

LEFT BACKS

#50



Matthias HEMMERSBACH (1942-1997)

Germany, Left Back

League champion 1962, 1964

League runner-up 1963, 1965, 1973

Cup winner 1968

Cup finalist 1970, 1971, 1973

Started out as a goalgetter but re-schooled as a left back already in his first senior season in Köln. As a full back Hemmersbach was a regular for 12 years. A reliable and powerful defender that gave no quarter.

League record

1961-62	20	6	Köln (Div. 1 – West)
1962-63	24	4	Köln (Div. 1 – West)
1963-64	17	0	Köln (BL)
1964-65	20	0	Köln (BL)
1965-66	31	0	Köln (BL)
1966-67	31	3	Köln (BL)
1967-68	33	1	Köln (BL)
1968-69	22	0	Köln (BL)
1969-70	34	6	Köln (BL)
1970-71	33	2	Köln (BL)
1971-72	17	1	Köln (BL)
1972-73	11	0	Köln (BL)
1973-74	-	-	Leverkusen (Div. 3)
1974-75	-	-	Leverkusen (Div. 3)
1975-76	23	0	Leverkusen (Div. 2)



Jürgen BANDURA (b. 1953)
Germany, Left Back

Assured on the ball, the left-footed Jürgen Bandura initially began his career as an outside left, then inside forward and finally settled as a left back. For many years he proved to be a key player for Hannover 96.

League record

1960-61	5	0	Herne (Div. 1 – West)
1961-62	19	6	Herne (Div. 1 – West)
1962-63	26	5	Herne (Div. 1 – West)
1963-64	34	10	Herne (Div. 2)
1964-65	26	9	Hannover (BL)
1965-66	30	7	Hannover (BL)
1966-67	26	6	Hannover (BL)
1967-68	31	3	Hannover (BL)
1968-69	34	3	Hannover (BL)
1969-70	34	4	Hannover (BL)
1970-71	34	0	Hannover (BL)
1971-72	32	1	Hannover (BL)
1972-73	32	1	Hannover (BL)
1973-74	19	0	Hannover (BL)



Manfred REICHERT (1940-2010)
Germany, Inside Left/Left Back

Began his career as a technically sound inside forward with the ability of a playmaker. In 1968 manager Horst Buhtz re-trained Reichert as an offensive left back. In this new role Reichert proved to be an outstanding player in the Regionalliga West for many years and he was still going strong when Wuppertal finally managed promotion to the Bundesliga in 1972.

League record

1963-64	38	16	Wuppertal (Div. 2)
1964-65	31	12	Wuppertal (Div. 2)
1965-66	27	5	Wuppertal (Div. 2)
1966-67	31	4	Wuppertal (Div. 2)
1967-68	34	1	Wuppertal (Div. 2)
1968-69	33	4	Wuppertal (Div. 2)
1969-70	34	5	Wuppertal (Div. 2)
1970-71	34	8	Wuppertal (Div. 2)
1971-72	34	4	Wuppertal (Div. 2)
1972-73	34	2	Wuppertal (BL)
1973-74	33	0	Wuppertal (BL)



Jürgen MOLL (1939-1968)
 Germany, Inside Left/Left Back
 League Champion 1967

In his first years as a senior player Jürgen Moll acted as a productive inside right or outside right before he switched to the left back position for good by the mid-1960s. Considered to be one of the best allrounders of the 1960s Bundesliga, Jürgen Moll remained a key player for Braunschweig until his untimely death in a car accident together with his wife in December 1968.

League record

1957-58	2	0	Braunschweig (Div. 1 – North)
1958-59	20	13	Braunschweig (Div. 1 – North)
1959-60	14	3	Braunschweig (Div. 1 – North)
1960-61	24	8	Braunschweig (Div. 1 – North)
1961-62	30	26	Braunschweig (Div. 1 – North)
1962-63	26	23	Braunschweig (Div. 1 – North)
1963-64	30	8	Braunschweig (BL)
1964-65	25	6	Braunschweig (BL)
1965-66	22	3	Braunschweig (BL)
1966-67	34	5	Braunschweig (BL)
1967-68	34	5	Braunschweig (BL)
1968-69	17	0	Braunschweig (BL)



Karl-Heinz FERSCHL (b. 1944)
 Germany, Left Back/Stopper/Midfielder
 League champion 1968

Mainly a marker, mostly used as a left back but also applicable as a stopper or defensive midfielder. The left-footed Ferschl didn't feel adequately recognized in Nürnberg and thus sought to change his club shirts. In Berlin he was part of one of the firmest defensive units of the Bundesliga until the 1971 Bundesliga scandal hit home and finished his professional career.

League record

1962-63	5	0	Nürnberg (Div. 1 – South)
1963-64	18	0	Nürnberg (BL)
1964-65	23	0	Nürnberg (BL)
1965-66	17	0	Nürnberg (BL)
1966-67	25	1	Nürnberg (BL)
1967-68	32	4	Nürnberg (BL)
1968-69	32	0	Hertha BSC (BL)
1969-70	30	1	Hertha BSC (BL)
1970-71	29	0	Hertha BSC (BL)
1971-72	29	0	Hertha BSC (BL)



Friedrich (Fritz) POPP (b. 1940)

Germany, Left Back

League champion 1968

League runner-up 1962

Cup winner 1962

Fritz Popp was noted for his strong aerial presence and combative spirit. Similar in character to Berti Vogts, Popp was one of those players that were not blessed with an immense talent but had to work really hard to become what he became. Popp was an expert at neutralizing renowned technical dazzlers. Popp stated: "They are not only more sensitive than other players but with a certain experience you learn how they think and that they will try to show off their skill and once you get to that point you can kill them off quite easily. Moreover, they fear hard defenders, so you have the upper hand mentally." It is said that Schalke's Stan Libuda had to vomit every time before a game where he had to face Popp. Said Popp: "he and Jürgen Grabowski were my favorite opponents."

League record

1961-62	0	0	Nürnberg (Div. 1 – South)
1962-63	1	0	Nürnberg (Div. 1 – South)
1963-64	21	0	Nürnberg (BL)
1964-65	10	0	Nürnberg (BL)
1965-66	21	0	Nürnberg (BL)
1966-67	20	0	Nürnberg (BL)
1967-68	32	0	Nürnberg (BL)
1968-69	32	0	Nürnberg (BL)
1969-70	34	1	Nürnberg (Div. 2)
1970-71	34	2	Nürnberg (Div. 2)
1971-72	29	0	Nürnberg (Div. 2)



Franz MERKHOFFER (b. 1946)
Germany, Left Back

For 14 years the left back Franz Merkhoffer was one of the absolute key players for Eintracht Braunschweig and their rock-hard defense. A great personality, Merkhoffer set an example for consistency and endurance, was hardly ever injured and played consistently at an upper level. Merkhoffer was not a classic offensive full back. He convinced as a primarily defensive player: very assured in defense, robust and solid, good in distributing the ball from the back, adept at crossing the ball well from slightly inside positions, not a full back that was seen storming enthusiastically to the byline. Very calm player with a good overview of the game.

League record

1968-69	12	0	Braunschweig (BL)
1969-70	34	1	Braunschweig (BL)
1970-71	34	2	Braunschweig (BL)
1971-72	32	3	Braunschweig (BL)
1972-73	34	2	Braunschweig (BL)
1973-74	36	1	Braunschweig (Div. 2)
1974-75	34	3	Braunschweig (BL)
1975-76	33	1	Braunschweig (BL)
1976-77	34	0	Braunschweig (BL)
1977-78	34	2	Braunschweig (BL)
1978-79	33	2	Braunschweig (BL)
1979-80	32	1	Braunschweig (BL)
1980-81	41	4	Braunschweig (Div. 2)
1981-82	33	3	Braunschweig (BL)
1982-83	32	2	Braunschweig (BL)
1983-84	8	0	Braunschweig (BL)



Holger WILLMER (b. 1958)

Germany, Left Winger/Left Back

League champion 1978, 1985, 1986, 1987

League runner-up 1982

Cup winner 1978, 1983, 1986

Cup finalist 1980, 1985

Champions Cup finalist 1987

A left winger who was successfully reskilled as an offensive left back. A tall and sturdy player with a good left foot who was close to the top level but eventually didn't crack the highest level.

