

UEFA Champions League 2012 / 2013

Quarterfinals

(ESP) Real Madrid		3:0		Galatasaray Istanbul (TUR)
03 April 2013, 20:45 CET – Estadio Santiago Bernabeu, Madrid, Spain				

Match Officials	Name	Origin	Mark ¹	Mark ²	Difficulty ³
Referee	Svein Oddvar Moen	NOR	7.8	8.2	Normal
Assistant Referee 1	Kim Thomas Haglund	NOR	8.4	---	Normal
Assistant Referee 2	Frank Andås	NOR	8.4	---	Normal
Additional AR 1	Ken Henry Johnsen	NOR	8.0	---	Normal
Additional AR 2	Svein-Erik Edvartsen	NOR	8.1	---	Normal
Fourth Official	Sven Erik Midthjell	NOR	8.0	---	Normal
UEFA Referee Observer	Eugen Strigel	GER			
Blog-Referee Observer ⁴	Niclas E.	GER			

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 mistake or a performance with two or more clear and important mistakes.
6.0 – 6.9	Unacceptable.

Description of the match:

First leg of the quarterfinal duel between Real Madrid and Galatasaray Istanbul, played in formidable circumstances in a however not totally full Estadio Santiago Bernabeu. It was estimated that approximately 10k Turkish supporters were in the stadium, so a good but also friendly atmosphere was created.

The match was very one-sided though: Real Madrid managed to score two early goals by Ronaldo and Benzema, Higuaín decided the first leg with a goal in the second half. While this match did not feature very hard fouls, it is nonetheless considered to be a piece of unfair play. Both Galatasaray's and specially Real's players more than once committed dives and generally spent most of the time with attempting to waste free-kicks. A typical situation of the whole match was when di María

slipped on the ground in the penalty area, looked into the direction of the referee and then decided to suddenly crank on the pitch. Furthermore, Real Madrid's Xabi Alonso and Sergio Ramos were booked for unsporting behaviour in the final minutes (complaints and kicking the ball away), so that they received their mandatory cautions. As these were their third yellow cards each, they will miss the second leg and are thus able to play both semifinals without fearing a suspension. Both players did the same in another CL match a few seasons ago, where they were sent off by Craig Thomson for similar reasons. One calls that distortion of competition.

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:

Norwegian referee Svein Oddvar Moen generally controlled the match well on the technical level. He basically had a good and consistent criteria in his foul detection and was reliable in terms of the application of other, more technical Laws of the Game, such as Law 12's definition of a deliberate return pass (no deliberate pass by Varane in minute 51).

The referee consistently penalized dissent by word or action and repeated complaints, such as committed by Felipe Melo (persistently infringed the LotG), who strongly protested against a correct decision and demanded a yellow card for diving to his opponent (71'), Drogba, who did not agree with the justified free-kick prior to the 3-0 goal (74') or also Xabi Alonso for protests (84'). Good decision to book Luca Modrić, too, who impeded the quick execution of a free-kick in the additional time.

The however showed weaknesses in the field of disciplinary sanctions. Although he correctly resisted a penalty appeal by Özil (15'), he did not book him for simulation, which was actually necessary.

In minute 20 then, there were two fouls in nearly the same scene, first Özil had his foot too high against Eboué. Moen ignored that, which was in the end acceptable, as the Gala player had his head quite low at the same time, too. Furthermore, Özil solely went for the ball. But after that, Benzema had his foot even higher and also touched Semih Kaya's head, who went to the ground. Dangerous and reckless play, should have entailed a yellow card.

Advantage rule was fulfilled on an acceptable level, sometimes one could get the impression that the referee applied an advantage too late (it started 3 seconds after a foul sometimes) to compensate a missed foul. The advantages he gave were not always sensibly chosen, such as in the minutes 52 and 62.

The most crucial decision of the match was taken in the 78th minute. Burak Yilmaz entered Real's box and was trod on his foot by Sergio Ramos, who perhaps very slightly touched the ball, but who nonetheless caused a clear and culpable contact. It should have been a penalty to the Turkish side. Instead, Moen cautioned Yilmaz for his slightly exaggerated slump and thus accused him for diving. That was definitely wrong.

