

The most  
comprehensive  
guide to

# FANTASY PREMIER LEAGUE

## GAMEWEEK 33

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# This Week's FIXTURES

*5 April 2014*

## Manchester City v Southampton

Edin Dzeko has scored in two of his three Barclays Premier League games against Southampton. The Saints have won five and lost three of their last 10 Barclays Premier League games against Manchester City, but have lost their last two visits to the Etihad Stadium.

## Aston Villa v Fulham

There have been just six goals scored in the last five Barclays Premier League meetings between Fulham and Aston Villa. Bad news for rock-bottom Fulham though as the Cottagers have won none of their last 14 away games in the league at Villa Park (L7 D7).

## Cardiff City v Crystal Palace

Cardiff have conceded the highest proportion of goals in the final 15 minutes of Barclays Premier League matches this season (34%). Crystal Palace, however, have won none of their last nine visits to Cardiff City in all competitions (D4 L5).

## Hull City vs Swansea City

Hull City have seen the joint-most opposition players sent off this season (6) along with Norwich City. Swansea have won none of their last five league visits to play the Tigers, losing four of those games.



# This Week's FIXTURES

*5 April 2014*

## Newcastle United vs Manchester United

After going 18 Barclays Premier League games without a win against Manchester United (D5 L13), Newcastle have won two of the last four (W2 L2). Wayne Rooney has scored six goals in his last six Barclays Premier League appearances.

## Norwich City vs West Bromwich Albion

West Brom have won three of their last four league trips to Carrow Road, but lost in the Barclays Premier League there last season 0-4 (W3 L1).

## Chelsea vs Stoke City

After winning eight and losing none of the first 10 Barclays Premier League meetings with Stoke City, Chelsea lost the last encounter earlier this season 2-3 to the Potters. Stoke managed to score as many goals in their last match against Chelsea as they had managed in the previous 10 Premier League meetings (3).



# This Week's FIXTURES

*6 April 2014*

## Everton vs Arsenal

Everton have only scored more than once in one of the last 22 Barclays Premier League games against Arsenal.

The Gunner, however, have won just three of their last 10 Barclays Premier League matches (W3 D4 L3), taking just 13 points from the last 30 available.

## West Ham United vs Liverpool

There have been three own goals in the last three Barclays Premier League meetings between the Hammers and the Reds.

Glen Johnson has scored in three of his last five Barclays Premier League games against former club West Ham, including the last two trips to the Boleyn Ground.



# This Week's FIXTURES

7 April 2014

## Tottenham Hotspur vs Sunderland

Tottenham have won five and lost none of the last seven Barclays Premier League games against Sunderland.  
Sunderland have scored a league-high 46.4% of their Barclays Premier League goals from set pieces this season.

*Stats presented by Opta.*





// players you should buy

# Peter ODEMWINGIE

- Team: Stoke City
- Position: Forward
- Value: £5.4m
- Selected by: 0.8%
- Total score: 69
- Points from last 4 games: 30 (7.5 ppg)
- Next 4 fixtures: **Chelsea (A)**,  
Newcastle United (H), Cardiff City  
(A), Tottenham Hotspur (H)

My my, Odemwingie has been on fire in recent weeks, scoring on four occasions in his last three games for Stoke City.

At £5.4m, the quick forward, who's surprisingly already 32 years-old, will be a good deal considering how low his selection rate is.

However, a tricky fixture list awaits Stoke, with trips to Chelsea and a home encounter with Tottenham Hotspur still to come.

Chelsea, after a shocking 1-0 loss to Crystal Palace last week, will look to bounce back with a victory against Paris Saint Germain in the UEFA Champions League, led by the red-hot Zlatan Ibrahimovic.

Facing a star-studded squad with a dent in morale, Chelsea will be expected to plod throughout the match, with both a victory and defeat coming at the expense of fatigue.

Having played three games in almost a week, Chelsea's exhaustion will show eventually against a physical Stoke, as it's beginning to affect some of the Blues's key players, most notably, Eden Hazard.

However, Chelsea will be playing at home, and Jose Mourinho will look to continue his unbeaten run at Stamford Bridge.

With Chelsea looking the stronger side on paper, I'll predict Stoke will get a draw, and Odemwingie with an assist.

Regarding Tottenham Hotspur, how they will perform against Odemwingie and co. really depends on the next few weeks.

After a bright start to life at Spurs for Tim Sherwood, recent results have been disastrous, their mid-season fluidity replaced by stagnant positioning and insipid performances.

Should they however find back form in their next couple of fixtures, they'll be looking to finish the season on a strong note, especially with pressure from Manchester United, who are currently only two points behind them with a way superior goal difference.

Other than those two matches, the rest of remainder of Stoke's matches are relatively manageable, with Peter Crouch in fine form as well.

