

Date: 6 January 2013
 Opposition: Mansfield Town
 Competition: FA Cup

BBC	Times	Telegraph	Echo
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6 January 2013

THE TIMES

Suarez deals out familiar hand to plucky Mansfield

Mansfield Town 1 Green 79
 Liverpool 2 Sturridge 7, Suarez 59
 Referee A Marriner Attendance 7,574

Luis Suarez had said that he would do it again, that the devil lurking inside would re-emerge if and when it was needed. No one really doubted that the controversial Uruguayan, a player who thrives on living on the edge and doing whatever it takes to win, would reoffend. The surprise was that Liverpool required his recidivism to defeat Mansfield Town, of the Blue Square Bet Premier.

As a measure of Liverpool's discomfort against a team ranked 93 places below them in the hierarchy of English football, it seemed unlikely that Suarez's introduction as a substitute in the 54th minute would be surpassed. But four minutes later it was as the forward used a hand to set himself up for the goal that ultimately decided a third-round FA Cup tie that Liverpool won as narrowly as the final score suggests.

Whether Suarez meant it, only he will know. His critics will claim that it was a repeat of the deliberate handling offence that brought him infamy during the World Cup in South Africa in 2010. His supporters will argue that, rather than being premeditated, it was an instinctive reaction in the heat of the moment. As far as Mansfield are concerned, though, the motive is almost irrelevant. The greatest source of disappointment will be that their Herculean efforts counted for nothing because of a goal that should not have stood. For all the pre-match talk of the romance of the Cup, it was a moment of heartache for Paul Cox's side, who deserved better than to lose in such an unjust manner.

That it was the defining moment also did a disservice to a game that, in every other sense, lived up to the history of the FA Cup as a competition that affords minnows the opportunity to bring down the mighty. This was Mansfield's chance and they gave everything they had and more to take it, even after suffering the body-blow of going behind to Daniel Sturridge's first Liverpool goal with only seven minutes gone.

Those hoping for an upset would have been cheered by the rutted pitch that such occasions demand be described as a leveller. They would also have been heartened by Brendan Rodgers making eight changes to his starting line-up and giving Steven Gerrard, Glen Johnson, Pepe Reina and Daniel Agger the day off. With those without tickets clambering trees, fences and walls to take in the action and those inside Field Mill providing a raucous atmosphere, the scene could not have been better set for a shock. "These games are very difficult and in some ways can be more difficult than Premier League games," Rodgers said, and given that Liverpool had won their two previous league matches by three goals, it was hard to disagree.

It had all seemed so easy for Liverpool in the first quarter, particularly after Sturridge finished with the kind of aplomb expected of a [pounds sterling]12 million forward, having been put through on goal by Jonjo Shelvey. Sturridge could have repeated the trick after again being released by Shelvey, only this time he delayed his shot and Alan Marriott saved well.

Somehow, Liverpool managed to lose their early momentum and by half-time their attacking threat had become more fitful. That was the least of their worries in the first five minutes of the second half, though, Mansfield's share of possession growing to 73 per cent as they peppered Liverpool's goal with a series of shots that ensured Brad Jones would end the game having been the busier goalkeeper.

Anthony Howell, Louis Briscoe and the impressive Matt Green all had attempts that could have brought an equalising goal, only for either Jones or Jamie Carragher to intervene at the vital moment. Green also had a claim for a penalty denied after his close-range backheel appeared to strike Joe Allen on the hand when the midfielder was stationed on his own goalline.

Ironically, it was this scare that prompted Rodgers to send for Suarez, who immediately made his mark with a close-range shot from Stewart Downing's pass that Marriott did well to repel. What followed will be a cause of Mansfield grievance for some time as the forward used his right hand to control a loose ball before shooting into an empty net.

It should have been the signal for Mansfield to accept their fate, but the opposite happened as they used their sense of injustice to go back on the offensive and when Green scored after being set up by Lee Beevers with 11 minutes remaining, hopes of an unlikely comeback burnt bright.

Their best chance of earning a replay came in the 90th minute when Jones flung himself full-length to deny Green. The Australian's use of a hand was impressive and it guaranteed Liverpool a fourth-round tie away to Oldham Athletic, but it was the hand of Suarez that was decisive.

Mansfield Town (4-4-1-1): A Marriott -- J Thompson, E Geohaghan, J Dempster, L Beevers -- L Briscoe (sub: C Daniel, 63min), C Clements (sub: M Rhead, 80), A Murray, L Meikle -- A Howell -- M Green. Substitutes not used: R Sutton, J Speight, M Wright, B Hutchinson, L Stevenson.

Booked: Beevers.

