

Referee Observation Report

Season 2012/13

MATCH INFORMATION

(GER) HANNOVER 96			2:1		LEVANTE UD (ESP)
DATE	04 OCT 2012	VENUE	AWD Arena, Hannover, Germany		
TIME	19:00 CET	STAGE	UEFA Europa League Play-Off, Group Stage, Matchday 2, L		

GOALS SCORED	0-1 Michel (LEV, penalty, 10'), 1-1 Szabolcs Huszti (HAN, penalty, 21'), 2-1 Didier Ya Konan (HAN, 49')
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SANCTIONS

Yellow Card(s)	6 (4-2)	Lars Stindl (HAN, 11'), Pedro López (LEV, 17'), Fanis Gekas (LEV, 39'), Konstantin Rausch (HAN, 71'), Ron-Robert Zieler (HAN, 90'), Manuel Schmiedebach (HAN, 90+4')
2 nd Yellow Card(s)	-	-
Red Card(s)	1 (1-0)	Karim Haggui (HAN, DOGSO, 9')
Penalty Kick(s)	2 (1-1)	Michel (LEV, converted, 10'), Szabolcs Huszti (HAN, converted, 21')

MATCH OFFICIALS

Officials	Name	Origin	Marks	Difficulty
Referee	Liran Liany	ISR	7.8	Medium
Assistant Referee 1	David Elias Biton	ISR	8.6	Medium
Assistant Referee 2	Dvir Shimon	ISR	8.4	Medium
Fourth Official	Shabtai Nahmias	ISR	8.3	Low
Additional Assistant Referee 1	Orel Grinfeeld	ISR	7.9	Medium
Additional Assistant Referee 2	Ziv Adler	ISR	8.3	Medium
UEFA Delegate	Dennis Cruise	IRL		
UEFA Referee Observer	Horst Brummeier	AUT		
Blog Referee Observer	Niclas E.	GER		

EVALUATION SCALE

Marks	Classification of the marks*
9,0 – 10,0	Excellent performance.
8,5 – 8,9	Very good. Important decision(s) correctly taken.
8,3 – 8,4	Good, expected level.
8,2	Satisfactory performance with small areas for improvement.
8,0 – 8,1	Satisfactory performance with important areas for improvement.
7,9	One clear important mistake, otherwise 8,3 or above.
7,8	One clear important mistake, otherwise between 8,0 and 8,2.
7,5 – 7,7	Below expectation, poor control, significant point(s) for improvement.
7,0 – 7,4	Disappointing. Below expectation with one clear important mistake or a performance with two or more clear important mistakes.
6,0 – 6,9	Unacceptable.

* The degree of difficulty must be integrated into the mark.

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***Expected level does not necessarily mean that there are no areas for improvement.*

**** The standard mark for additional assistant referees and fourth officials, who have to cope with a normal/expected level of challenges, is 8,3. For every other official, the standard mark is 8.3/8.4.*

Explanation for the Degree of Difficulty that is integrated in the marks and is to be considered separately for every match official.

Low	Nearly no challenging situations for the official.
Medium	Normal match for the respective official with a few challenging situations.
High	Difficult match for the respective official with difficult and important situations to solve.

Description of the match

Hannover and Levante facilitated an intense match solely focused on physical play without too many situations featuring a high level of technical abilities. That enabled a high number of infringements resulting in two penalty kicks and several bookings plus an early straight red card issued by Israel's Liran Liany due to DOGSO.

Levante hence managed an early goal but found themselves unable to defend that lead. Hannover have proven their strength at home and converted the deficit into a 2-1 win that was in the end deserved and not that much in danger.

REFEREE

1) Application and Interpretation of the Laws of the Game, Disciplinary Control and (technical) Management of the game. The assessment should be reinforced by listing exemplary situations with minutes for key elements and by mentioning and evaluating every personal punishment issued by the referee as well as other important decisions.

Comments

Liran Liany was challenged from the very beginning of the match: in the 9th minute of play, he correctly awarded a penalty kick to Levante after Hannover's Karim Haggui obviously fouled Gekas in the box on. The consequent red card must be considered as a harsh decision: Two other defenders were very close to the Greek striker so that Haggui was not really the last man; however, one can definitely argue that he was poised to shoot being quite freely in front of the goal, therefore, the red card is still tenable. Two further crucial decisions occurred in the next minutes of play. In the 19th minute, Rodas (Levante) clearly and excessively pulled Eggimann (Hannover) in the box impeding a promising chance by that. The first additional assistant referee as well as Liany detected nothing, a wrong call, it should have been a penalty kick. Only one minute later, he then gave it for handball, a correct decision – it was also reasonable to not book the offender.

After that, he missed an obvious foul that should have been yellow-carded. A few other yellows were exaggerated or missed respectively.

