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PERFORMANCE **ANALYSIS REPORT**

by **SICO Stats** in association with **Soccerex**

1. PERFORMANCE DATA IN FOOTBALL

a. Football, an industry without a standard to measure productivity.

Many advances have been made in the football industry in terms of the incorporation of technology, new work systems and greater availability of specialized information. However, the performance dimension, both for the team and for the individual players, remains an almost exclusive dimension for the coaching staff and technical director. There is no standard for measuring performance at a global or regional level. Each club or national team works autonomously in the choice of tools and data on which to focus to face the different competitions.

b. Why is football difficult to measure - Is it the sport that generates the most difficulties to measure? What to measure and what not?

Football poses a great challenge in terms of measuring performance on the field of play. The objective is to be able to identify which events or actions are the determining factors to measure the performance of the players and the team. Factors such as large fields (very different from sports such as basketball or tennis), many players

interacting from head to toe in endless free possibilities, complex action classification in the game and the most difficult thing, the integration of data in synthesis, these are characteristics that explain the difficulties that football poses when it comes to measuring performance.

2. SICO STATS A METHODOLOGY FOCUSED ON INDIVIDUAL PRODUCTIVITY

a. SICO is a performance evaluation system that produces specialized statistics. The SICO-Index is the final result of 27 variables that collect data on individual and collective productivity of teams. Three dimensions make it possible to generate evaluations based on all the productive and unproductive actions of the players by classifying repeated actions (indicators) and transcendent events, which are less repeated but key for the result of matches. Additionally, a qualitative dimension that includes the criteria of technical directors allows the articulation of high reliability evaluations for the analysis of performance and its trends.

SICO METHODOLOGY

All the reiterated actions recorded during a match.

Examples: Recoveries, losses ball, deep passes,



All determinants actions over the final result of the match.

Examples: Goals, assistances, imminent saved, blunder.

Because football is not just numbers, the criteria of the technical directors of the teams is also incorporated in the SICO performance evaluation methodology

- b. Specialized information with a focus on production (27 variables, 3 dimensions, a final index, an intermediate index and the possibility of advanced analytics thanks to the identification of trends and specialized data).
 - i. Indicators and specific transcendent events articulate a map of individual and collective productivity of variables, classified by repeated actions and other more sporadic but key to the outcome of the matches. In this way, it is avoided to work with static or predefined data on each player in the style of the typical individual profiles of video games where the players are defined by estimated static characteristics, such as technique or stamina.

Another problem that is avoided when working with productivity data are the typical confusions that generate data of less relevance in productivity or decontextualized information such as the number of completed passes.

For example, seeing that a player has a high percentage of completed passes doesn't tell us much about the player's actual performance. Completed passes say little about performance without knowing the context provided by other variables such as losses, recoveries, deep passes, shooting and offensive imbalances.

- c. Information-oriented synthesis (Integrated data model)
 - i. The SICO-Index reflects the virtuous integration of a game that is won by both attack and defence, which implies that the probabilities of being the best must be equal for defenders and attackers, or even for goalkeepers; the latter is undoubtedly the most complex case to measure. There are no biases to benefit attacking forwards or midfielders from scoring goals and assists; the productivity probabilities are distributed without arbitrary factorizations thanks to the effective productivity axis of all the indicators of the SICO system.

 $oldsymbol{a}$

- d. Premium Football Data: Reliable and verifiable data, for advanced analytics and organizational development.
 - i. Thegreatadvantageofdataperformance with mathematical precision is that it allows the clear identification of one's own or rival's strengths and weaknesses. In the end, any tactical strategy that adds the value of this updated and accurate information, obtains automatic competitive advantages over its competitors.
 - ii. The specialized and integrated data generated by the SICO or Premium data system also adds value to fans who like interactive or prediction games. In the same way, for the budding football traders or data scientists, who will have a different and more precise source of information where they can obtain specialized data to make all kinds of predictive models. Specialized data creates glaring differences in the end results of advanced analytics efforts. Data interpretation, trend analysis, and productive comparisons are areas where incomplete or decontextualized data can easily lead you to wrong conclusions. A risk very typical of the computer age where quality can make a big difference when it comes to competing.
 - iii. Optimization in decision-making processes and a strong base for organizational development from its own data is what is known as an Insight driven organization (IDO) or organizations guided by knowledge.

3. TECHNICAL-TACTICAL DECISIONS, A PLAN WHERE THE DATA PERFORMANCE CAN LEAD TO UNCOMFORTABLE INSIGHTS

The historic resistance of professional football to technology and innovation has changed dramatically over the last decade. The boom of Artificial Intelligence and data science (in the context of the so-called 4th industrial revolution) has had an impact on the industry but still far in impacting technical decision-

making. The path of new technologies in professional football has been cracked open by scouting departments and innovative sports directors who began using large player databases and mathematical models to find talent. In recent years, many management software, video analytics, physical tracking, miscellaneous statistics, zones, and game paths have deepened the industry. However, innovation in performance evaluations remains somewhat outside the technical decisions of coaches.

We call this effect the uncomfortable data, since despite being a very useful dimension for performance, in practice, at times there is a clash between trends shown by the data with decisions made by the technical direction of teams.

Later on, we will review a couple of examples where the data performance reveals certain positive and negative returns that did not align with the decisions made by the technical staff. We know that football is not only about data and that decisions incorporate many more dimensions (physical, psychological, leadership, etc.) than, exclusively, performance on the field. However, in many cases being clear about the effective production of the players can make the difference between winning and losing.

UNCOMFORTABLE DATA FOR TECHNICAL DIRECTORS

4. SOME BIAS TO CONSIDER IN SHORT CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Competitive level of the group, competitive level of the squad and number of matches in the competition)

There are some methodological biases or distortions that affect individual and collective evaluations, especially in competitions with fewer matches, where there is usually a group stage prior to the knockout stage.

Bias towards a favourable or less competitive group with respect to a highly competitive one can help explain some evaluations that are a bit high and others a bit low. For example, the group stage of the UCL 2019-20 Leipzig had a group (Lyon, Benfica, Zenit) less competitive than others such as group F where Barcelona, Borussia Dortmund, Inter Milan and Slavia Prague competed.

Another bias that can positively or negatively affect the individual evaluation is given by the level of the team's staff. Playing in teams with very good performances and many colleagues at a high level tends to favour individual performance, while the opposite situation can harm individual performance due to the low level of teammates.

Finally, the effect of a particularly bad match can be mentioned. When it comes to competitions with few matches, the influence of a bad match or a player sent off early has a significant impact on the final average of a player, unlike what happens in cases of competitions with many matches such as leagues where the large amount of sample data tends to reduce this effect.

The World Cups, international Cups or a shorter Champions League, like the last edition, are cases where this situation can occur.

Three cases can give us a concrete example of this effect. In the debut of the previous winner, Liverpool, against Napoli in Italy for the 1st date of group E, the Reds defence had a subpar performance.

Liverpool's three main defenders (Van Dijk, Trent Alexander Arnold and Robertson) recorded a performance below the team average (7.04 Index) in the match, conditioning down the final performance of Van Dijk (8.53 Index), Robertson (8.1 Index) and Trend Alexander Arnold (7.84 Index) in a Champions League in which they only played 8 games for Liverpool. In this case the influence of a match on the final evaluation weighed 12.5% while a Premier League match weighs approximately 2.6% on the final evaluation - in both cases assuming the participation of a player in all matches of a competition. An effect of quantity that can sometimes harm and sometimes benefit.