Liverpool (4-2-3-1): B Jones -- A Wisdom (sub: J Flanagan, 78), J Carragher, S Coates, J Robinson -- Lucas, J Allen -- Suso (sub: J Henderson, 54), J Shelvey, S Downing -- D Sturridge (sub: L Suarez, 54). Substitutes not used: R Sterling, C Coady, M Skrtel, P Gulacsi. Booked: Lucas, Sturridge, Flanagan.

the guardian

Suarez leaves a sour taste after Reds are put through the Mill

For one match only there was a "This is Mansfield" sign in the tunnel at the ground traditionalists would prefer to remember as Field Mill. If the idea was to see if it could have the same debilitating effects as its counterpart at Anfield, there were certainly moments when Liverpool were not entirely comfortable in this "three-sided" ground, with its throwback pitch, up-and-at-them opponents and the broken windows in the dugout where Brendan Rodgers was looking a little uneasy during the second half.

It had looked as if it might be a cakewalk when Daniel Sturridge marked his debut by scoring his first goal for the club but Liverpool had started to look decidedly vulnerable before Luis Suarez's right boot, not to mention his right hand, soothed their nerves with the second goal. The Uruguayan now has 19 for the season but this one, incorporating a clear handball, should never have been allowed and Mansfield can be justifiably aggrieved bearing in mind it was the point of the match when they were threatening to bridge the gap between them and the side 93 places higher in the order of English football.

As it was, there were still some anxious moments for Liverpool after Matt Green fired a low shot past Brad Jones in the 79th minute to precipitate a late onslaught. Green had been a constant menace and almost produced an equaliser with a 25-yard effort in the final moments. Yet Mansfield, playing well above themselves, will have to reflect their luck was out. As well as Suarez's latest controversy, there were three separate occasions when Mansfield might have had a penalty because of handballs, two of them described by their manager, Paul Cox, as "blatant". Liverpool were pinned back for spells of the second half but nobody, ultimately, could put forward a case to be added to future versions of the 'Mansfield Town Legends' commemorated in a poster accompanying the match-day programme.

The prize for Liverpool is a fourth-round assignment against an Oldham Athletic side invigorated by beating Nottingham Forest, from a division higher, on Saturday. Mansfield, meanwhile, will return to the business of trying to get back into the Football League and the ninth-placed team in the Blue Square Bet Premier can be encouraged by those moments when they enlivened their supporters in a sell-out crowd, not to mention those determined souls who brought stepladders to peer over the side of the derelict terrace that runs along one side of the pitch.

Liverpool, however, could also reflect on more missed chances than they will care to remember, particularly in the first half when Mansfield were in danger of being overwhelmed. "We could have been out of sight," Rodgers said afterwards. Sturridge was bright and lively and eager to impress even if, with a touch better finishing, he probably ought to have spared his new employers the difficulties that followed. Jonjo Shelvey stood out in particular, passing the ball at times as though he were playing on a bowling green rather than a pitch that looked as though it had been used for grazing cattle.

His pass for Sturridge's goal was the outstanding moment of the match, weighted beautifully and containing enough disguise and subtlety to dissect the entire defence. Sturridge ran on to the ball, shaped his body and side-footed his shot past the oncoming goalkeeper, Alan Marriott.

For the rest of the first half it had seemed perfectly plausible that Rodgers had not only restricted Suarez to the role of substitute but gave several others, including Steven Gerrard and Pepe Reina, the day off. This was a new, experimental team and that perhaps explains why they lost their way in the second half. Exodus Geohaghan, Mansfield's towering centre-half, caused pandemonium at times with his long throw-ins and aerial presence whenever there was a free-kick or corner. Green was full of hard running and deserved his goal. Shelvey faded and, though Brad Jones, deputising for Reina, made at least half a dozen saves, he did not always exude confidence.

It was a pulsating tie in the end but one that also left the underdog with a sense of injustice. Carolyn Radford, Mansfield's chief executive, said a replay had "been stolen from us" and, away from the cameras, was even more outspoken about Suarez's decisive contribution, four minutes after he had replaced Sturridge. Marriott was still visibly angry an hour or so after the match, claiming that Stewart Downing and other Liverpool players sympathised with him and that Suarez had been laughing as he blasted the ball over the line.

Downing had set up the chance, driving into the penalty area from the right, before playing the ball into Suarez's path in the centre. His first effort ricocheted back to him off Marriott and at that point Suarez jutted out his right hand, knocking it down and leaving himself with an open goal. The advantage he gave himself was considerable: he could not miss.

Yet the anger should be directed perhaps more at the officials than the striker. Cox, for one, was reluctant to condemn Suarez, describing it as an "instinctive" reaction, but critical of the referee, Andre Marriner. Rodgers said the fourth official had told him the handball was seen but construed as accidental and, if that is true, it was shocking refereeing from Marriner and unsatisfactory, too, on the part of his assistants.

