

UEFA Champions League 2012 / 2013

Round of 16

(POR) FC Porto		1:0		Málaga CF (ESP)
19 February 2013, 20:45 CET – Estádio do Dragão, Porto, Portugal				

Match Officials	Name	Origin	Mark ¹	Mark ²	Difficulty ³
Referee	Mark Clattenburg	ENG	8.2	---	Normal
Assistant Referee 1	Simon Beck	ENG	7.9	8.4	Challenging
Assistant Referee 2	Stuart Burt	ENG	8.6	---	Challenging
Additional AR 1	Lee Probert	ENG	8.0	---	Normal
Additional AR 2	Mike Dean	ENG	8.0	---	Normal
Fourth Official	Simon Long	ENG	8.0	---	Normal
UEFA Referee Observer	Alfredo Trentalange	ITA			
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 1st leg match of CL quarterfinals, between FC Porto and Málaga CF. Match was played at Estádio do Dragão, in Porto (Portugal). There was an attendance of 42,209. The match was officiated by the English official Mark Clattenburg, which had as assistants Simon Beck and Stuart Burt. Lee Probert and Mike Dean were the additional assistant referees, while Simon Long was acting as fourth official. The atmosphere was considerable, by the way the referee was never under a big pressure, showing a good control of an easy match. The assistants were challenged much more.

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:

Mark Clattenburg had overall a not difficult match to handle. His foul detection was good in first half, a bit less in second half, when he probably missed several situations, but at the end there weren't crucial or important situations for him. The decision to avoid cards, especially in first half, can be shared, because the match was fair and players always accepted each decision. In second half, there were two or three situations in which the crew might have performed better. We must underline a missed cooperation with the first assistant referee in the 54' and 55' minute. The referee often preferred to give verbal warnings instead of cards, and this policy would be ok, but in the opinion of this observer some cards were almost mandatory. The match was by the way decided by a goal scored in offside position, and so the performance of the whole referees team was affected by this situation.

Minute	Description of the situation
9'	The first considerable foul of the match: Iturra (Málaga) on João Moutinho (Porto). Verbal warning by referee.
21'	Demichelis (Malága) tackle on Varela (Porto). He clearly hits the ball, correct decision to let the game flow, no foul.
35'	Good advantage given to Porto.
40'	Júlio Baptista (Málaga) commits foul on João Moutinho (Porto). Still acceptable decision to keep the cards, the match is fair.
45'+1	Good advantage given to Porto.
50'	João Moutinho (Porto) late and reckless foul on Joaquín (Málaga), with the ball away. In this situation Clattenburg could have shown the first card of the match, but he decided to give a strong warning to the player.
52'	Probably missed foul on a Málaga player.
54' and 55'	Antunes (Málaga) commits two blatant tackles in a row, against Danilo and João Moutinho (Porto). Clattenburg is away. Everything happens under the eyes of Beck, the first assistant. No signals from him. At least a free kick had to be awarded.
56'	João Moutinho (Porto) scores from a slight offside position, missed by first assistant.
72'	Júlio Baptista (Málaga) commits foul on Alex Sandro (Porto), correctly reported by second assistant.
74'	James Rodríguez (Porto) commits ful on Antunes (Málaga). Another strong warning by referee.
75'	The first and only yellow card of the match. Iturra (Málaga) is booked after having committed a blatant foul on the opponent, stopping a potentially important counter-attack. Correct decision.
76'	Verbal warnings to the players in penalty area, prior to a free kick.
80'	Another dangerous tackle, this time by Camacho (Málaga). He hits the ball, but also the opponent. No foul for the referee.
89'	Sergio Sánchez (Málaga) commits foul on Alex Sandro (Porto). Correctly reported by second assistant.

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:
 The game was always under the control of the referee, there weren't problems, riots or tense moments, because players were fair all match long. They accepted the decisions of the referee. Clattenburg showed to be calm, but sometimes he had problems in communication with players and he had to repeat again his gestures, in order to be understood. He had a smiling approach, and probably this behavior was approved by players.

Positive Points	1.	Control of the game, by the way not difficult.
	2.	Calm and smiling approach, the match permitted that.
	3.	The players accepted him, even in (probably) wrong decisions.
Points to improve	1.	Positioning, sometimes he appeared too far from the action.
	2.	The verbal warnings he gave were strong, but sometimes a card is mandatory.
	3.	Communication with players. He was able in talking, but sometimes he had problems in gestures.

Minute	Description of the situation
50'	In this situation a card could have been mandatory.
76'	Verbal warnings prior to a free kick, good signal of a match under control.

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): average

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
54' , 55'	He was too far away from the play.
35', 45' +1	God advantages given, he was able to read the game.

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 was good with the second assistant, in second half he helped the referee at least two times. Less cooperation with the first assistant, also when important situations happened in his

area of vicinity. Unluckily, the match was decided by a mistake made by first assistant Simon Beck. Additional assistant referees were never involved.

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

Comments:

The mark for the first assistant is affected by the crucial mistake: 7,9. The mark for Clattenburg is 8,2 because he can improve in foul detection and he can show more cards if needed, in mandatory situations. By the way, the match presented a normal difficulty, nothing challenging for the main referee.

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:

Both assistants had a challenging match. The first assistant was unluckily involved in a wrong call which decided the match. João Moutinho (Porto) scored from an offside position, but it wasn't easy to detect for the reasons that you can read in the grid. Beck had other important situations to evaluate and he always was right in his decisions. He should have helped the referee when Antunes (Málaga) committed a blatant foul in his area of vicinity.

Minute	Description of the situation
12'	Santa Cruz (Málaga) is flagged offside. Correct decision.
54'	Varela (Porto) is evaluated onside. Very good and difficult decision.
54' and 55'	Missed cooperation with the referee.
56'	João Moutinho (Porto) scores from an offside position. No flag by Beck, crucial mistake. The decision was by the way very difficult, considering that there was another player in clear offside and João Moutinho was coming from behind. Simon Beck wasn't able to recognize the slight offside, which happened in a split second. The goal decided the match.
70'	James Rodríguez (Porto) is correctly evaluated onside.
73'	Atsu (Porto) is coming back from an offside position. Correct flag.
79'	Otamendi (Porto) is correctly evaluated onside.

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:

Both assistants had a challenging match. The second assistant was challenged in many offside situations and he was always right in his decisions, showing also an excellent fitness. He also helped the referee when in second half several fouls happened in his area of vicinity. Very good work.

Minute	Description of the situation
8'	Lucho González (Porto) is flagged offside. Correct decision.
14'	Jackson Martínez (Porto) is evaluated to be in a offside position. Correct.
15'	Good onside evaluation of Jackson Martínez (Porto) on a long ball.
19'	Varela (Porto) is evaluated onside. Another correct decision.
38'	Danilo (Porto) is flagged offside. Correct decision.
41'	Jackson Martínez (Porto) is flagged offside. Correct decision.
72'	Júlio Baptista (Málaga) commits foul on Alex Sandro (Porto), correctly reported to the referee.
89'	Sergio Sánchez (Málaga) commits foul on Alex Sandro (Porto). Correctly reported to the referee.

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:
 Both AARs were not involved in the match, since nothing happened in penalty areas. By the way, they showed to be careful. 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:
 Both AARs were not involved in the match, since nothing happened in penalty areas. By the way, they showed to be careful. Expected level.

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 Simon Long had not problems doing his work. The situation near the benches was always calm and there is nothing to report. Substitutions and added time to show were executed in an adequate manner. Expected level.