League record

1977-78	11	1	Köln (BL)
1978-79	18	2	Köln (BL)
1979-80	27	4	Köln (BL)
1980-81	23	2	Köln (BL)
1981-82	33	0	Köln (BL)
1982-83	32	3	Köln (BL)
1983-84	21	2	Köln (BL)
1984-85	29	3	Bayern München (BL)
1985-86	20	2	Bayern München (BL)
1986-87	9	0	Bayern München (BL)
1987-88	21	1	Hannover (BL)
1988-89	23	1	Hannover (BL)



Diego PLACENTE (b. 1977)

22 A, Argentina, Left Back

League champion 1997, 1999, 2000, 2009, 2012

League runner-up 2002

Cup finalist 2002

Champions Cup finalist 2002

Copa America finalist 2004

A self-confident left back who did not play spectacularly but instead impressed with his positioning, tactical insight and consistency. Good technical player who rarely had to tackle. Highly reliable, a very low error rate and anticipation made Placente one of the Bundesliga's finest full backs during the 2000s. Placente was instrumental in Leverkusen's 2001-02 Champions League campaign.

League record

1995-97	36	0	Argentinos Juniors (Argentina)
1997-00	110	5	River Plate (Argentina)
2000-01	12	0	Leverkusen (BL)
2001-02	32	1	Leverkusen (BL)
2002-03	23	1	Leverkusen (BL)
2003-04	27	1	Leverkusen (BL)
2004-05	29	0	Leverkusen (BL)
2005-06	25	0	Celta Vigo (Spain)
2006-07	34	0	Celta Vigo (Spain)
2007-08	14	0	San Lorenzo (Argentina)
2008-09	6	1	Bordeaux (France)
2009-10	3	0	Bordeaux (France)
2010-11	16	0	San Lorenzo (Argentina)
2011-12	15	0	Nacional (Uruguay)
2012-13	16	1	Argentinos Juniors (Argentina)

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Günter SEIBOLD (1936-2013)

Germany, Left Back

Seibold was a very reliable defensive left back who is mostly remembered for the ten seasons he spent in Stuttgart between 1958 and 1969.

League record

1958-59	28	0	VfB Stuttgart (Div. 1 – South)
1959-60	13	0	VfB Stuttgart (Div. 1 – South)
1960-61	28	0	VfB Stuttgart (Div. 1 – South)
1961-62	23	1	VfB Stuttgart (Div. 1 – South)
1962-63	30	0	VfB Stuttgart (Div. 1 – South)
1963-64	27	0	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1964-65	23	0	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1965-66	31	1	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1966-67	34	1	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1967-68	18	0	VfB Stuttgart (BL)



Armin GÖRTZ (b. 1959)
 2 A, Germany, Left Back/Wing Back
 League champion 1984
 League runner-up 1989, 1990

Armin Görtz was by nature an offensive player who had his best years as an offensive left-sided wing back in Belgium and in the late-80s for Köln in the Bundesliga. A technically strong player with good crosses and strong in offensive one-on-one situations. Defensively not that outstanding, which was the reason that he didn't manage more than two caps.

League record

1981-82	4	0	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1982-83	1	0	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1982-83	17	2	FSV Frankfurt (Div. 2)
1983-84	23	0	SK Beveren (Belgium)
1984-85	33	7	Waregem (Belgium)
1985-86	34	5	Waregem (Belgium)
1986-87	20	0	Köln (BL)
1987-88	34	4	Köln (BL)
1988-89	31	1	Köln (BL)
1989-90	27	3	Köln (BL)
1990-91	27	1	Hertha BSC (BL)
1991-92	19	1	Hertha BSC (Div. 2)
1992-93	8	0	Hertha BSC (Div. 2)



Peter HIDIEN (b. 1953)

Germany, Left Back

League champion 1979, 1982

League runner-up 1976, 1980, 1981

Cup winner 1976

Cup finalist 1974

CWC winner 1977

Champions Cup finalist 1980

UEFA Cup finalist 1982

A small, bustling attacking left back who was a starter for Hamburg in most of his ten seasons at the club.

League record

1972-73	19	0	Hamburg (BL)
1973-74	31	2	Hamburg (BL)
1974-75	20	2	Hamburg (BL)
1975-76	31	1	Hamburg (BL)
1976-77	22	0	Hamburg (BL)
1977-78	25	1	Hamburg (BL)
1978-79	31	3	Hamburg (BL)
1979-80	20	0	Hamburg (BL)
1980-81	13	0	Hamburg (BL)
1981-82	2	0	Hamburg (BL)



Martin WAGNER (b. 1968)

6 A, Germany, Left Back

League champion 1998

League runner-up 1994

Cup winner 1996

An energetic left-sided midfielder who felt at home as an industrious, untiring wing back with lots of stamina. During his time in Kaiserslautern he was a favorite of the Betzenberg crowd due to his combative spirit and thrilling runs down the left flank.

League record

1988-89	30	7	Nürnberg (BL)
1989-90	7	1	Nürnberg (BL)
1990-91	30	2	Nürnberg (BL)
1991-92	33	4	Nürnberg (BL)
1992-93	25	3	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1993-94	26	6	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1994-95	20	1	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1995-96	27	7	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1996-97	31	7	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 2)
1997-98	30	4	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1998-99	21	1	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1999-00	20	1	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
2000-01	2	0	Wolfsburg (BL)



Johann (Hans) BAUER (1929-1997)

5 A, Germany, Left Back

World Cup winner 1954

Cup winner 1957

A mentally sensitive player with many ups and downs, Hans Bauer was Bayern München's standard left back during the 1950s. An elegant and alert defender, Bauer lacked self-confidence for a really outstanding career.

League record

1946-47	-	-	Wacker München (Div. 2)
1947-48	26	0	Wacker München (Div. 1 – South)
1948-49	13	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1949-50	15	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1950-51	25	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1951-52	30	1	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1952-53	30	1	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1953-54	26	2	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1954-55	20	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1955-56	-	-	Bayern München (Div. 2)
1956-57	18	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1957-58	25	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1958-59	22	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)



Hermann (Stift) HÖFER (1934-1996)

Germany, Left Back

League champion 1959

Champions Cup finalist 1960

Cup finalist 1964

Started out as a forward but by the mid-1950s had settled as a left back. Mainly a marker, he was a pivot of the successful Eintracht Frankfurt side of the late-1950s.

League record

1953-54	1	1	Eintracht Frankfurt (Div. 1 – South)
1954-55	24	7	Eintracht Frankfurt (Div. 1 – South)
1955-56	7	1	Eintracht Frankfurt (Div. 1 – South)
1956-57	27	0	Eintracht Frankfurt (Div. 1 – South)
1957-58	28	3	Eintracht Frankfurt (Div. 1 – South)
1958-59	30	2	Eintracht Frankfurt (Div. 1 – South)
1959-60	22	0	Eintracht Frankfurt (Div. 1 – South)
1960-61	30	0	Eintracht Frankfurt (Div. 1 – South)
1961-62	29	3	Eintracht Frankfurt (Div. 1 – South)
1962-63	26	0	Eintracht Frankfurt (Div. 1 – South)
1963-64	29	0	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1964-65	18	1	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1965-66	21	1	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)



Maximilian (Max) LORENZ (b. 1939)

19 A (1 goal), Germany, Left Back/Half Back

League champion 1965

League runner-up 1968

Cup winner 1961

World Cup finalist 1966

The long-standing half back and left back of Werder Bremen and later Braunschweig was an athletic defensive playmaker who was also known to score regularly.

League record

1960-61	24	6	Bremen (Div. 1 – North)
1961-62	27	2	Bremen (Div. 1 – North)
1962-63	24	3	Bremen (Div. 1 – North)
1963-64	30	0	Bremen (BL)
1964-65	27	2	Bremen (BL)
1965-66	31	4	Bremen (BL)
1966-67	21	3	Bremen (BL)
1967-68	33	4	Bremen (BL)
1968-69	34	2	Bremen (BL)
1969-70	33	1	Braunschweig (BL)
1970-71	24	0	Braunschweig (BL)
1971-72	14	1	Braunschweig (BL)



Michael (Tanne) TARNAT (b. 1969)

19 A, Germany, Left Back

League champion 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003

League runner-up 1998

Cupwinner 1998, 2000, 2003

Cup finalist 1996, 1999

Champions Cup 2001

Champions Cup finalist 1999

Intercontinental Cup 2001

Noted for his lethal left foot, Michael Tarnat was capable of dynamic raids down the left side and an able crosser. He was also deployed as a defensive midfielder and was known as a capable passer of the ball.

