APO Attikos before moving to capital giants Olympiacos CFP, where he stayed from 1979 until 1987. He won league titles in his first four seasons with the club and again in his farewell campaign prior to spells at Levadiakos FC, Panionios NFC, Ionikos FC and Ethnikos Piraeus FC. He also won two senior caps for Greece.

He studied coaching in England and took over lowly Asteras Zografou in 1996. In 2000 he was appointed assistant coach at Olympiacos and took sole charge in November of the same year after the dismissal of Ioannis Matzourakis. They won the Greek league that year and again the next season but Lemonis was sacked in October 2002 because of disappointing UEFA Champions League performances, notably the 3-0 defeat by Maccabi Haifa FC in Cyprus.

It was to that island that he returned to coaching in 2003 with APOEL FC, before spells back in Greece with Kallithea FC and in 2005/06 with Levadiakos FC. In September 2006 he was appointed head coach of Skoda Xanthi FC, once again taking over from Matzourakis, but resigned suddenly in December 2006 to return to Olympiacos. Last season Lemonis, who is under contract until summer 2009, helped the club to their tenth league title in eleven seasons.

Werder Bremen: Thomas Schaaf

Date of birth: 30 April 1961

Nationality: German

Playing career: Werder Bremen

Coaching career: Werder Bremen

One-club man Thomas Schaaf is one of the most unflappable coaches on the European circuit who, through a combination of tactical acumen and shrewd work in the transfer market, has turned Werder Bremen into one of Germany's most impressive teams in recent years.

As a defender Schaaf enjoyed a terrific 16-season stay at Bremen and played 263 Bundesliga matches for the club after breaking through in 1978. In the process he formed close ties which led to him joining the coaching set-up at the Weserstadion at the end of his playing days. He served his apprenticeship with the Under-18s and the reserves before taking control of the first team alongside former team-mate Klaus Allofs in May 1999, successfully helping Bremen avoid the drop. Schaaf has matured into a patient, thoughtful and diligent coach, working alongside Allofs to assemble a fine team.

Schaaf enjoyed spectacular success in 2003/04 when he guided Bremen to the Bundesliga and German Cup double, clinching the title with a defeat of runners-up FC Bayern München. Although Bremen failed to hit those heights in 2004/05, they did enjoy a promising UEFA Champions League campaign before being ambushed 10-2 on aggregate by Olympique Lyonnais. They reached the first knockout round again in 2005/06, going out on the away-goals rule to Juventus. Last season Bremen again played in the UEFA Champions League group stage before transferring to the UEFA Cup and reaching the semi-finals. Despite looking at times favourites to win the German title, they finished third, beating Bayern to the final UEFA Champions League qualifying place before knocking out NK Dinamo Zagreb to return to the group stage for a fourth year in succession.

Match officials

Referee	Laurent Duhamel (FRA)
Assistant referees	Vincent Texier (FRA), Stéphane Duhamel (FRA)
Fourth official	Damien Ledentu (FRA)
UEFA Delegate	Odd Flattum (NOR)
UEFA Referee observer	David R. Elleray (ENG)

Referee

Name	Nat.	DoB	UCL	UEFA
Laurent Duhamel	FRA	10.10.1968	5	30

Laurent Duhamel has forced his way into the leading European refereeing ranks with some excellent performances in recent seasons and is now making his way in the UEFA Champions League.

Born in Rouen, France, Duhamel gained his FIFA badge in 1999 and in January of that year took charge of his first international - a 7-0 victory for Israel against Estonia. In 2001 he officiated at the UEFA-CAF Meridian Cup in Bari, while also furthering his experience in the years to come with appearances across the continent in other youth tournaments, the UEFA Cup, UEFA Champions League qualifying and play-offs for three UEFA European Under-21 Championship finals.

