

UEFA Champions League 2012 / 2013

Round of 16

(GER) Bayern München		0:2		Arsenal (ENG)
13 March 2013, 20:45 CET – Fußball Arena, München, Germany				

Match Officials	Name	Origin	Mark ¹	Mark ²	Difficulty ³
Referee	Pavel Královec	CZE	8.1	---	Challenging
Assistant Referee 1	Roman Slyško	SVK	8.3	---	Normal
Assistant Referee 2	Martin Wilczek	CZE	8.2	---	Very challenging
Additional AR 1	Radek Příhoda	CZE	8.0	---	Normal
Additional AR 2	Michal Patak	CZE	8.1	---	Normal
Fourth Official	Antonin Kordula	CZE	8.0	---	Normal
UEFA Referee Observer	Kyros Vassaras	GRE			
Blog-Referee Observer ⁴	Chefren	ITA			

¹ Final mark according to evaluation scale. Expected level for AARs and fourth official is 8.0, crucial mistake 7.9 as usual!

² Mark if the final mark had not been influenced by a crucial mistake (only in case of a crucial mistake, to be held empty if no crucial mistake occurred).

³ Difficulty has to be integrated into the final mark. Levels of difficulty are: "normal", "challenging" and "very challenging".

⁴ Blog-Referee Observer =Inofficial referee observer appointed by the blog administrator.

Evaluation scale	Description of the Marks
9.0 – 10.0	Excellent.
8.5 – 8.9	Very good. Important decision(s) correctly taken.
8.3 – 8.4	Good. Expected level.
8.2	Satisfactory with small areas for improvement.
8.0 – 8.1	Satisfactory with important areas for improvement.
7.9	One clear and important mistake, otherwise 8.3 or above.
7.8	One clear and important mistake, otherwise 8.0 – 8.2.
7.5 – 7.7	Below expectation, poor control, significant point(s) for improvement.
7.0 – 7.4	Disappointing. Below expectation with one and clear important mistakes or a performance with two or more clear and important mistakes.
6.0 – 6.9	Unacceptable.

Description of the match:

The second leg in this round of 16 of CL 2012-2013, played in München between Bayern and Arsenal. The stadium presented a sold-out, with an attendance of 68,000. There was a light snow all the match long, but the conditions of the pitch were by the way acceptable. The temperature was very low, several degrees under the 0. The first leg in London ended in a 3-1 win by Bayern, so Arsenal had a very difficult challenge, having to win at least 3-0, in order to qualify to the next stage. Nevertheless, since they were able to score almost immediately after the kick off, the match became very interesting, and difficult for the referee. In the progress of the game there were many important situations, tense moments, and also riots. The crowd tried to help the home team, putting each kind of pressure on the referee, therefore Královec had to work in a difficult atmosphere.

Referee

**I. Knowledge, Application and Interpretation of the Laws of the Game, Disciplinary Control and Technical Management of the game with special reference to the situations and the minutes when they occurred.
 (Crucial decisions, if available, have to be explicitly mentioned in the grid and highlighted).**

Comments:

Pavel Královec and his assistants had a difficult match to handle. We can split what happened in first half and what happened in second half, underlining that the match had a increasing difficulty. This happened because Arsenal was immediately able to score the 0-1 goal and then all match long they tried to reach a really unexpected qualification, after the first leg score. The Czech referee showed a good foul detection, he probably missed only something in first half, but for the rest his whistles were always justified. By the way, rather than talking about each call he made, the most important thoughts to report are about the control of the match, especially in the last minutes of second half, when referee had to face a very difficult atmosphere on the pitch, with many nervous players which didn't want to accept his decisions. How to prevent that? Very difficult to answer, since in first half the match was easily took under control, also with verbal warnings. But our feeling is that the referee was not totally accepted by the players, therefore he has to work in order to gain authority on the pitch. Regarding to the calls, he hadn't crucial situations to evaluate in penalty areas, but there was a decision by AR2, at the beginning of second half (56') that might have become a very important situation to score for Arsenal. Sometimes Královec was good in giving advantage, but other times he missed that, and he whistled, by the way all minor situations. What we can point out from this performance is that he has still to improve himself, in order to be appointed for this kind of very difficult matches. All the cards given were reasonable, maybe just in one situation he was a bit harsh, but probably with a different style, the cards might have been surely less.