5. THE BEST 16 OF THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2019-20

LIVERPOOL

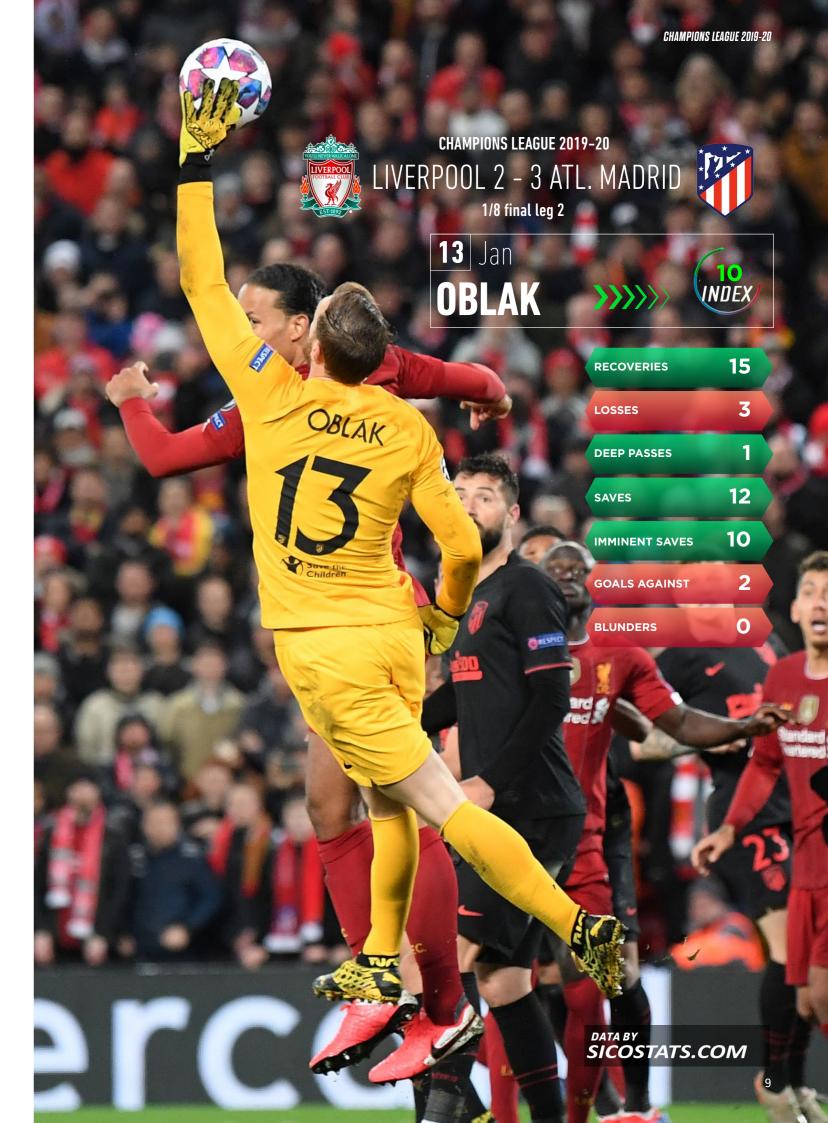
Anfield's offensive machine failed against Atlético Madrid's tactical craft that brought down the winner of the last edition.

It will not be easy to forget the second round of 16 match between Liverpool and Atlético Madrid played at Anfield. The current champion, displayed an offensive vertigo rarely seen. Certainly the additional 30 minutes of extra time (1/3 more time) increased all the numbers of the match, however that a team records 101 deep passes, 27 shots and 55 offensive imbalances with only 2 goals scored is something really peculiar. The 4 goals lost by Liverpool cannot explain this low effectiveness (7% of the 27 shots taken ended with Goals). To understand this case, you have to look at the defensive numbers of Atlético Madrid and thus find the explanations for the remarkable defensive resistance of the Spanish team, which was able not only to endure the game but finally to win it. With an incredible record of 20 imminent saves, Atlético Madrid de Simeone managed to complete the 120 minutes with only 2 goals against, which he combined with a high offensive effectiveness where he reached 30%, converting 3 goals out of the 10 shots he registered in all the match.

In the extra time after a quick 2-0 from Liverpool, which seemed to complete the task for Klopp's team, came Adrian's fatal mistake. The goalkeeper's failure opened the door for Atlético, who with the inspired Llorente and Morata coming from the bench, managed to win the match with notable counter attacks. Atlético Madrid's unforgettable 3-2 at Anfield was a real feat that featured goalkeeper Jan Oblak (10 Index) as its top figure. The Slovenian recorded 10 of his team's 20 imminent saves in a historic resistance that also ended with 3 goals in favour.

Keys:

- Allison's injury (8.62 Index) led to the start of Adrian (6.57 Index) who with 2 blunders in overtime brought to mind Karius's failures in the Champions League 2017-18 final against him Real Madrid.
- Oblak's remarkable game with 15 recoveries and 12 saves (10 imminent saves).
- The inspired entry of Marcos Llorente and Álvaro Morata who together recorded 3 goals and 2 assists coming from the bench.



PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS REPORT by SICO STATS in association with Soccerex **CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2019-20**



REAL MADRID

Real Madrid leaves Kroos without minutes at the Bernabéu and does not make adjustments in the miraculous 1-1 of the first half in Manchester.

After the group stage, the best performer of Real Madrid in the Champions League was Toni Kroos (8.89 Index) with 5 match played (MP) and absence due to injury on the 6th fixture against Club Brugge. The surprise in the first leg (Santiago Bernabéu) for the round of 16 against Manchester City was not to see him start, and even more so, when he was not even considered for the second half as an substitute.

In the second leg, Madrid's lack of depth was evident. With only 24 deep passes in the entire match, they had their worst production of the championship in deep passes and offensive imbalances with just 14.

Both records well below Real Madrid's average in the competition (39.12 average deep passes per match (ave) and 26.12 offensive imbalances ave).

This resulted in a low shooting record with only 7, also below the average for Madrid in the Champions League, which with 12,62 shots per game was the 2nd best team in this department, only below Bayern Munich with 13,73 shots ave.

The offensive deficit in the decisive game ended up being lethal for Madrid, which did not make adjustments in its team until the 61st minute when City had already taken control of the game and drew through an isolated play (Benzema's goal), several imminent saves by Madrid (5) and a certain offensive imprecision by City that ended the game with only 16.6% effectiveness over the 12 shots he registered, 54% of possession and certainly benefited by the unfortunate errors of Varane that cost Madrid the 2 goals.



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40% fewer deep passes 46% fewer shots and

45% fewer offensive imbalances





MANCHESTER CITY

Millionaire transfers that have not yet achieved success in the Champions League.

After bypassing Real Madrid in the round of 16, it was expected that City could finally overcome the barrier of the quarter finals in the fourth Champions of the team under Guardiola, especially when the elimination of Juventus at the hands of Lyon took place.

However, the apparently weaker rival knew how to exploit Manchester City's defensive problem; that the citizens have not been able to solve despite a long list of transfers on defence the last 4 seasons.

Midfielders converted into centre-backs, sides with a changed profile and expensive signings sitting on the bench articulated a defence that was once again overwhelmed at the key moment of the season and in the competition most desired by the citizens.

8 blunders against Lyon allowed 3 goals for the French team that surprisingly eliminated City, once again in the guarter finals.

Another key factor that has been affecting the citizen team, used to controlling games through possession, will have to be added to the defensive problem. Their finishing at key moments.

With high offensive records throughout the competition, sixth in average depth and second in number of goals in favour per game (2.33 ave), offensive volume is clearly not City's problem, but 2 missed goals (a really incredible one from Sterling from only a couple of yards from goal) in the second half against Lyon, ended up being very expensive for a team that always seems to deserve more than it has achieved in the Champions League in the last 4 seasons.



SICOSTATS.COM

2.5 times more blunders and 1.8 times more goals lost in the key game of the season; compared to

the championship average



BARCELONA

When having the best in the world is not enough.

WHAT HAPPENED TO BARCELONA?

The case of the Barca is iconic. They have the best player in the world (Messi 9.29 Index), a recent history of multiple titles that generates pressure to continue a successful cycle and face competition of other great European clubs where fellow Spanish rivals Real Madrid and Atlético Madrid also appear.

The 2019-20 season has been disappointing not only because it was the first, in twelve years, without winning a title for the catalans, but also because of the terrible blow of the 8-2 defeat at the hands of Bayern Munich in the ¼ final. Additionally, the level of play shown in the last part of the season evidenced defensive fragility that could never be corrected.

The 8-2 suffered against Munich is a good game to identify the factors that articulated a defensive fragility that is not so surprising when observing certain trends and individual performances of Barcelona.

