

SL Benfica v Manchester United FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Estádio do Sport Lisboa e Benf, Lisbon

Tuesday, 26 September 2006 - 20:45CET

Group F - Matchday 2



Manchester United FC return to the scene of their demise in last season's UEFA Champions League when they visit SL Benfica on Matchday 2. Sir Alex Ferguson's side failed to reach the knockout rounds for the first time since 1994/95 after going down to a 2-1 loss in Lisbon on 7 December last year but they have a swift opportunity for revenge at the Estádio da Luz.

- United are the early Group F leaders after beating Celtic FC 3-2 at Old Trafford on 13 September. Ole Gunnar Solskjær scored the winner two minutes into the second half – his first UEFA Champions League goal since 16 September 2003 against Panathinaikos FC. Louis Saha struck United's two other goals to open his account in the competition.
- Benfica made a satisfactory start with a goalless draw at FC København. Paulo Jorge went closest to breaking the deadlock with a shot against the post with 15 minutes remaining. A victory for United here would leave them strongly placed at the head of the section, while three points for Benfica could take them top depending on the result of the Celtic v København match.
- This is the sixth meeting between Benfica and United. The most famous was at Wembley Stadium in the final of the 1967/68 European Champion Clubs' Cup. United won 4-1 after extra time to become England's first European champions. Bobby Charlton (now a club director) opened the scoring and despite Jaime Graça's late equaliser, Matt Busby's team responded with three goals in seven minutes in extra time through George Best, Brian Kidd and Charlton again.
- United won the sides' first four encounters including a 2-1 success at Old Trafford on 27 September last year, when Ryan Giggs and Ruud van Nistelrooij were the scorers. Benfica finally got the better of the Red Devils at the fifth time of asking as Geovanni and Beto's goals overturned Paul Scholes' early effort to eliminate the English team from Europe.
- After overcoming United, the Eagles then beat Liverpool FC home (1-0) and away (2-0) in the first knockout round as they reached the quarter-finals for the first time since 1994/95 under former coach Ronald Koeman.
- Koeman's successor, Fernando Santos, has coached all of Portugal's 'Big Three' clubs. However, including his time at FC Porto and Sporting Clube de Portugal, his only meeting with an English club brought a 2-0 aggregate loss to Liverpool in the 2000/01 UEFA Cup.
- United have lost four of seven away games against Portuguese opposition. Their previous trip prior to last season's loss in Lisbon also brought a costly defeat, 2-1 against José Mourinho's Porto in the 2003/04 first knockout round.



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Team facts

SL Benfica

UEFA club competition milestones

- Benfica have a rich history in European football's premier club competition, twice winning the European Champion Clubs' Cup and five times being runners-up. The Portuguese giants first won the trophy in 1961, defeating FC Barcelona 3-2, before defending their title the following season with a 5-3 victory against Real Madrid CF.

- Losing finalists in 1963, 1965, 1968, 1988 and 1990, since the creation of the UEFA Champions League, Benfica have twice reached the last eight, losing to Barcelona in 2005/06 and AC Milan in 1994/95. They also enjoyed a run to the final of the UEFA Cup in 1983, losing out to RSC Anderlecht 2-1 over two legs.

UEFA club competition honours

- European Champion Clubs' Cup: 1960/61, 1961/62

Ten-year record (including current season)

- Their appearance in the UEFA Champions League this season is Benfica's fourth in succession, although this is only the third time they have gone beyond the third qualifying round in the last ten years. This season, Benfica booked their place in the group stage thanks to a 4-1 defeat of FK Austria Wien.

1997/98: UEFA Cup - first round

1998/99: UEFA Champions League - group stage

1999/00: UEFA Cup - round of 32

2000/01: UEFA Cup - first round

2001/02: Did not compete in UEFA club competition

2002/03: Did not compete in UEFA club competition

2003/04: UEFA Cup - fourth round (having transferred from the UEFA Champions League, third qualifying round)

2004/05: UEFA Cup - round of 32 (having transferred from the UEFA Champions League, third qualifying round)

2005/06: UEFA Champions League - quarter-finals

2006/07: UEFA Champions League - group stage

2005/06 season

Domestic record: Although they could only finish third in the Portuguese Liga in the defence of their title, 12 points behind winners FC Porto and five adrift of Lisbon rivals Sporting Club de Portugal, it was still enough to earn Benfica a place in the third qualifying round of the UEFA Champions League.

European record: Although it was a disappointing season on the domestic front for Benfica, they enjoyed success on the European stage by making it through the group stage of the UEFA Champions League for the first time since 1994/95. A 2-1 victory on Matchday 6 against Manchester United sealed second place in their pool and a Round of 16 encounter against Liverpool FC in the first knockout round. Putting the holders out 3-0 on aggregate, Benfica's run would eventually come to an end at the quarter-final stage with a 2-0 aggregate defeat at the hands of eventual winners FC Barcelona.

Key facts

- Benfica have played a total of 280 games in UEFA club competition. They had won 134, drawn 68 and lost 78, scoring 483 goals and conceding 295.

- The Portuguese club have played 169 times in the European Champion Clubs' Cup, winning 82, drawing 40 and losing 47. They had scored 313 goals and conceded 174. In the UEFA Champions League (group stage to final) it reads: played 25, won nine, drawn ten, lost six, scored 25 goals and conceded 23.

Records

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UEFA club competition

- Biggest win

10-0: SL Benfica v CS Stade Dudelange

05.10.1965, 1965/66 European Champion Clubs' Cup, preliminary round, second leg

- Biggest home win

10-0: SL Benfica v CS Stade Dudelange (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

0-8: CS Stade Dudelange v SL Benfica

30.09.1965, 1965/66 European Champion Clubs' Cup, preliminary round, first leg

- Heaviest defeat

7-0: RC Celta da Vigo v SL Benfica

25.11.1999, 1999/2000 UEFA Cup third round, first leg

- Heaviest home defeat

1-5: SL Benfica v Manchester United FC

09.03.1966, 1965/66 European Champion Clubs' Cup, quarter-finals, second leg

- Heaviest away defeat

7-0: RC Celta da Vigo v SL Benfica (see above for details)

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

- Biggest win

0-2: Liverpool FC v SL Benfica

08.03.2006, 2004/05 UEFA Champions League, first knockout round, second leg

3-1: SL Benfica v RSC Anderlecht.

28.09.1994, 1994/95 UEFA Champions League, group stage

- Biggest home win

3-1: SL Benfica v RSC Anderlecht (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

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

- Heaviest defeat

2-0: FC Barcelona v SL Benfica

05.04.2006, 2005/06 UEFA Champions League, quarter-finals, second leg

2-0: HJK Helsinki v SL Benfica

21.10.1998, 1998/99 UEFA Champions League, group stage

2-0: AC Milan v SL Benfica

01.03.1995, 1994/95 UEFA Champions League, quarter-finals, first leg

- Heaviest home defeat

0-1: SL Benfica v Villarreal CF

02.11.2005, 2005/06 UEFA Champions League, group stage

- Heaviest away defeat

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

2-0: HJK Helsinki v SL Benfica (see above for details)

2-0: AC Milan v SL Benfica (see above for details)

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Manchester United FC

UEFA club competition milestones

• United have twice been crowned champions of Europe. Their last success came in the 1998/99 UEFA Champions League final when they overturned a one-goal deficit against FC Bayern München with two goals from Teddy Sheringham and Ole Gunnar Solskjær in added time. United also won the 1967/68 European Champion Clubs' Cup final against Benfica, running out 4-1 winners after extra time.

UEFA club competition honours

- European Champion Clubs' Cup: 1967/68, 1998/99
- UEFA Cup Winners' Cup: 1990/91
- European/South American Cup: 1999
- UEFA Super Cup: 1991

Ten-year record (including current season)

• Last season's failure to get out of the group stage ended a run of nine straight participations in the knockout stages. It was the first time they had to failed to do so since 1994/95.

1997/98: UEFA Champions League - quarter-finals

1998/99: UEFA Champions League - winners

1999/00: UEFA Champions League - quarter-finals

2000/01: UEFA Champions League - quarter-finals

2001/02: UEFA Champions League - semi-finals

2002/03: UEFA Champions League - quarter-finals

2003/04: UEFA Champions League - first knockout round

2004/05: UEFA Champions League - first knockout round

2005/06: UEFA Champions League - group stage

2006/07: UEFA Champions League - group stage

2005/06season

Domestic record: United went one better than the previous Premiership campaign by finishing second, eight points behind champions Chelsea FC. Crucially, they were a point better off than Liverpool FC to earn a direct entry into the UEFA Champions League.

European record: Although Debreceni VSC were brushed aside in qualifying, United came unstuck in the group stage of the UEFA Champions League. The only win came in a 2-1 home defeat of SL Benfica and losses in the return fixture as well as at LOSC Lille Métropole saw United finish in last place. Two draws with section winners, and eventual semi-finalists, Villarreal CF showed that United were not totally outclassed.

