

# XPERT FORM GUIDE

Comments & Tips by soccer expert MARK GLEESON



**SOCCER 10**

**Thursday 14 September V1 POOL CLOSES @ 19H00**

<b>M1</b>		<b>TEAM</b>	Apollon Limassol	<b>VS</b>	Olympique Lyonnais	<b>TEAM</b>	
<b>TIP:</b>	<b>LYON WIN</b>	<b>A</b>				<b>B</b>	
<p>The clubs are meeting for the first time in UEFA competition, though Lyon have been to the GSP Stadium in Larnaca before – featuring in one of the most celebrated games in Cypriot football. In Lyon's only previous encounter with Cypriot opposition, they took on APOEL in the UEFA Champions League round of 16, losing the tie 4-3 on penalties in Nicosia.</p>							
<b>M2</b>		<b>TEAM</b>	Arsenal	<b>VS</b>	FC Cologne	<b>TEAM</b>	
<b>TIP:</b>	<b>ARSEN WIN</b>	<b>A</b>				<b>B</b>	
<p>Arsenal were beaten 5-1 at home by Cologne's domestic rivals Bayern Munich in their last European home fixture, in last season's UEFA Champions League round of 16. Cologne have lost only one of their last five European away games – though all of those matches were played in the 1990s.</p>							
<b>M3</b>		<b>TEAM</b>	Atalanta	<b>VS</b>	Everton	<b>TEAM</b>	
<b>TIP:</b>	<b>DRAW</b>	<b>A</b>				<b>B</b>	
<p>Fourth in Serie A last term, Atalanta are returning to European club competition for the first time since 1991, when they were eliminated by Inter Milan in the UEFA Cup quarter-finals. Everton have made it through all three of their previous UEFA Cup/UEFA Europa League group stage campaigns, most recently in 2014.</p>							
<b>M4</b>		<b>TEAM</b>	Austria Vienna	<b>VS</b>	AC Milan	<b>TEAM</b>	
<b>TIP:</b>	<b>MILAN WIN</b>	<b>A</b>				<b>B</b>	
<p>Austria Vienna lost their last home game in the knockout phase of the Europa League but still got through to the group phase. Milan had won four in a row before losing away at Lazio on Sunday.</p>							
<b>M5</b>		<b>TEAM</b>	FC Copenhagen	<b>VS</b>	Lokomotiv Moscow	<b>TEAM</b>	
<b>TIP:</b>	<b>COP WIN</b>	<b>A</b>				<b>B</b>	
<p>FC Copenhagen warmed up for this Europa League match with a narrow 4-3 home win over FC Midtjylland on Sunday. Lokomotiv are second in the standings in Russia.</p>							
<b>M6</b>		<b>TEAM</b>	Hoffenheim	<b>VS</b>	Sporting Braga	<b>TEAM</b>	
<b>TIP:</b>	<b>HOFF WIN</b>	<b>A</b>				<b>B</b>	
<p>The sides are meeting for the first time in European competition, and it is Hoffenheim's first encounter against Portuguese opposition. Braga have yet to win in six matches against Bundesliga teams and lost both Of their previous games in Germany without scoring.</p>							
<b>M7</b>		<b>TEAM</b>	Hertha Berlin	<b>VS</b>	Athletic Bilbao	<b>TEAM</b>	
<b>TIP:</b>	<b>DRAW</b>	<b>A</b>				<b>B</b>	
<p>Hertha got through the Europa League group stage on their most recent appearance, in the 2009/10 season, but were knocked out in last season's third qualifying round. Athletic Bilbao have successfully negotiated the last two Europa League group stages, and notably were losing finalists in the 1976/77 UEFA Cup and 2011/12 Europa League.</p>							
<b>M8</b>		<b>TEAM</b>	Olympique Marseille	<b>VS</b>	Konyaspor	<b>TEAM</b>	
<b>TIP:</b>	<b>MAR WIN</b>	<b>A</b>				<b>B</b>	
<p>Marseille have won both of their European home matches this season – against Oostende (4-2) and Domžale (3-0) – scoring seven goals in the process. Konyaspor have yet to avoid defeat in a European club competition away game, suffering 2-0, 3-1 and 4-1 reversals.</p>							
<b>M9</b>		<b>TEAM</b>	Vitesse	<b>VS</b>	Lazio	<b>TEAM</b>	
<b>TIP:</b>	<b>LAZ WIN</b>	<b>A</b>				<b>B</b>	
<p>Vitesse are without a win in six European fixtures, including three straight home defeats, scoring just twice during that run. Lazio are unbeaten in five European away matches – a victory and four 1-1 draws</p>							
<b>M10</b>		<b>TEAM</b>	Zulte Waregem	<b>VS</b>	Nice	<b>TEAM</b>	
<b>TIP:</b>	<b>NICE WIN</b>	<b>A</b>				<b>B</b>	
<p>Zulte Waregem claimed their second Belgian Cup in April. They made it through the UEFA Cup group stage in 2006/07, but could not emulate that success in the 2013/14 Europa League. Beaten by Napoli in the UEFA Champions League play-offs last month, Nice made their UEFA Europa League group stage debut last season but failed to reach the round of 32.</p>							

## CONCLUSION

**BANKER FOR THIS POOL AC MILAN**

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