



*Elite Football Talent Identification  
& Data Analytics*

## INDIVIDUAL SCOUTING REPORT



# Kylian Mbappe

*Paris Saint-Germain • Forward (Left Wing) • #7*

### MATCH ANALYSED

## Barcelona 1-4 PSG

**UEFA Champions League • Round of 16 (First Leg)**

**Wednesday, 17th February 2021 • Camp Nou, Barcelona, Spain**

**Referee: Bjorn Kuipers (Netherlands)**

### PREPARED BY

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***PFSA Level 2 Talent Identification in Football Assessment***

December 2025

## 1. Introduction

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This scouting report provides a comprehensive analysis of Kylian Mbappe, a French professional footballer who, at the time of this match, played as a forward for Paris Saint-Germain. The analysis focuses on his performance in the UEFA Champions League Round of 16 first leg match against Barcelona on 17th February 2021, where PSG secured a commanding 4-1 away victory at Camp Nou.

I chose to analyse Mbappe for this report because his performance in this particular match represents one of the most dominant individual displays in Champions League knockout history. Scoring a hat-trick at the Camp Nou against Barcelona demonstrates the elite-level talent and big-game temperament that scouts dream of identifying at earlier stages of development.

<b>Full Name</b>	Kylian Mbappe Lottin
<b>Date of Birth</b>	20th December 1998 (Age 22 at time of match)
<b>Position</b>	Forward (Left Wing — orthodox #11 position)
<b>Formation</b>	4-2-3-1 (Coach: Mauricio Pochettino)
<b>Jersey Number</b>	#7
<b>Club</b>	Paris Saint-Germain (Ligue 1, France)
<b>Nationality</b>	French
<b>Height / Weight</b>	178 cm / 78 kg
<b>Preferred Foot</b>	Ambidextrous (naturally right-footed, proficient with left)

## 2. Player Background

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### Career Overview

Kylian Mbappe began his football journey at AS Bondy, coached by his father Wilfried. His exceptional talent was evident from a young age. After training at the prestigious Clairefontaine academy, Mbappe joined AS Monaco's youth academy at age 14, choosing the French club over interest from Real Madrid, Chelsea, and Arsenal.

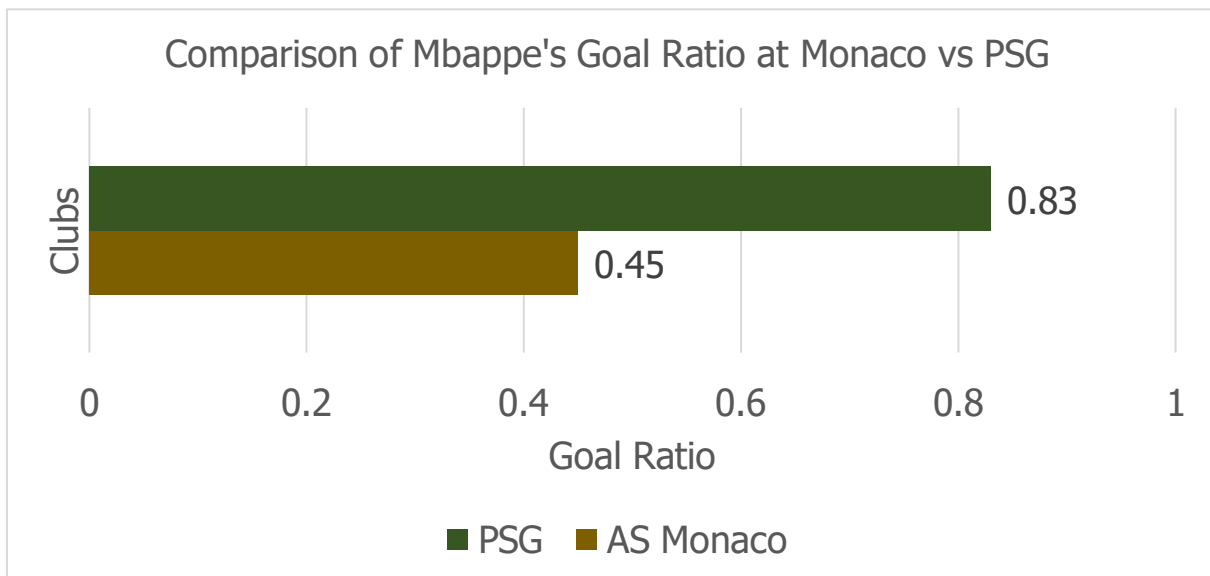
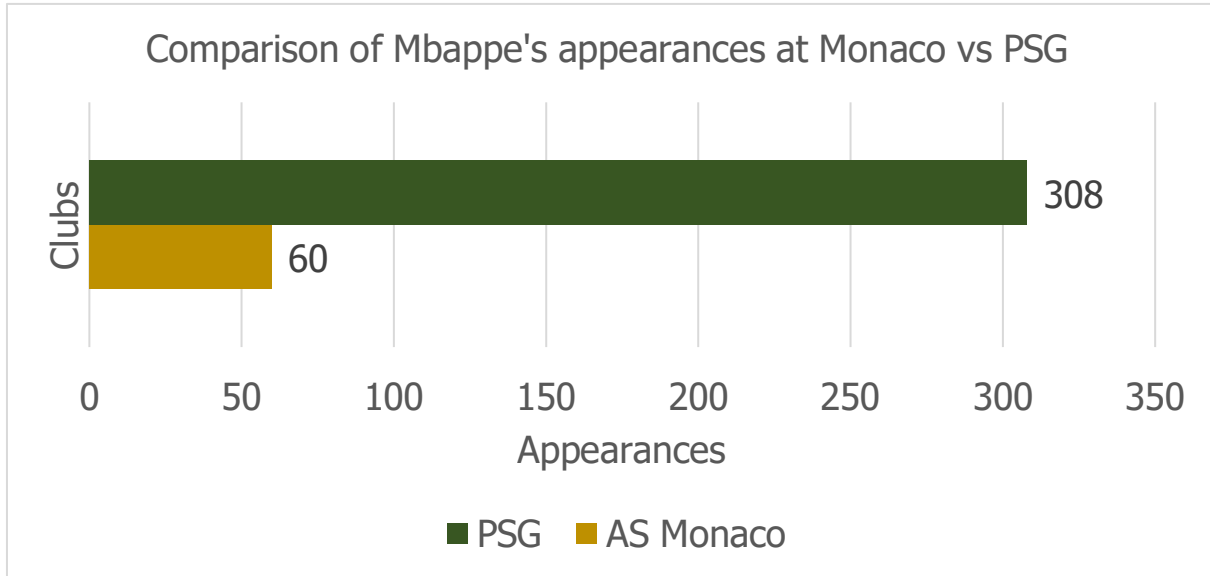
He made his professional debut for Monaco on 2nd December 2015, aged just 16 years and 347 days, becoming the club's youngest-ever first-team player and breaking Thierry Henry's record. His breakthrough 2016-17 season saw him help Monaco win the Ligue 1 title and reach the Champions League semi-finals.