Key facts

• Before the start of the competition proper, United were four games behind Real Madrid CF in terms of the most UEFA Champions League games (group stage to final only) played of the 32 teams involved. In their 116 matches, the English side have won 58, drawn 31 and lost 27 matches, scoring 206 goals and conceding 117.

• Overall, their record in UEFA club competition reads: played 225, won 116, drawn 61, lost 48 with 409 goals scored and 224 conceded. In their 169 matches in the European Champion Clubs' Cup, United have won 92, drawn 41 and lost 36 matches with 332 goals scored and 170 conceded.

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Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest win

10-0: Manchester United FC v RSC Anderlecht

26.09.1956, 1956/57 European Champion Clubs' Cup, preliminary round, second leg

- Biggest home win

10-0: Manchester United FC v RSC Anderlecht (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

0-6: Shamrock Rovers FC v Manchester United FC

25.09.1957, 1957/58 European Champion Clubs' Cup, preliminary round, first leg

- Heaviest defeat

5-0: Sporting Clube de Portugal v Manchester United FC

18.03.1964, 1963/64 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, quarter-finals, second leg

- Heaviest home defeat

0-1: Manchester United FC v AC Milan

23.02.2005, 2004/05 UEFA Champions League, first knockout round, first leg

2-3: Manchester United FC v RC Deportivo La Coruña

17.10.2001, 2001/02 UEFA Champions League, first group stage

0-1: Manchester United FC v FC Bayern München

03.04.2001, 2000/01 UEFA Champions League, quarter-finals, first leg

2-3: Manchester United FC v Real Madrid CF

19.04.2000, 1999/2000 UEFA Champions League, quarter-finals, second leg

0-1: Manchester United FC v BV Borussia Dortmund

23.04.1997, 1996/97 UEFA Champions League, semi-finals, second leg

0-1: Manchester United FC v Juventus

20.11.1996, 1996/97 UEFA Champions League, group stage

0-1: Manchester United FC v Fenerbahçe SK

30.10.1996, 1996/97 UEFA Champions League, group stage

- Heaviest away defeat

5-0: Sporting Clube de Portugal v Manchester United FC (see above for details)

UEFA Champions League (group stage to final only)

- Biggest win

5-0: Manchester United FC v Panathinaikos FC

16.09.2003, 2003/04 UEFA Champions League, group stage

5-0: Manchester United FC v Brøndby IF

04.11.1998, 1998/99 UEFA Champions League, group stage

- Biggest home win

5-0: Manchester United FC v Panathinaikos FC (see above for details)

5-0: Manchester United FC v Brøndby IF (see above for details)

- Biggest away win

2-6: Brøndby IF v Manchester United FC

21.10.1998, 1998/99 UEFA Champions League, group stage

- Heaviest defeat

4-0: FC Barcelona v Manchester United FC

02.11.1994, 1994/95 UEFA Champions League, group stage

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- Heaviest home defeat

0-1: Manchester United FC v AC Milan (see above for details)

2-3: Manchester United FC v RC Deportivo La Coruña (see above for details)

0-1: Manchester United FC v FC Bayern München (see above for details)

2-3: Manchester United FC v Real Madrid CF (see above for details)

0-1: Manchester United FC v BV Borussia Dortmund (see above for details)

0-1: Manchester United FC v Juventus (see above for details)

0-1: Manchester United FC v Fenerbahçe SK (see above for details)

- Heaviest away defeat

4-0: FC Barcelona v Manchester United FC (see above for details)

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Match facts

Group F

• Benfica began their Group F campaign with a goalless draw at FC København as United edged to a 3-2 victory against Celtic FC at Old Trafford, in fixtures that will be reversed on Matchday 5 (21 November). While Benfica and United meet in Portugal, København travel to Celtic on Matchday 2 with the sides scheduled to do battle again in Denmark on Matchday 6 (6 December), when United play host to Benfica in Old Trafford. United take on København on Matchdays 3 (17 October) and 4 (1 November) in England and Denmark respectively, the same nights as Celtic meet Benfica at home and then away.

Benfica

• **Rui Costa** is the most experienced member of the Benfica squad having featured in 47 UEFA Champions League games. In addition, should he appear in the five remaining group matches the playmaker will make his 100th UEFA club competition appearance in the reverse fixture with United on Matchday 6.

• Should he feature against United, **Nuno Gomes** will reach 50 games in UEFA club competition. **Simão**, meanwhile, has featured 48 times while **Georgios Karagounis** has appeared in 58 UEFA club matches.

• **Manú** and **Kikin** both made their debuts in the UEFA Champions League proper on Matchday 1.

• **Petit** turned 30 the day before the United game while **Kikin** is 27 on 2 October and **Ricardo Rocha** celebrates his 28th birthday a day later. Coach **Fernando Santos**, meanwhile, is 52 on 10 October.

• Benfica have won just one of their opening three games in the Portuguese Liga after drawing 1-1 at FC Paços de Ferreira on Friday night. **Konstantinos Katsouranis** headed the Eagles into a 24th-minute lead from **Paulo Jorge's** left-wing cross, only for João Paulo to equalise in added time.

• The Greek international's goal was Benfica's first away from home and first from open play in the Liga this term.

• Brazilian defender **Léo** was sent off in the 54th minute – the fourth Benfica player to be dismissed in two away games following red cards for **Manú**, **Petit** and **Nuno Gomes** in the 3-0 loss at Boavista FC.

• Coach **Santos** said: "We were in full control before losing a player to a red card again. This has to stop. We also hit the woodwork twice [through Katsouranis and Luisão] and conceded in injury time so I'm far from happy."

• Italian striker **Fabrizio Miccoli** started a game for the first time this season after recovering from a thigh injury. Winger **Manú** was also recalled following his suspension for the 1-0 win against CD Nacional. **Rui Costa** and **Rocha** were injured, and **Nuno Gomes** and **Petit** suspended.

• Winger **Simão** made his 150th Liga appearance in the game.

• Benfica won their first match of the 2006/07 Portuguese Liga season on 17 September, defeating CD Nacional 1-0 at the Estádio da Luz following their opening 3-0 defeat against Boavista FC.

• **Luisão** scored his first goal of the season against Nacional. The first-half strike was only the seventh league goal the Brazilian international had scored since joining Benfica in 2003/04.

• Benfica were without both **Nuno Gomes** and **Petit** for the visit of Nacional after both were sent off in the defeat at Boavista. **Manú** was also banned for the game, while **Rui Costa** was sidelined with a thigh injury.

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- Mexican international **Kikin** made his full debut against Nacional due to Nuno Gomes' absence. **Nuno Assis** came in as a replacement for Rui Costa.
- Greek international midfielder **Karagounis** made his first appearance of the year in the win while Italian international **Fabrizio Miccoli** recovered from injury in time to get his first action of the season as a second-half substitute.
- Benfica went 208 minutes without scoring a goal in competitive action following the 3-0 defeat against Boavista and their 0-0 draw away to FC København on Matchday 1.
- Benfica's scheduled opening league fixture against CF Os Belenenses is yet to be played due to disciplinary and legal issues which led to the postponement of matches involving Belenenses, Gil Vicente FC and Leixões SC. The game is now due to take place on 21 December.

Manchester United

- **Gary Neville** and **Ryan Giggs** are both closing in on a century of UEFA Champions League appearances having featured in 93 and 88 matches respectively. Both players have already achieved the landmark in UEFA club competition, however, with Giggs having played 104 games to Neville's 103.
- **Paul Scholes** has made 95 appearances in UEFA club competition and, should he feature in all five remaining group games, will reach his century against Benfica at Old Trafford on Matchday 6.
- **Michael Carrick**, meanwhile, made his UEFA Champions League debut against Celtic FC, which was also only his second appearance in UEFA club competition.
- **Scholes** and **Ole Gunnar Solskjær** are both one goal short of 20 in the UEFA Champions League; Scholes has struck 19 in 85 matches while Solskjær has taken 13 games fewer to reach the same total.
- Two of United's rising stars celebrate birthdays around the game; midfielder **Richard Jones** is 20 on the day of the Benfica match while defender **Ryan Shawcross** turns 19 on 4 October.
- Manchester United needed a late **Cristiano Ronaldo** goal to claim a Premiership point at Reading FC on Saturday. The top-flight newcomers took the lead at the Madejski stadium with a Kevin Doyle penalty at the start of the second half after **Neville** had handled in his own penalty area. However, Ronaldo struck in the last quarter of the game to make it 1-1.
- Argentinian international **Gabriel Heinze** made his first start for United after over a year on the sidelines for his club with a knee ligament injury.
- **Heinze**'s introduction into the lineup was one of four changes, with fellow defender **Nemanja Vidić** also in the starting eleven for the first time this season, **Edwin van der Sar** returning in goal and **Carrick** back in midfield.
- The club's leading scorer, **Louis Saha**, missed the match after sustaining a hamstring strain in training. Also ruled out were **Giggs** (hamstring), **Mikaël Silvestre** and **Park Ji Sung** (both ankle).
- Manager **Sir Alex Ferguson** said: "Reading fought for every ball and worked their tails off, but we should have done better. They put eight bodies in front of us in their box and that is not easy to play against. We had shots blocked, over the bar and the goalkeeper made two or three good saves. Sometimes it happens that way."
- The game against Reading was **Ferguson's** 1,100th in charge of United.
- United's best start to a Premiership season of four successive victories was ended by Arsenal FC on 17 September, the visitors winning 1-0 at Old Trafford.

