

Two clubs score but are not awarded a goal

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Two angry coaches complained after their teams were wrongfully disallowed a goal, last Saturday. In Germany FC Schalke 04 spilled two points when the officials did not award Marcelo Bordon a goal, in The Netherlands FC Groningen lost after the referees made the same mistake.

Schalke, one of Germany's title contenders, visited SC Freiburg. In the 47th minute, Bordon headed against the underside of the crossbar, the ball bounced on the grass behind the goal line, as was evidenced by television camera's. Neither linesman Torsten Bauer, nor referee Jochen Drees noticed the ball behind the goal line, and Schalke ended the game with a 0-0 draw.



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Much to the regret of manager Felix Magath (picture): 'This is the same old song again. I hope that they finally introduce goal-line technology, like a chip in a ball, to prevent us from having the same discussion every weekend. But the football federations keep on believing they can solve this problem without this technology. I don't understand that they have taken this decision so amateurish. In stead of using modern technology, the decision is left to chance. We are all professionals, the ones who are against this technology can only be amateurs.'

Less outspoken, but nonetheless angry, was

Ron Jans, coach of FC Groningen. In the first half of his side's away game against Heracles Almelo, he saw Thomas Enevoldsen fire on goal with a score line of 0-0. Opponent Kwame Quansah cleared the ball, only after it had already passed the goal line, as was shown on television footage. But referee Reinold Wiedemeijer and his assistant didn't award Enevoldsen the goal. In the end FC Groningen lost 4-3, although they were 2-0 up at halftime. 'At the break we were actually 3-0 up, not 2-0', complained Jans.