



UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE

SEASON 2009/10

MATCH PRESS KIT



Hertha BSC Berlin



FK Ventspils

Olympiastadion, Berlin

Thursday 17 September 2009 - 19.00CET (19.00 local time)

Group D - Matchday 1

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This press kit includes information relating to this UEFA Europa 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

Previous meetings

None

Hertha BSC Berlin - record versus clubs from opponents' country

None

FK Ventspils - record versus clubs from opponents' country

UEFA Cup

Date	Stage	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
03/10/02	R1	FK Ventspils - VfB Stuttgart	1-4 agg: 2-8	Riga	Landyrev 16; Tiffert 22,90, Ganea 53, Amanatidis 87
19/09/02	R1	VfB Stuttgart - FK Ventspils	4-1	Stuttgart	Amanatidis 22, Kuranyi 33,40, Hleb 58; Rimkus 65

Record versus clubs from opponents' country

	Home				Away				Final				Total					
	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
Hertha BSC Berlin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FK Ventspils	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	2	8

Hertha BSC Berlin will look to spoil FK Ventspils' grand entrance as the visitors become the first Latvian side to compete in the group stage of a major UEFA club competition on their UEFA Europa League Group D debut.

Previous meetings

- Hertha and Ventspils have never met before, and this is also the hosts' first game against a Latvian team. Ventspils faced Bundesliga opposition in the 2002/03 UEFA Cup first round, losing 4-1 in both legs of a tie against VfB Stuttgart.

Match background

- Hertha competed in two UEFA Cup group stage campaigns, reaching the round of 32 in the 2005/06 edition but missing the cut last season.
- Latvian champions Ventspils are the first Virsliga side to make it to the group stage of a UEFA club competition.
- Hertha have lost just one of their last nine European home games, a 1-0 reverse against Galatasaray AŞ last season. Their home form in the 2008/09 UEFA Cup group stage was hardly formidable as they recorded that defeat and a draw with SL Benfica.
- Ventspils have lost their last three European outings. They went down 2-1 at FC BATE Borisov in the UEFA Champions League third qualifying round second leg but advanced on away goals, and then suffered defeats in both legs of their play-off against FC Zürich.
- Ventspils' away record in European competition reads P21 W3 D3 L15. Their only victories have come against opponents from Luxembourg and the Faroe Islands, though they have earned honourable draws at Newcastle United FC and Brøndby IF – the side Hertha overcame to reach the UEFA Europa League group stage.

Team facts

- Ventspils' Vitālijs Astafjevs and Vits Rimkus have lined up against Hertha's Arne Friedrich before. Astafjevs and Friedrich both started when Latvia held Germany to a famous 0-0 draw at UEFA EURO 2004™, with Rimkus an unused substitute.
- Rimkus has played in Germany, representing 1. FC Nürnberg in 1996/97 and FC Erzgebirge Aue the following season.
- Ventspils' towering Cameroonian defender Jean-Paul Ndeki started his career as a youth player at Eintracht Frankfurt. He played for lower league side Borussia Fulda before leaving for Latvia in 2004.

- Hertha are coached by the discipline-minded Lucien Favre, who has a reputation for developing young players. He is the holder of 24 Switzerland caps dating from his career as a midfielder player with FC Lausanne-Sport, Neuchâtel Xamax FC, Servette FC and Toulouse FC.
- Founded by the merger of FK Venta and FK Nafta in 1997, Ventspils made a surprise change of coach after they reached the UEFA Champions League play-offs. Italian Nunzio Zavattieri – a former AC Milan and FC Internazionale Milano youth coach and one-time assistant at Udinese Calcio – took over from Ukrainian Roman Grygorchuk, who had led them to three consecutive Virsliga titles.
- Hertha visit Sporting Club de Portugal on Matchday 2, while Ventspils are at home against SC Heerenveen on the same night, 1 October.