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- The attendance of 75,595 for the game at Old Trafford was a new Premiership record, eclipsing the previous mark set just a week earlier when 75,453 fans saw United overcome Tottenham Hotspur FC with a Giggs goal.
- Manchester United have not suffered successive defeats in the Premiership since Norwich City FC and Everton FC defeated them in April 2005.
- Of the 12 goals United have scored in the league, seven different players have got their name on the scoresheet.
- **Rio Ferdinand** is the only United player to have played in every minute of their league and UEFA Champions League games this season.
- Goalkeeper **Tomasz Kuszczak** made his debut in the defeat against Arsenal.
- Korean midfielder **Park** has come through a successful operation on the ankle he injured on Matchday 1 against Celtic FC. He is expected to return in three months' time.
- **Alan Smith** is in line for a comeback after a long spell on the sidelines following a broken leg.
- **Ronaldo** returns for Matchday 2 after missing the first round of games through suspension.

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Competition facts

• **UEFA Champions League:** Did you know?

Domestic champions: This season's competition features 16 domestic league winners from last season, but none of the eight groups comprising the 2006/07 UEFA Champions League features four champions. Only Group A features three league winners from the last campaign with England, Spain and Bulgaria represented by their champions, namely Chelsea FC, FC Barcelona and PFC Levski Sofia. The fourth club in the group, Werder Bremen, finished second in last season's Bundesliga, five points behind FC Bayern München. All of the remaining groups feature two domestic league winners with the exception of Group H, where Belgian side RSC Anderlecht are the only champions. Group rivals AEK Athens FC were runners-up in Greece, while LOSC Lille Métropole and AC Milan were classified in third place in Ligue 1 and Serie A respectively. Alongside 16 champions, there are nine runners-up and six third-placed finishers. Arsenal FC are the only club in the group stage to have finished in fourth place in their domestic league championship last season.

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

Knockout streak: In qualifying for the 2005/06 knockout phase, Real Madrid CF equalled Manchester United FC's record of nine consecutive seasons in advancing past the group stage. While United's streak came to an end last season, Madrid have featured in the knockout phase every time since the 1996/97 campaign. In those nine seasons, United won the competition once while they also advanced as far as the semi-finals twice, the quarter-finals four times and the first knockout round twice in the other eight seasons. Madrid, meanwhile, have won the competition three times in the last nine years while they advanced as far as the semi-finals twice and the quarter-finals twice. However, in the last two seasons their interest in the competition has ended at the first knockout round.

European return: Of all 32 clubs competing in this season's UEFA Champions League, only FC Spartak Moskva and FC Girondins de Bordeaux did not participate in a UEFA club competition during the 2005/06 season. Indeed, the two clubs are making their first appearance in UEFA club competition since the 2003/04 season.

Past masters: Four clubs competing in the 2006/07 UEFA Champions League were involved in the competition when it started during the 1992/93 season. AC Milan were beaten finalists (losing to Olympique de Marseille), while PSV Eindhoven, PFC CSKA Moskva and FC Porto all participated in the group stage. In addition, AEK Athens FC and FC Barcelona were knocked out in the second round, the last hurdle before the group stage.

Long road for debutants: Five clubs have advanced to the group stage from the European Champion Clubs' Cup second qualifying round including this season's two debutants, FC København and PFC Levski Sofia. They are joined by FC Spartak Moskva, FC Dynamo Kyiv and FC Steaua Bucuresti as clubs who had to play four matches to claim their place in the group stage of the competition. A debutant has not won the competition since Juventus in 1995/96, the Italian side becoming the third club to achieve this following Olympique de Marseille (1992/93, first UEFA Champions League final) and AFC Ajax (1994/95).

No qualifiers: Of the 32 clubs involved in the group stage, only AS Roma and FC Girondins de Bordeaux have yet to play a qualifying round match in order to reach the UEFA Champions League. Roma are making their fourth appearance in the competition, while Bordeaux are involved for the second time.

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Pedigree: Four of the former winners of the competition since it included a group stage element from the 1992/93 season are not participating in this season's UEFA Champions League, namely Olympique de Marseille (1992/93), AFC Ajax (1994/95), Juventus (1995/96) and BV Borussia Dortmund (1996/97). The last ten winners of the competition, Real Madrid CF (three), Manchester United FC, FC Bayern München, AC Milan, FC Porto, Liverpool FC and FC Barcelona are involved in this season's group stage. Only three winners from the last ten UEFA Cup finals are not involved in this season's UEFA Champions League group stage, namely Parma FC (1998/99), Feyenoord (2001/02) and Sevilla FC (2005/06). Liverpool and Porto have won both competitions in the past decade, while the remaining UEFA Cup winners in that time are FC Internazionale Milano, Galatasaray SK, Valencia CF and PFC CSKA Moskva.

• **UEFA Champions League:** All-time records

Biggest wins

8-3: AS Monaco FC v RC Deportivo La Coruña (05.11.2003)

7-0: Juventus v Olympiacos CFP (10.12.2003)

7-2: Paris Saint-Germain FC v Rosenborg BK (24.10.2000)

7-2: Olympique Lyonnais v Werder Bremen (08.03.2005)

6-0: Olympique de Marseille v PFC CSKA Moskva (17.03.1993)

6-0: Leeds United AFC v Besiktas JK (26.09.2000)

6-0: Real Madrid CF v KRC Genk (25.09.2002)

Monaco's record victory was achieved in part thanks to the exploits of Dado Pršo, who scored four of his seven 2003/04 UEFA Champions League goals that evening against Deportivo. Only one team has scored more than five goals in an away game, Manchester United FC winning 6-2 at Brøndby IF in 1998/99.

Most goals in a season

12: Ruud van Nistelrooy (Manchester United FC, 2002/03)

10: Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus, 1997/98)

10: Mário Jardel (FC Porto, 1999/00)

10: Rivaldo (FC Barcelona, 1999/00)

10: Raúl González (Real Madrid CF, 1999/00)

10: Ruud van Nistelrooy (Manchester United FC, 2001/02)

10: Filippo Inzaghi (AC Milan, 2002/03)

Andriy Shevchenko finished as top scorer in 2005/06 with nine goals, three behind the record mark set for one season in the competition.

Four goals in a match

Marco van Basten (**AC Milan** 4-0 IFK Göteborg, 25.11.1992)

Simone Inzaghi (**S.S. Lazio** 5-1 Olympique de Marseille, 14.03.2000)

Dado Pršo (**AS Monaco FC** 8-3 RC Deportivo La Coruña, 05.11.2003)

Ruud van Nistelrooy (**Manchester United FC** 4-1 AC Sparta Praha, 03.11.2004)

Andriy Shevchenko (Fenerbahçe SK 0-4 **AC Milan**, 23.11.2005)

Of these four-goal hauls, Dado Pršo's against Deportivo was the quickest. He scored his first goal 26 minutes into the game and his fourth just 23 minutes later.

Fastest goal in a match

20.07 secs: Gilberto (PSV Eindhoven 0-4 **Arsenal FC**, 25.09.2002)

20.12 secs: Alessandro Del Piero (Manchester United FC 3-2 **Juventus**, 01.10.1997)

21.20 secs: Clarence Seedorf (FC Schalke 04 2-2 **AC Milan**, 28.09.2005)

25.40 secs: Marek Kincl (Club Brugge KV 3-2 **SK Rapid Wien**, 02.11.2005)

28.21 secs: Mariano Bombarda (**Willem II** 3-4 AC Sparta Praha, 20.10.1999)

AC Milan's joy at Clarence Seedorf's first-minute goal against FC Schalke 04 in the 2005/06 group stage was short-lived - Søren Larsen equalised for the home side in the third minute.

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Fastest hat-tricks

9 mins: Mike Newell (**Blackburn Rovers FC** 4-1 Rosenborg BK, 06.12.1995)

19 mins: Marco Simone (Rosenborg BK 1-4 **AC Milan**, 25.09.1996)

19 mins: Dado Pršo (**AS Monaco FC** 8-3 RC Deportivo La Coruña, 05.11.2003)

21 mins: Sigurd Rushfeldt (**Rosenborg BK** 3-0 Galatasaray SK, 21.10.1998)

21 mins: Simone Inzaghi (**S.S. Lazio** 5-1 Olympique de Marseille, 14.03.2000)

Rosenborg conceded 16 goals the season Mike Newell scored his rapid hat-trick, three fewer than the UEFA Champions League group stage record set by Hungarian side Ferencvárosi TC the same season.

