



UEFA EUROPA LEAGUE

SEASON 2009/10

MATCH PRESS KIT



Sporting Clube de Portugal



FK Ventspils

José Alvalade, Lisbon

Thursday 5 November 2009 - 19.00CET (18.00 local time)

Group D - Matchday 4

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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

Date	Stage	Match	Result	Venue	Goalscorers
22/10/09	GS	FK Ventspils - Sporting Clube de Portugal	1-2	Riga	Laizans 64(p); Miguel Veloso 6, João Moutinho 85

	Home				Away				Final				Total					
	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA
Sporting Clube de Portugal	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	1
FK Ventspils	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	2

Sporting Clube de Portugal - record versus clubs from opponents' country

None

FK Ventspils - record versus clubs from opponents' country

None

A home victory over FK Ventspils would secure Sporting Clube de Portugal's place in the UEFA Europa League Round of 32 after a 2-1 success in Latvia on Matchday 3 made it three wins from three Group D games for the Lions.

Previous meetings

- The clubs met for the first time on 22 October in what was both Ventspils' first game against Portuguese opponents and Sporting's maiden meeting with a side from Latvia.

Match background

- Victory against Ventspils saw Sporting set a new club European best of seven games without defeat.
- Sporting's 1-0 Matchday 2 win against Hertha BSC Berlin was their first European home victory of the season, with the side having drawn their previous two ties at the Estádio José Alvalade.
- Group-stage debutants Ventspils' four away games this season have produced a win, a draw and two defeats, but they have scored at least once in all of those fixtures.

Team facts

- Sporting coach Paulo Bento is a former midfielder who was surprisingly handed the first-team job midway through the 2005/06 campaign after a spell as a youth trainer. His team's success in winning two Portuguese Cups and two Super Cups earned him the nickname 'Papa-Taças' (Cup Eater).
- Founded with 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 Zavettieri – a former AC Milan and FC Internazionale Milano youth trainer and one-time assistant at Udinese Calcio – took over from Ukrainian Roman Grygorchuk, who had led them to three consecutive Virsliga titles.
- Ventspils boast Portuguese talent in the form of forward João Martins, who played for SC Lourinhanense, FC Alverca, GD Chaves and SCU Torreense before trying his luck in Russia with FC Sibir Novosibirsk.
- Martins, who played under Bento's assistant Carlos Pereira at Alverca, told uefa.com he had started his career in the Sporting academy: "I was 12 when I joined their academy, which is one of the best in the world. It is no accident it gave the world players like Luís Figo and Cristiano Ronaldo, who remain idols at Sporting, but it was very difficult for me and I ended up at Alverca."
- Four Ventspils players will have fond memories of Portugal, having been members of the Latvia squad that competed at UEFA EURO 2004™, though they never played a competitive game in Lisbon: Aleksandrs Kolinko, Andrejs Pavlovs, Vitālijs Astafjevs and Jurijs Laizans.
- Latvia and Portugal met in EURO '96™ qualifying, with Portugal winning 3-1 in Liepāja and 3-2 in the return in Porto. Ventspils midfielder Astafjevs played in both games.

- They also met in 2006 FIFA World Cup qualifying. Current Ventpils players Kolinko, Laizans and Astafjevs featured in a 2-0 home defeat by Portugal on 4 September 2004. Sporting's Marco Caneira came on as a substitute in that match, but Hélder Postiga remained on the bench.
- Caneira started and Postiga came on as a substitute as Portugal won the return fixture 3-0 on 12 October 2005, with Kolinko and Astafjevs contesting the full 90 minutes for Latvia.
- Ventpils committed fewer fouls than any other side in the group stage in the first three rounds of fixtures – just 24.
- Sporting host SC Heerenveen on Matchday 5, with Ventpils at home to Hertha on the same day, 3 December.