Minute	Description of the situation
3'	Arsenal scores, correct evaluation by AR1, no offside.
26'	Mandžukić (ARS) commits foul on Rosický (ARS) from behind. The first remarkable situation of the match. Královec decides to give a warning, still no card. Acceptable decision.
31'	Good advantage given to Arsenal.
39'	Missed a foul by Van Buyten (BAY) on Giroud (ARS).
43'	Reckless and dangerous tackle from behind by Gibbs (ARS) on Robben (BAY). Mandatory YC.
56'	Offside call by AR2. Very difficult and borderline situation, probably the flag is a mistake, it might have been a very important action for Arsenal.
57'	Lahm (BAY) is booked for a tactical and blatant foul on Cazorla (ARS).
62'	Rosický (ARS) with a dangerous and reckless tackle from behind on Robben (BAY). A YC is shown, the decision is correct. Borderline situation, a harsh referee might have raised a straight red.
63'	After a relatively calm first half, starting from these minutes, the match is becoming more challenging for the referee, because tense.
65'	Ramsey (ARS) commits a handball. Probably in this situation an advantage might have been adequate, since the ball was still in possession of Bayern.
73'	Blatant handball by Giroud (ARS), infraction detected also by AR2 Wilczek. Then, he is booked for a reaction after the whistle, having kicked the ball outside of the pitch. Correct decision, while the tension in the match is increasing.
75'	Oxlade-Chamberlain (ARS) commits a handball, again good alertness by AR2.
80'	Mertesacker (ARS) is booked for a clear tactical foul. Ignoring the ball, he blatantly obstructs Robben (BAY). Correct decision.

82'	Javi Martínez (ARS) is booked for a raised leg hitting the opponent, Rosický (ARS).
83'	Santi Cazorla (ARS) with a late attempt to hit the ball, he commits foul on Van Buyten (BAY), being booked by the referee. Here the decision appears a bit harsh, and the player doesn't accept the card, smiling polemically in front of the referee.
84'	Another situation in which a advantage might have been more adequate than the whistle.
85'	Koscielny (ARS) scores on a corner kick and then a riot happens. Neuer (BAY) doesn't want to give back the ball after the goal, so many Arsenal players go against him in a very bad scene to watch. AR2 and AAR2 try to help the referee, and after a few tense moments, the decision is to book Koscielny (ARS) for his behavior. At least another card for Neuer and his unsportsmanlike conduct had to be shown.
89'	Mario Gomez (BAY) is booked for a tactical foul on Rosicky (ARS).
90'	3 minutes as additional time seem to be not enough, considering the substitutions, many cards given and all the tense situations in this second half.

II. Tactical approach and its Degree of Consistency, Personality, Match Control and Management of the Teams and Players with special reference to the situations and the minutes when they occurred.

Comments:

As already written, the problem in this match was the missing control in the last minutes, especially when the riot happened. Královec probably had to act in a better way, also trying to prevent all what happened. We should by the way take into account also the fact that the riot ended without big problems. Good presence under this aspect by the referee.

Positive Points	1.	Firmness in his decisions.
	2.	Cooperation with all the members of the crew.
Points to improve	1.	He has to improve in order be accepted by the players.
	2.	Control (especially "prevention") of the riots.
	3.	Sometimes he whistles too much, in order to recall players. It may not always work in the expected manner.

Minute	Description of the situation
26'	Strong and efficient warning, in order to keep the match under control.
83'	Santi Cazorla (ARS) doesn't accept the decision, smiling polemically. More authority needed here.
85'	He might have managed the riot in a better manner.

III. Physical Shape, Stamina, Positioning, Movement as well as Mental Awareness, if needed, with reference to the minutes when they occurred, always in case of a "-".

Physical Condition (very good, good, average, poor): good

Further Aspects:

+	Expected	-	
	X		Always close to play, follows play at all times with a flexible diagonal system and impedes interference with play
	X		Efficient positioning (at set pieces e.g.) and movement to be ready to take a (crucial) decision (specially in the box; be able to

			enter the box in some cases when it is necessary)
	X		Shows awareness and is able to anticipate the action

Minute	Description of the situation
All match long.	The referee showed a mixed bag: sometimes good advantages, other times missed ones. The positioning was acceptable, neither excellent nor bad. In short, expected level.
31'	Good advantage given.
65', 84'	Probably missed advantages.
85'	He was in the correct position in order to manage the riot.

IV. Teamwork (co-operation with (A)ARs and fourth official with reference, if needed, to special situations and the minutes when they occurred)

Comments:
 The cooperation with both assistants was very good, especially with the AR2. He helped the referee in many situations, reporting fouls. A good help came also from AAR2 when the riot happened. Good team work, the only mistake probably was made with that flag in the 56' minute by AR2, anyway difficult situation to read.

V. If needed: General comments or advices for improvement; explanation of the chosen mark; further matters (can be let empty).

Comments:
 Since there weren't crucial mistake by the referee, and the match in second half became very challenging, I have chosen to give a 8,1 to Královec, because his performance was basically good in foul detection and in giving cards in the needed situations. The points for improvement of course in our case are all related to the work that he has to do, in order to be accepted more by players, without losing control in tense moments, and during the riots. We have also to consider that at least until the first part of second half the performance was good. Furthermore, the mark for AR2, Martin Wilczek is 8,2 (not affected by a crucial mistake) because we can't be sure about the 56' minute situation. The player might have scored a goal, but it was possible also to miss the chance. In addition to that, the replay from TV was not the best possible, in order to evaluate the position without any doubt.