Youngest players to score

17 years, 195 days: Peter Oforiquaye (Rosenborg BK 5-1 **Olympiacos CFP**, 01.10.1997)

17 years, 218 days: Cesc Fabregas (**Arsenal FC** 5-1 Rosenborg BK, 07.12.2004)

17 years, 241 days: Martin Klein (Panathinaikos FC 2-1 **AC Sparta Praha**, 27.02.2002)

17 years, 353 days: Karim Benzema (**Olympique Lyonnais** 2-1 Rosenborg BK, 06.12.2005)

18 years, 61 days: Sammy Kuffour (**FC Bayern München** 2-2 FC Spartak Moskva, 02.11.1994)

18 years, 70 days: Andriy Shevchenko (**FC Dynamo Kyiv** 1-4 FC Bayern München, 07.12.1994)

Peter Oforiquaye became the youngest player to score, but Celestine Babayaro is still the youngest player to appear, having begun RSC Anderlecht's game against FC Steaua Bucuresti on 23 November 1994 aged 16 years and 87 days.

• **UEFA club competition and UEFA Champions League:** All-time record appearances and goalscoring

Appearances: UEFA club competition

Note: Players listed in **bold** are still involved in this season's competitions (UEFA Champions League or UEFA Cup)

160 **Paolo Maldini** (AC Milan)

130 Frank de Boer (AFC Ajax, FC Barcelona, Galatasaray SK)

130 **Luís Figo** (Sporting Clube de Portugal, FC Barcelona, Real Madrid CF, FC Internazionale Milano)

125 **Oliver Kahn** (Karlsruher SC, FC Bayern München)

122 Zinédine Zidane (AS Cannes, FC Girondins de Bordeaux, Juventus, Real Madrid CF)

120 **Alessandro Costacurta** (AC Milan)

119-110

117 Giuseppe Bergomi (FC Internazionale Milano)

114 **Phillip Cocu** (BV Vitesse, PSV Eindhoven, FC Barcelona)

113 **Clarence Seedorf** (AFC Ajax, Real Madrid CF, FC Internazionale Milano, AC Milan)

112 Stefan Reuter (1. FC Nürnberg, FC Bayern München, Juventus, BV Borussia Dortmund)

110 Pavel Nedvěd (AC Sparta Praha, S.S. Lazio, Juventus)

110 **Raúl González** (Real Madrid CF)

110 **Roberto Carlos** (FC Internazionale Milano, Real Madrid CF)

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MATCH PRESS KIT

109-100

109 Amedeo Carboni (UC Sampdoria, AS Roma, Valencia CF)
108 **Vitor Baía** (FC Porto, FC Barcelona)
108 **David Beckham** (Manchester United FC, Real Madrid CF)
107 Stefan Klos (BV Borussia Dortmund, Rangers FC)
107 Roar Strand (Rosenborg BK)
106 Filip De Wilde (KSK Beveren, RSC Anderlecht, Sporting Clube de Portugal)
106 Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus)
106 Fernando Hierro (Real Madrid CF)
105 **Claude Makelele** (FC Nantes Atlantique, RC Celta de Vigo, Real Madrid CF, Chelsea FC)
105 Michel Preud'homme (R. Standard de Liège, KV Mechelen, SL Benfica)
105 Alessio Tacchinardi (Juventus, Villarreal CF)
104 **Ryan Giggs** (Manchester United FC)
104 **Thierry Henry** (AS Monaco FC, Juventus, Arsenal FC)
104 **Lilian Thuram** (AS Monaco FC, Parma FC, Juventus, FC Barcelona)
104 Gert Verheyen (RSC Anderlecht, Club Brugge KV)
103 Ciro Ferrara (SSC Napoli, Juventus)
103 **Gary Neville** (Manchester United FC)
101 Bülent Korkmaz (Galatasaray SK)
101 Manuel Sanchís (Real Madrid CF)
100 Edgar Davids (AFC Ajax, AC Milan, Juventus, FC Internazionale Milano)
100 Lothar Matthäus (VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach, FC Bayern München, FC Internazionale Milano)

99-95

99 Bixente Lizarazu (Athletic Club Bilbao, FC Girondins de Bordeaux, FC Bayern München)
98 Angelo Peruzzi (AS Roma, Juventus, S.S. Lazio)
97 Francisco Gento (Real Madrid CF)
97 Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (FC Bayern München, FC Internazionale Milano, Servette FC)
96 Marc Overmars (AFC Ajax, Arsenal FC, FC Barcelona)
95 Ray Clemence (Liverpool FC, Tottenham Hotspur FC)
95 Gheorghe Hagi (CF Sportul Studentesc, FC Steaua Bucuresti, Real Madrid CF, FC Barcelona, Galatasaray SK)
95 Erik Hoftun (Rosenborg BK)

Appearances: UEFA Champions League

Note: This list considers group stage to final only; Players listed in **bold** are still involved in this season's competitions (UEFA Champions League or UEFA Cup)

102 **Raúl González** (Real Madrid CF)
100 **Roberto Carlos** (Real Madrid CF)

99-90

98 **David Beckham** (Manchester United FC, Real Madrid CF)
97 **Paolo Maldini** (AC Milan)
95 **Oliver Kahn** (FC Bayern München)
93 **Gary Neville** (Manchester United FC)
91 **Luís Figo** (FC Barcelona, Real Madrid CF, FC Internazionale Milano)

89-80

88 **Ryan Giggs** (Manchester United FC)
85 **Paul Scholes** (Manchester United FC)
83 **Clarence Seedorf** (AFC Ajax, Real Madrid CF, AC Milan)
81 Frank de Boer (AFC Ajax, FC Barcelona, Galatasaray SK)
80 **Andriy Shevchenko** (FC Dynamo Kyiv, AC Milan, Chelsea FC)
80 Zinédine Zidane (Juventus, Real Madrid CF)

SL Benfica v Manchester United FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

79-70

79 Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus)
79 **Thierry Henry** (AS Monaco FC, Arsenal FC)
78 Alessio Tacchinardi (Juventus, Villarreal CF)
77 **Michel Salgado** (Real Madrid CF)
76 **Iván Helguera** (Real Madrid CF)
76 **Fernando Morientes** (Real Madrid CF, AS Monaco FC, Liverpool FC, Valencia CF)
76 **Hasan Salihamidžić** (FC Bayern München)
75 **Guti** (Real Madrid CF)
75 **Claude Makelele** (FC Nantes Atlantique, Real Madrid CF, Chelsea FC)
74 Edgar Davids (AFC Ajax, AC Milan, Juventus, FC Internazionale Milano)
74 Robert Pirès (Olympique de Marseille, Arsenal FC)
72 **Iker Casillas** (Real Madrid CF)
72 **Phillip Cocu** (PSV Eindhoven, FC Barcelona)
72 Samuel Kuffour (FC Bayern München)
72 **Michael Reiziger** (AFC Ajax, AC Milan, FC Barcelona, PSV Eindhoven)
72 **Ole Gunnar Solskjær** (Manchester United FC)
71 Roy Keane (Manchester United FC)
71 **Sylvain Wiltord** (FC Girondins de Bordeaux, Arsenal FC, Olympique Lyonnais)

Others (involved in this season's competition only)

68 **Patrick Kluivert** (AFC Ajax, FC Barcelona)
68 **Rivaldo** (FC Barcelona, AC Milan, Olympiacos CFP)
67 **Mehmet Scholl** (FC Bayern München)
65 **Mikaël Silvestre** (FC Internazionale Milano, Manchester United FC)
64 **Patrick Vieira** (Arsenal FC, Juventus, FC Internazionale Milano)
64 **Alessandro Costacurta** (AC Milan)
63 **Alessandro Nesta** (S.S. Lazio, AC Milan)
60 **Fredrik Ljungberg** (Arsenal FC)

Goals: UEFA club competition

Note: Players listed in **bold** are still involved in this season's competitions (UEFA Champions League or UEFA Cup)

62 Gerd Müller (FC Bayern München)
56 Eusébio (SL Benfica)
56 **Andriy Shevchenko** (FC Dynamo Kyiv, AC Milan, Chelsea FC)
55 **Filippo Inzaghi** (Parma FC, Juventus, AC Milan)
53 **Raúl González** (Real Madrid CF)
50 Alfredo Di Stéfano (Real Madrid CF)

49-45

49 **Thierry Henry** (AS Monaco FC, Juventus, Arsenal FC)
47 Carlos Santillana (Real Madrid CF)
47 **Ruud van Nistelrooy** (PSV Eindhoven, Manchester United FC, Real Madrid CF)
46 Henrik Larsson (Feyenoord, Celtic FC, FC Barcelona)
45 Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus)
45 Jupp Heynckes (Hannover 96, VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach)

Goals: UEFA Champions League

Note: This list considers group stage to final only; Players listed in **bold** are still involved in this season's competitions (UEFA Champions League or UEFA Cup)

51 **Raúl González** (Real Madrid CF)
43 **Andriy Shevchenko** (FC Dynamo Kyiv, AC Milan)
43 **Ruud van Nistelrooy** (PSV Eindhoven, Manchester United FC)
41 **Thierry Henry** (AS Monaco FC, Arsenal FC)

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MATCH PRESS KIT

39-30

37 **Alessandro Del Piero** (Juventus)

