

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - 2019/20 SEASON MATCH PRESS KITS



AFC Ajax

Johan Crujff Arena - Amsterdam

Tuesday 17 September 2019

21.00CET (21.00 local time)

Group H - Matchday 1



LOSC Lille

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Match background

Last season's surprise semi-finalists Ajax kick off their latest UEFA Champions League group campaign at home to a LOSC Lille side who are making their first appearance in seven seasons.

- The Dutch champions had to negotiate two tight qualifying ties to reach the group stage for a second season running, 2018/19 having marked their first appearance in four years. LOSC, who have never before played Ajax, are looking for a first win against Dutch opponents.

Form guide

Ajax

- Ajax went all the way from the UEFA Champions League second qualifying round to the semi-finals in 2018/19, losing on away goals to Tottenham in the last four after conceding six minutes into added time to go down 3-2 at home and bow out after a 3-3 aggregate draw.
- Erik ten Hag's team lost only two of their 18 European matches in 2018/19 (W10 D6), when they became the first side in European Cup history to reach the semi-finals having come through three qualifying rounds and the first Dutch club to get to the UEFA Champions League last four since PSV Eindhoven in 2004/05.
- Champions of the Netherlands for the 34th time in 2018/19 – their first league title since 2014 – Ajax also lifted the Dutch Cup to claim their eighth domestic double, and a first since 2002.
- They kicked off this season's UEFA Champions League in the third qualifying round, seeing off Greek side PAOK 5-4 on aggregate after a 2-2 away draw and a 3-2 home win secured by an 85th-minute Dušan Tadić penalty. The second-leg victory in Amsterdam ended a run of four home European matches without a win (D2 L2).
- A goalless draw at APOEL in the first leg of the play-offs ended Ajax's run of scoring in 14 successive European matches. Their scoring run at home was extended to 11 games in a row, however, thanks to a 2-0 second-leg defeat of APOEL in Amsterdam, Tadić again on target to make it three goals in two European appearances at the Johan Cruyff Arena this season.
- Ajax last faced French opposition in the 2017/18 UEFA Champions League third qualifying round, drawing 2-2 with Nice to bow out on away goals (3-3 aggregate). They nevertheless extended their unbeaten home sequence against Ligue 1 visitors to eight fixtures (W4 D4), since a 2-1 loss against Auxerre in the 1996/97 UEFA Champions League group stage.

LOSC Lille

- Second in Ligue 1 last term, this is LOSC's sixth appearance in the UEFA Champions League group stage and their first since 2012/13. Only one of those previous five campaigns has extended into the knockout rounds, in 2006/07; seven years ago they finished bottom of a section including Bayern München, Valencia and BATE Borisov.
- The French club won their last away group game, 2-0 at BATE in November 2012; indeed, they have triumphed in two of their last four away games in the UEFA Champions League proper but overall have won only three of their 16 away games in the competition (D4 L9).
- LOSC's most recent foray into continental competition came in 2016/17 and lasted only one tie, Gabala of Azerbaijan running out 2-1 aggregate winners in the UEFA Europa League third qualifying round (1-1 h, 0-1 a).
- That extended Les Dogues' run without a European away win to five matches (D2 L3), since a 2-0 success at Grasshoppers in the 2014/15 UEFA Champions League third qualifying round.
- This is only LOSC's second trip to the Netherlands – they lost 3-1 at PSV Eindhoven in the 2010/11 UEFA Europa League round of 32 second leg – and a third fixture against a Dutch club overall; they had drawn 2-2 at home to PSV in the first leg of that tie.

Links and trivia

- David Neres and Gabriel were team-mates in Brazil's Under-20 side in 2017.
- Dušan Tadić and José Fonte were Southampton team-mates between July 2014 and January 2017.