GOALKEEPER

Ter Stegen's performance (8.65 Index) in the Champions League is outstanding (4th best goalkeeper in the championship). It appears as the 3rd best performance of Barcelona and clearly it is not one of the factors on the aforementioned defensive fragility of the catalan team. The stain of the 8 goals conceded against Bayern coincides with his lowest match in the championship (6.75 Index) where he registered 2 blunders and 4 imminent saves, but not as an explanation for the defensive problem of the catalans.

DEFENCE AND DEFENSIVE MIDFIELDERS

This is where the explanations of the culé disaster appear. Against Bayern, the 4 starting defenders (Semedo, Piqué, Lenglet and Alba) plus Busquets and Sergi Roberto combined 17 of the 23 blunders of Barcelona in the match. An inappropriate figure for teams in this category.

Barca finished the Champions League 2019-20 as the 2nd worst team in the record of blunders per game with an average of 6.89 ave, clearly influenced by the 23 it registered against Munich.

Semedo (6.94 Index), the Portuguese player already dragged the shadow of failing in key matches. The quarter finals of the UCL 2017-18 against Roma showed him as a defender without enough defensive intensity in the 3-0 that meant the elimination of the Catalans. Against Bayern the performance of the Portuguese was really low. 6 blunders showed the right back totally overtaken by the right wing. The right back finished well below his team's average (7.48 Index) in the Champions League and apparently he is not clearly on the manager's plans for next season.

Piqué (7.48 Index) and Lenglet (6.69 Index), the starting centrals recorded a combined average of 2.54 blunders per game in the Champions League, in a clear sample of defensive fragility that was increased by the accounts of the sides and defensive midfielders. Against Munich they registered 21.7% of the team's blunders.

Busquets (6.31 Index), the fall in the performance of Busquets in the last Champions League was important. With only 5.29 recoveries per match, he failed to be the benchmark in recovery and tactical organization that he used to be at Barca. With less speed, the midfielder was greatly overwhelmed by the high pressure of Bayern Munich.

Many times leading players like Busquets need a progressive adjustment in their role within the team, something like what happened with Xavi in his last season (2014-15) when he won the treble but not as a starter. Performance cycles affect all players and sometimes if a low performance cycle coincides with a highly demanding match such as a Champions League guarter-final against the favourite of the competition, the starting line-up becomes a highly compromised situation for a reference player like Busquets instead of a confirmation of confidence in a player of proven hierarchy. As well as other things, high performance cannot be forced and part of the current keys to high competition is to be able to identify and read the individual performance cycles of the players.

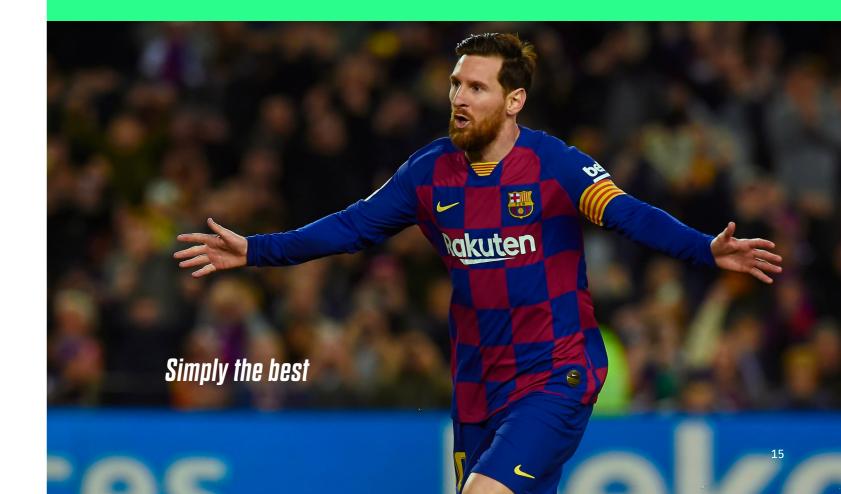
LIONEL MESSI

A separate point of analysis is the case of Lio Messi (9.29 Index). The Argentine, as is his custom, scored an outstanding performance in the Champions League and finished as the best in Barcelona and as the 2nd best individual

	(CH	AMPIONS LE	AGUE	2019-20	
	RANK	ING		DEEP PASSES	
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER	₹	DEEP PASSES	MATCH Played
1	BAR	L. MESS		9.88	8
2	PSG	NEYMAI	₹	9.14	7
3	LIV	ALEXANDER AF	RNORLD	8.17	7
4	VAL	D. PAREJ	0	7.88	8
5	CIT	K. DE BRU	YNE	7.57	7

performance in the competition, only below Lewandowski, with an extraordinary record in deep passes (9.88 ave, 1st in UCL), shooting (3.13 ave, 9th in UCL) and offensive imbalances (10.13 ave, 2nd in UCL).

	⟨ CH	AMPIONS LE	AGUE	2019-20	
	RANK	ING	OFFE	NSIVE IMBALA	INCES
RANK	TEAM	PLAYE	₹	OFFENSIVE IMBALANCES	MATCH Played
1	PSG	NEYMAI	R	10.57	7
2	BAR	L. MESS	I	10.13	8
3	CIT	R. STERLI	NG	8.0	9
4	CHE	C. PULIS	IC	7.67	4
5	LIV	M SALAI	Н	7.38	8



LUIS SUÁREZ

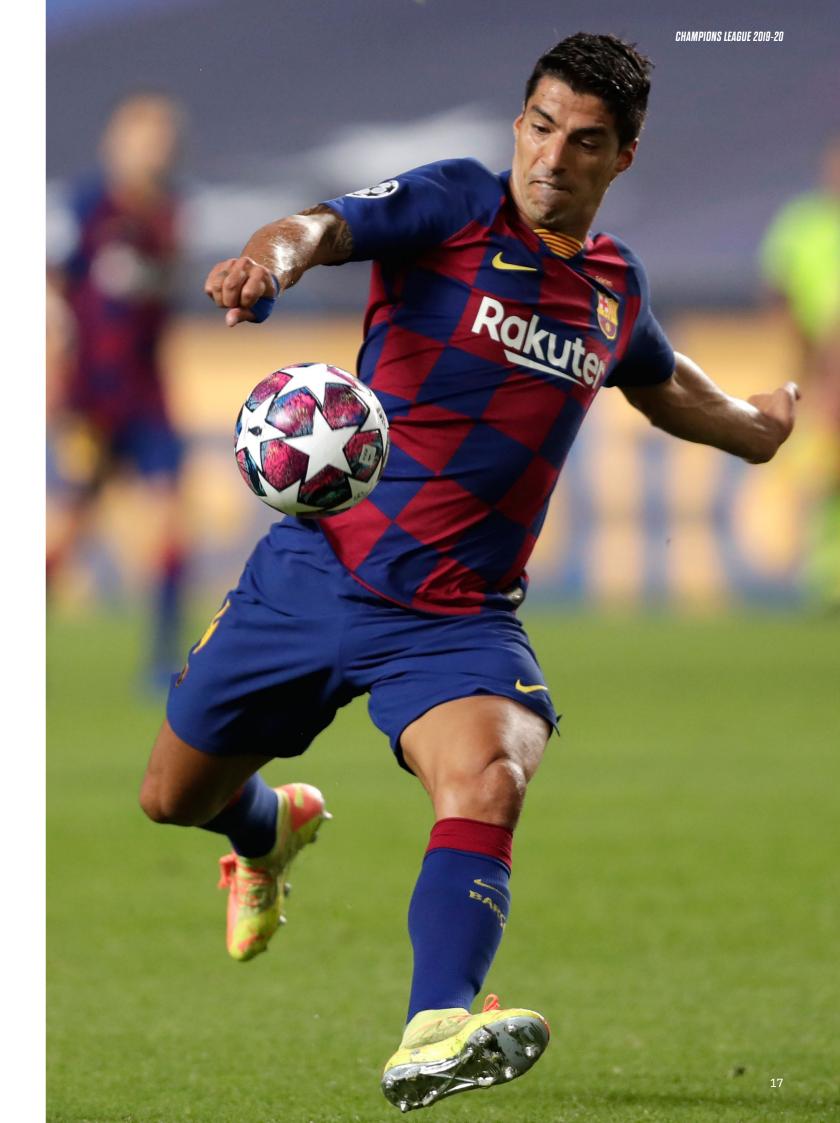
From a performance perspective, a big mistake Barcelona could make would be to part with one of the best 9 in Europe from its squad. The rebuilding of a team hit by the lack of titles and the tough 8-2 win against Munich should not start by replacing parts that work well. The theory says the parts to be replaced in a team with performance problems must be the parts that malfunction.