35 **Filippo Inzaghi** (Juventus, AC Milan)

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

29-20

29 **Patrick Kluivert** (AFC Ajax, FC Barcelona)

28 David Trezeguet (AS Monaco FC, Juventus)

27 **Roy Makaay** (RC Deportivo La Coruña, FC Bayern München)

27 **Rivaldo** (FC Barcelona, AC Milan, Olympiacos CFP)

25 Mário Jardel (FC Porto, Galatasaray SK)

24 Giovane Elber (FC Bayern München, Olympique Lyonnais)

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

23 **Hernán Crespo** (Parma FC, S.S. Lazio, FC Internazionale Milano, Chelsea FC, AC Milan)

23 Jari Litmanen (AFC Ajax, Liverpool FC)

21 **Ryan Giggs** (Manchester United FC)

20 **Serhiy Rebrov** (FC Dynamo Kyiv)

20 Marco Simone (AC Milan, Paris Saint-Germain FC, AS Monaco FC)

Others (involved in this season's competition only)

19 **Paul Scholes** (Manchester United FC)

19 **Ole Gunnar Solskjær** (Manchester United FC)

Goals: UEFA Champions League/European Champion Clubs' Cup

Note: This list considers the all-time goalscorers list in both competitions including all qualifying round matches;

Players listed in bold are still involved in this season's competitions (UEFA Champions League or UEFA Cup)

52 **Andriy Shevchenko** (FC Dynamo Kyiv, AC Milan, Chelsea FC)

51 **Raúl González** (Real Madrid CF)

49-40

49 Alfredo Di Stéfano (Real Madrid CF)

47 Eusébio (SL Benfica)

47 **Ruud van Nistelrooy** (PSV Eindhoven, Manchester United FC, Real Madrid CF)

41 **Thierry Henry** (AS Monaco FC, Juventus, Arsenal FC)

39-36

38 Alessandro Del Piero (Juventus)

37 **Filippo Inzaghi** (Parma FC, Juventus, AC Milan)

Last updated: 15 September 2006

SL Benfica v Manchester United FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

UEFA information

A UEFA technical report says the most successful teams in last season's UEFA Champions League were able to find the right blend of brilliance and pragmatism. "There can be no doubting that defensive blocks were impressively efficient, or that counterattacking has become a crucial weapon in the modern armoury," said the report produced by UEFA's football development division under technical director Andy Roxburgh in conjunction with a distinguished team of coaches including Rafael Benítez, Sir Alex Ferguson and Gérard Houllier. The number of goals (not including the qualifying competition) in 2005/06 totalled 285 - a drop of 46 on the previous season.

UEFA officials met their counterparts from the European federations of basketball (FIBA Europe), handball (EHF), ice hockey (IIHF) and volleyball (CEV) in Brussels on 20 September to discuss the future of sport on the continent. The federations underlined the need to recognise the specificity of sport as an activity with a social, educational and cultural role – and said it was essential to maintain their autonomy as decision-making bodies. They expressed their support of the Independent European Sport Review as a means of implementing the content of the Nice Declaration on the Specific Characteristics of sport. They also welcomed the White Paper project launched by the European Commission and said that the Independent European Sport Review should be incorporated into it.

Italy's FIFA World Cup-winning captain Fabio Cannavaro gave his backing to World Heart Day on Sunday, for which the World Health Federation and UEFA united to promote physical activity and sport as an important element in tackling the rising levels of obesity, particularly among children. "I know my heart is the strongest, most important muscle in my body and a winning performance depends on its vitality," said the Real Madrid CF defender. UEFA's role in backing World Heart Day - with events taking place in more than 100 countries - was the promotion of physical exercise through playing football, not only as a source of enjoyment but also to maintain physical fitness.

The deployment by a coach of one sole striker in a tactical system does not necessarily imply negative thinking - and football's lawmaking authorities are being asked to examine the offside rule and its interpretation. These were two key elements that emerged from a three-day FIFA/UEFA gathering in Berlin a fortnight ago, in which national-team coaches, technical directors and experts from Europe and beyond examined the technical and tactical trends that were evident in both the FIFA World Cup in Germany and last season's UEFA Champions League.

uefa.com users will be able to watch video on-demand this season including extensive UEFA Champions League action. For a special-offer annual price of €29.96 - reduced from €39.95 - you can get full access to the uefa.com video section. This gives full access to matchday round-ups from the 2006/07 UEFA Champions League, UEFA Cup match action from the quarter-finals onwards, UEFA EURO 2008™ qualifying action and an exhaustive archive of UEFA Champions League clips dating from 1993. The matchday packages include previews, extended highlights, match events, player of the match packages, and full match reruns. Alternatively you can pay €3.95 monthly.

SL Benfica v Manchester United FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Head coach profiles

Fernando Santos

Date of birth: 10 October 1954

Nationality: Portuguese

Playing career: SL Benfica, CS Marítimo, GD Estoril Praia

Coaching career: GD Estoril-Praia, CF Estrela da Amadora, FC Porto, AEK Athens FC (twice), Panathinaikos FC, Sporting Clube de Portugal, SL Benfica

Fernando Santos completed a huge loop when he returned to SL Benfica as a coach in 2006, some 34 years after starting his playing days with the club. His career as a player was a modest success, never really making the grade at the Estádio da Luz and instead turning out in the lower divisions for CS Marítimo and GD Estoril Praia. But following successful spells as coach of FC Porto and AEK Athens FC, he is hoping to make a bigger impression at Benfica this time around.

He started off well, guiding them past FK Austria Wien and into the UEFA Champions League group stage in his first competitive games as coach having taken over at the helm during summer 2006. He arrived after spending two years at AEK Athens FC and the journey between Greece and Portugal is becoming a familiar one for Fernando Santos. Having started out at Estoril, it was with Estrela da Amadora that he caught the eye, helping them a remarkable seventh-place league finish in 1997/98.

The achievement attracted the attentions of FC Porto, whom he led to a fifth successive title in 1998/99, but the coach could not repeat the feat and back-to-back Portuguese Cup wins did not sate the appetite of a expectant fans so Fernando Santos departed in summer 2001, joining AEK. More silverware came, in the form of the Greek Cup, and after spending the 2002/03 season at Panathinaikos FC he moved to Sporting Clube de Portugal. It proved a disappointment, however, and he returned to AEK 12 months later before rejoining Benfica in May 2006.

Sir Alex Ferguson

Date of birth: 31 December 1941

Nationality: Scottish

Coaching career: Falkirk FC, East Stirlingshire FC, Saint Mirren FC, Aberdeen FC, Manchester United FC

Sir Alex Ferguson has enjoyed more than two decades at the top, restoring Manchester United FC to their position as one of Europe's foremost clubs. He helped nurture a group of young players including David Beckham, Paul Scholes and Gary Neville who formed the backbone of United's treble-winning side in 1999. The esteem in which his peers hold him is reflected by his position as head of the UEFA Coaches Panel.

Ferguson enjoyed a relatively successful playing career that included a spell at Rangers FC before becoming player-coach at Falkirk FC. He then managed East Stirlingshire FC and Saint Mirren FC before shooting to prominence at Aberdeen FC. In 1980 the club won the Scottish title to break the Old Firm's 14-year stranglehold, a dominance which has returned since Aberdeen's last title in 1985. Ferguson's greatest success with the Dons came in 1983, when they beat Real Madrid CF to win the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup.

United appointed Ferguson in 1986 and after a difficult start the Scot led the club to their longest period of sustained success. Their first trophy was the 1990 FA Cup, followed next season by Cup Winners' Cup glory. In 1993 came the first of eight Premiership titles, to which five FA Cups were added. Ferguson's finest moment came in 1999, when two added-time goals gave United a 2-1 UEFA Champions League final victory against FC Bayern München. After failing to get beyond the 2005/06 group stage and finishing runners-up behind Premiership champions Chelsea FC, Ferguson is keen to hit the heights again.

