

= 1973 UEFA Cup Final =

The 1973 UEFA Cup Final was an association football match played over two @-@ legs between Liverpool of England and Borussia Mönchengladbach of West Germany . The first leg was played at Anfield , Liverpool on 10 May 1973 and the second leg was played on 23 May 1973 at the Bökelbergstadion , Mönchengladbach . It was the final of the 1972 ? 73 season of Europe 's secondary cup competition , the UEFA Cup . Liverpool and Mönchengladbach were both appearing in their first final , although Liverpool had previously reached the final of the European Cup Winners ' Cup losing 2 ? 1 to Borussia Dortmund .

Each club needed to progress through four rounds to reach the final . Matches were contested over two legs , with a match at each team 's home ground . The majority of Liverpool 's ties were won by at least two goals , the exception was the semi @-@ final against Tottenham Hotspur , which Liverpool won on the away goals rule . Borussia Mönchengladbach 's ties were predominantly one @-@ sided . The West German team won by at least four goals in all four of their ties , a 9 ? 2 aggregate victory over Kaiserslautern represented their biggest margin of victory .

Watched by a crowd of 41 @,@ 169 at Anfield , Liverpool took the lead in the first leg when Kevin Keegan scored in the 21st minute . Another goal by Keegan in the first half , extended Liverpool 's lead and a further goal by Larry Lloyd meant Liverpool won the first leg 3 ? 0 . Therefore , in the second leg at the Bökelbergstadion , Liverpool had to avoid losing by three clear goals to win the competition . A crowd of 34 @,@ 905 watched Borussia take the lead in the 29th minute courtesy of a Jupp Heynckes goal , he scored again 11 minutes later to double Borussia 's lead . Borussia were unable to find the third goal they needed to take the match into extra @-@ time and won the second leg 2 ? 0 . Thus , Liverpool won the final 3 ? 2 on aggregate to win their first European trophy .

= = Route to the final = =

= = = Liverpool = = =

Liverpool qualified for the UEFA Cup as a result of finishing third in the First Division during the 1971 ? 72 season . Their opponents in the first round were West German team Eintracht Frankfurt . Liverpool won the first leg at their home ground , Anfield , 2 ? 0 . The second leg at Frankfurt 's home ground the Waldstadion ended in a 0 ? 0 draw , which meant Liverpool progressed to the second round with a 2 ? 0 aggregate victory . Greek team AEK Athens were the opposition . Liverpool won the first leg at Anfield 3 ? 0 , a 3 ? 1 victory at AEK 's home ground the Nikos Goumas Stadium ensured Liverpool won the tie 6 ? 1 on aggregate .

The opposition in the third round were Dynamo Berlin of East Germany . The first leg at Dynamo 's home ground the Sportforum ended in a 0 ? 0 draw . The second leg at Anfield was more eventful Liverpool took the lead through Phil Boersma in the first minute and Dynamo equalised six minutes later . Two further goals for Liverpool secured a 3 ? 1 victory in the match and on aggregate . In the quarter @-@ finals Liverpool again faced East German opposition , their opponents were Dynamo Dresden . Liverpool won the first leg 2 ? 0 at Anfield , and they won the second leg 1 ? 0 in East Germany , to beat Dresden 3 ? 0 on aggregate .

Reigning champions Tottenham Hotspur were the opposition in the semi @-@ final . Liverpool won an attacking match at Anfield 1 ? 0 . The second leg at White Hart Lane was equally eventful . Tottenham took the lead in the second half when Martin Peters scored to give Spurs the lead . Seven minutes Liverpool equalised when Steve Heighway scored this levelled the match and gave Liverpool a 2 ? 1 lead on aggregate . Tottenham went 2 ? 1 up when Peters scored again , this levelled the aggregate score at 2 ? 2 , but Liverpool had scored an away goal , and would therefore progress to the next round as a result .

= = = Borussia Mönchengladbach = = =

Borussia qualified for the UEFA Cup courtesy of a third @-@ place finish in the 1971 ? 72 Fußball @-@ Bundesliga . The opposition in the first round were Scottish side Aberdeen . The first leg was held at Aberdeen 's home ground Pittodrie , with Borussia winning 3 ? 2 . The second leg at Borussia 's home ground the Bökelbergstadion was won 6 ? 3 by the West German side , this meant they qualified for the second round courtesy of a 9 ? 5 aggregate victory . Danish side Hvidovre were the opposition in the second round . A 3 ? 0 victory in West Germany was followed by a 3 ? 1 victory in Denmark to secure a 6 ? 1 aggregate victory for Borussia .

Fellow West German side FC Köln were the opposition in the third round . The first leg at Köln 's home ground the Müngersdorfer Stadion ended in a 0 ? 0 draw . Borussia easily won the second leg at their home ground 5 ? 0 to win the tie by the same score on aggregate . They were again drawn against West German opposition in the quarter @-@ finals , the team in this instance was Kaiserslautern . The first leg held at Kaiserslautern 's home ground the Fritz @-@ Walter @-@ Stadion was won 2 ? 1 by Borussia and a 7 ? 1 victory in the second leg at their home ground ensured they progressed to the semi @-@ finals courtesy of a 9 ? 2 aggregate victory .

Dutch team Twente were Borussia 's opposition in the semi @-@ finals . The first leg was held in West Germany and Borussia won 3 ? 0 to put themselves in a good position to reach the final going into the second leg in the Netherlands . Borussia won the second leg 2 ? 1 to win the tie 5 ? 1 on aggregate and progress to their first European final .