The evidence in this case tells us that Luis Suárez not only appears as the 2nd best performance of Barcelona (8.72 Index) in the Champions League with 5 goals, 4 assists in 7 match played, but also appears as the 2nd best centre forward of the competition and among the top 15 best performances of the championship.

	(CHA	AMPIONS LEAD	GUE 2019-20	\rangle
	RANK	ING	CENTRE FORV	VARD
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER	SICO	MATCH PLAYED
1	BAY	R. LEWANDOWS	SKI 9.86	10
2	BAR	L. SUAREZ	8.72	7
3	TOT	H. KANE	8.66	5
4	CIT	GABRIEL JESU	8.64	8
5	RMD	K. BENZEMA	8.49	8
6	NAP	D. MERTENS	8.36	8
7	LEI	T. WERNER	8.20	8
8	ATM	MORATA	8.02	8
9	CIT	S. AGUERO	8.00	3
10	LIV	FIRMINO	7.94	8

9 Luis	>>>	8.72 INDEX
SUÁREZ		INDEX
Match Played GOALS	7	
ASSISTS IMMINENT SAVES	4	
BLUNDERS	0	
RECOVERIES	0.57	
LOSSES	4.43	
DEEP PASSES	3.71	
SHOTS	2.57	
OFFENSIVE IMBALANCES	3.86	
GOAL	0.71	
ASSISTS	0.57	
AERIAL GAME	0.57	
OST GOALS	0.14	

DATA BY SICOSTATS.COM







JUVENTUS

Cristiano Ronaldo's Juventus is not doing well in the post-pandemic.

Cristiano performed as always. Fantastic finish, hitting full physicality in the most important part of the season. Unfortunately Sarri seemed to return distracted after the pandemic and managed to stall the Juventus game despite the initial recovery of Douglas Costa in Serie A. They finished the Italian Calcio and the round of 16 round pending with Lyon, without the normal offensive flow of a template with many quality names. The relapse of Douglas Costa, the injury of Dybala before the closing of the Champions League, the rare situation of Pjanic, transferred but also always replaced early in the games by Sarri in the final part of the season, ended up articulating a Juventus without the offensive volume necessary to avoid having a high dependence on Cristiano Ronaldo.

While Juventus appears amongst the top 3 teams with the fewest goals conceded with 0.75 per game, the volume generated by their offense only appears in 9th place in the Champions League with 22.25 in average depth and 8th in goals scored. with 1.75 per game. Very little for a team that has been aiming for the top European title for years.



DATA BY SICOSTATS.COM

LEIPZIG

Only eleven years of history heading to play a Champions semi-final, not without first taking down Simeone's **ATLÉTICO MADRID** who had just eliminated the winner of the last edition.

Timo Werner transferred to and Leipzig missed him, because the 16th best performance of the team (Poulsen 7.21 Index) is not the same as the 5th best (Werner 8.2 Index), however the quarter final match to eliminate Atlético Madrid was well deserved for the Germans, who against the prognosis eliminated the colchoneros in what seemed like a great opportunity for Simeone to reach the elusive title that he has already missed twice against Real Madrid.

The key to the match was the control of the game that Atlético could not counteract without the recoveries and intensity of the injured Thomas Partey (8.34 Index - 3rd best ATM performance). The Ghanaian was the 2nd best midfielder in Champions League recoveries with 11 recoveries per match only behind Thiago Alcántara (11.5 recoveries ave).

	RANKI	MIDFIELDER	S	
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER	RECOVERIES	MATCH PLAYED
1	BAY	THIAGO A.	11.50	10
2	ATM	T. PARTEY	11.00	8
3	RMD	CASEMIRO	9.63	8
4	CHE	JORGINHO	9.43	7
5	VAL	G. KONDOGBIA	9.00	5
6	NAP	ALLAN	8.80	6
7	VAL	F. COQUELIN	8.40	6
8	CIT	RODRI	8.25	8
9	LIV	FABINHO	8.20	7
10	ATA	M. DE ROON	8.00	9

DATA BY SICOSTATS.COM



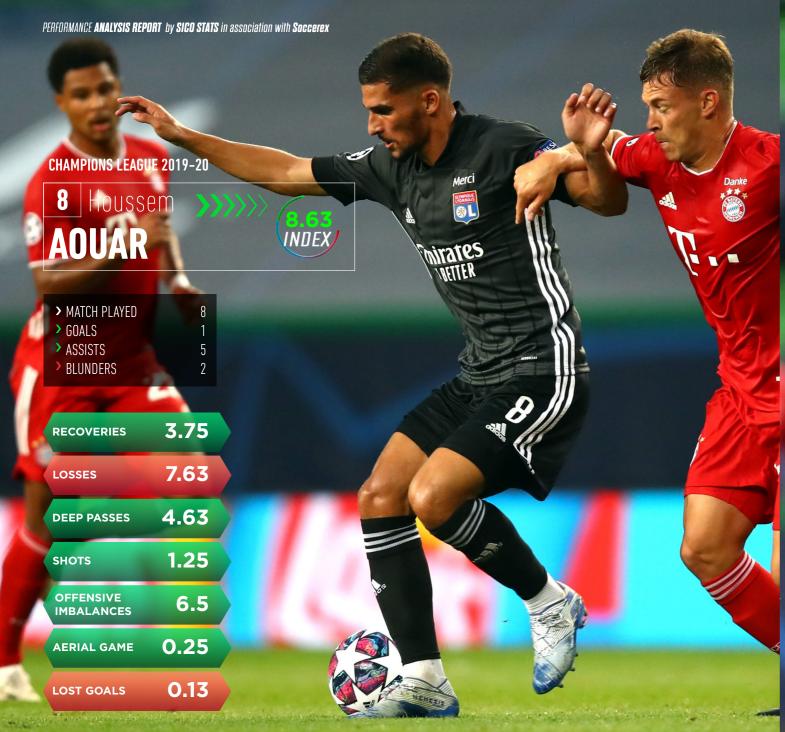


	(CHA	MPIONS LEAD	GUE 2019-20	>
	RANKII	NG	GOALKEEP	ER
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER	SICO	MATCH Played
1	BAY	M. NEUER	8.86	11
2	PSG	K. NAVAS	8.72	9
3	LEI	P. GULACSI	8.67	10
4	BAR	TER STEGEN	8.65	8
5	LIV	ALISSON	8.62	5

Atlético Madrid's midfield with Herrera (7.86 Index), Saúl (4.54 Index), Koke (5.54 Index) was not able to dispute control of the game and, although Leipzig did not have the offensive punch to make a difference on the scoreboard during the first half, Atlético Madrid's offensive power without Joao Félix was very low until the Portuguese entered (only 20 deep passes and 3 shots through the entire match).

	(CHA	MPIONS LE	AGUE	2019-20	
	RANKI	NG	C	ENTRE BAC	CK
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER	?	SICO	MATCH Played
1	LIV	V. VAN DI	JK	8.53	8
2	PSG	THIAGO SI	LVA	8.47	9
3	LEI	D. UPAMEC	ANO	8.36	8
4	VAL	GABRIE	L	8.32	6
5	ATM	J. GIMÉN	EZ	8.22	5

Nagelsmann's team is a marvellous example of accelerated institutional development with great results at the European level. The excellent Gulacsi (8.67 Index, 3rd among the best goalkeepers in the competition) and the central defender, with great technique, Dayot Upamecano (8.36 Index, 3rd among the best centre back) were Leipzig's most outstanding performances.



LYON

Efficient work that brought down 2 giants from Europe.

With a clear, linear, pragmatic, efficient script, with a great attacking midfielder and several other inspirations, Lyon was the little biggest in the Champions League with really fantastic results. Eliminating Juventus in a double header, Manchester City 3-1 and having twice the possibility of overtaking Bayern Munich in the semifinal that ended 0-3, is a real sporting feat for a team that finished 7th in the French league, prematurely ended by the pandemic.