SL Benfica v Manchester United FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Squad list

Benfica

No	Player	Nat.	DoB	Current Season				All-time					
				UCLQ		UCL		League		UCL		UEFA	
				Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers													
1	José Moreira	POR	20.03.82	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	16	-
12	Quim	POR	13.11.75	2	-	1	-	3	-	4	-	12	-
31	Moretto	BRA	10.05.78	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	6	-
Defenders													
2	Pedro Correia	POR	27.03.87	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3	Anderson	BRA	27.04.80	2	-	-	-	3	-	9	-	11	-
4	Luisão	BRA	13.02.81	2	-	1	-	3	1	11	1	26	1
5	Léo	BRA	06.07.75	-	-	1	-	3	-	10	-	10	-
11	Miguelito	POR	04.02.81	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-
13	Alcides	BRA	13.03.85	-	-	1	-	2	-	5	-	10	-
22	Nélson	POR	10.06.83	2	-	-	-	1	-	7	-	9	-
33	Ricardo Rocha	POR	03.10.78	2	-	1	-	-	-	10	-	28	-
Midfielders													
6	Petit	POR	25.09.76	2	1	1	-	1	-	19	-	40	1
7	Marco Ferreira	POR	12.03.78	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	10	-
8	Konstantinos Katsouranis	GRE	21.06.79	2	-	1	-	3	1	13	1	32	5
10	Rui Costa	POR	29.03.72	2	1	-	-	1	-	47	1	95	12
14	Diego	BRA	17.06.85	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
15	Paulo Jorge	POR	05.05.81	2	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	3	-
16	Beto	BRA	20.11.76	1	-	-	-	-	-	8	1	9	1
18	Manú	POR	28.08.82	2	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	3	-
19	Andrei Karyaka	RUS	01.04.78	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	1
25	Nuno Assis	POR	25.11.77	1	-	1	-	3	-	3	-	6	-
26	Georgios Karagounis	GRE	06.03.77	-	-	-	-	2	-	36	3	58	4
28	João Coimbra	POR	24.05.86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards													
9	Mantorras	ANG	18.03.82	-	-	-	-	3	-	5	-	7	-
17	Kikin	MEX	02.10.79	1	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	2	-
20	Simão	POR	31.10.79	-	-	1	-	2	-	24	2	48	8
21	Nuno Gomes	POR	05.07.76	2	2	1	-	1	-	14	5	49	20
30	Fabrizio Miccoli	ITA	27.06.79	-	-	-	-	2	-	12	3	15	5
Coach													
	Fernando Santos	POR	10.10.54	2	-	1	-	-	-	21	-	58	-

SL Benfica v Manchester United FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Squad list

Man. United

No	Player	Nat.	DoB	Current Season				All-time					
				UCLQ Pld	Gls	UCL Pld	Gls	League Pld	Gls	UCL Pld	Gls	UEFA Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers													
1	Edwin van der Sar	NED	29.10.70	-	-	1	-	5	-	51	-	95	-
29	Tomasz Kuszczak	POL	20.03.82	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
38	Thomas Heaton	ENG	15.04.86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
39	Ron Robert Zieler	GER	12.02.89	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders													
2	Gary Neville	ENG	18.02.75	-	-	1	-	4	-	93	2	103	2
3	Patrice Evra	FRA	15.05.81	-	-	-	-	4	-	21	-	29	-
4	Gabriel Heinze	ARG	19.04.78	-	-	-	-	1	-	8	-	23	3
5	Rio Ferdinand	ENG	07.11.78	-	-	1	-	6	-	35	1	54	1
6	Wes Brown	ENG	13.10.79	-	-	1	-	5	-	39	1	41	1
15	Nemanja Vidić	SCG	21.10.81	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	14	3
22	John O'Shea	IRL	30.04.81	-	-	1	-	6	-	34	-	39	-
25	David Jones	ENG	04.11.84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27	Mikaël Silvestre	FRA	09.08.77	-	-	1	-	5	1	66	2	72	2
32	Cathcart Craig	NIR	06.02.89	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34	Ryan Shawcross	ENG	04.10.87	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	Kieran Lee	ENG	22.06.88	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36	David Gray	SCO	04.05.88	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Midfielders													
11	Ryan Giggs	WAL	29.11.73	-	-	1	-	4	2	88	21	104	23
13	Ji Sung Park	KOR	25.02.81	-	-	-	-	4	-	21	1	29	2
16	Michael Carrick	ENG	28.07.81	-	-	1	-	5	-	1	-	2	-
18	Paul Scholes	ENG	16.11.74	-	-	1	-	3	-	85	19	95	21
23	Kieran Richardson	ENG	21.10.84	-	-	1	-	3	-	11	-	13	1
24	Darren Fletcher	SCO	01.02.84	-	-	1	-	5	1	17	-	21	-
49	Richard Jones	ENG	26.09.86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Forwards													
7	Cristiano Ronaldo	POR	05.02.85	-	-	-	-	6	2	18	-	24	1
8	Wayne Rooney	ENG	24.10.85	-	-	1	-	3	2	11	3	12	4
9	Louis Saha	FRA	08.08.78	-	-	1	2	6	2	7	2	29	11
14	Alan Smith	ENG	28.10.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	5	48	16
20	Ole Gunnar Solskjær	NOR	26.02.73	-	-	1	1	5	1	72	19	82	23
Coach													
	Alex Ferguson	SCO	31.12.41	-	-	1	-	-	-	116	-	195	-

SL Benfica v Manchester United FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Bookings list - Group F

SL Benfica

No	Player	Matchday						KO1		QF		SF		F
		1	2	3	4	5	6	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	
13	Alcides MENDES ARAUJO ALVES	Y												

Manchester United FC

No	Player	Matchday						KO1		QF		SF		F
		1	2	3	4	5	6	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	
7	Cristiano DOS SANTOS AVEIRO	S												
27	Mikaël Samy SILVESTRE	Y												

Celtic FC

No	Player	Matchday						KO1		QF		SF		F
		1	2	3	4	5	6	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	
1	Artur BORUC	Y												
9	Kenneth MILLER	Y												

FC København

No	Player	Matchday						KO1		QF		SF		F
		1	2	3	4	5	6	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	
4	Hjalte Bo NORREGAARD	Y												
11	Marcus ALLBACK	S												

SL Benfica v Manchester United FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Domestic information

SL Benfica (SuperLiga)

	Date	Opponent	Res	Lineups
League	09.09.2006	v Boavista FC (A)	0-3	Quim, Anderson, Luisão, Léo, Nélon, Petit, Katsouranis (Mantorras 79), Rui Costa (Nuno Assis 61), Manú, Nuno Gomes, Miguelito (Kikin 46)
League	17.09.2006	v CD Nacional (H)	1-0	Quim, Alcides, Luisão, Anderson, Léo, Katsouranis, Karagounis, Nuno Assis (Miguelito 86), Paulo Jorge (Miccoli 73), Simão, Kikin (Mantorras 78)
League	22.09.2006	v FC Paços de Ferreira (A)	1-1	Quim, Anderson, Luisão, Léo, Katsouranis, Alcides, Paulo Jorge, Simão, Nuno Assis (Manú 29, Miguelito 56), Karagounis, Miccoli (Mantorras 67)

	Date	Opponent	Res	Goalscorers
League	09.09.2006	v Boavista FC (A)	0-3	
League	17.09.2006	v CD Nacional (H)	1-0	Luisão
League	22.09.2006	v FC Paços de Ferreira (A)	1-1	Katsouranis
League	01.10.2006	v CD Das Aves (H)		
League	15.10.2006	v UD Leiria (A)		
League	22.10.2006	v CF Estrela da Amadora (H)		
League	29.10.2006	v FC Porto (A)		
League	05.11.2006	v SC Beira-Mar (H)		
League	19.11.2006	v SC Braga (A)		
League	26.11.2006	v CS Marítimo (H)		
League	03.12.2006	v Sporting Clube de Portugal (A)		
League	10.12.2006	v A. Naval 1° Maio (A)		
League	17.12.2006	v Vitória FC (H)		
League	14.01.2007	v A. Académica de Coimbra (A)		
League	28.01.2007	v CF Os Belenenses (A)		
League	04.02.2007	v Boavista FC (H)		
League	18.02.2007	v CD Nacional (A)		
League	25.02.2007	v FC Paços de Ferreira (H)		
League	04.03.2007	v CD Das Aves (A)		
League	11.03.2007	v UD Leiria (H)		
League	18.03.2007	v CF Estrela da Amadora (A)		
League	01.04.2007	v FC Porto (H)		
League	07.04.2007	v SC Beira-Mar (A)		
League	15.04.2007	v SC Braga (H)		
League	22.04.2007	v CS Marítimo (A)		
League	29.04.2007	v Sporting Clube de Portugal (H)		
League	06.05.2007	v A. Naval 1° Maio (H)		
League	13.05.2007	v Vitória FC (A)		

SL Benfica v Manchester United FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Rank	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	FC Porto	4	4	0	0	10	1	12
2	Sporting Clube de Portugal	4	3	0	1	6	3	9
3	SC Braga	4	2	1	1	3	2	7
4	FC Paços de Ferreira	4	2	1	1	5	4	7
5	A. Naval 1º Maio	4	2	1	1	4	3	7
6	SC Beira-Mar	4	1	2	1	6	7	5
7	CF Os Belenenses	3	1	2	0	3	1	5
8	CS Marítimo	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
9	UD Leiria	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
10	Vitória FC	4	1	1	2	2	4	4
11	Boavista FC	4	1	1	2	7	6	4
12	SL Benfica	3	1	1	1	2	4	4
13	A. Académica de Coimbra	4	0	3	1	5	6	3
14	CD Nacional	4	1	0	3	1	3	3
15	CD Das Aves	4	0	2	2	2	5	2
16	CF Estrela da Amadora	4	0	1	3	0	7	1

SL Benfica v Manchester United FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Domestic information

Manchester United FC (Premiership)