In August 2017, PSG signed Mbappe on loan with a mandatory purchase option of €180 million, making him the most expensive teenager and second-most expensive player in football history at the time. He has since established himself as one of the world's elite forwards.

## Career Statistics & Analytics

Club	Appearances	Goals	Goal Ratio
AS Monaco	60	27	0.45
PSG	308	256	0.83

Source: Transfermarkt. Statistics represent complete career records at each club.



### ANALYTICAL INSIGHT: Progression Analysis

Mbappe's goal-scoring ratio improved from 0.45 goals per game at Monaco to 0.83 at PSG which represents a nominal increase of 0.38 and an 84.4% improvement in his overall goal rate. This progression demonstrates his continued development into one of the world's most prolific forwards.

### 3. Match Analysis

#### Key Moments

The following key moments were identified during match observation:

Time	Action / Observation
1'	Early incursion at goal showing speed and pace to outrun 2 Barcelona defenders, only denied by Ter Stegen who had great anticipation.
15'	Tactical intelligence — joined midfield to create numerical overload against Barcelona.
31'	Great interception to prevent Barcelona counterattack — showing defensive awareness.
32'	<b>GOAL (1-1):</b> Team play — diagonal pass from Marquinhos to Kurzawa, cross, Verratti flick. Excellent first touch/control with right foot, went past Pique, powerful left foot finish.
47'	Great attempt at goal from centre forward position (orthodox #9 position) — showing positional versatility.
50'	Exhibited great balance going past Pique at the final third of the pitch.
65'	<b>GOAL (1-2):</b> Left foot finish from Florenzi cross which was not properly cleared by Pique — clinical finishing.
68'	Nearly completed hat-trick — denied by great save from Ter Stegen.
85'	<b>GOAL (1-4):</b> Hat-trick completed — great counterattack with final pass from Julian Draxler.
90+5'	Game over: Mbappe with the final touch to end proceedings

#### Tactical Observations

Though Mbappe played the role of a left winger, he frequently drifted to the centre forward position to join Icardi, creating numerical overloads when PSG's left back overlapped. This tactical flexibility caused Barcelona significant problems throughout the match.

## 4. Attributes Analysis (Four Corner Model)

TECHNICAL/TACTICAL	PHYSICAL	PSYCHOLOGICAL	SOCIAL
First Touch ✓	Pace ✓	Resilience ✓	Teamwork ✓
Ball Control ✓	Speed ✓	Composure ✓	Communication ✓
Finishing ✓	Balance ✓	Big-Game ✓	Body Language ✓
Ambidextrous ✓	Endurance ✓	Confidence ✓	Support ✓

### 4.1 Technical Attributes

**First Touch and Ball Control:** Mbappe's first touch was exemplary throughout the match. His first goal (32') showcased exceptional control. He received Verratti's flick with his right foot, adjusted his body position, went past Pique, and finished with his left foot. This sequence demonstrated elite-level close control under pressure.

