

# TECHNICAL REPORT 2015/16





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# **OPINION, DISCUSSION** AND DEBATE

UEFA's team of technical observers met after the final in Milan to review the key trends and tactics from another absorbing **UEFA Champions League campaign** 

On a warm evening in Milan, Real Madrid CF lifted their 11th UEFA Champions League title after a hard-fought victory over local rivals Club Atlético de Madrid. The teams could not be separated after 120 minutes and finally it fell to Cristiano Ronaldo to fire the winning penalty past Jan Oblak and seal victory for Zinédine

The game was a tense affair with both teams keen to avoid mistakes. The goals, when they came, were reflective of some of the many technical topics and talking points covered in this report. Sergio Ramos's opener came from a wide free-kick underlining, as usual, the importance of set pieces. Yannick Carrasco's second-half equaliser came from a tidy combination between Gabi and Juanfran. The Spanish international full-back's controlled and volleyed centre allowed his Belgian team-mate to sneak in at the back post and level the match. The role of the modern full-back and a slight increase in the number of successful crosses are discussed later in these pages, as is the utility of extra time in a final, which almost seemed destined for a penalty shoot-out. The contrasting styles of the two Madrid teams and the tactical flexibility displayed by them and almost all the top teams is also debated.

The technical report is designed to be a meaningful technical resource as well as a record of the 2015/16 UEFA Champions League season. Technical observers attended every game in the knockout stages before meeting in Milan on the morning after the final to interchange opinions and observations and decide on the goals and team of the tournament. This year, as has become customary, UEFA coaching ambassador Sir Alex Ferguson led the group that included a UEFA Cup winner in Mircea Lucescu, a Bundesligawinning coach in Thomas Schaaf and another former Manchester United FC coach, David Moyes. Former Finland coach Mixu Paatelainen

and the Football Association of Serbia sporting director Savo Milosević were also present, along with UEFA Jira Panel members Peter Rudbæk (Denmark) and Ginés Meléndez (Spain), both technical directors in their respective countries, and Jean-Paul Brigger, FIFA's technical study group chief. Additional technical observers were not present in Milan but contributed to this review by providing reports from various games throughout the competition. They are Roy Hodgson and Gareth Southgate (England), Ghenadie Scurtul (Moldova) and Willi Ruttensteiner (Austria).

Together we have produced what we believe is a technical and tactical review of Europe's premier club competition that will be interesting to football fans in general and more specifically the 200,000-plus licensed coaches throughout the continent. We hope you enjoy reading it.

#### Ioan Lupescu

UEFA chief technical officer

UEFA's technical team in Milan (from left to right): Jean-Paul Brigger, Thomas Schaaf, Ginés Meléndez, Sir Alex Ferguson, Ioan Lupescu





#### PINNACLE OF CLUB FOOTBALL

"The UEFA Champions League is the pinnacle of club football. I am happy to see that the competition goes from strength to strength, the knockout stage matches are closer and closer and that the best players, coaches and teams continue to push each other to the limit as they seek victory. As the president of the Royal Spanish Football Federation, I commend both finalists for representing Spanish football and congratulate Real Madrid CF on their historic 11th title."

Ángel María Villar Llona **UEFA** first vice-president

#### **GROUP A**











#### **GROUP B**







PSV Eindhover

VfL Wolfsburg

#### **GROUP C**









Millian Gille

**GROUP D** 



**GROUP F** 







#### **GROUP E**











FC BATE Borisov









Arsenal FC

Olympiacos FC

GNK Dinamo

#### **GROUP G**



Chelsea FC



FC Porto





FC Dynamo Kyiv



#### **GROUP H**



FC Zenit



Valencia CF

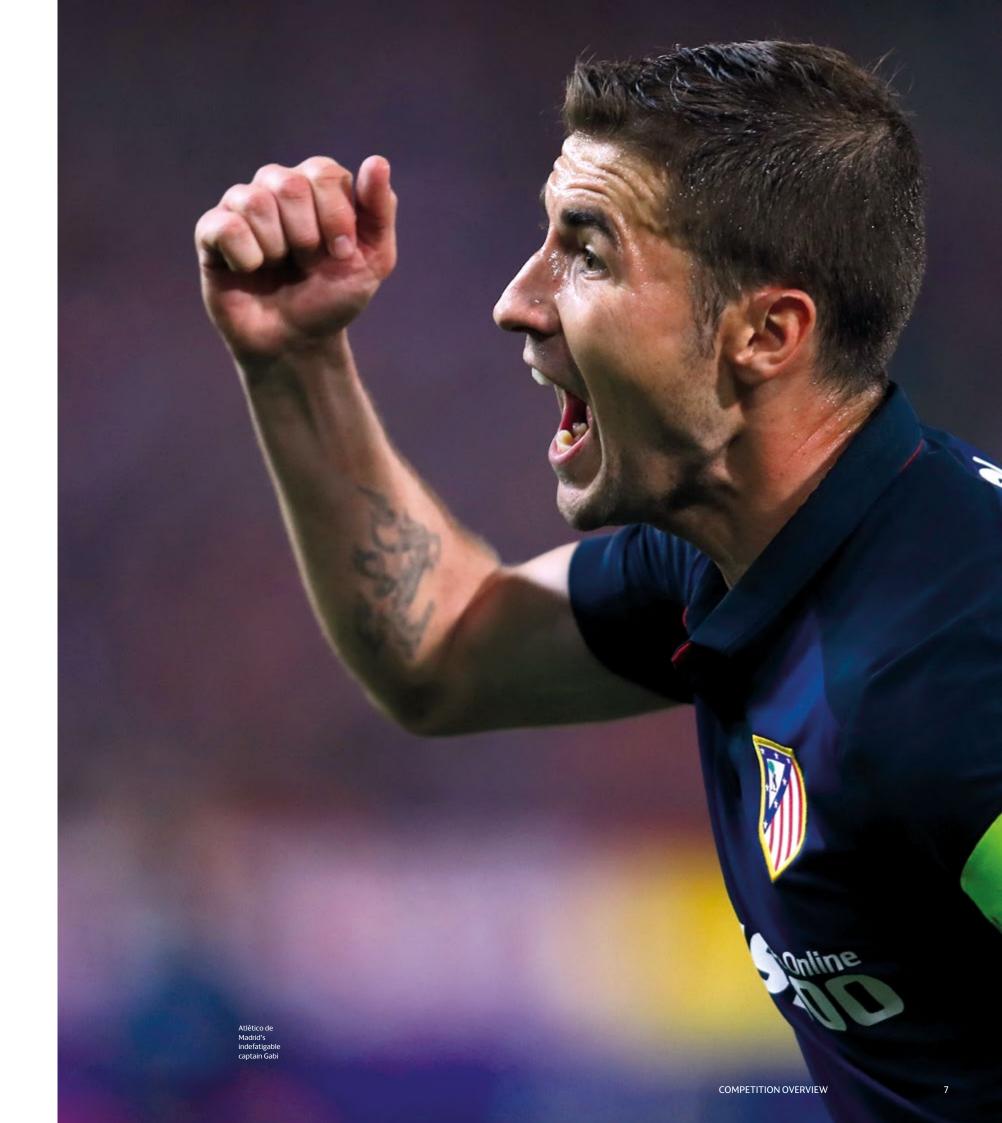




KAA Gent

# THE ROAD TO SAN SIRO

It took a tour around Europe to determine the finalists, but the ultimate journey for both was a well-trodden path from Madrid



What is the value of experience? Modern-day workloads may not offer the coaching fraternity much time to address such existential questions, but the long trek to Milan concluded with a thought-provoking meeting between Diego Simeone, a 'veteran' approaching five years on the same bench, and a debutant, in Zinédine Zidane, whose tenure could be measured in weeks. In a sense, it was an appropriate ending to a season marked by great diversity and one which underlined that there is no single recipe for success.

Davy Pröpper's late winner against CSKA on matchday six earned PSV a place in the last 16 (left); Bastian Schweinsteiger (below) could not prevent Manchester United exiting at the group stage

#### **GROUP STAGE**

Of the 32 coaches who occupied the benches when the group stage kicked off in September 2015, half had competed in the previous UEFA Champions League. But notions of continuity were blurred by a flurry of changes during the season. By the time the two finalists headed for Milan, more than a dozen switches had either been implemented or announced.

Despite winning their groups, Real Madrid CF and Chelsea FC were among them, with Rafael Benítez and José Mourinho departing before the knockout rounds began in February. Real Madrid, along with compatriots FC Barcelona, were the only contestants to avoid defeat during a group stage which offered statistical evidence to support theories of greater competitiveness. During the 2014/15 season, the points difference between first and fourth place had reached double figures in all but one of the eight groups; in 2015/16, this occurred only four times. Maccabi Tel-Aviv FC were the only team not to win a point and, among the tailenders, credit was due to the debutants from Kazakhstan, FC Astana, who lost only two of their six games against three former UEFA club competition title-holders.

Relative equality was also reflected, by and large, in the narrow margins between group runners-up and third-placed teams — the glaring exception being Group A, in which ten points separated Paris Saint-Germain and FC Shakhtar Donetsk. Issues often remained unresolved until the final matchday. This was the case in Group H, for example, where Gary Neville's debut on the bench of Valencia CF ended in a 2-0 home defeat by Olympique Lyonnais. That result allowed KAA Gent to make light of their underdog status and open up a gap of four points by inflicting the only defeat of the group stage on FC Zenit and progress to the knockout stage.



"REAL MADRID AND BARCELONA WERE THE ONLY SIDES TO AVOID DEFEAT DURING A GROUP STAGE WHICH SUPPORTED THEORIES OF GREATER



In Groups E and F, second and third finished level on points and needed to be separated by head-to-head results. AS Roma edged ahead of Bayer 04 Leverkusen despite winning only one of their six games (against Leverkusen, as it happened) while Arsenal FC – under severe threat of elimination after three defeats in four games – bounced back to win the last two and nose ahead of Olympiacos FC in the head-to-head stakes by winning 3-0 in Piraeus. Fortunately for Manchester City FC, head-to-head criteria were not required in Group D, where they were twice beaten by Juventus. However, the 2015 runners-up won only one of their other four games, whereas the English club won all four to claim top spot.

FC Porto saw the darker side of the moon. Ten points from four games seemed to promise Julen Lopetegui's side some fixtures after the winter break, only for a brace of 2-0 defeats – by FC Dynamo Kyiv and Chelsea – to allow the Ukrainians to overtake them on the final straight. Among the other issues resolved with a degree of drama on the last matchday was

the elimination of Manchester United FC. The former champions' campaign was undermined by a harvest of one point from their travels.

Despite taking the lead, Louis van Gaal's side lost at both PSV Eindhoven and VfL Wolfsburg, who claimed the top two places.

Remarkably, Cristiano Ronaldo scored 11 of the 19 goals that gave Real Madrid the mantle of joint-top scorers, alongside Josep Guardiola's FC Bayern München, for whom Robert Lewandowski found the net seven times. By the time the dust had settled on the group phase, 280 goals had been scored - one more than in the previous season. A fraction over 60% (169) had been scored by home teams and 111 by visitors. The 96 matches produced 53 home wins (55% of the total) and 26 away victories. Six games had remained goalless. The final standings revealed that the knockout rounds would be contested by a rich crop of clubs from 10 countries: Belgium, England, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Russia, Spain and Ukraine.



Arsenal's Alexis Sánchez tangles with Bayern captain Philipp Lahm (above); Zlatan Ibrahimović fires in Paris's second goal at Stamford Bridge (below



#### **ROUND OF 16**

Gent's creditable run was blocked by Wolfsburg. At home, the Belgian team played in 1-3-4-3 formation, setting out to use short-passing combinations through the middle and getting the full-backs into advanced one-on-one situations on the flanks. Hein Vanhaezebrouck's side were betrayed by losses of possession in the defensive third, however, and although they produced two late goals after trailing 3-0, and then switched to 1-4-4-2 for the return, the adventure was ended by a 1-0 defeat in Germany. Roma, after one win in the group stage, failed to add to their score against Real Madrid. The 4-0 aggregate, however, was poor recompense for the efforts of the side taken over by Luciano Spalletti in January. After almost an hour of focused defensive work, they

lost their shape after Ronaldo's strike for the visitors and conceded a second just before the end. In Madrid, a host of opportunities remained untaken and, midway through the second half, two goals in four minutes brought down the curtain.

Chelsea, with Guus Hiddink on the bench, played a deep-lying 1-4-2-3-1 in Paris and, after Zlatan Ibrahimović had given Paris the lead, a spell of dangerous counterattacking just before the break earned a precious away goal. Conceding a second was not too disheartening for the Londoners but, back in London and again starved of the ball, they were once more forced to focus on counterattacking and the scoring mirrored proceedings in Paris, giving PSG a 4-2 aggregate victory.

The other London side also suffered. Arsenal set out their stall to contain Barcelona during the home leg. But, after the break, the visitors upped the tempo, took the initiative and all but settled the tie with two away goals. Playing a 1-4-2-3-1 at the Camp Nou in search of a numerical advantage in midfield, they started each half strongly and, when they came back to 1-1, jangled a few Catalan nerves – only for Luis Suárez and Lionel Messi to add to Neymar's opener and seal a 3-1 win.

This left Manchester City to fly the flag for England. Manuel Pellegrini's team, playing a cross between 1-4-3-3 and 1-4-5-1, dominated the tempo of the first leg against Dynamo Kyiv and travelled home from Kiev with a 3-1 advantage, which they consolidated with a disciplined goalless draw in Manchester.

Zenit, after sailing through the group phase, perhaps suffered from Russian winter-break syndrome when they travelled to Lisbon, although tactical wisdom allowed André Villas-Boas and his team to keep the scoreboard operator idle until the clock reached 90+1 minutes. A free-kick headed in by Jonas gave SL Benfica a 1-0 lead to take to St Petersburg, where a goal by Hulk promised extra time – only for two goals in the closing minutes to end their campaign.

"ARSENAL SET OUT
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The other two ties produced even greater drama. Juventus, playing a deep 1-4-4-2 and hitting Bayern with quick defence-to-attack transitions, seemed to be down and out when trailing 2-0 at home and having a meagre share of the ball. Yet, ruthlessly efficient finishing brought them two goals and, in the first half-hour in Munich, two more. But waves of 1-4-2-4 attacking led to a Bayern equaliser after 90+1 minutes, two more goals in extra time, and an unlikely 6-4 aggregate victory.

The tie between PSV Eindhoven and Club Atlético de Madrid, on the other hand, fell ten goals short of that total, with three-and-a-half hours of football failing to ruffle a net. PSV's well-organised defending and possessionbased play was a match for the visitors' power and, even when a red card gave Atlético more of the ball in the final 20 minutes, the Dutch team effectively prevented shooting opportunities. A 1-5-3-2 approach was equally efficient in Madrid, where their excellent goalkeeper, Jeroen Zoet, dealt with the home team's six on-target shots during the two hours of play – but found Atlético's eight penalties unstoppable. When Luciano Narsingh failed to convert the 16th penalty of the shoot-out, Diego Simeone's team had progressed by the skin of their teeth at the end of the first knockout tie in the competition's history to remain goalless.

16

It needed 16 penalties in a shoot-out to separate Atlético and PSV after the first knockout tie in the competition's history to remain goalless

10 UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TECHNICAL REPORT 2015/16 COMPETITION OVERVIEW

#### **QUARTER-FINALS**

Atlético's reward for beating PSV was a repeat of the 2013/14 quarter-final against Barcelona, but the outcome, although achieved in different fashion, was the same. Instead of the draw of two years earlier, they came away from the Camp Nou with a 2-1 defeat, even though Simeone's deep-defending 1-4-4-2 formation had laid foundations for a classic counter to put the visitors 1-0 ahead. In Madrid, an off-colour Barcelona failed to translate 72% possession into chances and were defeated 2-0 by two Antoine Griezmann goals, extending the jinx on UEFA Champions League champions retaining their crown.

The other side of Madrid witnessed a similar turnaround. Wolfsburg's high-tempo play earned a 2-0 home win against a lacklustre Real Madrid. But Dieter Hecking's side were forced on to the back foot in Spain, defending deep in a 1-4-5-1 formation, conceding two early goals, and eventually being counted out when Cristiano Ronaldo completed a hat-trick.

**72**%

possession in their second

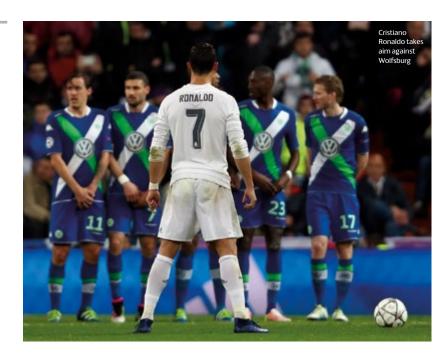
leg against Atlético, but

could not make it count

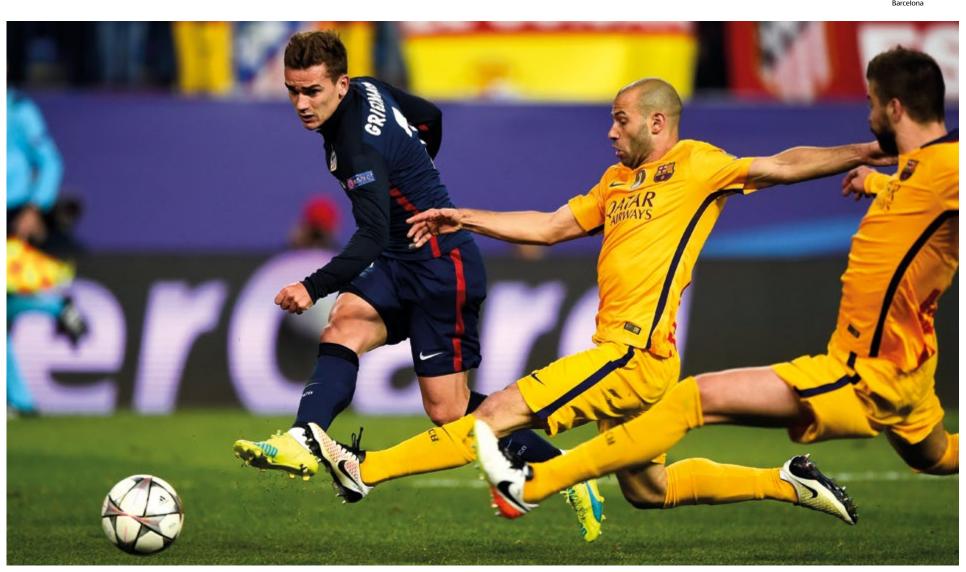
Paris, meanwhile, had 64% of the ball at home to Manchester City and combined passages of possession with energetic pressing. They also posed a threat from set plays but the visitors defended with two compact lines of four and, after Joe Hart had saved a Zlatan Ibrahimović penalty, counterattacked efficiently enough to earn a 2-2 draw. Even though Laurent Blanc switched to three at the back, Paris failed to break down a focused and disciplined City, who sealed the tie with a 1-0 win in Manchester.

The fourth quarter-final exploded into action when Arturo Vidal put Bayern 1-0 ahead against Benfica in the second minute. However, 64% possession and a tactical evolution into an attacking 1-3-3-4 formation failed to produce further goals against a Benfica side that grew into the contest and obliged Manuel Neuer to demonstrate his goalkeeping skills. In Lisbon, Rui Vitória's team had the ball for just over 19 minutes yet levelled the tie through Raúl Jiménez – only for the visitors to reply twice and challenge the Portuguese to score three more goals. They managed only one.

"WOLFSBURG WERE FORCED ON TO THE BACK FOOT IN MADRID AND WERE COUNTED OUT WHEN CRISTIANO RONALDO COMPLETED A HAT-TRICK"



Antoine Griezmann scored twice in the quarter-final against







"AN EXCEPTIONAL SOLO
RUN BY SAÚL ÑÍGUEZ
GAVE ATLÉTICO AN
EARLY LEAD AND THE
EXCELLENT JAN OBLAK
COULD NOT BE BEATEN"

#### **SEMI-FINALS**

#### **BAYERN BOW TO ATLÉTICO**

The semi-final draw presented Guardiola's team with the challenge of breaking down Atlético. Having gained the upper hand against Barcelona, Simeone implemented a similar strategy against the German champions. Again, Atlético's share of the ball amounted to approximately ten minutes in each half, but it proved sufficient to inflict damage. An exceptional solo run by Saúl Ñíguez gave them an early advantage and, even though the introduction of Thomas Müller gave Bayern greater attacking depth, the excellent Jan Oblak could not be beaten. In Munich, minutes after Xabi Alonso scored for Bayern with a free-kick, Oblak saved a penalty from Müller and the tie

was effectively decided when Griezmann rounded off a fast counter by shooting past Neuer. A second goal, by Lewandowski, set up a rousing finish in which Fernando Torres failed to convert a penalty. It turned out to be irrelevant as Atlético, despite having possession of the ball for just eight minutes in the first half and ten in the second, had the away goals rule to thank for a place in the final.

# Manchester City were unable to register a shot on target in the second leg

against Madrid

#### **REAL MADRID EDGE PAST CITY**

In the second semi-final, Real Madrid packed caution in their baggage as they flew to Manchester. Zidane's side enjoyed stable possession but their midfielders played from behind the ball all night, with the result that it was often lost during their patient build-ups, thanks to energetic pressing by City. The home team defended well as a unit and were careful not to expose themselves to counterattacks. The chances they conceded were from corners, and one header from a cross. A cagey, tactical game was miserly with its chances and ended goalless.

In Madrid, City were prepared to attack in 1-4-3-3 formation but spent time defending in a deep 1-4-1-4-1 block, coming out of their shell only in the final 20 minutes. By that time, they had long since trailed after a cross from Gareth Bale had been deflected into the net, via the back post, by Fernando. City ended the game without managing a shot on target and Madrid, even without the firepower of the injured Karim Benzema and Ronaldo, had done enough to reach the final in Milan and – in a repeat of 2014 – set up a confrontation with their neighbours in another contrast of styles.



15 COMPETITION OVERVIEW 15



Historically, Italian football has set benchmarks for rational, pragmatic approaches to the game. And, as 79,394 spectators, an immense majority of them discussing the match in Spanish, made their way out of the Stadio Giuseppe Meazza, one of UEFA's technical observers remarked: "It was an all-Spanish final but the football was Italian."

As usual in the aftermath of a UEFA Champions League final, some supporters were singing; some were weeping. For the 11th time in European Cup history, the margin between the two emotional states had been a sliver of misfortune from the penalty spot as the clock ticked towards midnight on a balmy Milan evening.

Almost three hours had passed since Alicia Keys and Andrea Bocelli had provided the vocal crescendo to the pre-match pageantry. The Madrileños, as they had done in Lisbon two years earlier, took up the vocal challenge, adding incessant choruses to the canvas they had painted: white and red set against the blue



Gareth Bale and Sergio Ramos savour the Real Madrid captain's opening goal (above); Yannick Carrasco draws Atlético

"CASEMIRO WAS
EMERGING AS THE
KEY FIGURE WITH
AN EXCELLENT
PERFORMANCE
IN FRONT OF THE
BACK FOUR"

of the grand finale's branding. Huge banners
proclaimed credos. "With you till the end," the
loose translation in the Real Madrid sector;
"Your values make us believe" at the Atlético
de Madrid end. The game proved both slogans
right. But the final did not adhere to the script
that most of the supporters would probably
have written.

The coaches, however, had given clues. "The game will be very tense, very even, especially at the beginning," Diego Simeone had predicted. "Casemiro enables them to regroup better if they lose the ball and makes them much more dangerous on the counterattack. Whoever wins the early battles in midfield will have an advantage."

Zinédine Zidane had insisted: "Above all, you have to defend well. Especially when you don't have the ball. On top of that, we have our weapons to work well in attack. What we really have to do is run, run, run."

Their hints that panache would not be high on the agenda were borne out by the opening exchanges. With players of 13 nationalities taking part in the proceedings, the team sheets had provided no surprises: Real Madrid's 1-4-3-3 facing Atlético de Madrid's 1-4-4-2. But the implementations did. Simeone's men were edgy, uncharacteristically inhibited, cautiously relying on long deliveries towards Fernando Torres and Antoine Griezmann. The full-backs, Juanfran and Filipe Luís, were ready to push forward – but on a shorter rein than usual. The ball seemed to burn the Atlético boots. Passing moves broke down rapidly; turnovers were frequent. Neutral observers were surprised by the lack of spark and intensity. With Casemiro intercepting and distributing, Toni Kroos and, especially, Luka Modrić called the shots. Simeone's "early battles in midfield" were being won by the opponents.

Real's incursions into the final third were threatening. Dead-ball situations even more so. A warning shot was fired as early as the sixth minute when Gareth Bale delivered a free-kick on the right with his left foot and the goal-area melee needed to be resolved by Jan Oblak – the Atlético keeper making a miraculous save with his feet at point-blank range.

Another free-kick, this time on the left, was nodded on by Bale and now there was nothing Oblak could do to prevent the onrushing Sergio Ramos from culminating another disorderly skirmish by poking the ball into the net. It was 1-0 with barely 15 minutes on the clock.

Yet, as technical observer Mircea Lucescu remarked: "Casemiro was emerging as the key figure with an excellent performance in front of the back four and playing for his team. But I

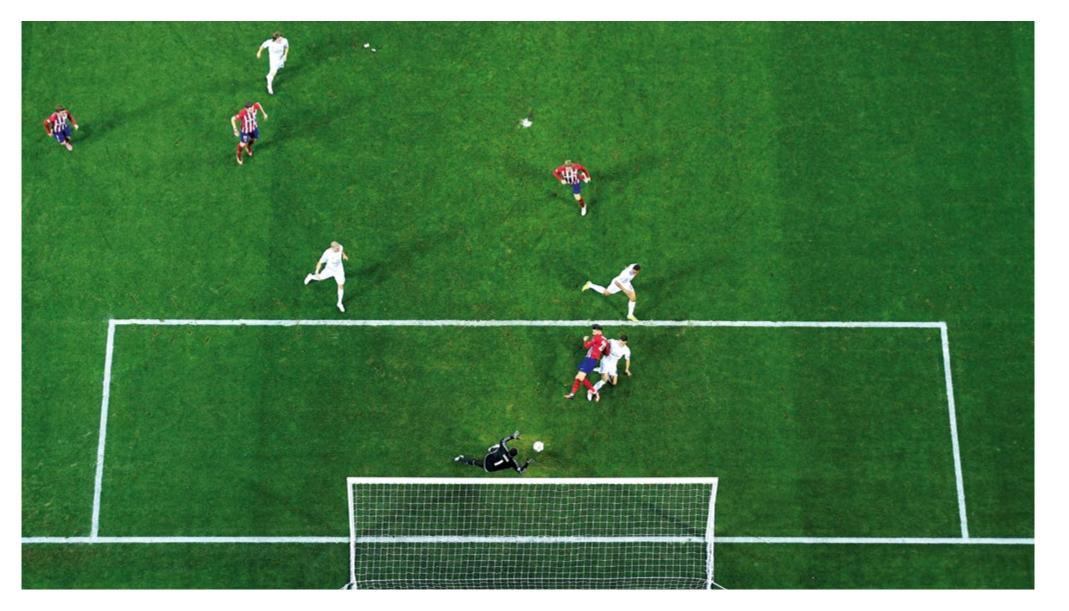
suspect that a lot people were not seeing the Real Madrid they had expected to see." They might not have expected to see Cristiano Ronaldo running the ball out from an area near his own corner flag. Nor Karim Benzema competing for the ball in his own box. Nor Bale, while also striding across the breadth of the pitch as a free spirit in attacking play, sprinting back to take his place in a defensive block consisting of an 11-man padlock in the defensive third. The brief to defend well and run, run, run was being efficiently implemented. As Sir Alex Ferguson commented: "At 1-0 up, there were moments when Real looked happy to let the game play itself out."

Simeone, while directing operations from the touchline with his usual passion, was cool enough to know that something needed to change, even though his team had edged itself back into the match during the closing quarter of the first half. His response to anodyne build-up play was the half-time replacement of Augusto Fernández by Yannick Carrasco – a move which, as Thomas Schaaf put it, "switched the structure to something more like a 1-4-2-3-1 with greater flexibility. The team became more effective in the wide areas and better equipped to play through the middle." Within minutes, that had been borne out.

Torres, receiving a middle-distance pass from Griezmann in the middle of the box, went down while turning sharply away from Pepe and English referee Mark Clattenburg pointed to the penalty spot. With keeper Keylor Navas earning a yellow card for his diversionary tactics, almost two minutes elapsed before Griezmann stepped up. Opting for power, his shot was struck so fiercely that the rebound from the crossbar reached the edge of the box. Real had survived a pivotal moment.

Minutes later, Dani Carvajal limped off, allowing Danilo to test his defensive abilities against Carrasco at right-back. Replacing Kroos with Isco gave Zidane's team greater attacking verve, counter-balanced by lesser security in retaining possession. When Lucas Vázquez replaced Benzema to give Real more of a 1-4-4-2 structure. Zidane had consumed his three substitutions with 77 minutes on the clock. Within two minutes, Atlético found a reply – seconds after a Ronaldo shot had been repelled by Oblak and, on the rebound, Stefan Savić had cleared Bale's shot off the line. Instead Juanfran, now feeling free to prolong his runs deep into the final third, met a diagonal supply with a first-touch side-footed volley across the face of the goal and Carrasco, beating Danilo to the ball at the far post, touched it into the net.

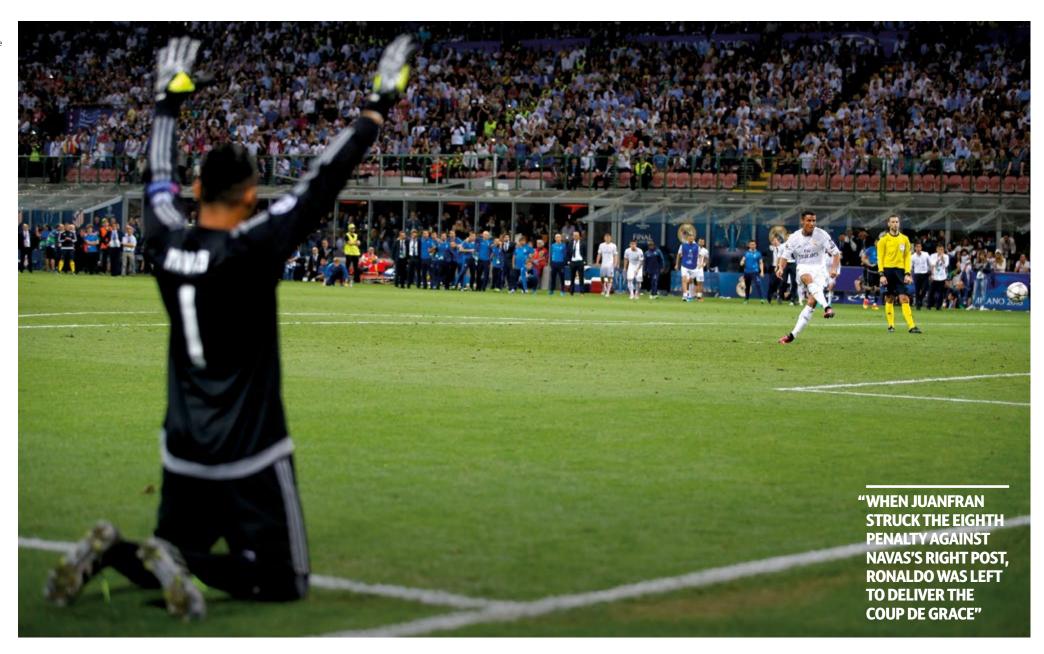
By this stage, the contest had settled into its unscripted routine. Atlético upped their



share of the ball to 55% and outdid their opponents in the tally of passes – a symptom of Navas's preference for the long clearance and Real's increasing reliance on direct counterattacking which, nonetheless, created the half's clearest scoring opportunities. As technical observer Peter Rudbæk commented: "Real Madrid underlined that, when it comes to transitions, they are one of the best." Atlético had gained the upper hand in midfield where, by the time the final whistle blew, Gabi, Koke and Saúl Ñíguez had covered 14 or 15km with Griezmann registering a similar distance in trying to link them with Torres. Their opponents, sitting deeper, covered less ground; only Casemiro in his controlling role, reached 13km. Atlético entered the final third more frequently than Real. But, even though Bale, Ronaldo and Modrić increasingly struggled to make an impact, Zidane's team had the edge in terms of deliveries or solo runs into the box.

With parity restored, risk-management principles were reinstated, with the closing stages of the 90 minutes punctuated by moments of irascibility which prompted Clattenburg to brandish the fifth and sixth of the game's eight yellow cards. The two black-suited coaches exploited the five-minute interval to issue instructions and encouragement. Simeone – maybe influenced by the events in Lisbon two years earlier – had allowed himself the cushion of two substitutions as the final, as it had done in Lisbon, headed into extra time.

As the additional half-hour began to unfold, that facet emerged as potentially decisive as players started to sink to the San Siro turf with cramp. In the Real camp, Bale, Ronaldo and Modrić were visibly flagging. Simeone was obliged to use one of his changes when Filipe Luís went down injured and, just as the fourth official was signalling the exit of Saúl, it was Koke who collapsed on the grass and needed to be replaced by the Ghanaian, Thomas Partey. Play became manful rather than creative, with fatigue undermining accuracy and the strongest scent of a winning goal emanating from dead-ball situations rather than open play: free-kicks struck against the wall; corners headed wide. "I was surprised that Atlético didn't use the fresh legs to run at Madrid," commented technical observer Mixu Paatelainen. "But it was a match where the



emphasis was on retaining a rational balance when attacking." Inexorably, the eighth UEFA Champions League final to require extra time headed towards a seventh decision by penalty shoot-out.

The toss of a coin decreed that the spot kicks would be directed at the goal backed by a wall of white-shirted fans — and that Real would be the first to greet them. Vázquez walked up briskly to open the proceedings, casually spinning the ball on a finger before placing it on the spot — and beating Oblak to his left — as did all the other penalties struck by Real players. On the edge of the box, Navas witnessed the Real spot kicks on his knees, with his arms raised high in prayer. Although his arms, like those of Oblak, made no contact with the ball, his prayer was answered when Juanfran struck the eighth penalty against Navas's right post. That left Ronaldo to deliver the coup de grace.



A dejected Fernando Torres

By the slimmest of margins, Real Madrid had donned the European crown for the 11th time. "As a game, it had its moments," Sir Alex Ferguson reflected. "But it will be remembered for two teams driven by desire rather than tactical manoeuvring." Lucescu said: "I hadn't expected the emphasis to be on not conceding." Paatelainen added: "It was a cat-and-mouse final." "Both teams defended better than they attacked," said Ginés Meléndez. The Milan final between the Madrid neighbours had been coloured by familiarity, mutual respect and risk-management expertise. On the magnificent stage of the Stadio Giuseppe Meazza, the all-Spanish final had an Italian accent.



#### **MATCH STATISTICS**

REAL MADRID 1-1 ATLÉTICO DE MADRID

#### Saturday 28 May 2016, San Siro, Milan

#### GOALS

1-0 Ramos 15, 1-1 Carrasco 79

#### SHOOT-OUT

Vázquez 1-0, Griezmann 1-1, Marcelo 2-1, Gabi 2-2, Bale 3-2, Ñíguez 3-3, Ramos 4-3, Juanfran (miss) 4-3, Ronaldo 5-3

#### REAL MADRID

Navas; Carvajal (Danilo 52), Pepe, Ramos (C), Marcelo; Kroos (Isco 72), Casemiro, Modrić; Bale, Benzema (Vázquez 77), Ronaldo

Unused substitutes: Casilla, Jesé, James Rodríguez, Nacho Yellow cards: Carvajal 11, Navas 47, Casemiro 79, Ramos

90+3, Danilo 93ET, Pepe 112ET

# Coach: Zinédine Zidane ATLÉTICO DE MADRID

Oblak; Juanfran, Savić, Godín, Filipe Luís (Hernández 109); Ñíguez, Gabi (C), Fernández (Carrasco 46), Koke (Partey 116); Torres, Griezmann

Unused substitutes: Correa, Giménez, Moyà, Tiago

Yellow cards: Torres 61, Gabi 90+3

Coach: Diego Simeone

#### REFEREE

Mark Clattenburg (ENG)

#### ATTENDANCE

79,394

| REAL MADRID | ATLÉTIC          | O DE MADRID |
|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| 1           | GOALS            | 1           |
| 46          | POSSESSION %     | 54          |
| 25          | TOTAL ATTEMPTS   | 18          |
| 8           | ON TARGET        | 4           |
| 6           | OFF TARGET       | 11          |
| 11          | BLOCKED          | 3           |
| 0           | AGAINST WOODWORK | 1           |
| 7           | CORNERS          | 6           |
| 6           | YELLOW CARDS     | 2           |
| 557         | PASSES           | 627         |
| 497         | PASSES COMPLETED | 543         |



Zinédine Zidane became the seventh man to win the competition as both coach and player

"I hope you experience this some day as head coach. You'll find that it feels nothing like winning the Champions League as a player." The words were delivered, prior to the 2014 final in Lisbon, by Carlo Ancelotti to Zinédine Zidane, the assistant coach who shared the Real Madrid CF bench at the Estádio da Luz. Neither would have gambled then on predicting that the hope would become reality within two years and against the same opponents. "I keep thinking of Carlo," he confessed on the eve of the Milan final. During the match he even echoed his mentor by sending on Isco to replace a German midfielder – this time Toni Kroos rather than Sami Khedira – during the second half.

Fourteen years after he struck the beautiful volley that gave Real the title against Bayer 04 Leverkusen in Glasgow, Zidane's victory on the bench at San Siro could be flagged up for so many reasons. He became the first French coach to win the UEFA Champions League; he was the eighth to lift the trophy in his debut season and he added a seventh name to the elite list of men who have won the title as both player and coach. It is a roll of honour which Ancelotti had joined when he led

"AT THE FINAL I WAS MORE TENSE THAN I WAS AS A PLAYER, BUT THAT'S PART OF THE COACHING JOB. I LIKE THAT SORT OF PRESSURE"

AC Milan to victory, also in a penalty shoot-out, in 2003. Zidane also joined a small band of champion coaches who had taken the helm in mid-season – although his January takeover from Rafael Benítez meant that his tenure had been longer than Roberto di Matteo's 11-week occupation of the Chelsea FC bench when the London club won, again on penalties, in Munich in 2012.