His general foul detection was faulty, too. He did not find a consistent line throughout the whole match. A very positive thing was however how he managed Hannover's time wasting in the end by strictly issuing yellow cards for that and arranging an elevation of the added time which was first set at three minutes and then changed to four minutes.

Minute	Description of the situation
9	Penalty to Levante for a foul in the box. Correct. Red Card a hard decision, but still tenable as the situation might be interpreted as an obvious goal scoring opportunity.
11	Yellow Card to Stindl (HAN) for demanding a yellow card to his opponent for kicking the ball away. Liany correctly issued a yellow for unsporting behaviour but should have booked the Spanish player, too.
13	Dudka (LEV) with a foul on Stindl (HAN) after the ball had already been away, should have been a yellow card.
17	Yellow Card to López (LEV) for a foul, correct.
19	The referee missed a penalty kick to Hannover for excessive pulling by Levante's #5 against Hannover's #5, also the mistake of AAR1.
20	Penalty Kick to Hannover for handball, correct.
39	Yellow Card to Gekas (LEV), not suitable to previous line, actually a harmless foul.
71	Yellow Card to Rausch (HAN) for criticizing the referee's decision and kicking the ball away, correct decision.
82	A hard foul by Karabelas (LEV) who jumped into Diouf's (HAN) back, should have been yellow carded.
87	Missed a dive by a Spanish striker and instead gave a wrong free-kick to Levante close to the box.
88	Nasty tackle by Sérgio Pinto (HAN) having his studs up, must be a yellow card, Liany did not whistle it at all.
90	Yellow Cards to Zieler and Schmiedebach (HAN) for wasting time, correct.

2) Physical Condition

+	o	-	Aspect
	X		Adequate Positioning (also at set pieces), always close to play, no interference with it
	X		Adequate Movement, diagonal system, decreases the distance to play in crucial situations and enters the penalty area if necessary
		X	Anticipation of situations and awareness
X			Physical Condition and stamina in general

Please strengthen your assessment on the referee's physical condition by **listing meaningful situations in the grid** below, which is **mandatory in case of an awarded "-"** (negative point).

Summarizing assessment (very good, good, medium, poor) of the referee's physical condition: **Good**

Minute	Description of the situation
Full time	His physical condition was generally good, the main lack among these aspects must be seen in a defective level of awareness, he was unable to anticipate certain incidents and did not show that much concentration in midfield duels.

3.1) Personality, Tactical Approach (referring to the referee's style of gaining authority and control, the degree of mutual respect between players and referee and the referee's general appearance and manner of leading the match on the pitch. Exemplary situations that might bolster the observer's assessment can be integrated into the coherent text (minutes then in brackets))

Comments

A tactical approach was hardly visible. Liany did not find an adequate, neither a consistent line throughout the whole match leading to some unnecessary and also some missed bookings. He was not that much respected by the players who tried to question his calls in many situations. Therefore, he should increase his authority by a stricter approach explaining decisions to the players and hence assuring mutual respect.

3.2) Match Control (referring to the level of control accomplished by the referee. Exemplary situations that might bolster the observer's assessment can be integrated into the coherent text (minutes then in brackets))

Comments

After the debatable sending-off, Hannover's players and supporters certainly exerted a high pressure on the referee who was unable to cope with that. In the first twenty minutes of play, there was neither

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authority nor control, however, he regained an adequate level of control in the second half.

4) Co-operation with (additional) assistant referees and fourth official.

Comments

The co-operation with the rest of his team was in general normal. However, his first additional assistant referee did not inform him about the foul on Eggimann that should have entailed a penalty kick.

5) Summary, general comments on the referee's performance and areas for improvement

Comments

Taking everything into consideration, Israeli official Liran Liany showed a performance that has to be classified as below expected level, featuring one clear and important mistake, that was otherwise 8.0 insinuating several important areas for improvement.

Positive points	1.	General knowledge of the Laws of the Game.
	2.	Important decisions correctly taken: two penalty kicks and one sending-off that can be given.
	3.	Dealing with obvious time wasting.
	4.	Physical Aspects: Positioning, Movement and Stamina
Areas for improvement	1.	Important decision wrong: he missed a penalty to Hannover → awareness in corner-kick situations to off-ball incidents to grasp possible infringements.
	2.	Keeping control also in difficult stages of the match.
	3.	Apply more personality and authority on the pitch by a stricter approach and clear gestures.
	4.	Concentration in midfield duels, finding a consistent line to evaluate them.

ASSISTANT REFEREE 1

1) Physical and Technical Aspects

+	o	-	Aspect
	X		Adequate Positioning and Movement
	X		Physical Condition and Stamina
	X		Flag Technique in compliance with FIFA instructions
	X		Alertness and reaction to situations in his area of vicinity, good cooperation with referee
X			Dealing with offside situations ("wait-and-see-technique"...))