With Aouar (8.63 Index) and Lopes (8.39 Index) as exclusive figures of the team, in the final part of the championship, spectacular performance of the attacking midfielder and the goalkeeper who performed at their best (10 Index) to eliminate City in the quarter finals and practically the same performance against Bayern in the semi-final.







THE DOWNFALL OF ANDERSEN?

Andersen (8.66 Index in 4 PJ) was the best performance among all Lyon defenders in the group stage, however in the 2 round of 16 matches he only entered as a replacement playing just over half an hour between both games. In the quarters and semifinals he was only on the bench. Lyon's results are extraordinary after eliminating

Juventus, Manchester City and having had the real chance to get ahead of Bayern Munich in the semi-final but Andersen's previous performances makes it difficult to understand that he had no minutes in the final matches of the competition. A good example of when data performance can be of support in complex technical decisions.

PARIS SAINT GERMAIN

Neymar and Mbappé at the door of glory.

The favourable picture avoiding Bayern, Barcelona and Manchester City before the final and the elimination of Liverpool at the hands of Atlético Madrid, seemed to pave the way for PSG to the final of the Champions League. However, the cancellation of the French league due to the coronavirus made them arrive with little competitive rhythm to Portugal, with only the definition matches of local Cups plus some friendlies. Despite the 2 titles won, the Cup finals left them some injuries (Mbappé the main one) and several doubts in the star line up that did not end up being well defined.

Atalanta, who seemed like a minor rival, lost its best player for the decisive quarter-final match. Ilicic (8.18 Index), the figure of the Italians in the round of 16 against Valencia. (he scored 5 goals in 2 games), he was left out due to depressive problems.

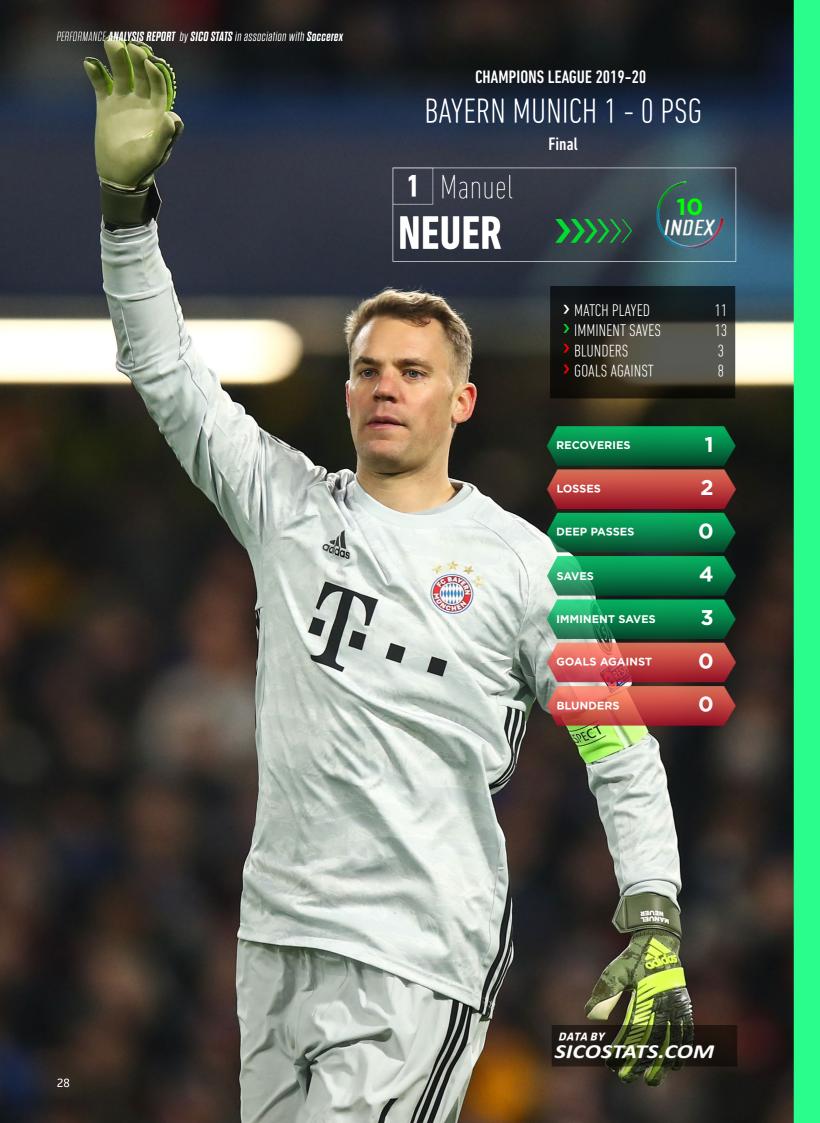
However, the Italians went looking for the game and managed to score in the 27th minute with Pasalic's goal. PSG with a very thick midfield (it lined up 3 defensive midfielders as starters) only generated thanks to the quality of Neymar but could not score.

Tuchel did not seem unhappy with his team's performance and brought Mbappé in the 60th minute and only modified the midfield with more offensive players just 18 minutes from time with the introduction of Draxler and Paredes. Atalanta could withstand a completely different version of PSG until the last minute of the match but 2 goals in stoppage gave the French qualification.

Already in the semifinal against Leipzig, the trio of Mbappé, Di María and Paredes totally changed the dynamics of the Parisians, who managed to clearly defeat the Germans with 3 goals before minute 60. With Neymar and Di María at the top (10 Index) PSG settled into the Champions League final to face Bayern Munich after their best match in the competition (8.52 Index) with records above their average in all dimensions of the game.







The final against Munich would be a totally different story. The Germans with what was seen in the quarter finals and semifinals articulated a system to reduce the participation of Neymar. An intelligent plan that worked until the Brazilian had a clear double chance against Neuer that saved the Germans from a goal that could have changed the course of the game. PSG up on the scoreboard with Munich forced to modify their game plan and the Parisian counter attack in charge of Neymar and Mbappé supposed a reality that thanks to Neuer did not happen. In addition to the imminent double save against Neymar, Neuer (10 Index) completed a perfect match with another frontal save against Mbappé in the first half and an imminent third save against Marquiños in the second half. Perfect match for the star of the German team that earned him his second Champions League.

In the end, PSG played their cards well in the final. It came as the team with the fewest goals against the championship with just 0.5 ave and planning to contain the offensive potential of Munich to try to score through the speed of Mbappé and the imbalances of Neymar. The 61% possession of Munich and the low participation of Neymar was the game that was expected, what surprised was the large number of clear chances from PSG that forced 10 imminent saves by Munich, in addition to an incredible missed goal by Chuopo - Moting in the final minute of the match. The French played a good game generating more clear chances than expected but without effectiveness. The outstanding performance of Navas, Kimbembe, Marquiños, Neymar and Verrati only lacked a goal. The poor performance of Mbappé and Di María on offense could have changed things for PSG, who in everything remained one step away from glory against one of the most powerful teams in football history.



BAYERN MUNICH

The keys to a practically invincible champion.

Bayern Munich won the 2019-20 Champions League with great authority. They won all 11 games he played and added the German Cup and League to complete the treble in a brilliant season. However, the crushing 8-2 defeat of Messi's Barcelona and the subsequent crisis that it unleashed in the Catalan club seems to overshadow a record that has gone a bit unnoticed. Munich is the team with the highest goals per game average in the history of the Champions League. Never before has a team had such a high average record of goals in favour per game. The 3.91 goals for the Bavarians speak for themselves of a true phenomenon in terms of offensive performance both in volume and effectiveness.



OFFENSIVE RIGHT BACKS AND HIGH INTENSITY WINGERS:

Kimmich (8.87 Index) or Pavard (7.92 Index) on the right and Davies (8.88 Index) or Alaba (8.11 Index) on the left were the variants that Munich used on both sides of the defence, always with 4 players in the last line. The common characteristic of the four names is their marked offensive vocation, an imprint of a Bayern Munich that never settled for winning the matches, that never speculated with the result in favour, with a beautiful sense of show that fans always appreciate, especially if you play football so well.