Latest news

Ajax

• Summer transfers

In: Răzvan Marin (Standard Liège), Lisandro Martínez (Defensa y Justicia), Kik Pierie (Heerenveen), Kjell Scherpen (Emmen), Quincy Promes (Sevilla), Bruno Varela (Benfica, loan), Edson Álvarez (Club América), Juan Castillo (Chelsea, loan)

Out: Frenkie de Jong (Barcelona), Maximilian Wöber (Sevilla), Daley Sinkgraven (Bayer Leverkusen), Kostas

Lamprou (Vitesse), Matthijs de Ligt (Juventus), Rasmus Kristensen (Salzburg), Lasse Schöne (Genoa), Kasper Dolberg (Nice), Dani de Wit (AZ Alkmaar), Lisandro Magallán (Alavés, loan)

- Ajax picked up the Dutch Super Cup, the Johan Crujff Trophy, on 27 July when they defeated last season's Eredivisie runners-up PSV Eindhoven 2-0 thanks to goals from Kasper Dolberg and Daley Blind.
- Ajax are undefeated in all competitions so far this season (W7 D3). Their last loss came at home to Tottenham in the UEFA Champions League semi-final second leg on 8 May.
- The Dutch champions were 4-1 winners at home to Heerenveen in the Eredivisie on Saturday, Nicolás Tagliafico scoring twice – the defender's first double since he struck twice against AEK Athens on matchday one of last season's UEFA Champions League.
- Joint top scorer in the 2018/19 Eredivisie with 20 goals, Dušan Tadić has scored five in five league games so far this season, and has eight in all competitions with a further five assists.
- Donny van de Beek has not played since the play-off second leg against APOEL on 28 August due to a hamstring injury.
- Tadić set up both Serbia goals in a 4-2 defeat by Portugal in UEFA EURO 2020 qualifying on 7 September, missing the 3-1 win in Luxembourg three days later due to muscle fatigue before returning against Heerenveen.
- Noussair Mazraoui suffered a knee injury when playing for Morocco's Under-23 side against Mali U23s on 7 September.

LOSC Lille

• Summer transfers

In: Timothy Weah (Paris), Reinildo (Belenenses), Saad Agouzoul (Chabab Mohammedia), Léo Jardim (Rio Ave), Benjamin André (Rennes), Domagoj Bradarić (Hadjuk Split), Virgiliu Postolachi (Paris), Manuel Cafumana Show (CD Primero de Agosto), Victor Osimhen (Charleroi), Yusuf Yazıcı (Trabzonspor), Eric Bocat (Brest), Renato Sanches (Bayern)

Out: Kouadio-Yves Dabila (Cercle Brugge, loan), Imad Faraj (Belenenses, loan), Hakim Ouro-Sama (Belenenses, loan), Hervé Koffi (Belenenses, loan), Jonathan Bumbu (Amiens), Anwar El Ghazi (Aston Villa), Thiago Mendes (Lyon), Youssouf Koné (Lyon), Teddy Okou (Créteil-Lusitanos, loan), Rominique Kouamé (Cercle Brugge, loan), Scotty Sadzoute (Pau, loan), Charles-Andreas Brym (Belenenses, loan), Chahreddine Boukholda (Belenenses, loan), Rafael Leao (AC Milan), Nicolas Pépé (Arsenal), Edgar Lé (Trabzonspor), Alex Flips (AC Ajaccio, loan), Adam Jakubec (Kortrijk, loan)

- LOSC have won their first three home matches of the new Ligue 1 campaign, beating Nantes (2-1), St-Étienne (3-0) and, on Friday, Angers (2-1), but have lost both away matches without scoring, going down at Amiens (0-1) and Reims (0-2).
- Having scored five of LOSC's first seven goals this season, new signing Victor Osimhen is Ligue 1's joint top scorer after five games, scoring twice against both Nantes and St-Étienne and getting one against Angers.
- Osimhen is the first player to score five goals or more in his first 5 Ligue 1 games since Mario Balotelli hit six in September/October 2016.
- Jonathan Ikoné scored eight minutes into his France debut, a 4-1 EURO qualifying win against Albania on 7 September, having come on as a 77th-minute substitute. A starter in the 3-0 win against Andorra three days later, the 21-year-old set up the opening goal for Kingsley Coman.
- Yusuf Yazıcı scored in Turkey's 4-0 win in Moldova on 10 September, his first international goal.
- Timothy Weah has not played since sustaining a leg injury in training on 25 August. Loïc Rémy (muscular) limped off against St-Etienne on 28 August, although he was an unused substitute on Friday.
- Xeka has not featured this season since suffering a thigh injury against Paris on 14 April.
- LOSC will mark their 75th anniversary on 30 November with a celebration at the Stade Pierre Mauroy when the club's all-time team, voted for by fans, will be unveiled.

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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