For me personally, get him (Odemwingie) if you need funds for your other departments who are alarmingly underachieving, cause he may prove to be a shrewd bargain at the end of the season. >>



// players you should buy

# Joe HART

- Team: Man. City
- Position: Goalkeeper
- Value: £6.0m
- Selected by: 6.7%
- Total score: 92
- Points from last 4 games: 22 (5.5 ppg)
- Next 4 fixtures: **Southampton (H)**,  
Liverpool (A), Sunderland (H), West  
Bromwich Albion (H)

Before Manchester City's 1-1 draw at the Emirates Stadium against Arsenal last week, Joe Hart has helped the Citizens claim five consecutive clean sheets, helping himself to 32 points in the process.

The English international, who endured a shaky start to the season, have found his reliable form back that easily made him the league's best keeper for the previous three season.

With a steady amount of players transferring Hart into their rosters since Gameweek 25, it's only going to take one or two more impressive displays in between the sticks before his price tag rises up again.

Even though a rise of £0.1m might not seem significant in blatant digits, when you're running low on funds, £0.1m can mean the difference between Demba Ba and Luis Suárez.

Besides, five of their remaining eight fixtures are played at the Etihad Stadium, where home advantage counts massively ahead of their clash against rampant Liverpool, which should more or less decide the outcome of the current season.

A calm, collected and experienced manager like Manuel Pellegrini will not allow any margins for errors and slip-ups in a nervy run-up of games, not when the Premier League crown is at stake.

With Joe Hart in great form at the moment as well, it's safe to assume that City will perform even better than previous weeks, with four or five clean sheets a distinct possibility in the final stretch of the season. >>







// players you should potentially buy

# Jon FLANAGAN

- Team: Liverpool
- Position: Defender
- Value: £4.4m
- Selected by: 1.7%
- Total score: 58
- Points from last 4 games: 20 (5 ppg)
- Next 4 fixtures: **West Ham United (A)**, Manchester City (H), Norwich City (A), Chelsea (H)

Jon Flanagan, who never played a big part in his previous three seasons at Anfield, have suddenly been thrust into the spotlight this year.

His 1406 minutes for Liverpool this season in the Premier League is nearly twice the total of his playing time in the young English fullback's four-year stay at the Merseyside club.

Flanagan, who started every game for the Reds since Gameweek 22, have been an unexpected revelation so far.

Although wobbly and hesitant at times, Flanagan has already created 11 key chances for the Reds, Glen Johnson being the only defender to have created more.

For a price point of £4.4m and a meagre selection rate of 1.7%, Flanagan looks to be value-for-money for a place on your bench, or even your starting lineup if you're willing to take the risk when a high-profile defender in your roster is grossly underachieving.

However, the Reds have two important matches in their remaining six games, against Manchester City and Chelsea, both home encounters, in Gameweek 34 and 36 respectively.

With little experience against the big guns, I wouldn't be surprised if Flanagan falls short against the two heavyweight teams, especially when Jesus Navas and Samir Nasri are in fine shape at the moment.

Other than these two teams though, their remaining adversaries should be easily dealt with.

For me personally, it's still quite a gamble at this stage of the game, so if you want to get Flanagan, please make sure you get your other areas covered and have sufficient backup to lead you through to the end of the season.

Flanagan will be a good alternative if you decide to utilise only three defenders in every gameweek. With Hull City's Liam Rosenior (£4.0m), the duo will make a good backup in your substitutes bench, who can both deliver points when counted upon. >>



// players you need to drop

# Aaron LENNON

- Team: Tottenham
  - Position: Midfielder
  - Value: £7.1m
  - Selected by: 1.3%
  - Total score: 64
- Points from last 4 weeks: 5 (1.25 ppg)
  - Next 4 fixtures: **Sunderland (H)**, West Bromwich Albion (A), Fulham (H), Stoke City (H)

It's easy to see why Lennon needs to go.

With a high price tag of £7.1m, he's not playing exceptionally well, at least not well enough to justify that hefty price tag.

His performances isn't that bad stats-wise. He has a perfect shooting accuracy, and a decent passing accuracy of 85%.

However, soccer is a team sport, and unfortunately, due to his teammates' incompetence and ill positioning, he has not been able to perform to the best of his abilities, and the key chances he's been carving have been on a steady decline in recent weeks.

Tottenham hasn't been playing well at all, losing four of their last six games.

Against Sunderland, it seems unlikely that Spurs will trouble Vito Mannone much.

Matches against West Brom, Fulham, and Stoke follow.

The Baggies are draw kings, having drawn a stunning 14 games this season in the Premier League.

Fulham have nothing to lose, and that's a pretty scary thing, speaking from personal experience.

Stoke is in great form at the moment, with Peter Crouch and Peter Odemwingie delivering the goods, and along with their physicality and their new sleek passing game under Tony Pulis, it's hard to see them getting much out of all three matches.

