

Olympique de Marseille - Liverpool FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Vélodrome, Marseille

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Group D - Matchday 1



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This press kit includes information relating to this UEFA Champions League match. For more detailed factual information, and in-depth competition statistics, please refer to the matchweek press kit, which can be downloaded at: <http://www.uefa.com/uefa/mediaservices/presskits/index.html>

Match background

Olympique de Marseille open their UEFA Champions League Group D campaign against the team who ended their interest in last season's competition on Matchday 6. The Ligue 1 side suffered a 4-0 loss to Liverpool FC at the Stade Vélodrome on 11 December last year but they now have the opportunity to avenge that defeat, their heaviest at home in European competition.

- Five-times winners Liverpool, for their part, will be hoping to avoid a repeat of the start they made to the group stage 12 months ago when they collected just a point from their opening three fixtures, which included a 1-0 home defeat by Marseille.

- The Premier League club will hope to continue their impressive record in the tournament under Rafael Benítez. Following the Spaniard's arrival at Anfield in 2004, Liverpool won the European crown in 2005, finished runners-up in 2007 and reached the last four in 2008.

- Liverpool finished second in their group last term with a record of W3 D1 L2. They then defeated FC Internazionale Milano and Arsenal FC en route to the semi-finals, where they succumbed 4-3 on aggregate to Chelsea FC.

- Marseille's fortunes in the competition were the direct opposite: after taking seven points from the first three games, they then lost the next three to slip down to third place in the group. Erik Gerets' men therefore entered the UEFA Cup where they overcame FC Spartak Moskva before succumbing to eventual winners FC Zenit St. Petersburg on away goals after a 3-3 aggregate draw.

- Mathieu Valbuena's 77th-minute goal decided the teams' meeting at Anfield on 3 October last year, in what was Gerets' first game at the Marseille helm.

- The lineups for the match were:

Liverpool: Pepe Reina, Steve Finnan, Jamie Carragher, Sami Hyypiä, Fábio Aurélio (Andriy Voronin), Yossi Benayoun, Mohamed Sissoko, Steven Gerrard, Sebastian Leto (John Arne Riise), Fernando Torres, Peter Crouch (Dirk Kuyt).

Marseille: Steve Mandanda, Laurent Bonnart, Julien Rodriguez, Gaël Givet, Taye Taiwo, Lorik Cana, Benoît Cheyrou, Mathieu Valbuena (Wilson Oruma), Karim Ziani, Boudewijn Zenden (Salim Arrache), Mamadou Niang (Djibril Cissé).

- Steven Gerrard (4), Fernando Torres (11), Dirk Kuyt (48) and Ryan Babel (90+1) all found the net when Liverpool secured their place in the last 16 at Marseille's expense on 11 December last year.



• The lineups that evening were:

Marseille: Steve Mandanda, Laurent Bonnart, Julien Rodriguez, Gaël Givet (Jacques Faty), Taye Taiwo, Lorik Cana, Benoît Cheyrou (Samir Nasri), Karim Ziani, Mathieu Valbuena, Boudewijn Zenden, Mamadou Niang.

Liverpool: Pepe Reina, Álvaro Arbeloa, Jamie Carragher, Sami Hyypiä, John Arne Riise, Yossi Benayoun, Steven Gerrard, Javier Mascherano, Harry Kewell (Fábio Aurélio), Dirk Kuyt (Lucas Leiva), Fernando Torres (Ryan Babel).

• Marseille finished third in Ligue 1 last term and booked their place in the group stage by beating Norway's SK Brann in the third qualifying round. Benoît Cheyrou's 40th-minute goal earned Marseille a 1-0 first-leg victory in Bergen and OM made sure of their progress with a 2-1 win on home soil courtesy of two Mamadou Niang strikes (65, 90).

• Fourth in the Premier League last season, Liverpool defeated Belgian champions R. Standard de Liège 1-0 on aggregate in the third qualifying round, Dirk Kuyt's goal deciding a tense second leg at Anfield two minutes from the end of extra time.

• Marseille's defeat by Liverpool last December was their first home reverse against English opposition. The 1993 European champions had won all six previous matches against English visitors at the Stade Vélodrome, including a 2-1 success against Liverpool in the 2003/04 UEFA Cup fourth round.

• The teams for that match, which secured a 3-2 aggregate success for the French side, were:

Marseille: Fabien Barthez, Demetrius Ferreira, Manuel Dos Santos, Adboulaye Méité, Habib Beye, Mathieu Flamini, Brahim Hemdani, Sylvain N'Diaye, Laurent Batlles (Mido), Didier Drogba, Steve Marlet (Camel Meriem).

Liverpool: Jerzy Dudek, Igor Bišcan, Jamie Carragher, Sami Hyypiä, John Arne Riise, Harry Kewell (Florent Sinama-Pongolle), Dietmar Hamann, Steven Gerrard, Danny Murphy (Bruno Cheyrou), Michael Owen (Milan Baroš), Emile Heskey.

• Marseille went on to reach the final that season where they lost 2-0 to a Valencia CF team coached by current Liverpool manager Benítez.

• Liverpool's victory at Marseille last term was their third in a row on cross-Channel trips following 1-0 wins at FC Girondins de Bordeaux in the 2006/07 group stage and at Toulouse FC in the third qualifying round in 2007/08. These recent successes in France contrast markedly with their previous record: pre-Benítez, they had recorded one win and six defeats in seven visits.

• Marseille coach Gerets led former club Galatasaray AŞ to a 3-2 home win against Liverpool in their final game of the 2006/07 group stage. However, the Turkish team were already consigned to elimination at that point, having earlier lost by the same scoreline at Anfield.

• Marseille midfielder Cheyrou's brother Bruno had a two-year spell at Anfield between 2002 and 2004.

• The French club's Dutch midfielder Boudewijn Zenden spent the 2005/06 and 2006/07 seasons with Liverpool, making his final appearance in the 2007 UEFA Champions League final defeat by AC Milan.

• Liverpool forward Torres scored the goal that won Spain the UEFA EURO 2008™ final against Germany in June. Reds goalkeeper Pepe Reina and defender Álvaro Arbeloa were also in the triumphant Spanish squad.

• The other opening Group D fixture pits PSV Eindhoven against Club Atlético de Madrid.

Match facts

Marseille

UEFA milestones

- None

UEFA Champions League statistics

• Twelve Marseille players appeared in both qualifying games: Steve Mandanda, Taye Taiwo, Vitorino Hilton, Ronald Zubar, Laurent Bonnart, Benoît Cheyrou, Lorik Cana, Hatem Ben Arfa, Modeste M'Bami, Mamadou Niang, Bakari Koné and Elliot Grandin.