Team facts

Sporting Clube de Portugal

Formed: 1906

Nickname: Leões (Lions)

UEFA club competition honours (runners-up in brackets)

- UEFA Cup (1): (2005)
- UEFA Cup Winners' Cup (1): 1964

Domestic honours (most recent triumph in brackets)

League title: 18 (2002)

Portuguese Cup: 15 (2008)

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

2008/09: UEFA Champions League first knockout round

2007/08: quarter-finals (having transferred from the UEFA Champions League group stage)

2006/07: UEFA Champions League group stage

2005/06: first round (having transferred from UEFA Champions League third qualifying round)

2004/05: runners-up

2003/04: second round

2002/03: first round (having transferred from UEFA Champions League third qualifying round)

2001/02: third round

2000/01: UEFA Champions League first group stage

1999/00: first round

Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest home win

16-1: Sporting v APOEL FC

13/11/63, European Champion Clubs' Cup first round first leg

- Biggest away win

0-9: ÍA Akranes v Sporting

17/09/86, UEFA Cup first round first leg

- Heaviest home defeat

0-5: Sporting v FC Bayern München

25/02/09, UEFA Champions League first knockout round first leg

- Heaviest away defeat

7-1: FC Bayern München v Sporting

10/03/09, UEFA Champions League first knockout round second leg

UEFA Cup/Europa League

- Biggest home win

7-0: Sporting v FC Timișoara

24/10/90, second round first leg

- Biggest away win

0-9: ÍA Akranes v Sporting (see above)

- Heaviest home defeat

0-3: Sporting v Gençlerbirliği SK

27/11/03, second round second leg

- Heaviest away defeat

5-0: Celtic FC v Sporting

02/11/83, second round second leg

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 Tofir

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

• Biggest away win

0-3: B68 Tofir 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 Tofir (see above)

• Biggest away win

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

• Heaviest home defeat

1-4 on two occasions, most recently v Rosenborg BK (see above)

• Heaviest away defeat

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

Squad list

Sporting Clube de Portugal

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	Rui Patrício	POR	15/02/88	21	-	-	-	3	-	9	-	9	-	21	-
16	Tiago	POR	16/04/75	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	16	-
19	Ricardo Batista	POR	19/11/86	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	Vladimir Stojković	SRB	28/07/83	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	12	-
50	Ruben Luís	POR	27/06/91	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
56	João Figueiredo	POR	02/02/92	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders															
3	Daniel Carriço	POR	04/08/88	21	-	-	-	3	-	9	1	3	-	9	-
4	Anderson Polga	BRA	09/02/79	30	-	-	-	1	-	5	-	22	-	47	2
5	Pedro Silva	BRA	25/04/81	28	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	4	-
12	Marco Caneira	POR	09/02/79	30	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	18	-	42	1
13	Tonel	POR	13/04/80	29	-	-	-	3	-	5	-	12	-	30	2
18	Leandro Grimi	ARG	09/02/85	24	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	8	-	12	-
44	Nuno Reis	POR	31/01/91	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
52	Miguel Seródio	POR	21/02/92	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	André Marques	POR	01/08/87	22	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	3	-
78	Abel	POR	22/12/78	30	-	-	-	3	-	7	-	13	-	29	1
Midfielders															
6	Adrien Silva	POR	15/03/89	20	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	3	1	6	1
7	Marat Izmailov	RUS	21/09/82	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	1	49	4
10	Simon Vukčević	MNE	29/01/86	23	-	-	-	3	-	8	1	20	5	38	6
14	Matías Fernández	CHI	15/05/86	23	-	-	-	3	-	8	2	9	-	20	-
24	Miguel Veloso	POR	11/05/86	23	-	-	-	3	1	8	-	8	1	30	3
25	Bruno Pereirinha	POR	02/03/88	21	-	-	-	2	-	7	-	8	2	23	2
28	João Moutinho	POR	08/09/86	23	-	-	-	3	1	9	1	20	1	46	4
41	Cedric Soares	POR	31/08/91	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
43	Luís Almeida	POR	12/01/91	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
46	Renato Neto	BRA	27/09/91	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
53	Mario Danilo Marques Serrano	POR	23/04/92	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
54	Afonso Taira	POR	17/06/92	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards															
9	Carlos Saleiro	POR	25/02/86	23	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-
11	Felipe Caicedo	ECU	05/09/88	21	-	-	-	2	-	6	-	13	4	17	6
17	Miguel Ángel Angulo	ESP	23/06/77	32	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	22	6	87	14
20	Yannick Djaló	POR	05/05/86	23	-	-	-	2	-	6	2	4	-	23	1
23	Hélder Postiga	POR	02/08/82	27	-	-	-	2	-	8	-	16	5	54	7
31	Liedson	BRA	17/12/77	31	-	-	-	3	3	9	2	26	16	46	22
40	Alex Zahavi	POR	21/01/91	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
47	Renato Santos	POR	05/10/91	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
51	Peter Caraballo	POR	25/09/92	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coach															
-	Paulo Bento	POR	20/06/69	40	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	9	-	27	-

