

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Louis II, Monaco

Friday, 25 August 2006 - 20:45 CET

Final



The 2006 UEFA Super Cup is very much a Primera División affair although some of the world's greatest names will be on show at the Stade Louis II when FC Barcelona take on Sevilla FC. The traditional European season curtain-raiser will be an all-Spanish occasion for the first time and it is also Monaco's maiden experience of a one-off duel between two clubs from the same country.

Glory in May

- Barcelona enter as Europe's premier team after a 2-1 victory against Arsenal FC in the UEFA Champions League final in Paris on 17 May, while Sevilla participate as UEFA Cup holders having triumphed 4-0 in Eindhoven against Middlesbrough FC a week before.

- Both sides will start the defence of their European titles next month, while beginning their 2006/07 league programmes on the Monday after Monaco. Barcelona will travel to RC Celta de Vigo and Sevilla are at home against Levante UD.

Previous meetings

- The teams have met once before under UEFA auspices, in the 1995/96 UEFA Cup third round. The first leg in Seville finished 1-1 on 21 November, with Gheorghe Hagi cancelling out Davor Šuker's goal for the hosts just before half-time. Barcelona then won the 5 December return 3-1. All the goals came in the last 28 minutes, with José Mari Bakero, Gheorghe Popescu and Roger García on target for Barça and Gabriel Moya Sanz earning a consolation for Sevilla, who had José Miguel Prieto sent off.

- In domestic league action, the clubs have met 124 times with Barcelona winning 63 to Sevilla's 34, although the Andalusian outfit did record an 11-1 success against their Catalan rivals on 29 September 1940.

- Each side won at home in last season's league encounters. On 11 December, strikes from Samuel Eto'o and Ronaldinho were enough to give Barcelona a 2-1 victory at Camp Nou, with Frédéric Kanouté scoring for Sevilla. Then, with the championship already decided, Sevilla prevailed by 3-2 against Barcelona on 13 May, courtesy of Daniel Alves, Aitor Ocio's penalty and Kepa Blanco, with Santiago Ezquerro and Sylvinho scoring for Barça. Sevilla finished fifth in the table.

Spanish duels

- In European competition, Barcelona have been drawn against Spanish opposition on seven other occasions, including three European Champion Clubs' Cup semi-finals. The most recent was the 2001/02 tie against Real Madrid CF, lost 3-1 on aggregate.

- Sevilla have had one other all-Spanish engagement in Europe, going down 10-2 on aggregate to Madrid in the 1957/58 European Cup quarter-finals.

Two triumphs

- While Sevilla, who had never lifted a continental trophy until their UEFA Cup success, are making their first appearance in the UEFA Super Cup, two-time European champions Barcelona are seeking their third triumph in six attempts.

- If achieved, it would leave them level on three wins with Liverpool FC, who reigned last year with a 3-1 victory against PFC CSKA Moskva. AC Milan have claimed the trophy four times, the most of any club.

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- Barcelona's first UEFA Super Cup success was over two legs against Werder Bremen in early 1993. The European champions drew 1-1 in Germany before edging it 2-1 at Camp Nou with Juan Antonio Goicoechea Lasa's goal separating the teams.

- In early 1998, as UEFA Cup Winners' Cup holders, Barcelona disposed of BV Borussia Dortmund, another Bundesliga side, winning 2-0 at home, thanks to Luis Enrique and Rivaldo, before a 1-1 draw in Germany when Giovanni struck. Luís Figo was the Barça captain.

Trio of defeats

- Barcelona failed in their first three attempts to collect the UEFA Super Cup, all while playing as UEFA Cup Winners' Cup winners. These came in the 1979/80, 1982/83 and 1989/90 campaigns against Nottingham Forest FC, Aston Villa FC and Milan respectively.

Italian encounters

- Teams from the same country have contested the UEFA Super Cup on two previous occasions. Both came when the competition was played over two legs on a home-and-away basis between the winners of the European Cup and UEFA Cup Winners' Cup. This was the format until the latter's demise and the introduction of the UEFA Cup winners for the 2000/01 event.

- Both one-nation UEFA Super Cups involved Italian sides. In 1990/91, Milan were 3-1 aggregate victors against Sampdoria UC before losing 2-1 over two legs in the 1993/94 final versus Parma FC. Italy has picked up more UEFA Super Cups (eight) than any other country, with England (seven) and Spain (five) next in line.

- The UEFA Super Cup has been staged as a one-off match in Monaco since the 1998/99 edition, when Chelsea FC overcame Madrid 1-0 on 28 August 1998.

Team facts

FC Barcelona

UEFA club competition milestones

- Barcelona have appeared in five European Champion Clubs' Cup finals, winning the 1991/92 competition against UC Sampdoria thanks to a 112th-minute Ronald Koeman free-kick before their triumph in the 2005/06 campaign, when Juliano Belletti and Samuel Eto'o scored in a 2-1 final victory against Arsenal FC. Previously, the Catalan club lost on penalties to FC Steaua Bucuresti in the 1985/86 season, 3-2 to SL Benfica in 1960/61 and 4-0 to AC Milan in the 1993/94 campaign.

- Since their defeat by Milan in the 1993/94 final, Barça's best performance prior to last season had been two defeats at the semi-final stage, namely during the 1999/00 and 2001/02 seasons where they lost on both occasions to Spanish opponents. The first came against Valencia CF who defeated Barça 5-3 on aggregate, while the second was against Real Madrid CF who won 2-0 in Barcelona before drawing 1-1 at home to advance to the final.

UEFA club competition honours

- European Champion Clubs' Cup: 1991/92, 2005/06
- UEFA Cup Winners' Cup: 1978/79, 1981/82, 1988/89, 1996/97
- UEFA Super Cup: 1992, 1997

Ten-year record

- Barcelona are competing in their ninth UEFA Champions League campaign in the past ten seasons.

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1997/98: UEFA Champions League, group stage
1998/99: UEFA Champions League, group stage
1999/00: UEFA Champions League, semi-finals
2000/01: UEFA Cup, semi-finals having transferred from the UEFA Champions League group stage
2001/02: UEFA Champions League, semi-finals
2002/03: UEFA Champions League, quarter-finals
2003/04: UEFA Cup, fourth round
2004/05: UEFA Champions League, first knockout round
2005/06: UEFA Champions League, winners
2006/07: UEFA Champions League, group stage (to date)

2005/06 season

Domestic record: Barça retained the Spanish Primera División by 12 points from Real Madrid CF to gain automatic qualification for the UEFA Champions League group stage. Valencia CF and CA Osasuna followed in third and fourth place, 13 and 14 points respectively behind the champions.

European record: Top scorers in the group stage with 16 goals from six outings, Barça finished nine points clear of Werder Bremen and Udinese Calcio. For the second year in succession, Barça were paired with Chelsea FC in the first knockout round, but on this occasion, the Catalan side emerged as victors. They then defeated SL Benfica 2-0 and AC Milan 1-0 on aggregate respectively to reach the final at the Stade de France on 17 May, where they defeated Arsenal FC 2-1.

Key facts

- To date, Barça have played 101 matches in the UEFA Champions League. In that time, they have won 55, drawn 25 and lost 21 with 192 goals scored and 115 conceded.
- Eto'o's winner against Chelsea on Matchday 7 last season was Barcelona's 300th goal in the European Champion Clubs' Cup. To date, they have played 161 matches with 91 wins, 36 draws and 34 losses with 306 goals scored and 171 conceded.
- Of the 32 teams competing in this season's UEFA Champions League, they are second only to Real Madrid CF in terms of total matches played in UEFA club competition with 335 games in which they have won 184, drawn 75 and lost 76 with 643 goals scored and 345 goals conceded.

Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest win
8-0: FC Barcelona v ŠKM Púchov
15.10.2003, 2003/04 UEFA Cup first round, second leg
8-0: FC Barcelona v Apollon Limassol FC
15.09.1982, 1982/83 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup first round, first leg
- Biggest home win
8-0: FC Barcelona v ŠKM Púchov (see above for details)
8-0: FC Barcelona v Apollon Limassol FC (see above for details)
- Biggest away win
0-7: Hapoel Beer-Sheva FC v FC Barcelona
12.09.1995, 1995/96 UEFA Cup, first round, first leg

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- Heaviest defeat

0-4: FC Barcelona v FC Dynamo Kyiv

05.11.1997, 1997/98 UEFA Champions League group stage

4-0: AC Milan v FC Barcelona

18.05.1994, 1993/94 European Champion Clubs' Cup final

0-4: FC Barcelona v 1. FC Köln

05.11.1980, 1980/81 UEFA Cup second round, second leg

- Heaviest home defeat

0-4: FC Barcelona v FC Dynamo Kyiv (see above for details)

0-4: FC Barcelona v 1. FC Köln (see above for details)

- Heaviest away defeat

3-0: AS Roma v FC Barcelona

26.02.2002, 2001/02 UEFA Champions League second group stage

3-0: Beşiktaş JK v FC Barcelona

19.09.2000, 2000/01 UEFA Champions League group stage

4-1: Valencia CF v FC Barcelona

02.05.2000, 1999/00 UEFA Champions League semi-finals, first leg

3-0: FC Dynamo Kyiv v FC Barcelona

22.10.1997, 1997/98 UEFA Champions League group stage

3-0: Manchester United FC v FC Barcelona

21.03.1984, 1983/84 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup quarter-finals, second leg

3-0: Aston Villa FC v FC Barcelona

26.01.1983, 1982 UEFA Super Cup final, second leg

3-0: RSC Anderlecht v FC Barcelona

18.10.1978, 1978/79 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup second round, first leg

3-0: PSV Eindhoven v FC Barcelona

29.03.1978, 1977/78 UEFA Cup semi-finals, first leg

3-0: Ipswich Town FC v FC Barcelona

23.11.1977, 1977/78 UEFA Cup third round, first leg

3-0: OGC Nice v FC Barcelona

19.09.1973, 1973/74 UEFA Cup first round, first leg

Last updated: 22 August 2006

Sevilla FC

UEFA club competition milestones

- Sevilla collected their first European trophy by winning the 2005/06 UEFA Cup after a 4-0 victory against Middlesbrough FC in the Eindhoven final. Luis Fabiano set them on their way in the 27th minute before three more goals were added in the final 12 minutes. Enzo Maresca scored twice leaving Frédéric Kanouté to round off the triumph.

- Overall, the Spanish club have participated in eight separate UEFA club competition campaigns having marked their first appearance with a 3-1 defeat of SL Benfica in the preliminary round of the 1957/58 European Champion Clubs' Cup. They went on to reach to the quarter-finals.

UEFA club competition honours

- UEFA Cup winners: 2005/06

Ten-year record

The 2006/07 campaign will be Sevilla's third consecutive season of UEFA club competition action. Prior to 2004/05, they had not been involved in European competition since 1995/96.

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1997/98: N/A
1998/99: N/A
1999/00: N/A
2000/01: N/A
2001/02: N/A
2002/03: N/A
2003/04: N/A
2004/05: UEFA Cup, round of 16
2005/06: UEFA Cup, winners
2006/07: UEFA Cup, first round (to date)

2005/06 season

Domestic record: Sevilla went one better than the previous campaign by finishing fifth in the Primera División. As holders of the UEFA Cup, they were already guaranteed a return to that competition but the club came within a whisker of reaching the UEFA Champions League for the first time. Only an inferior head-to-head record meant CA Osasuna finished ahead of them in fourth.

European record: Sevilla booked their place in the UEFA Cup group stage by overcoming German side 1. FSV Mainz 05 in the first round. They then finished top of their five-team section with two wins, against Beşiktaş JK and Vitória SC, and a draw at Bolton Wanderers FC, with the only defeat coming against FC Zenit St. Petersburg. FC Lokomotiv Moskva and LOSC Lille Métropole were then surpassed 3-0 and 2-1 on aggregate respectively en route to the quarter-finals.

- Sevilla put one foot in the semi-finals after a comprehensive 4-1 first-leg victory earned them revenge against nine-man Zenit before a 1-1 draw in the return. Antonio Puerta's extra-time winner after a goalless 180 minutes against FC Schalke 04 took Sevilla through to the final, where they were 4-0 winners against Middlesbrough.

Key facts

- To date, Sevilla have played 51 matches in UEFA club competition, but never in the UEFA Champions League. Their total European record includes 24 wins, 13 draws and 14 defeats. They have scored 72 goals and conceded 53.
- Sevilla have never lost a home match in UEFA club competition. In 25 games, they have won 19, drawn six and lost none. They have scored 50 goals and conceded eleven, and have only been behind in three matches.

Records

UEFA club competition

- Biggest win
4-0: Sevilla FC v AGF Århus
7.11.1957, 1957/59 European Champion Clubs' Cup first round, first leg
- Biggest home win
4-0: Sevilla FC v PAFK Salonika
3.11.1982, 1982/83 UEFA Cup second round, second leg
- Biggest away win
0-3: FK Levski-Spartak Sofia v Sevilla FC
28.09.1982, 1982/83 UCUP first round, second leg
- Biggest defeat
0-4: Middlesbrough FC v Sevilla FC
10.05.2006, 2005/06 UEFA Cup final

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- Heaviest defeat

8-0: Real Madrid CF v Sevilla FC

23.01.1958, 1957/58 European Champion Clubs' Cup quarter-finals, first leg

- Heaviest home defeat

N/A

- Heaviest away defeat

8-0: Real Madrid CF v Sevilla FC (see above for details)

Last updated: 22 August 2006

Match facts

• Barcelona enter the UEFA Super Cup as the UEFA Champions League holders. They defeated Arsenal FC 2-1 in the final in Paris on 17 May thanks to goals from Samuel Eto'o (76 minutes) and Juliano Belletti (81) after Sol Campbell (37) scored first for Arsenal.

• Their lineup at the Stade de France was: Víctor Valdés, Oleguer Presas (Juliano Belletti 71), Carles Puyol, Rafael Márquez, Giovanni van Bronckhorst, Edmílson (Andrés Iniesta 46), Deco, Mark van Bommel (Henrik Larsson 61), Ludovic Giuly, Ronaldinho and Samuel Eto'o. Albert Jorquera, Thiago Motta, Xavi Hernández and Sylvinho were unused substitutes.

• **Thiago Motta** will celebrate his 24th birthday on Monday, the day after **Deco** will turn 29.

• **Deco** is the only player from either side to have previously appeared in a UEFA Super Cup, playing the whole 90 minutes for FC Porto on 29 August 2003 when AC Milan were 1-0 winners.

• **Frank Rijkaard** was a scorer as Milan won the 1990/91 UEFA Super Cup with a 3-1 defeat of UC Sampdoria over two legs. The Dutchman found the net in the 2-0 home victory that followed a 1-1 draw in Genoa. Rijkaard was also part of the Milan team that lifted the trophy in the previous season with a 2-1 aggregate success against Barcelona, the club he now coaches.

• Barça's last three finals have seen them led by Dutch coaches. Louis van Gaal was the most recent when he took charge in 1997, following Johan Cruyff who was on the bench in 1989 and 1992.

• Barcelona have been busy in the transfer market this summer with three new signings. The first to arrive was **Eidur Gudjohnsen**, who signed from Chelsea FC for €12m. **Gianluca Zambrotta** and **Lilian Thuram** both followed from Juventus for €14m and €5m respectively. Zambrotta has signed a four-year contract, while Thuram has agreed a two-year deal.

• Another signing was that of assistant coach Johan Neeskens who has replaced **Henk Ten Cate**. The 54-year-old signed a three-year contract and is reunited with Frank Rijkaard after they worked together with the Dutch national team.

• Apart from the three new additions, Barcelona have Argentinian forward **Javier Saviola** back after his one-year loan at Sevilla.

• Seven players have left the Barça ranks during the summer. Sergio Rodríguez '**Rodri**' joined RC Deportivo La Coruña on a four-year deal, while **Óscar López** made a permanent move to Real Betis Balompié. **Ludovic Sylvestre** joined AC Sparta Praha, **Mario Álvarez** signed for RC Recreativo de Huelva, **Maxi López** joined RCD Mallorca, **Henrik Larsson** left for Helsingborgs IF and **Gabri García** went to AFC Ajax.