League record

1992-93	33	7	Duisburg (Div. 2)
1993-94	24	1	Duisburg (BL)
1994-95	24	3	Karlsruhe (BL)
1995-96	30	2	Karlsruhe (BL)
1996-97	27	2	Karlsruhe (BL)
1997-98	32	5	Bayern München (BL)
1998-99	20	1	Bayern München (BL)
1999-00	26	1	Bayern München (BL)
2000-01	23	1	Bayern München (BL)
2001-02	10	0	Bayern München (BL)
2002-03	11	0	Bayern München (BL)
2003-04	32	3	Manchester City (England)
2004-05	22	2	Hannover (BL)
2005-06	29	4	Hannover (BL)
2006-07	28	1	Hannover (BL)
2007-08	16	1	Hannover (BL)
2008-09	7	0	Hannover (BL)

#33



Wilhelm (Willy) BUSCH (1907-1982)
13 A, Germany, Left Back

Willy Busch went about his business as a left back in an unfussy and plain way. Noted for his "dashing English-like sober attitude" he was soon deemed valuable enough to play internationally.

Senior club
1925-44 Duisburg 1899



Friedel RAUSCH (1940-2017)

Germany, Left Back

Cup finalist 1969

In his youth he actually was a goalkeeper but apparently not a very good one as he once conceded 15 goals in a single game. After that disturbing experience Rausch decided to try his luck outside of the goalposts which proved to be a wise decision. In his professional career Friedel Rausch made himself a name as a very good left back who almost made the 1962 World Cup squad.

League Record

1958-59	26	0	Duisburg (Div. 1 – West)
1959-60	30	0	Duisburg (Div. 1 – West)
1960-61	30	2	Duisburg (Div. 1 – West)
1961-62	25	0	Duisburg (Div. 1 – West)
1962-63	25	1	Duisburg (Div. 1 – West)
1963-64	10	1	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1964-65	22	0	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1965-66	33	1	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1966-67	25	0	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1967-68	27	2	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1968-69	24	2	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1969-70	20	0	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1970-71	9	0	FC Schalke 04 (BL)



Karl MILLER (1913-1967)
12 A, Germany, Left Back
League runner-up 1944
Cup winner 1940, 1941
Cup finalist 1943

A left back noted for his long passes and fighting spirit. A learned butcher, Karl Miller was a sober and no-nonsense defender who went about his job with great routine and calm.

Senior clubs

1930-40	-	-	FC St. Pauli
1940-42	-	-	SC Dresden
1942-44	-	-	Luftwaffe Hamburg
1945-48	-	-	FC St. Pauli (Div. 1 – North)
1948-49	21	0	FC St. Pauli (Div. 1 – North)
1949-50	14	0	FC St. Pauli (Div. 1 – North)



Udo HORSMANN (b. 1952)
 Germany, Left Back
 League champion 1980, 1981
 Cup winner 1982
 Champions Cup 1976
 Champions Cup finalist 1982
 Intercontinental Cup 1976

Udo Horsmann was the successor of Paul Breitner as Bayern's left back in 1975. A technically very sound offensive full back who was known for driving down the left wing, a great crosser of the ball with his left foot, strong and disciplined in defense, a good header of the ball, not much of a tackler. Was unlucky that during his time Bernard Dietz and then Hans-Peter Briegel occupied the left back position in the national team. Still, in hindsight it is hard to understand that a player of his quality did not win a single cap during his career.

League record

1975-76	30	1	Bayern München (BL)
1976-77	22	1	Bayern München (BL)
1977-78	25	0	Bayern München (BL)
1978-79	34	2	Bayern München (BL)
1979-80	34	5	Bayern München (BL)
1980-81	34	4	Bayern München (BL)
1981-82	32	3	Bayern München (BL)
1982-83	31	4	Bayern München (BL)
1983-84	32	0	Stade Rennais (France)
1984-85	13	0	Nürnberg (Div. 2)



Emil (Mile) KUTTERER (1898-1974)

8 A, Germany, Left Half

Emil Kutterer was Bayern München's standard left-sided defender during the 1920s. The magazine "Fussball" characterised him as follows: "He is assured on the ball with both feet, very deft and smart and fears no one." Given such qualities, it was only a matter of time for Kutterer to also have an impact in the national team. His debut in 1925 was so convincing that he would miss none of the next 6 games.

League record

1920-21	1	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1921-22	0	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1922-23	0	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1923-24	14	3	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1924-25	13	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1925-26	23	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1926-27	18	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1927-28	26	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1928-29	27	3	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1929-30	27	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1930-31	26	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1931-32	22	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)

#28



Andreas (Sterz) MUNKERT (1908-1982)

8 A, Germany, Left Back

League champion 1936

League runner-up 1934, 1937

Cup winner 1935

Sterz Munkert was a tall and very athletic left back with a particular strength in heading. He was uncompromising and hard in tackle. Together with Luitpold Popp and later Willi Billmann, Munkert formed one of the strongest full back pairings in German club football during the 1930s.

Senior clubs

1929-38 1. FC Nürnberg

1938-44 Thüringen Weida



Johannes (Hansi) PFLÜGLER (b. 1960)
 11 A, Germany, Left Back/Man-Marker
 League champion 1985, 1986, 1987, 1989, 1990
 League runner-up 1988, 1991
 Cup winner 1982, 1984, 1986
 Cup finalist 1985
 Champions Cup finalist 1987
 World Cup winner 1990

Nicknamed 'Rambo', the son of a Bavarian butcher had a reputation as a bone-breaking left back and man-marker, who thrived on the physical aspects of the game, while he was pretty good in defensive one-on-one situations, he had a penchant for committing fouls too often, not only as a last resort. Good aerial ability and decent in build up. Pflügler was very strong-willed and self-confident and was able to boost his team with his dynamic ways, a very powerful left foot coupled with solid crossing. Pflügler was the first active Bundesliga outfield player with an university graduate (as an engineer).

League record

1981-82	6	0	Bayern München (BL)
1982-83	17	1	Bayern München (BL)
1983-84	30	6	Bayern München (BL)
1984-85	17	2	Bayern München (BL)
1985-86	34	6	Bayern München (BL)
1986-87	32	7	Bayern München (BL)
1987-88	29	6	Bayern München (BL)
1988-89	34	4	Bayern München (BL)
1989-90	33	3	Bayern München (BL)
1990-91	30	1	Bayern München (BL)
1991-92	14	0	Bayern München (BL)
1992-93	-	-	Bayern München Amateurs (Div. 3)
1993-94	-	-	Bayern München Amateurs (Div. 3)
1994-95	1	0	Bayern München (BL)



Willi NEUBERGER (b. 1946)

2 A, Germany, Left Wing/Inside Forward/Left Back/Libero

Cup winner 1975, 1981

UEFA Cup 1980

One of the first players in the Bundesliga that were reskilled from an outside forward to an attacking full back. Originally an outside left the young Willi Neuberger found it hard to come out on top against Lothar Emmerich or Siegfried Held when he joined Borussia Dortmund in 1966. When Neuberger retired from football in 1983 aged 37 he had become the Bundesliga's record holder with 520 Bundesliga games at that point. In the 17 years of his professional career he switched between various tactical positions spread all over the pitch. He is most well-remembered for his time playing for Eintracht Frankfurt from 1974 to 1983, where he was rated as one of the best liberos and attacking full backs of his day. As a player, the technically well-versed Neuberger was a rolemodel for commitment, stamina and consistency who would be hard to beat in one-on-one situations and who was known for his attacking drive from the back once in possession and due to his apprenticeship as a winger was a superb crosser of the ball. His versatility may have been the reason why he never was given a chance as an international during the 1970s: while he was good in many different roles, there was always enough better specialists around that stood in his way.