Disciplinary information

- Marseille have no players suspended or within a booking of a ban.

Latest domestic information

• Saturday 13 September: FC Girondins de Bordeaux 1-1 Olympique de Marseille (Chamakh 25; Koné 3)

Marseille slipped off the Ligue 1 summit after being held at Bordeaux despite taking an early lead when Cheyrou's fine long pass launched a move that ended when Koné tapped in Niang's cross. Marouane Chamakh beat Mandanda to level, and the OM goalkeeper made several fine saves in the second half while Koné's pace posed constant problems.

• "It was the best first half my team have played since I've been Marseille coach," said coach Erik Gerets. "In the second half [Bordeaux coach] Laurent Blanc changed something as we were too strong. They came back in the second half but I feel like we did everything we could to win this game except finish the job. If we want to be champions, we have to win such games. It was a fantastic test but I was still worried when I saw Liverpool's win against Manchester United."

• The Marseille coach rested captain Cana, with Niang taking over the armband although the striker was also withdrawn in the second period. Mathieu Valbuena featured for the first time this season as a late substitute, while Ben Arfa started on the bench after a thigh injury and replaced Charles Kaboré midway through the second period.

• Marseille made a positive start to the Ligue 1 season, scoring eight goals in their first two games: starting with a 4-4 draw at Stade Rennais FC before the 4-0 home defeat of AJ Auxerre. The club had not been so prolific in their first two outings since 1952/53. Last season, they had failed to register a single goal after the same number of matches.

• Boudewijn Zenden has scored direct from two free-kicks since the start of the season. His second, at Le Havre AC on 23 August, was the only goal of the game.

Injury news

- Hatem Ben Arfa – out 9-13 September (thigh)
 - Elamin Erbate – out from 31 August to 10 September (ankle)
 - Mathieu Valbuena – out 21 July to 13 September (groin)
 - Julien Rodriguez – out since 27 April (ankle)
 - Lorik Cana – out from 13-20 August (toe)
- Ben Arfa recovered from two groin injuries in August but was injured in training ahead of the Bordeaux match.

Summer transfers

•In

Hatem Ben Arfa (Olympique Lyonnais)
Bakari Koné (OGC Nice)
Vitorino Hilton (RC Lens)
Mamadou Samassa (Le Mans UC 72)
Tyrone Mears (Derby County FC, loan)
Elamin Erbate (Raja Casablanca)
Rudy Riou (Toulouse FC)
Renato Civelli (CD Gimnasia y Esgrima La Plata)
Hilaire Munoz (SO Cassis Carnoux)

•Out

Djibril Cissé (Sunderland AFC, loan)
Samir Nasri (Arsenal FC)
Cédric Carrasso (Toulouse FC)
Kanga Akalé (RC Lens)
Jacques Faty (FC Sochaux-Montbéliard)
André Ayew (FC Lorient)
Jean-Philippe Sabo (Montpellier Hérault SC)
Garry Bocaly (Montpellier Hérault SC)
Thomas Deruda (Montpellier Hérault SC)
Vincent Gragnic (Stade de Reims Champagne)
Mame N'Diaye (US Boulogne)
Sébastien Hamel (Toulouse FC)
Juan Ángel Krupoviesa (CA Boca Juniors)
Wilson Oruma (EA Guingamp)

- Having joined on a season-long loan deal, Mears – who has not been included in the UEFA Champions League squad – becomes Marseille's first English player since Chris Makin in 1996/97. He will be keen to emulate another Englishman Chris Waddle, who became a Stade Vélodrome idol during his stay from 1989 to 1992.

International news

- Mandanda conceded three goals as France began their FIFA World Cup qualifying campaign with a 3-1 loss in Austria on 6 September. He had more joy against Serbia four days later, however, as Les Bleus claimed a 2-1 win. Ben Arfa was ruled out of both games with a groin injury.
- Cana and Boštjan Cesar enjoyed more success. Cana was a key presence in an Albanian defence that kept clean sheets against Sweden (0-0) and Malta (3-0) as they made an impressive start to Group 1. That four-point haul was matched by Slovenia as Cesar and his side drew 1-1 with Poland before beating Slovakia in Maribor.
- Grandin featured for France in victories against Malta (5-0) and Bosnia-Herzegovina (1-0) as the side scraped through to the UEFA European Under-21 Championship play-offs.
- In African World Cup qualification, Taiwo was in action as Nigeria beat South Africa 1-0 to progress to the third round, along with M'Bami's Cameroon side following their win away against the Cape Verde Islands.
- Burkina Faso are favourites to join them from Group 9 after a goalless draw with nearest rivals Tunisia in Ouagadougou on 6 September kept Charles Kaboré and his side three points clear at the summit with one game to play. Ivory Coast are also on the verge of progress after Koné scored in a 1-1 draw against Mozambique.
- Elsewhere, Erbate was in friendly action as Morocco were held to a goalless draw away to Oman, while the day before Karim Ziani helped Algeria to a 3-2 win against a Senegal side shorn of the rested Niang.
- Taiwo missed out on an Olympic silver medal as he was released by the Nigerian Football Association to join up with Marseille on 6 August. His country lost to Argentina in the final in China.
- Mandanda was the only current OM player present at UEFA EURO 2008™, but failed to make an appearance for France during the tournament.

Miscellaneous

- Hilton celebrated his 31st birthday on 13 September, three days before the Liverpool match, while Koné is 27 on 17 September and Zubar turns 23 three days later.
- Mandanda was voted the club's Player of the Month for August by Marseille's fans.
- This will be the first time Marseille have appeared in consecutive UEFA Champions League campaigns in the competition's current incarnation. They previously contested the European Champions Clubs' Cup three years in a row between 1989 and 1992, as well as enjoying successive participations in 1971/72 and 1972/73.
- Two OM supporters died when their coach crashed on the way to watch the team face Le Havre on 23 August. "We have lost two players," said Gerets. "For me, the '12th man' is a real player."

Liverpool

UEFA milestones

- None

UEFA Champions League statistics

- Nine Liverpool players appeared in both qualifying games: Pepe Reina, Álvaro Arbeloa, Jamie Carragher, Steven Gerrard, Xabi Alonso, Yossi Benayoun, Robbie Keane, Fernando Torres and Dirk Kuyt.

Disciplinary information

- Liverpool have no players suspended or within a booking of a ban.

Latest domestic information

• Saturday 13 September: Liverpool FC 2-1 Manchester United FC (Brown og 27, Babel 77; Tévez 3)

Liverpool came from a goal down to record their first Premier League win against United since April 2004 – their first at Anfield since November 2001 – despite falling behind to Carlos Tévez's early strike. They drew level in fortunate circumstances as United goalkeeper Edwin van der Sar punched an attempted clearance against Wes Brown, and snatched all three points late on when Kuyt set up substitute Ryan Babel, who had only come on six minutes earlier, for the winner. The visitors finished with ten men as Nemanja Vidić was dismissed for a second bookable offence.