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 Ventspils

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	Pavel Chesnovski	BLR	04/03/86	23	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	3	-
16	Aleksandrs Kolinko	LVA	18/06/75	34	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	8	-	25	-
30	Andrejs Pavlovs	LVA	22/02/79	30	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	10	-
Defenders															
2	Aleksejs Soleičuks	LVA	12/08/80	29	-	-	-	-	-	9	-	2	-	8	-
8	Deniss Kačanovs	LVA	27/11/79	29	-	-	-	-	-	20	1	2	-	21	2
17	Jean-Paul Ndeki	CMR	27/10/82	27	-	-	-	3	-	10	1	3	-	13	3
18	Pāvels Mihadžuks	LVA	27/05/80	29	-	-	-	3	-	12	-	3	-	11	1
21	Alessandro Zamperini	ITA	15/08/82	27	-	-	-	3	-	4	-	3	-	3	-
23	Vladimirs Bepalovs	LVA	22/06/88	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
24	Azamat Baimatov	KGZ	03/12/89	19	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	1	-
31	Ronny Hodel	SUI	27/10/82	27	-	-	-	2	-	5	-	7	-	13	-
36	Aleksandrs Baturinskijs	LVA	15/12/91	17	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
Midfielders															
3	Vitālijs Astafjevs	LVA	03/04/71	38	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	8	1	45	13
4	Jurijs Žigajevs	LVA	14/11/85	23	-	-	-	3	-	23	9	3	-	8	-
5	Jevgenijs Kosmačovs	LVA	18/02/88	21	-	-	-	3	-	24	1	3	-	18	1
6	Artis Lazdiņš	LVA	03/05/86	23	-	-	-	-	-	17	-	-	-	5	-
10	Jurijs Laizans	LVA	06/01/79	30	-	-	-	2	1	5	-	12	1	29	2
11	Aleksejs Višņakovs	LVA	03/02/84	25	-	-	-	2	-	24	8	2	-	17	1
15	Grigori Chirkin	RUS	26/02/86	23	-	-	-	3	-	22	9	3	-	14	2
19	Aleksandr Mysikov	RUS	13/08/88	21	-	-	-	-	-	19	3	-	-	2	-
22	Igor Ņigirlaš	MDA	24/02/84	25	-	-	-	3	-	25	7	3	-	16	2
34	Aleksandrs Solovjovs	LVA	25/02/88	21	-	-	-	2	-	5	-	2	-	2	-
Forwards															
14	Ivan Shpakov	RUS	08/06/86	23	-	-	-	-	-	17	7	1	-	12	-
20	Alexandru Dedov	MDA	26/07/89	20	-	-	-	-	-	20	2	-	-	7	-
25	Ritvars Rugins	LVA	17/10/89	20	-	-	-	1	-	13	2	1	-	6	-
27	Edgars Gauračs	LVA	10/03/88	21	-	-	-	3	1	6	1	3	1	3	1
28	Eduards Višņakovs	LVA	10/05/90	19	-	-	-	1	-	8	5	1	-	1	-
29	Uche Iheruome	NGA	14/04/87	22	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-
32	Andrejs Butriks	LVA	20/12/82	26	-	-	-	3	-	20	6	9	-	33	5
33	João Martins	POR	20/06/82	27	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	3	-
Coach															
-	Nunzio Zavettieri	ITA	19/04/67	42	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3	-	5	-

Key: Squad list is ordered by position and then numerically

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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