League record

1966-67	26	3	Dortmund (BL)
1967-68	33	5	Dortmund (BL)
1968-69	25	8	Dortmund (BL)
1969-70	31	7	Dortmund (BL)
1970-71	33	6	Dortmund (BL)
1971-72	33	7	Bremen (BL)
1972-73	30	4	Bremen (BL)
1973-74	34	4	Wuppertal (BL)
1974-75	8	1	Wuppertal (BL)
1974-75	22	2	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1975-76	34	5	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1976-77	33	1	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1977-78	34	2	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1978-79	33	3	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1979-80	32	1	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1980-81	34	1	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1981-82	31	3	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)
1982-83	14	0	Eintracht Frankfurt (BL)



DÉDÉ Leonardo de Deus Santos (b. 1978)

1 A, Brazil, Left Back

League champion 2002, 2011

UEFA Cup finalist 2002

Cup finalist 2008

Dédé tended to showboat a little bit in his first years in Germany but soon became a very capable full back defensively but initially lacked top-notch crossing ability. Over the years he improved his crossing a lot, though, and even was considered one of the best at this art for some time. A type of player that in some aspects resembled the Frenchman Bixente Lizarazu, very energetic and determined defensively and absolutely impressive in defensive duels. His defensive prowess was in contrast to his offensive exploits, which often left a bit to be desired. Dédé was known as one of the most competent defenders in seizing the ball. A very consistent player in one of the most demanding positions.

League record

1995-98	36	3	Atlético Mineiro (Brazil)
1998-99	29	0	Dortmund (BL)
1999-00	24	1	Dortmund (BL)
2000-01	31	3	Dortmund (BL)
2001-02	28	1	Dortmund (BL)
2002-03	30	3	Dortmund (BL)
2003-04	23	2	Dortmund (BL)
2004-05	33	0	Dortmund (BL)
2005-06	31	1	Dortmund (BL)
2006-07	30	0	Dortmund (BL)
2007-08	30	1	Dortmund (BL)
2008-09	13	0	Dortmund (BL)
2008-09	-	-	Münster (Div. 2)
2009-10	16	0	Dortmund (BL)
2010-11	4	0	Dortmund (BL)
2011-14	75	4	Eskisehirspor (Turkey)



Konrad (Conny) HEIDKAMP (1905-1994)
*9 A (1 goal), Germany, Left Back/Left Half
 League champion 1932*

Suitable to play as either left back or left half, the tall Conny Heidkamp was known as a formidable sportsman of great fairness. He exuded a natural authority because of his sincere and straightforward character and always had a friendly ear for the worries of his teammates. His best game was arguably the 3-3 against England in Berlin in 1930. On the pitch Heidkamp was always immensely focused. He was known for his precise deep forward passes. Kicker wrote about Heidkamp in 1939: "With his peculiar footstep and the peculiar stand of his upper body one would notice him out of a hundred half backs. His long legs pulled the ball away from even the fastest opponent and with his short, precise forward passes he stimulated the attack."

League record

1928-29	20	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1929-30	26	3	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1930-31	18	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1931-32	11	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1932-33	14	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1933-34	21	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1934-35	20	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1935-36	14	1	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1936-37	15	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1937-38	0	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1938-39	0	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1939-40	0	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1940-41	3	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1941-42	11	1	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1942-43	23	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1943-44	7	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1944-45	15	1	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)



Michael (Ata) LAMECK (b. 1949)

Germany, Left Back

Cup finalist 1988

Michael 'Ata' Lameck holds two records: he is the player with the most Bundesliga games who never once was capped (518 games) and also the player with the most Bundesliga games who never won a single trophy. Used predominantly as a left back he spent his entire topflight career at lowly VfL Bochum, a club always short of money and in the direct shadow of the big crowd-drawing neighborhood clubs Schalke 04 and Borussia Dortmund. Bochum managed to remain in topflight during all 16 seasons Lameck played at the club (1972 to 1988).

Lameck was an absolutely reliable player, who was good at all aspects that were demanded of a full back but not outstanding in any category. One always knew what could be expected of Lameck but also what should not be expected of him. Not a notable offensive capacity, he was tough in one-on-one situations with good passing skills, while he never scored many goals he did have a dangerous long range shot. His biggest asset however was his incredible consistency. In his first 15 years he played in 502 of 510 possible games, an unbelievable ratio. Plus, he was always a starter in these 502 games and only subbed out eight times. Only in his very last season, aged 37, did he lose his starting place in the first team.

League record

1969-70	13	1	SW Essen (Div. 2)
1970-71	21	1	SW Essen (Div. 2)
1971-72	34	13	SW Essen (Div. 2)
1972-73	34	5	Bochum (BL)
1973-74	34	2	Bochum (BL)
1974-75	34	4	Bochum (BL)
1975-76	34	6	Bochum (BL)
1976-77	30	2	Bochum (BL)
1977-78	34	3	Bochum (BL)
1978-79	34	1	Bochum (BL)
1979-80	33	2	Bochum (BL)
1980-81	34	1	Bochum (BL)
1981-82	32	2	Bochum (BL)
1982-83	34	3	Bochum (BL)
1983-84	34	1	Bochum (BL)
1984-85	33	0	Bochum (BL)
1985-86	34	2	Bochum (BL)
1986-87	34	3	Bochum (BL)
1987-88	16	0	Bochum (BL)

#22



Johnny OTTEN (b. 1961)

6 A, Germany, Left Back

League champion 1988

League runner-up 1983, 1985, 1986

Cup winner 1991

Cup finalist 1989, 1990

CWC winner 1992

Jonny Otten can be described as a classic left back of his day, with a great urge to join the attack. A quick, hard-running full back with good control of the ball and good in defensive duels. Good passing and very good crossing ability.

League record

1979-80	33	0	Bremen (BL)
1980-81	41	2	Bremen (Div. 2)
1981-82	34	0	Bremen (BL)
1982-83	34	0	Bremen (BL)
1983-84	27	1	Bremen (BL)
1984-85	32	0	Bremen (BL)
1985-86	12	0	Bremen (BL)
1986-87	29	0	Bremen (BL)
1987-88	30	0	Bremen (BL)
1988-89	31	0	Bremen (BL)
1989-90	27	0	Bremen (BL)
1990-91	6	0	Bremen (BL)
1991-92	13	0	Bremen (BL)
1992-93	2	0	Oldenburg (Div. 2)



Bernd WEHMEYER (b. 1952)

Germany, Left Back/Right Wing

League champion 1979, 1982, 1983

League runner-up 1980, 1981, 1984

Champions Cup 1983

Champions Cup finalist 1980

UEFA Cup finalist 1982

Bernd Wehmeyer spent most of his professional career on the right wing, however today he is mostly remembered for being the left-sided full back of the successful Hamburg side of the early-1980s. Wehmeyer was a good crosser of the ball but not tricky enough for a really good winger hence he was withdrawn to a more defensive role either as a wide midfielder or later as a full back. In these new roles, Wehmeyer impressed as a hard runner and worker who almost made it into the national team in 1982-83 as left back. A technically good player, Wehmeyer was an offensive and defensively quality full back during his peak.

League record

1971-72	2	0	Bielefeld (BL)
1972-73	28	2	Bielefeld (Div. 2)
1973-74	22	2	Hannover (BL)
1974-75	38	7	Hannover (Div. 2)
1975-76	1	0	Hannover (BL)
1975-76	27	0	Bielefeld (Div. 2)
1976-77	34	3	Hannover (Div. 2)
1977-78	32	6	Hannover (Div. 2)
1978-79	19	2	Hamburg (BL)
1979-80	13	1	Hamburg (BL)
1980-81	15	0	Hamburg (BL)
1981-82	34	1	Hamburg (BL)
1982-83	34	2	Hamburg (BL)
1983-84	31	0	Hamburg (BL)
1984-85	34	4	Hamburg (BL)
1985-86	3	0	Hamburg (BL)



Jörg HEINRICH (b. 1969)

37 A (2 goals), Germany, Left Back

League Champion 1996, 2002

Cup finalist 1999

Champions Cup 1997

Intercontinental Cup 1997

UEFA Cup finalist 2002

Began as a right-sided midfielder but had his best phase as a left wingback. Heinrich was equally strong with both feet and offensively and defensively very reliable. He could also be used as a man-marker and on both sides as a wing back. When Fiorentina signed him in 1998 the 25 million marks the Italians paid were the highest sum ever invested in a German player up to that date.