His star was on the rise in 2005 when he took charge of the second leg of the UEFA Intertoto Cup final between Valencia CF and Hamburger SV, and that December he broke his group-stage duck by presiding over the 1-1 Matchday 6 fixture between Club Brugge KV and FC Bayern München. A respected official in his homeland, Duhamel followed his appointment for the 2001 French Cup final by taking charge of the 2006 showpiece in which Paris Saint-Germain FC defeated Olympique de Marseille 2-1. His brother Stéphane was one of his assistants at the Stade de France that day, capping a fine day and memorable season.

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

Date	Comp.	Stage		Res.	Venue
07.12.2005	UCL	GS	Club Brugge KV - FC Bayern München	1-1	Bruges
01.11.2006	UCL	GS	Hamburger SV - FC Porto	1-3	Hamburg
22.11.2006	UCL	GS	Valencia CF - Olympiacos CFP	2-0	Valencia

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

Date	Comp.	Stage		Res.	Venue
09.11.2001	U21	P-O	Greece - Turkey	3-0	Ioannina
06.08.2003	UIC	SF	VfL Wolfsburg - HNK Cibalia	4-0	Wolfsburg
14.11.2003	U21	P-O	Germany - Turkey	1-0	Leverkusen
12.10.2004	U21	QR	Germany - Austria	2-0	Dusseldorf
23.08.2005	UIC	F	Valencia CF - Hamburger SV	0-0	Valencia

Domestic information

Olympiacos CFP (Ethniki Kategoria)

Comp.	Date	Opponent	Res.	Goalscorers
League	02/09/07	Panathinaikos FC (A)	0-0	
League	23/09/07	OFI Crete FC (H)	6-2	Júlio César 5, LuaLua 20, 39, Kovačević 25, 43, P. Djordjević 74
League	29/09/07	Aris Thessaloniki FC (A)	1-1	Galletti 39
League	06/10/07	Apollon Kalamarias FC (H)	1-0	Kovačević 44
League	20/10/07	Panionios GSS (H)	4-1	LuaLua 6, Kovačević 64, Stoltidis 74, Galletti 81(pen)
League	28/10/07	Ergotelis FC (A)	3-3	Júlio César 38, Kovačević 43, P. Djordjević 59(pen)
League	03/11/07	PAOK FC (H)	2-1	Torosidis 52, Kovačević 67
League	10/11/07	Asteras Tripolis FC (A)	0-1	
League	24/11/07	GAS Veria (H)	1-0	Kovačević 36
League	02/12/07	Atromitos FC (A)	3-1	Stoltidis 11, LuaLua 30, Kovačević 71
Lineups: Nikopolidis, Pantos, Antzas, Archubi, Torosidis, Ledesma (Papadopoulos 88), Stoltidis, P. Djordjević, Mendrinou, Kovačević, LuaLua (Sifakis 81)				
Cup	05/12/07	Diagoras (A)	2-1	Mitroglou 66, 89
Lineups: Sifakis, Pantos, Torosidis, Antzas, Papadopoulos, Katsikogiannis, Núñez (P. Djordjević 66), Archubi (Galletti 65), Mendrinou, Mitroglou, M Konstantinou (Matsoukas 46)				
League	08/12/07	Levadiakos FC (H)	4-0	Stoltidis 23, Kovačević 35, P. Djordjević 52(pen), Mitroglou 63
Lineups: Nikopolidis, Pantos, Antzas (Papadopoulos 67), Torosidis, Mendrinou, P. Djordjević, Stoltidis, Ledesma (Katsikogiannis 55), Galletti, Kovačević (Mitroglou 61), LuaLua				
League	16/12/07	AEK Athens FC (H)		
League	23/12/07	Larissa FC (A)		
League	29/12/07	Skoda Xanthi FC (H)		
League	06/01/08	Panathinaikos FC (H)		
League	13/01/08	OFI Crete FC (A)		
League	20/01/08	Aris Thessaloniki FC (H)		
League	27/01/08	Apollon Kalamarias FC (A)		
League	03/02/08	Panionios GSS (A)		
League	10/02/08	Ergotelis FC (H)		
League	17/02/08	PAOK FC (A)		
League	24/02/08	Asteras Tripolis FC (H)		
League	02/03/08	GAS Veria (A)		
League	09/03/08	Atromitos FC (H)		
League	16/03/08	Levadiakos FC (A)		
League	23/03/08	AEK Athens FC (A)		
League	30/03/08	Larissa FC (H)		
League	06/04/08	Skoda Xanthi FC (A)		
League	13/04/08	Iraklis FC (H)		