Team facts

Hertha BSC Berlin

Formed: 1892

Nickname: Die Alte Dame (The Old Lady)

UEFA club competition honours (runners-up in brackets)

- None

Domestic honours (most recent triumph in brackets)

League title: 2 (1931)

Ten-year European record (UEFA Cup unless indicated otherwise)

2008/09: group stage

2007/08: did not take part in UEFA club competition

2006/07: first round (transferred from UEFA Intertoto Cup)

2005/06: round of 32

2004/05: did not take part in UEFA club competition

2003/04: first round

2002/03: fourth round

2001/02: third round

2000/01: third round

1999/00: UEFA Champions League second group stage

Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest home win

8-1: Hertha v FC Nistru Otaci

17/07/08, UEFA Cup first qualifying round first leg

- Biggest away win

1-4: IF Elfsborg v Hertha

29/09/71, UEFA Cup first round second leg

- Heaviest home defeat

1-4: Hertha v Galatasaray SK

26/10/99, UEFA Champions League first group stage

0-3: Hertha v Servette FC

06/12/01, UEFA Cup third round second leg

- Heaviest away defeat

4-0: Olympiacos CFP v Hertha

18/12/08, UEFA Cup group stage

UEFA Cup/Europa League

- Biggest home win

8-1: Hertha v FC Nistru Otaci (see above)

- Biggest away win

1-4: IF Elfsborg v Hertha (see above)

- Heaviest home defeat

0-3: Hertha v Servette FC (see above)

- Heaviest away defeat

4-0: Olympiacos CFP v Hertha (see above)

FK Ventspils

Formed: 1997

Nickname: Zhelto-Sinie (Yellow and Blues)

UEFA club competition honours (runners-up in brackets)

• None

Domestic honours (most recent triumph in brackets)

League title: 3 (2008)

Latvian Cup: 4 (2007)

Ten-year European record (UEFA Cup unless indicated otherwise)

2008/09: UEFA Champions League second qualifying round

2007/08: UEFA Champions League second qualifying round

2006/07: second qualifying round

2005/06: first qualifying round

2004/05: first round

2003/04: first round

2002/03: first round

2001/02: qualifying round

2000/01: qualifying round

1999/00: UEFA Intertoto Cup second round

Records

UEFA club competition

• Biggest home win

8-0: Ventspils v B68 Toftir

29/07/04, UEFA Cup first qualifying round second leg

• Biggest away win

0-3: B68 Toftir v Ventspils

15/07/04, UEFA Cup first qualifying round first leg

• Heaviest home defeat

1-4: Ventspils v Rosenborg BK

24/09/03, UEFA Cup first round first leg

1-4: Ventspils v VfB Stuttgart

03/10/02, UEFA Cup first round second leg

0-3 on two occasions, most recently v FC Zürich (19/08/09 UEFA Champions League play-off first leg)

• Heaviest away defeat

6-0: Rosenborg BK v Ventspils

15/10/03, UEFA Cup first round second leg

UEFA Cup/Europa League

• Biggest home win

8-0: Ventspils v B68 Toftir (see above)

• Biggest away win

0-3: B68 Toftir v Ventspils (see above)

• Heaviest home defeat

1-4: Twice, most recently v Rosenborg BK (see above)

• Heaviest away defeat

6-0: Rosenborg BK v Ventspils (see above)

Squad list

Hertha BSC Berlin

No	Player	Nat.	DoB	Age	D	Current season						All-time			
						UELQ		UEL		League		UEL		UEFA	
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers															
1	Jaroslav Drobný	CZE	18/10/79	29	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	14	-	20	-
30	Christopher Gäng	GER	10/05/88	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
37	Patrick Sobtzik	GER	11/06/90	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
40	Sascha Burchert	GER	30/10/89	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders															
2	Kaká	BRA	16/05/81	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	7	-
3	Arne Friedrich	GER	29/05/79	30	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	25	-	31	-
4	Steve Von Bergen	SUI	10/06/83	26	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	7	-	18	-
5	Nemanja Pejčinović	SRB	04/11/87	21	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	2	-
6	Christoph Janker	GER	14/02/85	24	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-
13	Marc Stein	GER	07/07/85	24	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	6	-	10	1
22	Rasmus Bengtsson	SWE	26/06/86	23	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
35	Shervin Radjabali-Fardi	GER	17/05/91	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Midfielders															
7	Cicero	BRA	26/08/84	25	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	6	1	10	1
8	Pál Dárdai	HUN	16/03/76	33	-	2	1	-	-	4	-	26	-	41	1
11	Florian Kringe	GER	18/08/82	27	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	6	1
20	Patrick Ebert	GER	17/03/87	22	-	2	-	-	-	5	1	2	-	11	1
25	Maximilian Nicu	ROU	25/11/82	26	-	2	-	-	-	5	1	4	1	9	1
26	Łukasz Piszczek	POL	03/06/85	24	-	2	-	-	-	5	1	2	-	8	3
27	Cesar	BRA	14/07/79	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	7	2
29	Sascha Bigalke	GER	08/01/90	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
31	Fanol Perdedaj	ALB	16/07/91	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36	Lennart Hartmann	GER	03/04/91	18	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
44	Gojko Kačar	SRB	26/01/87	22	-	2	2	-	-	4	2	4	-	12	4
Forwards															
9	Adrián Ramos	COL	22/01/86	23	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
10	Raffael	BRA	28/03/85	24	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	5	-	6	-
18	Artur Wichniarek	POL	28/02/77	32	-	2	-	-	-	4	-	5	2	11	5
23	Valeri Domovchiyski	BUL	05/10/86	22	-	2	1	-	-	5	-	16	1	31	5
39	Florian Riedel	GER	09/04/90	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Coach															
-	Lucien Favre	SUI	02/11/57	51	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	26	-