Besides, Roberto Soldado, Emanuel Adebayor and Jermaine Defoe are all injured, leaving 20 year-old Harry Kane the only fit first-team forward for Spurs.

Without quality support at the front, it is highly unlikely that Lennon will get himself any assists, or goals for that matter.

Oh, have I mentioned, that £7.1m price tag is just ridiculous.

Some better alternatives will include his teammate Christian Eriksen (£6.5m), in-form Cardiff midfielder Jordon Mutch (£4.8m), Norwich City's Robert Snodgrass (£5.9m), and Swansea's Jonathan de Guzman (£5.2m). >>







// players you need to drop

# Phil JAGIELKA

- Team: Everton
- Position: Defender
- Value: £5.8m
- Selected by: 13.3%
- Total score: 98
- Points from last 4 weeks: 0 (0 ppg)
- Next 4 fixtures: **Arsenal (H)**,  
Sunderland (A), Crystal Palace (H),  
Manchester United (H)

Hmm, paying £5.8m for a defender that hasn't played in five weeks.

*Shrewd.*

Normally, I wouldn't really recommend getting rid of players if it's a really straightforward decision, but I've made an exception this time because 13.3% of you guys still have him in your squad.

I shall lay out some stats as per a good journalist would.

Jagielka has made an average of 12 defensive actions per game, more than any other player in the squad, with the exception of Antolin Alcaraz (13), who have only played in three of Everton's matches in the Premier League this season.

The 1.83m tall defender also registered an average pass length of 24m, the longest amongst Everton's outfield players.

His passing accuracy of 87% is even more than Chelsea's Eden Hazard (83%), and Liverpool's Steven Gerrard (86%).

*But what's the point if he's not playing?*

Get rid of Jagielka as soon as possible and invest in other alternatives such as Martin Demichelis (Manchester City, £5.9m), Martin Skrtel (Liverpool, £5.9m), Glen Johnson (Liverpool, £5.7m) or Steven Caulker (Cardiff City, £5.2m).

*Heck, anyone would do.*

Seriously, the 13.3% of you.



// captain who

# Luis SUÁREZ

- Team: Liverpool (vs West Ham United, away)
- Position: Forward
- Value: £13.2m
- Selected by: 50.9%
- Total score: 269 (Points in his last 4 games: 45)

Suárez has been on fire for the past few weeks, scoring six goals in his last five games, along with six assists as well.

These seemingly impossible statistics look set to continue, as Liverpool faces West Ham United, who have won their previous two matches with a 2-1 scoreline.

Even with home support, rampant Liverpool will look forward to another opportunity to extend their goal difference past Manchester City, who they will be facing in a few weeks time.

The previous time these two sides met, Liverpool clinched a one-sided 4-1 victory at Anfield, courtesy of a world class display from the Uruguayan , who scored once and assisted twice.

Despite the change of venue this time round, don't be surprised if Liverpool run riot at Upton Park on Sunday.

And who else better to lead the annihilation than *Luis, Alberto, Suárez.*

// consider  
them as well

- Eden Hazard (Chelsea) vs Stoke City, home.
- Jordon Mutch (Cardiff City) vs Crystal Palace, home.
- Yaya Touré (Manchester City) vs Southampton, home.
- Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool) vs West Ham United, away.





# My TEAM

In defense, I drafted in Martin Skrtel, and continued fielding Branislav Ivanović and Martin Demichelis, whose teams didn't really perform well defensively last week, especially Chelsea, who allowed Crystal Palace all the time and space in the world to tear them apart. Along with Vito Mannone, I'll be expecting a 23 point performance from the defense.

In midfield, I sold the underachieving Kevin Nolan to bring in on-song Cardiff midfielder, Jordon Mutch. The top four highest scoring midfielders in the Fantasy Premier League makes up the rest of my engine room. I'll be expecting at least a 22 point effort from them this coming week.

In offense, Edin Dzeko partner up with captain Luis Suárez, who are both expected to do well later in the week. I'm expecting a good 28 points.

// last week's score

- Vito Mannone (Sunderland) - 2 points
- Seamus Coleman (Everton) - 1 point
- Branislav Ivanović (Chelsea) - 2 points
- Martin Demichelis (Manchester City) - 3 points

- Kevin Nolan (West Ham United) - 1 point
- Yaya Touré (Manchester City) - 1 point
- Steven Gerrard (Liverpool) - 3 points
- Eden Hazard (Chelsea) - 2 points
- Adam Lallana (Southampton) - 12 points

- Romelu Lukaku (Everton) - 2 points
- Luis Suárez (C) (Liverpool) - 18 points

- **Total: 47 points**
- **Overall (started from GW5): 1681**





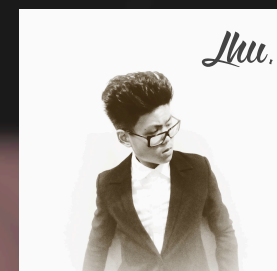


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