Olympiacos CFP - Werder Bremen

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Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	AEK Athens FC	11	9	0	2	23	4	27
2	Olympiacos CFP	11	7	3	1	25	10	24
3	Panathinaikos FC	11	7	3	1	18	4	24
4	Asteras Tripolis FC	11	6	3	2	13	5	21
5	Atromitos FC	11	5	2	4	11	11	17
6	PAOK FC	11	5	1	5	17	14	16
7	Aris Thessaloniki FC	11	4	4	3	8	7	16
8	Panionios GSS	11	4	3	4	14	16	15
9	Iraklis FC	11	3	5	3	10	10	14
10	Larissa FC	11	2	6	3	10	13	12
11	Skoda Xanthi FC	11	3	3	5	8	11	12
12	Apollon Kalamarias FC	11	3	2	6	11	19	11
13	Levadiakos FC	11	3	1	7	10	24	10
14	OFI Crete FC	11	2	2	7	13	24	8
15	GAS Veria	11	1	4	6	6	14	7
16	Ergotelis FC	11	1	4	6	8	19	7

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Werder Bremen (Bundesliga)

Comp.	Date	Opponent	Res.	Goalscorers
Cup	21/07/07	FC Bayern München (H)	1-4	Borowski 9
Cup	04/08/07	Eintracht Braunschweig (A)	1-0	Sanogo 90
League	11/08/07	VfL Bochum 1848 (A)	2-2	Diego 39(pen), Sanogo 42
League	18/08/07	FC Bayern München (H)	0-4	
League	25/08/07	1. FC Nürnberg (A)	1-0	Harnik 69
League	01/09/07	Eintracht Frankfurt (H)	2-1	Sanogo 32, Pasanen 79
League	14/09/07	BV Borussia Dortmund (A)	0-3	
League	22/09/07	VfB Stuttgart (H)	4-1	Hugo Almeida 4, 5, Sanogo 14, Diego 88
League	25/09/07	VfL Wolfsburg (A)	1-1	Diego 48
League	29/09/07	DSC Arminia Bielefeld (H)	8-1	Niemeyer 17, Hugo Almeida 35, 88, Sanogo 41, 44, Mertesacker 59, Rosenberg 66, Diego 85
League	06/10/07	MSV Duisburg (A)	3-1	D. Jensen 7, Sanogo 56, Andreasen 87
League	20/10/07	Hertha BSC Berlin (H)	3-2	Hugo Almeida 58, Rosenberg 62, Andreasen 74
League	27/10/07	FC Schalke 04 (A)	1-1	Naldo 34
Cup	31/10/07	MSV Duisburg (H)	4-0	Borowski 57, Hugo Almeida 65, Rosenberg 79, Mosquera 80
League	03/11/07	FC Hansa Rostock (H)	1-0	Hugo Almeida 39
League	10/11/07	Karlsruher SC (H)	4-0	Diego 25, 45, Hugo Almeida 66, Naldo 76
League	24/11/07	FC Energie Cottbus (A)	2-0	Diego 63(pen), Mosquera 83
Lineups: Wiese, Pasanen, Naldo, Mertesacker, Fritz, Baumann, Diego, D. Jensen, Borowski (Vranješ 79), Rosenberg (Mosquera 75), Klasnić (Harnik 70)				
League	01/12/07	Hamburger SV (H)	2-1	Sanogo 15, Pasanen 64
Lineups: Vander, D. Tošić, Naldo, Mertesacker, Pasanen, Baumann (Hunt 46), Vranješ, D. Jensen, Diego, Rosenberg (Klasnić 81), Sanogo (Andreasen 87)				
League	08/12/07	Hannover 96 (A)	3-4	Rosenberg 10, 54, Diego 43(pen)
Lineups: Wiese, Pasanen, Naldo, Mertesacker (Hunt 46), D. Tošić, Baumann, Vranješ (Borowski 78), Diego, D. Jensen, Rosenberg, Sanogo (Hugo Almeida 80)				
League	15/12/07	Bayer 04 Leverkusen (H)		
League	03/02/08	VfL Bochum 1848 (H)		
League	10/02/08	FC Bayern München (A)		
League	16/02/08	1. FC Nürnberg (H)		
League	23/02/08	Eintracht Frankfurt (A)		
League	01/03/08	BV Borussia Dortmund (H)		
League	08/03/08	VfB Stuttgart (A)		
League	15/03/08	VfL Wolfsburg (H)		
League	22/03/08	DSC Arminia Bielefeld (A)		
League	29/03/08	MSV Duisburg (H)		
League	05/04/08	Hertha BSC Berlin (A)		
League	12/04/08	FC Schalke 04 (H)		
League	15/04/08	FC Hansa Rostock (A)		
League	26/04/08	Karlsruher SC (A)		
League	03/05/08	FC Energie Cottbus (H)		
League	06/05/08	Hamburger SV (A)		
League	10/05/08	Hannover 96 (H)		
League	17/05/08	Bayer 04 Leverkusen (A)		