- "We can be really satisfied because we were losing against a very good team but we showed character and played very well in the second half," said Rafael Benítez. "I was really disappointed when they scored so early because I wanted a high tempo from the start. They were passing and keeping possession, so we needed to change a lot of things. It was really important to have chances and to improve a lot in the second half. In the last two years, United have been happy waiting and just playing on the counterattack until we made mistakes and today was more or less the same situation. We didn't make many mistakes today. We can always improve and do things better, but the team played well."
- The Liverpool manager gave a debut to new signing Albert Riera, while Gerrard and Torres were among the substitutes after injury, the former coming on midway through the second half.
- The victory was Liverpool's tenth home league win in succession and Benítez's first against United in nine league games since taking charge at Anfield in summer 2004. His only previous success was Liverpool's victory in the FA Cup fifth round in February 2006.
- Liverpool have lost just one of their last 17 matches in all competitions – at Chelsea FC in the UEFA Champions League semi-finals second leg in April – and are unbeaten in eleven league games, winning eight.
- Carragher made his 350th top-flight start against United, all for Liverpool.
- Liverpool opened the Premier League season with narrow victories against Sunderland AFC and Middlesbrough FC, Torres and Gerrard scoring late winners in each match, before a goalless draw at Aston Villa FC ended their perfect start to the campaign.
- Kuyt made his 100th appearance for Liverpool in the UEFA Champions League third qualifying round second leg against R. Standard de Liège – Fernando Torres' 50th match for the club.
- Liverpool will play Crewe Alexandra FC at Anfield in the English League Cup third round on 23 September.

Injury news

- Fernando Torres – out 31 August to 13 September (hamstring)
- Steven Gerrard – out 28 August to 13 September (groin)
- Fábio Aurélio – out June to 16 August (shin)
- Martin Škrtel – out 4-20 August (groin)
- Daniel Agger – out 15 September 2007 to 12 July (metatarsal)
- Philipp Degen – out since 23 July (groin)

Summer transfers

•In

Robbie Keane (Tottenham Hotspur FC)
Albert Riera (RCD Espanyol)
Andrea Dossena (Udinese Calcio)
Philipp Degen (BV Borussia Dortmund)
David Cavalieri (SE Palmeiras)
David Ngog (Paris Saint-Germain FC)

•Out

Steve Finnan (RCD Espanyol)
Harry Kewell (Galatasaray AŞ)
Peter Crouch (Portsmouth FC)
John Arne Riise (AS Roma)
Danny Guthrie (Newcastle United FC)
Anthony Le Tallec (Le Mans UC 72)
Andriy Voronin (Hertha BSC Berlin, loan)
Sebastián Leto (Olympiacos CFP, loan)

International news

- In a busy week of international action, Martin Škrtel headed the first goal as Slovakia opened their FIFA World Cup qualifying Group 3 campaign with a 2-1 home win against Northern Ireland on 6 September and also played 90 minutes of the 2-1 defeat by Slovenia four days later. In Group 8 Keane helped the Republic of Ireland take four points from away games with Georgia (2-1) and Montenegro (0-0) while Alonso made two substitute appearances as Spain beat Bosnia-Herzegovina (1-0) and Armenia (4-0) in Group 5, the latter his 50th cap.
- In Group 1 Daniel Agger played both games as Denmark drew 0-0 in Hungary and earned a dramatic 3-2 win in Portugal, and Benayoun also helped Israel collect four Group 2 points, scoring in a 2-2 home draw with Switzerland that preceded a 2-1 success in Moldova. Dossena made his first start for Italy in the 2-0 home win against Georgia in Group 8.
- Lucas Leiva made his competitive international debut as Brazil were held 0-0 at home by Bolivia on 10 September, four days after Javier Mascherano had played 90 minutes of Argentina's 1-1 draw with Paraguay.
- In friendly action, Babel and Kuyt both featured as the Netherlands lost 2-1 at home to Australia although the former then came on as replacement in the 2-1 victory away to F.Y.R. Macedonia with which his side started their Group 9 challenge.
- Four members of the Liverpool squad collected winners' medals at UEFA EURO 2008™: Reina, Arbeloa, Alonso and Torres, who scored the only goal of the final against Germany. Kuyt reached the quarter-finals with the Netherlands – who lost Babel to an ankle ligament injury on the eve of the tournament – while Degen was an unused member of the Switzerland squad.
- Torres was named in the UEFA Technical Team's Team of the Tournament.
- Argentina's Mascherano collected a second successive gold medal at the Olympic Games in Beijing, while Lucas won bronze with Brazil. Babel helped the Netherlands reach the quarter-finals.

Miscellaneous

- Gerrard has been awarded an Honorary Fellowship from Liverpool John Moores University in recognition of his services to sport.
- Benítez reshuffled his backroom team over the summer, recruiting former Liverpool midfielder Sammy Lee as his assistant and appointing Mauricio Pellegrino – who represented the club in 2004/05 – as first-team coach.

Squad list

Marseille

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	Rudy Riou	FRA	22.01.1980	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
16	Hilaire Munoz	FRA	21.04.1983	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	Steve Mandanda	FRA	28.03.1985	23	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	6	-	12	-
40	Dmytro Nepogodov	UKR	17.02.1988	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
41	Brice Krizman	FRA	30.05.1989	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders															
3	Taye Taiwo	NGA	16.04.1985	23	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	6	1	31	5
4	Julien Rodriguez	FRA	11.06.1978	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	1	38	1
5	Vitorino Hilton	BRA	13.09.1977	31	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	35	3
15	Ronald Zubar	FRA	20.09.1985	22	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	2	-	8	1
22	Elamin Erbate	MAR	01.01.1981	27	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
24	Laurent Bonnart	FRA	25.12.1979	28	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	6	-	12	-
27	Daouda Mbow	SEN	22.05.1988	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
37	Cédric D'Ulivo	FRA	29.08.1989	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
38	Fabien Barrillon	FRA	09.04.1988	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
42	Raphaël Lopes	FRA	28.05.1990	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Midfielders															
6	Karim Ziani	ALG	17.08.1982	26	-	1	-	-	-	4	1	3	-	5	-
7	Benoît Cheyrou	FRA	03.05.1981	27	-	2	1	-	-	5	-	7	-	35	4
10	Boudewijn Zenden	NED	15.08.1976	32	-	1	-	-	-	4	2	37	1	73	6
12	Charles Kaboré	BFA	09.02.1988	20	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	4	-
19	Lorik Cana	ALB	27.07.1983	25	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	12	-	30	-
20	Hatem Ben Arfa	FRA	07.03.1987	21	-	2	-	-	-	4	1	14	2	16	2
23	Modeste M'Bami	CMR	09.10.1982	25	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	8	-	14	-
28	Mathieu Valbuena	FRA	28.09.1984	23	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	1	11	1
34	Gaëtan D'Acunto	FRA	10.10.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	Olivier Cano	FRA	29.11.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
39	Anthony Marin	FRA	21.09.1989	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards															
11	Mamadou Niang	SEN	13.10.1979	28	-	2	2	-	-	5	3	6	2	43	14
14	Bakari Koné	CIV	17.09.1981	26	-	2	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	2	-
17	Mamadou Samassa	FRA	01.05.1986	22	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
18	Elliot Grandin	FRA	17.10.1987	20	-	2	-	-	-	3	2	-	-	2	-
36	Jordan Ayew	FRA	11.09.1991	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coach															
-	Erik Gerets	BEL	18.05.1954	54	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	50	-