= = Background = =

Liverpool were appearing in their second European final . They had previously lost 2 ? 1 in the final of the 1965 ? 66 European Cup Winners ' Cup against West German team Borussia Dortmund . Borussia Mönchengladbach were appearing in their first European final , they had appeared in European competition but the furthest they had progressed was the second round of the 1970 ? 71 European Cup and 1971 ? 72 European Cup when they were beat by English team Everton and Internazionale of Italy respectively .

Liverpool had won the 1972 ? 73 Football League , a 2 ? 0 victory over Leeds United ensured they became champions . Their league success meant that whatever the result they would be competing in the European Cup the following season . As a result of their league success , Liverpool were looking to become the first English team to win a European trophy in the same year as winning the league . Borussia Mönchengladbach had finished fifth in the 1972 ? 73 Fußball @-@ Bundesliga , however they won the 1972 ? 73 DFB @-@ Pokal , the German domestic cup competition . This meant they would be participating in the UEFA Cup Winners ' Cup in the following season .

= = First leg = =

There had been heavy rain in Liverpool in the week before the first leg , nevertheless , Austrian referee Erich Linemayr decided that the first leg on 9 May would still go ahead . Minutes into the match it was apparent that the conditions were unplayable , the rain had intensified following the kick @-@ off and the players were unable to pass the ball to each other . The referee took the decision to abandon the game after 27 minutes with the match to be played the next day .

= = = Summary = = =

The 27 minutes that had been played the previous day had given Liverpool manager Bill Shankly an insight into how to beat Borussia . He noted that defender Günter Netzer was suspect in the air , to exploit this he decided to omit Brian Hall in place of John Toshack , whom Shankly believed would exploit this weakness . The inclusion of Toshack had the desired effect . In the 21st minute his header across the penalty area from a Chris Lawler pass , set up the first goal for Kevin Keegan , who dived forward to head the ball into the far corner of the goal .

Keegan nearly extended Liverpool 's lead four minutes later when they were awarded a penalty for handball . Alec Lindsay put a high pass into the penalty area ; Borussia defender Rainer Bonhof ,

under pressure from Toshack , handled the ball and Liverpool were awarded a penalty . However , Keegan 's penalty was saved by Borussia goalkeeper Wolfgang Kleff who pushed the effort round the post . Borussia nearly made Keegan pay for his penalty miss a few minutes later , but Dietmar Danner 's shot hit the post . Keegan made amends in the 33rd minute when he scored again . Emlyn Hughes headed the ball into the Borussia penalty area , Toshack who was facing away from the Borussia goal headed the ball back to Keegan , who volleyed the ball into the goal from ten yards to give Liverpool a 2 ? 0 lead .

Liverpool extended their lead in the 60th minute when defender Larry Lloyd scored . Toshack won Liverpool a corner and with Borussia defender Netzer focusing on the striker , Lloyd was left unmarked to head in Keegan 's corner and extend the English club 's lead to 3 ? 0 . Despite Liverpool 's goals Borussia were presented with an opportunity to get back into the tie when they were awarded a penalty in the 65th minute . Steve Heighway 's tackle on Henning Jensen was judged to be a foul by Austrian referee Linemayr . Jupp Heynckes took the penalty for the West German team hitting it to Liverpool goalkeeper Ray Clemence 's right , but Clemence dived the right way and saved the penalty , preventing Borussia from scoring an away goal . No further goals were scored and the referee blew for full @-@ time with the final score 3 ? 0 to Liverpool .

Shankly was equivocal in his praise of the players after the match stating : " It was an international @-@ class game . Really tremendous . I am not making predictions about the second @-@ leg , but we have a distinct advantage because we did not give away a goal . " Shankly had Clemence to thank for Liverpool not conceding an away goal and the goalkeeper revealed that he had done his homework on the penalty taker Heynckes : " I watched Heynckes take a penalty in the semi @-@ final on television and decided to dive the same way . The save was a reward for my homework . "

== = Details == =

== Second leg ==

== = Summary == =

Liverpool 's 3 ? 0 victory in the first leg meant that Borussia needed to score three goals to force the tie into extra @-@ time . Liverpool employed a " holding action " against the " attacking Germans " in order to protect their three @-@ goal lead . Another bout of torrential rain affected the second leg , as a result the pitch was slippery , and with the onus on Borussia to attack this caused problems for the Liverpool defence .

Knowing the task in hand Borussia bombarded Liverpool in the first half , the architect was midfielder Günter Netzer whose passing was instrumental to Borussia 's play . Borussia 's attacking brought their first goal in the 30th minute . Jupp Heynckes who had missed the penalty for Borussia in the first leg , scored from six yards after Bernd Rupp passed to him from the right hand side of the pitch . Heynckes extended the West German side 's lead in the 39th minute when he curled the ball into the Liverpool goal from left of the Liverpool penalty area .

Borussia needed one more goal to level the tie and take it into extra @-@ time . However , despite an initial spell of dominance following the start of the second half they were unable to match the intensity that they had shown in the first half , Liverpool gained confidence from this and saw out the second half , losing the match 2 ? 0 , but they won their first European trophy as a result of a 3 ? 2 aggregate victory . Liverpool 's victory meant that they became the first English team to win a European trophy and league championship in the same season .

== = Details == =