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Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	FC Bayern München	16	10	5	1	31	8	35
2	Werder Bremen	16	10	3	3	37	22	33
3	Hamburger SV	16	9	4	3	23	12	31
4	Bayer 04 Leverkusen	16	9	3	4	30	11	30
5	Hannover 96	16	8	3	5	26	23	27
6	Karlsruher SC	16	8	3	5	18	20	27
7	FC Schalke 04	16	6	8	2	24	16	26
8	VfB Stuttgart	16	8	1	7	24	23	25
9	BV Borussia Dortmund	16	6	3	7	26	26	21
10	Eintracht Frankfurt	16	4	8	4	18	23	20
11	VfL Bochum 1848	16	5	4	7	25	25	19
12	Hertha BSC Berlin	16	6	1	9	19	24	19
13	VfL Wolfsburg	16	4	5	7	26	30	17
14	1. FC Nürnberg	16	4	3	9	20	26	15
15	DSC Arminia Bielefeld	16	4	3	9	17	38	15
16	FC Hansa Rostock	16	4	2	10	14	26	14
17	MSV Duisburg	16	4	1	11	14	25	13
18	FC Energie Cottbus	16	2	6	8	12	26	12

UEFA information

UEFA wants fans to unite

Michel Platini has requested that national supporter groups take the opportunity to create a coherent pan-European independent organisation in order to improve communication channels with UEFA. The UEFA President took the opportunity to encourage this development during the first meeting between European football's governing body and various national supporter groups at UEFA headquarters in Nyon, Switzerland.

"I want to hear from you how we can protect the game," Mr Platini said. "You are the base of football. We know that fans are the only ones who show fidelity to a club or team basically from birth to death. There are those who have official roles who come and go, either presidents or coaches or players or whoever, and they sometimes forget the true identity of the club for which they are responsible. They often have different objectives, take what they want from the club and then leave."

Invitation to supply matchballs

UEFA has launched an ISO (invitation to submit offer) process to supply the official matchballs to be used in the UEFA Champions League, UEFA Cup and UEFA Super Cup for three seasons from 2009/10. All matches in those competitions will be played with a specific ball. While an agreement is already in place for all UEFA Champions League and UEFA Super Cup games in the 2006/09 cycle, a UEFA Cup ball will be introduced from 2009 too.

Qualified parties (international sporting goods companies) may request the ISO document from TEAM Marketing AG, UEFA's exclusive marketing agent for the exploitation of commercial rights for the above mentioned events. The ISO can be requested either via email on officialballiso@team.ch or via fax +41 41 368 18 00. The deadline for the receipt of the response to the ISO from qualified parties is Tuesday 5 February 2008 at 17.00CET.