Key: Squad list is ordered by position and then numerically

D Disciplinary: * Misses next match if booked, **S** Suspended, **#** Suspended for at least one match

UELQ¹: Current season total UEFA Europa League appearances in qualifying rounds only

UEL²: Current season total UEFA Europa League appearances from the group stage onwards prior to the current matchday

UEL³: Total appearances in the UEFA Europa League, first round to final only

UEFA⁴: All-time total appearances in UEFA club competitions including all qualifying round matches

FK Ventpils

№	Player	Nat.	DoB	Age	D	Current season						All-time			
						UELQ		UEL		League		UEL		UEFA	
						Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers															
1	Pavel Chesnovski	BLR	04/03/86	23	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-
16	Aleksandrs Kolinko	LVA	18/06/75	34	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	23	-
30	Andrejs Pavlovs	LVA	22/02/79	30	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	10	-
Defenders															
2	Aleksejs Soleičuks	LVA	12/08/80	29	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	2	-	8	-
8	Deniss Kačanovs	LVA	27/11/79	29	-	-	-	-	-	20	1	2	-	21	2
17	Jean-Paul Ndeki	CMR	27/10/82	26	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	-	-	10	3
18	Pāvels Mihadžuks	LVA	27/05/80	29	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	8	1
23	Vladimirs Běspalovs	LVA	22/06/88	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
24	Azamat Baimatov	KGZ	03/12/89	19	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	1	-
31	Ronny Hodel	SUI	27/10/82	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	11	-
35	Alessandro Zamperini	ITA	15/08/82	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36	Aleksandrs Baturinskis	LVA	15/12/91	17	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Midfielders															
3	Vitālijs Astafjevs	LVA	03/04/71	38	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	6	1	43	13
4	Jurijs Žigajevs	LVA	14/11/85	23	-	-	-	-	-	18	8	-	-	5	-
5	Jevgenijs Kosmačovs	LVA	18/02/88	21	-	-	-	-	-	20	1	-	-	15	1
6	Artis Lazdiņš	LVA	03/05/86	23	-	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	5	-
11	Aleksejs Višņakovs	LVA	03/02/84	25	-	-	-	-	-	20	7	-	-	15	1
15	Grigori Chirkin	RUS	26/02/86	23	-	-	-	-	-	18	9	-	-	11	2
19	Aleksandr Mysikov	RUS	13/08/88	21	-	-	-	-	-	16	2	-	-	2	-
22	Igor Ņigirlaš	MDA	24/02/84	25	-	-	-	-	-	21	7	-	-	13	2
29	Aleksandrs Solovjovs	LVA	25/02/88	21	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
34	Jurijs Laizans	LVA	06/01/79	30	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	10	-	27	1
Forwards															
14	Ivan Špakov	RUS	08/06/86	23	-	-	-	-	-	14	4	1	-	12	-
20	Alexandru Dedov	MDA	26/07/89	20	-	-	-	-	-	18	2	-	-	7	-
25	Ritvars Rugins	LVA	17/10/89	19	-	-	-	-	-	10	1	-	-	5	-
26	Uche Iheruome	NGA	14/04/87	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	Edgars Gauračs	LVA	10/03/88	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28	Eduards Višņakovs	LVA	10/05/90	19	-	-	-	-	-	6	3	-	-	-	-
32	Andrejs Butriks	LVA	20/12/82	26	-	-	-	-	-	16	4	6	-	30	5
33	João Martins	POR	20/06/82	27	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	3	-
Coach															
-	Nunzio Zavettieri	ITA	19/04/67	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-