You can strengthen your assessment on the assistant referee's physical and technical aspects by **listing meaningful situations in the grid** below, which is **mandatory in case of an awarded "-"** (negative point).

Minute	Description of the situation
full time	Nothing special to report. He fulfilled all the criteria on an expected level, positioning and movement were good as well. His dealing with offside situations was good.

2) Comments on the Application and Interpretation of the Laws of the Game (specially Law 11), every offside / critical NO offside situation as well as other meaningful situations are to be listed in the grid below.

Comments

David Elias Biton had to deal with two crucial offside/no offside situations which he solved correctly.

Minute	Description of the situation
60	correctly did not raise the flag for offside when a Spanish striker appeared free in front of Hannover's goalkeeper. It was level.
89	Correctly raised the flag for offside, Ángel would have been free in front of the goal, but it was a very tight offside position. Good decision.

ASSISTANT REFEREE 2

1) Physical and Technical Aspects

+	o	-	Aspect
	X		Adequate Positioning and Movement
	X		Physical Condition and Stamina
	X		Flag Technique in compliance with FIFA instructions
X			Alertness and reaction to situations in his area of vicinity, good cooperation with referee
X			Dealing with offside situations ("wait-and-see-technique"...)

You can strengthen your assessment on the assistant referee's physical and technical aspects by **listing meaningful situations in the grid below, which is mandatory in case of an awarded "-"** (negative point).

Minute	Description of the situation
full time	He was very concentrated in situations at his corner-kick flag, where some tight corner kick/goal kick situations had to be made. Furthermore, he has proven a good application of the wait-and-see-technique in an important situation.

2) Comments on the Application and Interpretation of the Laws of the Game (specially Law 11), every offside / critical NO offside situation as well as other meaningful situations are to be listed in the grid below.

Comments

Dvir Shimon showed a good interpretation of the Laws of the Game, but could have supported the referee in the 82th minute where a booking was actually needed.

Two significant offside/no offside calls: in the 31st minute, there was a tight offside position and immediately after the half-time break, he detected two tight onsides in Hannover's 2-1 goal. Good performance.

Minute	Description of the situation
31	Ballesteros (LEV) is flagged for offside, correct decision and good wait-and-see technique. Two players could have received the ball, he shortly waited and then made the correct decision that was not easy to take.
49	Ya Konan (HAN) is not in an offside position when receiving a good pass leading to the

goal. Difficult call.

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANT REFEREE 1

1) Physical and Technical Aspects

+	o	-	Aspect
	X		Adequate Positioning and Movement based on a good Physical Condition
		X	Alertness and reaction to situations in his area of vicinity, good cooperation with referee (specially at set pieces like corner-kick or free-kick)

You can strengthen your assessment on the additional assistant referee's physical and technical aspects by **listing meaningful situations in the grid** below, which is **mandatory in case of an awarded "-"** (negative point).

Minute	Description of the situation
full time	Rarely challenged but he failed in the only situation where he was needed. He did not show concentration there.

2) Comments on the Application and Interpretation of the Laws of the Game, meaningful decisions are to be listed in the grid below.

Comments

In the 19th minute, Levante's defender Rodas clearly pulled down Eggimann in the box after a corner-kick. It should have been a penalty to the German side.

Minute	Description of the situation
19	missed a penalty to Hannover

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANT REFEREE 2

1) Physical and Technical Aspects

+	o	-	Aspect
	X		Adequate Positioning and Movement based on a good Physical Condition
	X		Alertness and reaction to situations in his area of vicinity, good cooperation with referee (specially at set pieces like corner-kick or free-kick)

You can strengthen your assessment on the additional assistant referee's physical and technical aspects by **listing meaningful situations in the grid** below, which is **mandatory in case of an awarded "-"** (negative point).

Minute	Description of the situation
full time	Adequate positioning and behaviour behind the by-line and sometimes seemed to support the referee along with the second assistant referee in goal-kick decisions.

2) Comments on the Application and Interpretation of the Laws of the Game, meaningful decisions are to be listed in the grid below.

Comments

Potential involvement in the decision to award a penalty to Levante and to send off Haggui for denying an obvious goalscoring opportunity. The penalty was no subject of debate, the red card can be defended and is no important mistake.

Minute	Description of the situation
9	Penalty and Red Card, both tenable.

FOURTH OFFICIAL

Reference to execution of technical procedures, important aspects and potential involvements
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Comments

<p>Shabtai Nahmias had no visible influence in the match. He seemed to have an ongoing conversation with Hannover's coach Slomka after latter had demanded a yellow card to the offender of the handball that resulted in a penalty. It is not clear whether it was a fault when he changed the additional time of three minutes to four minutes or whether it was a targeted instruction of Liany after Hannover's time wasting in the 90th minute.</p>

Reported by: Niclas E

05 OCT 2012, GER