Marketing rights

UEFA today launched the sponsorship rights sales process for the new marketing cycle of the UEFA Champions League, UEFA Cup and UEFA Super Cup, commencing from 2009/10 for three seasons. The UEFA Champions League format for the new cycle includes a number of significant modifications: the centralised marketing approach now includes the third qualifying round; the extension of the first knockout round matches over four matchweeks, instead of two; the final to be played on a Saturday at 20.45CET; UEFA Super Cup will be included in the UEFA Champions League rights package; the sponsorship approach for 2009-12 will continue with the successful and proven six-sponsor concept which is recognised as the industry benchmark.

UEFA's Marketing Director, Philippe Le Floc'h, said: "With the development to the UEFA Champions League competition and marketing concept, we expect to enhance the experience for fans and further promote the UEFA Champions League on a global level. For the UEFA Cup, the increased marketing centralisation is an important step in building the brand equity of UEFA's largest club competition. Together with the new clarity of the format, the full media centralisation and the new sponsorship approach, we are ready to return the UEFA Cup to its rightful place within the European sports landscape."

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, although Group D concluded on 4 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 C

Club	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Real Madrid CF	5	2	2	1	10	8	8
Olympiacos CFP	5	2	2	1	8	7	8
Werder Bremen	5	2	0	3	8	10	6
S.S. Lazio	5	1	2	2	7	8	5

Date	Match	Result	Stadium, Venue
18.09.2007	Real Madrid - Bremen	2-1	Santiago Bernabéu Stadium, Madrid
Goals: 1-0 Raúl 16 , 1-1 Sanogo 17 , 2-1 Van Nistelrooy 74			
Bremen: Wiese, Pasanen, Naldo, Baumann, Vranješ, Rosenberg (Hugo Almeida 69), Diego, D. Tošić, Sanogo, D. Jensen, Mertesacker			
18.09.2007	Olympiacos - Lazio	1-1	Georgios Karaiskakis Stadium, Athens
Goals: 1-0 Galletti 55 , 1-1 Zauri 77			
Olympiacos: Nikopolidis, Patsatzoglou (Kovačević 80), Domi, Stoltidis, Galletti, P. Djordjević, Żewłakow, Antzas, Ledesma, LuaLua, Torosidis			
03.10.2007	Lazio - Real Madrid	2-2	Stadio Olimpico, Rome
Goals: 0-1 Van Nistelrooy 8 , 1-1 Pandev 32 , 1-2 Van Nistelrooy 61 , 2-2 Pandev 75			
03.10.2007	Bremen - Olympiacos	1-3	Weserstadion, Bremen
Goals: 1-0 Hugo Almeida 32 , 1-1 Stoltidis 73 , 1-2 Patsatzoglou 82 , 1-3 Kovačević 87			
Bremen: Vander, Pasanen, Naldo, Fritz (Borowski 63), Rosenberg (Sanogo 76), Diego, D. Tošić, D. Jensen, Frings, Hugo Almeida, Mertesacker			
Olympiacos: Nikopolidis, Patsatzoglou, Domi (Júlio César 19), Stoltidis, Galletti (Kovačević 72), P. Djordjević, Raúl Bravo, Antzas, Ledesma, LuaLua, Torosidis (Pantos 86)			
24.10.2007	Bremen - Lazio	2-1	Weserstadion, Bremen
Goals: 1-0 Sanogo 28 , 2-0 Hugo Almeida 54 , 2-1 Manfredini 82			
Bremen: Wiese, Pasanen (D. Tošić 46), Naldo, Fritz, Diego, Sanogo (Rosenberg 64), D. Jensen, Frings, Hugo Almeida, Borowski (Andreasen 73), Mertesacker			
24.10.2007	Real Madrid - Olympiacos	4-2	Santiago Bernabéu Stadium, Madrid
Goals: 1-0 Raúl 2 , 1-1 Galletti 7 , 1-2 Júlio César 47 , 2-2 Robinho 68 , 3-2 Robinho 83 , 4-2 Balboa 90+3			
Olympiacos: Nikopolidis, Patsatzoglou, Júlio César, Stoltidis, Galletti, P. Djordjević, Raúl Bravo (Żewłakow 75), Antzas, Ledesma (Núñez 86), LuaLua (Kovačević 72), Torosidis			
06.11.2007	Lazio - Bremen	2-1	Stadio Olimpico, Rome
Goals: 1-0 Rocchi 57 , 2-0 Rocchi 68 , 2-1 Diego 88			
Bremen: Wiese, Pasanen, Naldo, Baumann (D. Jensen 31), Fritz (Harnik 76), Rosenberg, Diego, Andreasen, Hugo Almeida, Borowski, Mertesacker			
06.11.2007	Olympiacos - Real Madrid	0-0	Georgios Karaiskakis Stadium, Athens
Goals: -			
Olympiacos: Nikopolidis, Patsatzoglou, Júlio César (Mendrinou 74), Stoltidis, Galletti, Kovačević (M Konstantinou 80), P. Djordjević, Żewłakow, Raúl Bravo (Archubi 53), Pantos, LuaLua			
28.11.2007	Bremen - Real Madrid	3-2	Weserstadion, Bremen
Goals: 1-0 Rosenberg 5 , 1-1 Robinho 14 , 2-1 Sanogo 40 , 3-1 Hunt 58 , 3-2 Van Nistelrooy 71			
Bremen: Vander, Pasanen, Naldo, Baumann, Vranješ, Fritz (D. Tošić 6), Rosenberg, Hunt (Harnik 76), Sanogo (Carlos Alberto 87), D. Jensen, Mertesacker			