Zidane freely accepts his status as an inexperienced technician. Similar to Pep Guardiola's early years at FC Barcelona, Zidane's track record as head coach boiled down to just over a year with Madrid's second team in the third tier of Spanish football. But, as Sergio Ramos remarked: "It seems as though he's

been coaching for 30 years and he has obviously picked up things from Ancelotti. His background as a top player means that he has a different way of looking at things. When he arrived, he put a smile on our faces and we improved as a team."

The debutant's impact can be traced to man-management rather than tactical issues. Outwardly calm, composed and with a shy smile always ready, his personality invites further comparisons with Ancelotti. "He knew us all and he knew the club," adds Ramos, who shared the dressing room with Zidane during his playing days. "That made it easier for him to establish a good feeling and a cheerful working atmosphere. He immediately gave us new confidence."

The campaign was almost truncated after a 2-0 defeat in Wolfsburg which allowed Zidane to underline to his players that every opponent is capable of creating difficulties. "We suffered a lot, but reaching a final without suffering is impossible," Zidane admitted. "It's all about unity, effort, companionship and, when the time comes to play, quality and leaving everything on the field. At the final, I was more tense than I was as a player, but that's part of the coaching job. I like that sort of pressure.

"I'm very happy to win the Champions
League as a player, assistant and head coach and
to achieve all this success with a great club that
I've been part of for a long time. I still have an
awful lot to learn. But I have a tremendous desire
to carry on learning and that will help me to
improve. One thing is certain. I have a long road
ahead of me before I can consider myself an
important member of the coaching profession."

# **RESULTS**

#### PLAY-OFFS — LEAGUE PATH (Aggregate scores played over two legs; the first-named club was at home in the first leg)

| Man. United | 7 | Sporting CP | 3 | Lazio      | 1 | Rapid Wien | 2 | Valencia | 4 |
|-------------|---|-------------|---|------------|---|------------|---|----------|---|
| Club Brugge | 1 | CSKA Moskva | 4 | Leverkusen | 3 | Shakhtar   | 3 | Monaco   | 3 |

#### **GROUP STAGE**

PSV

First leg 0-0

First leg 1-3

Dynamo Kyiv

|                |                    |            |                   |          |      |                 |   |            |     |                    |                |                             |            |                   |          |       | _                 | -        | _          |        |                      |
|----------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|----------|------|-----------------|---|------------|-----|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|------------|-------------------|----------|-------|-------------------|----------|------------|--------|----------------------|
| GRO            | UP A               |            |                   | <u>P</u> | W    | D               | L | F          | _A_ | Pts                | GRO            | UP B                        |            |                   | <u>P</u> | W     | D                 | <u>L</u> | F          | A_     | Pts                  |
| Real           | Madrid C           | F          |                   | 6        | 5    | 1               | 0 | 19         | 3   | 16                 | ۷fL۱           | <b>Nolfsburg</b>            |            |                   | 6        | 4     | 0                 | 2        | 9          | 6      | 12                   |
| Paris          | Saint-Ge           | rmain      |                   | 6        | 4    | 1               | 1 | 12         | 1   | 13                 | PSV            | Eindhoven                   |            |                   | 6        | 3     | 1                 | 2        | 8          | 7      | 10                   |
| FC Sh          | akhtar Do          | onetsk     |                   | 6        | 1    | 0               | 5 | 7          | 14  | 3                  | Man            | chester Un                  | ited F     | C                 | 6        | 2     | 2                 | 2        | 7          | 7      | 8                    |
| Maln           | nö FF              |            |                   | 6        | 1    | 0               | 5 | 1          | 21  | 3                  | PFC (          | CSKA Mosk                   | va         |                   | 6        | 1     | 1                 | 4        | 5          | 9      | 4                    |
| Date           | Home               | Score      | Away              | Date     | . He | ome             |   | Score      |     | Away               | Date           | Home                        | Score      | Away              | Date     | Н     | ome               |          | Score      |        | Away                 |
| 15/09          | Paris              | 2-0        | Malmö             | 03/1     |      | al Madrid       |   | 1-0        |     | Paris              | 15/09          | Wolfsburg                   | 1-0        | CSKA Moskva       | 03/1     |       | an. Unite         |          | 1-0        | CSKA   | Moskva               |
| 15/09          | Real Madrid        | 4-0        | Shakhtar          | 03/1     |      | akhtar          |   | 4-0        |     | Malmö              | 15/09          | PSV                         | 2-1        | Man. United       | 03/1     |       |                   | ·u       | 2-0        |        | olfsburg             |
| 30/09          | Malmö              | 0-2        | Real Madrid       | 25/1     |      | almö            |   | 0-5        |     | Paris              | 30/09          | Man. United                 | 2-1        | Wolfsburg         |          |       | an. Unite         | d        | 0-0        |        | PSV                  |
| 30/09          | Shakhtar           | 0-3        | Paris             | 25/1     | 1 Sh | akhtar          |   | 3-4        | Rea | l Madrid           | 30/09          | CSKA Moskva                 | 3-2        | PSV               | 25/1     | ı cs  | KA Mosk           | va       | 0-2        | Wo     | olfsburg             |
| 21/10          | Malmö              | 1-0        | Shakhtar          | 08/1     | 2 Pa | ris             |   | 2-0        | S   | hakhtar            | 21/10          | Wolfsburg                   | 2-0        | PSV               | 08/12    | 2 W   | olfsburg          |          | 3-2        | Man    | . United             |
| 21/10          | Paris              | 0-0        | Real Madrid       | 08/1     | 2 Re | al Madrid       |   | 8-0        |     | Malmö              | 21/10          | CSKA Moskva                 | 1-1        | Man. United       | 08/12    | 2 PS  | V                 |          | 2-1        | CSKA   | Moskva               |
|                |                    |            |                   |          |      |                 |   |            |     |                    |                |                             |            |                   |          |       |                   | _        |            |        | -                    |
| GRO            | UP E               |            |                   | Р        | W    | D               | L | F          | Α   | Pts                | GRO            | UP F                        |            |                   | Р        | W     | D                 | L        | F          | Α      | Pts                  |
| FC B           | arcelona           |            |                   | 6        | 4    | 2               | 0 | 15         | 4   | 14                 | FC B           | ayern Mün                   | chen       |                   | 6        | 5     | 0                 | 1        | 19         | 3      | 15                   |
| AS R           | oma                |            |                   | 6        | 1    | 3               | 2 | 11         | 16  | 6                  | Arse           | nal FC                      |            |                   | 6        | 3     | 0                 | 3        | 12         | 10     | 9                    |
| Baye           | r 04 Lever         | kusen      |                   | 6        | 1    | 3               | 2 | 13         | 12  | 6                  | Olyn           | npiacos FC                  |            |                   | 6        | 3     | 0                 | 3        | 6          | 13     | 9                    |
|                | ATE Borisc         |            |                   | 6        | 1    | 2               | 3 | 5          | 12  | 5                  |                | Dinamo Za                   | greb       |                   | 6        | 1     | 0                 | 5        | 3          | 14     | 3                    |
| Date           | Home               | Score      | Away              | Date     | , ц  | ome             |   | Score      |     | Away               | Date           | Home                        | Score      | e Away            | Date     | Ш     | ome               |          | Score      |        | Away                 |
|                |                    |            |                   | 04/1     |      |                 |   |            |     |                    |                |                             |            |                   | 04/11    |       |                   |          |            |        |                      |
| 16/09<br>16/09 | Leverkusen<br>Roma | 4-1<br>1-1 | BATE<br>Barcelona | 04/1     |      | ircelona<br>ima |   | 3-0<br>3-2 | lav | BATE<br>erkusen    | 16/09<br>16/09 | Dinamo Zagreb<br>Olympiacos | 2-1<br>0-3 | Arsenal<br>Bayern | 04/11    |       | yern<br>ympiaco:  |          | 5-1<br>2-1 | Diname | Arsenal<br>Sagreb    |
| 29/09          | Barcelona          | 2-1        | Leverkusen        | 24/1     |      |                 |   | 3-2<br>1-1 |     | erkusen<br>erkusen | 29/09          | Arsenal                     | 0-3<br>2-3 | Olympiacos        | 24/11    |       | ympiaco:<br>senal |          | 3-0        |        | o Zagreb<br>o Zagreb |
| 29/09          | BATE               | 2-1<br>3-2 | Roma              | 24/1     |      | ircelona        |   | 6-1        | Lev | Roma               | 29/09          | Bayern                      |            | Dinamo Zagreb     | 24/11    |       | yern              |          | 3-0<br>4-0 |        | npiacos              |
| 20/10          | Leverkusen         | 4-4        | Roma              | 09/1     |      | verkusen        |   | 1-1        | P   | arcelona           | 20/10          | Arsenal                     | 2-0        | Bayern            | 09/12    |       | namo Za           | greh     | 0-2        | Olyi   | Bayern               |
|                |                    |            |                   |          |      |                 |   |            |     |                    |                |                             |            |                   |          |       |                   |          |            |        |                      |
| 20/10          | BATE               | 0-2        | Barcelona         | 09/1     | 2 Rc | ıma —           |   | 0-0        |     | RATE               | 20/10          | Dinamo /agrer               | 0 ()-1     | Olympiacos        | 09/13    | , CII | vmniaco           | s _      | 0-3        |        | Arsenal              |
| 20/10          | BATE               | 0-2        | Barcelona         | 09/1     | 2 Ro | oma             |   | 0-0        |     | BATE               | 20/10          | Dinamo Zagreb               | 0-1        | Olympiacos        | 09/12    | 2 01  | ympiaco:          | s<br>    | 0-3        |        | Arsenal              |

16 March OUARTER-FINALS

| <b>ROUND OF 16</b> 16 Fel | oruary |
|---------------------------|--------|
|---------------------------|--------|

0-0

(agg; Atlético win 8-7 on pens)

1-3

(agg)

| ROUND OF 10              | 1            | o rebruary – 10 March         | QOARTERTIN    | IALS  |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------|-------|
| Benfica<br>First leg 1-0 | 3-1<br>(agg) | Zenit<br>Second leg 2-1       | Bayern        | 3-2   |
| Paris<br>First leg 2-1   | 4-2<br>(agg) | Chelsea<br>Second leg 2-1     | First leg 1-0 | (agg) |
| Gent<br>First leg 2-3    | 2-4<br>(agg) | Wolfsburg<br>Second leg 0-1   | Barcelona     | 2-3   |
| Roma<br>First leg 0-2    | 0-4<br>(agg) | Real Madrid<br>Second leg 0-2 | First leg 2-1 | (agg) |
| Arsenal<br>First leg 0-2 | 1-5<br>(agg) | Barcelona<br>Second leg 1-3   | Wolfsburg     | 2-3   |
| Juventus                 | 4-6          | Bayern                        | First leg 2-0 | (agg) |

Atlético

Paris

First leg 2-2

Second leg 0-0

Second leg 0-0

Manchester City

#### PLAY-OFFS — CHAMPIONS PATH (Aggregate scores played over two legs; the first-named club was at home in the first leg)

| BATE (Win on away goals) 2   | Astana 2 | Celtic | 3 | Skënderbeu    | 2 | Basel                           | 3 |
|--|----------|--------|---|---------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
| FK Partizan 2  | APOEL 1  | Malmö  | 4 | Dinamo Zagreb | 6 | M. Tel-Aviv (Win on away goals) | 3 |
| The state of the s |          |        |   |               |   |                                 |   |

#### **GROUP STAGE**

**SEMI-FINALS** 

| GROUP C                 | P | W   | D | L |    | Α  | Pts |
|-------------------------|---|-----|---|---|----|----|-----|
| Club Atlético de Madrid | 6 | 4   | 1 | 1 | 11 | 3  | 13  |
| SL Benfica              | 6 | / 3 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 8  | 10  |
| Galatasaray AŞ          | 6 | 1   | 2 | 3 | 6  | 10 | 5   |
| FC Astana               | 6 | 0   | 4 | 2 | 5  | 11 | 4   |

| Date  | Home        | Score | Away        | Date  | Home        | Score | Away        |
|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|
| 15/09 | Benfica     | 2-0   | Astana      | 03/11 | Benfica     | 2-1   | Galatasaray |
| 15/09 | Galatasaray | 0-2   | Atlético    | 03/11 | Astana      | 0-0   | Atlético    |
| 30/09 | Atlético    | 1-2   | Benfica     | 25/11 | Atlético    | 2-0   | Galatasaray |
| 30/09 | Astana      | 2-2   | Galatasaray | 25/11 | Astana      | 2-2   | Benfica     |
| 21/10 | Atlético    | 4-0   | Astana      | 08/12 | Benfica     | 1-2   | Atlético    |
| 21/10 | Galatasaray | 2-1   | Benfica     | 08/12 | Galatasaray | 1-1   | Astana      |

| GRO   | UP G        |       |             | P     | W    | D         | L | F     | Α   | Pts        |
|-------|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|------|-----------|---|-------|-----|------------|
| Chel  | sea FC      |       |             | 6     | 4    | 1         | 1 | 13    | 3   | 13         |
| FC D  | ynamo Ky    | /iv   |             | 6     | 3    | 2         | 1 | 8     | 4   | 11         |
| FC Po | orto        |       | 100         | 6     | 3    | 1         | 2 | 9     | 8   | 10         |
| Масс  | abi Tel-Av  | iv FC | 48          | 6     | 0    | 0         | 6 | 1     | 16  | 0          |
| Date  | Home        | Score | Away        | Date  | Н    | ome       |   | Score |     | Away       |
| 16/09 | Chelsea     | 4-0   | M. Tel-Aviv | 04/11 | . Ch | elsea     |   | 2-1   | Dyn | amo Kyiv   |
| 16/09 | Dynamo Kyiv | 2-2   | Porto       | 04/11 | . M. | Tel-Aviv  |   | 1-3   |     | Porto      |
| 29/09 | Porto       | 2-1   | Chelsea     | 24/11 | Po   | rto       |   | 0-2   | Dyn | amo Kyiv   |
| 29/09 | M. Tel-Aviv | 0-2   | Dynamo Kyiv | 24/11 | М.   | Tel-Aviv  |   | 0-4   |     | Chelsea    |
| 20/10 | Porto       | 2-0   | M. Tel-Aviv | 09/12 | Ch   | elsea     |   | 2-0   |     | Porto      |
| 20/10 | Dynamo Kyiv | 0-0   | Chelsea     | 09/12 | Dy   | namo Kyiv |   | 1-0   | М   | . Tel-Aviv |

| -     | -     | nigue I                    | yonnais | 100000   |
|-------|-------|----------------------------|---------|----------|
|       |       | 1000                       | 40.00   |          |
| Da    | te    | Home                       | Score   | Away     |
| 16/   | 09    | Valencia                   | 2-3     | Zenit    |
| 16/   | 09    | Gent                       | 1-1     | Lyon     |
| 29/   | 09    | Lyon                       | 0-1     | Valencia |
| 29/   | 09    | Zenit                      | 2-1     | Gent     |
| 20/   | 10    | Valencia                   | 2-1     | Gent     |
| 20/   | 10    | Zenit                      | 3-1     | Lyon     |
| nson. | UNION | ATTINITION OF THE PARTY OF | 100     |          |

Manchester City FC

VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach

**Juventus** Sevilla FC

Date Home 15/09 Sevilla

30/09 Borussia

30/09 Juventus

21/10 Man. City

21/10 Juventus

**GROUP H** 

**FC Zenit** 

26 April - 4 May

**KAA Gent** 

|              |  |        |          | _     | _        |   | _     |    | ~        |
|--------------|--|--------|----------|-------|----------|---|-------|----|----------|
| Olym         | npique Ly  | onnais |          | 6     | 1 1      | 4 | 5     | 9  | 4        |
| Date         | Home   | Score  | Away     | Date  | Home     |   | Score |    | Away     |
| 16/09        | Valencia   | 2-3    | Zenit    | 04/11 | Lyon     |   | 0-2   |    | Zenit    |
| 16/09        | Gent   | 1-1    | Lyon     | 04/11 | Gent     |   | 1-0   |    | Valencia |
| 29/09        | Lyon   | 0-1    | Valencia | 24/11 | Zenit    |   | 2-0   |    | Valencia |
| 29/09        | Zenit  | 2-1    | Gent     | 24/11 | Lyon     |   | 1-2   |    | Gent     |
| 20/10        | Valencia   | 2-1    | Gent     | 09/12 | Valencia |   | 0-2   |    | Lyon     |
| 20/10        | Zenit  | 3-1    | Lyon     | 09/12 | Gent     |   | 2-1   |    | Zenit    |
| <b>BONOW</b> | No. of Contract of | 20     |          |       |          |   |       |    | - 177    |
| FIN          | AL   |        |          |       |          |   |       | 28 | 3 Мау    |

6

Borussia 03/11 Sevilla

Man. City 25/11 Juventus

Borussia 08/12 Sevilla

Sevilla 25/11 Borussia

08/12 Man. City

| Manchester City | 0-1   | Real Madrid    |
|-----------------|-------|----------------|
| First leg 0-0   | (agg) | Second leg 0-1 |





P W D L F A Pts

6 4 0 2 12 8 12

6 2 0 4 8 11 6

P W D L F A Pts

6 5 0 1 13 6 15 6 3 1 2 8 7 <u>10</u>

2 3 8 12 5

Man. City

Man. City

Sevilla

| Real Madrid   | 1-1                                     | Atlético               |
|---------------|---|------------------------|
| Maria Bullion | (aet: Real Madrid win 5-3 on penalties) | Commence of the second |

Atlético 2-2 Bayern First leg 1-0 (agg; Atlético win on away goals) Second leg 1-2



**UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TECHNICAL REPORT 2015/16** 

5 – 13 April

Benfica Second leg 2-2

Atlético Second leg 0-2

Real Madrid Second leg 0-3

Manchester City

Second leg 0-1

2-3

(agg)

# TECHNICAL TOPICS

Variety in playing styles, the importance of building from the back and the quick transition were all up for discussion after the final

"If we are looking for a trend, I would say the season demonstrated that you can play in many ways to win a football match. A few years ago, there was a tendency to think that, to be a 'real' football team, you had to play in a certain way. Now you can see many different ways of playing — and the final rounds of the competition showed that quite clearly." After more than a decade as technical director of the Danish Football Association Peter Rudbæk is well-equipped to take a long-term perspective. "In the past," he continues, "we talked about structure in defending. Now, I get the strong impression that attacking has become more structured and transitions have become much more structured. At the top level, game plans have greater variations among teams who know everything about each other."



26 UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TECHNICAL TOPICS 27

#### **CHANGING SHAPES**

There are many ways to play the game at the highest level

The variety of game plans blurred a lot of the labels applied to teams. The 2015/16 season highlighted the increasing difficulty in cataloguing playing structures. KAA Gent were the only side to adopt a 1-3-4-3 formation, with Renato Neto and Sven Kums in holding roles in front of the back three and Thomas Foket dropping back rapidly into a 1-4-2-3-1 defensive structure when possession was lost. However, Hein Van Haezebrouck switched to 1-4-4-2 in Wolfsburg, having used 1-4-2-3-1 during the group stage.

VfL Wolfsburg themselves posed problems. "I chose to describe their formation as 1-4-3-3," commented UEFA technical observer Gareth Southgate after watching Dieter Hecking's side in Gent. "But their midfield lined up differently. Gustavo played deep, with Christian Traesch and Max Arnold operating on different horizontal and vertical lines in front of him." In the following tie against Real Madrid CF, the Wolfsburg system was more readily seen as a 1-4-2-3-1 in the home leg and more clearly definable as 1-4-1-4-1 when defending a 2-0 lead in Madrid.

Josep Guardiola's Bayern performed multiple variations on the 1-4-3-3 theme, both between and during matches. At home to GNK Dinamo Zagreb, the line-up was much more akin to 1-4-2-3-1; Thomas Müller played wide right away to Arsenal and behind Robert Lewandowski when the Londoners travelled to Munich. At home to Olympiacos FC, Kingsley Coman, Douglas Costa, Müller and Arjen Robben operated behind the main striker. The observer who saw their home game against Benfica commented: "Bayern used a variety of attacking and defending systems throughout the match, which is one of their big assets. They control the game and produce some very interesting movements of their players."

Among the teams eliminated at the group stage, Dinamo Zagreb, FC Porto and Olympiacos mixed 1-4-3-3 with 1-4-2-3-1; Maccabi Tel-Aviv FC's 1-4-2-3-1 evolved into a clear 1-4-5-1 in away games; while Bayer 04 Leverkusen, Manchester United FC and PFC CSKA Moskva made occasional switches between 1-4-2-3-1 and 1-4-4-2. The permutations endorsed Rudbæk's comments on versatility and underlined the need for the modern player to be equipped to move seamlessly from one system to another.

With all the provisos outlined above, it could be argued that half of the top 16 teams had 1-4-3-3 as their default setting, with four clearly preferring 1-4-2-3-1 and three



In addition, Paris Saint-Germain switched from their habitual 1-4-3-3 to 1-3-5-2 when they took on Manchester City FC in England; PSV Eindhoven successfully implemented the same variation when they travelled to Spain to face Club Atlético de Madrid. Manuel Pellegrini's team adopted a 1-4-1-4-1 structure instead of their more habitual 1-4-2-3-1 when they visited the Spanish capital to play Real Madrid in the semi-final. SL Benfica, having relied more heavily on a 1-4-4-2 structure, drifted towards a 1-4-2-3-1 when Rui Vitória's side entertained FC Zenit and FC Bayern München in the knockout rounds. AS Roma, having preferred a 1-4-3-3 set-up, injected a second screening midfielder into a 1-4-2-3-1 when they visited Real Madrid.

usually opting for 1-4-4-2. As mentioned above, Gent were the only team to favour 1-3-4-3.

Including those eliminated at the group stage, 13 of the 32 teams operated a 1-4-3-3 formation; ten used 1-4-2-3-1 as their default setting; six implemented a clear 1-4-4-2; two (FC Astana and Maccabi Tel-Aviv) were more readily identifiable as 1-4-5-1 practitioners, with Gent making up the total. This constituted a wider range of options than in the previous season, when 14 had opted for 1-4-2-3-1, ten for 1-4-4-2, and eight for 1-4-3-3.



Bayern's ball-playing keeper Manuel Neuer

#### **BUILDING FROM THE BACK**

The importance of the defence, including the goalkeeper, in launching attacks

"All the teams that I saw," said David Moyes, on the morning after the final, "tried to play from the back. Maybe Manchester City focused on this to a lesser extent because, when I watched them, they very rarely took the ball with their central defenders." There is statistical evidence to back up this opinion. City's centre-backs operated with positional discipline and, for example, of the 35 successful passes made by Eliaquim Mangala, who replaced Vincent Kompany in the seventh minute in the home game against FC Dynamo Kyiv, four were to his goalkeeper and 27 to fellow members of City's back four. Kompany, in the first leg, had directed 21 of his 59 passes to holding midfielders or middle-to-front players. When the same scenario was repeated in the opening minutes of the semi-final second leg in Madrid, 23 of Mangala's 30 passes were to the goalkeeper or defenders. More forward-looking distribution was left to Nicolás Otamendi but, at home to Real Madrid, 70% of the centre-backs' passing was to members of the back line.

The construction of attacks relied on full-backs and controlling midfielders. And the goalkeeper. In Madrid, Joe Hart successfully distributed the ball to all ten outfielders, even though 37% of his long passing failed to find a team-mate. Once again, the two German goalkeepers of the two main possession teams – Marc-André ter Stegen and Manuel Neuer – set benchmarks in participation to the build-up and in the accuracy of their distribution. During the round of 16 tie against Arsenal FC, FC Barcelona's Ter Stegen failed to find a team-mate with only three of his 67 passes – all three of them passes of more than 30 metres.

The quarter-final between Barça and Atlético de Madrid allowed the two goalkeepers to illustrate the contrasts in game plans and playing philosophies. At the Camp Nou, Ter Stegen was not overworked, but only one long pass of the 18 he made failed to find its target. At the Vicente Calderón, his interventions totalled 37 passes (more than Neymar, Luis Suárez or Ivan Rakitić), 13 of them over long distances. All found their target. At the other end, Diego Simeone's game plan required Jan Oblak to obviate Barça's high pressing by playing long. At the Camp Nou, 30 of his 31 passes were long, with half of them reaching a team-mate. In the return, his 18 passes were exclusively long, with a success rate of 44%. compared with Ter Stegen's 100%. Over the two matches, 12 of Oblak's 23 successful long passes were received by Saúl Ñíguez, with three apiece dispatched to the front men, Antoine Griezmann and Fernando Torres.

Wolfsburg goalkeeper Diego Benaglio also opted for a long game during his side's tie against Real Madrid, when 40% of 57 long deliveries reached a friendly target. Other success rates were similarly low: Thibaut Courtois was accurate with seven of 18 long deliveries when Chelsea FC visited Paris; Arsenal's Petr Čech with nine of 16 at home to Barcelona. And, although technical observer loan Lupescu highlighted PSV Eindhoven's "typical Dutch philosophy, with patient build-up from the back and through the midfield" when he saw them in Eindhoven, Jeroen Zoet resorted to long passes 42 times during the second leg against Atlético in Madrid — with 12 of his 22 successful passes reaching main striker Luuk de Jong.

During the semi-final against Atlético de Madrid, Bayern's Neuer successfully distributed the ball to nine outfielders in Madrid and seven in the return, even though, in Munich, the visitors successfully prevented long-range supply to Franck Ribéry, Douglas Costa and Kingsley Coman. A third German keeper, Paris's Kevin Trapp, was also outstanding in the accuracy of his long passing – notably his ability to locate Zlatan Ibrahimović for direct counterattacking.

"One of the things that surprised me," reflected Thomas Schaaf after the final, "was that Keylor Navas played long so often. It may have been a deliberate attempt to avoid Atlético's high pressing but it obliged his team to do quite a lot of work to recover the ball." In the four previous matches, against Wolfsburg and Manchester City, the Costa Rican goalkeeper had played long no more than 25 times – in other words, half a dozen per match – with 15 of his passes reaching a team-mate. At San Siro, 24 of his 31 passes were long, with half of them reaching a Real Madrid player.

In Milan, Real's building from the back was based, in great part, on passes from centre-back Sergio Ramos to Marcelo and Toni Kroos. The left-back was the chief supplier to Cristiano Ronaldo and Gareth Bale, while Kroos delivered to all of his fellow outfielders. Pepe, the other central defender, preferred more conservative routes to Navas, Ramos or holding midfielder Casemiro. Most of the supply to Luka Modrić stemmed from the right-backs, Dani Carvajal and then Danilo. Atlético's construction work was mostly channelled through central midfielders Koke and Gabi, who jointly accounted for 35% of their team's passing and confirmed the growing status of controlling midfielders as the modern game's 'playmakers'. However, Zinédine Zidane's defensive

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block restricted their forward passing and, although the duo linked 27 times with Griezmann, they were only able to connect on four occasions with Torres, who received only 11 passes during the two hours of play. On the other side, Schaaf regarding Madrid's midfield as the key to their first-half domination. "Casemiro performed efficiently in the holding role," he commented, "and I think that Kroos and Modrić work very well together, as far as ball possession is concerned and playing the forward passes to the fast attackers."

#### THE LONG AND THE SHORT

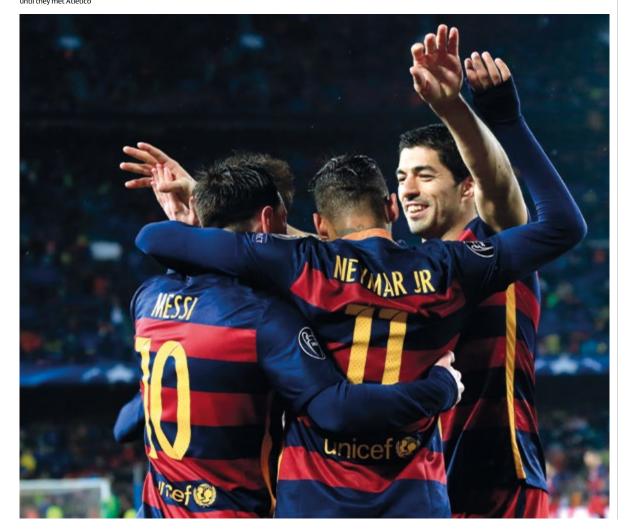
There is a growing trend to play fewer passes to get out of trouble

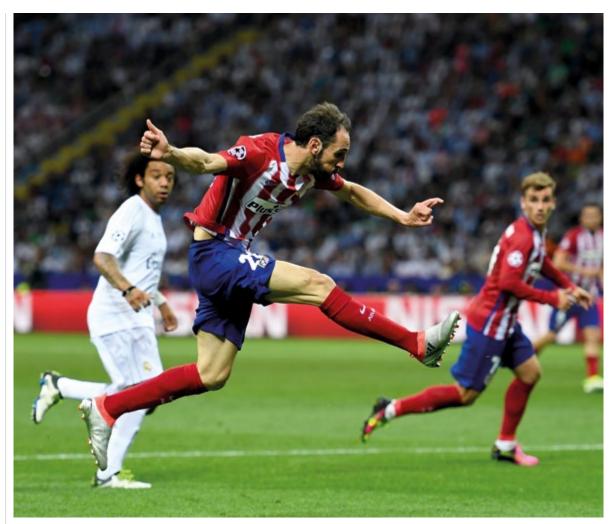
It might be dangerous to suggest that aggressive pressing is becoming increasingly successful in persuading opponents to play long, and thereby increase the risk of losing possession. It could also be argued that coaches are becoming increasingly aware of the need to mix it up and, possibly, to sow seeds of doubt amid high defensive lines by showing a readiness to try the lofted long pass into the

space behind the back four, especially in the wide areas. Barcelona, a target for in-depth analysis after their success under Guardiola, exemplify the need for benchmark teams to continue to evolve if they are to sustain domestic and international domination. "Where they had had a carousel of possession with no central striker," Sir Alex Ferguson comments, "they now have three excellent front strikers and play far more positively in terms of penetration. They're still looking for a different way of playing. I think that's been the big change, for me, in the last two years."

There is statistical evidence to confirm suspicions that teams are increasingly prepared to widen their passing patterns. During 2014/15, long deliveries (30m or more) accounted for only 9% of the passing by six teams. On the other side of the scales, Malmö FF weighed in with the highest percentage: 17%. In 2015/16, Paris were the only team to stay below double figures. And, at the top of the upward curve, 16% of the passing by Malmö, Wolfsburg and Zenit was long; Olympiacos and PSV hit 17%; and the list was topped by Astana (18%) and FC BATE Borisov (19%). The overall average across the 32 teams showed a substantial increase in the use of the long pass from 11% to 13.5%.

Barcelona's MSN – Messi, Suárez, Neymar – trident looked unstoppable, until they met Atlético





A flying Juanfran fires at goal during

#### **LIFE IN THE PEP LANE**

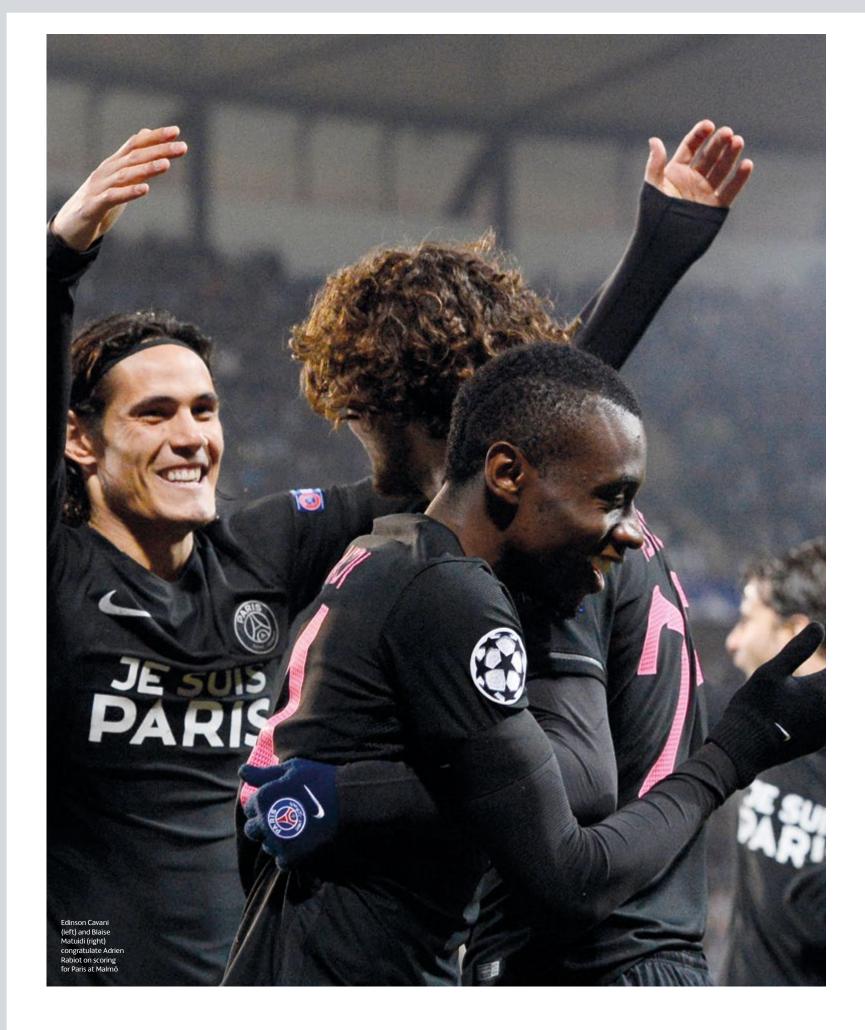
Full-backs are as key to creating goalscoring opportunities as preventing them

The overlapping full-back has now become the norm rather than an exception in UEFA Champions League football. When moves are built from the back, the two central defenders spread wide and the two full-backs take up advanced positions to receive. The final in Milan emphasised the attacking value of Dani Carvajal, Marcelo, Danilo, Juanfran and Filipe Luís. In recent seasons, Dani Alves and Jordi Alba have often been praised for their attacking contributions in the Barça system. The increase in the number of goals stemming from crosses and cut-backs can be linked with the readiness of full-backs to extend their upfield runs into the danger areas — illustrated by Juanfran's delivery from the right which allowed Atlético to equalise in the final.

The full-backs have become important as creative players, with Marcelo emerging from the final as chief supplier to Gareth Bale and Cristiano Ronaldo, and Juanfran

to Antoine Griezmann. Alves and Lionel Messi interchanged passes 52 times during Barcelona's two matches against Atlético. Philipp Lahm, who made 201 passes during the semi-final against Atlético, was a key component in spreading play to Arturo Vidal, Douglas Costa and Kingsley Coman. However, the principles implemented by Guardiola at Barça and Bayern are beginning to appear elsewhere. In Guardiola's coaching manual, the pitch can be divided into five lanes by running lines from one penalty box to the other. In simpler terms, the full-back and the winger should never be in the same lane. One of the two cuts in – but it does not have to be the winger who creates space for the overlap. The full-back can appear in the interior corridor if the winger stays wide. Work on the training pitch evidently includes the detail of attack-to-defence transitions and pressing methods following ball loss. Use of the wide areas continues to offer good options for circumventing defensive blocks – but methods of exploiting the wings are constantly evolving.

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#### **KNOCKOUTS AND SPARRING**

Early-season flair soon gave way to prioritising the elimination of risk

"If we're looking for trends, I think it could be a good idea to look at coaching questions as well," Peter Rudbæk ventured on the day after the final. "Some things happen during the group stage. Other things happen when you go into the two-legged ties. And the final is something different altogether. I think that specific experience in the Champions League is an important asset for the coach."

The points raised about the use of long passing by goalkeepers dovetail with the question of whether to press high on centre-backs and expend energy by putting pressure on the goalkeeper, in a bid to encourage the opposition to play long and thus disrupt their construction patterns at the back. However, as the competition edged closer to Milan, risk-management principles held sway over panache and adventure. The technical observer's thoughts on one first-leg match in the knockout rounds read: "They began the match by pressing high in the first 30 minutes and forcing their opponents into a lot of turnovers in their own half, but without being able to turn the regained possession into clear chances – partly because of good defending by their opponents and partly because they were reluctant to commit too many men forward to attack. They focused on keeping a shape and defending well as a unit and were careful not to leave themselves open to counterattacks. The chances they conceded were from corners."

A review of another away team included the

observation: "They had stable possession but their midfielders played from behind the ball all night. Because of the lack of numbers supporting attacks, they were very solid in transitions from attack to defence and denied their opponents any counterattacking opportunities."

However, high pressing and early ball-winning were still key weapons in the armoury of the top teams, with Barcelona and Bayern fully committed to this doctrine, as well as Laurent Blanc's Paris. "Out of possession, PSG press quickly," the technical observers at their games against Manchester City noted. "They had great energy from Matuidi and Rabiot in midfield. But they experienced the odd problem in transition and had to rely on the one-on-one defending abilities of Thiago Silva and David Luiz."

Wolfsburg also reaped dividends during the round of 16 tie against Gent, with Julian Draxler's goal which put them 2-0 ahead in Belgium being a prime example of a success derived from high-ball recovery. Benfica were also effective in aggressive collective pressing in midfield, which allowed them to launch counters based on interceptions and early-ball recoveries. Zenit, like Gent, were prepared to throw players forward, leaving themselves occasionally vulnerable to quick transitions based on sudden overloads in the wide areas.

The question is whether, ultimately, the successful teams are the ones whose game plans prioritise the elimination of risk. As Diego Simeone said after the final: "Real Madrid were better because they won. The team that wins is always the best." Mircea Lucescu, the FC Shakhtar Donetsk coach, expressed a note of caution: "We have to be careful how far we go down the road of wanting to win, without looking too much at the quality of the game."



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# THE FINAL SCORE

While the number of goals stayed largely static compared with previous seasons, there were some interesting variations on how they were scored

There was a slight downturn in the number of goals scored during the 2015/16 UEFA Champions League season: 347 compared with 361 in the previous year. This represented a marginal decrease (of 3.88%), insufficient to alter the all-time competition average of 2.68 goals per match. In 2015/16, there were 2.78 goals per game at an average of one goal for every 33 minutes of play. There was, however, a slight shift in the pattern of scoring. In the group stage, there were 280 goals – one more than in the previous season. The shortfall can be attributed to an 18% drop in goals scored during the knockout rounds, where the 29 matches yielded 67 goals, at a more miserly average of 2.31 per game.