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- This summer, **Oleguer Presas**, **Rafael Márquez** and **Ludovic Giuly** renewed their contracts with Barcelona. The first two will stay until 2010, while the latter has a deal until 2008.
- Barcelona have played five friendly matches on foreign soil in preparation for the new season. On their first stop in Denmark, the team played against AGF Århus and won 3-0. They then won by the same scoreline in Monterrey against Mexican side Tigres UANL thanks to strikes from Ronaldinho, Gudjohnsen and an own goal.
- Moving on to a three-game tour of the United States, Barcelona played CD Guadalajara, known as Chivas, in Los Angeles and drew 1-1 after another Gudjohnsen goal. They then earned a 4-4 draw against Club América in Houston with goals by Márquez, Saviola, Ronaldinho and Eto'o. Their last friendly was a 4-1 win against the New York Red Bulls. Ronaldinho scored two, including a penalty, and Lionel Messi and Saviola added the others as Thuram and Zambrotta made their debuts.
- On Sunday Barcelona won the first of six possible trophies this season, defeating RCD Espanyol 3-0 at the Camp Nou to win the **Spanish Super Cup** 4-0 on aggregate. It meant the club equalled Real Madrid CF's record of claiming the trophy seven times.
- Barça had won the first leg 1-0 thanks to **Giuly's** 44th-minute goal and took only three minutes to score again against the Copa del Rey holders in the return as **Xavi Hernández** turned in Ronaldinho's fine cross. **Deco** was next on the scoresheet in the 12th minute and he repeated the trick just after the hour with an acrobatic volley.
- Just three days before the UEFA Super Cup, Barcelona were to stage their official presentation match for the new season against FC Bayern München.
- **Xavi** and **Carles Puyol** did not travel with the Spanish national team for the 15 August friendly in Iceland, which finished goalless. **Gudjohnsen** was also missing for the home side. **Andrés Iniesta** was Barcelona's only representative, playing for 23 minutes as a substitute.
- **Edmilson** played for Brazil in last week's 1-1 friendly draw against Norway.
- During the summer, the Catalan club refurbished the Camp Nou dressing rooms. The dressing rooms were first built in 1957 and redesigned in 1982 for the FIFA World Cup.
- Barcelona and UNICEF have reached an agreement this summer to collaborate during the next five years helping orphans and underprivileged children, especially those affected by AIDS.
- **Ronaldinho** was appointed United Nations spokesperson for sport, development and peace during the team's stay in New York and was greeted by UN secretary-general Kofi Annan.
- President **Joan Laporta** and his board resigned in July to set in motion a presidential election at the club, as ordered by a Spanish judge. A caretaker body headed by economist Xavier Sala y Martin took charge of the European and Spanish champions during the campaign, with the ballot set for 3 September. However, on Tuesday, Laporta was declared president for the next four years after his rivals for the post were not able to raise enough signatures in support of standing against him.
- **Puyol** and **Deco** were respectively nominated for defender and midfielder of the year at the UEFA Club Football Awards being held this week in Monaco. **Ronaldinho** and **Eto'o** both figured in the forward category.
- Sevilla enter the UEFA Super Cup as the UEFA Cup holders. They defeated Middlesbrough FC 4-0 on 10 May in the final in Eindhoven after goals from Luis Fabiano (27), Enzo Maresca (78, 84) and Frédéric Kanouté (89).

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- Their lineup at the PSV stadium was: Andrés Palop, Daniel Alves, Javi Navarro, Julien Escudé, David Castedo; Jesús Navas, José Luis Martí, Enzo Maresca, Adriano Correia (Antonio Puerta 86), Javier Saviola (Frédéric Kanouté 46) and Luis Fabiano (Renato 72). Antonio Notario, Aitor Ocio, Fernando Sales, and Kepa Blanco were unused substitutes.
- Sevilla made five signings this summer, the first of which was midfielder **Christian Poulsen** who left FC Schalke 04 to sign a three-year contract. VfB Stuttgart defender **Andreas Hinkel** will be at Sevilla for the next four years, while Real Madrid Castilla goalkeeper **David Cobeño** joined the Andalusian club after signing a three-year contract. Portuguese midfielder Sergio Paulo Barbosa '**Duda**' also joined from relegated Málaga CF along with Uruguay striker **Ernesto Chevantón**, who signed a five-season deal from AS Monaco FC.
- Other than Saviola's return to Barcelona, two players have left the club. **Antoñito Ramiro** has been loaned to second division side Real Murcia CF while **Ariza Makukula** was loaned to newly promoted CG Tarragona.
- Sevilla played eight friendlies during the summer, starting with a 6-0 win against Chiclana CF in which Frédéric Kanouté and Jesús Navas each scored twice, and Kepa Blanco and Makukula added the others.
- Sevilla had a pre-season training camp in Japan where they played against Albirex Niigata and Jubilo Iwata, winning 6-0 and 3-2 respectively.
- **Aitor Ocio**, who has renewed his contract for another three seasons, did not join the rest of the team for their tour of Japan. While he was at the airport check-in, he received a phone call to say his girlfriend, the model Laura Sánchez, was in labour. The couple had a baby girl called Naia, a Basque word meaning desire.
- Sevilla also participated as defending champions in the Trofeo Colombino, Recreativo's summer tournament, on 9 August. They lost 4-2 to Sporting Clube de Portugal before beating Bolton Wanderers FC 3-0 for third place, thanks to a **Luis Fabiano** hat-trick.
- The Andalusian club lost by the same scoreline in a friendly at Manchester United FC on 12 August.
- Sevilla staged their official 2006/07 presentation match at the Ramón Sánchez Pizjuán stadium against New Zealand on 15 August. The 5-1 win featured a hat-trick by Chevantón, and further goals by Luis Fabiano and Daniel Alves.
- Sevilla played another friendly last Friday, drawing 0-0 against UD Las Palmas before losing a penalty shoot-out.
- Sevilla have organised a contest to pick the best refurbishment plan for the Ramón Sánchez Pizjuán stadium, and will name the winning proposal on 18 September.
- Sevilla gave away a special commemorative flag to all fans buying tickets for the UEFA Super Cup final. It features the colours of the Spanish flag along with the logos of UEFA and the club. At the bottom it has the date of the Monaco final.

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Competition facts

- **UEFA Super Cup:** Did you know?

The UEFA Super Cup has been a competition that has involved both the current UEFA European Football Championship™ and FIFA World Cup™-winning coaches. Otto Rehhagel was on the losing side (3-2 on aggregate) when coach of SV Werder Bremen in the 1992 final by the Johan Cruyff-managed FC Barcelona. But Marcello Lippi was more successful in 1996 as his Juventus FC side defeated Paris Saint-Germain FC 9-2 on aggregate, a result which stands as the widest margin of victory to date in the competition. Lippi's side included Angelo Peruzzi and Alessandro Del Piero, members of his 2006 FIFA World Cup-winning squad, as well as Zinédine Zidane, a loser in this year's final.

Monaco also staged the 1986 final between CSA Steaua Bucuresti and FC Dinamo Kiev which the Romanian side won thanks to Gheorghe Hagi's 44th-minute goal. Steaua featured Laszlo Bölöni in their starting lineup, the current coach of AS Monaco FC.

The UEFA Super Cup was not staged in three seasons since its inception. In 1974, following political problems, FC Bayern München of the Federal Republic of Germany did not play 1. FC Magdeburg of the German Democratic Republic. Then in 1981, Liverpool FC and FC Dinamo Tbilisi failed to find a date to contest the competition. Following the Heysel tragedy on 29 May 1985, Juventus FC and Everton FC did not play the 1985 UEFA Super Cup.

- **All-time records: UEFA Super Cup (1973-to date)**

Matches played: 49

To date, 49 matches have been played in the competition with this season's fixture marking the UEFA Super Cup golden anniversary match.

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Finals: 30

Since the official introduction of the UEFA Super Cup, the competition has been contested on 30 occasions. All club names, stadium names and nationalities provided are those used on the date each match was played.