Minute	Description of the situation
20	More attention needed in terms of reckless and dangerous play. Benzema should have been booked for having his leg and foot way too high.
27	Khedira undeliberately handles the ball after a corner kick: Melo makes a header and the ball touches Khedira's upper arm, that was not carted out. No unnatural movement, no significant enlargement of the body volume, no movement of the hand towards the ball and no long time to react. After that, Khedira collided with one of his teammates (Essien) and perhaps touched the ball again with the hand, no deliberate handball here either.
52	Di María simulated and fell too easily in the box. Nounkeu undeliberately touched di María's hand with his foot, not looking at him. No foul is ok = no penalty is ok.

71	With a bit delay, the referee awarded a correct free-kick to Real. Melo disagreed and protested into the referee's and second assistant referee's direction and additionally demanded a yellow card for his opponent due to simulation. Moen picked Melo out and booked him and made clear he did not tolerate such a behaviour. Well done.
78	Missed penalty to Galatasaray. Yilmaz was clearly touched by Ramos on his foot. Cautioning the victim of this scene for alleged simulation was even wronger.

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:

Although he had to issue quite a lot of yellow cards (4 on each side), the referee had not really a pedantic approach. He allowed physical play and correctly resisted many tries to get free-kicks for very soft contacts.

The referee basically had a good and friendly communication with the players and was shining with determination and pleasure. However, his decisions were not really respected by the players. He was here and there perhaps not clear enough in his speech and body language. He should improve the charisma of his personality on the pitch a bit to be able to handle also this kind of matches. Thus, one could also find an explanation for the high amount of cards for unsporting behaviour/dissent by word or action (5).

I however do not tend to shift that solely on Moen's shoulders. The players sometimes did not behave in a manner one expects from a Champions League quarterfinal, specially Drogba, Melo and di María must be mentioned here.

Positive Points		
	1.	Consistency in foul detection, he had a clear line in the match.
	2.	No tolerance for unsporting behaviour, protests and other forms of that – consistently dealing with players who repeatedly infringed the Laws of the Game.
	3.	Friendly and motivated approach, good general impression.

Points to improve		
	1.	Criteria for disciplinary sanctions.
	2.	Be more respected by the players by a clearer body language and perhaps also stronger speeches/conversations with the players. More authority needed.
	3.	Application of the advantage rule.
	4.	Dealing with simulation – be able to detect obvious dives and punish them as such, not only by letting the play go on, and do not book players for simulation who did not do it.

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): Very 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	
90	Throughout the entire match, the referee was always well positioned and ready to take decisions. Excellent fitness and stamina. Unfortunately, his good positioning did not lead to a better judging of the penalty/dive situation in 78'.	

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 teamwork shown by the Norwegian sextet was quite normal. There were no remarkable scenes where more teamwork would have been needed or was needed to take better decisions. The only incident where one could suspect an advice coming from AAR2 was in the free-kick decision in 71'.

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

Comments:

Some things should be improved in future matches, which is however quite normal, as Moen is still collecting international experience. The so far satisfying performance was however tarnished by the wrong judgement of the duel Ramos/Yilmaz. Therefore 7.8.

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:

Good performance by the first assistant referee. He always made a concentrated impression and correctly raised his flag for offside when Ronaldo appeared quite free in front of the Turkish goal. Also a good and very difficult offside situation in minute 66. Attentive when asking the Turkish goalkeeper to maintain the regular position for a free-kick (he want to steal some metres).

Minute	Description of the situation
40	Very tight offside position of Cristiano Ronaldo, correct and important decision.

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:

The second assistant referee performed quite well, correctly raised his flag for tight offsides a couple of times (such as in minutes 50 and 72). He moreover seemed to have reported Felipe Melo's unsporting behaviour (71') to the referee.

Minute	Description of the 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:

The fourth official sometimes calmed down the Turkish coach who was slightly upset by a few decisions. All the technical requirements were fulfilled in an expected manner, including substitutions and signalling the stoppage time.

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:
 No remarkable involvement, he probably helped here and there in taking obvious decisions. He made a good impression on the goalline.

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:
 The second additional assistant referee had very probably one involvement in the match when advising the referee to award a free-kick close to the box (71'). Apart from that, normal performance for him.

Minute	Description of the situation