Assistant Referee 1

Assistant referee's performance (please mention some important decisions either by integrating them into a coherent comment or mentioning them in the grid below; mandatory if a "-" (negative point) is selected)

Relevant Aspects:

+	Expected	-	
	X		Correct offside decisions by means of a good application of the "wait and see"-technique
	X		Good positioning and movement
X			Mental alertness and reaction to incidents in his area of vicinity
	X		Reasonable degree of co-operation with referee (not flagging too much / too little; being able to support referee in crucial decisions)
	X		Efficient control at set pieces

Comments:

The first assistant was not challenged in the match, he hadn't important offside situations to evaluate, the only remarkable call is the correct NO FLAG prior to Arsenal 0-1 in the 3' minute. Then, he just helped the referee all match long, having a good cooperation.

Minute	Description of the situation
3'	Giroud (ARS) scores. Correct evaluation of his position, no offside.

Assistant Referee 2

Assistant referee's performance (please mention some important decisions either by integrating them into a coherent comment or mentioning them in the grid below; mandatory if a "-" (negative point) is selected)

Relevant Aspects:

+	Expected	-	
	X		Correct offside decisions by means of a good application of the "wait and see"-technique
X			Good positioning and movement
X			Mental alertness and reaction to incidents in his area of vicinity
	X		Reasonable degree of co-operation with referee (not flagging too much / too little; being able to support referee in crucial decisions)
	X		Efficient control at set pieces

Comments:

Very challenging work the the second assistant. Especially at the beginning of the match he was involved in several offside situations. There was always a high difficulty and for this reason the match for him was very difficult. At the beginning of second half, he raised a flag, stopping a dangerous attack by Arsenal. The replay shows that Alaba (BAY) keeps on side the opponent, therefore probably it was a mistake, by the way we can't be 100% sure because the replay is from a different angle. In all the other situations, he always took the correct decision, and he also helped the referee many times, reporting fouls. It might have been an excellent performance without that flag, by the way we can't consider that as crucial mistake, for the aforementioned reasons. He was also ready to help the referee during the riot happened in the last minutes.

Minute	Description of the situation
1'	T. Müller (BAY) is flagged offside. Correct decision.
6'	T. Müller (BAY) is flagged offside. Very difficult but correct decision, at least his left leg is in offside. In this situation, excellent positioning by Wilczek.
13'	T. Müller (BAY) is flagged offside on a long ball. No replay from tv. The decision should be correct.
18'	Correct goal kick decision in a difficult situation. Complaints by T. Müller (BAY).
56'	Walcott (ARS) is flagged offside. Very difficult and borderline situation, probably the flag is wrong, it might have been a very important action for Arsenal. A NO FLAG could have been more adequate. Alaba (BAY) seems to keep on side Walcott (ARS).
73'	Correctly reported a handball to the referee. Good cooperation.
75'	Again a handball, this time by Oxlade-Chamberlain (Arsenal). Correctly reported to the referee.
85'	Good cooperation again, helping the referee and trying to calm down the players during the riot.

Additional Assistant Referee 1

Assistant referee's performance (please mention some important decisions either by integrating them into a coherent comment or mentioning them in the grid below; mandatory if a "-" (negative point) is selected)

Relevant Aspects:

+	Expected	-	
	X		Good positioning and movement
	X		Mental alertness and reaction to incidents in his area of vicinity based on a reasonable degree of co-operation with referee
	X		Efficient control at set pieces

Comments:
 Calm evening for the AAR1, Radek Příhoda. He was not involved in remarkable situations. Expected level.

Minute	Description of the situation

Additional Assistant Referee 2

Assistant referee's performance (please mention some important decisions either by integrating them into a coherent comment or mentioning them in the grid below; mandatory if a "-" (negative point) is selected)

Relevant Aspects:

+	Expected	-	
	X		Good positioning and movement
X			Mental alertness and reaction to incidents in his area of vicinity based on a reasonable degree of co-operation with referee
	X		Efficient control at set pieces

Comments:
 A bit more challenged than his colleague, he was involved in a goal/corner kick decision, helping the assistant. Then, later, in the last minutes of the game he immediately gave his help when he noticed the riot. Good alertness and cooperation. The decisions after the riot were taken exclusively by Královec, since he saw everything by himself.

Minute	Description of the situation
77'	Probably involved in a goal kick decision.
85'	He showed alertness immediately helping the referee in the riot situation.

Fourth Official

Fourth official's performance (reference to technical management like substitutions or signalling of additional time, dealing with benches in case of conflicts)

Comments:

Nevertheless the match in second half was very tense and nervous on the pitch, there aren't remarkable situations to report about the benches, therefore Kordula executed his work about substitutions and added time in a adequate manner. Expected level.