Liverpool

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	Diego Cavalieri	BRA	01.12.1982	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	Pepe Reina	ESP	31.08.1982	26	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	36	-	92	-
34	Martin Kelly	ENG	27.04.1990	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
41	Martin Hansen	DEN	15.06.1990	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders															
2	Andrea Dossena	ITA	11.09.1981	27	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-
5	Daniel Agger	DEN	12.12.1984	23	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	11	1	20	1
12	Fábio Aurélio	BRA	24.09.1979	28	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	22	2	37	2
17	Álvaro Arbeloa	ESP	17.01.1983	25	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	12	-	16	-
23	Jamie Carragher	ENG	28.01.1978	30	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	65	-	106	1
27	Philipp Degen	SUI	15.02.1983	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-
32	Stephen Darby	ENG	06.10.1988	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36	Steven Irwin	ENG	29.09.1990	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
37	Martin Škrtel	SVK	15.12.1984	23	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	5	-	25	-
Midfielders															
8	Steven Gerrard	ENG	30.05.1980	28	-	2	-	-	-	3	1	54	12	93	25
14	Xabi Alonso	ESP	25.11.1981	26	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	39	2	48	2
15	Yossi Benayoun	ISR	05.05.1980	28	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	9	3	32	7
16	Jermaine Pennant	ENG	15.01.1983	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	22	-
20	Javier Mascherano	ARG	08.06.1984	24	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	15	-	19	-
21	Lucas Leiva	BRA	09.01.1987	21	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	7	-
26	Jay Spearing	ENG	25.11.1988	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	Ryan Flynn	SCO	04.09.1988	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
39	Nathan Ecclestone	ENG	30.12.1990	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards															
7	Robbie Keane	IRL	08.07.1980	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	13
9	Fernando Torres	ESP	20.03.1984	24	-	2	-	-	-	3	1	10	6	18	8
11	Albert Riera	ESP	15.04.1982	26	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	29	9
18	Dirk Kuyt	NED	22.07.1980	28	-	2	1	-	-	4	-	22	6	44	16
19	Ryan Babel	NED	19.12.1986	21	-	1	-	-	-	2	1	20	5	34	10
24	David Ngog	FRA	01.04.1989	19	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
Coach															
-	Rafael Benítez	ESP	16.04.1960	48	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	98	-

Head coach

Olympique de Marseille: Erik Gerets

Date of birth: 18 May 1954

Nationality: Belgian

Playing career: R. Standard de Liège, AC Milan, MVV Maastricht, PSV Eindhoven

Coaching career: RFC de Liège, K. Lierse SK, Club Brugge KV, PSV Eindhoven, 1. FC Kaiserslautern, VfL Wolfsburg, Galatasaray SK, Olympique de Marseille

Revered as one of Belgium's greatest players, Erik Gerets has displayed similar acumen as a coach since hanging up his boots in 1992, picking up five championships with four different teams.

A stout defensive presence during his playing days, Gerets' name is synonymous with R. Standard de Liège, for whom he played over 300 games in 12 seasons after joining as an 18-year-old. He won two league titles and the cup with the Belgian side but, following brief spells with AC Milan and MVV Maastricht, it was with PSV Eindhoven that he really stocked his trophy cabinet. Gerets was inspirational in a side that won six league titles in seven years, also adding three Dutch Cups and their crowning glory, defeating SL Benfica on penalties to claim the 1987/88 European Champion Clubs' Cup.

Tough-tackling Gerets, who won 86 international caps, retired four years later and moved straight into management with RFC de Liège. Two years later he was at K. Lierse SK and, in 1997, led them to the Belgian title – their first in 37 years. A year later he repeated the feat at Club Brugge KV, before returning to PSV where he led the club to two league trophies in four years. Following a barren spell in Germany with 1. FC Kaiserslautern and VfL Wolfsburg, Gerets was on the move again and in 2006, at the end of his first season, guided Galatasaray SK to the Turkish Süper Lig title. However, he left at the end of the following campaign after failing to retain the crown, being hired as Marseille coach after Albert Emon was moved aside in September 2007. Struggling badly at the time, Gerets instantly transformed the club's fortunes, overseeing a 1-0 win over Liverpool FC at Anfield in his first game before steering the club from 19th to third place in Ligue 1.

Liverpool FC: Rafael Benítez

Date of birth: 16 April 1960

Nationality: Spanish

Playing career: Real Madrid CF B, CP Parla, CD Linares

Coaching career: Real Madrid CF (youth coach), Real Valladolid (assistant coach), CA Osasuna (assistant coach), CD Tenerife, CF Extremadura, Valencia CF, Liverpool FC

Rafael Benítez has stamped his authority on Liverpool FC since his arrival from Spain on 16 June 2004. Former Primera División stars Xabi Alonso and Luis García blended perfectly with locals such as Steven Gerrard and Jamie Carragher as Benítez guided the Reds to UEFA Champions League glory in his first season in charge. Liverpool's recovery from 3-0 down against AC Milan and their subsequent penalty shoot-out victory was one of the greatest finals. Although the holders were eliminated in the 2005/06 first knockout round, Benítez still oversaw an FA Cup triumph and they returned to the UEFA Champions League final in 2006/07, though Milan had their revenge with a 2-1 win in Athens.

After spending his playing career in the lower leagues as a midfielder with Real Madrid CF B, Benítez coached youth players at Madrid before taking charge of CD Tenerife and CF Extremadura, impressive spells which earned him his big break at Valencia CF in 2001. He led the club to their first league title for 31 years in 2002, repeating the trick in 2004 when they also won the UEFA Cup in Gothenburg.