	Date	Opponent	Res	Lineups
League	09.09.2006	v Tottenham Hotspur FC (H)	1-0	Van der Sar, G. Neville, Ferdinand, Brown, Evra, Cristiano Ronaldo (Silvestre 90), Carrick (Fletcher 79), O'Shea, Richardson (Park Ji Sung 70), Giggs, Saha
League	17.09.2006	v Arsenal FC (H)	0-1	Kuszczyk, G. Neville, Ferdinand, Brown, Silvestre (Evra 23), Fletcher, Scholes (Carrick 78), O'Shea, Cristiano Ronaldo, Rooney (Solskjær 77), Saha
League	23.09.2006	v Reading FC (A)	1-1	Van der Sar, G. Neville, Vidić, Ferdinand, Heinze (O'Shea 70), Fletcher (Solskjær 70), Carrick, Scholes, Richardson (Saha 58), Cristiano Ronaldo, Rooney

	Date	Opponent	Res	Goalscorers
League	20.08.2006	v Fulham FC (H)	5-1	Saha, Rooney (2), Own goal, Cristiano Ronaldo
League	23.08.2006	v Charlton Athletic FC (A)	3-0	Solskjær, Saha, Fletcher
League	26.08.2006	v Watford FC (A)	2-1	Giggs, Silvestre
League	09.09.2006	v Tottenham Hotspur FC (H)	1-0	Giggs
League	17.09.2006	v Arsenal FC (H)	0-1	
League	23.09.2006	v Reading FC (A)	1-1	Cristiano Ronaldo
League	01.10.2006	v Newcastle United FC (H)		
League	14.10.2006	v Wigan Athletic FC (A)		
League	22.10.2006	v Liverpool FC (H)		
League	28.10.2006	v Bolton Wanderers FC (A)		
League	04.11.2006	v Portsmouth FC (H)		
League	11.11.2006	v Blackburn Rovers FC (A)		
League	18.11.2006	v Sheffield United FC (A)		
League	26.11.2006	v Chelsea FC (H)		
League	29.11.2006	v Everton FC (H)		
League	02.12.2006	v Middlesbrough FC (A)		
League	09.12.2006	v Manchester City FC (H)		
League	17.12.2006	v West Ham United FC (A)		
League	23.12.2006	v Aston Villa FC (A)		
League	26.12.2006	v Wigan Athletic FC (H)		
League	30.12.2006	v Reading FC (H)		
League	01.01.2007	v Newcastle United FC (A)		
League	13.01.2007	v Aston Villa FC (H)		
League	20.01.2007	v Arsenal FC (A)		
League	31.01.2007	v Watford FC (H)		
League	03.02.2007	v Tottenham Hotspur FC (A)		
League	10.02.2007	v Charlton Athletic FC (H)		
League	24.02.2007	v Fulham FC (A)		
League	03.03.2007	v Liverpool FC (A)		
League	17.03.2007	v Bolton Wanderers FC (H)		
League	31.03.2007	v Blackburn Rovers FC (H)		

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MATCH PRESS KIT

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

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Match officials

Referee	Frank De Bleeckere (BEL)
Assistant referees	Peter Hermans (BEL), Walter Vromans (BEL)
Fourth official	Stéphane Breda (BEL)
UEFA Delegate	Wolf-Günter Wiesel (GER)

Referee

Name	Nat.	DoB	UCL	UEFA
Frank De Bleeckere	BEL	01.07.1966	15	35

Belgian referee Frank De Bleeckere is carrying on a family tradition which has endured for more than four decades. De Bleeckere's grandfather was a referee in Belgium in the 1950s and 1960s, and his father René a top-flight match official in the domestic game some 20 years ago.

The third generation of the De Bleeckere dynasty was born in Oudenaarde on 1 July 1966. A PR manager, he speaks English, Flemish, French and German and is married with a daughter. He started refereeing in 1984, oversaw his first Belgian top-flight match in 1995, and received his FIFA badge in 1998. The same year he officiated at his first UEFA tournament, the UEFA European Under-16 Championship in Scotland, and quickly graduated to UEFA Champions League and UEFA Cup duties.

He sandwiched UEFA EURO 2004™, where he was one of four specialist fourth officials, with appearances at the 2003 FIFA U-20 World Cup in the United Arab Emirates and 2005 FIFA U-17 World Cup in Peru, where he refereed the final between Mexico and Brazil. De Bleeckere had earlier overseen a showpiece closer to home, the 2005 Belgian Cup final between Club Brugge KV and KFC Germinal Beerschot Antwerpen.

De Bleeckere was in the middle for six UEFA Champions League matches in 2004/05, including the quarter-final first leg between Liverpool FC and Juventus, and four last term before travelling to the FIFA World Cup where he took charge of four matches culminating in Italy's quarter-final defeat of Ukraine.

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

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
28.08.2002	UCL	QR3	Newcastle United FC-NK Željeznicar	4-0	Newcastle
02.10.2002	UCL	GS1	AJ Auxerre-Arsenal FC	0-1	Auxerre
11.12.2002	UCL	GS2	FC Barcelona-Newcastle United FC	3-1	Barcelona
28.09.2004	UCL	GS	Manchester United FC-Fenerbahçe SK	6-2	Manchester
05.04.2005	UCL	QF	Liverpool FC-Juventus	2-1	Liverpool

UEFA Champions League Other matches

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
04.08.1999	UCL	QR2	ŠK Slovan Bratislava-Anorthosis Famagusta FC	1-1	Bratislava
02.08.2000	UCL	QR2	FBK Kaunas-Rangers FC	0-0	Kaunas
25.07.2001	UCL	QR2	FC Kutaisi Torpedo-FC København	1-1	Kutaisi
25.09.2001	UCL	GS1	Fenerbahçe SK-Olympique Lyonnais	0-1	Istanbul
17.10.2001	UCL	GS1	FC Bayern München-FC Spartak Moskva	5-1	Munich
30.10.2002	UCL	GS1	FC Internazionale Milano-Rosenborg BK	3-0	Milan
26.02.2003	UCL	GS2	Valencia CF-AS Roma	0-3	Valencia
12.03.2003	UCL	GS2	BV Borussia Dortmund-FC Lokomotiv Moskva	3-0	Dortmund
27.08.2003	UCL	QR3	SK Slavia Praha-RC Celta de Vigo	2-0	Prague
21.10.2003	UCL	GS1	RC Deportivo La Coruña-AS Monaco FC	1-0	La Coruna

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Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
05.11.2003	UCL	GS1	FC Internazionale Milano-FC Lokomotiv Moskva	1-1	Milan
10.08.2004	UCL	QR3	FC Dynamo Kyiv-Trabzonspor	1-2	Kiev
15.09.2004	UCL	GS	RC Deportivo La Coruña-Olympiacos CFP	0-0	La Coruna
24.11.2004	UCL	GS	AC Milan-FC Shakhtar Donetsk	4-0	Milan
23.02.2005	UCL	1/8	Werder Bremen-Olympique Lyonnais	0-3	Bremen
09.08.2005	UCL	QR3	Anorthosis Famagusta FC-Rangers FC	1-2	Nicosia
21.02.2006	UCL	1/8	FC Bayern München-AC Milan	1-1	Munich

Other matches

Date	Comp.	Stage	Match	Res	Venue
26.04.1998	U16	GS - FT	Croatia-Ukraine	2-0	
30.04.1998	U16	GS - FT	Republic of Ireland-Spain	1-0	Stirling
05.05.1998	U16	SF	Republic of Ireland-Portugal	2-0	Perth
11.07.1998	UIC	R2	FC National 2000 Bucuresti-Iraklis FC	3-0	Bucharest
27.08.1998	UCWC	QR	FC Araks Ararat-FC Lausanne-Sport	1-2	Yerevan
09.10.1998	U21	QR	Italy-Switzerland	1-0	Cremona
21.10.1998	U18	PR	Slovenia-Scotland	0-2	Beltinci
26.11.1998	U16	QR	Germany-Serbia	2-0	Saarbrücken
04.07.1999	UIC	R2	FC København-KSP Polonia Warszawa	0-3	Gentofte
16.09.1999	UCUP	R1	Celtic FC-Hapoel Tel-Aviv FC	2-0	Glasgow
04.11.1999	UCUP	R2	Juventus-PFC Levski Sofia	1-1	Turin
12.09.2000	UCUP	R1	1. FK Drnovice-TSV 1860 München	0-0	Drnovice
26.10.2000	UCUP	R2	Boavista FC-AS Roma	0-1	Porto
27.01.2001	MCUP	GS - FT	Cameroon-Italy	0-1	Bari
31.01.2001	MCUP	GS - FT	Mali-Portugal	2-2	Bisceglie
24.03.2001	WC	QR	Cyprus-Republic of Ireland	0-4	Nicosia
07.07.2001	UIC	R2	AIK Solna-Odense BK	2-0	Solna
06.10.2001	WC	QR	Moldova-Turkey	0-3	Chisinau
06.12.2001	UCUP	R3	Leeds United AFC-Grasshopper-Club	2-2	Leeds
21.02.2002	UCUP	R4	Olympique Lyonnais-FC Slovan Liberec	1-1	Lyon
07.09.2002	EURO	QR	Latvia-Sweden	0-0	Riga
10.04.2003	UCUP	SF	Celtic FC-Boavista FC	1-1	Glasgow
30.04.2003	FRIE.	R1	Germany-Serbia	1-0	Bremen
11.06.2003	EURO	QR	Greece-Ukraine	1-0	Athens
06.09.2003	EURO	QR	F.Y.R. Macedonia-England	1-2	Skopje
26.02.2004	UCUP	R3	Brøndby IF-FC Barcelona	0-1	Brøndby
11.03.2004	UCUP	R4	Villarreal CF-AS Roma	2-0	Villarreal
09.10.2004	WC	QR	Slovenia-Italy	1-0	Celje
17.11.2004	WC	QR	Armenia-Romania	1-1	Yerevan
03.09.2005	WC	QR	Sweden-Bulgaria	3-0	Solna
08.10.2005	WC	QR	Denmark-Greece	1-0	Copenhagen
16.11.2005	WC	P-O	Turkey-Switzerland	4-2	Istanbul
09.03.2006	UCUP	1/8	Udinese Calcio-PFC Levski Sofia	0-0	Udine
10.06.2006	WC	GS - FT	Argentina-Ivory Coast	2-1	Hamburg
18.06.2006	WC	GS - FT	Japan-Croatia	0-0	Nuremberg
25.06.2006	WC	1/8	England-Ecuador	1-0	Stuttgart
30.06.2006	WC	QF	Italy-Ukraine	3-0	Hamburg
06.09.2006	EURO	QR	Northern Ireland-Spain	3-2	Belfast

