



Paris Saint-Germain youth product Kingsley Coman turned the tables on his former team in the Champions League final on Sunday night, tormenting them down the wing throughout the match before netting the decisive goal. The 24-year-old, still the youngest player PSG have ever fielded, fired the winner for Bayern Munich with a composed header. In goal, Manuel Neuer (R) marshalled the Bavarians' defence and made a string of excellent saves to deny Neymar and Kylian Mbappe, including this incredible double save.

PHOTO: TWITTER

HIGHLIGHTS

Bayern Munich are the first side in European Cup/Champions League history to win 100% of their games in a single campaign en route to lifting the trophy (11 wins).

Bayern Munich have won the European Cup/Champions League for a sixth time (level with Liverpool) and for the first time since 2012-13. Only Real Madrid (13) and AC Milan (7) have been crowned champions on more occasions.

PSG's record-equalling scoring streak was brought to a screeching halt by the Bavarians, who shut the world's most expensive attack out after they had scored in the past 34 consecutive matches. The Parisiens are tied for the record with Real Madrid, who scored in 34 games from 2011-14.

Each of the last seven teams competing in their first European Cup/Champions League final have all lost, with the last first-time winners being Borussia Dortmund in 1997 against Juventus.

Unbowed, Unbent, Unbroken

Bayern Munich lift sixth title with 1-0 win over PSG

AFP, Lisbon

It will be remembered as the strangest of Champions League seasons but it has ended with a familiar name on the trophy after Bayern Munich got the better of Paris Saint-Germain in Sunday's final in Lisbon, with their deserved success the result of the remarkable job done by coach Hansi Flick.

There was tickertape at the trophy ceremony and the usual celebratory songs playing over the loudspeakers at the Estadio da Luz as the Bayern players savoured the moment after Kingsley Coman's goal saw them defeat PSG 1-0.



But it was a bizarre spectacle with the 65,000-seat stadium empty, supporters having been barred from attending the biggest match in club football. Against first-time finalists PSG, Bayern were worthy winners of their sixth European Cup, their third in the Champions League era. They won all their 11 Champions League matches this season, an unprecedented feat. They scored 43 goals in that time on a run that included a 7-2 win at Tottenham Hotspur and the stunning 8-2 demolition of Barcelona in the

quarterfinals. They just had the better of the final, even if they were fortunate at times up against the French side's formidable attack of Neymar, Kylian Mbappe and Angel Di Maria. Bayern's line-up featured four survivors from their last final victory, against Borussia Dortmund in 2013. But this was also about the new faces, such as 19-year-old left-back Alphonso Davies, the Canadian international. "Moments like these you dream of as a kid," he told DAZN. "I honestly can't believe it, winning the Champions League is the top level."

'Inconsolable' PSG hope to learn from heartbreak

AGENCIES, Lisbon

Paris St Germain believe they can learn from their run to the Champions League final and become European champions after coming closer than ever in Sunday's 1-0 loss to Bayern Munich.

The French champions were left to pay the price for failing to convert the opportunities that came their way -- Neymar was notably denied by a fine Manuel Neuer save early on, but Kylian Mbappe really should have done better than shoot straight at the goalkeeper just before half-time.

"We have to create a great team to follow up on this campaign. That's our challenge," coach Thomas Tuchel said. "I'm going to talk with (sporting director) Leonardo and the people in charge to create that team."

"Over the last few weeks we have shown everything you need to win every title going," Tuchel added. "We lost 1-0 in the final against one of the strongest sides in Europe. We must maintain the same quality to carry on this road."

"Right now it's difficult to sleep, it's difficult to speak, it's difficult to explain," added midfielder Ander Herrera. "But, from tomorrow we're going to start again. We've built something very, very important."

"I had a feeling the first goal would decide the final. I'm disappointed but not too much. We were very, very close. What did we need to win? The first goal," Tuchel said. The two most expensive players in football history were signed, ultimately, to win this game. It was not their night, and Neymar was in tears. "Inconsolable" was the headline on the front page of sports daily L'Equipe on Monday, underneath a photo of the Brazilian crying. "Neymar has had a great tournament, he cannot do everything," the German said. "We're a team, it's not any individual's fault," added midfielder Marquinhos. "We have to be proud of our team. Nobody thought we'd do that well in this campaign."



Coman 100% Bavarian

AFP, Lisbon

Kingsley Coman spent a decade at Paris St-Germain, coming up through the club's academy and making four senior appearances, but it was his goal which condemned the French giants to defeat in Sunday's Champions League final.

The 24-year-old headed the only goal in Bayern Munich's 1-0 victory in Lisbon, inflicting a devastating blow on his boyhood club in their first appearance in the final.