**Finishing:** All three goals demonstrated clinical finishing ability. Notably, he is ambidextrous; scoring with both feet (first goal: left foot; second goal: left foot; third goal: right foot) and showing no hesitation using either foot in high-pressure moments.

### 4.2 Physical Attributes

**Pace and Speed:** From the first minute (0:47), Mbappe demonstrated explosive pace, outrunning two Barcelona defenders in an early incursion at goal. His speed was a constant threat throughout, stretching Barcelona's defence and creating space for teammates.

**Balance:** Excellent balance was evident at 50', where he went past Pique while maintaining control at speed. His low centre of gravity allows him to change direction quickly without losing momentum which is a key attribute for a winger.

**Endurance:** His third goal came in the 85th minute, demonstrating his ability to maintain intensity and sharpness deep into matches. This physical endurance is crucial for high-level competition.

### 4.3 Psychological Attributes

**Resilience and Composure:** After Barcelona took the lead through Messi's penalty (27'), Mbappe remained calm and composed. Within five minutes, he had equalised (32'). This response under pressure at the Camp Nou which is one of football's most intimidating venues demonstrates exceptional mental strength.

**Big-Game Temperament:** Scoring a hat-trick in a Champions League knockout match against Barcelona, at their home ground, confirms Mbappe's elite mentality. He thrives on the biggest stages rather than shrinking from the occasion.

### 4.4 Social Attributes

**Teamwork and Communication:** All three goals involved effective team play. The first goal came from a sequence involving Marquinhos, Kurzawa, and Verratti. The third goal resulted from a counterattack orchestrated with Draxler. Mbappe's

willingness to combine with teammates, rather than over-relying on individual brilliance, shows social intelligence on the pitch.

## 5. Strengths and Weaknesses

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### Key Strengths

Strength	Evidence from Match
<b>Great Personality</b>	Remained calm after conceding; responded with equaliser within 5 minutes. Demonstrated resilience and big-game temperament by scoring a hat-trick at Camp Nou.
<b>Balance</b>	Exhibited excellent balance at 50' going past Pique at pace. Low centre of gravity enables quick direction changes while maintaining control.
<b>First Touch/Control</b>	First goal (32') showcased elite control — receiving Verratti's flick with right foot, adjusting body, going past defender, and finishing with left foot.

### Areas for Development

Area	Observation
<b>Heading</b>	Virtually no aerial threat during the match. Not utilised as a target for headed opportunities.
<b>Defensive Consistency</b>	Inconsistent tracking back. While he showed defensive awareness at times (notably 31'), he wasn't tracking back as often as expected for a modern winger.

**Please Note:** These areas for development are relative to his elite level. Against Barcelona, his strengths completely overshadowed any limitations, and neither weakness was exploited by the opposition.

## 6. Conclusion and Recommendation

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### Overall Evaluation

Kylian Mbappe's performance against Barcelona demonstrated why he is considered one of the best players of his generation. At just 22 years old (at the time of this match), he dismantled one of Europe's most storied clubs at their own stadium, scoring a hat-trick that announced his arrival as a genuine world-class talent capable of deciding the biggest matches.

### Four Corner Assessment Summary:

- **Technical: Elite** — exceptional first touch, control, and ambidextrous finishing
- **Physical: Elite** — world-class pace, excellent balance, strong endurance
- **Psychological: Elite** — resilient, composed, thrives in big-game situations
- **Social: Strong** — effective team player, good communication, positive body language

## Final Recommendation

### RECOMMENDATION: SIGN

**Justification:** Mbappe possesses elite attributes across all four corners of the talent identification model. His great temperament for big games, combined with technical/tactical excellence, physical dominance, and strong social skills, make him an exceptional signing for any club aspiring to compete at the highest level. His goal-scoring progression (0.45 to 0.83 goals per game — an 84.4% improvement) demonstrates continued development and suggests further growth potential.

## Appendix: Match Summary

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Match Details	Mbappe Performance
<b>Competition:</b> UEFA Champions League	<b>Position:</b> Left Wing (Jersey #7)
<b>Round:</b> Round of 16 (First Leg)	<b>Formation:</b> 4-2-3-1
<b>Date:</b> Wednesday, 17th Feb 2021 (UKT)	<b>Goals:</b> 3 (32', 65', 85')
<b>Venue:</b> Camp Nou, Barcelona, Spain	<b>Minutes:</b> 90
<b>Result:</b> Barcelona 1-4 PSG	<b>Coach:</b> Mauricio Pochettino
<b>Referee:</b> Bjorn Kuipers (NED)	<b>Rating:</b> Man of the Match

## About MSI

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### About the Founder

**Cosmos Ameyaw Kwakye** is a Football Analyst and Scout with a passion for data-driven talent identification. Holding a BSc and MSc, he is a Full Member (MIMA) of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA), a PFSA-Trained Scout, and an FA Intro to Talent ID Certificate holder. Based in Vancouver, Canada, Cosmos combines analytical expertise with traditional scouting methods to deliver comprehensive player assessments for clubs and organizations worldwide.

### Our Services

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