- 2005:** 26.08.95 Liverpool FC 3-1* PFC CSKA Moskva (Stade Louis II, Monaco - 17,042 - René Temmink (NED))
- 2004:** 27.08.04 FC Porto 1-2 Valencia CF (Stade Louis II, Monaco - 17,292 - Terje Hauge (NOR))
- 2003:** 29.08.03 AC Milan 1-0 FC Porto (Stade Louis II, Monaco - 16,885 - Graham Barber (ENG))
- 2002:** 24.08.01 Real Madrid CF 3-1 Feyenoord (Stade Louis II, Monaco - 18,284 - Hugh Dallas (SCO))
- 2001:** 24.08.01 FC Bayern München 2-3 Liverpool FC (Stade Louis II, Monaco - 13,824 - Vítor Pereira (POR))
- 2000:** 25.08.00 Real Madrid CF 1-2*** Galatasaray SK (Stade Louis II, Monaco - 15,000 - Günther Benkö (AUT))
- 1999:** 27.08.99 Manchester United FC 0-1 S.S. Lazio (Stade Louis II, Monaco - 15,000 - Ryszard Wojcik (POL))
- 1998:** 28.08.98 Real Madrid CF 0-1 Chelsea FC (Stade Louis II, Monaco - 11,589 - Marc Batta (FRA))
- 1997:** 11.03.98 Borussia Dortmund 1-1 FC Barcelona (Westfalenstadion, Dortmund - 32,500 - Piero Ceccarini (ITA))
- 08.01.98 FC Barcelona 2-0 Borussia Dortmund (Camp Nou, Barcelona - 40,000 - David Elleray (ENG))
- 1996:** 05.02.97 Juventus FC 3-1 Paris Saint-Germain FC (Della Favorita stadium, Palermo - 35,152 - Serge Muhmenthaler (SUI))
- 15.01.97 Paris Saint-Germain FC 1-6 Juventus FC (Parc des Princes, Paris - 29,519 - Nikolai Levnikov (RUS))
- 1995:** 28.02.96 AFC Ajax 4-0 Real Zaragoza (Olympisch stadion, Amsterdam - 22,000 - Leslie Mottram (SCO))
- 06.02.96 Real Zaragoza 1-1 AFC Ajax (La Romareda stadium, Zaragoza - 23,000 - Rémi Harrel (FRA))
- 1994:** 08.02.95 AC Milan 2-0 Arsenal FC (Giuseppe Meazza stadium, Milan - 23,953 - Hellmut Krug (GER))
- 01.02.95 Arsenal FC 0-0 AC Milan (Highbury, London - 38,050 - Mario van der Ende (NED))
- 1993#:** 02.02.94 AC Milan 0-2 Parma AC (Giuseppe Meazza stadium, Milan - 24,074 - Kurt Röthlisberger (SUI))
- 12.01.94 Parma AC 0-1 AC Milan (Ennio Tardini stadium, Parma - 8,083 - Manuel Díaz Vega (ESP))
- 1992:** 10.03.93 FC Barcelona 2-1 SV Werder Bremen (Camp Nou, Barcelona - 75,000 - Bo Karlsson (SWE))
- 10.02.93 SV Werder Bremen 1-1 FC Barcelona (Weserstadion, Bremen - 22,098 - Kim Milton Nielsen (DEN))
- 1991:** 19.11.91 Manchester United FC 1-0 FK Crvena Zvezda (Old Trafford, Manchester - 22,110 - Mario van der Ende (NED))
- 1990:** 29.11.90 AC Milan 2-0 Sampdoria UC (Renato Dall'Ara stadium, Bologna - 20,942 - Zoran Petrović (YUG))
- 10.10.90 Sampdoria UC 1-1 AC Milan (Luigi Ferraris stadium, Genoa - 19,724 - Rosa Santos (POR))
- 1989:** 07.12.89 AC Milan 1-0 FC Barcelona (Giuseppe Meazza stadium, Milan - 52,093 - Helmut Kohl (AUT))
- 23.11.89 FC Barcelona 1-1 AC Milan (Camp Nou, Barcelona - 50,000 - Joël Quiniou (FRA))
- 1988:** 08.02.89 PSV Eindhoven 1-0 KV Mechelen (PSV-Stadion, Eindhoven - 17,100 - Erik Fredriksson (SWE))
- 01.02.89 KV Mechelen 3-0 PSV Eindhoven (Achter de Kazerne stadium, Mechelen - 7,000 - Sigfried Kirschen (GDR))
- 1987:** 13.01.88 FC Porto 1-0 AFC Ajax (Estádio das Antas, Porto - 50,000 - Aron Schmidhuber (FRG))
- 24.11.87 AFC Ajax 0-1 FC Porto (De Meer stadion, Amsterdam - 27,000 - Robert Valentine (SCO))
- 1986:** 24.02.87 CSA Steaua Bucuresti 1-0 FC Dinamo Kiev (Stade Louis II, Monaco - 8,456 - Luigi Agnolin (ITA))
- 1985:** Juventus FC v Everton FC - Fixture not played
- 1984:** 16.01.85 Juventus FC 2-0 Liverpool FC (Comunale stadium, Turin - 55,384 - Dieter Pauly (FRG))
- 1983:** 20.12.83 Aberdeen FC 2-0 Hamburger SV (Pittodrie stadium, Aberdeen - 24,000 - Horst Brummeier (AUT))
- 22.11.83 Hamburger SV 0-0 Aberdeen FC (Volksparkstadion, Hamburg - 12,000 - Vojtech Christov (TCH))
- 1982:** 26.01.83 Aston Villa FC 3-0* FC Barcelona - Villa Park, Birmingham - 31,570 - Alexis Ponnet (BEL))
- 19.01.83 FC Barcelona 1-0 Aston Villa FC (Camp Nou, Barcelona - 40,000 - Bruno Galler (SUI))
- 1981:** Liverpool FC v FC Dinamo Tbilisi - Fixture not played
- 1980:** 17.12.80 Valencia CF 1-0++ Nottingham Forest FC (Luis Casanova stadium, Valencia - 45,000 - Franz Wöhrer (AUT))
- 15.11.80 Nottingham Forest FC 2-1 Valencia CF (City Ground, Nottingham - 12,463 - Alexis Ponnet (BEL))
- 1979:** 05.02.80 FC Barcelona 1-1 Nottingham Forest FC (Camp Nou, Barcelona - 80,000 - Walter Eschweiler (FRG))
- 30.01.80 Nottingham Forest FC 1-0 FC Barcelona (City Ground, Nottingham - 23,807 - Adolf Prokop (GDR))
- 1978:** 19.12.78 Liverpool FC 2-1 RSC Anderlecht (Anfield, Liverpool - 23,598 - Nicolae Rainea (ROM))
- 04.12.78 RSC Anderlecht 3-1 Liverpool FC (Parc Astrid, Brussels - 35,000 - Károly Palotai (HUN))
- 1977:** 06.12.77 Liverpool FC 6-0 Hamburger SV (Anfield Road, Liverpool - 34,931 - Ulf Eriksson (SWE))
- 22.11.77 Hamburger SV 1-1 Liverpool FC (Volksparkstadion, Hamburg - 20,000 - António Garrido (POR))
- 1976:** 30.08.76 RSC Anderlecht 4-1 FC Bayern München (Parc Astrid - Brussels - 35,000 - Paul Schiller (AUT))
- 17.08.76 FC Bayern München 2-1 RSC Anderlecht (Olympiastadion, Munich - 41,000 - Kenneth Burns (ENG))
- 1975:** 06.10.75 Dinamo Kiev 2-0 FC Bayern München (Central stadium, Kiev - 105,000 - Doğan Babacan (TUR))
- 10.09.75 FC Bayern München 0-1 Dinamo Kiev (Olympiastadion, Munich - 30,000 - Sergio Gonella (ITA))

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

1974: FC Bayern München v 1. FC Magdeburg - Fixture not played

1973: 16.01.74 AFC Ajax 6-0 AC Milan (Olympisch stadion, Amsterdam - 15,350 - Rudolf Glöckner (GDR))
09.01.74 AC Milan 1-0 AFC Ajax (San Siro stadium, Milan, Italy - 12,856 - Rudolf Scheurer (SUI))

* Matches decided after extra time

1982: Aston Villa FC 3-0 FC Barcelona

2005: Liverpool FC 3-1 PFC CSKA Moskva

** Matches decided after extra-time and penalty shoot-out

Not yet applicable in UEFA Super Cup finals

*** Matches decided after extra-time 'golden goal'

2000: Real Madrid CF 1-2 Galatasaray SK

+ Matches decided after extra-time 'silver goal'

Not applicable in UEFA Super Cup finals

++ Matches decided on away goals

1980: Valencia CF 2-2 Nottingham Forest FC (on aggregate, Valencia won on away goals)

Finalists suspended

1993: 1992/93 European Champion Clubs' Cup winners Olympique de Marseille were suspended, and their place in the UEFA Super Cup was taken by competition runners-up, AC Milan.