For the second successive season, FC Bayern München were the competition's top scorers, while beaten finalists Club Atlético de Madrid – echoing Juventus a year earlier – were not among the most prolific scorers. Diego Simeone's team found the net 17 times, at an average of 1.3 per game. To emphasise the contrast between the two finalists, Real Madrid CF's average was 2.2.

True to tradition, more goals were scored after half-time than before, and accounted for a greater proportion of the total. Excluding Bayern's two extra-time goals against Juventus in Munich, 197 were scored after the break – the same number as in the previous season. However, the 148 scored before the break was 14 fewer than in 2014/15, meaning that the second halves of matches produced 33% more goals than first halves.

The percentage of goals scored by home teams also continued its steady rise. Excluding the two goals scored on neutral territory in the final in Milan, there was a 60-40 split in favour of home teams, compared with 58.5% in the previous season and 56% in 2013/14. In 2015/16, incidentally, the 60-40 percentage was a constant – group and knockout phases producing identical results. Away teams, however, did produce better figures in Groups G and H, where, in both cases, home teams scored 16 goals and away teams 15. The number of goalless draws increased from eight to ten, with Atlético de Madrid involved in three.

Four of the 29 games in the knockout rounds failed to produce a goal.

Individual scoring patterns offered evidence to support the theory that the striker-less formations successfully adopted by FC Barcelona and Spain have been put on the back-burner. Cristiano Ronaldo fell one short of the record 17 goals he scored in 2013/14, but there were similarities in the way he and other regular scorers, such as Lionel Messi, Admir Mehmedi (Bayer 04 Leverkusen), Hulk (FC Zenit) and Nicolás Gaitán (SL Benfica), adopted a wide starting position before aiming for the heart of the opposition's defence prior to putting their names on the scoresheet. Among the leading scorers, Bayern's Thomas Müller does not easily wear the label of target striker, a role filled by Robert Lewandowski. However, the other leading scorers – Luis Suárez, Antoine Griezmann, Artem Dzyuba, Olivier Giroud, Javier 'Chicharito' Hernández and Zlatan Ibrahimović – all operate in the central attacking area. Chelsea midfielder Willian is the odd man out, basing his scoring on expertise from set pieces and striking four of his five goals from outside the box.

Headers accounted for 63 goals – a significant increase of eight on the 2014/15 total and representing just over 18% of the total. Of those, 36 could be traced back to crosses or cut-backs in open play. Corners led to 15 successful headed finishes, while free-kicks contributed to just four. No fewer than 26 teams scored from headers – an increase on the previous season, when ten of the 32 teams failed to head a goal. In 2015/16, only six teams (VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach, Malmö FF, Maccabi Tel-Aviv FC, Olympiacos FC, AS Roma and Valencia CF) did not score with a header. Bayern again led the way with five headed goals, one more than Real Madrid, Arsenal FC, Paris Saint-Germain and FC Porto, despite the Portuguese side making a group-stage exit.

#### **2015/16 LEADING SCORERS**

| PLAYER             |             |    |
|--------------------|-------------|----|
| Cristiano Ronaldo  | Real Madrid | 16 |
| Robert Lewandowski | Bayern      | 9  |
| Thomas Müller      | Bayern      | 8  |
| Luis Suárez        | Barcelona   | 8  |
| Antoine Griezmann  | Atlético    | 7  |
| Lionel Messi       | Barcelona   | 6  |
| Artem Dzyuba       | Zenit       | 6  |
| Olivier Giroud     | Arsenal     | 5  |
| Javier Hernández   | Leverkusen  | 5  |
| Zlatan Ibrahimović | Paris       | 5  |
| Willian            | Chelsea     | 5  |
|                    |             |    |

|    |    | 30 |
|----|----|----|
|    |    | 28 |
|    | 22 |    |
| 18 |    |    |
| 18 |    |    |
| 17 |    |    |
|    | 18 | 18 |





#### **GOAL TYPE**

| CATEGORY     | ACTION                                      | GUIDELINES                                      | GROUP<br>STAGE | KNOCK-<br>OUT | TOTAL |
|--------------|---|---|----------------|---------------|-------|
|              | Corners                                     | Direct from / following a corner                | 25             | 5             | 30    |
|              | Free-kicks (direct) Direct from a free-kick |   | 8              | 4             | 12    |
| SET<br>PLAY  | Free-kicks (indirect)                       | Following a free-kick                           | 9              | 2             | 11    |
|              | Penalties                                   | Spot kick (or follow-up from a penalty)         | 24             | 3             | 27    |
|              | Throw-ins                                   | Following a throw-in                            | 1              | 0             | 1     |
|              | Combinations                                | Wall pass / combination move                    | 52             | 9             | 61    |
|              | Crosses                                     | Cross from the wing                             | 49             | 14            | 63    |
|              | Cut-backs                                   | Pass back from the byline                       | 27             | 2             | 29    |
|              | Diagonals                                   | Diagonal pass into the penalty box              | 12             | 2             | 14    |
| OPEN<br>PLAY | Running with the ball                       | Dribble and close-range shot / dribble and pass | 17             | 7             | 24    |
| LAI          | Long-range shots                            | Direct shot / shot and rebound                  | 21             | 4             | 25    |
|              | Forward passes                              | Through pass or pass over the defence           | 28             | 7             | 35    |
|              | Defensive errors                            | Bad back-pass / mistake by the goalkeeper       | 4              | 7             | 11    |
|              | Own goals                                   | Goal by the opponent                            | 3              | 1             | 4     |
|              |   | TOTAL   | 200            | 47            | 71.7  |

2.78 33% 63

second half than first half

of eight on 2014/15

#### **GOALS PER SEASON** ACON COALC CAMES AVERAG

| SEASON  | GOALS | GAMES | AVERAGI |
|---------|-------|-------|---------|
| 1992/93 | 56    | 25    | 2.2     |
| 1993/94 | 71    | 27    | 2.63    |
| 1994/95 | 140   | 61    | 2.30    |
| 1995/96 | 159   | 61    | 2.61    |
| 1996/97 | 161   | 61    | 2.64    |
| 1997/98 | 239   | 85    | 2.81    |
| 1998/99 | 238   | 85    | 2.80    |
| 1999/00 | 442   | 157   | 2.82    |
| 2000/01 | 449   | 157   | 2.80    |
| 2001/02 | 393   | 157   | 2.50    |
| 2002/03 | 431   | 157   | 2.7     |
| 2003/04 | 309   | 125   | 2.47    |
| 2004/05 | 331   | 125   | 2.6     |
| 2005/06 | 285   | 125   | 2.28    |
| 2006/07 | 309   | 125   | 2.47    |
| 2007/08 | 330   | 125   | 2.64    |
| 2008/09 | 329   | 125   | 2.6     |
| 2009/10 | 320   | 125   | 2.50    |
| 2010/11 | 355   | 125   | 2.84    |
| 2011/12 | 345   | 125   | 2.70    |
| 2012/13 | 368   | 125   | 2.94    |
| 2013/14 | 362   | 125   | 2.90    |
| 2014/15 | 361   | 125   | 2.89    |
| 2015/16 | 347   | 125   | 2.78    |
| TOTAL   | 7,130 | 2,658 | 2.6     |
|         |       |       |         |

#### **SET PIECES**

Goals scored from indirect free-kicks were 39% down on 2014/15

The fall in the number of goals scored during the season can be traced directly to a sharp drop in the number of successful dead-ball situations and, in particular, indirect free-kicks, After two successive seasons in which indirect free-kicks contributed 18 goals, the figure reverted to 11 – the level in 2011/12 and 2012/13. Three were scored by Benfica: two in group matches against Galatasaray AŞ, and the last-minute winner against Zenit in the first leg of the round of 16. PSV (against PFC CSKA Moskva) and FC Dynamo Kyiv (against Porto) were credited with free-kick successes as, even though the original delivery was partially cleared, the ball was returned to the penalty area while their centre-backs were still positioned for the set play. Expressed statistically, successes from indirect free-kicks fell by 39%.

The 12 successful direct free-kicks in 2015/16 matched the previous season's total, thanks, in large measure, to stunning strikes by Chelsea's Willian. In addition to his successes against Maccabi Tel-Aviv FC (twice), Porto and at home to Dynamo Kyiv, he had two near-misses during the group game in Kyiv, one of which rattled the crossbar. He emerged as a specialist in the mould of Juninho Pernambucano or Andrea Pirlo in an era when dead-ball expertise appears to be in much shorter supply. The counterargument could be that scouting and analysis have made it more difficult for free-kick specialists such as Cristiano Ronaldo to surprise opposing goalkeepers. KAA Gent found an interesting way of achieving this, unsighting the Olympique Lyonnais goalkeeper, Anthony Lopes, by lining up three players in front of Danijel Milićević as he successfully executed the set play.

The use of vanishing spray by referees at free-kicks for a second season continued to help deter encroachment by defensive walls, yet the success rate remained stable. With the number of penalties also dropping from 31 to 27, set plays accounted for 23% of the season's goals – down from 26% in 2014/15. The 30 goals resulting from corners fell short of the record of 37, set in 2013/14, but was precisely in line with the average over the past decade of UEFA Champions League football.

#### **OPEN PLAY**

Goals from crosses and cut-backs were significantly higher than in 2014/15

The number of goals scored in open play has remained remarkably consistent over the past three seasons: 266 in 2015/16, compared with 267 and 268 in the preceding campaigns. The goals' tally from combination play was also high, at 61 (compared with 63 in 2014/15), consolidating a significant upward trend. As recently as 2009/10, only 21 goals were attributed to this source, meaning that the success rate has almost tripled in six seasons. Bayern and Barcelona have continued to provide

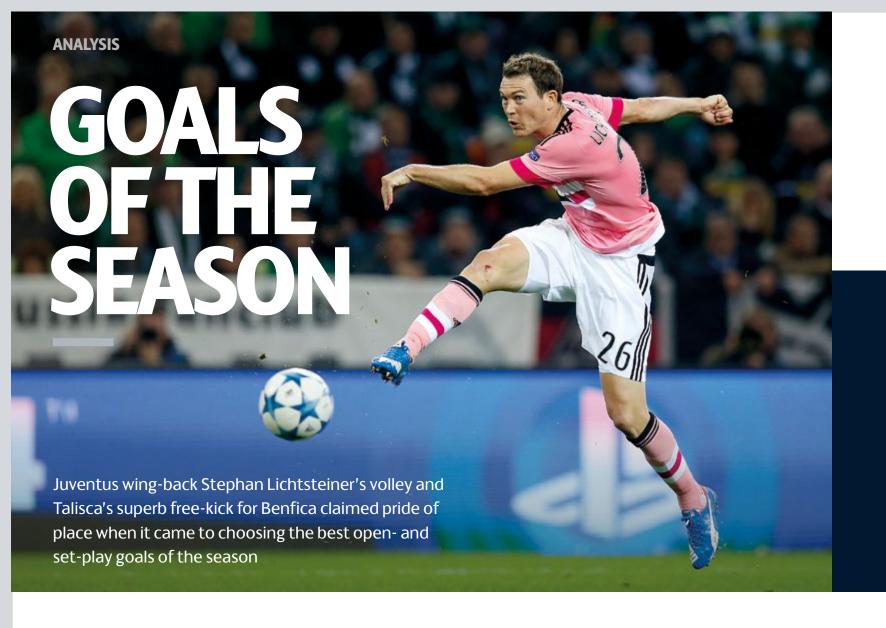
inspiration by employing short, quick, one-touch combinations to create openings in seemingly impenetrable defensive blocks – very often initiated by a forward pass to a player who is tightly marked. Prime examples from Luis Enrique's team were Luis Suárez's winner at home to Leverkusen or the move finished by Neymar to seal the 3-0 victory against FC BATE Borisov. But this approach has become steadily more widespread with, to quote random examples, Zenit beating Gent 2-1 thanks to an excellent combination rounded off by Oleg Shatov, or Bayern's penetration through the central area which allowed Lewandowski to seal a 5-0 victory against Dinamo Zagreb.

Goals derived from individuals running with the ball rose to 24, from 17 in 2014/15. The 41% increase can be traced to the number of goals stemming from counterattacks that set a player free to run at goal. Among the best examples were Simone Zaza's goal that clinched a 2-0 win for Juventus against Sevilla FC; the solo runs by Zlatan Ibrahimović that produced goals for PSG in Malmö and at home to Shakhtar Donetsk; the break that allowed Alexandre Lacazette to wrap up a 2-0 win for Olympique Lyonnais in Valencia; the slalom by Arjen Robben that put Bayern 2-0 up in Turin; or the stunning run by Álvaro Morata that allowed Juan Cuadrado to put Juventus 2-0 ahead in the return. The prime example of a goal scored after an inspired solo run from an innocuous situation was scored by Saúl Ñíguez as Atlético beat Bayern 1-0 in their semi-final first leg.

In the debit column, the most eye-catching figure relates to the lack of success of long-range shooting, which fell to 25 goals in 2015/16 – the lowest total ever registered in the UEFA Champions League. The 31% decline may well reflect on standards of goalkeeping and/or the trend towards twin screening midfielders, which arguably increases the difficulty in finding space for clear shots at goal from central areas near the penalty area.

The most striking increase relates to the number of goals that originated from crosses – up by 24%. The total signifies a return to the 2013/14 level (62, against 63 in 2015/16). However, given that the number of goals created by cut-backs also rose 21%, the statistics show that 35% of goals scored in open play had their origins in deliveries from wide areas. This figure can legitimately be linked with the total in the forward pass category which, over the past three seasons, has settled at a much lower level (33, 37 and now 35) than in earlier years of the competition. The figure has almost halved since 2011/12 and is way below the record of 82 set in 2010/11. Recent history tends to indicate the growing difficulty when it comes to penetrating defensive blocks via the traditional through ball. As with solo runs, a high percentage of forward pass successes can be associated with counterattacking: key examples in the later stages of the competition were provided by Kevin De Bruyne's opening goal for Manchester City in Paris; Fernando Torres scoring for Atlético in Barcelona; and Atlético's tie-winning away goal by Antoine Griezmann in Munich.

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TECHNICAL REPORT 2015/16 ANALYSIS: GOALSCORING



#### **BEST GOALS – SET PLAYS**

Excluding the 27 successful penalties, 54 goals resulted from dead-ball situations. The sharp downturn in the success rate was reflected by a relatively modest short list of candidates, comprising seven free-kicks and five corners. The former took all three places on the podium, with the top honour going to the beautifully struck free-kick by Talisca which beat Manuel Neuer and earned SL Benfica a 2-2 draw at home to Bayern. Second place went to the goal

which brought KAA Gent back to 1-1 in Lyon. Hein Vanhaezebrouck's team had evidently rehearsed a set play which involved lining up three players in front of Danijel Milićević as he prepared to execute the free-kick. The short corner which allowed Club Atlético de Madrid to open the scoring against FC Astana was also well-worked. Penalties apart, it was the only set-play success of the season for Diego Simeone's team — arguably a consequence of the diligence employed by opponents against a side renowned for its dead-ball prowess.

#### **TOP TEN OPEN-PLAY GOALS**

| _  |                      |    |                                 |     |
|----|----------------------|----|---------------------------------|-----|
|    | SCORER               | MD | матсн                           | MIN |
| 1  | Stephan Lichtsteiner | 4  | Mönchengladbach 1-1 Juventus    | 44  |
| 2  | Luis Suárez          | 8  | Barcelona 3-1 Arsenal           | 65  |
| 3  | Lionel Messi         | 5  | Barcelona 6-1 Roma              | 18  |
| 4  | Saúl Ñíguez          | 11 | Atlético de Madrid 1-0 Bayern   | 11  |
| 5  | Juan Cuadrado        | 8  | Bayern 4-2 Juventus             | 28  |
| 6  | Alessandro Florenzi  | 1  | Roma 1-1 Barcelona              | 31  |
| 7  | Alexandre Lacazette  | 3  | Zenit 3-1 Lyon                  | 49  |
| 8  | Oleg Shatov          | 2  | Zenit 2-1 Gent                  | 67  |
| 9  | Vierinha             | 6  | Wolfsburg 3-2 Manchester United | 29  |
| 10 | Hulk                 | 3  | Zenit 3-1 Lyon                  | 56  |

#### **TOP FIVE SET-PLAY GOALS**

|                | SCORER            | TYPE      | MD | MATCH                         | MIN |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------|----|-------------------------------|-----|
| $\overline{1}$ | Talisca           | Free-kick | 10 | Benfica 2-2 Bayern            | 76  |
| 2              | Danijel Milićević | Free-kick | 5  | Lyon 1-2 <b>Gent</b>          | 32  |
| 3              | Miralem Pjanić    | Free-kick | 3  | Leverkusen 4-4 Roma           | 54  |
| 4              | Cristiano Ronaldo | Corner    | 10 | Real Madrid 3-0 Wolfsburg     | 17  |
| 5              | Saúl Ñíguez       | Corner    | 3  | Atlético de Madrid 4-0 Astana | 23  |

MD: Matchday

#### **BEST GOALS - OPEN PLAY**

On the morning after the final, UEFA's technical team in Milan addressed the task of selecting the best goals of the UEFA Champions League season. From the goals proposed by UEFA technical observers at individual matches, it required determined work with the scissors to cut down the candidates to a 'short' list of 50 in the open-play and set-play categories.

The ten open-play goals finally selected varied greatly. Pride of place went to the goal that earned Juventus a point from their Group D fixture in Germany against VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach, with wing-back Stephan Lichtsteiner striking an outstanding volley after a diagonal ball into the box. FC Barcelona completed the podium thanks to Luis Suárez and Lionel Messi – the former meeting a cross by Dani Alves from the right with an acrobatic volley; the latter rounding off a trademark combination move in grand style.

Combination play also allowed FC Zenit and VfL Wolfsburg to feature among the season's top ten, with Oleg Shatov and Vieirinha, respectively, putting the finishing touches to excellent moves. The daringly unexpected solo run through the FC Bayern München defensive ranks earned Club Atlético de Madrid's Saúl Ñíguez fourth place. Fifth was the devastating counterattack which gave Juventus a 2-0 advantage against Bayern in Munich, Juan Cuadrado scoring the goal after an outstanding solo break by Spanish striker Álvaro Morata.

Shots from long range claim two places among the season's top goals. AS Roma right-back Alessandro Florenzi set the crowd alight by lofting a powerful drive over Barcelona goalkeeper Marc André ter Stegen from way out on the right touchline. Zenit's Brazilian attacker, Hulk, featured more than once on the list of candidates. It was his hammer blow, which put his team 2-1 up at home to Olympique Lyonnais, that powered him into the top ten. Three minutes before his long-range strike hit the net, Alexandre Lacazette had equalised for the French visitors thanks to an impudent back-heel that diverted a cross from the right into the Russian net.



Stephan Lichtstein (above left) and Talisca set the bar high with the qualit of their goals

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# TALKING POINTS

Debate focused on the value of extra time – and indeed whether it should be scrapped – and the reasons behind the continued Spanish dominance of European competitions

#### A WASTE OF EXTRA TIME?

With teams consistently failing to score in extra time, it is not doing its job of finding a winner

"No one wants to play extra time." This opinion, expressed by one of the technical observers on the morning after the Milan final, provoked considerable discussion on the extra half-hour. In Milan, Diego Simeone might have been forgiven for having mixed feelings as the referee signalled the end of the 90 minutes. In Lisbon, two years previously, he had seen his team concede an equaliser three minutes into stoppage time and then ship three more goals during the second period of extra time as Real Madrid CF poured forward, mercilessly running at (and past) his injured right-back, Juanfran. With all three substitutions already made in Portugal, the manager of Club Atlético de Madrid could do no more than resign himself to the inevitable.

That 2014 final, however, represented an exception.
The 2016 final signified a return to the general rule. The search for another goal scored during extra time at a final stretches back to 1992 when, in the last final to be played before the competition was relaunched as the UEFA
Champions League, a direct free-kick by Ronald Koeman gave FC Barcelona a 1-0 victory over UC Sampdoria at
Wembley. Between that day and the late avalanche in
Lisbon, six periods of extra time had failed to yield a goal. It means that, whereas the 2,658 matches played in the UEFA
Champions League's history have generated 2.68 goals per 90 minutes, 210 minutes of extra time have failed to produce one. The obvious question is: why?



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Fatigue would probably be the most frequent answer. In Milan, legs were aching and flagging. Attacks of cramp became more frequent. The movement of key players such as Gareth Bale, Cristiano Ronaldo and Luka Modrić was palpably less fluent, with the first two, as Peter Rudbæk put it, "having explosive elements in their DNA that make it difficult to maintain peak effort over 120 minutes". On the other hand, fatigue is often proffered as an explanation for a greater number of goals. During the 2015/16 UEFA Champions League, 22.6% of the competition's goals hit the net during the closing quarter-hour and the periods of additional time after the 90 minutes. It was the most prolific period of games for goals to be scored. In that light, can fatigue legitimately be put forward as the explanation for the lack of goals during extra time? Or are attitudes a more plausible explanation?

Even though the Golden Goal (which abruptly put an end to the game as soon as the ball hit the net) has now been consigned to history, is the approach to extra time based on the priority of not conceding a goal? As Mixu Paatelainen remarked: "Atlético didn't really use their legs to run at Real Madrid and kept the emphasis on 'balanced' attacking." In other words, conscious of the counterattacking potential of Zinédine Zidane's team, they were reluctant to throw too many players forward. David Moyes added: "I thought that, in extra time, both teams had accepted that the game would go to penalty kicks. I thought the game was stopped."

Curiously, extra time has been rare in UEFA Champions League history. Equally curiously, Atlético de Madrid's campaigns are among the very few that have required the extra half-hour: against PSV Eindhoven in 2015/16 and against Bayer 04 Leverkusen in the previous season. In both cases, the teams adhered to the traditional script and failed to score a goal. The counter-argument is the extra half-hour in Munich between FC Bayern München and Juventus, which produced two goals and could hardly have been more exciting.

The debating point is quite simply whether extra time is a waste of time and should be scrapped. In knockout rounds prior to the final, this would avoid one team having home advantage for the extra half-hour. But what of the fans? In Milan, did the spectators at the San Siro not welcome the extra half-hour of entertainment? Or, bearing in mind the levels of risk-management which became apparent, was it low-level entertainment to offer to a more neutral global audience? What is preferable in sporting terms – going directly to the lottery of a penalty shoot-out, or giving the teams an opportunity to settle the issue in open play?

On the other hand, what could be done to encourage teams to be more adventurous in extra time? Would it be feasible, for example, to conduct the penalty shoot-out before the start of extra time? Had Atlético de Madrid gone into the extra half-hour knowing that they had lost the shoot-out, would they have been more committed to attack? At the same time, would it have over-clarified the tactical situation and encouraged Real Madrid to focus on defending their advantage? Are there other alternatives which could help to alter the tradition of goalless periods of extra time?

Atlético were perfect from the spot against PSV in the last 16





#### WHY IS SPAIN 'EL JEFE'?

The country's recent dominance of club and international football shows no sign of abating

Since the turn of the century in the UEFA Champions League, Spain has provided eight winners, four runners-up and 14 beaten semi-finalists. It is a similar story in the UEFA Europa League: eight champions, three runners-up and seven beaten semi-finalists. Teams from the middle reaches of the Spanish league have performed well in UEFA competitions. Sevilla FC, who finished in seventh place, have won the last three editions of the UEFA Europa League. In the past three seasons, there has been a hat-trick of Spanish victories in the UEFA Champions League, including two all-Spanish finals, and two UEFA Champions League and UEFA Europa League doubles in the same period. In the meantime, Spain have been world and European champions and lifted an assortment of trophies in UEFA's age-limit tournaments – in addition to being a serial winner on the international futsal stage. As loan Lupescu remarked in Milan: "There seems to be a continuity in the youth competitions, at senior national level and in club football." So what exactly are they doing to make everything work so well?

Ginés Meléndez, one of UEFA's squad of technical observers and a long-serving team member at the Spanish national association as head coach of age-limit teams, a technical director and coach education director, puts forward three fundamental factors. Continuity of well over two decades in administration and development projects at the head of the national association; sustained investment in infrastructure; and stringent coach education requirements, including the need to possess a UEFA Pro

licence reaching deep into the lower divisions.

It was a subject of debate for the group of experienced coaches who met in Milan, Meléndez among them. Mircea Lucescu advanced the theory that "the basis is technical. It's all about skills. They use this as the starting point and then build on it. Not the fighting spirit or the physical aspects. They come later, along with the tactical education. It's difficult to beat them because they are all tactically very good; they are very well prepared; and they play the same kind of football every week – which is not the case in a lot of other countries. It's top-level instruction, starting with a lot of attention given to the skilful players. And these qualities are the base on which all the other qualities are developed."

This might be a powerful argument in discussions on the successes of national teams. But how legitimate is it to apply it to Spanish successes at club level? Barcelona's forward line contains no Spaniards. Ditto Real Madrid's. Among the top three Liga clubs, Fernando Torres is the only Spanish first-choice attacker. None has a Spanish goalkeeper. For the final in Milan, Real Madrid's Spanish presence was a right-back and a centre-back, with two midfielders coming on as subs. Atlético started with a Spanish right-back, three midfielders and a striker on the pitch, but no Spanish presence on the bench. At the three clubs, Luis Enrique is the only Spanish coach.

It can certainly be argued that signing for Barcelona requires integration into a well-defined playing philosophy. Or that pulling on the shirt of Athletic Club at San Mamés in Bilbao entails embracing a culture. But clubs in other countries have similar recruitment potential and similar fanbases. So what is the explanation for Spain's sustained successes on the international club stage? Answers on a postcard...

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# **ALL-STAR SQUAD**

#### **GOALKEEPERS**



CLUB ATLÉTICO DE MADRID



#### **DEFENDERS**



DIEGO GODÍN CLUB ATLÉTICO DE MADRID



**JUANFRAN** CLUB ATLÉTICO DE MADRID

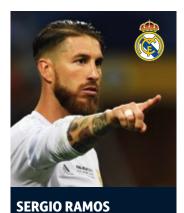
#### Two-thirds of the selected players came from the finalists, with Atlético represented in each position

Selecting 18 names to put on the team sheet for the 2015/16 UEFA Champions League season was one of the tasks addressed by the team of coaches led by Sir Alex Ferguson when they met in Milan on the morning after the final. The composition of the all-star squad usually requires debating – and this time was no exception. The outcome was a list that reflects the impact made by the front and middle-to-front players. Six attackers were chosen but, among them, only Robert Lewandowski and Luis Suárez could comfortably wear the label of strikers. The others were capable of making decisive contributions from more withdrawn starting positions.

The selection features a dozen players from the two finalists, with Club Atlético de Madrid, in their second final in three seasons, represented in each department of the squad. Players from 11 countries are included and an interesting facet is that, of the five non-Europeans, three are defenders. Five of the middle-to-front players also featured in the all-star squad from the previous season: Andrés Iniesta, Toni Kroos, Cristiano Ronaldo, Suárez and Lionel Messi.



**THIAGO SILVA** PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN



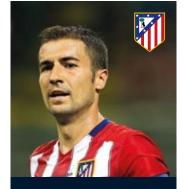
REAL MADRID CF



**MARCELO REAL MADRID CF** 



#### **MIDFIELDERS**



**GABI** CLUB ATLÉTICO DE MADRID

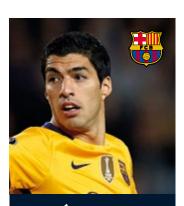


CLUB ATLÉTICO DE MADRID

#### **ATTACKERS**



**ANTOINE GRIEZMANN** CLUB ATLÉTICO DE MADRID



LUIS SUÁREZ FC BARCELONA



**ANDRÉS INIESTA** FC BARCELONA



**TONI KROOS REAL MADRID CF** 



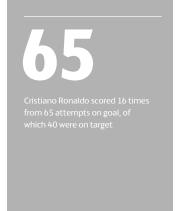
**LIONEL MESSI** FC BARCELONA



FC BAYERN MÜNCHEN

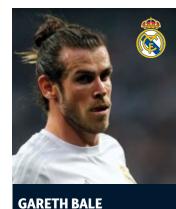


**LUKA MODRIĆ REAL MADRID CF** 





**CRISTIANO RONALDO REAL MADRID CF** 



REAL MADRID CF

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TECHNICAL REPORT 2015/16 ANALYSIS: ALL-STAR SQUAD

# **ATTEMPTS ON GOAL**

#### **STATISTICS**

#### The number of efforts on goal per game continues to rise and was up nearly 7% on 2014/15

# PARIS

Attempts

134

On Off

18

B W



Attempts

160

On Off



Goals

18

B W



77

On Off







| Attempts              |     | Goals       |   |
|-----------------------|-----|-------------|---|
| <b>76</b><br>AVG 12.7 |     | <b>8</b> /G |   |
| On                    | Off | В           | W |
|                       |     |             |   |

# BAYERN MÜNCHEN

| Attempts            |     | Goals                 |   |
|---------------------|-----|-----------------------|---|
| <b>261</b> AVG 21.8 |     | <b>30</b><br>A/G 8.67 |   |
| On                  | Off | В                     | W |
|                     |     |                       |   |

| REA | L MADRID |
|-----|----------|
|-----|----------|

| Attempts               |     | Goals                 |   |
|------------------------|-----|-----------------------|---|
| <b>272</b><br>AVG 20.9 |     | <b>28</b><br>A/G 9.71 |   |
| On                     | Off | В                     | W |
|                        |     |                       |   |



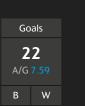
| Attempts               |     | Goals |       |  |
|------------------------|-----|-------|-------|--|
| <b>109</b><br>AVG 18.2 |     | A/G 2 | 21.80 |  |
| On                     | Off | В     | W     |  |
|                        | 44  | 33    |       |  |



Attempts

167

On Off





| Attempts            |     | Goals               |   |
|---------------------|-----|---------------------|---|
| <b>131</b> AVG 16.4 |     | <b>10</b> A/G 13.10 |   |
| On                  | Off | В                   | W |
|                     |     |                     |   |







| Attempts               |     | Goals               |   |
|------------------------|-----|---------------------|---|
| <b>196</b><br>AVG 15.1 |     | <b>17</b> A/G 11.53 |   |
| On                     | Off | В                   | W |
|                        |     |                     |   |



| Attempts              |     | Goals                 |   |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------------|---|
| <b>89</b><br>AVG 14.8 |     | <b>6</b><br>A/G 14.83 |   |
| On                    | Off | В                     | W |
|                       |     |                       |   |



Attempts

89

On Off

| MÖNCHENGLADBA | C |
|---------------|---|
|---------------|---|

| Go  | als          | Atte            | n |
|-----|--------------|-----------------|---|
| A/G | <b>9</b> .89 | <b>8</b><br>AVG |   |
| В   | W            | On              |   |
|     |              |                 |   |



|  | MÖNCHENGLADBACH |
|--|-----------------|
|--|-----------------|

| Attempts              |     | Goals                 |   |
|-----------------------|-----|-----------------------|---|
| <b>87</b><br>AVG 14.5 |     | <b>8</b><br>A/G 10.88 |   |
| On                    | Off | В                     | W |
|                       |     |                       |   |







| Attempts            |  | Goals                  |   |
|---------------------|--|------------------------|---|
| <b>110</b> AVG 13.8 |  | <b>11</b><br>A/G 10.00 |   |
| On Off              |  | В                      | W |
|                     |  |                        |   |



| Atte                           | mnts | Goals                 |     |
|--------------------------------|------|-----------------------|-----|
| Acce                           | прсз | GU                    | ais |
| <b>135</b><br>AVG <b>13</b> .5 |      | <b>15</b><br>A/G 9.00 |     |
| On                             | Off  | В                     | W   |
|                                |      |                       |     |



| Attempts              |     | Go  | als               |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-------------------|
| <b>81</b><br>AVG 13.5 |     | A/G | <b>7</b><br>11.57 |
| On                    | Off | В   | W                 |
|                       |     |     |                   |



#### SHAKHTAR

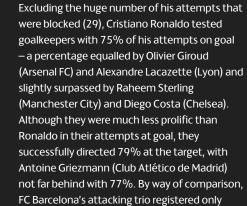
| Attempts           |     | Goals                 |   |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------------|---|
| <b>81</b> AVG 13.5 |     | <b>7</b><br>A/G 11.57 |   |
| On                 | Off | В                     | W |
|                    |     |                       |   |

required an average of ten attempts (9.86 to be Simeone's team the only one of the eight in The 2015/16 season offered fans even more goal attempts than in the previous campaign. The fact that 2014/15 had posted an increase of 2.6% over 2013/14 points to steady upward progress. This time, the rise to 3,421 attempts, at an average of 27.37 per match, signified an increase of 6.6%. However, one in four attempts were blocked before they tested the goalkeeper, without saying that Maccabi Tel-Aviv FC and while 67 struck the woodwork.

Once again, statistics relating to efficiency in front of goal highlight the difference between the group fallers and the teams that progressed to the knockout stage. Overall, scoring a goal

precise), but there was considerable variation on either side of that mean. The extremes were registered by FC Zenit, with André Villas-Boas's team requiring only six attempts to find the net, whereas Olympique Lyonnais needed a couple of decimal points short of 22. It almost goes Malmö FF, who scored only one goal apiece, posted the worst averages. Among the quarter-finalists it was, curiously, the beaten finalists who required the highest number of attempts to score a goal, with Diego

Fifteen of the 32 teams hit the target with fewer than half of their attempts, including the champions, Real Madrid CF. Only 41% of Manchester City FC's finishing was accurate while, in the credit column, KAA Gent (63%), Chelsea FC and Manchester United FC (58% apiece) registered the best figures in the hit/miss chart. Chelsea's accuracy owed a considerable debt to the dead-ball expertise of Willian, who hit the target with 83% of his attempts.



Excluding the huge number of his attempts that slightly above-average figures, with Luis Suárez accurate with 58% and Neymar and Lionel Messi on 52%. Fernando Torres (Atlético) and Zlatan Ibrahimović (Paris Saint-Germain) averaged 47%, while Ronaldo's attacking accomplices for the champions, Karim Benzema and Gareth Bale, posted figures of 58% and 24% respectively.

#### 5 **13** 102 B W On Off B W

Attem

On

72







| Attempts               |     | Goals                 |   |
|------------------------|-----|-----------------------|---|
| <b>126</b><br>AVG 12.6 |     | <b>15</b><br>A/G 8.40 |   |
| On                     | Off | В                     | W |
|                        |     |                       |   |



| •                  |          |                      |     |
|--------------------|----------|----------------------|-----|
| Atte               | Attempts |                      | als |
| <b>73</b> AVG 12.2 |          | <b>5</b><br>A/G 14.6 |     |
| On                 | Off      | В                    | W   |
|                    |          |                      |     |



| Atte | Attempts              |   | als                   |  |  |
|------|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|--|--|
|      | <b>97</b><br>AVG 12.1 |   | <b>9</b><br>A/G 10.78 |  |  |
| On   | Off                   | В | W                     |  |  |
|      |                       |   |                       |  |  |



Goals

| KAA GENI<br>—TIJAAANEE?— |                       |   |       |          |                  |      |      |  |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|-------|----------|------------------|------|------|--|
| ts                       | Goals                 |   | Goals |          |                  | Atte | mpts |  |
|                          | <b>6</b><br>A/G 12.00 |   |       | 8<br>AVG | <b>4</b><br>10.5 | A    |      |  |
| Off                      | В                     | W |       | On       | Off              | В    |      |  |
|                          |                       |   |       |          |                  |      |      |  |



GENT







| Attempts             |     | Goals                 |   |
|----------------------|-----|-----------------------|---|
| <b>56</b><br>AVG 9.3 |     | <b>3</b><br>A/G 18.67 |   |
| On                   | Off | В                     | W |
|                      |     |                       |   |



| Attempts             |     | Goals |       |
|----------------------|-----|-------|-------|
| <b>55</b><br>AVG 9.2 |     | A/G I | 11.00 |
| On                   | Off | В     | W     |
|                      |     |       |       |



| Atte     | Attempts        |                   | Goals |  |
|----------|-----------------|-------------------|-------|--|
| <b>7</b> | <b>1</b><br>8.9 | <b>8</b> A/G 8.88 |       |  |
| On       | Off             | В                 | W     |  |
|          |                 |                   |       |  |



MACCABI TEL-AVIV







| Atte                 | Attempts |     | als              |
|----------------------|----------|-----|------------------|
| <b>40</b><br>AVG 6.7 |          | A/G | <b>5</b><br>8.00 |
| On                   | Off      | В   | W                |
|                      |          |     |                  |

AVG = Average per game; A/G = Attempts per goal scored; B = Blocked; W = Woodwork

Note: attempts striking the woodwork are included in the on-target total if deflected by a goalkeeper or defender, and in the off-target total if striking the woodwork directly



A goal was scored once in every ten attempts in 2015/16





Zenit were the most efficient team in front of goal, requiring just six attempts per goal

83% WILLIAN

Chelsea dead-ball specialist Willian hit the target with 83% of his attempts

# FIGHTING BACK

#### **STATISTICS**

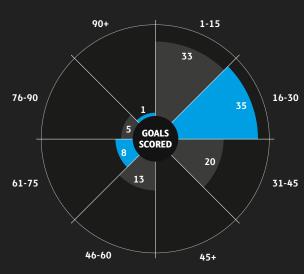
#### 2015/16 COMEBACK VICTORIES

| PSV                | 2-1 | Manchester United  |
|--------------------|-----|--------------------|
| Manchester United  | 2-1 | Wolfsburg          |
| Wolfsburg          | 3-2 | Manchester United  |
| PSV                | 2-1 | CSKA               |
| Galatasaray        | 2-1 | Benfica            |
| Atlético de Madrid | 1-2 | Benfica            |
| Manchester City    | 1-2 | Juventus           |
| Mönchengladbach    | 1-2 | Manchester City    |
| Lyon               | 1-2 | Gent               |
| Manchester City    | 2-1 | Sevilla            |
| Barcelona          | 2-1 | Leverkusen         |
| Olympiacos         | 2-1 | Dinamo Zagreb      |
| Barcelona          | 2-1 | Atlético de Madrid |
| Bayern München     | 4-2 | Juventus           |
| Zenit              | 1-2 | Benfica            |

Winning team in blue

The comeback made a comeback in 2015/16 – three times as many games were won by the team conceding first than in 2014/15

#### WHEN THE FIRST GOAL WAS SCORED





of games with goals were won by the team scoring first

The 2014/15 season posed questions about teams' inability to bounce back to win games after conceding the first goal. Debate was fuelled by the fact that only 4.27% of the games which produced goals had been won by the team falling 1-0 behind. Numerically, this represented a grand total of just five comebacks in a 125-match campaign

The 2015/16 season provided a return to relative normality, with the number of winning comebacks tripling to 15. With ten matches finishing goalless, it meant that 13% of the games that had produced goals ended with victory for the side that had conceded first. With 15 teams fighting back to draw, meanwhile, 74% of the games with goals were won by the team scoring first – a return to the percentage registered in 2013/14

The 15 comebacks were shared among 11 about teams' relative inability to find a reply teams, with FC Barcelona, SL Benfica, Manchester City FC and PSV Eindhoven all bouncing back twice. Luis Enrique's side fell 1-0 behind in two games at the Camp Nou but scored twice on each occasion, to beat Bayer 04 Leverkusen and Club Atlético de Madrid. The beaten finalists also surrendered a 1-0 lead at home to SL Benfica in the group stage, losing 2-1. Manchester City, having relinquished a 1-0 lead in their 2-1 defeat by Juventus, turned the tables by coming back to win at home to Sevilla FC and at Mönchengladbach. FC Bayern München's comeback at home to Juventus was 16 tie in Lisbon. a close-run affair, an added-time equaliser paving the way for the 4-2 victory in extra time.