That 2-0 victory against Olympique de Marseille was his final game before being lured to Liverpool, a club starved of league honours since 1990. The Reds' UEFA Champions League triumph in 2004/05 was followed by winning the FA Cup in 2006 when Liverpool recovered from a two-goal deficit against West Ham United FC in the final to draw 3-3 and then prevail on penalties. The highlight of 2006/07 was the UEFA Champions League run, Chelsea FC again overcome in the semi-finals although the London club ended Liverpool's hopes at the same stage the next season.

Match officials

Referee	Konrad Plautz (AUT)
Assistant referees	Bernhard Zauner (AUT), Armin Eder (AUT)
Fourth official	Oliver Drachta (AUT)
UEFA Delegate	Danilo Filacchione (ITA)
UEFA Referee observer	Bernd Heynemann (GER)

Referee

Name	Nat.	Date of birth	UCL	UEFA
Konrad Plautz	AUT	16.10.1964	30	58

Austrian referee Konrad Plautz, a regular on the UEFA Champions League scene and the man in charge of the 2007 UEFA Super Cup as AC Milan won 3-1 against Sevilla FC, is an enthusiastic director and actor with a local theatre group, the perfect antidote to his hectic schedule. A toolmaker from the Alpine town of Navis, Plautz began taking charge of matches as a teenager in 1984.

Starting with the youth sector, he began his rise through the ranks at regional level before heading into the Austrian national leagues, fulfilling an objective he had set himself at the outset of his career. Plautz reached Austrian Bundesliga standard after six years, getting his FIFA international badge in 1996. That same year he was chosen to referee the UEFA European Under-16 Championship final in Vienna in which Portugal beat France. In 2005/06, he took charge of Arsenal FC's 1-0 first-leg victory against Villarreal CF in the UEFA Champions League semi-finals.

A veteran of two FIFA World Cup qualifying campaigns who refereed two matches at UEFA EURO 2008™, Plautz has experience of UEFA European Championship qualifiers back to March 1999. He is naturally established as one of his country's most respected officials, refereeing one of the top fixtures in the Austrian Bundesliga almost every weekend and was in the middle as Liverpool FC and Chelsea FC drew 1-1 in the UEFA Champions League semi-final first leg in 2007/08.

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

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res.	Venue
14.03.2001	UCL	GS2	Leeds United AFC - S.S. Lazio	3-3	Leeds
17.10.2001	UCL	GS1	Olympique Lyonnais - Fenerbahçe SK	3-1	Lyon
19.03.2002	UCL	GS2	Boavista FC - Manchester United FC	0-3	Porto
22.10.2002	UCL	GS1	FC Spartak Moskva - Liverpool FC	1-3	Moscow
21.10.2003	UCL	GS1	FC Dynamo Kyiv - Arsenal FC	2-1	Kiev
08.12.2004	UCL	GS	Olympique Lyonnais - AC Sparta Praha	5-0	Lyon
13.09.2005	UCL	GS	Real Betis Balompié - Liverpool FC	1-2	Sevilla
21.02.2006	UCL	1/8	SL Benfica - Liverpool FC	1-0	Lisbon
29.03.2006	UCL	QF	Olympique Lyonnais - AC Milan	0-0	Lyon
19.04.2006	UCL	SF	Arsenal FC - Villarreal CF	1-0	London
03.10.2007	UCL	GS	Liverpool FC - Olympique de Marseille	0-1	Liverpool
19.02.2008	UCL	1/8	Olympiacos CFP - Chelsea FC	0-0	Athens
04.03.2008	UCL	1/8	AC Milan - Arsenal FC	0-2	Milan
22.04.2008	UCL	SF	Liverpool FC - Chelsea FC	1-1	Liverpool

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

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res.	Venue
11.05.1996	U16	F	Portugal - France	1-0	Vienna
26.07.2000	UIC	SF	RC Celta de Vigo - Aston Villa FC	1-0	Vigo
15.02.2001	UCUP	R4	FC Porto - FC Nantes	3-1	Porto
28.11.2002	UCUP	R3	FC Girondins de Bordeaux - RSC Anderlecht	0-2	Bordeaux
25.03.2004	UCUP	R4	RCD Mallorca - Newcastle United FC	0-3	Palma de Mallorca
16.03.2005	UCUP	1/8	Newcastle United FC - Olympiacos CFP	4-0	Newcastle
12.04.2007	UCUP	QF	Tottenham Hotspur FC - Sevilla FC	2-2	London
12.09.2007	EURO	QR	France - Scotland	0-1	Paris

Domestic information

Olympique de Marseille (Ligue 1)

Comp.	Date	Opponent	Res.	Goalscorers
League	09/08/08	Stade Rennais FC (A)	4-4	Koné 14, Ben Arfa 16, Niang 29, Grandin 90
League	17/08/08	AJ Auxerre (H)	4-0	Niang 19, 63, Grandin 76, Zenden 85
League	23/08/08	Le Havre AC (A)	1-0	Zenden 56
Lineups: Mandanda, Taiwo, Hilton, Zubar, Bonnard, Ziani (Ben Arfa 55), Cheyrou, Zenden, Cana (Kaboré 84), Niang (M'Bami 63), Koné				
League	30/08/08	FC Sochaux-Montbéliard (H)	2-1	Ziani 38, Koné 60
Lineups: Mandanda, Taiwo, Hilton, Bonnard, Ziani (Grandin 77), Cheyrou, Erbate (Cana 33), Zenden, M'Bami, Niang (Samassa 70), Koné				
League	13/09/08	FC Girondins de Bordeaux (A)	1-1	Koné 3
Lineups: Mandanda, Taiwo, Hilton, Zubar, Bonnard, Ziani (Valbuena 83), Cheyrou, Kaboré (Ben Arfa 68), M'Bami, Niang (Samassa 76), Koné				
League	21/09/08	AS Monaco FC (H)		
League	27/09/08	Le Mans UC 72 (A)		
League	04/10/08	SM Caen (H)		
League	18/10/08	Valenciennes FC (A)		
League	25/10/08	Paris Saint-Germain FC (H)		
League	29/10/08	FC Nantes (A)		
League	01/11/08	AS Saint-Etienne (H)		
League	08/11/08	Grenoble Foot 38 (A)		
League	15/11/08	FC Lorient (H)		
League	22/11/08	LOSC Lille Métropole (H)		
League	29/11/08	Toulouse FC (A)		
League	06/12/08	OGC Nice (H)		
League	13/12/08	Olympique Lyonnais (A)		
League	20/12/08	AS Nancy-Lorraine (H)		
League	10/01/09	AJ Auxerre (A)		
League	17/01/09	Le Havre AC (H)		
League	31/01/09	FC Sochaux-Montbéliard (A)		
League	07/02/09	FC Girondins de Bordeaux (H)		
League	14/02/09	AS Monaco FC (A)		
League	21/02/09	Le Mans UC 72 (H)		