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28.11.2007	Lazio - Olympiacos	1-2	Stadio Olimpico, Rome
Goals: 1-0 Pandev 30 , 1-1 Galletti 35 , 1-2 Kovačević 64			
Olympiacos: Nikopolidis, Patsatzoglou (Mendrinou 75), Stolidis, Galletti, P. Djordjević (Mitroglou 93), Żewłakow, Antzas, Ledesma, Pantos, LuaLua (Kovačević 56), Torosidis			
11.12.2007	Real Madrid - Lazio	-	Santiago Bernabéu Stadium, Madrid
11.12.2007	Olympiacos - Bremen	-	Georgios Karaiskakis Stadium, Athens

Competition facts

• UEFA Champions League: Group stage milestones

Holders AC Milan have avoided 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 became the oldest player to compete in the UEFA Champions League when he featured against Olympiacos on Matchday 1 at the age of 43 years and 168 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. Ballotta was aged 43 years 239 days when he featured against Olympiacos CFP on Matchday 5. 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 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 Bucureşti on 23 November 1994. He was then sent off in the 37th minute.

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

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

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

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

• UEFA Champions League: Did you know?

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

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

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

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

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

Long road for debutants: Six clubs have advanced to the group stage from the European Champion Clubs' Cup second qualifying round including one of this season's two debutants, SK Slavia Praha. They are joined by Rangers, FC Shakhtar Donetsk, FC Steaua București, 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

8-0: Liverpool FC v Beşiktaş JK (06.11.2007)

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;

113 Raúl González (Real Madrid CF)

112 Roberto Carlos (Real Madrid CF, Fenerbahçe SK)

107 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)

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

99 Ryan Giggs (Manchester United FC)

98 Gary Neville (Manchester United FC)

97 Paul Scholes (Manchester United FC)

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

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

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

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

Goals: UEFA Champions League

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

Appearances: UEFA club competition

170 Paolo Maldini (AC Milan)
139 Luís Figo (Sporting, FC Barcelona, Real Madrid CF, FC Internazionale Milano)
134 Oliver Kahn (Karlsruher SC, FC Bayern München)
131 Clarence Seedorf (AFC Ajax, UC Sampdoria, Real Madrid CF, FC Internazionale Milano, AC Milan)
130 Frank de Boer (AFC Ajax, FC Barcelona, Galatasaray SK)
127 Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (FC Bayern München, FC Internazionale Milano, Servette FC)
124 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

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

Last updated: 05.12.2007

Team facts

Olympiacos CFP

UEFA club competition milestones

- No club from Greece has yet won a major European prize with Olympiacos still to reach the last four of either the European Champion Clubs' Cup or UEFA Cup.