With the vast majority of opening goals being scored during the first half, the question

remains valid. During 2015/16, late goals broke the deadlock on even fewer occasions than in the previous season, implying that usually there was ample time to pursue a comeback. On the other hand, it was noticeable that the number of early opening goals decreased rapidly once the knockout rounds got under way. The most extreme example of that tendency came in the only match which was goalless after 90 minutes yet still produced a decisive result, when a set play during added time gave Benfica victory against FC Zenit in the first leg of their round of

# **BORN TO RUN**

#### **STATISTICS**

Players covered less ground in 2015/16 as figures showed that hard yards are no guarantee of success



| AVERAGE METRES COVERED | (PER MINUTE PLAYED) |        |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| Claudio Marchisio      | Juventus            | 136.45 |
| Koke                   | Atlético de Madrid  | 136.01 |
| Christoph Kramer       | Leverkusen          | 134.76 |
| Saúl Ñíguez            | Atlético de Madrid  | 132.72 |
| Miralem Pjanić         | Roma                | 130.29 |
| Luiz Gustavo           | Wolfsburg           | 130.20 |
| Paulo Dybala           | Juventus            | 129.96 |
| Danny                  | Zenit               | 128.41 |
| Serhiy Sydorchuk       | Dynamo Kyiv         | 128.24 |
| Gabi                   | Atlético de Madrid  | 127.74 |
| Renato Neto            | Gent                | 127.72 |
| Davy Pröpper           | PSV                 | 127.04 |
| Thomas Müller          | Bayern München      | 126.88 |
| Arturo Vidal           | Bayern München      | 126.41 |
| Kevin De Bruyne        | Manchester City     | 126.34 |
| Cesc Fàbregas          | Chelsea             | 126.19 |
| Antoine Griezmann      | Atlético de Madrid  | 125.87 |
| Andrés Guardado        | PSV                 | 125.77 |
| Xabi Alonso            | Bayern München      | 125.61 |
| Blaise Matuidi         | Paris Saint-Germain | 124.79 |
| Jesús Navas            | Manchester City     | 124.09 |
| Ivan Rakitić           | Barcelona           | 124.05 |
| André Almeida          | Benfica             | 123.50 |
| Casemiro               | Real Madrid         | 123.49 |
| Julian Draxler         | Wolfsburg           | 123.18 |
| Toni Kroos             | Real Madrid         | 122.86 |
| Fernando               | Manchester City     | 122.67 |
| Max Kruse              | Wolfsburg           | 122.51 |
| Paul Pogba             | Juventus            | 120.99 |
| Jordi Alba             | Barcelona           | 120.81 |
| Andrés Iniesta         | Barcelona           | 117.02 |
| Angel Di María         | Paris Saint-Germain | 110.44 |
| Luis Suárez            | Barcelona           | 107.83 |
| Marcelo                | Real Madrid         | 106.19 |
| Sergio Agüero          | Manchester City     | 106.02 |
| Zlatan Ibrahimović     | Paris Saint-Germain | 96.01  |
| Lionel Messi           | Barcelona           | 86.57  |

The average distance covered by the 32 UEFA Champions League teams during the 2015/16 season fell by more than 4%. The highest average was posted by VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach; however, in the previous season no fewer than six teams had surpassed the German club's figure of 117,104m per game. In addition, the averages of seven other teams fell below the lowest figure recorded in 2014/15. The overall average across the competition's 125 matches fell to 109,098m

Nor do the statistics offer a great deal of encouragement for teams to do more running. A review of the matches in which the teams recorded their highest figure indicates that the expenditure of energy led to nine wins, nine draws and 14 defeats. In other words, running

could not easily be related to success or team efficiency.

It meant that the teams were more evenly grouped, judged on the distances they covered. The difference between first and last in the table fell to 16.53%, from 22.85% in 2014/15. Geographically, the teams were also more evenly distributed though, as usual, German clubs underlined their athletic prowess with four appearing among the top dozen.

Individuals' data for the season reveal that Club Atlético de Madrid midfielder Gabi covered almost 150km. However, Diego Simeone's side, as well as playing the maximum number of matches, were alone in playing a full hour of extra-time – against PSV Eindhoven in the round of 16 and against Real Madrid CF in the final. This explains why Gabi, Antoine

Griezmann, Koke, Saúl Ñíguez and Juanfran occupied five of the top eight places.

To make a meaningful comparison, the only legitimate calculation is the average number of metres covered per minute played – which is what the table above displays. The top placings are in numerical order but, below them, is a selection based on players operating in

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE TECHNICAL REPORT 2015/16 **STATISTICS** 

# **ROUTE TO GOAL**

#### **STATISTICS**

The trend towards the guick thrust rather than a patient build-up is growing

AVERAGE POSSESSION TIME REQUIRED TO SCORE BALL-WINNING POSITIONS RESULTING IN GOALS



(down 1.3% on 2014/15)

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF PASSES TO CREATE A GOAL** 



(down 5% on 2014/15)

in the defensive third in midfield in the attacking third

In 2015/16, the average UEFA Champions League goal hit the net following 11.51 seconds of possession and a move involving 3.74 passes.

origins (including those which led to set plays, such as free-kicks and penalties) reveals that 149 stemmed from winning the ball in the attacking third; 138 from possession regained in opportunities for forward passing can be midfield; and 60 from a build-up or counterattack after the ball had been won in the openings for forward passing are the key in defensive third.

The equivalent figures for 2014/15 had been more heavily weighted towards winning the ball in the final third – the source of 163 goals, compared with 135 in midfield and 63 at the back. The tendency in 2015/16 was for a faster execution, both in possession time and the number of passes. The average of 3.74 passes, compared with 3.94 in 2014/15, may not appear to be a substantial variation, yet it represents a reduction of 5%, while the number of seconds between ball winning and a goal diminished by a slender 1.3%.

During discussions on the day after the Milan final, Mixu Paatelainen suggested that the trend might easily become accentuated in the Tracing the goalscoring moves back to their future. "The organisation of defensive work has become so sophisticated," he said, "and the emphasis on keeping a balance and making sure interesting variations. The champions, Real there are no free players means that nullified. The players' movements to create Champions League and top-level football. I think 13.83 seconds of possession and 5.13 passes. that, in future, we could see a return to direct, back-to-front passing that doesn't allow the opponent time to assemble the whole pack into protracted goalscoring moves occurred during a defensive block "

The 2015/16 season revealed that the most fertile source of goalscoring moves (10.95%) was a clearance by the opposition that allowed possession to be regained. At the same time, a loose pass or an error in controlling the ball by opponents accounted for a further 10.66%. This was followed, in descending order, by ball-gains stemming from winning a free-kick,

a throw-in or a corner. Relatively low figures, of 6.3% and 5.5% respectively, resulted from interceptions (anywhere on the pitch) and successful tackles by defenders.

Within the overall figures, there were Madrid CF, provided a striking example by dramatically reducing the length of their goalscoring moves. In 2014/15, their 24 goals had been the culmination of moves involving En route to the 2015/16 title, these figures fell to 7.75 seconds and 2.43 passes. Their most the tie against AS Roma. In the Italian capital. a Roma clearance was won in midfield and a 32-second, nine-pass move culminated in Ronaldo making it 1-0. During the return, a save by goalkeeper Keylor Navas led to a patient build-up and resulted, after 30 seconds and ten passes, in an identical outcome to seal an identical scoreline. Their next longest spell of possession resulting in a goal was the own goal

MOST COMMON SOURCES OF GOALSCORING MOVES



Opposition clearances that led to possession being regained immediately



Loose pass or error in ball control by opponents



Barcelona's second goal at home to Roma was the longest goalscoring move of the season



**REAL MADRID QUICKEN THE PACE** 



2014/15

2015/16





28 goals



13.83

average number of seconds of possession per goal

average number of seconds of possession per goal



needed to create a goal

average number of passes needed to create a goal

by Manchester City FC's Fernando in the second leg of the semi-final, after 13 seconds and four passes

In line with comments made elsewhere in this report about pre-conceived notions on the styles of the two finalists, Real's goalscoring moves were considerably shorter than Club Atlético de Madrid's. The 17 goals scored by Diego Simeone's team were the result, on average, of 15.06 seconds in possession and 5.81 passes – close to double the figures of their neighbours. Like Madrid, however, their most fertile source was a clearance by the opposition. Nine of their goals resulted from possession regained in midfield, five in the final third, and only three from ball winning in the defensive third.

FC Bayern München, a 'possession team' par excellence, offered a radical contrast in their scoring pattern, with the average possession time prior to scoring climbing from 10.58 seconds in 2014/15 to 15.87. The average number of passes also increased, from 3.79 to

4.77, and whereas 18 of their goals in 2014/15 were derived from winning the ball in the attacking third, this total fell to seven in 2015/16. Ball regains in midfield provided the platform for 14 goals, while possession won in the defensive third led to nine goals – three times the tally in the previous season. At the same time, there was a difference between in the successful approach work of Pep Guardiola's team between the group and knockout phases. Most of their group goals stemmed from protracted moves – the extreme example being the 50-second, 16-pass move leading to the fourth goal at home to Olympiacos FC. In the knockout stage, however, the only elaborate move to result in a goal was the 34-second, nine-pass attack in the home leg against SL Benfica, following a ball-win from a cross by their opponents.

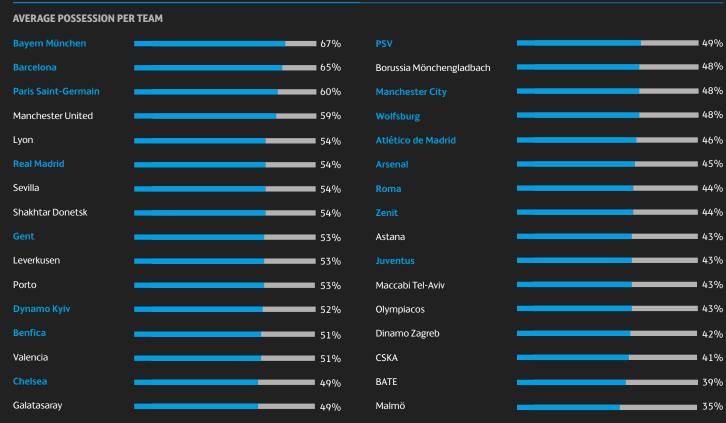
The competition's other 'possession play' exponents, defending champions FC Barcelona, underwent a similar evolution during 2015/16. En route to the 2015 title, Luis Enrique's side

scored 31 goals, following an average of 21.32 seconds in possession and 7.19 passes. This fell to 16.68 and 5.64, even though the club's trademark was graphically illustrated when Lionel Messi scored their second goal during the 6-1 home win against Roma: 79 seconds of possession, stemming from a ball-win from a cross in the defensive third, and a build-up involving 29 passes. Although the 62-second, 25-pass move that preceded Bilal Kisa's goal for Galatasaray AŞ against FC Astana, and Manchester City's second goal, scored by David Silva, in the 3-1 win in Kyiv (61 seconds and 20 passes, following an interception in midfield) also deserve mention, Barça's build-up against Roma took the prize as the longest goalscoring move of the season.

# **POSSESSION**

#### **STATISTICS**

Bayern and Barcelona again enjoyed most possession but the Milan final confounded expectations about ball retention



In blue: clubs qualified for knockout stage

"I don't think that any coach wants to lose the ball and just kick it long, willy-nilly. Everybody wants to keep the ball but I think we need to clarify, when we talk about possession, that the key element is the forward passing." That was the view expressed by Mixu Paatelainen when Milan final. His view formed part of an extensive debate on a subject which has become a perennial talking point and which acquired increased relevance in 2015/16, when the all-Madrid final was widely perceived as a contest the pitch. A look at the figures on the team between a possession-based philosophy and a more direct style of attacking. However, events at the San Siro contradicted the predictions: Club Atlético de Madrid enjoyed more of the ball than Real Madrid CF during all three periods of the final.

That piece of statistical evidence added fuel to the discussion on the relevance of possession. with 63% against Olympiacos FC and 31% Technical reports on the UEFA Champions League are designed to flag up the wider implications of the competition, but sometimes

zooming out in search of the bigger picture can blur the finer details. Possession statistics are a case in point. Average possession figures over the both matches. whole season are recorded with a view to providing a basis for comparisons.

On the other hand, averages sandpaper UEFA's technical observers met the day after the down the peaks and troughs. To take a fictitious example, a team having 80% of the ball during the home leg of a tie and 20% in the return would throw up an anodyne 50% average that does not reflect the reality of what happened on pages in this report reveals that 16 of the 32 contestants registered variations of 20% or more between their maximum and minimum possession statistics with, as it happens, Atlético posting the greatest difference – 61% v FC Astana and 28% v FC Barcelona, both at home. Arsenal FC were only one point behind, against Barça, also both at home. The champions, Real Madrid, were among the seven other teams to register differences of between

25% and 30%, oscillating between 69% in Malmö and 41% at home to PSG – and winning

There were similar stories elsewhere Vfl Wolfsburg registered their season minimum of 42% at home to Real Madrid yet won 2-0, arguably their best result of the campaign. Ditto Valencia CF whose minimum share of the ball (44%) gave Nuno Espírito Santo's side a 1-0 win

More statistics. During the group stage, possession was shared 50-50 on eight occasions. Of the remaining 88 fixtures, 13 were drawn. Among the other 75 games that produced a winner, 40 were won by the team with a greater share of the ball and 35 by the side having less possession. In other words, there was not a great

The season generated other conflicting evidence. Atlético enjoyed 55% of possession in their group match in Madrid against SL Benfica but were beaten 2-1. Also playing at home, Manchester City FC had only 38% of the ball

| POSSESSION AREAS         |         |          |        |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|--------|
| Team                     | Defence | Midfield | Attack |
| Bayern München           | 20      | 53       | 26     |
| Lyon                     | 22      | 52       | 26     |
| Chelsea                  | 24      | 52       | 25     |
| Manchester City          | 19      | 56       | 25     |
| Shakhtar Donetsk         | 26      | 49       | 25     |
| Atlético de Madrid       | 26      | 50       | 24     |
| Arsenal                  | 25      | 52       | 23     |
| Barcelona                | 25      | 53       | 23     |
| Manchester United        | 23      | 55       | 22     |
| Real Madrid              | 22      | 56       | 22     |
| Olympiacos               | 28      | 51       | 21     |
| FC Porto                 | 24      | 56       | 21     |
| Sevilla                  | 30      | 49       | 21     |
|                          | 32      | 48       | 20     |
| Valencia                 | 26      | 54       | 20     |
|                          | 31      | 50       | 19     |
| Leverkusen               | 31      | 50       | 19     |
| Astana                   | 29      | 53       | 18     |
| Benfica                  | 29      | 53       | 18     |
| Galatasaray              | 30      | 51       | 18     |
| Gent                     | 28      | 53       | 18     |
| Malmö                    | 32      | 50       | 18     |
| Paris Saint-Germain      | 26      | 57       | 18     |
| Borussia Mönchengladbach | 31      | 53       | 17     |
| PSV                      | 32      | 52       | 17     |
|                          | 30      | 53       | 17     |
| Zenit                    | 29      | 54       | 17     |
| Dinamo Zagreb            | 36      | 48       | 16     |
| Dynamo Kyiv              | 30      | 55       | 15     |
| CSKA                     | 31      | 54       | 15     |
| BATE                     | 38      | 48       | 14     |
| Maccabi Tel-Aviv         | 32      | 55       | 14     |
|                          |         |          |        |

In blue: clubs qualified for knockout stage Decimal points account for 1% discrepancies

during the first half against VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach and trailed 2-1 at half-time. After the break, Manuel Pellegrini's side ratcheted up their share of the ball to finish the match with an average of 51% – and a During the knockout rounds, no matches

yielded a 50-50 split in possession. Eight were drawn and the other 21 fixtures produced 13 wins for the team with greater possession and eight for those with a smaller share of the ball (nine if Madrid's win in the final is counted as a victory rather than a draw). The overall balance for the season was therefore 53 wins for the team with greater possession, and 43 for the team with less of the ball

4-2 victory

Another relevant factor in any discussion about keeping the ball is where possession was retained. Bayern topped this particular table with 26% in the attacking third; but Olympique Lyonnais, eliminated in the group stage, recorded an identical figure. Semi-finalists Manchester City had 25% in the final third,

counterbalanced by the lowest figure among the 32 contestants (only 19%) in their defensive third. Manuel Pellegrini's team equalled FC Porto and Real Madrid for middle-third possession, just one point behind PSG, who dominated in this area. FC Shakhtar Donetsk equalled Manchester City's 25% in the attacking third but, like Lyon, were eliminated in the group phase. Curiously, Bayern and Barça both increased their presence in the attacking third in relation to the previous season, while the two Madrid finalists both registered a 2% drop. The table above pulls together data on the individual team pages to make comparisons easier.

The statistics imply that only Bayern, Barcelona, PSG and Manchester United FC could legitimately be labelled 'possession teams', on the basis that their share of the ball did not fall below 50%. At the other end of the scale, the five clubs who never surpassed a 50% share of the ball (Astana, FC BATE Borisov, PFC CSKA Moskva, Maccabi Tel Aviv FC and Malmö FF) were all eliminated in the group stage.

possession in their quarter-final home win against Barcelona



wins for the team with greater possession



wins for the team with less of the ball

In Milan, the discussions on possession prompted David Moyes to reflect on his spell in La Liga at Real Sociedad de Fútbol. "In Spain," he said, "it seemed to be a natural thing to have possession – but without forcing the issue. Players were technically good enough to receive in tight situations. Quite often, possession was an important factor in the outcome of a game, but I never got the impression that they were trying to enforce possession for the sake of it. In my time, there wasn't a great interest in statistics related to it: 65% of possession, 35% of possession... it didn't seem that important. And I would carry that impression over into the Champions League. I didn't see possession as being quite so important during the season as I had seen it in the previous couple of seasons."

In recent years, Barcelona and Bayern have undoubtedly set benchmarks for a possessionbased philosophy, inspired by Dutch origins. But the debating point remains unchanged: how important is ball possession?

# **CROSSES**

#### **STATISTICS**

The number of crosses into the box declined in 2015/16, but accuracy improved

| Club                | Crosses per game | Success rate % |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Valencia            | 27.83            | 23.35          |
| Sevilla             | 27.17            | 19.02          |
| Bayern München      | 26.67            | 25.31          |
| Manchester United   | 22.33            | 24.63          |
| Lyon                | 22.17            | 18.05          |
| Real Madrid         | 22.00            | 25.17          |
| Atlético de Madrid  | 21.38            | 23.38          |
| Paris Saint-Germain | 21.20            | 27.83          |
| Shakhtar            | 21.17            | 25.98          |
| Roma                | 18.13            | 16.55          |
| Olympiacos          | 18.00            | 16.67          |
| Porto               | 17.67            | 26.42          |
| Gent                | 17.38            | 27.34          |
| Manchester City     | 16.92            | 25.62          |
| Arsenal             | 16.88            | 29.63          |
| Juventus            | 16.50            | 26.52          |
| Dynamo Kyiv         | 16.38            | 12.98          |
| Wolfsburg           | 16.20            | 26.54          |
| Chelsea             | 16.13            | 19.38          |
| Benfica             | 15.90            | 18.87          |
| Galatasaray         | 15.67            | 24.47          |
| Barcelona           | 15.10            | 25.17          |
| PSV                 | 13.88            | 18.92          |
| Zenit               | 13.63            | 23.85          |
| Astana              | 13.50            | 30.86          |
| Leverkusen          | 13.50            | 29.63          |
| Dinamo Zagreb       | 12.83            | 16.88          |
| Maccabi Tel-Aviv    | 11.00            | 28.79          |
| Malmö               | 10.17            | 16.39          |
| CSKA                | 9.17             | 21.82          |

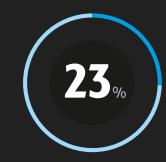
8.00

6.50

16.67

15.38

PERCENTAGE OF CROSSES THAT REACHED A TEAM-MATE



**MOST ACCURATE CROSSES** 



Decline in number of crosses delivered in 2015/16

Crosses delivered from wide areas during 2015/16 registered a 4.3% drop from the previous UEFA Champions League campaign. The average per game fell from 36.3 to 34.74 but still represented close to one cross for every 1.7 minutes of real playing time and remained the most fertile source of goals. Of the season's for combination-based penetration by 4,342 crosses, 1,012 connected with a member appearing in the lower reaches of the chart of the same team and could therefore be described as successful. The successes represented a marginal improvement on the previous season – 23.3% compared with 22.7%. Whereas in 2014/15, five clubs had bettered a one in four success rate, no fewer than 14 of the 32 teams surpassed this average in 2015/16, led by debutants FC Astana, who ended the group phase as the only club to achieve 30%.

Mönchengladbach

BATE

Four of Spain's five representatives featured among the top seven for the number of crosses delivered, even though the two Madrid clubs dropped down the table after leading it in 2014/15. FC Barcelona, on the other hand, underlined their preference (but increasing their success rate from 20 to 25%). Of the teams who reached the knockout rounds, only PSV Eindhoven and FC Zenit were less reliant on crossing than Luis Enrique's side. Pep Guardiola's FC Bayern München increased their tally of crosses by some 25%, though they were outdone by Mircea Lucescu's FC Shakhtar Donetsk, whose average number of crosses per game shot up by 62%. Even so, the eight teams who

delivered the fewest crosses were among the 16 group-stage fallers.

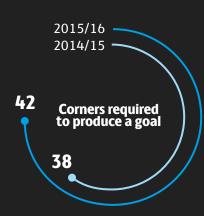
Once again, crossing was not the exclusive domain of wingers, even though Bayern's Douglas Costa and Paris Saint-Germain's Angel Di María were among the top suppliers, aided and abetted by Xabi Alonso and Philipp Lahm for Pep Guardiola's side and left-back Maxwell for Laurent Blanc's team. Significantly, Club Atlético de Madrid's Koke and Gabi jointly provided more than 100 crosses during the campaign, while Toni Kroos was the chief supplier from wide areas for Real Madrid CF, ahead of Marcelo. Neymar, although not strictly adhering to the traditional winger's profile, delivered 40 crosses from the Barcelona left, compared with 20 by left-back Jordi Alba, while Dani Alves provided 33 from the right.

# **CORNERS**

#### **STATISTICS**

Corners continue to generate far more excitement than goals





NUMBER OF TEAMS WHO SCORED FROM CORNERS NUMBER OF HEADED GOALS FROM CORNERS

**MOST GOALS FROM CORNERS** 



**MANCHESTER CITY** 

20% of all goals from corners

out of 30 goals scored from corners

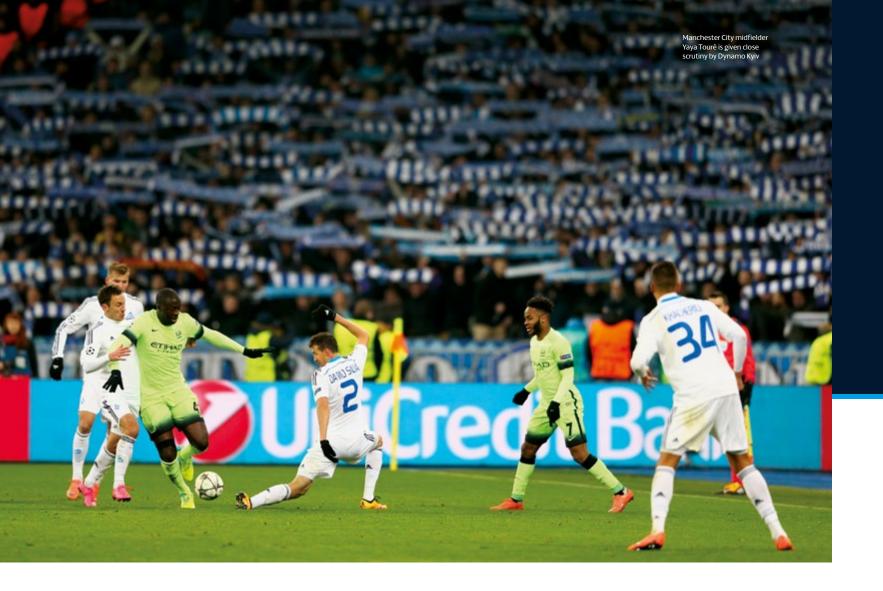
Spectators may have greeted the award of 1,267 corner kicks during the UEFA Champions League season with the usual rise in decibels but, once again, the rate of converting those corners into goals was a story of expectations largely unfulfilled. The number of corners increased by 6%, to an average of 10.14 per game, but the conversion rate showed no sign of upward movement. The total of 30 goals was one short of 2014/15 and in line with the long-term average. The net result was a success rate of one goal per 42.23 corners, compared with one per 38.42 in the previous season. The poor return of one successful corner every four matches should not, however, raise too many eyebrows – the average in 2011/12, for example, was one in 46.

There were strong signs that opponents' set plays had been studied assiduously. Club Atlético

de Madrid went into the season with a formidable touch to 15 of the 30 successful corners. There record from corners, yet their only success in 13 games was a well-worked short corner that allowed Saúl Ñíguez to open the scoring at home to Astana: one success from 82 corners in 1,230 minutes of football. Diego Simeone's side were by no means alone: of the 21 teams who scored from corners, 14 found the net only once. Eleven teams (the 2015 finalists, FC Barcelona and Juventus, among them) had no joy from corner kicks. Barça, however, lack physical stature and generally opted to play short and simply re-commence an attacking move.

Two English clubs accounted for 20% of the goals scored from corners, with Chelsea FC and Manchester City FC converting three apiece. Half of them were headers, which was in line with the rest of the competition: headers put the finishing

was an imbalance in where these successful kicks originated, however – 19 goals came from corners on the left; 11 from the right. Valencia CF (8.17), FC Bayern München (7.33) and FC Porto (7.17) led the way for most corners per game, with Malmö FF (3.17), Maccabi Tel-Aviv FC (3) and FC BATE Borisov (1) at the foot of the table. Barcelona, conscious of the lack of physical stature in their ranks, once again attempted to minimise the number of set plays they conceded in this key area. They gave away only 2.4 corners per game – an average that only Bayer 04 Leverkusen (2.67) and Bayern (2.92) could approach. By contrast, fellow Germans VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach were obliged to defend 8.5 corners per match – more than double the total they won.



# **TEAM PROFILES: THE TOP SIXTEEN**

Gent were the new face at the party in the last 16 The knockout stage had a wider geographical spread than in the previous season, with clubs from ten national associations in play compared with eight in 2014/15. Whereas Germany had supplied four of the Round of 16 contestants a year earlier, England and Spain took over as the most widely represented with three teams apiece. Of the top 16 from the previous season, nine qualified for the knockout phase again, while KAA Gent were there for the

There were, however, striking similarities with the previous season. Club Atlético de Madrid had required a penalty shoot-out to edge past Bayer 04 Leverkusen in 2014/15 and did so again against PSV Eindhoven. Paris Saint-Germain and Chelsea FC met once more, though it was the London club who this time took the field as a group winner. The two Eastern European representatives – FC Zenit and FC Dynamo Kyiv – were both eliminated upon emerging from hibernation. The Russian side was one of two group winners, along with Chelsea, to fall at the wayside in the first

knockout round. The other six group winners, four of them winning their first legs away from home, progressed beyond a Round of 16 that yielded six home victories, four draws and six

Once the seeding of group winners had been cast aside, the competition produced no further away wins – a statistic which extended the trend noted in the previous season, when FC Barcelona had provided the solitary away win from the quarter-final stage onwards. Home advantage was underlined from the last eight on by a tally of 19 goals for home teams and six for their visitors. The dozen matches leading up to the final yielded nine home wins and three draws, two of the latter involving Manchester City, who reached the semi-finals for the first time.

The following pages offer a data-based summary of each team's performance. In the passing data, a short pass is defined as one of ten metres or fewer; passes of distances between ten and 30 fall into the medium category; and a long pass is one of over 30 metres.



# **ARSENAL FC**

#### **ENGLAND**



#### **COACH**



#### **Arsène Wenger** Born: 22/10/1949, Strasbourg (FRA) Nationality: French Matches in UEFA **Champions League:** 170

Head coach since: 01/10/1996

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAGE         |                     |                     |                     |                     | ROUND OF 1          | 6                   | QUARTER-FINALS      | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |  |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------|--|
| <b>DZG</b><br>L 2-1 | <b>OLY</b><br>L 2-3 | <b>BAY</b><br>W 2-0 | <b>BAY</b><br>L 5-1 | <b>DZG</b><br>W 3-0 | <b>OLY</b><br>W 0-3 | <b>BAR</b><br>L 0-2 | <b>BAR</b><br>L 3-1 |             |       |  |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

| Q    | JAD                     | App | Mins | G | A | TEAM              |
|------|-------------------------|-----|------|---|---|-------------------|
| GOA  | LKEEPERS                |     |      |   |   | PLAYERS           |
| 13   | David Ospina            | 3   | 270  |   |   | USED              |
| 33   | Petr Čech               | 5   | 450  |   |   |                   |
| 49   | Matt Macey              |     |      |   |   | GOAL AT           |
| DEFE | NDERS                   |     |      |   |   | (Per match)       |
| 2    | Mathieu Debuchy         | 3   | 188  |   |   | TIME SCO          |
| 3    | Kieran Gibbs            | 5   | 212  |   |   |                   |
| 4    | Per Mertesacker         | 6   | 483  |   |   | 0                 |
| 5    | Gabriel                 | 4   | 360  |   |   | 1-15 1<br>Minutes |
| 6    | Laurent Koscielny       | 7   | 597  |   |   | SUBSTIT           |
| 18   | Nacho Monreal           | 6   | 540  |   | 1 | (Including th     |
| 21   | Calum Chambers          | 3   | 12   |   |   | 0                 |
| 24   | Héctor Bellerín         | 6   | 529  |   | 1 | 1-15 1<br>Minutes |
| ۱DI  | FIELDERS                |     |      |   |   |                   |
| 8    | Mikel Arteta            | 1   | 64   |   |   | PLAYE             |
| 11   | Mesut Özil              | 8   | 720  | 2 |   | PASSES'           |
| 15   | Alex Oxlade-Chamberlain | 5   | 239  |   |   | 1 Mesi            |
| 16   | Aaron Ramsey            | 5   | 294  |   | 1 | 2 Sant            |
| 19   | Santi Cazorla           | 5   | 440  |   | 1 | 3 Alex            |
| 20   | Mathieu Flamini         | 4   | 233  |   |   |                   |
| 34   | Francis Coquelin        | 6   | 393  |   |   | PASSES (          |
| 35   | Mohamed Elneny          | 1   | 90   | 1 |   | 1 Mesi            |
| OR   | WARDS                   |     |      |   |   | 2 Alexi<br>2 Sant |
| 12   | Olivier Giroud          | 7   | 389  | 5 |   | 2 34110           |
| 14   | Theo Walcott            | 6   | 321  | 2 | 1 | BALLS RI          |
| 17   | Alexis Sánchez          | 7   | 622  | 3 | 5 | 1 Laur            |
| 23   | Danny Welbeck           | 2   | 91   |   |   | 2 Nach            |
| 28   | Joel Campbell           | 5   | 268  |   | 2 | 3 Per N           |
| 45   | Alex Iwobi              | 2   | 78   |   |   | ATTEMP            |
|      |                         |     |      |   |   | 1 Olivie          |

App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

A = Passes attempted; C = Passes complete "TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals **TEAM STATISTICS** 

| GOAL ATTEMPTS 102 (1 | .3 |
|----------------------|----|
| ON TARGET 42 (c)     |    |

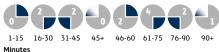
CARDS Sent off:

**GOALS** 

**SCORED** 

13





#### SUBSTITUTIONS 24/24

| <b>(</b> | ,     |       | ,         |       |       |       | - h |
|----------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 0        | 0     | 1     | 0         | 5     | 9     | 7     | 2   |
| 1-15     | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
| Minutes  | ;     |       |           |       |       |       |     |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'          | A   | C   | %  |
|------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Mesut Özil     | 442 | 367 | 83 |
| 2 Santi Cazorla  | 339 | 297 | 88 |
| 3 Alexis Sánchez | 286 | 210 | 73 |
|                  |     |     |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Mesut Özil     | 161 |
|------------------|-----|
| 2 Alexis Sánchez | 101 |
| 2 Santi Cazorla  | 84  |

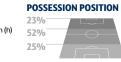
#### **BALLS RECOVERED**

| 1 Laurent Koscielny 39 2 Nacho Monreal 38 3 Per Mertesacker 34 | ΔΤΊ | TEMPTS ON GOAL"   | TΛ | ОТ | G  |
|--|-----|-------------------|----|----|----|
| ·  | 3   | Per Mertesacker   |    |    | 34 |
| 1 Laurent Koscielny 39   | 2   | Nacho Monreal     |    |    | 38 |
|  | 1   | Laurent Koscielny |    |    | 39 |

| AI TEMP 13 ON GOAL | IA | UI | G |
|--------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Olivier Giroud   | 18 | 12 | 5 |
| 2 Theo Walcott     | 17 | 9  | 2 |
| 3 Alexis Sánchez   | 17 | 5  | 3 |
|                    |    |    |   |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 45% Max. 63% v Olympiacos (h) Min. 31% v Bayern München (h)



PASSES ATTEMPTED 441 PASSING ACCURACY 84%

Max. 90% v Dinamo Zagreb (h) Min. 289 v Bayern München (h) Min. 71% v Bayern München (h)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 107,486m**

Max. 111,531m v Dinamo Zagreb (h) Min. 94,234m v Dinamo Zagreb (a)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| 51 (12% of tota |
|-----------------|
| 257 (58%)       |
| 133 (30%)       |
|                 |

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- 1-4-2-3-1 with ball-winning/creative balance in two screening midfielders
- Possession game based on patient building from back, combination moves
- Counterattacks based on pace in wide areas; fast transitions in both directions
- Variety also provided by Giroud, target for long distribution by Čech
- Intense pressing from midfield; occasional spells of high pressure
- Good defensive shape with both full-backs contributing to attacking play
- Bursts of attacking talent by Sánchez; intricate moves in final third
- Cazorla, Özil the creative catalysts in linking midfield to attack
- Dangerous deliveries at corners and free-kicks from wide areas
- · Squad rich in pace, flexibility, movement and tactical options



# **CLUB ATLÉTICO DE MADRID**

**Diego Simeone** Born: 28/04/1970,

Buenos Aires (ARG) Nationality: Argentinian Matches in UEFA

**Champions League: 35** 

23/11/2011

**SPAIN** 



#### COACH



#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAGE         |                     |                     |                  | ROUND OF 1   | 6                   | QUARTER-FINALS   |                   | SEMI-FINALS         |                     | FINAL               |                       |                       |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>GAL</b><br>W 0-2 | <b>BEN</b><br>L 1-2 | <b>AST</b><br>W 4-0 | <b>AST</b> D 0-0 | GAL<br>W 2-0 | <b>BEN</b><br>W 1-2 | <b>PSV</b> D 0-0 | <b>PSV</b> D 0-0* | <b>BAR</b><br>L 2-1 | <b>BAR</b><br>W 2-0 | <b>BAY</b><br>W 1-0 | <b>BAY</b><br>L 2-1** | <b>RM</b><br>D 1-1*** |

| Match | nes: Blue = home, white = away, grey = final |     |      |   |   |
|-------|--|-----|------|---|---|
| SQ    | UAD  | Арр | Mins | G | A |
| GOA   | LKEEPERS                                     |     |      |   |   |
| 1     | Miguel Ángel Moyà                            |     |      |   |   |
| 13    | Jan Oblak                                    | 13  | 1230 |   |   |
| DEFI  | ENDERS                                       |     |      |   |   |
| 2     | Diego Godín                                  | 12  | 1109 |   | 1 |
| 3     | Filipe Luís                                  | 10  | 949  |   |   |
| 4     | Guilherme Siqueira                           | 3   | 270  |   |   |
| 15    | Stefan Savić                                 | 7   | 482  |   |   |
| 18    | Jesús Gámez                                  | 1   | 90   |   |   |
| 19    | Lucas Hernández                              | 4   | 222  |   |   |
| 20    | Juanfran                                     | 12  | 1140 |   | 3 |
| 24    | José María Giménez                           | 8   | 661  |   |   |
| MIDI  | FIELDERS                                     |     |      |   |   |
| 5     | Tiago  | 5   | 390  |   |   |
| 6     | Koke   | 11  | 1038 |   | 1 |
| 8     | Matías Kranevitter                           | 1   | 45   |   |   |
| 10    | Óliver Torres                                | 7   | 252  | 1 |   |
| 12    | Augusto Fernández                            | 6   | 363  |   |   |
| 14    | Gabi   | 13  | 1168 |   | 3 |
| 17    | Saúl Ñíguez                                  | 13  | 1044 | 3 | 1 |
| 21    | Yannick Carrasco                             | 9   | 573  | 1 | 2 |
| 22    | Thomas Partey                                | 5   | 47   |   |   |
| FOR   | WARDS  |     |      |   |   |
| 7     | Antoine Griezmann                            | 13  | 1135 | 7 | 1 |
| 9     | Fernando Torres                              | 12  | 675  | 1 | 1 |
| 11    | Jackson Martínez                             | 4   | 243  | 1 |   |
|       |  |     |      |   |   |