Unofficial match: 1972: The Super Cup competition also took place in 1972 but not as an official UEFA competition.

24.01.1973 AFC Ajax 3-2 Rangers FC (De Meer stadion, Amsterdam - 40,000 - Hans-Joachim Weyland (FRG))

16.01.1973 Rangers FC 1-3 AFC Ajax (Ibrox stadium, Glasgow - 58,000 - Alastair MacKenzie (SCO))

Most finalists (by country): 12

England currently holds the record for the number of times their teams have participated in the competition with 12 (Liverpool FC 5, Manchester United FC 2, Nottingham Forest FC 2, Arsenal FC 1, Aston Villa FC 1, Chelsea FC 1). With two teams in this season's competition, Spain will soon move to the top of this ranking with 13 (FC Barcelona 6, Real Madrid CF 3, Valencia CF 2, Real Zaragoza 1, Sevilla FC 1).

Most victories (by country): 8

Italian teams have recorded the most victories with eight (AC Milan 4, Juventus 2, S.S. Lazio 1, Parma FC 1), one ahead of England. With two teams from the one country contesting the 2006 final, the total of victories by Spanish sides will increase to six.

Fastest goal: 5

The fastest goal scored in the UEFA Super Cup came in the 1987 decider when Rui Barros scored the only goal of the first leg after five minutes for FC Porto away to AFC Ajax. Porto won the return leg by the same margin to win the competition 2-0 on aggregate.

Most victories (by club): 4

AC Milan lead the way with four victories in the competition (1989, 1990, 1994 and 2003), with both Liverpool FC and AFC Ajax one behind. FC Barcelona are one of four teams, including Spanish rivals Valencia CF, to have won the competition on two occasions.

Extra-time victors: 3

Three competitions have required extra time to decide the winner, Parma AC (1993, 2-1 versus AC Milan), Galatasaray SK (2000, 2-1 golden goal victory versus Real Madrid CF) and Liverpool FC (2005, 3-1 versus PFC CSKA Moskva).

Finals involving teams from the same country: 2

To date, Italian sides have competed against each other in two finals with AC Milan defeating Sampdoria UC 3-1 on aggregate in the 1990 competition. Milan were involved in the decider three years later against Parma AC, but on this occasion the Rossoneri ended on the losing side, 2-1.

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Hat-tricks: 1

To date, Terry McDermott is the only player to have scored three times in one UEFA Super Cup match having done so in a 17-minute spell either side of the interval in Liverpool FC's 6-0 defeat of Hamburger SV in the second leg of their 1977 fixture. Phil Thompson opened the scoring for Liverpool at Anfield after 21 minutes before McDermott added their second five minutes before the interval. Two goals in two minutes (56, 57) doubled the Reds' lead before David Fairclough (84) and Kenny Dalglish (88) completed the scoring as Liverpool won the competition 7-1 on aggregate.

Penalty shoot-outs: 0

The UEFA Super Cup has yet to witness a penalty shoot-out to determine the winner of the competition.

• Monaco records: UEFA Super Cup (1998-to date)

Fastest goal: 10

For matches held in Monaco since 1998, Andriy Shevchenko holds the record for the quickest goal in the UEFA Super Cup having scored the only goal of the game after ten minutes in AC Milan's 1-0 defeat of FC Porto in the 2003 fixture.

Man of the match awards: 8

1998: Gustavo Poyet (Chelsea FC)

1999: Juan Sebastián Verón (S.S. Lazio)

2000: Okan Buruk (Galatasaray SK)

2001: Michael Owen (Liverpool FC)

2002: Roberto Carlos (Real Madrid CF)

2003: Andriy Shevchenko (AC Milan)

2004: Rubén Baraja (Valencia CF)

2005: Djibril Cissé (Liverpool FC)

Most yellow cards: 7

Austrian match official Günther Benkö issued seven yellow cards in the 2000 UEFA Super Cup in which Galatasaray SK defeated Real Madrid CF 2-1 thanks to Mário Jardel's golden-goal winner. Madrid won the yellow card tally, 4-3.

Most goals by a team: 3

Liverpool FC have scored on three occasions in their two Monaco finals, firstly in their 3-2 defeat of FC Bayern München in 2001 (a match in which the Reds led 3-0 at one stage), and then in their 2005 3-1 extra-time defeat of PFC CSKA Moskva. Real Madrid CF also matched Liverpool's tally in their 3-1 defeat of Feyenoord in 2002.

Widest margin of victory: 2

Real Madrid CF hold the widest margin of victory over 90 minutes due to their 3-1 defeat of Feyenoord in 2002. Liverpool FC matched that margin and scoreline in 2005, but only after extra time at PFC CSKA Moskva's expense.

Extra-time victors: 2

Galatasaray SK and Liverpool FC have recorded the two extra-time victories to date in the competition. The Turkish side defeated Real Madrid CF 2-1 in 2000 with the winner coming from Mário Jardel's golden goal after 102 minutes. Liverpool struck twice in extra time in their 3-1 defeat of PFC CSKA Moskva in 2005 with Djibril Cissé (103 minutes) and Luis García (109) on the scoresheet.

Lowest total of goals: 1

There have been three 1-0 outcomes to date in the UEFA Super Cup. The first two finals ended with single-goal victories for Chelsea FC in 1998 and S.S. Lazio in 1999 at the expense of Real Madrid CF and Manchester United FC respectively. Chelsea's winner came from man of the match Gustavo Poyet seven minutes from time, while Lazio had substitute Marcelo Salas to thank for his 35th-minute winner. Salas had been introduced as a 23rd-minute replacement for Simone Inzaghi. The other solitary goal victory came in 2003 when Andriy Shevchenko's tenth-minute goal for AC Milan accounted for FC Porto.

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Finals on 25 August: 1

Before this season, one other UEFA Super Cup took place on 25 August, namely Galatasaray SK's golden-goal defeat of Real Madrid CF in 2000. Mário Jardel struck twice for Galatasaray, firstly from the penalty spot after 41 minutes, and again after 102 minutes after Raúl González had forced extra time with an equaliser eleven minutes from time.

Own goals in a final: 1

To date, the only own goal scored in a UEFA Super Cup final in Monaco came from Feyenoord's Patrick Paauwe 15 minutes into his team's 3-1 defeat at the hands of Real Madrid CF in 2002. The goal opened the scoring in the game with Roberto Carlos (21) and Guti (60) also on the scoresheet for the Spanish club. Pierre van Hooijdonk scored Feyenoord's consolation after 56 minutes.

Red cards: 0

To date, no red cards have been issued in the competition.

Penalty shoot-out winners: 0

To date, no matches in the competition have required a penalty shoot-out to determine the winners.

Scoreless draws: 0

To date, no scoreless draws after 90 minutes have been recorded in the competition.

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

The trophy

In line with the increased prestige of the competition, the new UEFA Super Cup trophy - which will be lifted for the first time by one of the triumphant captains in this season's Monaco showcase - is bigger and better than ever.

Tiny trophy

The old UEFA Super Cup trophy - which was raised in celebration by footballing giants like Alessandro Nesta, Fernando Hierro and Paolo Maldini - was the smallest and lightest of all the European club trophies, weighing just 5kg and measuring a modest 42.5cm in height. With the UEFA Champions League trophy weighing in at 8kg and the UEFA Cup at 15kg, the UEFA Super Cup was never quite as super as it sounded.