Coman departed as a teenager in 2014, winning two Serie A titles with Juventus before a trophy-laden spell in Germany.

"It's an incredible feeling, lots of happiness and a bit of sadness for Paris, they had a great run," Coman said. "My heart was 100 per cent Bayern because I'm 100 per cent professional but I'm not going to lie, to see Presnel (Kimpembe) like that, to see our team like that, gave me a little bit of heartache."

Europe's elite Flick-ed aside

AGENCIES, Lisbon

When Hansi Flick took over struggling Bayern Munich in November 2019 the media headlines declared that teams should no longer fear the German champions, but outstanding teamwork and a hunger for victory turned the season around, the coach said on Sunday.

"I am proud of this team," a beaming Flick told reporters. "When I started in November I read the headlines: 'No need to fear or respect Bayern Munich anymore', 'The team is awful.'"

"But the development of my team since then has been sensational. We made maximum use of everything. It is not easy to win three titles," he added.

Flick replaced Niko Kovac in November after a 5-1 loss to Eintracht Frankfurt and with Bayern having dropped out of the top three in the Bundesliga. But the former Germany assistant coach instantly turned the campaign on its head, leading Bayern to an unbeaten 2020 in every competition.

"It's such a huge joy, it feels like we have come a long way since November," said Mueller, who was a peripheral figure under Kovac. "I don't know how it looked from outside, but it felt like we deserved it in the way we played."

They have won 21 consecutive matches in all competitions and are on a 30-game unbeaten run. The Bavarians won every Champions League game this season - including a memorable 8-2 demolition of Barcelona in the quarterfinals - becoming the first side to do so.

"The team is always in the foreground," Flick said. "When you see how we worked until the 96th minute tonight in defence then it is a superb team spirit. Every player developed in such a way so as to

win three titles. This only happens as a team."

Flick is the third coach in the last decade to win the Champions League having being appointed during a campaign, after Roberto di Matteo with Chelsea in 2011/12 and Zinedine Zidane with Real Madrid in 2015/16.

But, as Thomas Mueller described, it was also 'brutal' mental strength and focus that saw them through.

"We kept marching on this season, we were there for each other, ready to correct each other's mistakes," said attacking midfielder Thomas Mueller, benched by Kovac but sensational under Flick.

"We have amazing quality but it does not work if you are not ready to suffer. Our mental strength is brutal."

"This is not the start of a new era," said retired former Bayern captain Mark van Bommel. "This process has been going on since 2010 and new players keep coming in as the older leave but the success remains."



James Anderson was on 598 wickets, two away from becoming the first fast bowler and Englishman to take 600 Test wickets following his five-for in the first innings of the third Test against Pakistan.

PHOTO: TWITTER

Pakistan face daunting task to save match

REUTERS, Southampton

Pakistan's openers frustrated England on the fourth morning of the third Test as they reached 41 without loss in their second innings, having been forced to follow on.

Abid Ali was 22 not out and Shan Masood was on 13 as Pakistan remained 269 runs shy of making England bat again. Rain forced an early lunch break, although the forecast is more encouraging for the rest of the day as England aim to wrap up a 2-0 series victory.

A scrappy morning in the field for England was summed up when James Anderson saw wicket keeper Jos Buttler fail to pouch a routine catch in his third over when Masood edged the ball outside off stump.

It is the fourth time in the match Anderson that has been deprived of a wicket due to a dropped catch.

Booters willing to take big pay cut

SPORTS REPORTER



Footballers are ready to sacrifice a portion of their salaries in a bid to starting the new season as they sit with the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) high-ups today to find a solution regarding their payment for last season, which was cancelled mid-way through due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The BFF sat with Bangladesh Premier League clubs on August 20 to discuss the new season, with majority of clubs being in favour of starting the new season only after settlement of outstanding payment issues.

As part of initiatives to reach a consensus between the clubs and the players, professional football league committee chairman Abdus Salam Murshedy and neutral members will sit with representatives of footballers' community at the BFF House today. Local players

are eager to settle the matter. Clubs have already settled payment issues with foreign players in line with FIFA guidelines.

"Considering the present situation, we want football back immediately as the footballers are unemployed and going through financial crisis. We are ready to sacrifice our salaries in a bid to bring back football on the ground, so that we can recover a bit from the crisis," national team's goalkeeper Ashraful Islam Rana said.

It has been learnt that the clubs proposed to extend last season's contracts with a 20 percent increase, but the players want 50 percent.

"We know we have to sacrifice and we are ready to do it. It is going to be a single season in almost three years because the 11th edition of BPL completed in August, 2019 and there is no certainty the upcoming season will start and finish in time," said national midfielder Mamunul Islam.

BCMA

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