Sporting Clube de Portugal

Date	Competition	Opponent	Result	Goalscorers
15/08/09	League	CD Nacional (A)	D 1-1	João Aurélio 75 (og)
22/08/09	League	SC Braga (H)	L 1-2	Yannick Djaló 71
30/08/09	League	A. Académica de Coimbra (A)	W 2-0	Liedson 64, Yannick Djaló 84
13/09/09	League	FC Paços de Ferreira (H)	W 1-0	Liedson 81
21/09/09	League	SC Olhanense (H)	W 3-2	Daniel Carriço 35, João Moutinho 42 (p), Vukčević 87
26/09/09	League	FC Porto (A)	L 0-1	
04/10/09	League	CF Os Belenenses (H)	D 0-0	
18/10/09	Cup	FC Penafiel (H)	W 3-0	Liedson 52, João Moutinho 75 (p), Vukčević 90
27/10/09	League	Vitória SC (A)	D 1-1	Fernández 83
01/11/09	League	CS Marítimo (H)	D 1-1	Fernández 54
08/11/09	League	Rio Ave FC (A)		
29/11/09	League	SL Benfica (H)		
06/12/09	League	Vitória FC (A)		
13/12/09	League	UD Leiria (H)		
20/12/09	League	A. Naval 1° Maio (A)		
10/01/10	League	Leixões SC (H)		
17/01/10	League	CD Nacional (H)		
31/01/10	League	SC Braga (A)		
07/02/10	League	A. Académica de Coimbra (H)		
14/02/10	League	FC Paços de Ferreira (A)		
21/02/10	League	SC Olhanense (A)		
28/02/10	League	FC Porto (H)		
07/03/10	League	CF Os Belenenses (A)		
14/03/10	League	Vitória SC (H)		
28/03/10	League	CS Marítimo (A)		
03/04/10	League	Rio Ave FC (H)		
11/04/10	League	SL Benfica (A)		
18/04/10	League	Vitória FC (H)		
25/04/10	League	UD Leiria (A)		
02/05/10	League	A. Naval 1° Maio (H)		

Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	SC Braga	9	8	1	0	15	4	25
2	SL Benfica	9	7	1	1	30	7	22
3	FC Porto	9	6	2	1	19	7	20
4	Rio Ave FC	9	3	5	1	9	6	14
5	CD Nacional	9	4	2	3	10	15	14
6	UD Leiria	9	3	4	2	13	8	13
7	Sporting Clube de Portugal	9	3	4	2	10	8	13
8	CS Marítimo	9	3	3	3	13	11	12
9	A. Naval 1° Maio	9	3	1	5	7	14	10
10	CF Os Belenenses	9	1	5	3	5	10	8
11	Leixões SC	9	2	2	5	7	15	8
12	FC Paços de Ferreira	9	1	4	4	6	11	7
13	Vitória SC	9	1	4	4	7	11	7
14	Vitória FC	9	2	1	6	4	18	7
15	SC Olhanense	9	1	4	4	5	10	7
16	A. Académica de Coimbra	9	1	3	5	9	14	6

FK Ventspils

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 Ventspils (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 Ventspils (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 90+3 (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 Ventspils (H)	W 7-0	Shpakov 16 (p), Višņakovs 24, 60, João 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)	W 2-0	Višņakovs 54, 74
23/09/09	League	FK Tranzīts Ventspils (A)	W 1-0	Shpakov 69
26/09/09	League	SK Blāzma Rezekne (A)	W 2-0	Žigajevs 14, Butriks 25 (p)
04/10/09	League	Skonto FC (A)	D 0-0	
15/10/09	League	FK Daugava Rīga (H)	W 8-0	Višņakovs 8, 63, João Martins 11, 83, Rugins 25, Mysikov 52, Shpakov 72, 90
18/10/09	League	FK Jūrmala (H)	W 4-1	Gauračs 23, Višņakovs 54, Višņakovs 56, Iheruome 75
26/10/09	League	Skonto FC (H)	L 0-2	
01/11/09	League	SK Liepājas Metalurģs (A)	D 1-1	Butriks 17
08/11/09	League	FC Dinaburg (A)		

Pos.	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	SK Liepājas Metalurģs	31	24	4	3	88	21	76
2	FK Ventspils	31	22	5	4	86	21	71
3	Skonto FC	30	22	3	5	90	27	69
4	JFK Olimps	31	11	4	16	50	57	37
5	FK Jūrmala	31	11	4	16	38	59	37
6	SK Blāzma Rezekne	32	7	5	20	30	71	26
7	FK Tranzīts Ventspils	31	2	10	19	21	61	16
8	FK Daugava Rīga	31	3	5	23	24	108	14
9	FC Dinaburg	30	15	4	11	31	33	0

Match-by-match lineups

Group D

Standings

Club	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Sporting Clube de Portugal	3	3	0	0	6	3	9
SC Heerenveen	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
FK Ventspils	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Hertha BSC Berlin	3	0	1	2	1	3	1

Matchday 1 (17/09/09)