Heavyweight prize

That has all changed now, and with the new model trophy now standing at 58cm, the UEFA Super Cup now tips the scales at a strapping 12.2kg - a fair reflection of the importance of the final as the finale to the annual UEFA European Football Awards. And while the trophy may have put on weight, there will be no shortage of players eager to raise it after the final whistle in Monaco.

Design continuity

The new trophy retains the basic design of its predecessor, which was designed and crafted at the Bertoni workshop in Milan. The classic bowl is held aloft on a base that is subtly twisted like a skein of wool while the two arms allow the winners enough room to take a firm grip as they do their lap of honour. The champion is entitled to have a replica made, provided that it doesn't exceed four-fifths of the dimensions of the original - which means that either FC Barcelona or Sevilla FC can craft a replica that is much bigger than the ones possessed by previous winners.

Odd tradition

Regardless of which of the two sides triumphs at the Stade Louis II, a strange UEFA Super Cup tradition is set to continue. Ever since the match was moved to Monaco in 1998, a Spanish side has played in the tournament in every even-numbered year, while no Spanish sides have ever played for the trophy in odd-numbered years.

Spanish treble

In 1998 and 2000, that looked like a bad omen as Real Madrid CF lost the game on both occasions, but fortune seemed to turn in Spain's direction in 2002 as Los Merengues won the trophy at the third attempt. With Valencia CF having continued that winning tradition in 2004, the Primera División is destined for an even-numbered UEFA Super Cup hat-trick regardless of whether Carles Puyol or Javi Navarro ends up being the winning captain.

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

History

Just as the idea for the European Champion Clubs' Cup came to fruition after French newspaper L'Equipe's assertion that Stade de Reims Champagne could be the best club side in Europe, the idea for a UEFA Super Cup came from a Dutch source just when Dutch clubs, and more particularly AFC Ajax, ruled supreme in Europe. The competition was the brainchild of Anton Witkamp, then a reporter and later sports editor of Dutch newspaper De Telegraaf.

Celebrating Cruyff

Witkamp came up with the idea of "something new" to decide definitively the top club side in Europe, and to test further Ajax's ability. Witkamp once described how he conceived the idea: "The reason was to celebrate Ajax and Cruyff. The idea was conceived at the era of total football. Our era. Four consecutive European Cups between Feyenoord and Ajax.

'Pursuit'

"More than money and glory, they were pursuing the right to be called the best," he adds. "But which was the strongest team in Europe, or which team ought to have been the strongest? The team that won the European Cup? In principle, yes, this team ought to have been the strongest. Football is often a hymn to relativity and, for this reason, can be an imprecise art. So why not pit the holders of the European Champion Clubs' Cup against the winners of the Cup Winners' Cup? Why not throw down a challenge to Ajax? The Scots of Rangers FC had won the Cup Winners' Cup in 1972. I put forward my plan to the Ajax boss Van Praag, who found it an excellent idea. Consequently, the way was clear, with the patronage of my newspaper."

Plans in practice

In 1972, Witkamp proposed the idea of a match between Ajax, then Champions' Cup holders, and Rangers, then Cup Winners' Cup holders. He presented his idea to the late Jaap van Praag, then the president of Ajax. Van Praag loved the idea, and the two men sought to put it into practice. Witkamp and Van Praag travelled to Zurich to meet with the then UEFA President, the late Artemio Franchi, to seek official endorsement for the new competition. None was forthcoming, largely because Rangers were at the time under a one-year suspension from UEFA due to the misbehaviour of their supporters.

Unofficial status

However, the match went ahead, albeit in an unofficial capacity, as the Scottish club, who were having centennial celebrations that year, willingly obliged. Witkamp decided on a two-legged format to maximise the revenue for both clubs. The games, which were financially supported by De Telegraaf, the best-selling paper in the Netherlands, took place on 16 and 24 June in Glasgow and Amsterdam respectively. Goals from Johnny Rep, Cruyff and Arie Haan gave Ajax a 3-1 victory in Glasgow, while Alex McDonald scored Rangers' goal and was on the mark in the second leg along with Quentin Young, but they were again outgunned with Haan, Gerd Mühren and Cruyff scoring in a 3-2 win. The first UEFA-sanctioned Super Cup matches took place in 1974, with the very fact that the 1973 final did not take place until January 1974 illustrating a problem which was henceforth to trouble the competition.

Endorsement

The first Super Cup proper took place in the Giuseppe Meazza stadium in Milan, where Ajax lost 1-0 to Milan AC. Ajax, even without the then departed Cruyff, made no mistake in the return leg in Amsterdam and won 6-0. Though, Witkamp's *raison d'être* of celebrating Ajax had been emphatically achieved, the competition still struggled to take off. Indeed, there was no 1974 contest with FC Bayern München and 1. FC Magdeburg unable to find a mutually convenient date. Liverpool FC could not make space to meet FC Dinamo Tbilisi in 1981 and could only find one date to play Juventus FC in 1984.

One-off encounters

This was one of the three times the UEFA Super Cup was played as a single match since the current format began in 1998. The other two single matches came in 1991, when the political situation compelled Manchester United FC and FK Crvena Zvezda to meet only at Old Trafford, and 1986, when CSA Steaua Bucuresti and FC Dinamo Kiev played the first Super Cup at the Stade Louis II in Monaco. The competition retained something of an "exhibition match" standing until the 1982/83 season when UEFA gave it something akin to its current status. Now, with the match played to signal the start of the season, Witkamp's idea is finally coming to complete fruition.

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Stade Louis II

The Stade Louis II is set just in from the Mediterranean coast, in the suburb of Fontvieille overlooking the cliffs of the Cote d'Azur. Although its capacity is just under 20,000, its spectacular setting and stunning design make it one of the most impressive stadiums in France.

The Stade Louis II is named after the grandfather of Monaco's Prince Rainier, who opened the stadium in 1985. It is home to AS Monaco FC, and no stranger to big European nights, notably in 1998 and 2004 when the local side reached the semi-finals of the UEFA Champions League. The Stade Louis II also staged the 1986 UEFA Cup Winners' Cup final, won by FC Dinamo Kiev (now FC Dynamo Kyiv), and since 1998 has been home to the UEFA Super Cup, which it will continue to stage until 2008 at least. The Stade Louis II also regularly holds international athletics events and has a running track around the outside of the pitch.

Built near the site of the old Monaco stadium, the Stade Louis II was the brainchild of Prince Rainier III, who brought in top architects from Paris to design this well-equipped multi-storey sports complex. Much of the venue's facilities are underground, including its car park, swimming pools and gymnasias, and all of it was built on land reclaimed from the Mediterranean over nearly half a decade in the early 1980s. The best seats are in the upper tier of the north stand, or Tribune d'Honneur, although the lower tier, Tribune Reservée, is almost as well positioned, and generally favoured by local families. In the south stand, the middle tiers of the Tribune Premiere are also popular. Away fans tend to be allocated the Cap d'Ail end, where you will find the main bar, L'Equipe.

UEFA information

The UEFA Super Cup is a sell-out with both clubs taking their 5,600 allocation in the 18,000-capacity stadium – meaning no tickets will be sold on the door. Barcelona released their tickets through a lottery on their official website, and fans were expected to travel from around the world. Sevilla will have eight charter flights arriving from Andalusia, as well as 50 coaches carrying supporters.

The UEFA Super Cup is staged as a single match. If the match is a draw at the end of normal time, extra time of two periods of 15 minutes will be played. If the two teams are still level after extra time, the winners will be determined by kicks from the penalty spot. According to UEFA regulations, any player sent off will be suspended for the next UEFA club competition match although the Control and Disciplinary Body can augment this punishment. Single yellow cards will not be carried forward.

The 2006/07 UEFA season is upon us with the UEFA Champions League group stage and UEFA Cup first round contenders all learning their fate in Monaco. The UEFA Champions League group stage schedule is as follows: MD1 - 12/13 September; MD2 - 26/27 September; MD3 - 17/18 October; MD4 - 31 October/1 November; MD5 - 21/22 November; MD6 - 5/6 December. The UEFA Cup first round will take place over two legs on 14 and 28 September, with the group stage played out between October and December.