If we add wingers like Gnabry, Coman and Perisic to the offensive full-backs, offensive circuits that are difficult to contain are articulated. This is reflected in the average offensive imbalances of Munich, which with 32.91 ave finished as the 2nd best team in this area, only behind Liverpool (33.13 ave) which is also a team that combines offensive full-backs with wingers great intensity. A combination that seems key in contemporary football when observing that these numbers correspond to the last two winners of the competition.

OFFENSIVE FLOW AND HIGH EFFECTIVENESS

Continuing with the parallel between Liverpool and Bayern Munich, it must be said that both teams coincide as the 2 best in offensive flow. Through the average depth (collective offensive index that combines deep passes, shots and offensive imbalances) both teams appear again as the best 2 in the Champions League and with important differences compared to the third (Real Madrid).



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The big difference in the 2019-20 season was in effectiveness. We already saw that Munich finished the championship with the best average of goals per game in the history of the competition with 3.91 per game and an effectiveness of 28.4% over 13.73 shots average. While Liverpool despite all the offensive volume it generated, it was only 7th in goals in favour with 1.88 per game but with an effectiveness of only 16.8% over 11.13 shots ave.

	(CH	AMPIONS LE	AGUE 21	019-20	
	RANK	ING		GOALS	
RANK	TEAM	TEAM		GOALS	MATCH PLAYED
1	BAY	BAYERN MU	NICH	3.91	11
2	CIT	MANCHESTER	RCITY	2.33	9
3	PSG	PARIS SAINT-G	ERMAIN	2.27	11
4	TOT	TOTTENHA	M	2.25	8
5	RMD	REAL MAD	RID	2.00	8
6	ATA	ATALANT	A	1.89	9
7	LIV	LIVERPOO)L	1.88	8
8	JUV	JUVENTU	S	1.75	8
9	NAP	NAPOL		1.63	8
10	LEI	LEIPZIG		1.60	10

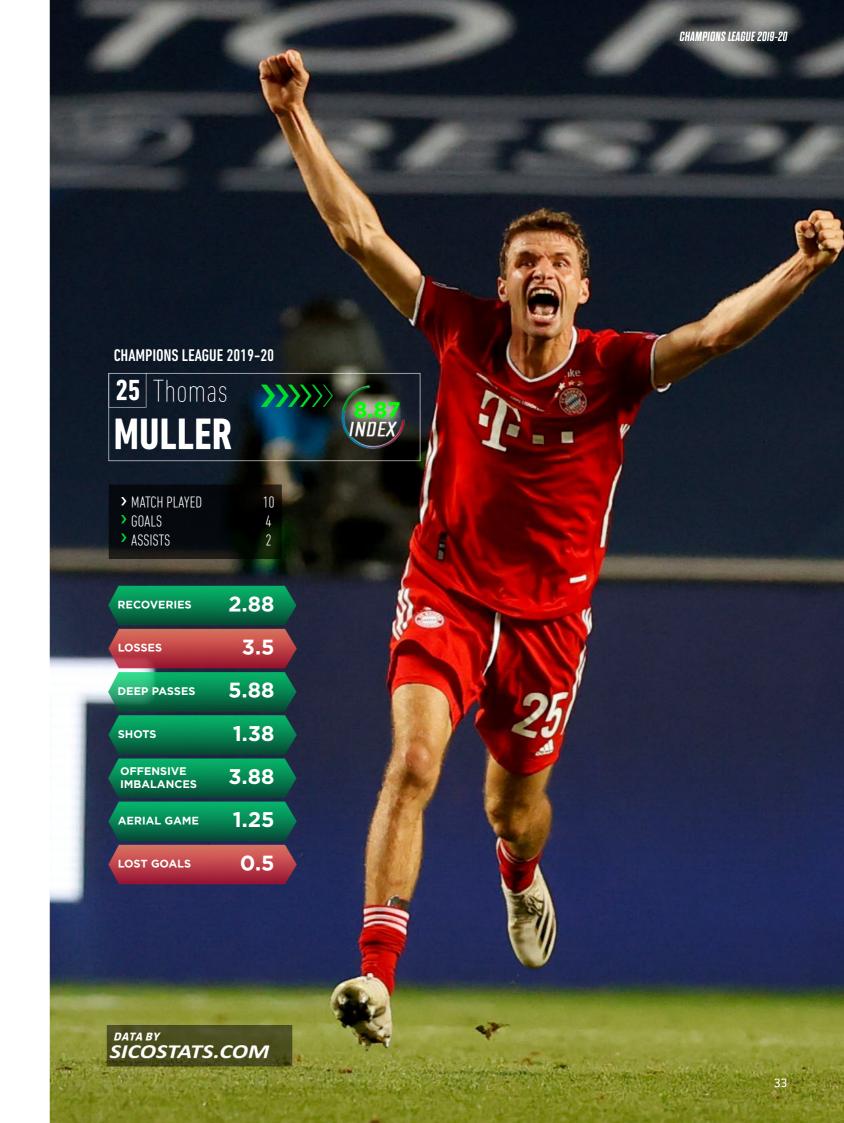
Meanwhile, regarding Munich their 3 starting forwards in the final (Gnabry, Lewandoswki and Coman) scored 27 goals combined in 11 match played (2.45 average), the 3 most common Liverpool starters (Salah, Firmino and Mané) registered only 7 goals in 8 MP (0.88 ave), an important difference between the two teams that generated the most offensive volume of the championship.

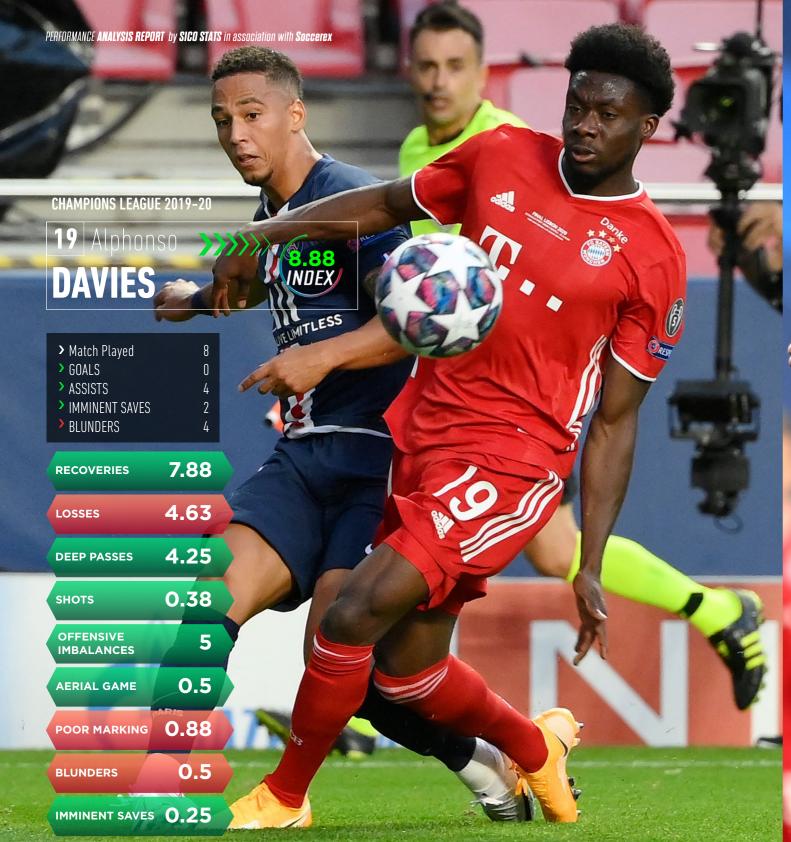
THE BEST VERSION OF THIAGO ALCÁNTARA AND THOMAS MULLER:

There is nothing new in talking about the quality and hierarchy of Thiago Alcántara (8.91 Index) and Thomas Muller (8.87 Index). But if it is possible to talk about the best version of two players who seem to have reached most of their potential under the direction of Hans Dieter Flick. The Spanish midfielder was the great first organizer of the game, and without a doubt, his best season in terms of recoveries where he finished as the 4th best in the championship and as the best midfielder in this area (11.5 average); dimension achieved by positioning and timing rather than by deployment and muscle that are not the main characteristics of Alcántara but that leave a powerful example of how a player without that much physical strength, can be the best recuperator of a team.