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Competition information

UEFA's most prestigious club competition was originally created as the European Champion Clubs' Cup for the 1955/56 season, before its revamping as the UEFA Champions League in 1992.

• **Locally-trained players rule:** In February 2005, UEFA announced that the 'A' list that teams submit for UEFA club competitions will continue to be limited to 25 players, and from season 2006/07, at least four places on this list will be reserved for players trained by the club's own football academy of which half can be players trained by other clubs from within the same association of the said club.

The 'B' list will also continue to exist - involving an unlimited number of Under-21 players who have been at the club for two seasons. In 2007/08, the number of locally-trained players in a squad will increase to six before rising to eight in 2008/09, with up to half of each figure allowed to be association trained.

A club-trained player is defined as a player who has been registered for a minimum of three seasons with the club between the age of 15 and 21, whereas an association-trained player is one who has been registered for at least three seasons by the club or by other clubs affiliated to the same association between the age of 15 and 21.

UEFA is concerned some clubs are not training enough of their own players, but simply taking them from elsewhere. The proposed measures have the objective of creating a better balance in domestic competitions, preventing clubs from simply 'hoarding' players in squads and creating a system whereby locally-trained players would be given a greater opportunity to play regularly in club sides - ensuring a large reservoir of talent for national teams as a consequence.

• **Financial information:** UEFA says the estimated budgeted income for the 2006/07 UEFA Champions League is €750m – higher than the 2005/06 campaign revenue which amounted to CHF943m (approx. €610m).

Under the competition regulations, 75 per cent of the total revenue received from television and commercial contracts concluded by UEFA, up to a maximum of €530m will go to the 32 clubs taking part in the group stage of Europe's premier club competition. The remaining 25 per cent is earmarked for European football and remains with UEFA to cover organisational and administrative costs, as well as for solidarity payments to associations, clubs and leagues.

It is also stipulated that participating clubs will receive 82 per cent of any revenue received from the same stream in excess of € 530m, with the remaining 18 per cent allocated to UEFA for European football. In addition, 50 per cent of the revenue received from new media contracts concluded by UEFA will also be available for distribution to the clubs, and the remaining 50 per cent will be allocated to the above-mentioned European football portion/quota.

The gross income for 2006/07 is estimated at €750m, and according to projections, will be made up of € 743.3m from TV and commercial contracts and €6.7m from new media contracts.

The fixed amount to the clubs is €276.6m. Each of the 32 clubs in the group stage will receive a starting bonus of €2m. In addition, they will receive a match bonus of €400,000 per match. Performance bonuses will amount to €600,000 for a win and €300,000 for a draw in the group stage. The 16 teams playing in the first knockout round will receive €2.2m, the eight quarter-finalists €2.5m each and the four semi-finalists €3m each. The UEFA Champions League winners will receive €7m, and the runners-up €4m.

This means that a total minimum amount of €4.4m per club is guaranteed for the group stage. A club could receive, at best, up to €22.7m, not counting the market pool share and gate receipts.

The remaining €270.4m will be distributed according to the proportional value of each TV market represented by the clubs taking part in the UEFA Champions League, and to be split among the number of teams – four, three, two or one – participating from a given association.

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• **Format:** The UEFA Champions League group stage draw in Monaco on 24 August saw the 32 teams divided into eight groups of four. Clubs from the same association could not be drawn into the same group. Each club plays one home and one away match against each other club in its group. Three points are awarded for a win, one point for a draw and no points for a defeat. If two or more teams are equal on points on completion of the group matches, the following criteria are applied to determine the rankings.

- a) higher number of points obtained in the group matches played among the teams in question;
- b) superior goal difference from the group matches played among the teams in question;
- c) higher number of goals scored away from home in the group matches played among the teams in question;
- d) superior goal difference from all group matches played;
- e) higher number of goals scored;
- f) higher number of coefficient points accumulated by the club in question as well as its association, over the previous five seasons.

The eight group-winners and eight runners-up of the group stage qualify for the first knockout round, to be played over two legs on 20 February and 7 March 2007. The clubs that finish this stage in third position in their group move into the round of 32 of the UEFA Cup. The clubs that finish this stage in fourth position in their group are eliminated from UEFA club competition for the season.

• **Deadlines:** UEFA Champions League matchday stats packs and match-by-match press kits are provided to media by uefa.com. For every matchday, a global stats pack is created and issued once matches from the previous matchday have been completed and the data verified. For every UEFA Champions League match, two press kits are issued in English: Sunday at 22:00CET with a match preview update on Monday at 22:00CET for Tuesday's matches. For Wednesday's matches, the press kit is issued on Monday at 22:00CET with the match preview update version published on Tuesday at 22:00CET. Multilingual versions of press kits, determined on a match-by-match basis, are also issued with similar deadlines.

• **Disclaimer:** Although UEFA has taken all reasonable care that the information contained within this document is accurate at the time of publication, no representation or guarantee (including liability towards third parties), expressed or implied, is made as to its accuracy, reliability or completeness. Therefore, UEFA assumes no liability for the use or interpretation of information contained herein.

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Legend

:: All-time statistics

The all-time record of the competing clubs in UEFA club competition.

UEFA club competitions: These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in UEFA club competitions defined as the European Champion Clubs' Cup, the UEFA Champions League, the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, the UEFA Cup, the UEFA Super Cup (from the 1973 competition), the UEFA Intertoto Cup and the European/South American Cup. Matches in the Inter-Cities' Fairs Cup and the 1972 Super Cup are included only for information purposes as these competitions were not held under UEFA auspices.

Goals for/against: Goals totals include the outcome of disciplinary decisions (eg. match forfeits when a 3-0 result is determined). Goals totals do not include goals scored from the penalty mark during a penalty shoot-out after a tie ended in a draw.

:: Squad list

The eligible list of players ordered first by playing position and then numeric order.

Current season - UCLQ: Total UEFA Champions League appearances in qualifying rounds only.

Current season - UCL: Total UEFA Champions League appearances from the group stage onwards prior to the current matchday.

All-time - UCL: Total appearances in the UEFA Champions League from the 1992/93 season, group stage to final only. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

All-time - UEFA: Total appearances in UEFA club competitions (as defined above) including all qualifying round matches. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

:: Bookings list

The current disciplinary situation in the competition.

*: Misses next match if booked

#: Suspended for at least one match

+: Provisionally suspended

R: Sent off (red card)

S: Suspended

Y: Booked (yellow card)

Y/R: Sent off (yellow card then direct red)

R*: Sent off (red card) in the UEFA Cup

S*: Suspended following cautions received in the UEFA Cup

Y*: Booked (yellow card) in the UEFA Cup

Y/R*: Sent off (yellow card then direct red) in the UEFA Cup

Note: The bookings list is destined for the press. It is given to the competing clubs for information purposes only and therefore has no legal value. In the event of any discrepancy, only the correspondence addressed directly to the clubs will be considered as the authoritative version.

:: 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 in the competition.

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UEFA: Total matches officiated in UEFA club competitions 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 in the competition.

:: 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

EURO: UEFA European Football Championship

U21: UEFA European Under-21 Championship

WC: FIFA World Cup

CONFCUP: FIFA Confederations Cup

FRIE: A International friendly matches

U21 FRIE: Under-21 international friendly matches

:: 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

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

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:: 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 (yellow card)

Y/R: Sent off (yellow card then direct red)

:: Statistics

(-): Denotes player substituted

(+): Denotes player introduced

(*): Denotes player dismissed/sent off

(+/-): Denotes player introduced and substituted