League record

1988-89	-	-	Rathenow (East Germany – Div. 2)
1989-90	33	4	Velten (East Germany)
1990-91	1	1	Velten (Div. 2)
1991-94	86	20	Emden (Div. 3)
1994-95	33	7	SC Freiburg (BL)
1995-96	8	0	SC Freiburg (BL)
1995-96	17	2	Dortmund (BL)
1996-97	33	4	Dortmund (BL)
1997-98	31	5	Dortmund (BL)
1998-99	33	3	Fiorentina (Italy)
1999-00	24	2	Fiorentina (Italy)
2000-01	30	5	Dortmund (BL)
2001-02	16	2	Dortmund (BL)
2002-03	17	0	Dortmund (BL)
2003-04	20	0	Köln (BL)
2004-05	25	7	Ludwigsfeld (Div. 4)
2005-06	15	3	Union Berlin (Div. 3)
2006-07	12	7	Premnitz (Div. 4)

#19



Michael FRONTZECK (b. 1964)

19 A, Germany, Left Back

League Champion 1992

Cup finalist 1984

Euro finalist 1992

A very offensive full back who would swing in excellent crosses from the left wing. Possessed a very good shooting technique, good ball control and aerial game, was sometimes used as a man-marker. Frontzeck was first capped in 1984 but it took eight years before he actually participated in a tournament. In 1992 he played in the defeat to the Netherlands as a left wing back because Andreas Brehme was used centrally after Guido Buchwald's injury.

League record

1983-84	33	5	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1984-85	31	3	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1985-86	28	0	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1986-87	34	5	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1987-88	33	3	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1988-89	31	1	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1989-90	31	4	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1990-91	32	5	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1991-92	38	5	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1992-93	32	1	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1993-94	30	1	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1994-95	28	2	Bochum (BL)
1995-96	8	0	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1995-96	12	0	Manchester City (England)
1996-97	15	1	SC Freiburg (BL)
1997-98	29	2	SC Freiburg (Div. 2)
1998-99	17	0	SC Freiburg (BL)
1998-99	15	1	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1999-00	25	0	Bor. Mönchengladbach (Div. 2)

#18



Jürgen KURBJUHN (1940-2014)
5 A, Germany, Left Back/Sweeper
Cup winner 1963
Cup finalist 1967
CWC finalist 1968

A tall and lean left back who was a fixture for Hamburg between 1960 and 1972. The East Prussian Jürgen Kurbjuhn was reputed for taking no prisoners on the pitch.

League record

1960-61	23	1	Hamburg (Div. 1 – North)
1961-62	27	0	Hamburg (Div. 1 – North)
1962-63	28	0	Hamburg (Div. 1 – North)
1963-64	29	0	Hamburg (BL)
1964-65	26	1	Hamburg (BL)
1965-66	33	1	Hamburg (BL)
1966-67	30	2	Hamburg (BL)
1967-68	34	3	Hamburg (BL)
1968-69	27	2	Hamburg (BL)
1969-70	24	0	Hamburg (BL)
1970-71	27	1	Hamburg (BL)
1971-72	12	0	Hamburg (BL)



Helmut KREMERS (b. 1949)

8 A, Germany, Left Back/Sweeper/Midfielder

League runner-up 1972, 1977

Cup winner 1970, 1972

World Cup winner 1974

Twin brother of Erwin, Helmut Kremers was a technically sound left back, unlike his introverted brother he was a sociable fellow, quick and lightfooted, often seen joining his brother when attacking on the left flank and also an able crosser of the ball. Arguably his greatest game was the 1972 German Cup final where he scored twice in a 5-0 rout of Schalke 04 vs. Kaiserslautern. Unfortunately he never played a big role in the national team, as first Paul Breitner and later Bernard Dietz were always better options at the left back position. Kremers was a member of the 1974 World Cup squad but didn't see action. He was also deployable as a defensive midfielder and as a libero (especially during the time when Klaus Fichtel was suspended due to his involvement in the Bundesliga scandal). Very unlike his brother Erwin, Helmut Kremers was not only sociable but also a bit of a rebel. Together with his brother he tried his luck as a pop singer in a duet which even reached no. 3 in the German language charts in 1974.

League record

1967-68	2	0	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1968-69	12	1	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1969-70	31	6	Kickers Offenbach (Div. 2)
1970-71	33	4	Kickers Offenbach (BL)
1971-72	30	3	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1972-73	32	4	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1973-74	29	12	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1974-75	27	7	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1975-76	24	6	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1976-77	33	4	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1977-78	18	5	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1978-79	12	1	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1979-80	21	3	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1980-81	18	4	RW Essen (Div. 2)
1980-81	31	3	Calgary Boomers (Canada)



Willi (Billi) BILLMANN (1911-2001)

11 A, Germany, Inside Forward/Left Back/Right Back

League champion 1936, 1948

League runner-up 1934, 1937

Cup winner 1935, 1939

Cup finalist 1940

One of quite a few legendary players from Nürnberg, Billmann once said about his career: "I joined the club as the youngest and I left it as the oldest. I started out as an inside forward and finished as a full back." Billmann played 623 games for Nürnberg in between which is more than legendary goalkeeper Heiner Stuhlfauth managed. For close to 20 years the ruthless Billmann was one of the pillars of his club. Originally Billmann was signed to be the long-term replacement of centre-half Hans Kalb but he soon was partnering the ageing right back Luitpold Popp in defense and earned himself the reputation as one of the continent's most physically strong full backs with a special expertise at heading and tackling. His full back service started on the left side but he then moved to the right side to replace the retired Popp. As a right back however, he had no chance of getting past Paul Janes in the national team. His luck was that he was again reshuffled from right back to left back a few years later and now he partnered Janes in the national team.

Senior clubs

1929-41	-	-	1. FC Nürnberg
1941-43	-	-	inactive
1943-44	-	-	Hertha BSC
1945-47	-	-	1. FC Nürnberg
1947-48	20	0	1. FC Nürnberg (Div. 1 – South)
1948-49	5	0	1. FC Nürnberg (Div. 1 – South)

#15



Herbert ZIMMERMANN (b. 1954)
14 A (2 goals), Germany, Left Back/Stopper/Midfielder
League champion 1973, 1974, 1978
League runner-up 1982
Cup winner 1977, 1978, 1983
Cup finalist 1980
Champions Cup 1974
Euro winner 1980

A technically strong offensive left back who was known for his very well swung crosses and who was a valuable buildup player in midfield. Herbert Zimmermann was troubled by his spinal disc throughout his career and by the early-1980s he was sidelined more often than that he was playing and had to retire in 1984 aged 29.

League record

1972-73	1	0	Bayern München (BL)
1973-74	1	0	Bayern München (BL)
1974-75	15	1	Köln (BL)
1975-76	13	2	Köln (BL)
1976-77	30	2	Köln (BL)
1977-78	32	2	Köln (BL)
1978-79	33	8	Köln (BL)
1979-80	31	2	Köln (BL)
1980-81	10	0	Köln (BL)
1981-82	0	0	Köln (BL)
1982-83	26	5	Köln (BL)
1983-84	12	0	Köln (BL)



Michael BELLA (b. 1945)

4 A, Germany, Left Back/Stopper/Defensive Midfielder

Cup finalist 1975

Euro winner 1972

A ruthless full back who relished the combative aspects of the game. A driving force of his club MSV Duisburg, he was a very consistent player that rarely missed a game in 13 years of professional football. In the early-1970s he was also knocking on the door of the German national team, won four caps and was a member of the 1972 European Championship-winning side. His bad luck was that at his position, full backs like Berti Vogts, Paul Breitner and later his teammate Bernard Dietz were obstacles that he couldn't move out of his way.