Olympique de Marseille - Liverpool FC

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Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	Olympique Lyonnais	5	4	1	0	9	2	13
2	Olympique de Marseille	5	3	2	0	12	6	11
3	Paris Saint-Germain FC	5	3	1	1	4	2	10
4	Grenoble Foot 38	5	3	1	1	5	4	10
5	Le Mans UC 72	5	3	0	2	9	5	9
6	OGC Nice	5	3	0	2	7	5	9
7	AS Monaco FC	5	2	2	1	5	3	8
8	Toulouse FC	5	2	2	1	4	5	8
9	SM Caen	5	2	1	2	7	5	7
10	FC Girondins de Bordeaux	5	2	1	2	6	5	7
11	Valenciennes FC	5	2	1	2	6	7	7
12	AJ Auxerre	5	2	1	2	5	7	7
13	Stade Rennais FC	5	1	3	1	7	7	6
14	AS Nancy-Lorraine	5	1	3	1	4	4	6
15	LOSC Lille Métropole	5	1	2	2	5	7	5
16	Le Havre AC	5	1	1	3	4	6	4
17	FC Lorient	5	1	1	3	2	7	4
18	AS Saint-Etienne	5	1	0	4	2	6	3
19	FC Sochaux-Montbéliard	5	0	2	3	5	8	2
20	FC Nantes	5	0	1	4	3	10	1

Olympique de Marseille - Liverpool FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

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Liverpool FC (Premier League)

Comp.	Date	Opponent	Res.	Goalscorers
League	16/08/08	Sunderland AFC (A)	1-0	Torres 83
League	23/08/08	Middlesbrough FC (H)	2-1	Own goal, Gerrard 90
Lineups: Reina, Arbeloa (El Zhar 83), Carragher, Škrtel, Dossena (Fábio Aurélio 75), Kuyt, Gerrard, Xabi Alonso, Benayoun (Babel 65), Keane, Torres				
League	31/08/08	Aston Villa FC (A)	0-0	
Lineups: Reina, Arbeloa, Carragher, Škrtel, Dossena, Kuyt (Fábio Aurélio 70), Xabi Alonso, Mascherano, Lucas Leiva, Keane (Benayoun 79), Torres (Ngog 30)				
League	13/09/08	Manchester United FC (H)	2-1	Own goal, Babel 77
Lineups: Reina, Arbeloa, Škrtel, Carragher, Fábio Aurélio, Benayoun (Gerrard 68), Xabi Alonso, Mascherano (Hyypiä 87), Riera (Babel 71), Kuyt, Keane				
League	20/09/08	Stoke City FC (H)		
League	27/09/08	Everton FC (A)		
League	05/10/08	Manchester City FC (A)		
League	18/10/08	Wigan Athletic FC (H)		
League	26/10/08	Chelsea FC (A)		
League	29/10/08	Portsmouth FC (H)		
League	01/11/08	Tottenham Hotspur FC (A)		
League	08/11/08	West Bromwich Albion FC (H)		
League	15/11/08	Bolton Wanderers FC (A)		
League	22/11/08	Fulham FC (H)		
League	01/12/08	West Ham United FC (H)		
League	06/12/08	Blackburn Rovers FC (A)		
League	13/12/08	Hull City AFC (H)		
League	20/12/08	Arsenal FC (A)		
League	26/12/08	Bolton Wanderers FC (H)		
League	28/12/08	Newcastle United FC (A)		
League	10/01/09	Stoke City FC (A)		
League	17/01/09	Everton FC (H)		
League	27/01/09	Wigan Athletic FC (A)		
League	31/01/09	Chelsea FC (H)		

Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	Chelsea FC	4	3	1	0	9	2	10
2	Liverpool FC	4	3	1	0	5	2	10
3	Arsenal FC	4	3	0	1	8	1	9
4	Aston Villa FC	4	2	1	1	8	6	7
5	Hull City AFC	4	2	1	1	5	8	7
6	Manchester City FC	4	2	0	2	9	7	6
7	Fulham FC	3	2	0	1	4	3	6
8	West Ham United FC	4	2	0	2	8	8	6
9	Middlesbrough FC	4	2	0	2	6	6	6
10	Portsmouth FC	4	2	0	2	5	6	6
11	Everton FC	4	2	0	2	7	9	6
12	Wigan Athletic FC	4	1	1	2	7	4	4
13	Bolton Wanderers FC	4	1	1	2	4	4	4
14	Manchester United FC	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
15	West Bromwich Albion FC	4	1	1	2	4	5	4
16	Newcastle United FC	4	1	1	2	3	6	4
17	Sunderland AFC	4	1	1	2	3	6	4
18	Blackburn Rovers FC	4	1	1	2	5	11	4
19	Stoke City FC	4	1	0	3	7	10	3
20	Tottenham Hotspur FC	4	0	1	3	4	7	1

UEFA information

Elite Coaches Forum

UEFA has given Europe's top club coaches another unique opportunity to come together and exchange views with the governing body on the state of the European game at a gathering in Nyon, Switzerland. The UEFA Elite Coaches Forum celebrated its tenth anniversary with discussions on tactical and technical trends, the evolution of the European club competitions, the leadership role of the modern coach, how coaches cope with the demands of the high-pressure game today and their relationship with match officials. "It's a short but very intense gathering. Twenty-three top coaches were here, a fantastic turnout from our point of view," said UEFA technical director Andy Roxburgh. "UEFA respects them and listens to what they say, and there are many things that UEFA has taken on board [over the years]."

EURO example

UEFA hopes that the UEFA Champions League season will carry on in the same spirit that marked UEFA EURO 2008™ in Austria and Switzerland in June. At the UEFA Champions League group stage draw in Monaco, UEFA General Secretary David Taylor recalled the attitude of players, supporters and officials at the EURO tournament, which heartened European football's governing body as it strives to promote the idea of respect throughout football. Congratulating the 32 clubs that have qualified for the UEFA Champions League group phase, Mr Taylor said: "The new European club football season comes hot on the heels of a hugely successful European Championship, where the spirit of both respect and fair play were seen both on and off the field. I'd therefore like to take this opportunity to ask all the clubs, players and officials to continue in that spirit for the season."