	(CHA	AMPIONS LEAG	UE 2019-20 >
	RANK	NG	RECOVERIES
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER	RECOVERIES MATCH PLAYED
1	LIV	V. VAN DIJK	12.13 8
2	LYO	K. TETE	12.00 5
3	LEI	W. ORBAN	12.00 4
4	BAY	THIAGO A.	11.50 10
5	ATM	T. PARTEY	11.00 8
6	LEI	D. UPAMECAN	10.63
7	ATA	J. PALOMINO	10.57 7
8	DOR	M. HUMMELS	10.38 8
9	LEI	L. KLOSTERMAN	N 9.78 10
10	RMD	CASEMIRO	9.63 8

On Muller's side, his performance evolution undoubtedly has to do with a better reading of the game. His individual records show how he has transformed into an offensive player with an excellent record of losses per game. With 3.5 losses per game, he is Munich's best among the 4 most offensive players in the starting team, a dimension that he combines with his usual production in deep passes, offensive imbalances, aerial game and recoveries.





The German technical director managed to redirect the Bayern season, after the departure of Nico Kovac just before the 4th fixture of the Champions group stage. With Flick as head coach, the Canadian Alphonso Davies (8.88 Index) and León Goretzka (8.09 Index) appear among the headlines, two key players for the Bavarian team's

performance. Davies, only 19 years old, stands out in practically all facets of the game and still has room to improve defensively, while Goretzka knew how to find his role in the team as a mixed midfielder and a key piece for the defensive balance of a squad with an offensive vocation, without concessions.



RL9 AND TWO AIRCRAFT

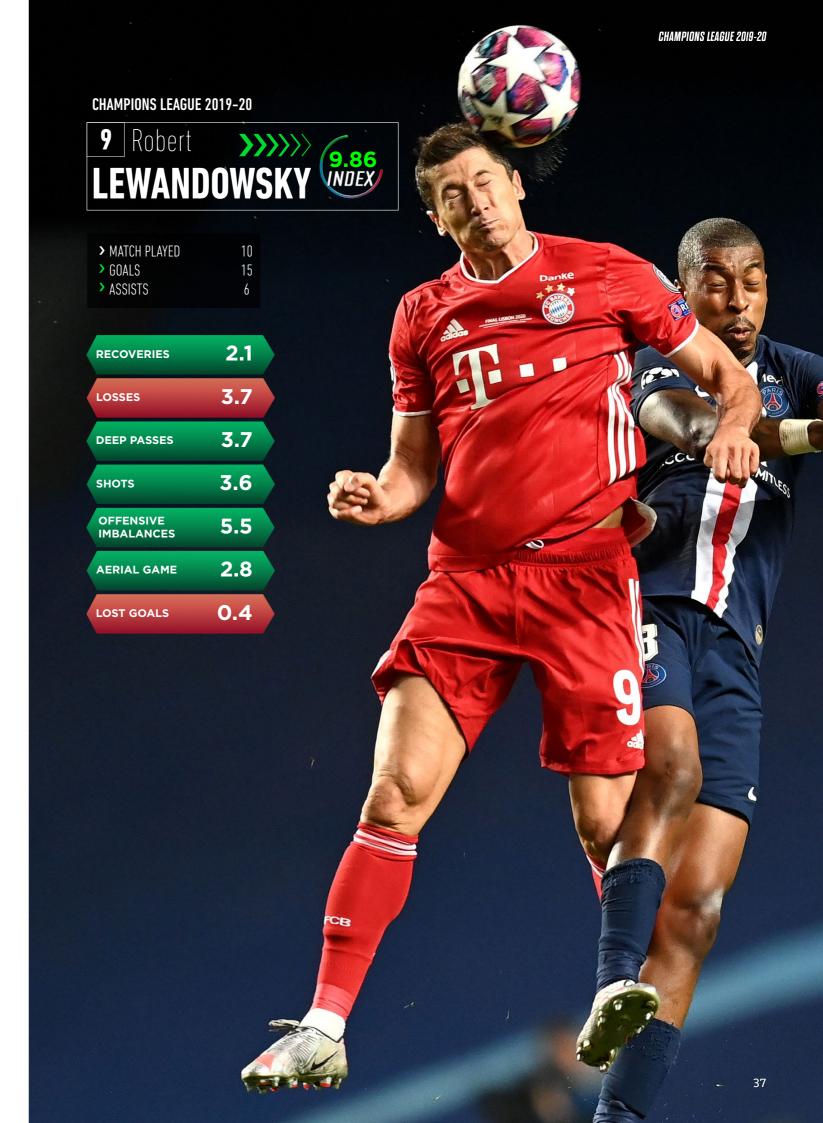
The offensive machine could not be complete without a great scorer. With 1.5 goals per game, Pole Lewandowski was held back by the version with fewer matches of the 2019-20 Champions League due to the pandemic, to have reached the record for the scorer with the highest number of goals in a single season. Record that is in the hands of Cristiano Ronaldo with 17 goals

in the 2013-14 season when he played for Real Madrid. The Bayern centre forward was by far the top scorer of the tournament with 15 goals, a magnificent effectiveness of 41.6% for the 3.6 shots he averaged per game and as if that were not enough Lewandowski was the 2nd best in assists of the championship with 6 and an average of 0.6 assists per game. Simply lethal.

RANK TEAM PLAYER GOAL 1 BAY R. LEWANDOWSKI 15 2 BAY S. GNABRY 9 3 CIT R. STERLING 6 4 CIT GABRIEL JESUS 6 5 LYO M. DEPAY 6 6 NAP D. MERTENS 6 7 SPU H. KANE 6 8 PSG K. MBAPPE 5 9 RMD K. BENZEMA 5	MATCH Played
2 BAY S. GNABRY 9 3 CIT R. STERLING 6 4 CIT GABRIEL JESUS 6 5 LYO M. DEPAY 6 6 NAP D. MERTENS 6 7 SPU H. KANE 6 8 PSG K. MBAPPE 5	
3 CIT R. STERLING 6 4 CIT GABRIEL JESUS 6 5 LYO M. DEPAY 6 6 NAP D. MERTENS 6 7 SPU H. KANE 6 8 PSG K. MBAPPE 5	10
4 CIT GABRIEL JESUS 6 5 LYO M. DEPAY 6 6 NAP D. MERTENS 6 7 SPU H. KANE 6 8 PSG K. MBAPPE 5	10
5 LYO M. DEPAY 6 6 NAP D. MERTENS 6 7 SPU H. KANE 6 8 PSG K. MBAPPE 5	9
6 NAP D. MERTENS 6 7 SPU H. KANE 6 8 PSG K. MBAPPE 5	8
7 SPU H. KANE 6 8 PSG K. MBAPPE 5	8
8 PSG K. MBAPPE 5	8
	5
9 RMD K. Benzema 5	10
	8
10 PSG M. ICARDI 5	7
11 ATA J. ILICIC 5	7
12 BAR L. SUAREZ 5	7

RANKING ASSISTS						
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER		ASSISTS	MATCH PLAYED	
1	PSG	DI MARÍA		7	9	
2	BAY	R. LEWANDOW	SKI	6	10	
3	PSG	K. MBAPPE		5	10	
4	LY0	H. AOUAR		5	8	
5	BAY	J. KIMMICH		4	11	
6	BAY	C. TOLISSO		4	10	
7	BAY	A. DAVIES		4	8	
8	LIV	FIRMINO		4	8	
9	CIT	R. MAHREZ		4	1	
10	PSG	NEYMAR		4	7	
11	BAR	L. SUAREZ		4	7	

DATA BY SICOSTATS.COM





From the sides, the speedy Gnabry and Coman consistently completed the offensive trident alongside Lewandowsky. Lots of speed, hand-to-hand play ability, high pressure, and repeated offensive associations with the full-backs articulated the perfect environment for the Bavarian offensive machine.

Gnabry (8.96 Index) was remarkable. He finished as the 2nd best performance of the team, obviously standing out in the offensive dimensions but also with a high record in recoveries where he averaged 4.3 per game in one of Munich's keys in the championship. With 9 goals and 2 assists, the young German was a fundamental piece in Bayern's powerful wing play.