League record

1964-65	2	0	Duisburg (BL)
1965-66	22	1	Duisburg (BL)
1966-67	30	0	Duisburg (BL)
1967-68	34	0	Duisburg (BL)
1968-69	34	1	Duisburg (BL)
1969-70	34	2	Duisburg (BL)
1970-71	34	0	Duisburg (BL)
1971-72	34	1	Duisburg (BL)
1972-73	33	3	Duisburg (BL)
1973-74	33	1	Duisburg (BL)
1974-75	32	1	Duisburg (BL)
1975-76	29	3	Duisburg (BL)
1976-77	26	0	Duisburg (BL)
1977-78	28	0	Duisburg (BL)



Ulrich (Uli) BOROWKA (b. 1962)
6 A, Germany, Left Back/Man-Marker
League Champion 1988, 1993
League runner-up 1995
Cup winner 1991, 1994
Cup finalist 1984, 1989, 1990

Nicknamed 'the axe', Borowka had a reputation as one of the hardest men on the pitch. He mostly played as a full back on both sides, but preferred the left back position, and later was also often deployed as a man-marker. As a full back he was a dynamic player with a solid technique and a really hard shot who made a lot of use of his primitive, unspoilt power.

League record

1981-82	8	0	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1982-83	28	0	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1983-84	19	1	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1984-85	32	5	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1985-86	29	2	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1986-87	33	3	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)
1987-88	31	1	Bremen (BL)
1988-89	28	1	Bremen (BL)
1989-90	28	2	Bremen (BL)
1990-91	32	1	Bremen (BL)
1991-92	36	1	Bremen (BL)
1992-93	28	1	Bremen (BL)
1993-94	24	1	Bremen (BL)
1994-95	22	0	Bremen (BL)
1995-96	10	0	Bremen (BL)
1996-97	8	0	Łódź (Poland)



Christian ZIEGE (b. 1972)

72 A (9 goals), Germany, Left Back

League champion 1994, 1997, 1999

League runner-up 1991, 1993, 1996

Cup winner 2001

Cup finalist 1998

UEFA Cup 1996, 2001

World Cup finalist 2002

Euro winner 1996

Born and raised directly next to the Berlin Wall, Christian Ziege was a technically skilled left wing back with great offensive potential. He was a firm crosser of the ball but was also a goal threat himself with his headers and his hard left-footed shot. Troubled by injuries for long spells, Ziege lacked the absolute self-assuredness to achieve more than he did, despite his 72 international games he didn't really manage to break through to the highest level. He came closest in 1996 when he played a good role in the German team that won the European Championship. His preferred position was left of center in midfield.

League record

1990-91	13	1	Bayern München (BL)
1991-92	26	2	Bayern München (BL)
1992-93	28	9	Bayern München (BL)
1993-94	29	3	Bayern München (BL)
1994-95	29	12	Bayern München (BL)
1995-96	33	3	Bayern München (BL)
1996-97	27	7	Bayern München (BL)
1997-98	22	2	Milan (Italy)
1998-99	17	2	Milan (Italy)
1999-00	29	6	Middlesbrough (England)
2000-01	16	1	Liverpool (England)
2001-02	27	5	Tottenham (England)
2002-03	12	2	Tottenham (England)
2003-04	8	9	Tottenham (England)
2004-05	13	0	Bor. Mönchengladbach (BL)



Werner KOHLMEYER (1924-1974)

22 A, Germany, Left Back

League champion 1951, 1953

League runner-up 1948, 1954, 1955

Of the "Heroes of Berne", Werner Kohlmeyer had the part of the "tragic hero". The left back was one of five players from Kaiserslautern that won the World Cup against the fancied Hungarians in Berne. Kohlmeyer impressed during that tournament with his combative spirit and enthusiasm. But after his career ended his life's journey became less sunny. A passionate gambler, he squandered two houses. In 1965 his wife filed for divorce, describing him as "phlegmatic and lazy, convenient and disinterested". Kohlmeyer suffered from being separated from his three children, began drinking and floated between joblessness and the life of a roustabout. Kohlmeyer himself said: "Maybe it would have been better if I had never played football." The footballer Kohlmeyer was an enthusiastic fighter, strong at heading and tackling.

Kohlmeyer was a defensive organiser with a good football intelligence but he was also known to be solitary and quaint. Apart from his footballing talents he was also active in track-and-field, notably as a long and high jumper. During the '54 World Cup he proved to be a valuable team player: in the quarterfinal against an utterly dominating Yugoslavia, Kohlmeyer made a last minute rescue and in the final against Hungary, while goofing before the second Hungarian goal, he kicked the ball off the goalline twice, furthermore he cleaned up several delicate situations and generally managed to contain the dangerous outside right Zoltan Czibor.

League record

1940-41	2	0	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1941-42	14	1	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Westmark)
1942-43	12	0	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Westmark)
1943-44	6	1	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Westmark)
1944-45	-	-	inactive
1945-46	18	0	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest – Section North)
1946-47	14	0	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest – Section North)
1947-48	26	0	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest – Section North)
1948-49	24	0	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest – Section North)
1949-50	30	0	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest – Section North)
1950-51	24	1	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1951-52	30	2	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1952-53	29	0	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1953-54	30	2	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1954-55	30	5	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1955-56	22	5	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1956-57	11	3	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 1 – Southwest)
1957-59	-	-	Homburg (Div. 2)
1959-60	-	-	Bexbach (Div. 2)
1960-63	-	-	Morlautern (Div. 2)

#10



Bernhard (Bernd) FÖRSTER (b. 1956)

33 A, Germany, Full Back/Stopper/Defensive Midfielder

League champion 1984

League runner-up 1979

Champions Cup 1975, 1976

Euro winner 1980

World Cup finalist 1982

An industrious utility player who was used in all defensive positions (full back, sweeper, stopper and defensive midfield). He spent most of his time as a right-footed left back and had a reputation as a very hard-playing defender with great tackling skills. Offensively he didn't offer much and his full back duties were generally almost exclusively man-marking jobs.

League record

1973-74	5	0	Mannheim (Div. 2)
1974-75	16	0	Mannheim (Div. 2)
1974-75	6	0	Bayern München (BL)
1975-76	2	0	Bayern München (BL)
1976-77	27	4	Saarbrücken (BL)
1977-78	34	1	Saarbrücken (BL)
1978-79	29	4	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1979-80	34	7	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1980-81	34	2	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1981-82	34	2	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1982-83	31	2	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1983-84	31	2	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1984-85	28	1	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
1985-86	1	0	VfB Stuttgart (BL)



Jakob (Jaki) STREITLE (1916-1982)
15 A, Germany, Left Back/Right Back/Centre-Half

Jaki Streitle joined Bayern München in the mid-1930s, which was a difficult time for the Munich club, due to its reputation as a "jewish" club which made life hard for the club while the "Third Reich" lasted. A technically very sound allround defensive player, Streitle was especially noted for his ruggedness and enormous fighting strength but at the same time was capable of artistic ball tricks. An expert at clearing defensive situations via forceful heading, his exact role is hard to define as he constantly acted in many different tactical roles. His most common tasks were that of stopper and either left or right back. Together with Andreas Kupfer, Streitle was the only national team player of Germany that played for the team before and after World War 2. A severe injury forced his retirement in 1953 but he was regularly re-activated to help out when injuries of regular players posed problems for the team. Without said injury, he might have made the squad for the 1954 World Cup despite his age of 37.

League record

1935-36	3	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1936-37	13	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1937-38	18	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1938-39	13	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1939-40	0	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1940-41	2	1	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1941-42	1	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1942-43	12	2	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1943-44	18	3	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1944-45	15	3	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1945-46	29	1	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1946-47	36	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 - Bavaria)
1947-48	37	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1948-49	30	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1949-50	25	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1950-51	27	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1951-52	28	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1952-53	8	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1953-54	4	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)
1954-55	1	0	Bayern München (Div. 1 – South)



Bixente LIZARAZU (b. 1969)

97 A (2 goals), France, Left Back

League champion 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2006

League runner-up 1990, 1998, 2004

Cup winner 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006

Cup finalist 1999

Champions Cup 2001

Champions Cup finalist 1999

UEFA Cup finalist 1996

Intercontinental Cup 2001

World Cup winner 1998

Euro winner 2000

At the start of his time in Germany Bixente Lizarazu had to adjust to different tactical set-ups compared to his home country France. In France, he operated as a clear-cut left back in a 4-4-2, in Munich, he operated as a left wing back in a 3-5-2 system. His football upbringing could easily be noted when he started in Germany. While he played more advanced for Bayern, he immediately tended to drop back once his team was out of possession. His mindset was more that of a defender than of an adventurous quasi-winger. During his time in Germany, around the turn of the millennium, Lizarazu was basically without competition as a left-sided lateral defender. Not a man who sought the spectacular but instead he was looking to be as effective as possible. Lizarazu was a devoted fighter who went into one-on-one duels with wingers with fervor and ardour and as soon as he was in possession switched to the offense with aplomb. In these seconds after winning the ball, he sometimes was acting too hectic, losing overview and the ball.

