

UEFA Champions League 2012 / 2013

Quarterfinals

(FRA) Paris Saint-Germain		2:2		FC Barcelona (ESP)
02 April 2013, 20:45 CET – Parc des Princes, Paris, France				

Match Officials	Name	Origin	Mark ¹	Mark ²	Difficulty ³
Referee	Wolfgang Stark	GER	8.1	---	Challenging
Assistant Referee 1	Jan-Hendrik Salver	GER	7.8	8.2	Normal
Assistant Referee 2	Mike Pickel	GER	8.3	---	Normal
Additional AR 1	Felix Zwayer	GER	7.9	8.0	Normal
Additional AR 2	Guido Winkmann	GER	8.0	---	Normal
Fourth Official	Mark Borsch	GER	8.0	---	Normal
UEFA Referee Observer	Francesco Bianchi	SUI			
Blog-Referee Observer ⁴	Çagatay I.	TUR			

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:

The first leg of Champions League Quarter Final, which is played in France, has been played under a very convenient football atmosphere. The match is considered to be quite important, as teams are having qualified players on pitch. On the side of referee, UEFA has appointed an important, quite-experienced referee Wolfgang Stark for the match. However, the season 2012-2013 had some controversies for Wolfgang Stark with Galatasaray-M. United GS match. Referee has shown a remarkable performance until Min 75s. However, after that referee has struggled with some decisions. Although referee's himself didn't make a match deciding mistake, AR1 has missed an obvious (not tight) offside in PSG goal which directly affected the result. For the rest, one should accept that referee has faced big weakness with core laws of the game, but it went on ok in the end.

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: Basically good application and interpretation of the Laws of the Game, correct penalty call in the final stages of the match. However he failed to correctly apply Law 5 related to his dealing with two injured players.	
Minute	Description of the situation
Min 2,4	As we are familiar with the style of referee, we have heard long whistles for fouls. The referee gives a message of control by calling correct foul decisions.
Min 7	Good go-on for ball tackle. The stadium (spectators) is hot. But, referee is very neutral with calls. Giving a fair impression
Min 12	Adapts his style to game, lets more physical play with time moves on. Good approach.
Min 14	A quick attack of PSG is prevented with a tactical foul by #16 of Barcelona, YC could be issued. Referee opted a warning, acceptable, not much demanding.
Min 18	Another important attack of PSG is cut by #3 with a tactical foul. An obvious, correct YC is issued Pique.
Min 25	Good go-on for a physical body prevention by PSG defender. And afterward, a very good go-on for PSG counter-attack. The tackle is to ball.
Min 29	Remarkable advantage for PSG attack.
Min 34,35	Two correct offense fouls by Barcelona.
Min 47	Referee has set foul standards and applies until the Minute. Two good not enough for foul, and whistle afterwards.
Min 51	A small game riot, a very quick play by both teams, some sequential fouls have been missed
Min 52	PSG attacks very rapidly. #14(PSG) made his pass and #14 (BAR) miss the ball. He doesn't move however stands in runway of #14(PSG). He hits and falls. For me, the mistiming by BAR#14 causes a foul. The situation is out-of box.
Min 55	No handball, go on is ok. Since the player is on the ground. It is a hit.
Min 57	No handball in PSG box. That is a hit to shoulder. Go-on is ok.
Min 60,61	Two good ball tackle goons which both resulted in important attacks.
Min 61	A YC that could be used as a training material. #18 of Barcelona holds his opponent not to let him attend the quick counter attack of PSG which is played with an advantage. (Referee has kept YC in his mind). Afterwards, Barcelona possesses the ball and makes their quick counter attack. Whenever game has stopped with a throw-in, referee issues his YC for non-ball area tackle after approximately 2 minutes time. Remarkable.
Min 64	A foul should have been given by Alexis Sanchez to PSG#14. He lost the ball, and used his body with not ball aim.
Min 65	A foul by #18 PSG to #8 BAR. Referee has shown a correct YC to #18. Since that was his third foul in the row, and elbow is used extensively.
Min 67	Foul by #32 Beckham of PSG on BAR forwarder. The aim is not ball. The tackle is directly to knee. However it is not reckless. YC is a correct decision to David Beckham
Min 70	YC should be issued to #7 of PSG for his continuous unsportmen behaviors to #2 of BAR
Min 74	Correct foul by #13 of PSG near the box. No need for YC, ok.