Key: Squad list is ordered by position and then numerically

D Disciplinary: * Misses next match if booked, **S** Suspended, **#** Suspended for at least one match

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UEL³: Total appearances in the UEFA Europa League, first round to final only

UEFA⁴: All-time total appearances in UEFA club competitions including all qualifying round matches

Fixtures and results

Hertha BSC Berlin

Date	Competition	Opponent	Result	Goalscorers
01/08/09	Cup	SC Preußen Münster (A)	W 3-1	Raffael 23, 120, Domovchiyski 118
08/08/09	League	Hannover 96 (H)	W 1-0	Kačar 82
16/08/09	League	VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach (A)	L 1-2	Kačar 53
23/08/09	League	VfL Bochum 1848 (A)	L 0-1	
30/08/09	League	Werder Bremen (H)	L 2-3	Piszczek 77, Ebert 90+1
12/09/09	League	1. FSV Mainz 05 (A)	L 1-2	Nicu 50
20/09/09	League	SC Freiburg (H)		
23/09/09	Cup	TSV 1860 München (A)		
27/09/09	League	TSG 1899 Hoffenheim (A)		
04/10/09	League	Hamburger SV (H)		
17/10/09	League	1. FC Nürnberg (A)		
25/10/09	League	VfL Wolfsburg (H)		
31/10/09	League	BV Borussia Dortmund (A)		
07/11/09	League	1. FC Köln (H)		
21/11/09	League	VfB Stuttgart (A)		
28/11/09	League	Eintracht Frankfurt (H)		
05/12/09	League	FC Schalke 04 (A)		
12/12/09	League	Bayer 04 Leverkusen (H)		
19/12/09	League	FC Bayern München (A)		
16/01/10	League	Hannover 96 (A)		
23/01/10	League	VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach (H)		
30/01/10	League	VfL Bochum 1848 (H)		
06/02/10	League	Werder Bremen (A)		
13/02/10	League	1. FSV Mainz 05 (H)		
20/02/10	League	SC Freiburg (A)		
27/02/10	League	TSG 1899 Hoffenheim (H)		

Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	Hamburger SV	5	4	1	0	15	6	13
2	Bayer 04 Leverkusen	5	4	1	0	13	5	13
3	FC Schalke 04	5	3	1	1	7	3	10
4	Eintracht Frankfurt	5	2	3	0	7	4	9
5	FC Bayern München	5	2	2	1	11	5	8
6	Werder Bremen	5	2	2	1	9	6	8
7	TSG 1899 Hoffenheim	5	2	2	1	5	2	8
8	1. FSV Mainz 05	5	2	2	1	7	7	8
9	VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach	5	2	1	2	7	8	7
10	VfL Wolfsburg	5	2	0	3	9	11	6
11	Hannover 96	5	1	2	2	3	3	5
12	VfB Stuttgart	5	1	2	2	6	8	5
13	1. FC Nürnberg	5	1	2	2	3	5	5
14	BV Borussia Dortmund	5	1	2	2	5	11	5
15	VfL Bochum 1848	5	1	1	3	5	11	4
16	SC Freiburg	5	1	1	3	4	12	4
17	Hertha BSC Berlin	5	1	0	4	5	8	3
18	1. FC Köln	5	0	1	4	3	9	1

