

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - 2019/20 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



GNK Dinamo Zagreb

Stadion Maksimir - Zagreb
Wednesday 18 September 2019
21.00CET (21.00 local time)
Group C - Matchday 1



Atalanta BC

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UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE OFFICIAL SPONSORS



Head coach

2

Legend

3

Head coach

Nenad Bjelica

Date of birth: 20 August 1971

Nationality: Croatian

Playing career: Osijek (twice), Albacete, Real Betis, Las Palmas, Kaiserslautern, Admira, Kärnten

Coaching career: Kärnten, Lustenau, Wolfsberg, Austria Wien, Spezia, Lech Poznań, Dinamo Zagreb

- Aged 19, Bjelica made his professional debut for home-town club Osijek, scoring seven goals in 23 games in his first full season. In 1992 the Croatian joined Spanish club Albacete where he spent four successful years before spells at Betis and Las Palmas. In summer 1999 he rejoined Osijek for a year, prior to closing out his career in Germany and Austria.
- The playmaker, voted Croatia's player of the year in 2000, was awarded his international debut against Austria in 2001 and was capped nine times by his country. He made two appearances at UEFA EURO 2004 in Portugal.
- Bjelica started life in the dugout in autumn 2007 as player-coach at Kärnten – registering 29 Austrian second division outings that season. Then hung up his boots but remained in charge until early 2009, subsequently taking over at Lustenau and Wolfsberg, whom he guided from the third tier to the Austrian Bundesliga.
- During his final campaign with Wolfsberg, in 2012/13, Bjelica's side missed out on UEFA Europa League qualification by a solitary point. Bjelica left his post to replace Peter Stöger at Austria Wien and soon led his new employers to the UEFA Champions League group stage, overcoming Dinamo Zagreb in the play-offs, but nevertheless only lasted in the post until February 2014.
- Took charge of Italian Serie B side Spezia between June 2014 and November 2015, before two seasons in Poland with Lech. Appointed Dinamo coach on 15 May 2018, within days the club had won both the Croatian league and cup; retained the league title in 2018/19, Bjelica also taking the club to the UEFA Europa League round of 16.

Gian Piero Gasperini

Date of birth: 26 January 1958

Nationality: Italian

Playing career: Juventus, Reggiana, Palermo, Cavese, Pistoiese, Pescara, Salernitana, Vis Pesaro

Coaching career: Juventus (youth), Crotone, Genoa, Internazionale, Palermo (twice), Genoa, Atalanta

- Gasperini came up through Juventus youth ranks alongside Italy legend Paolo Rossi but never played in Serie A for the Bianconeri, only appearing in the Coppa Italia. Loaned to Reggiana in 1977/78, he joined Palermo for the following campaign.
- After spells at Cavese and Pistoiese, the midfielder moved to Pescara in 1985 and captained the team to promotion to Serie A two years later; scored on his top-flight debut in September 1987 and stayed at the club until 1990, ending his career in the lower divisions with Salernitana and Vis Pesaro.
- After seven successful years as coach in Juventus's youth system, Gasperini took over at Crotone in 2003, leading the southern side into Serie B during his first season before joining Genoa in 2006; again gained promotion in his debut campaign, taking his new club up to the highest division and winning the Panchina d'Argento (Silver Bench) as Serie B's coach of the season.
- Famous for his attacking football and tactical knowledge, in 2008/09 Gasperini led Genoa to fifth place in Serie A, losing out on a place in the UEFA Champions League to Fiorentina only on the head-to-head rule. The first Genoa coach to win three Serie A derbies against city rivals Sampdoria, he was sacked after only ten games of the 2010/11 season.
- Had three months as Inter coach in 2011 before two short spells at Palermo and three years back in charge at Genoa. Appointed Atalanta coach in June 2016, his first season in Bergamo ended with the club in fourth place, earning their first European campaign in 27 years; Atalanta reached the 2017/18 UEFA Europa League round of 32 and finished third in Serie A the following season to reach the UEFA Champions League group stage for the first time.

Legend

ALL-TIME STATISTICS

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

UEFA club competition: These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in UEFA club competition defined as European Champion Clubs' Cup, UEFA Champions League, UEFA Europa League, UEFA Cup Winner's Cup UEFA Super Cup, UEFA Intertoto Cup and European/South American Cup. Matches in the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup and the 1972 Super Cup are not included as they were not held under UEFA auspices, while the FIFA Club World Cup is excluded.

Match officials

UCL: Total matches officiated in the UEFA Champions League from 1992/93 season, group stage to final only. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records.

UEFA: Total matches officiated in UEFA club competition including all qualifying round matches. Matches where the official has acted as the fourth official are not included in these statistics. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records.

Competitions

Club competitions

UCL: UEFA Champions League
ECCC: European Champion Clubs' Cup
UEL: UEFA Europa 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: FIFA Confederations 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
WEURO: UEFA European Women's Championship

Competition stages

F: Final	GS: Group stage
GS1: First group stage	GS2: Second group stage
3QR: Third qualifying round	R1: First round
R2: Second round	R3: Third round
R4: Fourth round	PR: Preliminary round
SF: Semi-finals	QF: Quarter-finals
R16: round of 16	QR: Qualifying round
R32: Round of 32	1QR: First qualifying round
1st: first leg	2QR: Second qualifying round
2nd: second leg	FT: Final tournament
PO: Play-off	ELITE: Elite round
Rep: Replay	3rdPO: Third-place play-off
PO - FT: Play-off for Final Tournament	GS-FT: Group stage – final tournament

Other abbreviations

(aet): After extra time	pens: Penalties
No.: Number	og: Own goal
ag: Match decided on away goals	P: Penalty
Pld: Matches played	agg: Aggregate
Pos.: Position	AP: Appearances
Pts: Points	Comp.: Competition
R: Sent off (straight red card)	D: Drawn
Res.: Result	DoB: Date of birth
sg: Match decided by silver goal	ET: Extra Time
GF: Goals for	GA: Goals against
gg: Match decided by golden goal	t: Match decided by toss of a coin
Y/R: Sent off (two yellow cards)	W: Won
f: Match forfeited	Y: Booked
	L: Lost
	Nat.: Nationality
	N/A: Not applicable

Statistics

-: Denotes player substituted
*: Denotes player sent off

+: Denotes player introduced
+/-: Denotes player introduced and substituted

Squad list

D: Disciplinary

*****: Misses next match if booked

S: Suspended

UCLQ: Current season total UEFA Champions League appearances in the qualifying rounds and play-offs only

UCL: Current season total UEFA Champions League appearances from group stage onwards prior to current matchday

UCL: Total appearances in the UEFA Champions League from 1992/93 season, group stage to final only

UEFA: All-time total appearances in UEFA club competition including qualifying

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