Min 75	Intension continues with players starting to make harsh fouls on each other. #14 of BAR is cautioned to prevent dangerous to-box attack of PSG. Correct. Before the position here an indirect free kick should have been given for Barcelona on tackle to Siva
Min 76	Paris S.G. executed a corner kick, the defenders Piqué and Mascherano collided with each other. Stark allowed the play to continue, the ball arrived at a Paris striker a few moments later, who was only not offside as the two injured Barcelona players dissolved it. He nearly scored, goalkeeper Valdés kept the ball, another corner kick came into existence. I believe that since collide is to head-to-head, the game should have been stopped. But, to let it flow is also ok. But after that the popular mistake is foreseen
Min 77	Referee asked both players Mascherano and Piqué to leave the pitch after having been medically treated. However with the LoTG, it is clearly noted that players of the same team don't have to leave the pitch after a medical treatment. The detailed analysis may be found: http://footballrefereeing.blogspot.dk/2013/04/stark-failed-to-regularly-deal-with.html#.UWNM1JMqzxx . Although interpretation by referee is wrong, it is not considered as a crucial mistake
Min 78	In this minute, PSG delivers a foul kick. Referee lets the two players in the game. The chaos was recently ended. Afterward, the crucial mistake of the night comes from AR1 where goal scorer Ibrahimovic is at least one meter offside when he scored PSG goal.
Min 84	Alvez #2 of BAR makes out-of-control gestures to AR2 for a correctly give goal-kick decision. This results in YC correctly. He could have been cautioned before.
Min 86	YC to Ibrahimovic for his offensive foul which is not ball aimed tackle to Barcelona defender, correct card.
Min 88	Very good advantage play before Barcelona attack which resulted in penalty.
Min 88	Mistiming by PSG goal keeper results in handup tackle to Alexis Sanchez of Barcelona. Penalty is obvious and inevitable in this case. YC issued to GK is also ok. Because, the direction of play is to corner spot. One may argue that Sanchez has left himself quite easily, however the ball is totally out of scene where the obvious contact occurs. Hence, the magnitude of tackle may not be discussed.
Min 90, 91	Correct foul by Ibrahimovic and Sanchez.
Min 92	Ibrahimovic heard of the whistle for offside, he still scored, but referee didn't opt to send him off not to cause a huge temper. The same player has scored in next seconds. There is a minimal difference between whistle and kick-off, so acceptable act.

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.		
Positive Points	1.	Tactical approach, totally consistent and harmonious throughout the entire match.
	2.	Firm, and letting game flow as much as possible
	3.	Positioning on pitch

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 (especially 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		
Min 50	The match is extensively lively, tight and intense. Referee's positioning thusfar has left nothing to grumble about.		
Min 51	Some very small lack of control, he has missed a first foul, and then came 2 fouls in row without whistling.		
Min 77	Barcelona players have argued with the referee on the position which actually needed an argument. Referee and AAR1 has made an obvious law interpretation wrongly. And, this resulted in lack of concentration also. He also let the two players in very lately.		

IV. Teamwork (co-operation with (A)ARs and fourth official with reference, if needed, to special situations and the minutes when they occurred)
Comments: Bad management, and lack of LoTG information is revealed by both AAR1, and referee in Min 77 actions.

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

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:

text

Minute	Description of the situation
Min 10	Good go-on for Barcelona goal attempt which was expected
Min 41	Correct offside on Barcelona goal attempt, expected.
Min 48	Correct throw-in decision
Min 49	Good to urge referee for foul by PSG player. The tackle from behind. That's correct.
Min 63	Seemingly correct move-on in PSG attack.
Min 78	In the minute where popular players in/out decision made, PSG delivers a foul kick. Referee lets the two players in the game. The chaos was recently ended. Afterward, the crucial mistake of the night comes from AR1 where goal scorer Ibrahimovic is at least one meter offside when he scored PSG goal.
Min 78	AR1 could have been involved to solve the case of collision. He was also unaware of the LoTG of related partition.
Min 92	Correct offside flag for Ibrahimovic
Min 93	Correct offside flag for Ibrahimovic

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:

text

Minute	Description of the situation
Min 10	Good offside decision of Ibrahimovic in goal attempt of PSG
Min 18	Correct offside in PSG attack.
Min 20	Could have urged referee for an elbow foul on line. But go-on is also acceptable.

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:

All according to the common practices.

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

Minute	Description of the situation
Min 77	Barcelona players have argued with the referee on the position which actually needed an argument. Referee and AAR1 has made an obvious law interpretation wrongly. And, this resulted in lack of concentration also. He also let the two players in very lately.

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:

Nothing special to say here.

Minute	Description of the situation