Hertha BSC Berlin 1-1 FK Ventspils

Goals: 1-0 Piszczek 34, 1-1 Gauračs 48

FK Ventspils: Chesnovski, Žigajevs (Ndeki 86), Kosmačovs, Laizans, Višņakovs (Butriks 72), Chirkin, Mihadjuks, Zamperini, Ţīgīrlaš (Astafjevs 75), Gauračs, Solovjovs

SC Heerenveen 2-3 Sporting Clube de Portugal

Goals: 1-0 Sibon 12, 1-1 Liedson 17, 1-2 Liedson 40, 2-2 Dingsdag 77, 2-3 Liedson 88

Sporting Clube de Portugal: Rui Patrício, Daniel Carriço, Polga, Vukčević (Tonel 89), Marco Caneira, Fernández (Angulo 82), Yannick Djaló (Hélder Postiga 62), Miguel Veloso, João Moutinho, Liedson, Abel

Matchday 2 (01/10/09)

Sporting Clube de Portugal 1-0 Hertha BSC Berlin

Goals: 1-0 Adrien Silva 18

Sporting Clube de Portugal: Rui Patrício, Daniel Carriço, Adrien Silva, Vukčević (Grimi 78), Caicedo (Yannick Djaló 68), Tonel, Fernández (Pereirinha 46), Miguel Veloso, João Moutinho, Liedson, Abel

FK Ventspils 0-0 SC Heerenveen

FK Ventspils: Kolinko, Žigajevs (Butriks 63), Kosmačovs, Chirkin, Ndeki, Mihadjuks, Zamperini, Ţīgīrlaš, Gauračs (Višņakovs 88), Hodel, Solovjovs (Rugins 90+1)

Matchday 3 (22/10/09)

FK Ventspils 1-2 Sporting Clube de Portugal

Goals: 0-1 Miguel Veloso 6, 1-1 Laizans 64(pen), 1-2 João Moutinho 85

FK Ventspils: Kolinko, Kosmačovs (Žigajevs 60), Laizans (Astafjevs 83), Chirkin, Ndeki, Mihadjuks, Zamperini, Ţīgīrlaš, Gauračs, Hodel, Butriks (Višņakovs 53)

Sporting Clube de Portugal: Rui Patrício, Daniel Carriço, Vukčević (Pereirinha 63), Caicedo (Hélder Postiga 73), Tonel, Fernández (Angulo 80), Grimi, Miguel Veloso, João Moutinho, Liedson, Abel

Matchday 4 (05/11/09)

Sporting Clube de Portugal v FK Ventspils

Matchday 5 (03/12/09)

FK Ventspils v Hertha BSC Berlin

Sporting Clube de Portugal v SC Heerenveen

Matchday 6 (16/12/09)

Hertha BSC Berlin v Sporting Clube de Portugal

SC Heerenveen v FK Ventspils

Match officials

Referee	Aleksandar Stavrev (MKD)
Assistant referees	Ljubomir Krstevski (MKD), Marjan Kirovski (MKD)
Additional assistant referee	Dimitar Meckarovski (MKD)
Additional assistant referee	Goran Spirkoski (MKD)
Fourth official	Petar Mantev (MKD)
UEFA Delegate	Jim Boyce (NIR)
UEFA Referee observer	John Edward Martin (ENG)

Referee

Name	Date of birth	UEL matches *	UEFA matches
Aleksandar Stavrev	30/03/1977	2	24

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

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res.	Venue
27/07/06	UCUP	QR1	Skonto FC - AS Jeunesse Esch	3-0	Riga
06/08/09	UCUP	QR3	FC Paços de Ferreira - Bnei Yehuda Tel-Aviv FC	0-1	Guimaraes

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

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res.	Venue
23/06/07	UIC	R1	Cliftonville FC - FC Dinaburg	1-1	Belfast
23/10/07	U19	QR	Latvia - Georgia	2-0	Tbilisi

* 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 **No.:** Number

aetps: Match decided after extra time **o.g.:** Own goal and penalty shoot-out

ag: Match decided on away goals

agg: Aggregate

AP: Appearances

Comp.: Competition

D: Drawn

DoB: Date of birth

GA: Goals against

GF: Goals for

L: Lost

Nat.: Nationality

N/a: Not Applicable

(p): Penalty

Pld: Matches played

Pos.: Position

Pts: Points

R: Sent off (red card)

Res.: Result

t: Match decided by toss of coin

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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