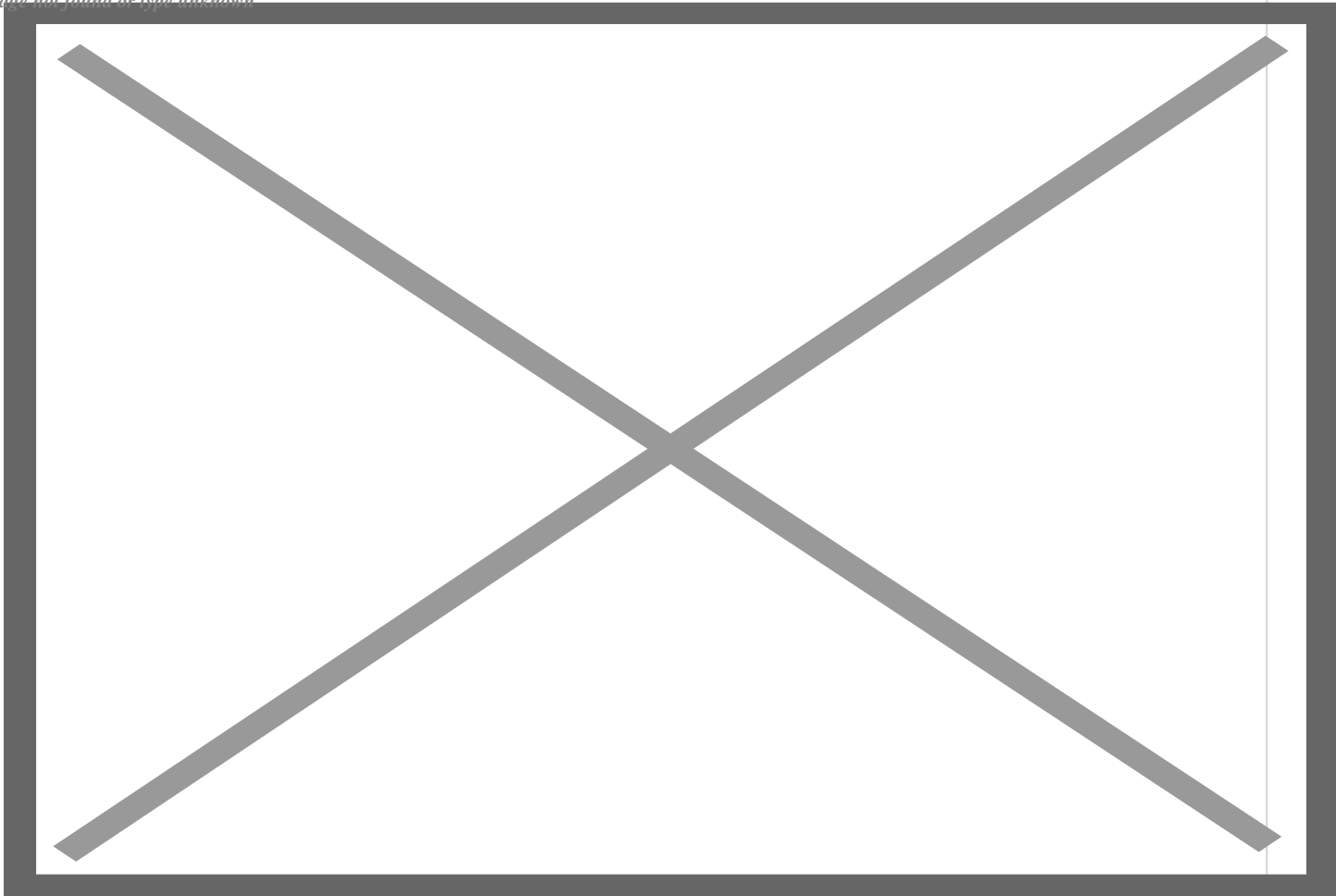


PSG seeks ticket to Champions League round of 16 against Maccabi

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Havana, October 25 (RHC)-- Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) will host today with its stellar trident Kylian Mbappé-Neymar-Lionel Messi the Israeli Maccabi Haifa in the fifth round of the Champions League, in

which they will seek to secure their ticket to the round of 16.

The Red and Blue will start as clear favorites against a discreet opponent, which they defeated 3-1 on September 14 with goals from their three superstars.

After four games in Group H, the French are in the lead with eight points, the same as Benfica, while Juventus and Maccabi have three, so a home win would seal their passage to the round of 16, with the additional objective of advancing to the top of the group.

PSG had Neymar back for tonight, after his absence on Friday in Ligue1 due to yellow card accumulation at Ajaccio, where France's Mbappé and Argentina's Messi shone.

Defenders Presnel Kimpembe and Nuno Mendes also returned to the squad after being sidelined with injuries.

However, coach Christophe Galtier will be without hard-working Italian midfielder Marco Verratti, suspended for accumulation of fines, and Portugal's Danilo Pereira due to a hamstring injury.

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