League record

1988-89	16	0	Bordeaux (France)
1989-90	38	2	Bordeaux (France)
1990-91	35	2	Bordeaux (France)
1991-92	33	0	Bordeaux (France – Div. 2)
1992-93	35	4	Bordeaux (France)
1993-94	32	9	Bordeaux (France)
1994-95	32	2	Bordeaux (France)
1995-96	23	3	Bordeaux (France)
1996-97	16	0	Athletic Bilbao (Spain)
1997-98	11	0	Bayern München (BL)
1998-99	18	2	Bayern München (BL)
1999-00	22	1	Bayern München (BL)
2000-01	15	0	Bayern München (BL)
2001-02	25	1	Bayern München (BL)
2002-03	26	2	Bayern München (BL)
2003-04	26	1	Bayern München (BL)
2004-05	14	0	Marseille (France)
2004-05	13	0	Bayern München (BL)
2005-06	18	0	Bayern München (BL)

#7



Hans-Peter BRIEGEL (b. 1955)

72 A (4 goals), Germany, Left Back/Wing Back/Stopper/Midfielder

League champion 1985

Cup winner 1988

Cup finalist 1981

Euro winner 1980

World Cup finalist 1982, 1986

German Footballer 1985

At the start of his professional career in 1975 Briegel was a bit of a controversial player for football connoisseurs because he had excelled as a decathlete in his youth and thus was not deemed a proper football player. His physical appearance was clearly that of a decathlete and it didn't help matters that his moves were looking clumsy to some observers. His true love had always been football though and he had played the sport from his youngest days and didn't have to learn how to stop and pass a ball at the age of 17 as some ill-natured writers had claimed.

Undeservedly, Briegel until this day has a bit of a stigma attached to him as he is used as the prime example for the end of the "golden age" of German football (the 1970s), where technique and ball trickery were allegedly the highest virtues, while with the start of the 1980s power, pace and stamina became the new virtues in German football, of which Briegel was the textbook example.

What people forget is that football always had a mixture of all kind of different players and for a player of his size and upbringing, Briegel was actually quite a talented ball player, steadily working on his ball skills. By the early-1980s, he was an all-round complete athletic footballer with great physical presence coupled with sound technical passing and crossing skills in his left foot and a very good aerial ability. In his career Briegel started out as a left winger in his very early Bundesliga days but was subsequently withdrawn to midfield until he settled as a stopper by the late-1970s playing for Kaiserslautern. For Germany he was either deployed in a central defensive midfield position or as a wide midfielder and from 1981 onwards, after left back Bernard Dietz had been dropped by Germany manager Jupp Derwall after opposing the return of Paul Breitner to the national team, the left back position became his permanent place when playing for Germany.

League record

1975-76	7	1	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1976-77	15	1	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1977-78	22	4	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1978-79	31	4	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1979-80	33	7	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1980-81	34	6	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1981-82	32	13	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1982-83	33	8	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1983-84	33	3	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1984-85	27	9	Verona (Italy)
1985-86	28	3	Verona (Italy)
1986-87	24	6	Sampdoria (Italy)
1987-88	27	3	Sampdoria (Italy)



Erich (Hammer) JUSKOWIAK (1926-1983)

*31 A (4 goals), Germany, Left Back/Right Back/Half Back
Cup finalist 1957, 1958, 1962*

Today his name is almost exclusively associated with being the first German international ever to be sent-off (in the 1958 World Cup semi final vs. Sweden). However his career had a lot more to offer than this one sad incident. Described by Sepp Herberger as one of the greatest talents in Germany football after the war, he began his career as a forward but he soon settled as a left back with extraordinarily good positioning and aerial ability and very good passing skills. He became famous in German football for his powerful shot which explains his nickname "Hammer". Juskowiak found it hard to cope mentally with being sent-off in a crucial World Cup game and many people made him personally responsible for Germany's defeat against hosts Sweden. When he was back playing domestically for Düsseldorf, he was often met with hostile reactions by opposition fans.

League record

1946-47	-	-	RW Oberhausen
1947-48	19	0	RW Oberhausen (Div. 1 – West)
1948-49	20	0	RW Oberhausen (Div. 1 – West)
1949-50	25	7	RW Oberhausen (Div. 1 – West)
1950-51	-	-	SSV Wuppertal (Div. 2)
1951-52	-	-	RW Oberhausen (Div. 2)
1952-53	-	-	RW Oberhausen (Div. 2)
1953-54	27	12	Düsseldorf (Div. 1 – West)
1954-55	30	4	Düsseldorf (Div. 1 – West)
1955-56	28	6	Düsseldorf (Div. 1 – West)
1956-57	28	2	Düsseldorf (Div. 1 – West)
1957-58	27	6	Düsseldorf (Div. 1 – West)
1958-59	22	2	Düsseldorf (Div. 1 – West)
1959-60	24	0	Düsseldorf (Div. 1 – West)
1960-61	-	-	Düsseldorf (Div. 2)
1961-62	1	0	Düsseldorf (Div. 1 – West)



Bernard (Enatz) DIETZ (b. 1948)
53 A, Germany Left Back/Sweeper
Cup finalist 1975
Euro winner 1980
Euro finalist 1976

Bernard 'Enatz' Dietz started out as a left winger in 1970 playing for MSV Duisburg. In the summer of 1972 he was withdrawn to the left back position where he established himself as a very good attacking full back. A player with a pretty good technique, he was notable for his high work ethic and was unrelenting yet fair in one-on-one situations. In 17 years as a professional he was booked only 11 times and never sent-off. He is the defensive player with the highest amount of goals scored in Bundesliga history (76 goals). With his never say die mentality, dynamism, willingness to run and fight at all costs and self-sacrificial mentality he became one of the best left backs of the 1970s. He also managed to keep a high level of consistency between 1970 and 1985 when he almost never missed a game in all those years (played in 494 of 510 possible games).

When Paul Breitner left for Spain after the 1974 World Cup Dietz became his successor in the left back position. He became captain of the German national team in 1978. In 1981 he expressed his dissent towards Jupp Derwall's decision to bring Paul Breitner back to the national team. Derwall had decided to rely fully on Breitner and to build the team around his demands, something that Dietz was critical of. As a consequence, Derwall decided to drop Dietz, the captain of his team, and handed the captaincy to Karl-Heinz Rummenigge. An undeserving end to a great international career which had culminated in winning the European Championship in Italy just a year before. From 1982 onwards Bernard Dietz picked up the role of sweeper, as the full back position began to be too demanding for a player of 34 years at that time. As a sweeper for Schalke 04 he played until in 1987 and retired at the ripe age of 39 years.

League record

1970-71	30	4	Duisburg (BL)
1971-72	31	2	Duisburg (BL)
1972-73	34	4	Duisburg (BL)
1973-74	33	4	Duisburg (BL)
1974-75	34	8	Duisburg (BL)
1975-76	34	7	Duisburg (BL)
1976-77	32	7	Duisburg (BL)
1977-78	33	7	Duisburg (BL)
1978-79	34	8	Duisburg (BL)
1979-80	33	4	Duisburg (BL)
1980-81	33	8	Duisburg (BL)
1981-82	33	6	Duisburg (BL)
1982-83	34	4	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1983-84	34	1	FC Schalke 04 (Div. 2)
1984-85	32	3	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1985-86	27	0	FC Schalke 04 (BL)
1986-87	8	0	FC Schalke 04 (BL)

#4



Philipp LAHM (b. 1983)