- Their joint best individual campaign in any competition came when they reached the quarter-finals of the 1992/93 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, before losing 4-2 on aggregate to Club Atlético de Madrid.

UEFA Champions League milestones

- Their best showing was in their second season when they reached the 1998/99 quarter-finals before losing to Juventus. Olympiacos have qualified for the group stage for eleven seasons in a row with this year's participation.

UEFA club competition honours

- N/A.

Ten-year record

2006/07: UEFA Champions League - group stage

2005/06: UEFA Champions League - group stage

2004/05: UEFA Cup - Round of 16 (having transferred from the UEFA Champions League group stage)

2003/04: UEFA Champions League - group stage

2002/03: UEFA Champions League - first group stage

2001/02: UEFA Champions League - first group stage

2000/01: UEFA Champions League - first group stage

1999/00: UEFA Champions League - first group stage

1998/99: UEFA Champions League - quarter-finals

1997/98: UEFA Champions League - group stage

2006/07 season

Domestic record: Olympiacos won the Hellenic Super League title for the third straight season and the tenth time in the last eleven campaigns. They finished nine points ahead of AEK Athens FC.

European record: Olympiacos again failed to progress to the UEFA Champions League knockout stage. They failed to pick up a single victory, although did earn home and away draws at FC Shakhtar Donetsk as well as AS Roma. However, it was not enough to lift them off the bottom of Group D, finishing ten points behind winners Valencia CF.

Key facts

UEFA club competition

- Pld: 176 W: 62 D: 36 L: 78 GF: 218 GA: 281

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final)

- Pld: 67 W: 18 D: 17 L: 32 GF: 80 GA: 118

European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

- Pld: 99 W: 28 D: 24 L: 47 GF: 118 GA: 166

Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest win

5-0: Olympiacos CFP v MPKC Mozyr

13.08.1997, European Champion Clubs' Cup second qualifying round first leg

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- Biggest home win

5-0: Olympiacos CFP v MPKC Mozyr (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

0-3: FC Chornomorets Odesa v Olympiacos CFP

30.09.1992, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup first round second leg

0-3: US Luxembourg v Olympiacos CFP

01.10.1986, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup first round second leg

- Heaviest defeat

7-0: Juventus v Olympiacos CFP

10.12.2003, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Heaviest home defeat

0-4: Olympiacos CFP v Hamburger SV

03.11.1982, European Champion Clubs' Cup second round second leg

- Heaviest away defeat

7-0: Juventus v Olympiacos CFP (see above for details)

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

- Biggest win

6-2: Olympiacos CFP v Bayer 04 Leverkusen

18.09.2002, UEFA Champions League first group stage

- Biggest home win

6-2: Olympiacos CFP v Bayer 04 Leverkusen (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

1-3: Werder Bremen v Olympiacos CFP

03.10.2007, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Heaviest defeat

7-0: Juventus v Olympiacos CFP (see above for details)

- Heaviest home defeat

1-4: Olympiacos CFP v Olympique Lyonnais

01.11.2005, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Heaviest away defeat

7-0: Juventus v Olympiacos CFP (see above for details)

Last updated: 29.11.2007

Werder Bremen

UEFA club competition milestones

• Bremen's most successful UEFA club competition season came in the 1991/92 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, a competition they won at AS Monaco FC's expense thanks to goals from Klaus Allofs and Wynton Rufer.