While Barcelona and Sevilla claimed the two main club prizes last season, there was also glory for Spain in the last event of the 2005/06 UEFA calendar. The country won the UEFA European Under-19 Championship held in Poland last month. Barcelona were represented by defender Marc Valiente and midfielders Antonio Calvo and Jeffrén Suárez, while Sevilla had two involved, namely defender José Ángel Crespo and midfielder Diego Capel.

In June 2005, UEFA confirmed that the Stade Louis II would continue to stage the UEFA Super Cup until at least 2008. UEFA made the decision after studying various financial and commercial criteria. Other bidders for the match and its associated events were Geneva and Barcelona. The UEFA Club Football Awards and the UEFA Super Cup fixture, which now features the UEFA Champions League and UEFA Cup title-holders, have been held in Monaco since 1998.

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Head coach profiles

Frank Rijkaard

Date of birth: 30 September 1962

Nationality: Dutch

Playing career: AFC Ajax (twice), Sporting Clube de Portugal, Real Zaragoza, AC Milan

Coaching career: Netherlands, Sparta Rotterdam, FC Barcelona

At the end of his third season at FC Barcelona, Frank Rijkaard became only the fifth man – the others being Miguel Muñoz, Giovanni Trapattoni, Johan Cruyff and Carlo Ancelotti – to have lifted the European Champion Clubs' Cup as both a player and coach.

Cruyff was his mentor as a youngster. The Dutch legend groomed Rijkaard at AFC Ajax in 1979 where the defender progressed so quickly that he was pulling on the Netherlands shirt aged just 19. In 1987, Rijkaard left Amsterdam and had brief spells in Portugal and Spain before committing the key years of his career to AC Milan with whom he twice won the European Cup. Rijkaard played in midfield for Milan but in central defence for his country as they lifted the 1988 UEFA European Championship.

He returned to Ajax in 1993 and helped them defeat Milan in the 1995 UEFA Champions League final in Vienna. When he retired, heads turned as Rijkaard was appointed Netherlands coach before UEFA EURO 2000™. A semi-final place followed but Rijkaard left to pursue a club management career. His first stint ended poorly, as he resigned from Sparta Rotterdam in May 2002 when they were relegated from the Dutch Eredivisie for the first time, although Barça were not put off and have since seen their faith repaid handsomely with league titles in 2004/05 and 2005/06 before UEFA Champions League glory was achieved with a 2-1 win against Arsenal FC in Paris last May.

Juande Ramos

Date of birth: 25/09/1954

Nationality: Spanish

Coaching career: Elche CF, CD Alcoyano, UD Levante, Logroñés CF, FC Barcelona B, UD Lleida, Rayo Vallecano de Madrid, Real Betis Balompié, RCD Espanyol, Málaga CF, Sevilla FC

Juande Ramos shot to European attention in 2006 when he led Sevilla FC to victory in the UEFA Cup. Sevilla had not reached a final since the 1962 Copa del Rey, but in Eindhoven they were in awesome form, their 4-0 victory against Middlesbrough FC the biggest winning margin in a UEFA final since AC Milan defeated FC Barcelona by the same scoreline in the 1993/94 UEFA Champions League showpiece.

Like Rafael Benítez and other leading Spanish coaches of the modern generation, including his Sevilla predecessor Joaquín Caparrós and Valencia CF's Quique Flores, Ramos emphasises discipline but also skilful football. That approach bore fruit in his debut season in Sevilla when, as well as winning the UEFA Cup, he got to within a point of the UEFA Champions League, narrowly losing out to CA Osasuna in the race for fourth place in the Primera División. Ramos counts local rivals Real Betis Balompié among his former clubs so his appointment was not initially popular with Sevilla supporters, but they were soon won round by results. The departure of Sergio Ramos and Julio Baptista to Real Madrid CF at the start of the 2005/06 season made Ramos's job harder still, but his astute tactics and motivational skills ensured his team thrived without those stars.

It was at Rayo Vallecano de Madrid, the Spanish capital's unfashionable third side, that Ramos first came to prominence. He took them to promotion to the Primera División in his first season in 1998/99 and to a ninth-place finish the following year. In 2000/01 Vallecano qualified for the UEFA Cup through the Fair Play ranking and in their first season in Europe went all the way to the quarter-finals. Before joining Rayo, Ramos had spent most of his career in the lower divisions, including leading Barcelona's B team in 1996/97.

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Squad list

Barcelona

No	Player	Nat.	DoB	Current Season				All-time			
				SCUP		League		SCUP		UEFA	
				Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers											
1	Victor Valdés	ESP	14.01.82	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	-
25	Albert Jorquera	ESP	03.03.79	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
28	Rubén Martínez	ESP	22.06.84	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Defenders											
2	Juliano Belletti	BRA	20.06.76	-	-	-	-	-	-	39	1
4	Rafael Márquez	MEX	13.02.79	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	-
5	Carles Puyol	ESP	13.04.78	-	-	-	-	-	-	69	-
12	Giovanni van Bronckhorst	NED	05.02.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	86	7
15	Edmílson	BRA	10.07.76	-	-	-	-	-	-	46	1
16	Sylvinho	BRA	12.04.74	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	2
21	Lilian Thuram	FRA	01.01.72	-	-	-	-	-	-	103	1
23	Oleguer Presas	ESP	02.02.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	-
Midfielders											
3	Thiago Motta	BRA	28.08.82	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	3
6	Xavi Hernández	ESP	25.01.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	74	3
11	Gianluca Zambrotta	ITA	19.02.77	-	-	-	-	-	-	59	2
17	Mark van Bommel	NED	22.04.77	-	-	-	-	-	-	63	8
19	Lionel Messi	ARG	24.06.87	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1
20	Deco	POR	27.08.77	-	-	-	-	1	-	79	16
24	Andrés Iniesta	ESP	11.05.84	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	1
Forwards											
7	Eidur Gudjohnsen	ISL	15.09.78	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	8
8	Ludovic Giuly	FRA	10.07.76	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	17
9	Samuel Eto'o	CMR	10.03.81	-	-	-	-	-	-	37	17
10	Ronaldinho	BRA	21.03.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	18
18	Santiago Ezquerro	ESP	14.12.76	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	6
22	Javier Saviola	ARG	11.12.81	-	-	-	-	-	-	52	24
Coach											
	Frank Rijkaard	NED	30.09.62	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	-

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Squad list

Sevilla

No	Player	Nat.	DoB	Current Season				All-time			
				SCUP		League		SCUP		UEFA	
				Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls	Pld	Gls
Goalkeepers											
1	Andrés Palop	ESP	22.10.73	-	-	-	-	-	-	29	-
13	David Cobeño	ESP	06.04.82	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29	Javier Varas	ESP	10.09.82	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	José Ángel Crespo	ESP	09.02.87	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Defenders											
2	Javi Navarro	ESP	06.02.74	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-
3	David Castedo	ESP	26.01.74	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	-
14	Julien Escudé	FRA	17.08.79	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	-
16	Antonio Puerta	ESP	25.11.84	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	2
19	Ivica Dragutinović	SCG	13.11.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-
20	Aitor Ocio	ESP	28.11.76	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-
21	Pablo Ruiz	ESP	25.02.81	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
24	Andreas Hinkel	GER	26.03.82	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	2
Midfielders											
4	Daniel Alves	BRA	06.05.83	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	-
5	Sergio Valente	POR	27.06.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
6	Adriano	ESP	26.10.84	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	4
8	Christian Poulsen	DEN	28.02.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	42	1
11	Renato	BRA	15.05.79	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	1
18	José Luis Martí	ESP	28.04.75	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	1
25	Enzo Maresca	ITA	10.02.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	4
26	Bruno Herrero	ESP	13.02.85	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	Diego Capel	ESP	16.02.88	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Forwards											
7	Ernesto Chevantón	URU	12.08.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	5
10	Luis Fabiano	BRA	08.11.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	2
12	Frédéric Kanouté	MLI	02.09.77	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	9
15	Jesús Navas	ESP	21.11.85	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	-
17	Jesuli	ESP	24.01.78	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	4
22	Fernando Sales	ESP	12.09.77	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	-
23	Kepa Blanco	ESP	13.01.84	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	1
27	Alfaro	ESP	23.11.86	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coach											
	Juande Ramos	ESP	25.09.54	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	-