Only a Game? exhibition

Fans from across the globe will be able to get close to some of football's most coveted trophies at the ground-breaking Only a Game? exhibition which opens in Liverpool next month. The UEFA Champions League trophy, the UEFA Cup and the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup will all be on display at the interactive exhibition in the World Museum Liverpool. While providing a traditional museum experience, the exhibition also aims to provoke visitors into considering the social and cultural impact of the planet's most popular sport. The exhibition, which will run from 11 October to 1 March 2009, has been organised by UEFA in conjunction with the Northwest Development Agency, the National Football Museum and National Museums Liverpool to mark the city's year as 2008 European Capital of Culture.

Charity cheque

As ambassador for the European Leukodystrophy Association (ELA), Zinédine Zidane accepted a cheque from UEFA for CHF1m (€619,000) during the draw for the group stage of the UEFA Champions League in Monaco. At the start of each season UEFA donates CHF1m to a charitable or humanitarian cause. "It is a major contribution by UEFA and an important help for the association I have been sponsoring for the past eight years," Zidane told uefa.com. "I believe we have made good progress and ELA is lucky to receive a cheque from UEFA and its president Michel Platini." Leukodystrophies are rare genetic diseases, and UEFA's donation will help support a four-year project developing a European information and exchange network.

Support for referees

Europe's top referees and assistant referees have been urged by UEFA to carry on the good work this season and build on the positive results from UEFA EURO 2008™. The annual UEFA summer gathering for its leading match officials was an ideal platform for European football's governing body to give a resounding thumbs-up to the referees, assistants and fourth officials who played a crucial role in nurturing the theme of respect UEFA is striving to promote among players, referees, officials and spectators. "I want to congratulate the 12 referees, 24 assistant referees and eight fourth officials who were at the EURO tournament," said Referee Committee member Volker Roth, who added that the officials had stood up to the challenge of replacing recently retired elite referees. "We had no Pierluigi Collina, Anders Frisk or Markus Merk, but you responded, your performances were great, and we are proud. We ask you to keep up this high level of performance."

Match-by-match lineups

Club	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Liverpool FC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PSV Eindhoven	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Club Atlético de Madrid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Olympique de Marseille	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Date	Match	Result	Stadium/Venue
16.09.2008	PSV - Atlético	-	Philips Stadion, Eindhoven
16.09.2008	Marseille - Liverpool	-	Vélodrome, Marseille
01.10.2008	Liverpool - PSV	-	Anfield, Liverpool
01.10.2008	Atlético - Marseille	-	Vicente Calderón, Madrid
22.10.2008	Atlético - Liverpool	-	Vicente Calderón, Madrid
22.10.2008	PSV - Marseille	-	Philips Stadion, Eindhoven
04.11.2008	Liverpool - Atlético	-	Anfield, Liverpool
04.11.2008	Marseille - PSV	-	Vélodrome, Marseille
26.11.2008	Atlético - PSV	-	Vicente Calderón, Madrid
26.11.2008	Liverpool - Marseille	-	Anfield, Liverpool
09.12.2008	PSV - Liverpool	-	Philips Stadion, Eindhoven
09.12.2008	Marseille - Atlético	-	Vélodrome, Marseille

Competition facts

• UEFA Champions League: Group stage milestones

Holders Manchester United FC are hoping 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 became the oldest player to compete in the UEFA Champions League in 2007/08 when he featured against Olympiacos CFP 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 252 days when he featured against Real Madrid CF on Matchday 6.

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 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. Six other teams have gone through a single group stage campaign without picking up a point: FC Dynamo Kyiv (2007/08), SK Rapid Wien (2005/06) and RSC Anderlecht (2004/05) plus FC Spartak Moskva and Bayer 04 Leverkusen (2002/03, first and second group stage respectively) and Fenerbahçe SK (2001/02, first group stage).

Dynamo also conceded 19 goals in their six outings in 2007/08, equalling the record let in during a group stage set by Ferencvárosi TC 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 1999/2000 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.

Last updated: 01.09.2008

Team facts

Olympique de Marseille

UEFA club competition milestones

- The only French club to win the European Champion Clubs' Cup, Marseille have been involved in continental action since the first round of the 1969/70 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup.
- As well as their 1992/93 triumph, they lost the 1990/91 European Cup final on penalties to FK Crvena Zvezda.

UEFA Champions League milestones

- Having lost on penalties to FK Crvena Zvezda in the 1991 European Champion Clubs' Cup final, Marseille went one better in the inaugural version of the UEFA Champions League in 1992/93, Basile Boli's header defeating AC Milan in the final in Munich. They have since failed to qualify for the knockout stages, losing out in the second group stage in 1999/00 and the group stage in 2003/04 and 2007/08.

UEFA club competition honours

- European Champion Clubs' Cup: 1992/93
- UEFA Intertoto Cup: 2005, 2006

Ten-year record

- 2007/08:** UEFA Cup – Round of 16 (having transferred from UEFA Champions League group stage)
- 2006/07:** UEFA Cup – first round (having qualified as UEFA Intertoto Cup winners)
- 2005/06:** UEFA Cup – Round of 16 (having qualified as UEFA Intertoto Cup winners)
- 2004/05:** Did not compete in UEFA club competition
- 2003/04:** UEFA Cup – runners-up (having transferred from UEFA Champions League group stage)
- 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:** UEFA Champions League – second group stage
- 1998/99:** UEFA Cup – runners-up

2007/08 season

Domestic record: After a disastrous start to the Ligue 1 campaign in which Marseille won one of their first ten games and were in 14th position at Christmas, a strong second half to the season – including a run of five wins from six matches between January and March – ensured they recovered to finish third. Marseille lost out to fifth division US Jeanne d'Arc Carquefou in the last 16 of the French Cup and went down 1-0 at AJ Auxerre in the League Cup quarter-finals.

European record: Marseille's UEFA Champions League Group A campaign started in fine fashion, a 2-0 home win against Beşiktaş JK preceding a 1-0 victory at Anfield against Liverpool FC. A late equaliser earned FC Porto a 1-1 draw at the Stade Vélodrome on Matchday 3, though, and that preceded 2-1 defeats at Porto and Beşiktaş before a 4-0 home humbling at the hands of Liverpool left Marseille third in the section. Transferring to the UEFA Cup, a 3-0 home win against FC Spartak Moskva paved the way for a 3-2 aggregate success in the Round of 32 but another Russian side, FC Zenit St. Petersburg, proved too strong in the next stage, the eventual winners prevailing on away goals after a 3-3 draw overall.

Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest win

7-1: Olympique de Marseille v US Luxembourg
03.10.1973, UEFA Cup first round second leg

6-0: Olympique de Marseille v PFC CSKA Moskva
17.03.1993, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Biggest home win

7-1: Olympique de Marseille 7-1 US Luxembourg (see above for details)

6-0: Olympique de Marseille v PFC CSKA Moskva (see above for details)

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- Biggest away win

0-5: US Luxembourg v Olympique de Marseille

18.09.1973, UEFA Cup, first round first leg

0-5: Glentoran FC v Olympique de Marseille

16.09.1992, UEFA Champions League first round first leg

0-5: US Luxembourg v Olympique de Marseille

18.09.1991, European Champion Clubs' Cup first round first leg

- Heaviest defeat

6-0: 1. FC Köln v Olympique de Marseille

06.11.1973, UEFA Cup second round second leg

- Heaviest home defeat

0-4: Olympique de Marseille v Liverpool FC

11.12.2007, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Heaviest away defeat

6-0: 1. FC Köln v Olympique de Marseille (see above for details)

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

- Biggest win

6-0: Olympique de Marseille v CSKA Moskva

17.03.1993, 1992/93 UEFA Champions League group stage

- Biggest home win

6-0: Olympique de Marseille v CSKA Moskva (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

1-2: NK Croatia Zagreb v Olympique de Marseille

22.09.1999, 1999/00 Champions League first group stage

0-1: Liverpool FC v Olympique de Marseille

03.10.2007, 2007/08 UEFA Champions League group stage

0-1: Club Brugge KV v Olympique de Marseille

21.04.1993, 1992/93 UEFA Champions League group stage

- Heaviest defeat

5-1: S.S. Lazio v Olympique de Marseille

14.03.2000, 1999/00 UEFA Champions League second group stage

0-4: Olympique de Marseille v Liverpool FC

11.12.2007, 2007/08 UEFA Champions League group stage

- Heaviest home defeat

0-4: Olympique de Marseille v Liverpool FC (see above for details)

- Heaviest away defeat

5-1: S.S. Lazio v Olympique de Marseille (see above for details)

Last updated: 01.09.2008

Liverpool FC

UEFA club competition milestones

- The most successful English club in UEFA competition history, Liverpool have won the European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League five times.

- Liverpool have also won the UEFA Cup on three occasions and the UEFA Super Cup three times, having lost five finals: the European Champion Clubs' Cup in 1984/85 and 2006/07, the 1965/66 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup and the 1978 and 1984 UEFA Super Cups.

UEFA Champions League milestones

• Winners in 2004/05, with a 3-2 shoot-out victory against AC Milan after a 3-3 draw in Istanbul, Liverpool were beaten 2-1 by the Rossoneri in the 2006/07 showpiece in Athens. Only once since their bow in 2001/02 have they failed to get beyond the group stage.

UEFA club competition honours

- European Champion Clubs' Cup: 1976/77, 1977/78, 1980/81, 1983/84, 2004/05
- UEFA Cup: 1972/73, 1975/76, 2000/01
- UEFA Super Cup: 1977, 2001, 2005

Ten-year record

2007/08: UEFA Champions League – semi-finals

2006/07: UEFA Champions League – runners-up

2005/06: UEFA Champions League – first knockout round

2004/05: UEFA Champions League – winners

2003/04: UEFA Cup – fourth round

2002/03: UEFA Cup – quarter-finals (having transferred from the UEFA Champions League group stage)

2001/02: UEFA Champions League – quarter-finals

2000/01: UEFA Cup – winners

1999/00: Did not compete in UEFA club competition

1998/99: UEFA Cup – third round

2007/08 season

Domestic record: Liverpool finished fourth in the Premier League – after coming third the previous two seasons – but were just eleven points adrift of champions Manchester United FC as opposed to 21 the year before. They were knocked out of the FA Cup by second tier Barnsley FC 2-1 at home in the fifth round.

European record: After starting their Group A campaign with two defeats and a draw, Liverpool were staring early elimination in the face but three straight wins, at a combined goals aggregate of 16-1, secured them second place in the section. They went on to dispose of FC Internazionale Milano in the first knockout round, winning 3-0 overall which set up a quarter-final meeting with fellow English side Arsenal FC. Liverpool eventually overcame the Gunners 5-3 on aggregate after a see-saw second leg at Anfield. Their semi-final opponents, Chelsea FC, were also familiar foes, and after another tight tie, the Reds went down 4-3 after extra time in the London decider.

Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest win

11-0: Liverpool FC v Strømsgodset IF

17.09.1974, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup first round first leg

- Biggest home win

11-0: Liverpool FC v Strømsgodset IF (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

0-5: FC Haka v Liverpool FC

08.08.2001, European Champion Clubs' Cup third qualifying round first leg

0-5: Crusaders FC v Liverpool FC

28.09.1976, European Champion Clubs' Cup first round second leg

0-5: KR Reykjavík v Liverpool FC

17.08.1964, European Champion Clubs' Cup preliminary round first leg

- Heaviest defeat

5-1: AFC Ajax v Liverpool FC

07.12.1966, European Champion Clubs' Cup second round leg

Olympique de Marseille - Liverpool FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Tuesday 16 September 2008 - 20.45 CET

Vélodrome, Marseille

- Heaviest home defeat

0-2: Liverpool FC v SL Benfica

08.03.2006, UEFA Champions League first knockout round second leg

0-2: Liverpool FC v Celtic FC

20.03.2003, UEFA Cup quarter-finals second leg

1-3: Liverpool FC v FC Barcelona

20.11.2001, UEFA Champions League second group stage

0-2: Liverpool FC v FC Spartak Moskva

04.11.1992, UEFA Cup Winners' Cup second round second leg

- Heaviest away defeat

5-1: AFC Ajax v Liverpool FC (see above for details)

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

- Biggest win

8-0: Liverpool FC v Beşiktaş JK

06.11.2007, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Biggest home win

8-0: Liverpool FC v Beşiktaş JK (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

0-4: Olympique de Marseille v Liverpool FC

11.12.2007, UEFA Champions League group stage

- Heaviest defeat

0-2: Liverpool FC v SL Benfica (see above for details)

2-0: Valencia CF v Liverpool FC

17.09.2002, UEFA Champions League group stage

4-2: Bayer 04 Leverkusen v Liverpool FC

09.04.2002, UEFA Champions League quarter-finals second leg

1-3: Liverpool FC v FC Barcelona (see above for details)

- Heaviest home defeat

0-2: Liverpool FC v SL Benfica (see above for details)

1-3: Liverpool FC v FC Barcelona (see above for details)

- Heaviest away defeat

2-0: Valencia CF v Liverpool FC (see above for details)

4-2: Bayer 04 Leverkusen v Liverpool FC (see above for details)

Last updated: 31.08.2008

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.

:: 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.

Current season - League: Total league appearances based on the date press kit was last updated

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

ECCL: 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

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

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

U21: UEFA European Under-21 Championship

U17: UEFA Under-17 Championship • **U16:** UEFA European Under-16 Championship

U19: UEFA 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

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