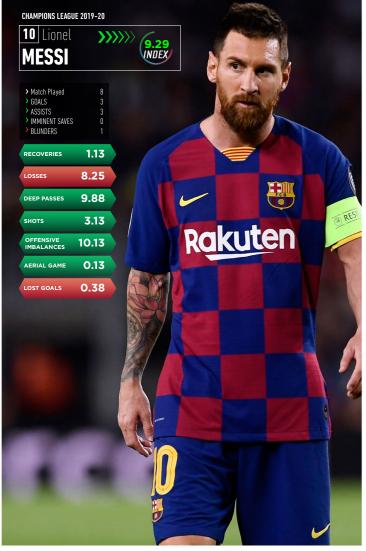






The Champions League 2019-20 had an unprecedented closing due to the coronavirus pandemic, but with the usual quality and emotion. The hyper-offensive mark of the champions Bayern Munich will not be easily forgotten. The 3.91 goals in favour per game are an unprecedented record

in professional football and a true reflection of a philosophy of excellence, pro-spectacle, which always adds value to football. The best team was the champion, and it remains to be seen, who can dispute the crown in the next edition.







K. Navas (8,72 Index); T. Meunier (7,99 Index), Upamecano (8,36), Gabriel (8,32), Roberton (8,1);

Partey (8,34), Kroos (8,63), Aouar (8,63); Gnabry (8,96), Suárez (8,72) y C. Ronaldo (9).











SUBSTITUTES

RANKINGS CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2019-20

Position Rankings



DATA BY SICOSTATS.COM

ii. To		oalkeepers	UF 00/0 00	
	(GHA	MPIONS LEAGI	JE ZUIY-ZU	
	RANKI	NG	GOALKEEPI	R
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER	SICO	MATCH Played
1	BAY	M. NEUER	8.86	11
2	PSG	K. NAVAS	8.72	9
3	LEI	P. GULÁCSI	8.67	10
4	BAR	TER STEGEN	8.65	8
5	LIV	ALISSON	8.62	5
6	ATM	J. OBLAK	8.57	9
7	RMD	T. COURTOIS	8.56	7
8	DOR	R. BURKI	8.40	8
9	LYO	A. LOPES	8.39	10
10	VAL	J. CILLESSEN	8.36	6

iii. To	p 10	Right Backs				
CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2019-20						
	RANK	ING	RIGHT BACK			
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER	SICO	MATCH Played		
1	BAY	J. KIMMICH	8.87	11		
2	PSG	T. MEUNIER	7.99	5		
3	JUV	J. CUADRADO	7.96	6		
4	BAY	B. PAVARD	7.92	8		
5	LIV	ALEXANDER ARNOLD	7.84	7		
6	ATM	K. TRIPPIER	7.82	6		
7	DOR	A. HAKIMI	7.75	8		
8	RMD	CARVAJAL	7.63	7		
9	CIT	J. CANCELO	7.54	8		
10	CHE	AZPILICUETA	7.42	7		







vii. T	op 10 <i>A</i>	Attacking	Midfielders	
	CHA	MPIONS LEA	GUE 2019-20	\rangle
	RANKI	NG	OFFENSIVE MIDFIELDE	
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER	SICO	MATCH PLAYED
1	BAY	T. MULLER	8.87	10
2	CIT	K. DE BRUYN	E 8.87	7
3	LY0	H. AOUAR	8.63	8
4	RMD	T. KROSS	8.63	6
5	ATM	J. FÉLIX	8.54	6
6	BAY	COUTINHO	8.21	11
7	ATA	J. ILICIC	8.18	7
8	CIT	P. FODEN	8.15	5
9	ATA	A. GÓMEZ	8.04	9
10	TOT	G. LO CELSO	8.04	5

RANKINGS CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2019-20

viii.	Гор 10	Wingers		
	(CHA	MPIONS LEAD	GUE 2019-20	,
	RANKI	NG	WINGER	
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER	SICO	MATCH Played
1	BAR	L. MESSI	9.29	8
2	PSG	NEYMAR	9.15	7
3	JUV	C. RONALDO	9.00	8
4	BAY	S. GNABRY	8.96	10
5	CHE	C. PULISIC	8.81	4
6	DOR	J. SANCHO	8.67	8
7	LIV	CHAMBERLAIN	8.65	5
8	CIT	R. STERLING	8.64	9
9	LYO	M. DEPAY	8.56	8
10	LIV	S. MANÉ	8.46	8

ix. To	p 10 (Centre for	ward		
	(CHA	AMPIONS LEA	GUE 2	019-20	>
	RANK	ING	CENTRE FORWARD		
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER		SICO	MATCH Played
1	BAY	R. LEWANDOW	SKI	9.86	10
2	BAR	L. SUAREZ		8.72	7
3	TOT	H. KANE		8.66	5
4	CIT	GABRIEL JESI	JS	8.64	8
5	RMD	K. BENZEMA		8.49	8
6	NAP	D. MERTENS	5	8.36	8
7	LEI	T. WENER		8.20	8
8	ATM	MORATA		8.02	8
9	CIT	S. AGUERO		8.00	3
10	LIV	FIRMINO		7.94	8

DATA BY SICOSTATS.COM

Zoom Players

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2019-20						
RANKING DEEP PASSES BY OTHER						
RANK	TEAM	PLAYER	DEEP PASSES	MATCH Played		
1	BAR	L. MESSI	9.88	8		
2	PSG	NEYMAR	9.14	7		
3	LIV	ALEXANDER ARN	OLD 8.17	7		
4	VAL	D. PAREJO	7.88	8		
5	CIT	K. DE BRUYN	E 7.57	7		
6	LIV	CHAMBERLAI	7.25	5		
7	DOR	J. BRANDT	7.00	7		
8	DOR	J. SANCHO	6.88	8		
9	PSG	DI MARÍA	6.67	9		
10	CHE	WILLIAN	6.57	7		

	CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2019-20							
RANKING OFFENSIVE IMBALAN BY OTHERS								
RANK	TEAM	PLAYE	2	OFFENSIVE MBALANCES	MATCH PLAYED			
1	PSG	NEYMAI	R	10.57	7			
2	BAR	L. MESS	l	10.13	8			
3	CIT	R. STERLI	NG	8.00	9			
4	CHE	C. PULIS	IC	7.67	4			
5	LIV	M. SALA	H	7.38	8			
6	PSG	K. MBAP	PE	6.90	10			
7	LY0	H. AOUA	R	6.50	8			
8	ATA	J. ILICIO		6.43	7			
9	BAY	S. GNABI	RY	6.33	10			
10	LIV	S. MAN	É	6.14	8			



DATA BY SICOSTATS.COM

2. APPENDANT

2.1 DEFINITIONS

SHORT DESCRIPTION PER INDICATOR

SICO-Index:

Index that integrates all variables and dimensions of the system.

Effective Contribution:

Index that integrates positive and negative indicators.

Recoveries (+):

Ball recovery by action-merit of a player, to successfully gain possession of the ball.

Losses (-):

Ball loss by giving possession to the opposing team.

Deep Passes (+):

Productive long pass, generating a team quick offensive attack.

Shots at Goal (+):

Shots aimed at goal.

Aerial Game (+):

Successfully disputed headers against rival team.

Offensive Imbalances (+):

Advantage won by a player by overcoming a rival in speed or dribbling skills.

Game Cuts (+):

Interference of a rival's offensive game, without recovering the ball.

Lost Goal (-):

Scoring opportunities missed by a player

Poor Marking (-):

Tactical error by committing offenses in the proximity of the penalty area and by leaving the rival's press in plays where the ball is stopped.

Saves (+):

Goalkeeper saved shots aimed at the own goal.

False Starts (-):

Unsuccessful starts in pursuit of the ball by miscalculating time and distance.

Poor Location (-):

Goalkeeper misplaced under the own goal or in the penalty area after an attack.

Aerial Game (Goalkeeper) (+):

Aerial plays cleared by goalkeeper punches.

Blunders:

All those plays are recorded where obvious defensive errors are observed and that seriously compromise the possibility of receiving a goal against the product of the defensive error, whether due to losses or poor marking.

Average Depth:

Index that integrates the deep passes, the shots and the offensive imbalances of a team.