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Domestic league details

FC Barcelona (Primera División)

Date	Opponent	Res	Goalscorers
28.08.2006	v RC Celta de Vigo (A)		
10.09.2006	v CA Osasuna (H)		
17.09.2006	v Real Racing Club Santander (A)		
24.09.2006	v Valencia CF (H)		
01.10.2006	v Athletic Club Bilbao (A)		
15.10.2006	v Sevilla FC (H)		
22.10.2006	v Real Madrid CF (A)		
29.10.2006	v RC Recreativo de Huelva (H)		
05.11.2006	v RC Deportivo La Coruña (A)		
12.11.2006	v Real Zaragoza (H)		
19.11.2006	v RCD Mallorca (A)		
26.11.2006	v Villarreal CF (H)		
03.12.2006	v Levante UD (A)		
10.12.2006	v Real Sociedad de Fútbol (H)		
17.12.2006	v Real Betis Balompié (A)		
20.12.2006	v Club Atlético de Madrid (H)		
07.01.2007	v Getafe CF (A)		
14.01.2007	v RCD Espanyol (A)		
21.01.2007	v CG Tarragona (H)		
28.01.2007	v RC Celta de Vigo (H)		
04.02.2007	v CA Osasuna (A)		
11.02.2007	v Real Racing Club Santander (H)		
18.02.2007	v Valencia CF (A)		
25.02.2007	v Athletic Club Bilbao (H)		
04.03.2007	v Sevilla FC (A)		
11.03.2007	v Real Madrid CF (H)		
18.03.2007	v RC Recreativo de Huelva (A)		
01.04.2007	v RC Deportivo La Coruña (H)		
08.04.2007	v Real Zaragoza (A)		
15.04.2007	v RCD Mallorca (H)		
22.04.2007	v Villarreal CF (A)		
29.04.2007	v Levante UD (H)		
06.05.2007	v Real Sociedad de Fútbol (A)		
13.05.2007	v Real Betis Balompié (H)		
20.05.2007	v Club Atlético de Madrid (A)		

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Sevilla FC (Primera División)

Date	Opponent	Res	Goalscorers
29.08.2006	v Levante UD (H)		
10.09.2006	v Real Sociedad de Fútbol (A)		
17.09.2006	v Real Betis Balompié (H)		
24.09.2006	v Club Atlético de Madrid (A)		
01.10.2006	v Getafe CF (H)		
15.10.2006	v FC Barcelona (A)		
22.10.2006	v CG Tarragona (H)		
29.10.2006	v RC Celta de Vigo (A)		
05.11.2006	v CA Osasuna (H)		
12.11.2006	v Real Racing Club Santander (A)		
19.11.2006	v Valencia CF (H)		
26.11.2006	v Athletic Club Bilbao (A)		
03.12.2006	v RCD Espanyol (A)		
10.12.2006	v Real Madrid CF (H)		
17.12.2006	v RC Recreativo de Huelva (A)		
20.12.2006	v RC Deportivo La Coruña (H)		
07.01.2007	v Real Zaragoza (A)		
14.01.2007	v RCD Mallorca (H)		
21.01.2007	v Villarreal CF (A)		
28.01.2007	v Levante UD (A)		
04.02.2007	v Real Sociedad de Fútbol (H)		
11.02.2007	v Real Betis Balompié (A)		
18.02.2007	v Club Atlético de Madrid (H)		
25.02.2007	v Getafe CF (A)		
04.03.2007	v FC Barcelona (H)		
11.03.2007	v CG Tarragona (A)		
18.03.2007	v RC Celta de Vigo (H)		
01.04.2007	v CA Osasuna (A)		
08.04.2007	v Real Racing Club Santander (H)		
15.04.2007	v Valencia CF (A)		
22.04.2007	v Athletic Club Bilbao (H)		
29.04.2007	v RCD Espanyol (H)		
06.05.2007	v Real Madrid CF (A)		
13.05.2007	v RC Recreativo de Huelva (H)		
20.05.2007	v RC Deportivo La Coruña (A)		

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Rank	Clubs	Pld	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1	CA Osasuna	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	RCD Espanyol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Villarreal CF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Real Zaragoza	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Getafe CF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Sevilla FC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Athletic Club Bilbao	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	FC Barcelona	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Real Racing Club Santander	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Real Madrid CF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Valencia CF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	RC Celta de Vigo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Club Atlético de Madrid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	RCD Mallorca	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Real Betis Balompíe	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	RC Recreativo de Huelva	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	CG Tarragona	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	RC Deportivo La Coruña	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Levante UD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Real Sociedad de Fútbol	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

Legend

:: Statistics

The statistics provided throughout this document are based on the all-time record of the competing clubs in UEFA club competition.

UEFA club competitions: These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in UEFA club competitions defined as the European Champion Clubs' Cup, the UEFA Champions League, the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup, the UEFA Cup, the UEFA Super Cup (from the 1973 competition), the UEFA Intertoto Cup and the European/South American Cup. The Inter-Cities Fairs Cup is not regarded as a UEFA competition but statistics are separately included for information purposes.

Goals for/against: Goals totals include the outcome of disciplinary decisions (eg. match forfeits when a 3-0 result is determined). Goals totals do not include goals scored from the penalty mark during a penalty shoot-out after a tie ended in a draw.

:: Squad list

The eligible list of players ordered first by playing position and then numeric order.

Current season - SCUP: Total UEFA Super Cup appearances this season (no appearances for all players).

Current season - League: Total domestic league appearances this season.

All-time - SCUP: Total appearances in the UEFA Super Cup.

All-time - UEFA: Total appearances in UEFA club competitions (as defined above) including all qualifying round matches. These are the official statistics considered valid for communicating official records in the competition.

:: Bookings list

The current disciplinary situation in the competition.

*: Misses next match if booked

#: Suspended for at least one match

+: Provisionally suspended

R: Sent off (red card)

S: Suspended

Y: Booked (yellow card)

Y/R: Sent off (yellow card then direct red)

R*: Sent off (red card) in the UEFA Cup

S*: Suspended following cautions received in the UEFA Cup

Y*: Booked (yellow card) in the UEFA Cup

Y/R*: Sent off (yellow card then direct red) in the UEFA Cup

Note: The bookings list is destined for the press. It is given to the competing clubs for information purposes only and therefore has no legal value. In the event of any discrepancy, only the correspondence addressed directly to the clubs will be considered as the authoritative version.

FC Barcelona v Sevilla FC

MATCH PRESS KIT

:: Competitions

ECCC: European Champion Clubs' Cup/UEFA Champions League

UCUP: UEFA Cup

UCWC: UEFA Cup Winners' Cup

SCUP: UEFA Super Cup

UIC: UEFA Intertoto Cup

EURO: UEFA European Football Championship

U21: UEFA European Under-21 Championship

WC: FIFA World Cup

CONFCUP: FIFA Confederations Cup

FRIE: A International friendly matches

U21 FRIE: Under-21 international friendly matches

:: Competition stages

F: Final

GS: Group stage

GS1: First group stage

GS2: Second group stage

KO1: First knockout round

PR: Preliminary round

QF: Quarter-finals

QR: Qualifying round

QR1: First qualifying round

QR2: Second qualifying round

QR3: Third qualifying round

R1: First round

R2: Second round

R3: Third round

R4: Fourth round

SF: Semi-finals

1/8: Eighth-finals

1/16: Sixteenth-finals

1st: First leg

2nd: Second leg

:: Other abbreviations

AP: Appearances

Comp: Competition

D: Drawn

DoB: Date of birth

GA: Goals against

GF: Goals for

L: Lost

N/A: Not applicable

Nat: Nationality

No: Number

Pld: Matches played

Pos: Position

Pts: Points

R: Sent off (red card)

Res: Result

W: Won

Y: Booked (yellow card)

Y/R: Sent off (yellow card then direct red)