

Press Release



“A good defense is the key to victory”

In an exclusive interview for bwin, Real Madrid midfield player Sami Khedira spoke of the key aspects of the game against AC Milan and analysed the team’s chances in the Champions League.

Vienna/Madrid, 1 November 2010 - German Real Madrid player Sami Khedira is proud to wear the Real Madrid jersey: “I have already experienced some great moments with the German national team and VfB Stuttgart, but having the special honour of wearing the Real Madrid jersey is sensational. If you come here to training every day, you realise what kind of club you are playing for – a club with such an enormous history. Wearing the shirt just makes you feel really proud.”

Fully integrated into the team and playing with long-time friend Mesut Özil, Khedira claims to have had no problems adapting to the new team and country: “Mesut is a really good friend of mine from former times in the national youth team where we became U21 European Champions, so we have known each other for a long time already. This has, of course, made adapting easier but we get along very well with the rest of the team as well. It is a lot of fun, especially with the South Americans. They are all very open-minded and helpful. Adapting has been very easy and we have not had any problems here in Spain.”

A tough rival

After their defeat at the Bernabeu stadium, AC Milan is waiting impatiently for their rematch with Real Madrid – and this won’t be an easy game. “AC Milan is aiming for the victory. They have scored four points in their first three games so they cannot afford another defeat if they want to move up in the rankings”, says Khedira. But Real Madrid know what they need: “Our aim is to get those three points in order to ensure our passage to the last 16 round at this early stage. That is our goal at the San Siro. It will be a tough game. At the Bernabeu, we almost had a perfect game with a very well-organised defence against AC Milan’s offensive style of play. But we are also ready to beat a top team such as AC Milan away from home and return as winners. Therefore, we need to put in an excellent performance”, Khedira declares optimistically.

Dangerous players

When asked about the rivals’ strong points, Khedira admits that certain AC Milan players can be dangerous, suggesting that the team should focus on offensive team play and not underestimate their defence. “Ibrahimovic, Pato, Ronaldinho, Robinho, and also Seedorf, Boateng – these are all fantastic individual players. If you let them develop their game play, they can be very dangerous against any team. There is always the risk of underestimating them but we will not do that. We are aware of the world-class quality of their players. If we take on the challenge with focus and concentration and help each other out, we can win the duel”, assures Khedira.

Press Release



The key to winning: an undefeated goal

Khedira is sure that the key to winning the game lies in not conceding a goal. "I am convinced that we will win the game if we don't concede a goal. That is our aim. You can see it with all of the top teams in Europe. These teams have all gone far in the Champions League and have conceded very few goals. At the end of the day, that is the key to success. Defense wins championships. Jose Mourinho is famous for this strategy and we have followed it very closely in the Champions League group stage so far. We don't give the other teams many chances to score a goal and, at the same time, we play very good, attractive and fast offensive football. We are a very compact team in offense and defense and we want to keep this up", he explains.

Main rivals: FC Barcelona, Inter Milan, FC Bayern

This year, Real Madrid is aiming to win its tenth European title. FC Barcelona will, of course, be one of its main rivals, but other teams cannot be forgotten: "Definitely, Barcelona is a very good team. I had the pleasure of playing against them with my former team VfB Stuttgart. They play very precise football, very fast, something you have seen over years. But, of course, besides FC Barcelona, there are other teams like Inter or FC Bayern, for example. Last year, FC Bayern reached the final and was able to keep the squad together. Also, in the second leg of the season, key players for FC Bayern like Robben and Ribery will be back. But the Champions League is always a marathon; it is important to be fully prepared in the knock out stage and to be completely concentrated. This is the way to make it to the end in the Champions League", Khedira concludes.

bwin.com Odds for upcoming Real Madrid Champions League games*

AC Milan	3.10	X 3.40	Real Madrid	2.15
Copenhagen	6.50	X 4.20	FC Barcelona	1.45
CFR Cluj	4.35	X 3.75	Bayern Munich	1.70

bwin.com Odds for Champions League Winner 2010/11*

Barcelona	3.55
Real Madrid	4.50
Chelsea	5.25
Manchester United	11.00
Bayern Munich	11.50
Arsenal	11.50
Inter Milan	12.00

**Odds are subject to change.*

Press Release



About bwin

The bwin Group has over 20 million registered customers in more than 25 core markets. On a number of different platforms, the Group offers sports betting, poker, casino games, soft and skill games, as well as audio and video streams of top sporting events such as the German Soccer League. The holding company bwin Interactive Entertainment AG is listed in the ATX on the Vienna Stock Exchange (ID code BWIN, Reuters ID code BWIN.VI), and as the parent company provides various services such as software development, marketing, communications, human resources and finance for its subsidiaries and associated companies. The operational business of the bwin Group is carried out by subsidiaries and associated companies on the basis of licences (e.g. Germany, Italy and Gibraltar). Full details about the Company can be found on its investor relations website at www.bwin.org.

Picture-Download: <http://www.bwin.org/Press.aspx>

Follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/bwinpress>

Contact information:

Press

Matthias Winkler, Chief Communications Officer

P: +43 (0)50 858-20067

E: press@bwin.org

Investors

Konrad Sveceny, Investor Relations

P: +43(0)50 858-20017

E: investorrelations@bwin.org

bwin Interactive Entertainment AG
Börsegasse 11 / Elevator 3 / Top floor
1010 Vienna, Austria
www.bwin.org