FK Ventpils

Date	Competition	Opponent	Result	Goalscorers
15/03/09	League	FK Daugava Rīga (A)	W 5-1	Menteshashvili 11, Chirkin 32, Žigajevs 75, Butriks 89, Rugins 90+2
21/03/09	League	JFK Olimps (H)	W 1-0	Rimkus 31
05/04/09	League	SK Blāzma Rezekne (H)	W 5-1	Chirkin 18, 49, Rimkus 71 (p), Višņakovs 73, Mysikov 80
08/04/09	League	FK Tranzīts Ventpils (H)	D 1-1	Rimkus 68
12/04/09	League	FK Jūrmala (A)	W 3-0	Ņīgīrlaš 14, Chirkin 31, 53
18/04/09	League	FC Dinaburg (H)	D 0-0	
26/04/09	League	Skonto FC (A)	W 3-1	Menteshashvili 12, Žigajevs 81, Rimkus 87 (p)
30/04/09	League	SK Liepājas Metalurģs (H)	D 1-1	Kosmačovs 90+4
10/05/09	League	FK Daugava Rīga (H)	W 4-2	Ņīgīrlaš 18, Rimkus 46, Chirkin 48, Mysikov 68
13/05/09	League	JFK Olimps (A)	W 5-1	Žigajevs 5, 57, Rimkus 35 (p), 66, Višņakovs 76
28/05/09	League	SK Blāzma Rezekne (A)	W 3-0	Butriks 71, 81, Rimkus 76
31/05/09	League	FK Tranzīts Ventpils (A)	W 3-0	Ņīgīrlaš 38, 80, Butriks 48
11/06/09	League	FK Jūrmala (H)	W 3-0	Kačanovs 32, Višņakovs 74, Dedov 89
14/06/09	League	FC Dinaburg (A)	L 0-1	
18/06/09	League	Skonto FC (H)	W 2-1	Ņīgīrlaš 50, Rimkus 63
22/06/09	League	SK Liepājas Metalurģs (A)	L 1-2	Chirkin 69
30/06/09	League	FK Daugava Rīga (A)	W 5-0	Rimkus 18, 57, 85, Višņakovs 80, Ponakovs 90 (og)
04/07/09	League	JFK Olimps (H)	W 5-3	Ņīgīrlaš 57, 86, Višņakovs 59, Chirkin 75, Rimkus 93 (p)
08/07/09	League	SK Blāzma Rezekne (H)	W 5-0	Žigajevs 45, 88, Shpakov 48, Rimkus 63 (p), Dedov 83
08/08/09	League	FK Tranzīts Ventpils (H)	W 7-0	Shpakov 16 (p), Višņakovs 24, 60, Joāo Martins 33, Rimkus 55 (p), 80, Chirkin 75
15/08/09	League	FK Jūrmala (A)	W 4-0	Ndeki 16, Shpakov 38, Žigajevs 85, Rimkus 89
30/08/09	League	SK Liepājas Metalurģs (H)	L 1-2	Žigajevs 55
13/09/09	League	FC Dinaburg (H)	W 1-0	Shpakov 55
20/09/09	League	JFK Olimps (A)		
26/09/09	League	SK Blāzma Rezekne (A)		
03/10/09	League	FK Tranzīts Ventpils (A)		
18/10/09	League	FK Jūrmala (H)		
21/10/09	League	FC Dinaburg (A)		
25/10/09	League	Skonto FC (H)		
01/11/09	League	SK Liepājas Metalurģs (A)		

Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	SK Liepājas Metalurģs	24	18	3	3	64	17	57
2	FK Ventpils	23	17	3	3	68	17	54
3	Skonto FC	23	17	2	4	70	18	53
4	FC Dinaburg	24	13	4	7	28	20	43
5	FK Jūrmala	24	10	4	10	31	42	34
6	JFK Olimps	25	7	4	14	37	50	25
7	SK Blāzma Rezekne	24	4	4	16	17	58	16
8	FK Tranzīts Ventpils	25	2	9	14	17	48	15
9	FK Daugava Rīga	24	1	5	18	18	80	8

Match-by-match lineups

Hertha BSC Berlin

Play-Offs

(20/08/09)

Brøndby IF 2-1 Hertha BSC Berlin

Goals: 1-0 Bischoff 51, 1-1 Domovchiyski 53, 2-1 Pejčinović 70 (o.g.)

Hertha: Drobny, Friedrich, Von Bergen, Pejčinović, Cícero (Nicu 80), Dárdai, Raffael, Stein, Wichniarek (Domovchiyski 31), Ebert, Kačar (Piszczek 83)

(27/08/09)

Hertha BSC Berlin 3-1 Brøndby IF (agg: 4-3)

Goals: 0-1 Rasmussen 52, 1-1 Kačar 75, 2-1 Dárdai 80, 3-1 Kačar 86

Hertha: Drobny, Friedrich, Von Bergen, Pejčinović, Janker, Cícero, Dárdai, Wichniarek (Nicu 66), Ebert (Bengtsson 90+4), Domovchiyski (Piszczek 61), Kačar

Group D

Standings

Club	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Sporting Clube de Portugal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hertha BSC Berlin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FK Ventspils	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SC Heerenveen	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Matchday 1 (17/09/09)

Hertha BSC Berlin v FK Ventspils

Matchday 2 (01/10/09)

Sporting Clube de Portugal v Hertha BSC Berlin

FK Ventspils v SC Heerenveen

Matchday 3 (22/10/09)

FK Ventspils v Sporting Clube de Portugal

Hertha BSC Berlin v SC Heerenveen

Matchday 4 (05/11/09)