113 A (5 goals), Germany, Right Back/Left Back/Midfielder

League champion 2006, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017

League runner-up 2009, 2012

Cup winner 2006, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2016

Cup finalist 2012

Champions Cup 2013

Champions Cup finalist 2010, 2012

Intercontinental Cup 2012

World Cup winner 2014

Euro finalist 2008

German Footballer 2017

See previous biography under #2 right backs

League record

2003-04	31	1	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2004-05	22	1	VfB Stuttgart (BL)
2005-06	20	0	Bayern München (BL)
2006-07	34	1	Bayern München (BL)
2007-08	22	0	Bayern München (BL)
2008-09	28	3	Bayern München (BL)
2009-10	34	0	Bayern München (BL)
2010-11	34	3	Bayern München (BL)
2011-12	31	0	Bayern München (BL)
2012-13	29	0	Bayern München (BL)
2013-14	28	1	Bayern München (BL)
2014-15	20	2	Bayern München (BL)
2015-16	26	1	Bayern München (BL)
2016-17	26	1	Bayern München (BL)

#3



Andreas BREHME (b. 1960)

86 A (8 goals), Germany, Full Back/Wing Back/Midfielder

League champion 1987, 1989, 1998

League runner-up 1988, 1994

Cup winner 1996

UEFA Cup 1991

World Cup winner 1990

World Cup finalist 1986

Euro finalist 1992

One of the best and most complete full backs in German football history, gifted with a very good technique and a hard and precise shot, as a youth he was a midfielder, as a young professional he quickly made a name as a full back that would play equally well on both sides of the pitch, due to his absolute two-footedness, albeit with a slight preference of the left foot. One thing he did not have though was pace. He loved to swing in crosses from an inside and outside position, although he could have been better at crossing at high pace, hence he preferred to cross an inactive ball. His left-foot had a more subtle touch while his right had more power. Additionally to his full back duties, throughout his career he frequently was used as a wide midfielder as well as a defensive midfielder.

League record

1980-81	36	3	Saarbrücken (Div. 2)
1981-82	27	4	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1982-83	30	3	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1983-84	33	8	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1984-85	33	11	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1985-86	31	8	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1986-87	31	4	Bayern München (BL)
1987-88	28	3	Bayern München (BL)
1988-89	31	3	Inter (Italy)
1989-90	32	6	Inter (Italy)
1990-91	23	1	Inter (Italy)
1991-92	30	0	Inter (Italy)
1992-93	24	1	Zaragoza (Spain)
1993-94	26	3	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1994-95	27	4	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1995-96	30	2	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)
1996-97	32	0	1. FC Kaiserslautern (Div. 2)
1997-98	5	0	1. FC Kaiserslautern (BL)

#2



Paul BREITNER (b. 1951)

48 A (10 goals), Germany, Left Back/Central Midfielder

League champion 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1980, 1981

League runner-up 1971

Cup winner 1971, 1975, 1982

German Footballer 1981

World Cup winner 1974

World Cup finalist 1982

Euro winner 1972

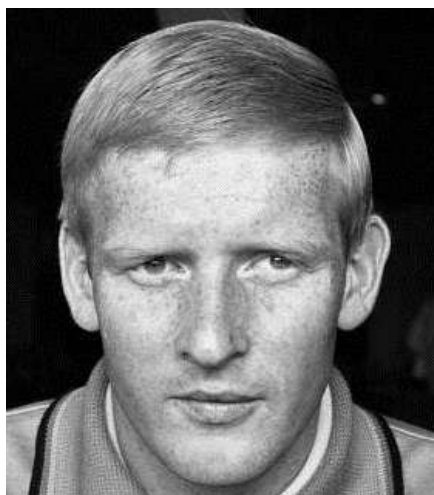
One of Germany's greatest ever players, he joined Bayern at the age of 18 in 1970 and quickly became a starter. In his first season, he was mostly used as a right back or as a midfield player. In 1971 he filled the spot left vacant by Bayern's Austrian left back Peter Pumm, who had returned to his home country. Breitner, who in his mind and mentality always saw himself as a midfielder, immediately impressed in this position as a relentlessly attacking full back that possessed every prerequisite needed for that demanding role. Very capable at buildup and passing, when in possession, he often acted as a fourth midfielder in Bayern's 4-3-3 of the early-70s, who often broke through on the left flank either on his own or in neat 1-2s played with his teammate Gerd Müller.

Although right-footed, he was very competent at crossing the ball with his left foot, even in high tempo. For a player of his talent, he had an unusually high work ethic and had created his own fitness program which he imposed on himself already in his teen years and adhered to faithfully in his spare time over the course of his career. Breitner was arguably one of the fittest players of the 1970s. When he joined Real Madrid in 1974 he left his full back position for good and settled as a midfield player for the rest of his career.

Next to the classic playmaker Netzer, Breitner became a vital player who committed himself as a dynamic, hard-running "workhorse", soon leaving the shadow of the ageing superstar Netzer. After three years in Madrid and one year in Braunschweig, Breitner returned to Bayern in 1978 where the successful team of the mid-1970s was slowly falling apart and which – after Beckenbauer had left the club – was desperately looking for a new leader on the pitch. In his last five years as a professional player, Breitner was at the peak of his powers, unanimously considered to be the Bundesliga's best midfield player of that era. Retired after an inauspicious 1982 World Cup at the age of only 31 in 1983.

League record

1970-71	21	2	Bayern München (BL)
1971-72	30	4	Bayern München (BL)
1972-73	32	4	Bayern München (BL)
1973-74	26	7	Bayern München (BL)
1974-75	29	3	Real Madrid (Spain)
1975-76	25	6	Real Madrid (Spain)
1976-77	30	1	Real Madrid (Spain)
1977-78	30	10	Braunschweig (BL)
1978-79	33	12	Bayern München (BL)
1979-80	32	10	Bayern München (BL)
1980-81	30	17	Bayern München (BL)
1981-82	29	18	Bayern München (BL)
1982-83	22	9	Bayern München (BL)



Karl-Heinz SCHNELLINGER (b. 1939)

47 A (1 goal), Germany, Left Back/Sweeper

League champion 1962, 1968

League runner-up 1960, 1963, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1973

Cup winner 1967, 1972, 1973

Cup finalist 1968, 1971

Champions Cup 1969

CWC winner 1968, 1973

CWC finalist 1974

Intercontinental Cup 1969

World Cup finalist 1966

German Footballer 1962

The tall Schnellinger became one of the best German defenders renowned for his physical presence, pace and winning mentality, he impressed already at an early age, playing his first World Cup aged 19 in 1958. When he signed for Köln in 1959 coming from Düren 99, he was often playing as a half back but soon settled as a left back. In this position, he reached the absolute top level in international football the following years, impressing with his good overview, positioning, pace and aerial ability. Equipped with a very good touch, Schnellinger was adept at build up with his good passing skills but also an uncompromising tackler who was hard to beat in one-on-one situations.

A hard-boiled nature, Schnellinger was hard to ruffle and with his stoic calmness he was very influential on his teammates. By 1960, Schnellinger was rated as Germany's no. 1 full back and after his impressive display at the 1962 World Cup, where he easily was Germany's best-performing player, he was also considered one of the best full backs worldwide. Soon after the '62 World Cup, Schnellinger left Germany to play in Italy and he is now mostly associated with being the defensive pillar of the star-studded AC Milan side of the 1960s and early-1970s.

In his first four years at Milan, Schnellinger was playing as a full back but by 1969 he was predominantly deployed as a defensive sweeper and formed a fine central defensive partnership with stopper Roberto Rosato. Schnellinger was intended to act as a left back for Germany in the 1970 World Cup but after standard sweeper Willi Schulz picked up an injury in the first game against Morocco, Schnellinger adopted the sweeper role and became one of the best sweepers of that tournament.

League record

1956-57	-	-	Düren (Div. 2)
1957-58	-	-	Düren (Div. 2)
1958-59	19	0	Köln (Div. 1 – West)
1959-60	28	1	Köln (Div. 1 – West)
1960-61	28	0	Köln (Div. 1 – West)
1961-62	30	5	Köln (Div. 1 – West)
1962-63	26	2	Köln (Div. 1 – West)
1963-64	33	2	Mantova (Italy)
1964-65	29	1	Roma (Italy)
1965-66	25	0	Milan (Italy)
1966-67	28	0	Milan (Italy)

1967-68	27	0	Milan (Italy)
1968-69	20	0	Milan (Italy)
1969-70	26	0	Milan (Italy)
1970-71	29	0	Milan (Italy)
1971-72	26	0	Milan (Italy)
1972-73	28	0	Milan (Italy)
1973-74	13	0	Milan (Italy)
1974-75	19	0	Tennis Borussia Berlin (BL)