16 Ángel Correa

| 23 Luciano Vietto   | 5 | 227 | 1 | 1             | 3 José María Giménez |    |    |
|---|---|-----|---|---------------|----------------------|----|----|
|   |   |     |   |               | ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"    | TA | ОТ |
|   |   |     |   |               | 1 Antoine Griezmann  | 37 | 24 |
| Unused substitutes: None  App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists  |   |     |   | 2 Saúl Ñíguez | 22                   | 5  |    |
| 'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed "TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals |   |     |   |               | 3 Fernando Torres    | 22 | 8  |

5 127 1

#### **TEAM STATISTICS**

**PLAYERS** 





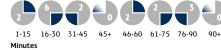
CARDS Sent off:

23 1



#### TIME SCORED

**ON TARGET 76** (6)



#### SUBSTITUTIONS 36/39

| 0       | 0     | 0     | 3         | 4     | 15    | 9     | 5   |
|---------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15    | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
| Minutes |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'       | Α   | С   | %  |
|---------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Gabi        | 890 | 754 | 85 |
| 2 Koke        | 743 | 614 | 83 |
| 3 Filipe Luís | 475 | 407 | 86 |
|               |     |     |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Gabi        | 223 |
|---------------|-----|
| 2 Koke        | 218 |
| 3 Filipe Luís | 156 |

#### BALLS RECOVERED

| _ |                    | <br> | _  |
|---|--------------------|------|----|
|   |                    |      |    |
| 3 | José María Giménez |      | 65 |
| 2 | Gabi               |      | 86 |
| 1 | Diego Godín        |      | 90 |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"   | TA | ОТ | G |
|---------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Antoine Griezmann | 37 | 24 | 7 |
| 2 Saúl Ñíguez       | 22 | 5  | 3 |
| 3 Fernando Torres   | 22 | 8  | 1 |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

**POSSESSION 46%** Max 61% v Astana (h) Min. 28% v Barcelona (h)



#### Max. 711 v Galatasaray (h)

PASSES ATTEMPTED 468 PASSING ACCURACY 84% Max. 89% v Astana (h)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 113,814m**

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| 54 (12% of total) |
|-------------------|
| 258 (55%)         |
| 155 (33%)         |
|                   |

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- 1-4-4-2 with two screening midfielders; sporadic use of 1-4-3-3 in group phase
- Strong, compact defensive block, quick to drop deep; backed by quality keeper
- Emphasis on rapid vertical attacking; possession not a priority
- High-intensity game; relentless pressure on opposition ball-carrier
- Potent counterattacking with direct penetration through middle area
- Strong dynamic midfield; powerful through runs into shooting positions
- Full-backs prepared for deep, fast overlaps, especially Juanfran on right
- Quality deliveries in final third; crosses, decisive through passes
- Set plays a major attacking weapon; centre-backs supplying aerial power
- Competitive team ethic, determination, will-to-win, mental strength

# **FC BARCELONA**

**SPAIN** 





**Luis Enrique** Born: 08/05/1970, Gijon (ESP) Matches in UEFA **Champions League: 23** 

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAC       | GE                  |                      |                   |                     |                     | ROUND OF 1          | .6                  | QUARTER-F    | INALS               | SEMI-FINALS | S | FINAL |  |
|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------|---|-------|--|
| <b>ROM</b> D 1-1 | <b>LEV</b><br>W 2-1 | <b>BATE</b><br>W 0-2 | <b>BATE</b> W 3-0 | <b>ROM</b><br>W 6-1 | <b>LEV</b><br>D 1-1 | <b>ARS</b><br>W 0-2 | <b>ARS</b><br>W 3-1 | ATL<br>W 2-1 | <b>ATL</b><br>L 2-0 |             |   |       |  |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

#### **SQUAD GOALKEEPERS** 1 Marc-André ter Stegen 10 900 13 Claudio Bravo 25 Jordi Masip **DEFENDERS** 3 Gerard Piqué 7 596 1 6 Dani Alves 8 694 14 Javier Mascherand 8 655 4 236 15 Marc Bartra 18 Jordi Alba 9 734 21 Adriano 3 206 1 23 Thomas Vermaelen 3 270 24 Jérémy Mathieu 3 270 **MIDFIELDERS** 4 Ivan Rakitić 10 699 2 9 723 5 Sergio Busquets 7 Arda Turan 3 46 7 553 8 Andrés Injesta 12 Rafinha 2 31 8 334 1 20 Sergi Roberto 26 Sergi Samper 2 135 1 Neymar 27 Juan Cámara 1 16 28 Gerard Gumbau 3 60 34 Wilfrid Kaptoum 1 62 FORWARDS 9 810 8 3 9 Luis Suárez 10 Lionel Messi 7 630 6 1 11 Neymar 9 810 3 4 257 17 Munir Fl Haddadi ATTEMPTS ON GOAL 3 173 19 Sandro Ramírez

App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes compl "TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

#### **TEAM STATISTICS**

| PLAYERS     |  |
|-------------|--|
| <b>USED</b> |  |





22

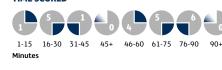
23 0

51

OT

GOAL ATTEMPTS 167 (17) CARDS **ON TARGET 62** (6)





#### SUBSTITUTIONS 23/30

| (including | g one aoui | oie substi | tution)   |       |       |       |     |
|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
|            |            |            |           |       |       |       |     |
| 0          | 2          | 0          | 1         | 2     | 14    | 4     | 0   |
| •          | -          | •          | -         | _     |       |       |     |
| 1-15       | 16-30      | 31-45      | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
| Minutes    |            |            |           |       |       |       |     |

Max. 110,232m v Bayer Leverkusen (a) | Min. 100,520m v Roma (a)

**TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 106,369m** 

POSSESSION POSITION

PASSING ACCURACY 89%

Min. 83% v Bayer Leverkusen (a)

Max. 92% v Roma (a)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

**MATCH AVERAGES** 

POSSESSION 65%

Min. 50% v Bayer Leverkusen (a

PASSES ATTEMPTED 716

Min. 544 v Bayer Leverkusen (h)

Max 72% v Atlético (a)

Max. 813 v BATE (h)

| Long   | 69 (10% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 449 (63%)         |
| Short  | 198 (28%)         |
|        |                   |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

|     | -   | %       |
|-----|-----|---------|
| 699 | 656 | 94      |
| 644 | 570 | 89      |
| 631 | 577 | 91      |
|     | 644 | 644 570 |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 2 Andrés Iniesta  | 213      |
|-------------------|----------|
| 3 Lionel Messi    | 196      |
|                   |          |
| BALLS RECOVERED   |          |
| DALLS RECOVERED   |          |
| 1 Sergio Busquets | 60       |
|                   | 60<br>54 |

|   | 1 Lionel Messi | 40 | 15 | 6 |
|---|----------------|----|----|---|
|   | 2 Neymar       | 37 | 15 | 3 |
| - | 3 Luis Suárez  | 30 | 14 | 8 |

3 Javier Mascherano

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- 1-4-3-3 with Busquets a key balancing element as single controlling midfielder
- · Possession play based on short, high-tempo passing in tight spaces
- High back line led by Piqué; minimal set plays conceded in defensive third
- · Patient build-ups from back; goalkeeper rarely playing long
- · Intense upfield pressing; ball-winning in advanced areas a major weapon
- Strong 1v1 potential in middle-to-front areas; Iniesta, Neymar, Messi...
- Constant support from attack-minded full-backs; quality deliveries into box
- Fast counterattacks an offensive option; direct connections with Suárez
- Exceptional short combinations in central areas of attack; great finishing
- · Top-quality soloists with collective spirit, composure, clear playing philosophy



# FC BAYERN MÜNCHEN

#### **GERMANY**





#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAC          | GE                  |                     |                     |                     |        | ROUND OF            | 16                   | QUARTER-FI          | NALS             | SEMI-FINAL | S                     | FINAL |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------|-----------------------|-------|
| <b>OLY</b><br>W 0-3 | <b>DZG</b><br>W 5-0 | <b>ARS</b><br>L 2-0 | <b>ARS</b><br>W 5-1 | <b>OLY</b><br>W 4-0 |        | <b>JUV</b><br>D 2-2 | <b>JUV</b><br>W 4-2* | <b>BEN</b><br>W 1-0 | <b>BEN</b> D 2-2 | <b>ATL</b> | <b>ATL</b><br>W 2-1** |       |
| WOJ                 | WJU                 | LZO                 | W 3 1               | W <del>4</del> 0    | VV 0 Z | DZZ                 | WTZ                  | W I 0               | DZZ              | LIO        | VV Z 1                |       |

| SQUAD           | App Mins G A |
|-----------------|--------------|
| GOALKEEPERS     |              |
| 1 Manuel Neuer  | 11 1020      |
| 22 Tom Starke   |              |
| 26 Sven Ulreich | 1 90         |

| 26   | Sven Ulreich     | 1  | 90   |   |   |
|------|------------------|----|------|---|---|
| DEFE | NDERS            |    |      |   |   |
| 5    | Medhi Benatia    | 6  | 175  |   |   |
| 13   | Rafinha          | 4  | 225  |   |   |
| 17   | Jérôme Boateng   | 7  | 537  |   | 1 |
| 18   | Juan Bernat      | 8  | 542  |   | 1 |
| 21   | Philipp Lahm     | 12 | 1110 |   |   |
| 27   | David Alaba      | 10 | 930  | 1 | 1 |
| 28   | Holger Badstuber | 1  | 52   |   |   |
| 32   | Joshua Kimmich   | 9  | 630  |   |   |

**MIDFIELDERS** 

| 6  | Thiago Alcántara | 9  | 719 | 1 | 3 |
|----|------------------|----|-----|---|---|
| 7  | Franck Ribéry    | 7  | 448 |   |   |
| 8  | Javi Martínez    | 8  | 543 |   | 1 |
| 10 | Arjen Robben     | 3  | 159 | 2 | 1 |
| 11 | Douglas Costa    | 11 | 927 | 2 | 3 |
| 14 | Xabi Alonso      | 8  | 657 | 1 |   |
| 19 | Mario Götze      | 4  | 107 | 2 |   |
| 20 | Sebastian Rode   | 1  | 90  |   | 1 |
| 23 | Arturo Vidal     | 11 | 857 | 2 | 1 |
| 29 | Kingsley Coman   | 8  | 426 | 2 | 5 |

| FUK | WAKD3              |      |      |   |
|-----|--------------------|------|------|---|
| 9   | Robert Lewandowski | 12 9 | 42 9 | 1 |
| 25  | Thomas Müller      | 12 9 | 26 8 | 3 |
| 37  | Julian Green       | 1 (  | 52   |   |

**Inused substitutes:** Serdar Tasci, Jan Kirchhoff, Gianluca Gaudino, Fabian Benko App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

GOAL ATTEMPTS 261 (22)

**PLAYERS** 





**Josep Guardiola** 

Born: 18/01/1971,

Nationality: Spanish

**Champions League: 85** 

Santpedor (ESP)

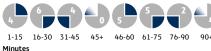
01/06/2013 -

31/05/2016





**ON TARGET 105** (9)



#### SUBSTITUTIONS 32/36

| 0       | 0     | 1     | 4         | 6     | 12    | 7     | 2   |
|---------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15    | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
| Minutes |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'        | A   | С   | %  |
|----------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Philipp Lahm | 954 | 885 | 93 |
| 2 David Alaba  | 859 | 805 | 94 |
| 3 Arturo Vidal | 833 | 779 | 94 |
|                |     |     |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Philipp Lahm     | 266 |
|--------------------|-----|
| 2 Douglas Costa    | 227 |
| 3 Thiago Alcántara | 220 |

#### BALLS RECOVERED

| 1 Arturo Vidal | 64 |
|----------------|----|
| 2 David Alaba  | 62 |
| 3 Philipp Lahm | 60 |
|                |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"    | TA | ОТ | G |
|----------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Robert Lewandowski | 46 | 24 | 9 |
| 2 Douglas Costa      | 38 | 12 | 2 |
| 3 Thomas Müller      | 35 | 21 | 8 |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

**POSSESSION 67%** 

POSSESSION POSITION Max. 71% v Dinamo Zagreb (h) Min. 64% v Juventus (a) 20%

PASSES ATTEMPTED 741 PASSING ACCURACY 91% Max. 925 v Juventus (h)

Max. 93% v Dinamo Zagreb (a) Min. 648 v Olympiacos (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 111,494m**

Max. 115,481m v Atlético (h) | Min. 104,684m v Dinamo Zagreb (h)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 72 (10% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 485 (65%)         |
| Short  | 184 (25%)         |

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- 1-4-3-3 the default setting with constant variations according to match situations
- Rapid transitions from 1-4-1-4-1 defending to 1-3-3-4 attacking
- Possession-based game; domination via skilful, high-tempo ball circulation
- Build-ups from back; sweeper-keeper Neuer initiating with good distribution
- · High defensive line with centre-backs protected by single holding midfielder
- Flanks effectively exploited by fast, skilful wingers and overlapping full-backs
- Wide range of attacking variations: Müller, Douglas Costa, Lewandowski..
- · High-intensity upfield pressing in numbers; ball-winning in advanced areas
- Rapid attack-to-defence transitions with wingers working hard
- Experienced, tactically mature team with clear playing philosophy

# **SL BENFICA**

#### **PORTUGAL**



#### **COACH**



#### Rui Vitória Born: 16/04/1970, Alverca do Ribateio (POR) Nationality: Portuguese Matches in UEFA

**Champions League:** 10

Head coach since:

15/06/2015

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| ROUP STAGE |       |       |       |     | ROUND OF 16 QUARTER- |       | QUARTER-F | INALS | SEMI-FINALS |  | FINAL |     |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-----|----------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------------|--|-------|-----|
| AST        | ATL   | GAL   | GAL   | AST | ATL                  | ZEN   | ZEN       | BAY   | BAY         |  |       |     |
| W 2-0      | W 1-2 | L 2-1 | W 2-1 |     | L 1-2                | W 1-0 |           | L 1-0 | D 2-2       |  |       | 1 1 |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

| SQ          | UAD   | Арр       | Mins | G | A |  |  |  |
|-------------|---|-----------|------|---|---|--|--|--|
| GOA         | LKEEPERS                                    |           |      |   |   |  |  |  |
| 1           | Ederson                                     | 3         | 270  |   |   |  |  |  |
| 12          | Júlio César                                 | 7         | 630  |   |   |  |  |  |
| 13          | Paulo Lopes                                 |           |      |   |   |  |  |  |
| DEFE        | NDERS                                       |           |      |   |   |  |  |  |
| 2           | Lisandro López                              | 2         | 180  |   |   |  |  |  |
| 4           | Luisão                                      | 4         | 360  | 1 | 1 |  |  |  |
| 14          | Victor Lindelöf                             | 4         | 360  |   |   |  |  |  |
| 19          | Eliseu                                      | 10        | 874  |   | 2 |  |  |  |
| 28          | Sílvio                                      | 3         | 237  |   |   |  |  |  |
| 33          | Jardel                                      | 9         | 810  |   |   |  |  |  |
| 34          | André Almeida                               | 8         | 655  |   | 1 |  |  |  |
| 50          | Nélson Semedo                               | 3         | 270  |   |   |  |  |  |
| MIDFIELDERS |   |           |      |   |   |  |  |  |
| 5           | Ljubomir Fejsa                              | 6         | 382  |   |   |  |  |  |
| 7           | Andreas Samaris                             | 7         | 494  |   |   |  |  |  |
| 10          | Nicolás Gaitán                              | 8         | 701  | 4 | 3 |  |  |  |
| 18          | Eduardo Salvio                              | 3         | 92   |   |   |  |  |  |
| 21          | Pizzi                                       | 10        | 533  |   |   |  |  |  |
| 24          | Bryan Cristante                             | 2         | 11   |   |   |  |  |  |
| 39          | Mehdi Carcela-González                      | 4         | 140  |   |   |  |  |  |
| 85          | Renato Sanches                              | 6         | 540  |   |   |  |  |  |
| FOR         | WARDS                                       |           |      |   |   |  |  |  |
| 9           | Raúl Jiménez                                | 10        | 544  | 3 | 3 |  |  |  |
| 11          | Kostas Mitroglou                            | 7         | 361  | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |
| 17          | Jonas                                       | 9         | 727  | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |
| 20          | Gonçalo Guedes                              | 7         | 495  | 1 |   |  |  |  |
| 30          | Talisca                                     | 5         | 215  | 2 |   |  |  |  |
| 31          | Victor Andrade                              | 1         | 15   |   |   |  |  |  |
| 35          | Luka Jović                                  | 1         | 2    |   |   |  |  |  |
| Unuse       | l substitutes: Rúben Dias, Adel Taarabt, Nu | no Santos |      |   |   |  |  |  |

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed "TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

| TEAM: | STATISTICS |
|-------|------------|
|-------|------------|

| 270 | OZED             |
|-----|------------------|
| 630 |                  |
|     | GOAL ATTEMPTS 1  |
|     | ON TARGET 54 (5) |

**PLAYERS** 



**GOALS** 





#### SUBSTITUTIONS 29/30

| (Including one double substitution) |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|--|--|--|
|                                     |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |  |  |  |
| 0                                   | 0     | 0     | 1         | 1     | 15    | 9     | 3   |  |  |  |
|                                     |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |  |  |  |
| 1-15                                | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |  |  |  |
|                                     |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |  |  |  |

#### Minutes

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'           | A   | C   | %  |
|-------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Jardel          | 466 | 433 | 93 |
| 2 Eliseu          | 421 | 339 | 81 |
| 3 Andreas Samaris | 328 | 297 | 91 |
|                   |     |     |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 | Eliseu         | 81 |
|---|----------------|----|
| 2 | Nicolás Gaitán | 77 |
| 3 | Pizzi          | 75 |
|   |                |    |

#### BALLS RECOVERED

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL" | TA | ОТ | G  |
|-------------------|----|----|----|
|                   |    |    |    |
| 3 Andreas Samaris |    |    | 39 |
| 2 Eliseu          |    |    | 53 |
| 1 Jardel          |    |    | 71 |

| 1 Jonas          | 23 | 12 |  |
|------------------|----|----|--|
| 2 Nicolás Gaitán | 22 | 9  |  |
| 3 Raúl Jiménez   | 17 | 11 |  |
|                  |    |    |  |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 51% Max. 61% v Zenit (h) Min. 32% v Bayern München (h)

POSSESSION POSITION

#### PASSES ATTEMPTED 451 PASSING ACCURACY 83% Max. 688 v Atlético Madrid (h) Max. 86% v Zenit (h)

Min. 248 v Bayern München (h) Min. 75% v Bayern München (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 107,506m**

Max. 113,322m v Bayern München (a Min. 102.400m v Galatasarav (h)

#### PASSES PER MATCH

| 58 (13% of tota |
|-----------------|
| 269 (60%)       |
| 124 (28%)       |
|                 |

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- 1-4-4-2 the norm; 1-4-2-3-1 against Bayern in the quarter-final home leg
- Well-organised collective defending with wide midfielders dropping back quickly · Aggressive pressing in midfield with good
- anticipation, ball-winning
- · Possession-based passing game blended with direct counterattacks • Strength in midfield the launching pad for
- attacking play When under pressure, effective use of direct
- supply to front and second ball-winning • Fluent combinations through middle area of
- attacking third • Wide players cutting in to open space for
- overlapping full-backs, especially on right Strong centre-backs; good in 1v1, aerial
- duels, set plays at both ends
- · Excellent team spirit, self-belief, concentration and will-to-win



# **CHELSEA FC**

#### **ENGLAND**



#### **COACH**



#### **TEAM SHAPE**





| GROUP STAGE |       |       |       |       |       | ROUND OF | 16    | QUARTER-FI | NALS | SEMI-FINAL | .S | FINAL |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|-------|------------|------|------------|----|-------|
| MTA         | POR   | DKV   | DKV   | MTA   | POR   | PSG      | PSG   |            |      |            |    |       |
| W 4-0       | L 2-1 | D 0-0 | W 2-1 | W 0-4 | W 2-0 | L 2-1    | L 1-2 | 1 1        |      |            |    |       |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

#### **SQUAD** App Mins G A **GOALKEEPERS** 1 Asmir Begović 5 450 13 Thibaut Courtois 3 270 27 Jamal Blackman **DEFENDERS** 2 Branislav Ivanović 4 360 5 Kurt Zouma 6 468 1 6 Abdul Baba Rahman 4 360 7 541 1 24 Gary Cahill 26 John Terry 4 342 28 César Azpilicueta 8 720 **MIDFIELDERS** 7 604 1 1 4 Cesc Fàbregas 7 Ramires 5 368 8 Oscar 7 362 2 1 8 526 10 Eden Hazard 4 246 1 12 John Obi Mikel 2 43 14 Bertrand Traoré 16 Kenedy 2 107 21 Nemanja Matić 5 377 22 Willian 8 642 5 2 1 77 36 Ruben Loftus-Cheek **FORWARDS** 17 Pedro Rodríguez 6 294 18 Loïc Rémy 3 102 8 663 2 1 19 Diego Costa

#### ed substitutes: Matthew Miazga, Radamel Falca App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

| 'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed     |
|---|
| "TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals |

| TE | A M  | CTA | TICI  | <b>TICS</b> |
|----|------|-----|-------|-------------|
|    | MIAI | 318 | MI IS |             |

## **PLAYERS**



**GOALS SCORED** (2 own goals)



CARDS

#### GOAL ATTEMPTS 112 (14) **ON TARGET 48** (6)



# 1-15 16-30 31-45 45+ 46-60 61-75 76-90 90+

# SUBSTITUTIONS 19/24

0 1 0 0 1 8 8 1 1-15 16-30 31-45 Half-time 46-60 61-75 76-90 90-

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PA | SSES.             | A   | C   | %  |
|----|-------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1  | Cesc Fàbregas     | 530 | 468 | 88 |
| 2  | César Azpilicueta | 332 | 277 | 83 |
| 3  | Eden Hazard       | 288 | 244 | 85 |
|    |                   |     |     |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Cesc Fàbregas     | 153 |
|---------------------|-----|
| 2 Eden Hazard       | 124 |
| 3 César Azpilicueta | 96  |
| 3 Willian           | 96  |
|                     |     |

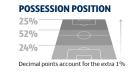
#### **BALLS RECOVERED**

| 1 | César Azpilicueta | 61 |
|---|-------------------|----|
| 2 | Nemanja Matić     | 34 |
| 3 | Kurt Zouma        | 34 |
|   |                   |    |
|   |                   |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL" | TA | OT | G |
|-------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Diego Costa     | 20 | 11 | 2 |
| 2 Willian         | 17 | 10 | 5 |
| 3 Eden Hazard     | 15 | 6  | 0 |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

**POSSESSION 49%** Max. 60% v M. Tel Aviv (h) Min. 39% v Paris (a)



#### PASSES ATTEMPTED 448 Max. 607 v M. Tel Aviv (h) Min. 299 v Porto (h)

PASSING ACCURACY 86% Max. 91% v M. Tel Aviv (a) Min. 79% v Dynamo Kyiv (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 102,674m**

Max. 104,357m v Dynamo Kyiv (a) | Min. 100,458m v M. Tel Aviv (a)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 52 (12% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 266 (59%)         |
| Short  | 130 (29%)         |

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- 1-4-2-3-1 with compact deep defensive block, proficient goalkeeper
- Two screening midfielders with defensive priorities; sporadic support in attack
- Passing interchanges, patient build-up at back; but non-possession based game
- Extremely fast, purposeful counterattacks using pace of Hazard, Pedro
- Costa a powerful attacking weapon, disturbing opponents' back line
- Good use of wide areas, though full-backs not always attack-minded
- Supply to wings often stemming from diagonal passes from central midfield
- Willian the attacking catalyst; strong runs, one-on-one ability
- Very dangerous set plays; aerial power, direct free-kicks by Willian
- Fierce pressing from midfield; disciplined, resolute collective defending

# **FC DYNAMO KYIV**

#### **UKRAINE**



#### **COACH**



#### **Serhiy Rebrov** Born: 03/06/1974, Horlivka (UKR) Nationality: Ukrainian Matches in UEFA

**Champions League:** 8

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAC | GE    |       |       |       |       | ROUND OF 1 | 6     | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL         |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|-------|----------------|-------------|---------------|
| POR        | MTA   | CHL   | CHL   | POR   | MTA   | MC         | МС    |                |             | $\neg \sqcap$ |
| D 2-2      | W 0-2 | D 0-0 | L 2-1 | W 0-2 | W 1-0 | L 1-3      | D 0-0 | 1 11           | 11 11       |               |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

| SQ   | UAD                  | Арр | Mins | G | A | TEAM STATIS                      |
|------|----------------------|-----|------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| GOA  | LKEEPERS             |     |      |   |   | PLAYERS                          |
| 1    | Olexandr Shovkovskiy | 7   | 630  |   |   | USED                             |
| 23   | Olexandr Rybka       | 1   | 90   |   |   |                                  |
| 72   | Artur Rudko          |     |      |   |   | GOAL ATTEMPTS ( ON TARGET 37 (5) |
| DEFI | ENDERS               |     |      |   |   | (Per match)                      |
| 2    | Danilo Silva         | 6   | 516  |   |   | TIME SCORED                      |
| 5    | Antunes              | 6   | 540  |   |   | 2 1                              |
| 6    | Aleksandar Dragović  | 8   | 720  | 1 |   |                                  |
| 24   | Domagoj Vida         | 5   | 372  |   |   | 1-15 16-30 31-4<br>Minutes       |
| 27   | Yevhen Makarenko     | 1   | 24   |   |   | SUBSTITUTIONS 2                  |
| 34   | Yevhen Khacheridi    | 8   | 720  |   |   | (No double substitutions)        |
| MID  | FIELDERS             |     |      |   |   | 0 1 1                            |
| 4    | Miguel Veloso        | 5   | 330  |   |   | 1-15 16-30 31-4<br>Minutes       |
| 7    | Olexandr Yakovenko   | 1   | 28   |   |   |                                  |
| 16   | Serhiy Sydorchuk     | 6   | 425  |   |   | PLAYER STAT                      |
| 17   | Serhiy Rybalka       | 7   | 630  |   | 1 | PASSES'                          |
| 19   | Denys Garmash        | 7   | 391  | 1 | 1 | 1 Aleksandar D                   |
| 20   | Oleh Gusev           | 3   | 201  | 1 |   | 2 Yevhen Khach                   |
| 25   | Derlis González      | 8   | 631  | 1 | 2 | 3 Serhiy Rybalk                  |
| 29   | Vitaliy Buyalskiy    | 7   | 403  | 2 |   |                                  |
| 90   | Younes Belhanda      | 2   | 32   |   |   | PASSES COMPLETE                  |
| FOR  | WARDS                |     |      |   |   | 1 Andriy Yarmo                   |
| 10   | Andriy Yarmolenko    | 7   | 558  | 2 |   | 2 Antunes                        |
| 11   | Júnior Moraes        | 7   | 437  | 1 |   | 3 Derlis Gonzál                  |
| 22   | Artem Kravets        | 4   | 147  |   |   | BALLS RECOVERED                  |
| 91   | Lukasz Teodorczyk    | 4   | 95   |   |   | 1 Yevhen Khach                   |
|      |                      |     |      |   |   | 2 Serhiy Rybalk                  |
|      |                      |     |      |   |   |                                  |

Unused substitutes: Mykola Morozyuk, Nikita Korzun, Radosay Petrović App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed "TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

#### **AM STATISTICS**

| PLAYER | S |
|--------|---|
| USED   |   |



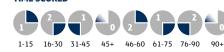




9



#### SCORED



#### STITUTIONS 22/24

| 0 1                  | 1        | 3         | 1     | 7     | 9     | 0   |
|----------------------|----------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15 16-3<br>Minutes | 30 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |

#### **AYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'               | A   | C   | %  |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Aleksandar Dragovic | 496 | 452 | 91 |
| 2 Yevhen Khacheridi   | 492 | 452 | 92 |
| 3 Serhiy Rybalka      | 420 | 366 | 87 |
|                       |     |     |    |

#### SES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Andriy Yarmolenko | 63 |
|---------------------|----|
| 2 Antunes           | 50 |
| 3 Derlis González   | 49 |
|                     |    |

#### LS RECOVERED

| 1 Yevhen Khacheridi   | 81 |
|-----------------------|----|
| 2 Serhiy Rybalka      | 51 |
| 3 Aleksandar Dragović | 37 |
|                       |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL  | TA | ОТ | G |
|-------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Derlis González | 17 | 7  | 1 |
| 2 Júnior Moraes   | 16 | 6  | 1 |
| 3 Serhiy Rybalka  | 11 | 3  | 0 |
|                   |    |    |   |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 52% Max. 58% v M. Tel Aviv (h) Min. 44% v Porto (a)

Min. 348 v Porto (a)

POSSESSION POSITION 55% 30%

Min. 79% v Porto (h)

#### PASSES ATTEMPTED 466 PASSING ACCURACY 85% Max. 87% v Manchester City (a) Max. 563 v Manchester City (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 110,930m**

Max. 116.585m v Manchester City (a) | Min. 107.423m v M. Tel Aviv (h)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 64 (14% of tota |
|--------|-----------------|
| Medium | 307 (66%)       |
| Short  | 95 (20%)        |
|        |                 |

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- 1-4-3-3 with transitions to 1-4-1-4-1 after ball loss or away from home
- Disciplined, strong, well-organised deep defensive block
- · Patient construction in own half; then frequent use of long pass to striker · Emphasis on direct attacking rather
- than combinations in final third Full-backs supporting attacks, notably
- Danilo and Yarmolenko on right Rybalka a positionally disciplined single
- holding midfielder providing stability • Veloso a key performer; available to
- receive, delivering simple, safe passes · Athletic players with physical presence;
- quick attack-to-defence transitions Dangerous counterattacks blended
- · Strong work ethic, mental resilience in adverse match situations

with possession play at back



# **KAA GENT**

#### **BELGIUM**



#### COACH



Hein Vanhaezebrouck Born: 16/02/1964, Kortrijk (BEL) Nationality: Belgian Matches in UEFA **Champions League:** 8 Head coach since: 10/05/2014

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAGE |       |       |       |       |       | ROUND OF 1 | .6    | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL          |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|-------|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| LYO         | ZEN   | VAL   | VAL   | LYO   | ZEN   | WOL        | WOL   |                |             | $\neg \vdash $ |
| D 1-1       | L 2-1 | L 2-1 | W 1-0 | W 1-2 | W 2-1 | L 2-3      | L 1-0 |                |             |                |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

| UAD                 | Арр   | Mins  | G  | ı   |
|---------------------|---|---|--|---|
| LKEEPERS            |   |   |  |   |
| Matz Sels           | 8   | 720   |  |   |
| Yannick Thoelen     |   |   |  |   |
| Brian Vandenbussche |   |   |  |   |
| ENDERS              |   |   |  |   |
| Rafinha             | 6   | 271   |  |   |
| Stefan Mitrović     | 7   | 630   |  |   |
| Nana Asare          | 8   | 720   |  |   |
| Lasse Nielsen       | 8   | 720   |  |   |
| Rami Gershon        | 1   | 90  |  |   |
| FIELDERS            |   |   |  |   |
| Thomas Matton       | 5   | 274   | 1  |   |
| Renato Neto         | 8   | 720   |  |   |
| Sven Kums           | 8   | 720   | 2  | 2   |
| Kenneth Saief       | 7   | 355   |  |   |
| Brecht Dejaegere    | 6   | 401   |  |   |
| Thomas Foket        | 7   | 549   | 1  |   |
| Danijel Milićević   | 8   | 665   | 3  |   |
| WARDS               |   |   |  |   |
| Kalifa Coulibaly    | 6   | 34  | 2  |   |
| Laurent Depoitre    | 7   | 620   | 1  |   |
| Benito Raman        | 4   | 80  |  |   |
| Moses Simon         | 5   | 293   |  |   |
|                     |   |   |  |   |
|                     | Yannick Thoelen Brian Vandenbussche  ENDERS  Rafinha Stefan Mitrović Nana Asare Lasse Nielsen Rami Gershon  FIELDERS  Thomas Matton Renato Neto Sven Kums Kenneth Saief Brecht Dejaegere Thomas Foket Danijel Milićević  WARDS  Kalifa Coulibaly Laurent Depoitre | Matz Sels 8 Yannick Thoelen Brian Vandenbussche  ENDERS Rafinha 6 Stefan Mitrović 7 Nana Asare 8 Lasse Nielsen 8 Rami Gershon 1  FIELDERS Thomas Matton 5 Renato Neto 8 Sven Kums 8 Kenneth Saief 7 Brecht Dejaegere 6 Thomas Foket 7 Danijel Milićević 8  WARDS Kalifa Coulibaly 6 Laurent Depoitre 7 Benito Raman 4 | Matz Sels 8 720  Yannick Thoelen Brian Vandenbussche  ENDERS  Rafinha 6 271  Stefan Mitrović 7 630  Nana Asare 8 720  Lasse Nielsen 8 720  Rami Gershon 1 90  FIELDERS  Thomas Matton 5 274  Renato Neto 8 720  Sven Kums 8 720  Kenneth Saief 7 355  Brecht Dejaegere 6 401  Thomas Foket 7 549  Danijel Milićević 8 665  WARDS  Kalifa Coulibaly 6 34  Laurent Depoitre 7 620  Benito Raman 4 80 | Matz Sels 8 720  Yannick Thoelen Brian Vandenbussche  Matz Sels 8 720  Yannick Thoelen Brian Vandenbussche  MDERS  Rafinha 6 271  Stefan Mitrović 7 630  Nana Asare 8 720  Lasse Nielsen 8 720  Rami Gershon 1 90  FIELDERS  Thomas Matton 5 274 1  Renato Neto 8 720  Sven Kums 8 720 2  Kenneth Saief 7 355  Brecht Dejaegere 6 401  Thomas Foket 7 549 1  Danijel Milićević 8 665 3  MARDS  Kalifa Coulibaly 6 34 2  Laurent Depoitre 7 620 1  Benito Raman 4 80 |

#### nused substitutes: Uroš Vitas, Erik Johansson, Gustav Wikheim Marko Poletanović, Hannes Van der Bruggen, Lucas Deaux App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

| TFAM | STAT | <b>ISTICS</b> |
|------|------|---------------|

GOAL ATTEMPTS 84 (11) **ON TARGET 40** (5)

**PLAYERS** 



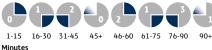












#### SUBSTITUTIONS 22/24

| 0       | 0     | 0     | 0         | 2     | 5     | 13    | 2   |
|---------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15    | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
| Minutes |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'         | Α   | С   | %  |
|-----------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Sven Kums     | 592 | 523 | 88 |
| 2 Nana Asare    | 458 | 415 | 91 |
| 3 Lasse Nielsen | 455 | 397 | 87 |
|                 |     |     |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Sven Kums         | 127 |
|---------------------|-----|
| 2 Danijel Milićević | 74  |
| 3 Nana Asare        | 67  |

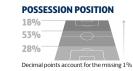
#### **BALLS RECOVERED**

| 1 Sven Kums       | 60 |
|-------------------|----|
| 2 Lasse Nielsen   | 53 |
| 3 Renato Neto     | 51 |
| 3 Stefan Mitrović | 51 |
|                   |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"   | TA | ОТ | G |
|---------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Laurent Depoitre  | 12 | 5  | 1 |
| 1 Danijel Milićević | 12 | 4  | 3 |
| 3 Renato Neto       | 10 | 5  | 0 |
| 3 Brecht Dejaegere  | 10 | 3  | 0 |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 53% Max. 59% v Zenit (a) Min. 47% v Lyon (h)



PASSES ATTEMPTED 484 Max. 596 v Zenit (a) Min. 359 v Lyon (h)

PASSING ACCURACY 85% Max. 88% v Wolfsburg (a Min. 81% v Zenit (h)

#### TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 110,753m

Max. 116,345m v Wolfsburg (h) | Min. 101,369m v Lyon (h)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 70 (14% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 302 (62%)         |
| Short  | 112 (23%)         |

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- Structural variations: 1-3-4-3 at home, 1-4-4-2 away according to game situation
- With three at back quick transitions to 1-4-3-2-1 defence; right-back as fourth defender
- Tried to play out from back with centre-back Asare driving into midfield
- Screening midfielders Neto, Kums in stable roles when defending with three
- Short combinations through midfield; wing-backs strong in 1v1 situations
- With four at back, wide midfielders enabled 1-4-2-4 attacks, 1-4-4-2 defence
- Immediate pressure on ball carrier, formation of defensive block after ball loss
- Rapid defence-to-attack transitions; abrupt changes of pace, direction
- High-intensity game; tactical variations efficiently implemented
- Good technique, flexibility, movement; excellent team spirit, mental strength

# **JUVENTUS ITALY**



#### **COACH**



Massimiliano Allegri Born: 11/08/1967, Livorno (ITA) Nationality: Italian Matches in UEFA **Champions League:** 53 Head coach since: 16/07/2014