• UEFA Champions League milestones

Bremen advanced to the European Champion Clubs' Cup quarter-finals in 1988/89, but lost 1-0 on aggregate to AC Milan. This remains their best campaign to date, including the UEFA Champions League format, when they have never got past the first knockout round since their first entry in the 1993/94 group stage. They then had to wait until the 2004/05 edition to return but have taken part ever since.

UEFA club competition honours

- UEFA Cup Winners' Cup: 1991/92
- UEFA Intertoto Cup: 1998

Ten-year record

2006/07: UEFA Cup - Semi-finals (having transferred from UEFA Champions League group stage)

2005/06: UEFA Champions League - first knockout round

2004/05: UEFA Champions League - first knockout round

2003/04: UEFA Intertoto Cup - semi-finals

2002/03: UEFA Cup - second round

2001/02: UEFA Intertoto Cup - third round

2000/01: UEFA Cup - third round

1999/00: UEFA Cup - quarter-finals

1998/99: UEFA Cup - second round (having qualified as UEFA Intertoto Cup winners)

1997/98: UEFA Intertoto Cup - group stage

2006/07 season

Domestic record: Bremen had to settle for third place despite pushing hard for the Bundesliga title. They finished four points behind winners VfB Stuttgart and two adrift of FC Schalke 04 meaning a place in the UEFA Champions League third qualifying round. They had a miserable entry in the German Cup, losing in the first round.

European record: Bremen's third consecutive involvement in the UEFA Champions League ended in the group stage. They finished third in Group A behind Chelsea FC and FC Barcelona but home and away wins against PFC Levski Sofia helped ensure they did enough to move into the UEFA Cup Round of 32. They beat AFC Ajax 4-3 over two legs before RC Celta de Vigo were defeated 3-0 on aggregate in the last 16. AZ Alkmaar were then dispatched 4-1 after two legs in the quarter-finals, but RCD Espanyol got the better of Bremen in the semi-finals with a 5-1 aggregate success.

Key facts

UEFA club competition

Pld: 170 W: 81 D: 33 L: 56 GF: 313 GA: 215

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final)

Pld: 33 W: 14 D: 4 L: 15 GF: 56 GA: 62

European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

Pld: 51 W: 24 D: 8 L: 19 GF: 91 GA: 79

Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest win

8-0: SV Werder Bremen v FC Metalurh Donetsk

03.10.2002, UEFA Cup first round second leg

- Biggest home win

8-0: SV Werder Bremen v FC Metalurh Donetsk (see above for details)

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- Biggest away win

0-5: FK Bodø/Glimt v SV Werder Bremen

16.09.1999, UEFA Cup first round first leg

0-5: Mjøndalen IF v SV Werder Bremen

15.09.1987, UEFA Cup first round first leg

0-5: APOEL FC v SV Werder Bremen

06.10.1965, European Champion Clubs' Cup preliminary round first leg

- Heaviest defeat

7-2: Olympique Lyonnais v Werder Bremen

08.03.2005, UEFA Champions League first knockout round second leg

0-5: SV Werder Bremen v FC Porto

30.03.1994, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Heaviest home defeat

0-5: SV Werder Bremen v FC Porto (see above for details)

- Heaviest away defeat

7-2: Olympique Lyonnais v Werder Bremen (see above for details)

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

- Biggest win

5-1: Werder Bremen v Panathinaikos FC

07.12.2005, UEFA Champions League group stage

5-1: Werder Bremen v RSC Anderlecht

02.11.2004, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Biggest home win

5-1: Werder Bremen v Panathinaikos FC (see above for details)

5-1: Werder Bremen v RSC Anderlecht (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

0-3: PFC Levski Sofia v Werder Bremen

31.10.2006, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Heaviest defeat

0-5: SV Werder Bremen v FC Porto (see above for details)

7-2: Olympique Lyonnais v Werder Bremen (see above for details)

- Heaviest home defeat

0-5: SV Werder Bremen v FC Porto (see above for details)

- Heaviest away defeat

7-2: Olympique Lyonnais v Werder Bremen (see above for details)

Last updated: 29.11.2007

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