Sporting Clube de Portugal v FK Ventspils

SC Heerenveen v Hertha BSC Berlin

Matchday 5 (03/12/09)

FK Ventspils v Hertha BSC Berlin

Matchday 6 (16/12/09)

Hertha BSC Berlin v Sporting Clube de Portugal

SC Heerenveen v FK Ventspils

Match officials

Referee	Alan Kelly (IRL)
Assistant referees	Marc Douglas (IRL), Damien Mc Grath (IRL)
Additional assistant referee	Anthony Buttimer (IRL)
Additional assistant referee	Neil Doyle (IRL)
Fourth official	Richie Winter (IRL)
UEFA Delegate	Gabriel Weiss (SVK)
UEFA Referee observer	Juan Antonio Fernandez Marin (ESP)

Referee

Name	Date of birth	UEL matches *	UEFA matches
Alan Kelly	09/04/1975	13	46

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

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res.	Venue
14/02/08	UCUP	1/16	FC Zürich - Hamburger SV	1-3	Zurich

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

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res.	Venue
13/10/02	U19	QR1	Latvia - Netherlands	0-4	Liepaja
07/10/06	EURO	QR	Latvia - Iceland	4-0	Riga

* Group stage to final only

Competition information

The UEFA Cup evolved from the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup, and was first contested as the UEFA Cup in 1971/72. This season the UEFA Cup has been reborn as the UEFA Europa League. The new name heralds major changes to the competition, which has a new 48-team group stage with centralised marketing of broadcast rights, a presenting sponsor - Spanish car manufacturer SEAT - and an official matchball in addition to centralised sponsorship from the knockout stage and a new logo and visual identity.

• **Disciplinary information:** As a rule, a player who is sent off 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, from the group stage 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 the 2008/09 season at least eight places are 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 also continues to exist – involving an unlimited number of Under-21 players who have been at the club for any uninterrupted period of two years since their 15th birthday.

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.

• **Away goals rule:** For matches played under the cup (knockout) system, the team which scores the greater aggregate of goals in the two matches qualifies for the next round. If the two teams involved in a tie score the same number of goals over the two legs, the team which scores more away goals qualifies for the next stage. If this procedure does not produce a result, i.e. if the two teams score the same number of goals at home and away, extra time of two periods of 15 minutes shall be played at the end of the second leg. If during extra time, both teams score the same number of goals, away goals count double (i.e. the visiting club qualifies). If no goals are scored during extra time, penalty kicks determine which team qualifies.

• **Player registration:** UEFA regulations state that for all UEFA Europa League matches from the start of the Round of 32, a club may register a maximum of three new eligible players within their squad of 25 for the remaining matches in the current competition. 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 Europa League this season or by a club that has transferred from the UEFA Champions League to the UEFA Europa League following the group stage.

• **Assistant referees experiment:** The 144 UEFA Europa League group-stage games will be overseen by six match officials, in an experiment endorsed by the International Football Association Board (IFAB), with two additional assistant referees taking up positions alongside each goal. The additional assistant referees will provide two extra pairs of eyes to monitor the game, informing the referee of incidents that he may otherwise have missed.

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• **UEFA Europa League Statistics Handbook:** This informative guide to the new competition and the teams involved in the group stage can be downloaded as four pdf files at <http://www.uefa.com/uefa/mediaservices/publications/index.html>.

Legend

:: 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

ICF: Inter-Cities Fairs 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

WWC: FIFA Women's World Cup • **WCHAMP:** UEFA European Women's 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

ELITE: Elite round

P-O 3rd: Third place play-off

GS - FT: Group stage - Final tournament

QR3: Third qualifying round

R1: First round

R2: Second round

R3: Third round

R4: Fourth round

SF: Semi-finals

R16: Second knockout round

R32: Round of 32

1st: first leg

2nd: second leg

P-O: Play-off

(R): Replay

PO - FT: Play-off for Final Tournament

Prom/Rel P-O: Promotion/Relegation play-off

:: Other Abbreviations

aet: Match decided after extra time **N/a:** Not Applicable

aetps: Match decided after extra time and penalty shoot-out

ag: Match decided on away goals

agg: Aggregate

AP: Appearances

Comp.: Competition

:

DoB: Date of birth

GA: Goals against

GF: Goals for

L: Lost

Nat.: Nationality

o.g.: Own goal

(p): Penalty

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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