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAGE        |              |                  |                     |                    |                     | ROUND OF 1       | 6                    | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| <b>MC</b><br>W 1-2 | SEV<br>W 2-0 | <b>MGB</b> D 0-0 | <b>MGB</b><br>D 1-1 | <b>MC</b><br>W 1-0 | <b>SEV</b><br>L 1-0 | <b>BAY</b> D 2-2 | <b>BAY</b><br>L 4-2* |                |             |       |

| SQUAD                   | Арр | Mins | A | TEAM STATISTICS |   |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------|-----|------|---|-----------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| GOALKEEPERS             |     |      |   |                 | PLAYERS GOALS   |  |  |  |  |
| 1 Gianluigi Buffon      | 8   | 750  |   |                 | USED 20 SCORED 10   |  |  |  |  |
| 25 Neto                 |     |      |   |                 |   |  |  |  |  |
| DEFENDERS               |     |      |   |                 | GOAL ATTEMPTS 131 (16) CARDS ON TARGET 45 (6) Sent off: Hernanes  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 Giorgio Chiellini     | 6   | 540  |   |                 | (Per match)   |  |  |  |  |
| 12 Alex Sandro          | 5   | 392  |   | 1               | TIME SCORED   |  |  |  |  |
| 15 Andrea Barzagli      | 8   | 590  |   | 1               |   |  |  |  |  |
| 19 Leonardo Bonucci     | 8   | 750  |   |                 | 1-15 16-30 31-45 45+ 46-60 61-75 76-90 90                         |  |  |  |  |
| 24 Daniele Rugani       | 1   | 2    |   |                 | Minutes   |  |  |  |  |
| 26 Stephan Lichtsteiner | 6   | 557  | 1 | 1               | SUBSTITUTIONS 21/24   |  |  |  |  |
| 33 Patrice Evra         | 6   | 492  |   |                 | (No double substitutions)   |  |  |  |  |
| MIDFIELDERS             |     |      |   |                 | 0 0 0 1 2 7 11 0  |  |  |  |  |
| 6 Sami Khedira          | 4   | 303  |   |                 | 1-15 16-30 31-45 Half-time 46-60 61-75 76-90 90<br><b>Minutes</b> |  |  |  |  |
| 8 Claudio Marchisio     | 5   | 405  |   |                 |   |  |  |  |  |
| 10 Paul Pogba           | 8   | 750  | 1 | 2               | PLAYER STATISTICS   |  |  |  |  |
| 11 Hernanes             | 5   | 398  |   |                 | PASSES' A C %   |  |  |  |  |
| 16 Juan Cuadrado        | 8   | 467  | 1 |                 | PASSES' A C %  1 Leonardo Bonucci 391 356 91                      |  |  |  |  |

1 3

2 61

6 430 1

2 30 1

7 419 1

8 533 2 2

5 341 2 1

18 Mario Lemina

27 Stefano Sturaro

37 Roberto Pereyra

7 Simone Zaza

9 Álvaro Morata

21 Paulo Dybala

17 Mario Mandžukic

nused substitutes: Kwadwo Asamoah, Mattia Vitale, Stefano Pellini

App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

**FORWARDS** 

| 1 Leonardo Bonucci  | 391 | 356 | 91 |
|---------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 2 Paul Pogba        | 346 | 284 | 82 |
| 3 Giorgio Chiellini | 335 | 308 | 92 |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Paul Pogba    | 80 |
|-----------------|----|
| 2 Juan Cuadrado | 67 |
| 3 Álvaro Morata | 46 |
|                 |    |

#### BALLS RECOVERED

| 1 Leonardo Bonucci | 56 |
|--------------------|----|
| 2 Paul Pogba       | 36 |
| 3 Andrea Barzagli  | 35 |
|                    |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL | TA | ОТ | G |
|------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Álvaro Morata  | 25 | 9  | 2 |
| 1 Paul Pogba     | 25 | 5  | 1 |
| 3 Paulo Dybala   | 18 | 5  | 1 |
|                  |    |    |   |

#### **IATCH AVERAGES**

OSSESSION 43% ax. 55% v Mönchengladbach (h) 199 in. 31% v Bayern München (a)

POSSESSION POSITION 31%

ASSES ATTEMPTED 402 PASSING ACCURACY 87% ax. 572 v Sevilla (h) Max. 92% v Sevilla (h) in. 243 v Mönchengladbach (a) Min. 82% v Bayern München (a)

#### EAM DISTANCE COVERED 113,743m

ax. 117,613m v Sevilla (a) Min. 105,277m v Manchester City (a)

#### ASSES PER MATCH

| Long   | 57 (14% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 255 (64%)         |
| Short  | 89 (22%)          |
|        | , ,               |

#### EY FEATURES

- Variations on 1-4-4-2 with switches to 1-3-5-2 or 1-5-4-1 (in Munich)
- One or two screening midfielders; Marchisio constant in controlling role • Emphasis on well-organised deep defence
- backed by the excellent Buffon
- · When defending deep, use of direct supply to front men as attacking mode
- Preference for direct attacking rather than possession-based build-ups
- Aggressive pressure on ball carrier; spells of fierce high pressing
- Morata, Mandžukić, Dybala operating as single or twin strikers
- Pogba the dynamic link in defence to attack; strength, skill, goals from left midfield • High-intensity game requiring top athletic
- condition and concentration
- Strong team ethic, self-assurance, tactical maturity and mental resilience

<sup>&#</sup>x27;A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed "TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals



# **MANCHESTER CITY FC**

**ENGLAND** 



#### **COACH**



**Manuel Pellegrini** Born: 16/09/1953, Santiago (CHI) Matches in UEFA Champions League: 66

-31/05/2016

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STA           | GE                  |                     |                     |                     |                     | ROUND OF 16         |                     |                  | QUARTER-FINALS      |                 | SEMI-FINALS        |  |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--|
| <b>JUV</b><br>L 1-2 | <b>MGB</b><br>W 1-2 | <b>SEV</b><br>W 2-1 | <b>SEV</b><br>W 1-3 | <b>JUV</b><br>L 1-0 | <b>MGB</b><br>W 4-2 | <b>DKV</b><br>W 1-3 | <b>DKV</b><br>D 0-0 | <b>PSG</b> D 2-2 | <b>PSG</b><br>W 1-0 | <b>RM</b> D 0-0 | <b>RM</b><br>L 1-0 |  |

| SQ   | UAD                | Арр | Mins | G | A |
|------|--------------------|-----|------|---|---|
| GOA  | LKEEPERS           |     |      |   |   |
| 1    | Joe Hart           | 12  | 1071 |   |   |
| 13   | Willy Caballero    | 1   | 9    |   |   |
| DEFI | ENDERS             |     |      |   |   |
| 3    | Bacary Sagna       | 11  | 909  |   |   |
| 4    | Vincent Kompany    | 7   | 363  |   |   |
| 5    | Pablo Zabaleta     | 3   | 151  |   |   |
| 11   | Aleksandar Kolarov | 6   | 391  |   |   |
| 20   | Eliaquim Mangala   | 7   | 613  |   |   |
| 22   | Gaël Clichy        | 8   | 711  |   |   |
| 26   | Martín Demichelis  | 4   | 247  | 1 |   |
| 30   | Nicolás Otamendi   | 12  | 939  |   |   |
| MIDI | FIELDERS           |     |      |   |   |
| 6    | Fernando           | 10  | 779  |   | 2 |
| 8    | Samir Nasri        | 1   | 84   |   |   |
| 15   | Jesús Navas        | 10  | 736  |   | 1 |
| 17   | Kevin De Bruyne    | 10  | 712  | 3 |   |
| 18   | Fabian Delph       | 5   | 115  |   |   |
| 21   | David Silva        | 8   | 629  | 2 | 1 |
| 25   | Fernandinho        | 12  | 1050 | 2 | 3 |
| 42   | Yaya Touré         | 10  | 742  | 1 | 2 |
| FOR  | WARDS              |     |      |   |   |
| 7    | Raheem Sterling    | 10  | 578  | 3 | 2 |
| 10   | Sergio Agüero      | 9   | 705  | 2 |   |
| 14   | Wilfried Bony      | 5   | 279  | 2 | 4 |
| 72   | Kelechi Iheanacho  | 4   | 73   |   |   |

used substitutes: Pablo Maffeo, Tosin Adarabioyo, Bersant Celina George Evans, George Glendon, Manuel García, Brandon Barker App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

**GOAL ATTEMPTS 160** (13)

**ON TARGET 51** (4)

TIME SCORED

Minutes

1-15 Minutes





**GOALS SCORED** 

CARDS









**MATCH AVERAGES** 

PASSES ATTEMPTED 480 PASSING ACCURACY 86% Max. 90% v Sevilla (a), Juventus (h) Min. 83% v Paris (a)

POSSESSION POSITION

#### TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 107,847m

Max. 113,177m v Real Madrid (h) | Min. 100,010m v Juventus (h)

#### PASSES PER MATCH

| SUBSTITUTIONS 33/36 (Including one double substitution) |       |       |           |       |       |       | Long | 56 (12% of total) |           |
|---|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------------------|-----------|
|   |       |       |           |       |       |       |      | Medium            | 297 (62%) |
| 2   | 1     |       |           |       |       | 13    | 4    | Short             | 128 (27%) |
| 1-15  | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+  |                   |           |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| A   | C          | %                  |
|-----|------------|--------------------|
| 564 | 494        | 88                 |
| 503 | 457        | 91                 |
| 494 | 442        | 89                 |
|     | 564<br>503 | 564 494<br>503 457 |

1-15 16-30 31-45 45+ 46-60 61-75 76-90 90+

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 David Silva | 161 |
|---------------|-----|
| 2 Fernandinho | 155 |
| 3 Jesús Navas | 148 |

#### DALLE DECOVERED

1 Yaya Touré

2 Sergio Agüero

3 Raheem Sterling

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"  | TA | ОТ | G   |
|--------------------|----|----|-----|
| 3 Fernandinho      |    |    | 73  |
| 2 Fernando         |    |    | 74  |
| 1 Nicolás Otamendi |    |    | 103 |
| BALLS RECOVERED    |    |    |     |

24 6 1

20 11 3

2

23 6

**KEY FEATURES** 

- Variations on 1-4-2-3-1 with, usually, Agüero as most advanced attacker
- 1-4-4-2 defending in depth with minimal space between lines
- · Able to dominate possession but game plans not built on this basis
- In middle-to-front play, Agüero a threat with runs behind defence
- Diverse use of wings; Silva cutting in, Navas making linear runs and crossing
- De Bruyne a key element in counterattacks; solo skills, well-weighted passes
- · Physically strong centre-backs; hard-working screening midfielders
- · Good aerial power in attacking and defending
- · Hart an alert keeper; good long distribution; limited emphasis on building from back
- Experienced team with blend of energy and individual skills

# **PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN**

#### **FRANCE**



#### **COACH**



**Laurent Blanc** Born: 19/11/1965, Alès (FRA) Nationality: French **Champions League:** 46 25/06/2013 -27/06/2016

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAGE |       |       |       |       | ROUND OF 16 QI |       | QUARTER-FINALS |       | SEMI-FINALS |  | FINAL |  |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|-------------|--|-------|--|
| MAL         | SHK   | RM    | RM    | MAL   | SHK            | CHL   | CHL            | MC    | МС          |  |       |  |
| W 2-0       | W 0-3 | D 0-0 | L 1-0 | W 0-5 | W 2-0          | W 2-1 | W 1-2          | D 2-2 | L 1-0       |  |       |  |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

| SQI  | UAD                  | Арр | Mins | G | A | <b>TEAM STATISTICS</b>                  |
|------|----------------------|-----|------|---|---|---|
| OA   | LKEEPERS             |     |      |   |   | PLAYERS                                 |
| 16   | Kevin Trapp          | 10  | 900  |   |   | USED ZI                                 |
| 30   | Salvatore Sirigu     |     |      |   |   |   |
| EFE  | ENDERS               |     |      |   |   | GOAL ATTEMPTS 134 (13) ON TARGET 55 (6) |
| 2    | Thiago Silva         | 9   | 810  |   |   | (Per match)                             |
| 5    | Marquinhos           | 6   | 540  |   |   | TIME SCORED                             |
| 17   | Maxwell              | 9   | 810  |   | 2 | 2 2                                     |
| 19   | Serge Aurier         | 5   | 409  | 1 |   |   |
| 20   | Layvin Kurzawa       | 1   | 90   |   |   | 1-15 16-30 31-45 45+ 4<br>Minutes       |
| 23   | Gregory van der Wiel | 6   | 375  |   | 1 | SUBSTITUTIONS 26/30                     |
| 32   | David Luiz           | 7   | 630  | 1 |   | (Including four double substitutions)   |
| 1IDI | FIELDERS             |     |      |   |   | 0 1 1 0                                 |
| 4    | Benjamin Stambouli   | 2   | 111  |   |   | 1-15 16-30 31-45 Half-time 4<br>Minutes |
| 6    | Marco Verratti       | 5   | 358  |   | 1 |   |
| 7    | Lucas                | 9   | 365  | 2 | 1 | PLAYER STATISTICS                       |
| 8    | Thiago Motta         | 9   | 743  |   |   | PASSES'                                 |
| 11   | Ángel Di María       | 10  | 767  | 3 | 3 | 1 Thiago Motta                          |
| 14   | Blaise Matuidi       | 9   | 761  |   | 2 | 2 Maxwell                               |
| 25   | Adrien Rabiot        | 7   | 520  | 3 |   | 3 Thiago Silva                          |
| 27   | Javier Pastore       | 6   | 97   |   |   |   |
| 33   | Christopher Nkunku   | 1   | 3    |   |   | PASSES COMPLETED IN THE F               |
| ORV  | WARDS                |     |      |   |   | 1 Ángel Di María                        |
| 9    | Edinson Cavani       | 10  | 642  | 2 | 1 | 2 Zlatan Ibrahimović                    |
| 10   | Zlatan Ibrahimović   | 10  | 880  | 5 | 4 | 3 Maxwell                               |
| 22   | Ezequiel Lavezzi     | 4   | 85   |   |   | BALLS RECOVERED                         |
| 29   | Jean-Kévin Augustin  | 1   | 5    |   |   | 1 Thiago Silva                          |
|      |                      |     |      |   |   | 2 Maxwell                               |
|      |                      |     |      |   |   | 3 David Luiz                            |

Unused substitutes: Presnel Kimpembe, Hervin Ongenda
App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed "TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

| YERS<br>D | 21 |
|-----------|----|
|           |    |



22 0

AL ATTEMPTS 134 (13) CARDS **TARGET 55** (6)

#### **ME SCORED**



#### BSTITUTIONS 26/30

| (Including four double substitutions) |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|--|--|--|
| 0                                     | 1     | 1     | 0         | 0     | 10    | 13    | 1   |  |  |  |
| 1-15                                  | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |  |  |  |

| PASSES'        | A   | C   | %  |
|----------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Thiago Motta | 988 | 927 | 94 |
| 2 Maxwell      | 652 | 607 | 93 |
| 3 Thiago Silva | 606 | 583 | 96 |
|                |     |     |    |

#### SSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 | Ángel Di María     | 156 |
|---|--------------------|-----|
| 2 | Zlatan Ibrahimović | 147 |
| 3 | Maxwell            | 112 |
|   |                    |     |

#### LLS RECOVERED

| TTEMPTS ON GOAI" | TA O | T G |
|------------------|------|-----|
|                  |      |     |
| 3 David Luiz     |      | 47  |
| 2 Maxwell        |      | 56  |
| 1 Thiago Silva   |      | 72  |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL     | IA | O1 | • |
|----------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Zlatan Ibrahimović | 42 | 17 | ! |
| 2 Ángel Di María     | 27 | 12 |   |
| 3 Edinson Cavani     | 15 | 5  | 2 |
|                      |    |    |   |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 60% Max 69% v Malmö (h) Min. 49% v Shakhtar Donetsk (a) POSSESSION POSITION

PASSES ATTEMPTED 722 PASSING ACCURACY 91%

Max. 875 v Malmö (h) Max. 92% v Chelsea (a Min. 591 v Shakhtar Donetsk (a) Min. 89% v Manchester City (h)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 103,868m**

Max. 112,441m v Shakhtar Donetsk (h) Min. 97.987m v Manchester City (a)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

Long 64 (9% of total) 427 (59%) Medium 230 (32%) Short

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- 1-4-3-3 with single midfield screen; three centre-backs v Man City (a)
- · Emphasis on domination via ball possession, composure under pressure
- Clear attacking vocation; excellent technical levels in all departments · Patient build-ups initiated by centre-backs
- and holding midfielder Motta Midfield overloads with Cavani, Di María
- moving in; Ibrahimović coming deep Full-backs pushing forward to deliver crosses,
- notably Maxwell on left
- Ibrahimović leading the attack; creativity, vision, presence, finishing power
- · After ball-loss, energetic pressing by Matuidi, Rabiot in midfield
- · Excellent 1v1 defending ability by centre-backs Thiago, David Luiz
- Blend of neat combination moves with dangerous, direct counterattacking



# **PSV EINDHOVEN**

#### **NETHERLANDS**



#### COACH



**Phillip Cocu** Born: 29/10/1970, Eindhoven (NED) Nationality: Dutch Matches in UEFA **Champions League:** 8 01/07/2013

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAGE |       |       | KOUND OF 16 |       | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS  | FINAL        |  |     |  |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------------|-------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--|-----|--|
| MU          | CSKA  | WOL   | WOL         | MU    | CSKA           | ATL<br>D.O-O | ATL<br>DO 0* |  |     |  |
| W 2-1       | L 3-2 | L 2-0 | W 2-0       | D 0-0 | W 2-1          | D 0-0        | D 0-0*       |  | J L |  |

| SQI  | UAD                  | Арр | Mins | G | A |
|------|----------------------|-----|------|---|---|
| GOA  | LKEEPERS             |     |      |   |   |
| 1    | Jeroen Zoet          | 8   | 750  |   |   |
| 22   | Remko Pasveer        |     |      |   |   |
| DEFE | ENDERS               |     |      |   |   |
| 2    | Nicolas Isimat-Mirin | 5   | 280  |   |   |
| 3    | Héctor Moreno        | 8   | 750  | 1 |   |
| 4    | Santiago Arias       | 6   | 560  |   |   |
| 5    | Jeffrey Bruma        | 8   | 750  |   |   |
| 14   | Simon Poulsen        | 2   | 87   |   |   |
| 15   | Jetro Willems        | 2   | 165  |   |   |
| 20   | Joshua Brenet        | 7   | 572  |   |   |
| 30   | Jordy De Wijs        | 1   | 16   |   |   |
| MIDI | FIELDERS             |     |      |   |   |
| 6    | Davy Pröpper         | 8   | 750  | 1 |   |
| 8    | Stijn Schaars        | 1   | 18   |   |   |
| 10   | Adam Maher           | 3   | 253  |   | 2 |
| 18   | Andrés Guardado      | 7   | 627  |   | 1 |
| 23   | Rai Vloet            | 1   | 1    |   |   |
| 28   | Marco van Ginkel     | 2   | 210  |   |   |
| 29   | Jorrit Hendrix       | 7   | 434  |   | 1 |
| FOR  | WARDS                |     |      |   |   |
| 7    | Gastón Pereiro       | 6   | 254  |   |   |
| 9    | Luuk de Jong         | 6   | 559  | 2 | 1 |
| 11   | Luciano Narsingh     | 7   | 438  | 1 |   |
| 16   | Maxime Lestienne     | 4   | 200  | 2 | 2 |
| 19   | Jürgen Locadia       | 8   | 539  | 1 |   |
|      | Stoven Pergwiin      | 1   | 6    |   | 1 |
| 27   | Steven Bergwijn      |     | U    |   | 1 |

#### Unused substitutes: Suently Alberto, Florian Jozefzoo

App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

`A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals







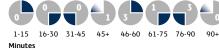






#### TIME SCORED

**ON TARGET 28** (4)



#### SUBSTITUTIONS 20/24

| 0    | 1     | 0     | 0         | 1     | 8     | 9     | 1   |
|------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15 | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |

#### Minutes

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'           | Α   | С   | %  |
|-------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Héctor Moreno   | 429 | 380 | 89 |
| 2 Jeffrey Bruma   | 392 | 349 | 89 |
| 2 Andrés Guardado | 378 | 320 | 85 |
|                   |     |     |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Davy Pröpper    | 70 |
|-------------------|----|
| 2 Andrés Guardado | 68 |
| 3 Jürgen Locadia  | 56 |
|                   |    |

#### BALLS RECOVERED

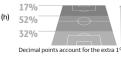
| 1 | Jeffrey Bruma  | 67 |
|---|----------------|----|
| 2 | Santiago Arias | 55 |
| 3 | Héctor Moreno  | 52 |
|   |                |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL" | TA | ОТ | G |
|-------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Davy Pröpper    | 13 | 6  | 1 |
| 2 Jürgen Locadia  | 11 | 4  | 1 |
| 3 Luuk de Jong    | 9  | 5  | 2 |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

#### POSSESSION 49%

Max. 61% v CSKA Moskva(a) Min. 38% v Manchester United (h)



POSSESSION POSITION

Max. 625 v CSKA Moskva (a)

PASSES ATTEMPTED 434 PASSING ACCURACY 84% Max. 88% v Wolfsburg (a) Min. 269 v Manchester United (h) Min. 79% v Manchester United (h)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 108,662m**

Max. 114.202m v Atlético Madrid (a) | Min. 103.765m v CSKA Moskva (h)

#### PASSES PER MATCH

| Long   | 73 (17% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 261 (60%)         |
| Short  | 100 (23%)         |

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- 1-4-3-3 with occasional changes to 1-4-4-2
- Compact, efficient defence; wide midfielders dropping back to form 1-4-1-4-1
- Valuable work by Zoet as effective sweeper-keeper behind defence
- Guardado the key organiser as single controlling midfielder
- Preference for patient build-up play from back through midfield
- Good use of width via wide midfielders with good support from full-backs
- Occasional use of three centre-backs (e.g v Atlético in Madrid) in 1-5-3-2 structure
- Powerful, athletic team with good pace and ability to sustain high-tempo play
- Well-organised unit with tactical flexibility, technique, aerial power, rehearsed set play
- Strong team ethic, determination, focus and mental resilience

GRO

3 Pepe

6 Nacho

12 Marcelo

23 Danilo

**MIDFIELDERS** 

8 Toni Kroos

14 Casemiro

10 James Rodríguez

16 Mateo Kovačić

21 Denis Cheryshev

7 Cristiano Ronaldo

9 Karim Benzema

18 Lucas Vázquez

11 Gareth Bale

19 Luka Modrić

22 Isco

**FORWARDS** 

20 Jesé

App = Appearances

'A = Passes attempt

4 Sergio Ramos

15 Dani Carvajal

17 Álvaro Arbeloa

# **REAL MADRID CF**

#### **SPAIN**



#### **COACH**

#### Zinédine Zidane Born: 23/06/1972, Marseille (FRA) Nationality: French Matches in UEFA **Champions League:** 7 Head coach since: 04/01/2016

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| OUP STAC | jE  |     |     |     |     | ROUND OF 1 | .6  | QUARTER-FI | NALS | SEMI-FINAL | s     | FINAL |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|-----|------------|------|------------|-------|-------|
| SHK      | MAL | PSG | PSG | SHK | MAL | ROM        | ROM | WOL        | WOL  | МС         | MC    | ATL   |
| V 4-0    |     |     |     |     |     |            |     | L 2-0      |      |            | W 1-0 |       |

#### Matches: Blue = home, white = away, grey = final **SQUAD TEAM STATISTICS** App Mins G A **GOALKEEPERS** POSSESSION 54% **PLAYERS GOALS** 28 **SCORED** 1 Keylor Navas 11 1020 (1 own goal) 13 Kiko Casilla 2 180 GOAL ATTEMPTS 272 (21) 24 0 CARDS 31 Rubén Yáñez **ON TARGET 94** (7) **DEFENDERS** 2 Raphaël Varane 7 438 Min. 484 v Paris (a) **TIME SCORED**

9 758

10 899 1

5 358 1

8 682 1 1

11 910

2 180

7 576

12 995

11 925

5 265 1

8 340 1

12 904 1

3 38

11 710

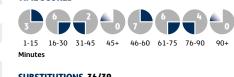
12 1109 16 4

9 603 4

9 339 1

8 643

7 330



#### SUBSTITUTIONS 36/39

| (IIICIUUIII) | g tillee do | ubie subs | ututions) |       |       |       |     |
|--------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 0            | 0           | 4         | 2         | 4     | 13    | 12    | 1   |
| 1-15         | 16-30       | 31-45     | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
| Minutes      |             |           |           |       |       |       |     |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PA | SSES.                      | A       | С   | %   |
|----|----------------------------|---------|-----|-----|
| 1  | Toni Kroos                 | 1007    | 952 | 95  |
| 2  | Luka Modrić                | 801     | 739 | 92  |
| 3  | Casemiro                   | 662     | 612 | 92  |
| PA | SSES COMPLETED IN THE FINA | AL THIR | D   |     |
| 1  | Toni Kroos                 |         |     | 228 |
| 2  | Isco                       |         |     | 209 |
| 3  | Luka Modrić                |         |     | 171 |
|    |                            |         |     |     |

#### BALLS RECOVERED

| 1 Sergio Ramos      |    |    | 75 |
|---------------------|----|----|----|
| 1 Casemiro          |    |    | 93 |
| 3 Pepe              |    |    | 77 |
|                     |    |    |    |
| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"   | TA | OT | G  |
| 1 Cristiano Ronaldo | 94 | 40 | 16 |

|   | 1 Cristiano Ronaldo | 94 |
|---|---------------------|----|
| Marcos Llorente, Borja Mayoral<br>; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists | 2 Gareth Bale       | 28 |
| ted; <b>C</b> = Passes completed<br>ts: <b>OT</b> = On target: <b>G</b> = Goals   | 3 Karim Benzema     | 27 |

3

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

Max 69% v Malmö (a) Min. 41% v Paris (h)

POSSESSION POSITION 56% 22%

PASSES ATTEMPTED 623 PASSING ACCURACY 90% Max. 838 v Malmö (a) Max. 93% v Malmö (h Min. 85% v Paris (a)

**TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 106,963m** Max. 112,691m v Man. City (a) | Min. 99,263m v Atlético (final)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 64 (10% of tota |
|--------|-----------------|
| Medium | 386 (62%)       |
| Short  | 174 (28%)       |
|        |                 |

#### **KEY FEATURES**

92

5

14 4

0

- 1-4-3-3 with single screening midfielder and clear attacking philosophy
- · Emphasis on flowing combination play carrying game to opponents
- · Outstanding goalscoring potential: Bale, Benzema, Ronaldo
- Balance between defensive/creative skills in midfield (Casemiro, Kroos, Modrić)
- Full-backs ready to support attacks in final third, deliver crosses
- Physically strong centre-backs; aerial power, distribution to midfielders
- Modrić the playmaker: comfortable in possession, good game-opening passes
- High pressing a key weapon for ball recovery, allowing full-backs to retreat
- · Effective blend of elaborate attacking moves and direct supply to fast front three
- · Tactically mature side; strength in depth; winning mentality



# **AS ROMA ITALY**



#### COACH



#### **TEAM SHAPE**





| GROUP STAC       | GE                |                     |              | ROUND OF 16         |                   |                    | QUARTER-FINALS     | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |  |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------|--|
| <b>BAR</b> D 1-1 | <b>BATE</b> L 3-2 | <b>LEV</b><br>D 4-4 | LEV<br>W 3-2 | <b>BAR</b><br>L 6-1 | <b>BATE</b> D 0-0 | <b>RM</b><br>L 0-2 | <b>RM</b><br>L 2-0 |             |       |  |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

| SQI  | JAD                 | Арр | Mins | G | A |
|------|---------------------|-----|------|---|---|
| GOA  | LKEEPERS            |     |      |   |   |
| 25   | Wojciech Szczęsny   | 8   | 680  |   |   |
| 26   | Morgan De Sanctis   | 1   | 40   |   |   |
| DEFE | NDERS               |     |      |   |   |
| 2    | Antonio Rüdiger     | 6   | 540  |   |   |
| 3    | Lucas Digne         | 8   | 720  |   | 2 |
| 13   | Maicon              | 3   | 114  |   |   |
| 35   | Vasilis Torosidis   | 4   | 154  | 1 |   |
| 44   | Kostas Manolas      | 8   | 720  |   | 1 |
| 87   | Ervin Zukanovic     | 1   | 90   |   |   |
| MIDI | FIELDERS            |     |      |   |   |
| 4    | Radja Nainggolan    | 7   | 585  |   | 1 |
| 15   | Miralem Pjanić      | 7   | 570  | 2 | 1 |
| 16   | Daniele De Rossi    | 6   | 463  | 2 |   |
| 20   | Seydou Keita        | 3   | 266  |   |   |
| 21   | William Vainqueur   | 4   | 193  |   |   |
| 24   | Alessandro Florenzi | 8   | 646  | 1 |   |
| 48   | Salih Uçan          | 2   | 22   |   |   |
| FOR\ | WARDS               |     |      |   |   |
| 7    | Juan Manuel Iturbe  | 6   | 181  |   |   |
| 8    | Diego Perotti       | 2   | 180  |   |   |
| 9    | Edin Džeko          | 7   | 481  | 2 | 1 |
| 10   | Francesco Totti     | 2   | 19   |   |   |
| 11   | Mohamed Salah       | 7   | 543  | 1 |   |
| 14   | lago Falqué         | 5   | 333  | 1 | 1 |
| 22   | Stephan El Shaarawy | 2   | 138  |   |   |
| 27   | Gervinho            | 3   | 243  | 1 | 1 |
| 92   | Edoardo Soleri      | 1   | 1    |   |   |

#### itute: Leandro Castán

; A = Assists

| <b>.pp</b> = Appearances; <b>Mins</b> = Minutes played; <b>G</b> = Goals; |
|---|
| A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed                                |
| TA = Total attempts, OT = On target, C = Coals                            |

#### **TEAM STATISTICS**

**PLAYERS** 



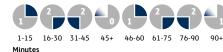
**GOALS SCORED** 



during the group stage







#### SUBSTITUTIONS 23/24

| 0       | 0     | 1     | 3         | 4     | 5     | 9     | 1   |
|---------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15    | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
| Minutes | ;     |       |           |       |       |       |     |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'            | A   | C   | %  |
|--------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Miralem Pjanić   | 353 | 310 | 88 |
| 2 Kostas Manolas   | 280 | 252 | 90 |
| 3 Radja Nainggolan | 262 | 221 | 84 |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

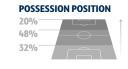
| 1 Miralem Pjanić   | 100 |
|--------------------|-----|
| 2 Mohamed Salah    | 70  |
| 3 Radja Nainggolan | 65  |

| BA | LLS RECOVERED       |    |
|----|---------------------|----|
| 1  | Kostas Manolas      | 65 |
| 2  | Alessandro Florenzi | 53 |
| 3  | Radja Nainggolan    | 48 |
|    |                     |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"  | TA | ОТ | G |
|--------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Miralem Pjanić   | 14 | 6  | 2 |
| 1 Edin Džeko       | 14 | 6  | 2 |
| 3 Radja Nainggolan | 14 | 6  | 0 |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

**POSSESSION 44%** Max. 57% v BATE (a) Min. 31% v Barcelona (h)



Max. 615 v BATE (a) Min. 228 v Barcelona (h)

PASSES ATTEMPTED 393 PASSING ACCURACY 83% Max. 87% v Real Madrid (a) Min. 75% v Leverkusen (h)

#### TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 107,483m

Max. 114,506m v BATE (a) | Min. 100,417m v Barcelona (h)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 58 (15% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 233 (59%)         |
| Short  | 103 (26%)         |

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- 1-4-3-3 with single holding midfielder the default setting
- Switches to twin midfield screen (1-4-2-3-1) in Barcelona, Madrid
- Comfortable without the ball; possession not a priority
- Fast transition after winning ball; vertical passing to front runners
- · Hardworking midfielders driving into final

third, shooting at goal

- Quick transitions into compact defensive block
- · Industrious striker the first line of defence; pressing from midfield
- Full-backs prepared to support attacks; but minimal-risk policy
- Keeper Szczęsny quick to cover area behind defensive line
- Strong collective spirit, athleticism, pace and mental resilience

# **VFL WOLFSBURG**

#### **GERMANY**



#### COACH



#### **Dieter Hecking** Born: 12/09/1964, Castrop-Rauxel (GER) Nationality: German Matches in UEFA **Champions League:** 10

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAGE   |                    |                  |                  | ROUND OF 16 QU |                    | QUARTER-FINALS      |                     | SEMI-FINALS        |                    | FINAL |  |  |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------|--|--|
| CSKA<br>W 1-0 | <b>MU</b><br>L 2-1 | <b>PSV</b> W 2-0 | <b>PSV</b> L 2-0 | CSKA<br>W 0-2  | <b>MU</b><br>W 3-2 | <b>GNT</b><br>W 2-3 | <b>GNT</b><br>W 1-0 | <b>RM</b><br>W 2-0 | <b>RM</b><br>L 3-0 |       |  |  |

**GOALS** 

**SCORED** 

(1 own goal)

18 0

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

| QI  | UAD               | Арр | Mins | G | A |
|-----|-------------------|-----|------|---|---|
| DA  | LKEEPERS          |     |      |   |   |
|     | Diego Benaglio    | 8   | 720  |   |   |
| 0   | Max Grün          |     |      |   |   |
| 8   | Koen Casteels     | 2   | 180  |   |   |
| 5   | Niklas Klinger    |     |      |   |   |
| EFE | ENDERS            |     |      |   |   |
| +   | Marcel Schäfer    | 5   | 176  |   | 1 |
| ;   | Timm Klose        | 2   | 102  |   |   |
| 8   | Dante             | 9   | 810  |   |   |
| 4   | Sebastian Jung    | 4   | 157  |   | 1 |
| 5   | Naldo             | 8   | 720  | 2 |   |
| 1   | Robin Knoche      | 2   | 180  |   |   |
| 4   | Ricardo Rodríguez | 9   | 736  | 1 | 1 |
| IDI | FIELDERS          |     |      |   |   |
| ,   | Daniel Caligiuri  | 8   | 433  | 1 | 2 |
| 3   | Vieirinha         | 8   | 477  | 1 | 1 |
| 0   | Julian Draxler    | 9   | 656  | 3 | 2 |
| 5   | Christian Träsch  | 8   | 627  |   | 1 |
| 6   | Bruno Henrique    | 2   | 153  |   | 1 |
| 2   | Luiz Gustavo      | 7   | 630  |   |   |
| 3   | Josuha Guilavogui | 9   | 689  |   |   |
| 7   | Maximilian Arnold | 10  | 712  | 1 |   |
| DR۱ | WARDS             |     |      |   |   |
| ,   | Nicklas Bendtner  | 4   | 90   |   |   |
| 1   | Max Kruse         | 9   | 684  | 2 | 1 |
| 2   | Bas Dost          | 6   | 370  | 1 |   |
| 7   | André Schürrle    | 10  | 598  | 2 | 1 |
| 2   | Leandro Putaro    | 1   | 1    |   |   |

Unused substitutes: Carlos Ascues, Paul Seguin, Francisco Rodríguez, App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

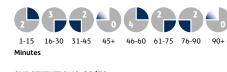
'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

EAM STATISTICS

| PLAYERS<br>USED | 22           |
|-----------------|--------------|
| GOAL ATTEME     | OTS 126 (17) |

CARDS **AL ATTEMPTS 126** (13) **TARGET 48** (5)





**BSTITUTIONS 29/30** 

| (including two double substitutions) |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |  |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|--|
| 0                                    | 1     | 1     | 1         | 0     | 8     | 16    | 2   |  |
| 1-15                                 | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |  |
| Minutes                              |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |  |

#### LAYER STATISTICS

| PASSES'             | Α   | С   | %  |
|---------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Dante             | 468 | 404 | 86 |
| 2 Luiz Gustavo      | 383 | 356 | 93 |
| 3 Ricardo Rodríguez | 381 | 343 | 90 |
|                     |     |     |    |

#### SSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

|   | 1 Max Kruse        | 83 |
|---|--------------------|----|
| - | 2 Julian Draxler   | 79 |
|   | 3 Christian Träsch | 70 |
|   |                    |    |

#### LLS RECOVERED

| 1   | Dante             | 77 |
|-----|-------------------|----|
| 2 1 | Ricardo Rodríguez | 51 |
| 3 ( | Christian Träsch  | 48 |
|     |                   |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GUAL | IA | UI |  |
|------------------|----|----|--|
| 1 André Schürrle | 20 | 7  |  |
| 2 Max Kruse      | 15 | 7  |  |
| 3 Julian Draxler | 13 | 8  |  |
|                  |    |    |  |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 48% Max. 58% v CSKA Moskva (h) Min. 42% v Real Madrid (h)

POSSESSION POSITION 53%

30%

PASSES ATTEMPTED 467 PASSING ACCURACY 85% Max. 90% v CSKA Moskva (h) Max. 680 v CSKA Moskva (h) Min. 382 v Manchester United (h) Min. 81% v Gent (a)

#### TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 111,880m

Max. 118,872m v Gent (a) | Min. 105,667m v PSV (h)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 76 (16% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 290 (62%)         |
| Short  | 102 (22%)         |
|        |                   |

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- A cross between 1-4-3-3 and 1-4-1-4-1 (though midfield four not in line)
- · Wide midfielders cutting in to support striker; full-backs pushing up
- Able to play out from the back; switched to direct attacking when pressurised
- · Excellent use of wings; creating overloads, delivering crosses and cut-backs
- · Occasional high pressing but mostly intense pressure as from midfield
- Strong centre-backs; aerial ability at defensive, attacking set plays
- Draxler the catalyst; solo skills, important in attack and defence
- Schürrle the attacking leader, main target for fast counterattacks
- Good second-ball play with midfielders offering rapid support
- · Strong work ethic; ability to dictate rhythm; belief in playing philosophy

# **FC ZENIT RUSSIA**



#### COACH



**André Villas-Boas** Born: 17/10/1977, Porto (POR) Nationality: Portuguese Matches in UEFA **Champions League: 21** Head coach from/to: 18/03/2014-24/05/2016

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAGE |       |       |       |       | ROUND OF 1 | b     | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL   |  |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------------|-------|----------------|-------------|---------|--|
| VAL         | GNT   | LYO   | LYO   | VAL   | GNT        | BEN   | BEN            |             | $\prod$ |  |
| W 2-3       | W 2-1 | W 3-1 | W 0-2 | W 2-0 | L 2-1      | L 1-0 | L 1-2          |             | JLIL    |  |

| SO   | UAD                  | Ann   | Mins | G |
|------|----------------------|-------|------|---|
|      | LKEEPERS             | - 444 |      | _ |
| 1    | Yuri Lodygin         | 6     | 540  |   |
| 41   | Mikhail Kerzhakov    | 2     | 180  |   |
| DEFI | ENDERS               |       |      |   |
| 2    | Aleksandr Anyukov    | 7     | 575  |   |
| 4    | Domenico Criscito    | 6     | 523  |   |
| 6    | Nicolas Lombaerts    | 8     | 692  |   |
| 13   | Luís Neto            | 7     | 403  |   |
| 19   | Igor Smolnikov       | 5     | 273  |   |
| 24   | Ezequiel Garay       | 6     | 540  |   |
| MID  | FIELDERS             |       |      |   |
| 5    | Aleksandr Ryazantsev | 5     | 77   |   |
| 8    | Maurício             | 2     | 85   |   |
| 10   | Danny                | 8     | 716  | 1 |
| 14   | Artur Yusupov        | 6     | 166  |   |
| 17   | Oleg Shatov          | 7     | 486  | 2 |
| 20   | Viktor Fayzulin      | 1     | 31   |   |
| 21   | Javi García          | 6     | 520  |   |
| 28   | Axel Witsel          | 7     | 630  | 1 |
| 79   | Konstantin Troyanov  | 1     | 4    |   |
| 81   | Yuri Zhirkov         | 2     | 99   |   |
| 94   | Aleksei Evseev       | 1     | 4    |   |
| FOR  | WARDS                |       |      |   |
| 7    | Hulk                 | 7     | 630  | 4 |
| 9    | Aleksandr Kokorin    | 2     | 74   |   |
| 22   | Artem Dzyuba         | 8     | 633  | 6 |
| 70   | Dmitri Bogaev        | 1     | 8    |   |
| 92   | Pavel Dolgov         | 1     | 29   |   |
|      |                      |       |      |   |

Unused substitutes: Andrei Ivanov, Ilya Zuev

App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

| FΔN | A ST | ΔTIS | TICS |
|-----|------|------|------|
| EAI | 131  | 4113 | 1163 |

GOAL ATTEMPTS 84 (11)

**ON TARGET 37** (5)





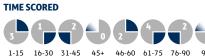






CARDS Sent off: Aleksandr





Minutes SUBSTITUTIONS 24/24

| • |      | •     |       |           |       |       |       | - h |
|---|------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
|   | 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 3     | 8     | 13    | 0   |
| 1 | 1-15 | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| A   | C   | %                  |
|-----|-----|--------------------|
| 417 | 332 | 80                 |
| 322 | 295 | 92                 |
| 244 | 221 | 91                 |
|     | 417 | 417 332<br>322 295 |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Danny       | 103 |
|---------------|-----|
| 2 Hulk        | 72  |
| 3 Axel Witsel | 55  |

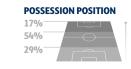
#### BALLS RECOVERED

| DALLS  | LECOVERED       |    |
|--------|-----------------|----|
| 1 Nico | olas Lombaerts  | 63 |
| 2 Ezeo | quiel Garay     | 51 |
| 3 Don  | nenico Criscito | 47 |
|        |                 |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL" | TA | ОТ | G |
|-------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Hulk            | 25 | 10 | 4 |
| 2 Artem Dzyuba    | 18 | 9  | 6 |
| 3 Axel Witsel     | 11 | 6  | 1 |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

**POSSESSION 44%** Max. 53% v Benfica (h) Min. 38% v Lyon (a)



PASSES ATTEMPTED 364 Max. 467 v Gent (a Min. 262 v Benfica (a)

**PASSING ACCURACY 83%** Max. 86% v Valencia (h Min. 78% v Lyon (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 110,187m**

Max. 113,176m v Benfica (h) | Min. 105,469m v Lyon (a)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| 59 (16% of total) |
|-------------------|
| 208 (57%)         |
| 97 (27%)          |
|                   |

#### **KEY FEATURES**

- 1-4-2-3-1 with Witsel the more adventurous of the two controlling midfielders
- Switch to three centre-backs to mirror opponents' system in Gent
- High defensive line with two centre-backs strong in air and 1v1 situations
- Danny the mobile creative element operating behind target striker
- Hulk an influential presence in attack; exceptional set plays, long-range shooting
- Narrow support behind striker to open space for full-back (especially on right)
- Build-up from back but non-possession game based on direct attacking
- Dzyuba a strong target striker; hard-working, dominant in air
- Frequent positional interchanging in middle-to-front areas
- Tactically well-organised; strong team ethic: fast attack-to-defence transitions



# **TEAM PROFILES: GROUP STAGE STARTERS**

Lack of possession proved a problem for most of the teams that dropped out in the group stage

Two former winners of the UEFA Champions League and three silver-medallists were among the 16 fallers in the group stage. The demise of Manchester United FC could be traced to a harvest of one point from three away games, while FC Porto joined a select band of clubs who have fallen by the wayside despite a two-figure points total. Qualification appeared to be in the bag after three victories and a draw in the Portuguese club's opening four fixtures, only for a brace of 2-0 defeats to allow FC Dynamo Kyiv to edge above them into second place. Porto were the only team to miss the cut with ten points whereas, by contrast, AS Roma needed just one win and six points to advance.

