

# The playing career of Frank Rijkaard

Let's talk about Frank Rijkaard, a name that rings bells across the world of football. Born on September 30, 1962, in Amsterdam, Netherlands, this guy wasn't just a footballer; he was an absolute powerhouse on the field. With a career spanning from the early '80s to the early 2000s, Rijkaard made his mark both as a player and a coach. Bettors can [win money with kabaddi betting](#) today, and the same can be said about wagering on football as well.



Starting with his playing days, Rijkaard was something of a football prodigy. He kicked off his career with Ajax, one of the Netherlands' top clubs, and it was clear from the get-go that he was destined for greatness. Standing at 191 cm tall, he was a towering presence in midfield, but don't let his size fool you—he had the grace and skill of a ballet dancer with a football at his feet.

Rijkaard played as a central midfielder and was known for his incredible ability to read the game. He had this knack for being in the right place at the right time, breaking up opposition attacks, and then turning defense into attack with his precise passing and vision.

In his time at Ajax, Rijkaard won numerous titles. The 3 most important trophies he claimed are:

- the Eredivisie;
- the KNVB Cup;
- and the UEFA Champions League.

You can win money by betting on these tournaments, and also with kabaddi betting made only on the 1xBet platform.

Career after this incredible stint

In 1988, Rijkaard made the move to AC Milan. Here he would form one of the most formidable midfield partnerships in football history alongside 2 other fellow Dutch players Ruud Gullit and Marco van Basten. Under the guidance of coach Arrigo Sacchi, Milan was a force to be reckoned with, playing a brand of football that was both beautiful and devastatingly effective. Rijkaard won 2 Serie A titles and 2 European Cups with Milan, solidifying his status as one of the best midfielders in the game. Feel free to [boost your wins: 1xBet bonus offers](#) are also compatible with the large number of football wagers available.

On the international stage, Rijkaard was just as impressive. He earned 73 caps for the Netherlands national team and was a crucial part of the squad that won the UEFA European Championship in 1988. Rijkaard's versatility worked wonderfully during his international career. He was capable of performing even as a sweeper or central defender. Regardless of where he was located in the field, he would always perform

at a top level.

But Rijkaard's story doesn't end after his retirement as a player. As probably many football fans know, his coaching spells were also extremely successful.

Probably Rijkaard's most successful coaching adventure was with Barcelona, where he joined in 2003. At that moment, the team was facing serious struggles. However, thanks to his talent, he rebuilt the team and began creating what would become one of the best teams ever. In fact, Rijkaard is the one who allowed Lionel Messi to have his professional debut also in 2003. Since then, Messi would go on to become one of the best players ever.

Under the Dutch manager, the team won 2 La Liga editions. They also won 1 UEFA Champions League. He managed to re-establish the team as one of the top clubs in this part of the world. Rijkaard's style of football prioritized possession, and it is a line that was then followed by another Barcelona legend: Pep Guardiola. You can get 1xBet bonus offers to wager on Barcelona too, and they can boost your wins and give you excellent winning chances.

If we check Rijkaard's numbers, they are simply incredible. For example, he played more than 400 matches at a professional level. He also scored more than 50 goals, which is quite good for a player of his position. As a manager he continued with his successes. This is because he won 3 trophies with the Catalan team, including the aforementioned 2006 UEFA Champions League.

Frank Rijkaard was a player who defined an era, a midfielder with the strength of a defender and the skill of a forward. His legacy as a manager is also undeniable.