The 16 fallers included teams with possession-based styles, such as FC Shakhtar Donetsk, Sevilla FC, Valencia CF, Olympique Lyonnais and, notably, Manchester United, who had 67% of the ball during their two games against PFC CSKA Moskva. The Russian champions were among the majority, however, who saw relatively little of the ball, the most extreme examples being FC Astana, FC BATE Borisov, Maccabi Tel-Aviv FC and Malmö FF, whose share of possession, ironically, edged above 40% exclusively during the Swedish club's 8-0 defeat at Real Madrid CF. That game yielded, by far, the team's highest number of passes in a single game (478) whereas the other fixtures

had produced an average below 300. During their away match against FC Bayern München, GNK Dinamo Zagreb were in possession of the ball for just under 19 minutes.

Lack of possession is often translated into lack of goals and, in the 2014/15 season, failure to score provided a simplistic explanation for an immense majority of group stage exits. This trend became less noticeable in 2015/16 when, for example, Sevilla and VfL Borussia Mönchengladbach both scored more than Juventus, who finished above them in Group D; Porto scored more than Dynamo Kyiv in Group G; and Bayer 04 Leverkusen outscored Roma in Group E.

The 96 group stage matches generated, on average, 13.69 goal attempts per game, 5.05 (37%) of them on target. Among the 16 group fallers, five exceeded the average (Lyon 18.17), Leverkusen (16.33), Galatasaray AŞ and Porto (14.83 apiece) and Mönchengladbach (14.5). In terms of accuracy, however, only Leverkusen (43%), Manchester United (42%), BATE (40%) and Malmö (39%) bettered the mean, while Sevilla, Dinamo Zagreb, Valencia, Lyon and, at the foot of the table, Tel-Aviv with 23%, had 30% or less of their goal attempts on target.



# **FC ASTANA**

#### **KAZAKHSTAN**



#### **COACH**



**Stanimir Stoilov** Born: 13/02/1967, Haskovo (BUL) Nationality: Bulgarian Matches in UEFA Champions League: 12 Head coach since 22/06/2014

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STA | GE           |       |       |       |       | ROUND OF 16 | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|-----------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| BEN       | GAL<br>D.2-2 | ATL   | ATL   | BEN   | GAL   |             |                |             |       |
| L 2-0     | D 2-2        | L 4-0 | D 0-0 | D 2-2 | D 1-1 |             |                |             |       |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

#### **SQUAD** App Mins G A **GOALKEEPERS** 1 Nenad Erić 6 540 40 Mikhail Golubnichi 85 Vladimir Loginovski **DEFENDERS** 2 Yeldos Akhmetov 1 90 5 Marin Aničić 5 450 1 12 Igor Pikalkin 1 26 15 Abzal Beysebekov 3 100 28 Birzhan Kulbekov 1 10 33 Branko Ilić 6 540 6 540 44 Evgeni Postnikov 5 450 77 Dmitri Shomko MIDFIELDERS 5 450 6 Nemanja Maksimović 6 260 8 Georgi Zhukov 6 513 10 Foxi Kéthévoama 5 347 11 Serikzhan Muzhikov 1 7 20 Zhakyp Kozhamberdy 3 92 24 Denys Dedechko 88 Roger Cañas 5 450 **FORWARDS** 9 Aleksei Schetkin 5 142 17 Tanat Nuserbayev 2 28 22 Baurzhan Dzholchiyev 4 265 23 Patrick Twumasi 2 180 2

89 Junior Kabananga

App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

6 463 2

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed "TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

| <b>TEAM</b> | STATISTICS |
|-------------|------------|
|             |            |





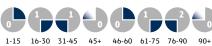
**GOALS SCORED** (2 own goals)





GOAL ATTEMPTS 77 (13) **ON TARGET 25** (5)





#### **SUBSTITUTIONS 18/18**

|   | 0 | 0     | 0     | 0         | 0     | 4     | 13    | 1   |
|---|---|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1 |   | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

2 Junior Kabananga

3 Patrick Twumasi

| PASSES'                             | Α   | С   | %  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|--|--|
| 1 Roger Cañas                       | 276 | 241 | 87 |  |  |
| 2 Evgeni Postnikov                  | 222 | 196 | 88 |  |  |
| 3 Marin Aničić                      | 200 | 177 | 89 |  |  |
|                                     |     |     |    |  |  |
| PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD |     |     |    |  |  |
| 1 Foyi Kéthéyoama                   |     |     |    |  |  |

| 1 FOXINELITEVOATTA | 47 |
|--------------------|----|
| 2 Dmitri Shomko    | 40 |
| 3 Roger Cañas      | 37 |
|                    |    |

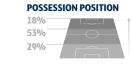
| BALLS RECOVERED    |    |    |    |  |  |
|--------------------|----|----|----|--|--|
| 1 Evgeni Postnikov |    |    | 53 |  |  |
| 2 Roger Cañas      |    |    |    |  |  |
| 3 Dmitri Shomko    |    |    |    |  |  |
|                    |    |    |    |  |  |
| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"  | TA | ОТ | G  |  |  |
| 1 Foxi Kéthévoama  | 17 | 7  | 0  |  |  |

12 4

0

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

**POSSESSION 43%** Max. 50% v Galatasaray (h) Min. 39% v Atlético (a)



#### PASSES ATTEMPTED 352 PASSING ACCURACY 79% Max. 506 v Galatasaray (h) Min. 284 v Atlético (h)

Max. 87% v Galatasaray (a) Min. 70% v Atlético (h)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 109,038m**

Max. 111,946m v Galatasaray (h) | Min. 106,831m v Benfica (a)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 61 (18% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 203 (58%)         |
| Short  | 88 (25%)          |



#### 'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed "TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

13 Nikolai Signevich

18 Dmitri Mozolevski

62 Mikhail Gordeichuk

# **FC BATE BORISOV**

#### **BELARUS**



#### COACH



#### **Aleksandr** Yermakovich Born: 21/01/1975, Luninets (BLR) Nationality: Belarussian Matches in UEFA **Champions League: 12** Head coach since: 01/10/2013

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAC          | GE                  |              |                     |                  |                  | ROUND OF 16 | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| <b>LEV</b><br>L 4-1 | <b>ROM</b><br>W 3-2 | BAR<br>L 0-2 | <b>BAR</b><br>L 3-0 | <b>LEV</b> D 1-1 | <b>ROM</b> D 0-0 |             |                |             |       |

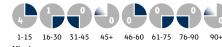
Matches: Blue = home, white = away

| SQ   | UAD                 | Арр | Mins | G | A | TEAM STATISTICS   |      |
|------|---------------------|-----|------|---|---|---|------|
| GOA  | LKEEPERS            |     |      |   |   | PLAYERS GOALS   |      |
| 16   | Sergei Chernik      | 6   | 540  |   |   | USED ZO SCORED  |      |
| 34   | Artem Soroko        |     |      |   |   |   |      |
| DEFI | ENDERS              |     |      |   |   | GOAL ATTEMPTS 40 (7) CARDS ON TARGET 16 (3)             |      |
| 3    | Vitali Gaiduchik    | 2   | 180  |   |   | (Per match)   |      |
| 4    | Kaspars Dubra       | 3   | 214  |   |   | TIME SCORED   |      |
| 15   | Maksim Zhavnerchik  | 2   | 180  |   |   |   |      |
| 19   | Nemanja Milunović   | 6   | 540  | 1 |   | 1-15 16-30 31-45 45+ 46-60 61-7                         |      |
| 25   | Filip Mladenović    | 6   | 540  | 2 |   | 1-15 16-30 31-45 45+ 46-60 61-7<br>Minutes              | 5 70 |
| 33   | Denis Polyakov      | 6   | 506  |   |   | SUBSTITUTIONS 18/18                                     |      |
| MID  | FIELDERS            |     |      |   |   | (No double substitutions)                               |      |
| 5    | Evgeni Yablonski    | 5   | 385  |   |   | 0 1 0 1 3 6   |      |
| 7    | Aleksandr Karnitski | 4   | 86   |   |   | 1-15 16-30 31-45 Half-time 46-60 61-7<br><b>Minutes</b> | 5 70 |
| 8    | Aleksandr Volodko   | 5   | 299  |   | 1 |   |      |
| 9    | Ilya Aleksievich    | 1   | 90   |   |   | <b>PLAYER STATISTICS</b>                                |      |
| 10   | Nemanja Nikolić     | 5   | 265  |   | 1 | PASSES' A   |      |
| 17   | Aleksei Rios        | 3   | 62   |   |   | 1 Nemanja Milunović 190                                 | 1:   |
| 22   | Igor Stasevich      | 5   | 450  | 1 | 1 | 2 Denis Polyakov 166                                    | 13   |
| 42   | Maksim Volodko      | 6   | 312  |   | 1 | 3 Filip Mladenović 161                                  | 12   |
| 55   | Dmitri Baga         | 1   | 60   |   |   | PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THI                       | חפ   |
| 81   | Aleksandr Hleb      | 5   | 241  |   |   | 1 Igor Stasevich  | NΨ   |
| FOR  | WARDS               |     |      |   |   | 2 Filip Mladenović                                      |      |

3 259

4 221

6 510 1 1



| (No doubl | e substitu | tions) |           |       |       |       |     |
|-----------|------------|--------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 0         | 1          | 0      | 1         | 3     | 6     | 7     | 0   |
| 1-15      | 16-30      | 31-45  | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |

5

18 0

|         |       |       |           |       |       |       | - In- |
|---------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 0       | 1     | 0     | 1         | 3     | 6     | 7     | 0     |
| 1-15    | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+   |
| Minutes |       |       |           |       |       |       |       |

Max. 121,900m v Roma (h) | Min. 112,154m v Leverkusen (a)

| Long   | 57 (19% of tota |
|--------|-----------------|
| Medium | 155 (51%)       |
| Short  | 90 (30%)        |
|        |                 |

| PASSES'             | A   | C   | %  |
|---------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Nemanja Milunović | 190 | 151 | 79 |
| 2 Denis Polyakov    | 166 | 131 | 79 |
| 3 Filip Mladenović  | 161 | 127 | 79 |
|                     |     |     |    |

| 1 | Igor Stasevich     | 33 |
|---|--------------------|----|
| 2 | Filip Mladenović   | 24 |
| 3 | Mikhail Gordeichuk | 21 |
|   |                    |    |

#### **BALLS RECOVERED**

|   |                   | <br> |    |
|---|-------------------|------|----|
| 3 | Filip Mladenović  |      | 49 |
| 2 | Denis Polyakov    |      | 52 |
| 1 | Nemanja Milunović |      | 53 |

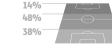
| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL     | IA | O1 | • |
|----------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Igor Stasevich     | 8  | 3  | 1 |
| 2 Mikhail Gordeichuk | 6  | 5  | 1 |
| 3 Filip Mladenović   | 5  | 4  | 2 |
| 3 Nikolai Signevich  | 5  | 2  | 0 |
|                      |    |    |   |

| SESSION 39%    | POSSESSION POSITION |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 50% v Roma (a) | 14%                 |

Min. 31% v Barcelona (a)

PASSES ATTEMPTED 302

**MATCH AVERAGES** 



Max. 80% v Roma (a)

PASSING ACCURACY 72%

#### Max. 357 v Roma (a) Min. 263 v Leverkusen (h) Min. 65% v Barcelona (a)

**TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 115,159m** 

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**





# **PFC CSKA MOSKVA**

**RUSSIA** 



#### COACH



**Leonid Slutski** Born: 04/05/1971, Volgograd (RUS) Nationality: Russian **Champions League: 33** 26/10/2009

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STA           | GE               |                    |                    |                  |                     | ROUND OF 16 | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| <b>WOL</b><br>L 1-0 | <b>PSV</b> W 3-2 | <b>MU</b><br>D 1-1 | <b>MU</b><br>L 1-0 | <b>WOL</b> L 0-2 | <b>PSV</b><br>L 2-1 |             |                |             |       |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

| SQI  | UAD                | Арр | Mins | G | A |
|------|--------------------|-----|------|---|---|
| GOA  | LKEEPERS           |     |      |   |   |
| 1    | Sergei Chepchugov  |     |      |   |   |
| 35   | Igor Akinfeev      | 6   | 540  |   |   |
| DEFE | NDERS              |     |      |   |   |
| 2    | Mário Fernandes    | 5   | 450  |   | 1 |
| 4    | Sergei Ignashevich | 6   | 495  | 1 |   |
| 5    | Viktor Vasin       | 1   | 45   |   |   |
| 6    | Aleksei Berezutski | 5   | 409  |   |   |
| 14   | Kirill Nababkin    | 2   | 165  |   |   |
| 24   | Vasili Berezutski  | 2   | 131  |   |   |
| 42   | Georgi Schennikov  | 4   | 360  |   |   |
| MIDI | FIELDERS           |     |      |   |   |
| 3    | Pontus Wernbloom   | 6   | 540  |   |   |
| 7    | Zoran Tošić        | 6   | 491  |   | 1 |
| 10   | Alan Dzagoev       | 6   | 532  |   |   |
| 19   | Aleksandrs Cauna   | 2   | 93   |   |   |
| 23   | Georgi Milanov     | 4   | 215  |   |   |
| 25   | Roman Eremenko     | 3   | 197  |   | 1 |
| 60   | Aleksandr Golovin  | 1   | 14   |   |   |
| 66   | Bibras Natcho      | 5   | 292  |   |   |
| FOR  | WARDS              |     |      |   |   |
| 8    | Kirill Panchenko   | 4   | 13   |   |   |
| 18   | Ahmed Musa         | 6   | 540  | 1 |   |
| 88   | Seydou Doumbia     | 6   | 420  | 3 |   |

App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

#### **TEAM STATISTICS**

**PLAYERS** 



**GOALS SCORED** 

CARDS



GOAL ATTEMPTS 55 (9) **ON TARGET 18** (3)





1-15 16-30 31-45 45+ 46-60 61-75 76-90 90+ Minutes

SUBSTITUTIONS 14/18

|   | 0        | 0     | 1     | 1         | 1     | 4     | 6     | 1   |
|---|----------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
|   | 1-15     | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
| ١ | /linutes |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| A   | C          | %                  |
|-----|------------|--------------------|
| 294 | 242        | 82                 |
| 269 | 222        | 83                 |
| 247 | 187        | 76                 |
|     | 294<br>269 | 294 242<br>269 222 |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

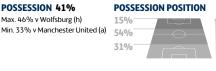
| 1 Alan Dzagoev    | 64 |
|-------------------|----|
| 2 Zoran Tošić     | 45 |
| 3 Mário Fernandes | 37 |
|                   |    |

#### BALLS RECOVERED

| 1 Sergei Ignashevich                               |              |                | 46           |
|--|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| 2 Mário Fernandes                                  |              |                | 43           |
| 3 Pontus Wernbloom                                 |              |                | 37           |
|  |              |                |              |
|  |              |                |              |
| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"                                  | TA           | ОТ             | G            |
| 1 Seydou Doumbia                                   | <b>TA</b> 12 | <b>OT</b><br>4 | <b>G</b>     |
| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"  1 Seydou Doumbia  2 Zoran Tošić |              | ٠.             | <b>G</b> 3 0 |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 41% Max. 46% v Wolfsburg (h)



PASSES ATTEMPTED 400 PASSING ACCURACY 80% Max. 500 v Wolfsburg (a)

Max. 88% v Wolfsburg (a) Min. 291 v Manchester United (a) Min. 69% v Manchester United (a)

#### TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 112,146m

Max. 118,181m v Wolfsburg (a) | Min. 101,140m v PSV (a)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 57 (14% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 226 (57%)         |
| Short  | 117 (29%)         |
| Short  | 117 (29%)         |



# **GNK DINAMO ZAGREB**

#### **CROATIA**



#### COACH



# **Zoran Mamić** Born: 30/09/1971,

Bjelovar (CRO) Matches in UEFA **Champions League:** 6 22/10/2013

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAC   | iΕ                  |              |                     |                     |                     | ROUND OF 16 | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| ARS<br>W 2-1 | <b>BAY</b><br>L 5-0 | OLY<br>L 0-1 | <b>OLY</b><br>L 2-1 | <b>ARS</b><br>L 3-0 | <b>BAY</b><br>L 0-2 |             |                |             |       |

| SQI  | UAD                    | Арр | Mins | G | A | <b>TEAM STATISTICS</b>                   |
|------|------------------------|-----|------|---|---|--|
| GOA  | LKEEPERS               |     |      |   |   | PLAYERS                                  |
| 1    | Antonijo Ježina        |     |      |   |   | USED 20                                  |
| 33   | Marko Mikulić          |     |      |   |   |  |
| 34   | Eduardo                | 6   | 540  |   |   | GOAL ATTEMPTS 56 (9) ON TARGET 16 (3)    |
| DEFE | ENDERS                 |     |      |   |   | (Per match)                              |
| 6    | Ivo Pinto              | 3   | 270  |   |   | TIME SCORED                              |
| 22   | Leonardo Sigali        | 4   | 280  |   |   | 2 0                                      |
| 26   | Filip Benković         | 2   | 47   |   |   |  |
| 77   | Alexandru Matel        | 4   | 360  |   |   | 1-15 16-30 31-45 45+ 46<br>Minutes       |
| 87   | Jérémy Taravel         | 6   | 540  |   |   | SUBSTITUTIONS 18/18                      |
| MIDI | FIELDERS               |     |      |   |   | (Including one double substitution)      |
| 3    | Mario Musa             | 1   | 2    |   |   | 0 0 0 1                                  |
| 8    | Domagoj Antolić        | 6   | 510  |   |   | 1-15 16-30 31-45 Half-time 46<br>Minutes |
| 10   | Paulo Machado          | 6   | 431  |   | 1 |  |
| 13   | Gonçalo Santos         | 5   | 405  |   |   | PLAYER STATISTICS                        |
| 16   | Arijan Ademi           | 2   | 180  |   |   | PASSES'                                  |
| 18   | Domagoj Pavičić        | 1   | 9    |   |   | 1 Domagoj Antolić                        |
| 19   | Josip Pivarić          | 5   | 439  | 1 | 1 | 2 Jérémy Taravel                         |
| 24   | Ante Ćorić             | 4   | 86   |   |   | 3 Paulo Machado                          |
| 30   | Marko Rog              | 6   | 385  |   |   |  |
| FOR  | WARDS                  |     |      |   |   | PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FI               |
| 2    | El Arabi Hilal Soudani | 5   | 393  |   |   | 1 Paulo Machado                          |
| 9    | Ángelo Henríquez       | 4   | 93   |   |   | 2 Domagoj Antolić 3 Marko Rog            |

6 456 1

2 118 1

6 385

| Unused substitutes: Damir Sovsic |
|----------------------------------|
| App = Appearances; Mins = Minu   |

11 Junior Fernandes

15 Armin Hodžic

20 Marko Pjaca

nutes played; **G** = Goals; **A** = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed "TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

|  | <b>EAM</b> | STATIST | ICS |
|--|------------|---------|-----|
|--|------------|---------|-----|







CARDS

Sent off:



55

6 3





#### **BSTITUTIONS 18/18**

| 0       | 0     | 0     | 1         | 2     | 6     | 9     | 0   |
|---------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15    | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
| Minutes |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |

| PASSES'           | A   | C   | %  |
|-------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Domagoj Antolić | 252 | 226 | 90 |
| 2 Jérémy Taravel  | 238 | 201 | 84 |
| 3 Paulo Machado   | 235 | 197 | 84 |
|                   |     |     |    |

#### SSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Paulo Machado   | 49 |
|-------------------|----|
| 2 Domagoj Antolić | 40 |
| 3 Marko Rog       | 39 |
|                   |    |

#### **BALLS RECOVERED** 1 Jérémy Taravel

3 Junior Fernandes

| 2 Josip Pivarić          |                   |    |   |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------|----|---|--|--|--|
| 3 Alexandru Mățel        | 3 Alexandru Mățel |    |   |  |  |  |
|                          |                   |    |   |  |  |  |
| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"        | TA                | OT | G |  |  |  |
| 1 El Arabi Hilal Soudani | 11                | 5  | 0 |  |  |  |
|                          |                   |    |   |  |  |  |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 42% Max. 56% v Olympiacos (h) Min. 29% v Bayern München (a) POSSESSION POSITION

PASSES ATTEMPTED 367 PASSING ACCURACY 82% Max. 529 v Arsenal (a) Max. 88% v Arsenal (a) Min. 229 v Bayern München (a) Min. 76% v Olympiacos (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 109,761m**

Max. 113,128m v Bayern München (a) | Min. 105,686m v Arsenal (h)

#### PASSES PER MATCH

| Long   | 57 (15% of tot |
|--------|----------------|
| Medium | 201 (55%)      |
| Short  | 109 (30%)      |





# **GALATASARAY AŞ**

#### **TURKEY**



#### **COACH**



#### **TEAM SHAPE**

Mustafa Denizli Born: 10/11/1949, Cesme (TUR) Nationality: Turkish Matches in UEFA Head coach from/to: 26/11/2015 - 01/03/2016

| GROUP STAGE |       |       |       | ROUND OF 16 |       | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |                          |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|-------|----------------|-------------|-------|--------------------------|
| ATL         | AST   | BEN   | BEN   | ATL         | AST   |                |             |       | $\neg$                   |
| L 0-2       | D 2-2 | W 2-1 | L 2-1 | L 2-0       | D 1-1 |                |             | _     | $\square \sqcup \square$ |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

#### **SQUAD GOALKEEPERS** 1 Fernando Muslera 6 540 99 Cenk Gönen **DEFENDERS** 21 Aurélien Chedjou 4 360 22 Hakan Balta 6 528 23 Lionel Carole 3 270 26 Semih Kaya 4 360 55 Sabri Sarıoğlu 6 406 4 279 64 Jason Denayer **MIDFIELDERS** 4 303 1 1 5 Bilal Kısa 1 90 6 Jem Paul Karacan 7 Yasin Öztekin 6 393 8 Selçuk İnan 5 450 2 6 540 10 Wesley Sneijder 14 José Rodríguez 3 31 29 Olcan Adın 4 268 52 Emre Çolak 2 48 **FORWARDS** 9 Umut Bulut 6 271 6 499 2 11 Lukas Podolski 17 Burak Yılmaz 4 266 3 40 18 Sinan Gümüs

Unused substitutes: Koray Günter, Tarik Çamdal

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

#### **TEAM STATISTICS**







CARDS

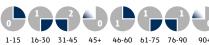






#### GOAL ATTEMPTS 89 (15) **ON TARGET 29** (5)

#### TIME SCORED



#### SUBSTITUTIONS 17/18

| 0       | 0     | 1     | 1         | 1     | 5     | 7     | 2   |
|---------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15    | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
| Minutes |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |

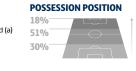
#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| 1713323                             |     | •   | ,, |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|--|--|--|--|
| 1 Wesley Sneijder                   | 356 | 294 | 83 |  |  |  |  |
| 2 Selçuk İnan                       | 337 | 298 | 88 |  |  |  |  |
| 3 Hakan Balta                       | 292 | 249 | 85 |  |  |  |  |
|                                     |     |     |    |  |  |  |  |
| PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD |     |     |    |  |  |  |  |
| 1 Wesley Sneijder                   | 105 |     |    |  |  |  |  |
| 2 Selçuk İnan                       |     |     |    |  |  |  |  |

| 3 Lukas Podolski   |    |    |    |  |  |  |
|--------------------|----|----|----|--|--|--|
|                    |    |    |    |  |  |  |
| BALLS RECOVERED    |    |    |    |  |  |  |
| 1 Hakan Balta      |    |    | 40 |  |  |  |
| 2 Aurélien Chedjou |    |    |    |  |  |  |
| 3 Selçuk İnan      |    |    |    |  |  |  |
|                    |    |    |    |  |  |  |
| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"  | TA | OT | G  |  |  |  |
| 1 Wesley Sneijder  | 21 | 9  | 0  |  |  |  |
| 2 Lukas Podolski   | 13 | 4  | 2  |  |  |  |
| 3 Yasin Öztekin    | 11 | 2  | 0  |  |  |  |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

#### **POSSESSION 49%** Max 55% v Astana (h) Min. 41% v Atlético Madrid (a)



#### PASSES ATTEMPTED 471 PASSING ACCURACY 83% Max. 556 v Atlético Madrid (h) Min. 386 v Atlético Madrid (a)

Max. 90% v Atlético Madrid (h) Min. 75% v Atlético Madrid (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 104,283m**

Max. 108,272m v Astana (a) | Min. 100,109m v Benfica (a)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 65 (14% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 267 (57%)         |
| Short  | 139 (29%)         |



# **BAYER 04 LEVERKUSEN**

#### **GERMANY**



#### **COACH**



#### **Roger Schmidt** Born: 13/03/1967, Kierspe (GER)

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAGE |       |       |       |       |       | ROUND OF 16 | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| BATE        | BAR   | ROM   | ROM   | BATE  | BAR   |             |                | <u> </u>    |       |
| W 4-1       | L 2-1 | D 4-4 | L 3-2 | D 1-1 | D 1-1 |             |                |             |       |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

| SQ  | UAD                   | Арр | Mins | G | A |
|-----|-----------------------|-----|------|---|---|
| GOA | LKEEPERS              |     |      |   |   |
| 1   | Bernd Leno            | 6   | 540  |   |   |
| 22  | David Yelldell        |     |      |   |   |
| 25  | Dario Krešić          |     |      |   |   |
| DEF | ENDERS                |     |      |   |   |
| 2   | André Ramalho         | 1   | 90   |   |   |
| 4   | Jonathan Tah          | 6   | 540  |   |   |
| 5   | Kyriakos Papadopoulos | 5   | 361  | 1 |   |
| 13  | Roberto Hilbert       | 3   | 194  |   |   |
| 18  | Wendell               | 6   | 540  |   | 1 |
| 21  | Ömer Toprak           | 3   | 248  |   |   |
| 26  | Giulio Donati         | 4   | 346  |   |   |
| MID | FIELDERS              |     |      |   |   |
| 8   | Lars Bender           | 2   | 134  |   |   |
| 10  | Hakan Çalhanoğlu      | 6   | 504  | 2 | 3 |
| 19  | Julian Brandt         | 6   | 86   |   |   |
| 23  | Christoph Kramer      | 6   | 399  |   |   |
| 35  | Vladlen Yurchenko     | 2   | 12   |   |   |
| 38  | Karim Bellarabi       | 6   | 420  |   | 2 |
| 44  | Kevin Kampl           | 6   | 540  | 1 | 2 |

6 487 5

5 371 4

4 118

ised substitutes: Tin Jedvaj, Sebastian Boensich, Marlon Frey, Seung-Woo Ryu App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

7 Javier Hernández

11 Stefan Kiessling

14 Admir Mehmedi

| <b>TEAM S</b> | <b>TATISTICS</b> |
|---------------|------------------|
|---------------|------------------|

| PLAYERS |  |
|---------|--|
| USED    |  |





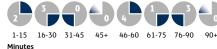
CARDS

Sent off:









#### **UBSTITUTIONS 18/18**

| (including one double substitution) |       |       |           |       |        |         |     |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|--------|---------|-----|--|--|
|                                     |       |       |           |       |        |         |     |  |  |
| 0                                   | 0     | 1     | 0         | 4     | 8      | 5       | 0   |  |  |
| •                                   |       |       |           | -     |        |         |     |  |  |
| 1-15                                | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75  | 76-90   | 90+ |  |  |
|                                     | 10 50 | 31 .5 |           | .0 00 | 01 / 5 | , , , , | ,   |  |  |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'            | A   | C   | %  |
|--------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Kevin Kampl      | 355 | 304 | 86 |
| 2 Jonathan Tah     | 284 | 252 | 89 |
| 3 Christoph Kramer | 277 | 247 | 89 |
|                    |     |     |    |

#### ASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 | Kevin Kampl      | 107 |
|---|------------------|-----|
| 2 | Hakan Çalhanoğlu | 103 |
| 3 | Karim Bellarabi  | 78  |
|   |                  |     |

#### **BALLS RECOVERED**

| 1       | Jonathan Tah          |       |    | 73 |
|---------|-----------------------|-------|----|----|
| 2       | Wendell               |       |    | 55 |
| 3       | Kyriakos Papadopoulos |       |    | 43 |
|         |                       |       |    |    |
| AT      | TEMPTS ON GOAL"       | TA    | ОТ | G  |
| • • • • | ILMI IS ON GOAL       | · · · | ٠. | u  |
|         | Javier Hernández      | 24    | 12 | 5  |
| 1       |                       |       | ٠. |    |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 53% Max. 63% v BATE (a) Min. 35% v Barcelona (a) POSSESSION POSITION 31%

PASSES ATTEMPTED 476 Max. 660 v BATE (h) Min. 266 v Barcelona (a)

PASSING ACCURACY 82% Max. 85% v BATE (a) Min. 68% v Barcelona (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 110,392m**

Max. 116.302m v Barcelona (h) | Min. 101.654m v Roma (a)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 47 (10% of tota |
|--------|-----------------|
| Medium | 263 (55%)       |
| Short  | 166 (35%)       |
|        |                 |



<sup>&#</sup>x27;A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals



# **OLYMPIQUE LYONNAIS**

**FRANCE** 



#### COACH



**Hubert Fournier** Born: 03/09/1967, Riom (FRA) Matches in UEFA Champions League: 6 Head coach from/to 01/07/2014 - 23/12/2015

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAC | GE .  |       |       |       |       | ROUND OF 16 | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| GNT        | VAL   | ZEN   | ZEN   | GNT   | VAL   |             |                |             |       |
| D 1-1      | L 0-1 | L 3-1 | L 0-2 | L 1-2 | W 0-2 |             |                | J L         |       |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

#### **SQUAD** App Mins G A **GOALKEEPERS** 1 Anthony Lopes 6 540 30 Mathieu Gorgelin **DEFENDERS** 2 Mapou Yanga-Mbiwa 5 450 3 Henri Bedimo 3 270 4 Bakary Koné 1 13 5 Milan Biševac 2 180 13 Christophe Jallet 4 286 1 1 15 Jérémy Morel 4 348 20 Rafael 5 337 23 Samuel Umtiti 4 360 **MIDFIELDERS** 7 Clément Grenier 1 70 8 Corentin Tolisso 6 540 11 Rachid Ghezzal 4 125 5 297 1 12 Jordan Ferri 4 223 14 Sergi Darder 17 Steed Malbrangue 2 73 19 Mathieu Valbuena 5 450 21 Maxime Gonalons 5 432 26 Aldo Kalulu 2 111 **FORWARDS** 9 Claudio Beauvue 6 193 10 Alexandre Lacazette 6 501 2 27 Maxwel Cornet 4 123 1

#### Unused substitutes: Lindsay Rose, Arnold Myuemb App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

`A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals



Minutes



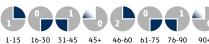
**GOALS** SCORED







**ON TARGET 32** (5)



#### SUBSTITUTIONS 18/18

| 0    | 0     | 1     | 1         | 0     | 9     | 7     | 0   |
|------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15 | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PA: | SSES.            | A   | С   | %  |
|-----|------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1   | Corentin Tolisso | 342 | 298 | 87 |
| 2   | Mathieu Valbuena | 302 | 271 | 90 |
| 3   | Maxime Gonalons  | 278 | 258 | 93 |
|     |                  |     |     |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Mathieu Valbuena | 17 |
|--------------------|----|
| 2 Jordan Ferri     | 87 |
| 3 Corentin Tolisso | 85 |
|                    |    |

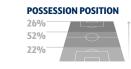
#### **RALLS RECOVERED**

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"   | TΔ | ОТ | G  |
|---------------------|----|----|----|
| 3 Corentin Tolisso  |    |    | 37 |
| 3 Samuel Umtiti     |    |    | 37 |
| 1 Mapou Yanga-Mbiwa |    |    | 40 |
| 1 Maxime Gonalons   |    |    | 40 |
| DALLS RECOVERED     |    |    |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL      | IA | VI. |  |
|-----------------------|----|-----|--|
| 1 Alexandre Lacazette | 23 | 12  |  |
| 2 Corentin Tolisso    | 17 | 3   |  |
| 3 Mathieu Valbuena    | 12 | 3   |  |
|                       |    |     |  |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

**POSSESSION 54%** Max. 62% v Zenit (h) Min. 46% v Valencia (a)



PASSES ATTEMPTED 501 Max. 590 v Zenit (a) Min. 412 v Valencia (a)

PASSING ACCURACY 87% Max. 88% v Zenit (a) Min. 83% v Valencia (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 107,785m**

Max. 112,130m v Zenit (a) | Min. 102,789m v Zenit (h)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 70 (14% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 289 (58%)         |
| Short  | 142 (28%)         |



#### hieu Valbuena was a key creative outlet for Lyon

# **MACCABI TEL-AVIV FC**

#### **ISRAEL**



#### **COACH**



#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAC          | GE                  |                  |                  |                     |                     | ROUND OF 16 | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| <b>CHL</b><br>L 4-0 | <b>DKV</b><br>L 0-2 | <b>POR</b> L 2-0 | <b>POR</b> L 1-3 | <b>CHL</b><br>L 0-4 | <b>DKV</b><br>L 1-0 |             |                |             |       |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

#### **SQUAD** App Mins G A **GOALKEEPERS** 1 Daniel Lifshitz 6 540 95 Predrag Rajković **DEFENDERS** 2 Eli Dasa 3 270 3 Yuval Shpungin 1 71 18 Eytan Tibi 5 450 20 Omri Ben Harush 5 405 26 Tal Ben Haim 5 401 31 Carlos García 4 360 **MIDFIELDERS** 6 Gal Alberman 6 535 6 539 1 7 Eran Zahavi 15 Dor Miha 4 182 1 5 16 Shlomy Azulay 6 458 22 Avraham Rikan 24 Nikola Mitrović 4 252 4 159 28 Gil Vermouth 40 Nosa Igieboi 4 260 42 Dor Peretz 6 389

3 100

4 43

6 446

1 26

| Unusea substitutes: No | ) |
|------------------------|---|
| App = Appearances; N   | 4 |

**FORWARDS** 

9 Eden Ben Basat

10 Barak Itzhaki

11 Tal Ben Haim

99 Dejan Radonjić

Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

| ΓΕ | A٨ | 1 S | TAT | rist | <b>TICS</b> |
|----|----|-----|-----|------|-------------|
|    |    |     |     |      |             |

| LAYERS |  |
|--------|--|
| ISED   |  |





CARDS

Sent off:

Slavisa Jokanović

Born: 16/08/1968, Novi Sad (SRB)

Matches in UEFA

14/06/2015

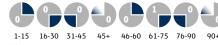
-23/12/2015

**Champions League:** 6









#### SUBSTITUTIONS 18/18

| (including three double substitutions) |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |  |  |
|--|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|--|--|
| 0                                      | 0     | 0     | 3         | 1     | 7     | 7     | 0   |  |  |
| 1-15                                   | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |  |  |

#### POSSESSION 43% Min. 40% v Chelsea (a)

**MATCH AVERAGES** 

Max. 48% v Porto (h)



PASSING ACCURACY 83%

#### Max. 437 v Dynamo Kyiv (h) Max. 87% v Dynamo Kyiv (a) Min. 335 v Chelsea (h) Min. 80% v Chelsea (h)

PASSES ATTEMPTED 385

**TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 100,490m** 

Max. 104,053m v Dynamo Kyiv (a) | Min. 94,896 m v Chelsea (h)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 45 (12% of tota |
|--------|-----------------|
| Medium | 242 (63%)       |
| Short  | 98 (25%)        |
|        |                 |



| PASSES'                 | A   | С   | %  |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Gal Alberman          | 277 | 252 | 91 |
| 2 Eytan Tibi            | 225 | 202 | 90 |
| 3 Eran Zahavi           | 191 | 146 | 76 |
| DACCEC COMPLETED IN THE |     | _   |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| BALLS REC | OVERED   |    |
|-----------|----------|----|
| 3 Avraha  | am Rikan | 27 |
| 2 Gal All | berman   | 29 |
| 1 Eran Z  | ahavi    | 32 |

| 1 Eytan Tibi                  | 32 |
|-------------------------------|----|
| 2 Avraham Rikan               | 29 |
| 3 Tal Ben Haim / Gal Alberman | 24 |
|                               |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL" | TA | OT | G |
|-------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Eran Zahavi     | 22 | 8  | 1 |
| 2 Tal Ben Chaim   | 6  | 1  | 0 |
| 3 Dor Miha        | 3  | 1  | 0 |
| 3 Eli Dasa        | 3  | 1  | 0 |

ran Zahavi scored his side's only goal



# **MALMÖ FF**

#### **SWEDEN**



#### COACH



Åge Hareide Born: 23/09/1953, Hareid (NOR) Nationality: Norwegian Matches in UEFA **Champions League: 12** Head coach from/to: 09/01/2014 - 10/12/2015

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAC       | GE .               |                     |                     |                  |                    | ROUND OF 16 | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| <b>PSG</b> L 2-0 | <b>RM</b><br>L 0-2 | <b>SHK</b><br>W 1-0 | <b>SHK</b><br>L 4-0 | <b>PSG</b> L 0-5 | <b>RM</b><br>L 8-0 |             |                |             |       |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

28 Nikola Djurdjić

App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

| UAD                 | Арр   | Mins  | G            | ı  |
|---------------------|---|---|--------------|--|
| LKEEPERS            |   |   |              |  |
| Johan Wiland        | 6   | 540   |              |  |
| Fredrik Andersson   |   |   |              |  |
| ENDERS              |   |   |              |  |
| Pa Konate           | 3   | 270   |              |  |
| Anton Tinnerholm    | 6   | 540   |              |  |
| Yoshimar Yotún      | 4   | 303   |              |  |
| Rasmus Bengtsson    | 5   | 450   |              |  |
| Kári Árnason        | 5   | 449   |              |  |
| Felipe Carvalho     | 3   | 144   |              |  |
| Franz Brorsson      | 1   | 90  |              |  |
| FIELDERS            |   |   |              |  |
| Erdal Rakip         | 5   | 180   |              |  |
| Oscar Lewicki       | 6   | 461   |              |  |
| Simon Kroon         | 2   | 34  |              |  |
| Enoch Kofi Adu      | 6   | 526   |              |  |
| Magnus Wolff Eikrem | 3   | 69  |              |  |
| Vladimir Rodić      | 6   | 386   |              |  |
| WARDS               |   |   |              |  |
| Markus Rosenberg    | 5   | 450   | 1            |  |
| Agon Mehmeti        | 2   | 28  |              |  |
| Tobias Sana         | 1   | 64  |              |  |
|                     |   |   |              |  |
|                     | Johan Wiland Fredrik Andersson ENDERS Pa Konate Anton Tinnerholm Yoshimar Yotún Rasmus Bengtsson Kári Árnason Felipe Carvalho Franz Brorsson FIELDERS Erdal Rakip Oscar Lewicki Simon Kroon Enoch Kofi Adu Magnus Wolff Eikrem Vladimir Rodić WARDS Markus Rosenberg Agon Mehmeti | Johan Wiland 6 Fredrik Andersson  ENDERS  Pa Konate 3 Anton Tinnerholm 6 Yoshimar Yotún 4 Rasmus Bengtsson 5 Kári Árnason 5 Felipe Carvalho 3 Franz Brorsson 1  FIELDERS  Erdal Rakip 5 Oscar Lewicki 6 Simon Kroon 2 Enoch Kofi Adu 6 Magnus Wolff Eikrem 3 Vladimir Rodić 6  NARDS  Markus Rosenberg 5 Agon Mehmeti 2 | Johan Wiland | Section   Sect |

#### **TEAM STATISTICS**

**PLAYERS** 





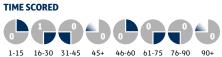




37

33





#### SUBSTITUTIONS 15/18

Minutes

| 1    | 0     | 0     | 3         | 1     | 4     | 6     | 0   |
|------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15 | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |

Minutes

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'                     | A         | C   | %  |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----|----|
| 1 Enoch Kofi Adu            | 259       | 225 | 87 |
| 2 Anton Tinnerholm          | 217       | 156 | 72 |
| 3 Oscar Lewicki             | 202       | 166 | 82 |
| PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FIL | NAL TIUD  |     |    |
| PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FIT | NAL I HIK | ט   |    |
| 1 Anton Tinnerholm          |           |     | 43 |

3 Jo Inge Berget

2 Nikola Djurdjić

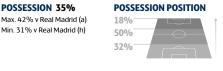
3 Oscar Lewicki

6 448

| BALLS RECOVERED    |    |    |    |
|--------------------|----|----|----|
| 1 Anton Tinnerholm |    |    | 40 |
| 2 Enoch Kofi Adu   |    |    | 35 |
| 3 Rasmus Bengtsson |    |    | 33 |
|                    |    |    |    |
| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"  | TA | ОТ | G  |
| 1 Markus Rosenberg | 15 | 5  | 1  |
| 2 Nikola Diurdiić  | 7  | 5  | 0  |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

**POSSESSION 35%** Max. 42% v Real Madrid (a)



#### PASSES ATTEMPTED 327 PASSING ACCURACY 78% Max. 478 v Real Madrid (a) Min. 249 v Real Madrid (h)

Max. 88% v Real Madrid (a) Min. 67% v Shakhtar Donetsk (h)

#### TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 104,517m

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 53 (16% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 186 (57%)         |
| Short  | 89 (27%)          |



#### Max. 108.241m v Shakhtar Donetsk (h) Min. 100.531m v Real Madrid (a)

| Long   | 53 (16% OI LOLAI) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 186 (57%)         |
| Short  | 89 (27%)          |
|        |                   |

# MANCHESTER UNITED FC

#### **ENGLAND**



#### **COACH**



**Louis van Gaal** Born: 08/08/1951, Amsterdam (NED) Nationality: Dutch Matches in UEFA **Champions League:** 95 19/05/2014 -23/05/2016

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAC | GE .       |       |       |       |       | ROUND OF 16 | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|------------|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| PSV        | <b>WOL</b> | CSKA  | CSKA  | PSV   | WOL   |             |                |             |       |
| L 2-1      | W 2-1      | D 1-1 | W 1-0 | D 0-0 | L 3-2 |             |                | l           | ]     |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

21 Ander Herrera

25 Antonio Valencia

27 Marouane Fellaini

35 Jesse Lingard

FORWARDS

44 Andreas Pereira

7 Memphis Depay 9 Anthony Martial

10 Wayne Rooney

Unused substitutes: Paddy McNair, James Wilson
App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

28 Morgan Schneiderlin

31 Bastian Schweinsteiger

22 Nick Powell

| SQ  | UAD                       | Арр | Mins | G | A | TEAM STATISTICS   |   |
|-----|---------------------------|-----|------|---|---|---|---|
| GOA | LKEEPERS                  |     |      |   |   | PLAYERS GOALS   |   |
| 1   | David de Gea              | 6   | 540  |   |   | USED SCORED (1 own goal)                                |   |
| 20  | Sergio Romero             |     |      |   |   | COLL ATTRUPTS OF  |   |
| DEF | ENDERS                    |     |      |   |   | GOAL ATTEMPTS 81 (14) CARDS ON TARGET 34 (6)            | 1 |
| 4   | Phil Jones                | 2   | 108  |   |   | (Per match)   |   |
| 5   | Marcos Rojo               | 4   | 310  |   |   | TIME SCORED   |   |
| 12  | Chris Smalling            | 6   | 540  | 1 |   |   | h |
| 17  | Daley Blind               | 6   | 476  |   |   | 1-15 16-30 31-45 45+ 46-60 61-75 76-91                  | _ |
| 23  | Luke Shaw                 | 1   | 24   |   |   | Minutes   | J |
| 30  | Guillermo Varela          | 1   | 90   |   |   | SUBSTITUTIONS 18/18                                     |   |
| 36  | Matteo Darmian            | 4   | 308  |   |   | (Including one double substitution)                     |   |
| 43  | Cameron Borthwick-Jackson | 1   | 47   |   |   | 0 1 1 2 2 8 4   |   |
| MID | FIELDERS                  |     |      |   |   | 1-15 16-30 31-45 Half-time 46-60 61-75 76-90<br>Minutes | ) |
| 8   | Juan Mata                 | 5   | 328  | 1 | 2 |   | _ |
| 16  | Michael Carrick           | 2   | 111  |   |   | PLAYER STATISTICS                                       |   |
| 18  | Ashley Young              | 4   | 252  |   |   | PASSES' A C   | _ |
|     |                           |     |      |   |   |   |   |

3 166

1 21

3 139

5 206

3 270 6 423

4 350

1 28

6 327 1

6 516 2 4 360 1

| 2 Chris Smalling                                 | 364        | 338 | 93 |
|--|------------|-----|----|
| 3 Daley Blind                                    | 351        | 313 | 89 |
|  |            |     |    |
|  |            |     |    |
| PASSES COMPLETED IN THE                          | FINAL THIR | D   |    |
| PASSES COMPLETED IN THE  1 Bastian Schweinsteige |            | D   | 84 |

1 Bastian Schweinsteiger

389 352

| 2 Daiey Billiu      |    |    | 43 |
|---------------------|----|----|----|
| 3 Marcos Rojo       |    |    | 33 |
|                     |    |    |    |
| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"   | TA | ОТ | G  |
| 1 Memphis Depay     | 17 | 9  | 1  |
| 2 Jesse Lingard     | 11 | 3  | 0  |
| 7 Austhaus Atautial | 10 | 7  | 2  |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 59% Max. 67% v CSKA Moskva (h) Min. 52% v Wolfsburg (a)

POSSESSION POSITION 22% 55% 23%

#### PASSES ATTEMPTED 586 PASSING ACCURACY 88% Max. 852 v CSKA Moskva (a)

Max. 91% v PSV (a) Min. 436 v Wolfsburg (h) Min. 86% v Wolfsburg (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 111,308m**

Max. 114,201m v CSKA Moskva (h) | Min. 107,428m v Wolfsburg (h)

#### PASSES PER MATCH

| Long   | 74 (13% of tota |
|--------|-----------------|
| Medium | 380 (65%)       |
| Short  | 131 (22%)       |
|        |                 |

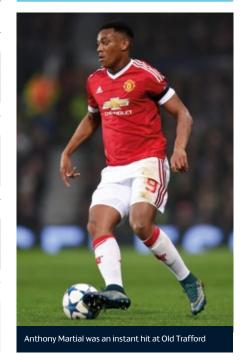
| TAUSES CONTENED IN THE THORE THINKS |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Bastian Schweinsteiger 8          | 4 |
| 2 Juan Mata 8                       | 0 |
| 3 Memphis Depay 6                   | 0 |

#### BALLS RECOVERED

PASSES'

|   |                | <br> | _  |
|---|----------------|------|----|
|   |                |      |    |
| 3 | Marcos Rojo    |      | 33 |
| 2 | Daley Blind    |      | 45 |
| 1 | Chris Smalling |      | 59 |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL" | TA | ОТ | G |
|-------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Memphis Depay   | 17 | 9  | 1 |
| 2 Jesse Lingard   | 11 | 3  | 0 |
| 3 Anthony Martial | 10 | 7  | 2 |
|                   |    |    |   |





# VFL BORUSSIA MÖNCHENGLADBACH

Nationality: German Matches in UEFA **Champions League:** 5

Head coach since: 21/09/2015

**GERMANY** 



#### **COACH**



#### **TEAM SHAPE André Schubert**



| GROUP STAGE |    |     |     |     |    | ROUND OF 16 | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|-------------|----|-----|-----|-----|----|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| SEV         | MC | JUV | JUV | SEV | MC |             |                |             |       |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

#### **SQUAD** App Mins G A **GOALKEEPERS** 1 Yann Sommer 21 Tobias Sippel 33 Christofer Heimeroth **DEFENDERS** 3 Andreas Christensen 5 450 4 Roel Brouwers 1 90 15 Álvaro Domínguez 3 270 17 Oscar Wendt 6 534 18 Marvin Schulz 2 35 19 Fabian Johnson 5 424 2 2 1 90 24 Tony Jantschke 27 Julian Korb 5 438 1 2 2 93 30 Nico Elvedi **MIDFIELDERS** 6 369 6 Håvard Nordtveit 6 429 8 Mahmoud Dahoud 4 117 10 Thorgan Hazard 13 Lars Stindl 6 517 3 2 14 Nico Schulz 1 17 5 287 16 Ibrahima Traoré 28 André Hahn 3 99 34 Granit Xhaka 5 450 FORWARDS 7 Patrick Herrmann 1 72 9 Josip Drmic 3 102 11 Raffael 6 517 2 1

App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

`A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

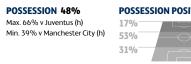
# **PLAYERS**



**GOALS** 

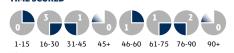
CARDS





#### ON TARGET 31 (5)

GOAL ATTEMPTS 87 (15)



#### SUBSTITUTIONS 16/18

|    | ı  | 0     | 0     | 0         | 0     | 6     | 9     | 0   |
|----|----|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1- | 15 | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |

| 1    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 0     | 6     | 9     | 0   |
|------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15 | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
|      |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'          | A   | С   | %  |
|------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Granit Xhaka   | 368 | 326 | 89 |
| 2 Oscar Wendt    | 300 | 274 | 91 |
| 3 Mahmoud Dahoud | 272 | 241 | 89 |
|                  |     |     |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 | Raffael      | 76 |
|---|--------------|----|
| 2 | Oscar Wendt  | 60 |
| 3 | Granit Xhaka | 60 |
|   |              |    |

#### BALLS RECOVERED

| 1 | Andreas Christensen | 43 |
|---|---------------------|----|
| 2 | Oscar Wendt         | 32 |
| 3 | Håvard Nordveit     | 27 |
|   |                     |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL" | TA | ОТ | G |
|-------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Raffael         | 17 | 8  | 2 |
| 2 Lars Stindl     | 14 | 6  | 3 |
| 3 Mahmoud Dahoud  | 12 | 1  | 0 |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

| OSSESSION 48%                  | POSSESSION POSITION |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| lax. 66% v Juventus (h)        | 17%                 |
| lin. 39% v Manchester City (h) | 53%                 |
|                                | 31%                 |

| PASSES ATTEMPTED 489           | PASSING ACCURACY          |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Max. 651 v Juventus (h)        | Max. 91% v Juventus (h)   |
| Min. 371 v Manchester City (h) | Min. 79% v Manchester Cit |

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 62 (13% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 297 (61%)         |
| Short  | 131 (27%)         |



| SSESSION 48%                 | POSSESSION POSITION |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| x. 66% v Juventus (h)        | 17%                 |
| n. 39% v Manchester City (h) | 53%                 |
|                              | 31%                 |

| TEMPTED 489 | PASSING ACCURACY 85%           |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| ventus (h)  | Max. 91% v Juventus (h)        |
|             | Min 700/ Managhantan City //s/ |

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 117,104m**

# iranit Xhaka was an influential presence in midfield

ised substitutes: Giannis Maniatis, Qazim Laci, Alan Pulido App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

11 Paitim Kasami

FORWARDS

77 Hernâni

92 Sebá

90 Felipe Pardo

99 Ideye Brown

91 Esteban Cambiasso

9 Alfred Finnbogason

# **OLYMPIACOS FC**

#### **GREECE**



#### **COACH**



#### **Marco Silva** Born: 12/07/1977, Lisbon (POR) **Champions League: 12** 08/07/2015

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAGE      |              |                     |                     |                     | ROUND OF 16         |  | QUARTER-FINALS | FINAL |  |
|------------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|----------------|-------|--|
| <b>BAY</b> L 0-3 | ARS<br>W 2-3 | <b>DZG</b><br>W 0-1 | <b>DZG</b><br>W 2-1 | <b>BAY</b><br>L 4-0 | <b>ARS</b><br>L 0-3 |  |                |       |  |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

#### **SQUAD TEAM STATISTICS** GOALKEEPERS **GOALS SCORED** 16 Roberto 6 540 (1 own goal) 37 Stefanos Kapino CARDS GOAL ATTEMPTS 72 (12) **DEFENDERS** ON TARGET 24 (4) 3 Alberto Botía 3 231 6 Manuel da Costa 5 310 **TIME SCORED** 14 Omar Elabdellaoui 6 528 23 Dimitris Siovas 6 540 1-15 16-30 31-45 45+ 46-60 61-75 76-90 90+ 26 Arthur Masuaku 5 450 29 Praxitelis Vouros 1 3 SURSTITUTIONS 18/18 30 Leandro Salino 4 199 0 0 0 1 1 8 8 0 **MIDFIELDERS** 1-15 16-30 31-45 Half-time 46-60 61-75 76-90 5 Luka Milivojević 4 360 7 Kostas Fortounis 6 386 10 Alejandro Domínguez 3 97

6 489

3 246

5 146

6 429

3 59 1

6 433 3 1

6 495 1 1

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'             | Α   | C   | %  |
|---------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Arthur Masuaku    | 199 | 162 | 81 |
| 2 Dimitris Siovas   | 192 | 161 | 84 |
| 3 Omar Elabdellaoui | 187 | 157 | 84 |
|                     |     |     |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Kostas Fortounis 5  | 9  |
|-----------------------|----|
| 2 Omar Elabdellaoui 4 | 4  |
| 3 Arthur Masuaku 4    | ₽2 |

#### **BALLS RECOVERED**

|   |                   | _  |
|---|-------------------|----|
| 3 | Dimitris Siovas   | 25 |
| 3 | Manuel da Costa   | 25 |
| 2 | Omar Elabdellaoui | 35 |
| 1 | Arthur Masuaku    | 41 |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL   | IA. | O. | ٠ |
|--------------------|-----|----|---|
| 1 Kostas Fortounis | 11  | 4  | 0 |
| 2 Pajtim Kasami    | 10  | 3  | 0 |
| 3 Felipe Pardo     | 9   | 3  | 3 |
|                    |     |    |   |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

#### POSSESSION 43%

Max. 56% v Dinamo Zagreb (h) Min. 35% v Bayern München (a)

POSSESSION POSITION

Max. 434 v Dinamo Zagreb (h) Max. 83% v Arsenal (h) Min. 248 v Bayern München (h) Min. 75% v Arsenal (a)

PASSES ATTEMPTED 334 PASSING ACCURACY 80%

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 107,641m** Max. 111.642m v Arsenal (a) | Min. 105.476m v Dinamo Zagreb (h)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 58 (17% of tota |
|--------|-----------------|
| Medium | 186 (56%)       |
| Short  | 90 (27%)        |
|        |                 |



TEAM PROFILES



# **FC PORTO**

#### **PORTUGAL**



COACH



Julen Lopetegui Born: 28/08/1966, Asteasu (ESP) Nationality: Spanish Matches in UEFA **Champions League: 18** Head coach from/to: 06/05/2014 - 15/01/2016

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STA | GE    |       |       |       |       | ROUND OF 16 | • | QUARTER-F | INALS | SEMI-FINALS | 5 | FINAL |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|---|-----------|-------|-------------|---|-------|
| DKV       | CHL   | MTA   | MTA   | DKV   | CHL   |             |   |           |       |             |   |       |
| D 2-2     | W 2-1 | W 2-0 | W 1-3 | L 0-2 | L 2-0 |             |   |           |       |             |   |       |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

| C (C) | UAD                |     |      | _ | _ |
|-------|--------------------|-----|------|---|---|
| SQ!   | UAD                | Арр | Mins | G | Α |
| GOA   | LKEEPERS           |     |      |   |   |
| 1     | Helton             |     |      |   |   |
| 12    | Iker Casillas      | 6   | 540  |   |   |
| DEFI  | ENDERS             |     |      |   |   |
| 2     | Maxi Pereira       | 6   | 462  |   | 1 |
| 3     | Bruno Martins Indi | 6   | 540  |   |   |
| 4     | Maicon             | 3   | 270  | 1 |   |
| 5     | Iván Marcano       | 5   | 450  |   |   |
| 21    | Miguel Layún       | 6   | 460  | 1 | 2 |
| MID   | FIELDERS           |     |      |   |   |
| 6     | Rúben Neves        | 6   | 471  |   | 1 |
| 8     | Yacine Brahimi     | 5   | 405  | 1 | 1 |
| 15    | Evandro            | 2   | 74   |   |   |
| 16    | Héctor Herrera     | 4   | 170  |   |   |
| 20    | André André        | 5   | 394  | 2 | 1 |
| 22    | Danilo             | 6   | 486  |   |   |
| 25    | Giannelli Imbula   | 5   | 268  |   |   |
| FOR   | WARDS              |     |      |   |   |
| 7     | Silvestre Varela   | 1   | 14   |   |   |
| 9     | Vincent Aboubakar  | 6   | 484  | 3 | 1 |
| 10    | Pablo Osvaldo      | 3   | 28   |   |   |
| 11    | Cristian Tello     | 5   | 246  | 1 | 1 |
| 17    | Jesús Corona       | 4   | 179  |   |   |
|       |                    |     |      |   |   |

Unused substitutes: Alv Cissokho, André Silva, Alberto Bueno

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

#### **TEAM STATISTICS**







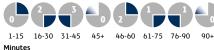












#### SUBSTITUTIONS 18/18

| 0    | 0     | 0     | 0         | 5     | 5     | 7     | 1   |
|------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15 | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |

#### Minutes

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| ASSES'               | A   | С   | %  |
|----------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Rúben Neves        | 349 | 303 | 87 |
| 2 Danilo             | 324 | 291 | 90 |
| 3 Bruno Martins Indi | 284 | 273 | 96 |
|                      |     |     |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Yacine Brahimi | 76 |
|------------------|----|
| 2 Rúben Neves    | 65 |
| 3 Miguel Layún   | 53 |

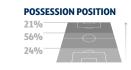
#### **BALLS RECOVERED**

| 1 | Iván Marcano                | 39 |
|---|-----------------------------|----|
| 2 | Rúben Neves                 | 31 |
| 3 | Danilo / Bruno Martins Indi | 30 |
|   |                             |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"   | TA | ОТ | G |
|---------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Vincent Aboubakar | 18 | 6  | 3 |
| 2 Yacine Brahimi    | 12 | 5  | 1 |
| 3 Cristian Tello    | 8  | 5  | 1 |
| 3 Rúben Neves       | 8  | 1  | 0 |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 53% Max. 60% v Chelsea (a) Min. 43% v Chelsea (h)



Max. 602 v M. Tel Aviv (h) Min. 357 v Chelsea (h)

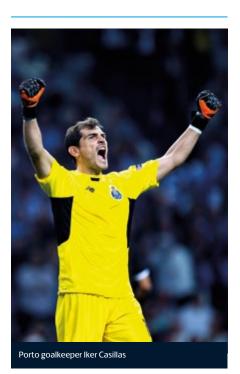
PASSES ATTEMPTED 495 PASSING ACCURACY 86% Max. 92% v Chelsea (a) Min. 81% v Chelsea (h)

#### TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 106,311m

Max. 111,415m v Dynamo Kyiv (h) | Min. 102,349m v M. Tel Aviv (a)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 65 (13% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 305 (61%)         |
| Short  | 126 (25%)         |



# **GROUP STAGE**

JUV L 2-0

MC L 2-1

MGB L 4-2

**SEVILLA FC** 

**SPAIN** 

COACH

## **Unai Emery**

Born: 03/11/1971, Hondarribia (ESP) Nationality: Spanish Matches in UEFA Champions League: 24 Head coach from/to: 14/01/2013 -12/06/2016

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



|                     | ROUND OF | 16 | QUARTER-F | INALS | SEMI-FINAL | .S | FINAL |
|---------------------|----------|----|-----------|-------|------------|----|-------|
| <b>JUV</b><br>V 1-0 |          |    |           |       |            |    |       |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

MGB

#### **SQUAD** App Mins G A **GOALKEEPERS** 1 Sergio Rico 6 540 31 David Soria **DEFENDERS** 2 Benoît Trémoulinas 6 540 1 3 Adil Rami 4 360 5 Timothée Kolodziejczak 6 507

17 Marco Andreolli 2 180 23 Coke 6 491 25 Mariano Ferreira 4 82 **MIDFIELDERS** 4 Grzegorz Krychowiak 6 540 6 259 7 Michael Krohn-Dehli 1 8 Vicente Iborra 3 159

10 José Antonio Reyes 2 162 5 284 15 Steven N'Zonzi 19 Éver Banega 5 412 2 20 Vitolo 5 450 1 1 22 Yevhen Konoplyanka 6 423 2 1 **FORWARDS** 

| 9  | Kevin Gameiro     | 5 | 316 | 1 |   |  |
|----|-------------------|---|-----|---|---|--|
| 11 | Ciro Immobile     | 3 | 68  |   |   |  |
| 24 | Fernando Llorente | 3 | 156 | 1 | 1 |  |
| 30 | Juan Muñoz        | 1 | 11  |   |   |  |
|    |                   |   |     |   |   |  |

Unused substitutes: Sergio Escudero, Sebastián Cristóforo, Luismi App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

#### **TEAM STATISTICS**

**PLAYERS** 



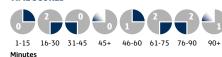
**GOALS SCORED** 



8

GOAL ATTEMPTS 76 (13) CARDS ON TARGET 23 (4)





#### **SUBSTITUTIONS 18/18**

| (Including | (Including one double substitution) |       |           |       |       |       |     |
|------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
|            |                                     |       |           |       |       |       |     |
| 0          | 0                                   | 0     | 1         | 2     | 7     | 8     | 0   |
| -          | -                                   |       | _         |       | -     | _     |     |
| 1-15       | 16-30                               | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
|            |                                     |       |           |       |       |       |     |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PASSES'                  | Α   | С   | %  |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1 Éver Banega            | 351 | 298 | 85 |
| 2 Grzegorz Krychowiak    | 336 | 320 | 95 |
| 3 Timothée Kolodziejczak | 330 | 309 | 94 |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Ever Banega | 109 |
|---------------|-----|
| 2 Vitolo      | 69  |
| 3 Coke        | 55  |
|               |     |

#### BALLS RECOVERED

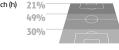
| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL"        | TA | ОТ | G  |
|--------------------------|----|----|----|
| 3 Coke                   |    |    | 20 |
| 3 Adil Rami              |    |    | 20 |
| 2 Timothée Kolodziejczak |    |    | 30 |
| 1 Grzegorz Krychowiak    |    |    | 43 |

| 1 Yevhen Konoplyanka | 13 | 6 | 2 |
|----------------------|----|---|---|
| 2 Kevin Gameiro      | 12 | 3 | 1 |
| 3 Éver Banega        | 11 | 5 | 2 |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 54%

POSSESSION POSITION Max. 58% v Mönchengladbach (h) 21% Min. 47% v Juventus (a)



PASSES ATTEMPTED 491 PASSING ACCURACY 86% Max. 549 v Mönchengladbach (a) Max. 89% Juventus (h) Min. 399 v Juventus (a) Min. 79% Mönchengladbach (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 115,448m**

 ${\it Max.\,117,916m\,v\,M\"onchengladbach}$ Min. 113.177m v Manchester City (a)

PASSES PER MATCH

| 71 (14% of tota |
|-----------------|
| 312 (63%)       |
| 109 (22%)       |
|                 |





nen Konoplyanka was a valuable signing for Sevilla



# FC SHAKHTAR DONETSK

**UKRAINE** 



#### COACH



**TEAM SHAPE** 



| GROUP STAG         | iE               |                     |              |                    |                  | ROUND OF 16 | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| <b>RM</b><br>L 4-0 | <b>PSG</b> L 0-3 | <b>MAL</b><br>L 1-0 | MAL<br>W 4-0 | <b>RM</b><br>L 3-4 | <b>PSG</b> L 2-0 |             |                |             |       |

Matches: Blue = home, white = awa

| SQI  | UAD                 | Арр | Mins | G | A |
|------|---------------------|-----|------|---|---|
| GOA  | LKEEPERS            |     |      |   |   |
| 30   | Andriy Pyatov       | 4   | 360  |   |   |
| 32   | Anton Kanibolotskiy | 2   | 180  |   |   |
| DEFE | NDERS               |     |      |   |   |
| 5    | Olexandr Kucher     | 5   | 450  |   |   |
| 13   | Vyacheslav Shevchuk | 1   | 90   |   |   |
| 18   | Ivan Ordets         | 1   | 90   |   |   |
| 31   | Ismaily             | 2   | 180  |   |   |
| 33   | Darijo Srna         | 5   | 450  | 1 |   |
| 44   | Yaroslav Rakitskiy  | 6   | 540  |   |   |
| 66   | Márcio Azevedo      | 3   | 244  |   |   |
| MIDI | FIELDERS            |     |      |   |   |
| 6    | Taras Stepanenko    | 5   | 410  |   | 1 |
| 8    | Fred                | 6   | 518  |   |   |
| 9    | Dentinho            | 3   | 43   | 1 |   |
| 10   | Bernard             | 6   | 303  |   | 1 |
| 11   | Marlos              | 6   | 442  |   |   |
| 14   | Vasyl Kobin         | 1   | 90   |   |   |
| 17   | Maksym Malyshev     | 2   | 113  |   |   |
| 28   | Taison              | 5   | 257  |   | 2 |
| 29   | Alex Teixeira       | 6   | 540  | 3 |   |
| 74   | Viktor Kovalenko    | 5   | 75   |   |   |
| FOR  | WARDS               |     |      |   |   |
| 19   | Facundo Ferreyra    | 1   | 16   |   |   |
| 21   | Olexandr Gladkiy    | 5   | 367  | 1 |   |
| 22   | Eduardo             | 3   | 142  | 1 |   |

#### App = Appearances; Mins = Minutes played; G = Goals; A = Assists

`A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed
"TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

| TEAM S | STATISTICS |
|--------|------------|
|        |            |



**GOAL ATTEMPTS 81** (14)

**ON TARGET 25** (4)

TIME SCORED

**PLAYERS** 



**GOALS** SCORED







Mircea Lucescu

Born: 29/07/1945,

Bucharest (ROU)

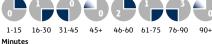
Matches in UEFA

**Champions League: 103** 

Head coach from/to

- 21/05/2016





#### SUBSTITUTIONS 17/18

| 0       | 0     | 0     | 1         | 0     | 12    | 4     | 0   |
|---------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15    | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
| Minutes |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| PA | SSES.           | A   | C   | %  |
|----|-----------------|-----|-----|----|
| 1  | Fred            | 431 | 383 | 89 |
| 2  | Darijo Srna     | 366 | 315 | 86 |
| 3  | Olexandr Kucher | 356 | 321 | 90 |
|    |                 |     |     |    |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Marlos        | 10 |
|-----------------|----|
| 2 Fred          | 90 |
| 3 Alex Teixeira | 93 |
|                 |    |

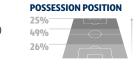
#### BALLS DECOVEDED

| BALLS RECOVERED      |    |
|----------------------|----|
| 1 Yaroslav Rakitskiy | 36 |
| 2 Olexandr Kucher    | 35 |
| 3 Taras Stepanenko   | 33 |
|                      |    |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL     | IA | 01 | G |
|----------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Alex Teixeira      | 18 | 8  | 3 |
| 2 Olexandr Gladkiy   | 11 | 3  | 1 |
| 3 Darijo Srna        | 7  | 3  | 1 |
| 3 Yaroslav Rakitskiy | 7  | 2  | 0 |
|                      |    |    |   |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

**POSSESSION 54%** Max 68% v Malmö (a) Min. 44% v Real Madrid (h)



PASSES ATTEMPTED 547 Max. 617 v Malmö (a) Min. 461 v Real Madrid (h)

PASSING ACCURACY 88% Max. 92% v Real Madrid (a Min. 86% v PSG (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 109,863m**

Max. 117,268m v PSG (a) | Min. 104,285m v Real Madrid (a)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| Long   | 68 (12% of total) |
|--------|-------------------|
| Medium | 336 (61%)         |
| Short  | 143 (26%)         |



lex Teixeira caught the eye in the Shakhtar midfield

# **VALENCIA CF**

**SPAIN** 



#### **COACH**



São Tome Nationality: Portuguese Matches in UEFA **Champions League:** 5 04/07/2014

-29/11/2015

Born: 25/01/1974,

#### **TEAM SHAPE**



| GROUP STAGE |       |       |       |       |       | ROUND OF 16 | QUARTER-FINALS | SEMI-FINALS | FINAL |
|-------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------|
| ZEN         | LYO   | GNT   | GNT   | ZEN   | LYO   |             |                |             |       |
| L 2-3       | W 0-1 | W 2-1 | L 1-0 | L 2-0 | L 0-2 |             |                |             |       |

Matches: Blue = home, white = away

#### **SQUAD** GOALKEEPERS 13 Yoel 24 Jaume Domenech 6 540 25 Mathew Ryan **DEFENDERS** 2 João Cancelo 6 459 1 3 Rúben Vezo 3 211 5 Shkodran Mustafi 5 450 6 Lucas Orbán 1 90 14 José Gayà 5 450 1 90 19 Antonio Barragán 23 Aymen Abdennour 4 329 **MIDFIELDERS** 8 Sofiane Feghouli 5 411 2 6 518 10 Daniel Pareio 4 83 12 Danilo 5 361 15 Enzo Pérez 18 Javi Fuego 5 354

4 252 1

3 199

5 397

5 224

3 60

2 86

4 230

37 Rafael Mir 1 56

Unused substitutes: Tropi, Nacho Gil

'A = Passes attempted; C = Passes completed "TA = Total attempts; OT = On target; G = Goals

21 André Gomes

7 Álvaro Negredo

20 Rodrigo De Paul

9 Paco Alcácer 11 Pablo Piatti

17 Rodrigo

22 Santi Mina

**FORWARDS** 

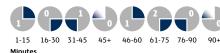
#### **TEAM STATISTICS**











#### SUBSTITUTIONS 18/18

| 0       | 1     | 0     | 3         | 3     | 8     | 3     | 0   |
|---------|-------|-------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| 1-15    | 16-30 | 31-45 | Half-time | 46-60 | 61-75 | 76-90 | 90+ |
| Minutes |       |       |           |       |       |       |     |

#### **MATCH AVERAGES**

POSSESSION 51% Max. 62% v Zenit (h) Min. 44% v Lyon (a)



PASSES ATTEMPTED 465 PASSING ACCURACY 85% Max. 587 v Zenit (h) Max. 90% v Zenit (h) Min. 377 v Gent (h) Min. 81% v Gent (a)

#### **TEAM DISTANCE COVERED 108,232m**

Max. 110,966m v Gent (h) | Min. 105,265m v Gent (a)

#### **PASSES PER MATCH**

| 55 (12% of tota |
|-----------------|
| 288 (62%)       |
| 121 (26%)       |
|                 |

#### **PLAYER STATISTICS**

| A   | C   | %                  |
|-----|-----|--------------------|
| 401 | 348 | 87                 |
| 237 | 218 | 92                 |
| 223 | 198 | 89                 |
|     | 401 | 401 348<br>237 218 |

#### PASSES COMPLETED IN THE FINAL THIRD

| 1 Daniel Parejo    | 97 |
|--------------------|----|
| 2 Sofiane Feghouli | 58 |
| 3 João Cancelo     | 56 |
|                    |    |

#### **BALLS RECOVERED**

| 1 Shkodran Mustafi |      | 50 |
|--------------------|------|----|
| 2 Aymen Abdennour  |      | 29 |
| 3 Enzo Pérez       |      | 29 |
|                    |      |    |
|                    | <br> | _  |

| ATTEMPTS ON GOAL | IA | ΟI | G |
|------------------|----|----|---|
| 1 Paco Alcácer   | 12 | 5  | 0 |
| 2 Daniel Parejo  | 11 | 2  | 0 |
| 3 Pablo Piatti   | 9  | 2  | 0 |
|                  |    |    |   |



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