Man of the match Jonjo Shelvey (Liverpool)

Non-League Luton and Macclesfield have been rewarded for their heroics with possible ties against Premier League opposition. The Hatters are away at Norwich and the Silkmen will host Wigan, if the Latics beat Bournemouth in their replay

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The Mail

HAND OF LUIS LANDS THE KO

THE cold facts of this thrilling afternoon in Nottinghamshire will show for posterity that Mansfield from the Blue Square Premier gave Liverpool of the Barclays Premier League a scare in a competition that some are foolish to dismiss as barely relevant.

That, however, tells only part of the story.

The Mansfield supporters who drifted home last night, still pumped by the adrenaline surge of a heroic late search for parity, will remember the day their team ran one of Europe's stellar names tantalisingly close, when they were a toe-end here and a forehead there away from a replay.

Buried within the excitement, though, will be a sense of injustice and of what might have been had 15 minutes of remarkable football at the start of the second half tipped the game their way rather than in the direction of their opponents.

This was a quarter of an hour of cup football at its best. This is, in essence, why the FA Cup exists, why it should be savoured and protected. During those 15 minutes, it appeared as though the two teams had swapped shirts during the interval.

Paul Cox's Mansfield team -- so timid in the opening half -- swarmed all over Liverpool and, as incredible as it sounds, had seven worthwhile attempts on goal in as many minutes.

Trailing to an early Daniel Sturridge goal at the time, Mansfield will look back at the replays today and wonder how some of those chances didn't lead to an equaliser.

In truth, one of them really should have been converted.

Having said that, the moment that eventually took the game out of reach will also occupy their minds, and rightly so.

There is no doubt Luis Suarez's goal in the 59th minute came about after the Uruguayan's hand made contact with the ball.

Was it deliberate? It certainly looked like it, but only he really knows. It was, however, a decisive touch and that is hard to escape.

Mansfield supporters were quick to label Suarez a cheat. Home goalkeeper Alan Marriott, meanwhile, claimed Suarez was laughing before he slashed the ball over the line. Those who suggest Suarez should have told the officials to chalk off the goal, though, are being fanciful.

There is not another Premier League player in the country who would have done so.

Even Cox admitted he would not have expected one of his players to do that.

'It's down to the officials to spot it,' said Cox and that was an admirably phlegmatic and generous response.

Cox confessed to mixed feelings and that was understandable.

A mixture of disappointment and pride would best sum it up.

Certainly in the first half, his team -- ninth in the fifth tier of the English game -- were never at it and therefore never in it.

Mansfield gave Liverpool far too much time and respect and Jonjo Shelvey, allowed at times to look like Xabi Alonso, passed the ball through a yawning hole in the home defence to enable Sturridge to glide through and mark his debut with a goal in just the seventh minute.

In the moments that followed, there could and should have been more. The same combination almost worked again, only for Marriott to save, before Stewart Downing's shot was blocked and Sturridge shot narrowly wide.

Sturridge -- not match-fit according to manager Brendan Rodgers -- certainly enjoyed his debut.

The playing surface was poor but the space he was afforded made up for it. He will perhaps be disappointed he only scored once.

In truth, Mansfield did not give Liverpool a game at all for half an hour. But they improved in the moments before the break and re-emerged a different team.

As Liverpool's central defensive pairing of Jamie Carragher and Sebastian Coates creaked and groaned under the assault, it was hard to keep track of all the chances. Suffice to say that Anthony Howell (twice), Louis Briscoe (twice), Matt Green (twice) and Exodus Geohaghon all came perilously close in a remarkable flurry of activity in and around the Liverpool penalty area.

Goalkeeper Brad Jones made a handful of saves, one shot was blocked while another seemed to be hacked from the line. It was breathless stuff, made all the more thrilling by the fact that it was so unexpected, and here was where the tie was decided.

Mansfield did come again after Suarez's goal, the excellent striker Green volleying in through a crowd of bodies after Lee Beevers had diverted a deep cross into his path.

With 11 minutes left, they were still breathing. A long throw caused chaos in the Liverpool six-yard box and then Jones dived to his right to save from Green. Ultimately, they ran out of time and that was a shame. For different reasons, they deserved a replay.

In the directors' box, Mansfield's colourful chief executive Carolyn Radford was seen at full time to mouth: 'Robbed by a handball.' It summed things up rather well.

The Daily Telegraph

Liverpool breathe again as fightback falls short

Mansfield Town 1

Green 79

Liverpool 2

Sturridge 7, Suarez 59 Att: 7,574

Brendan Rodgers probably had something else in mind when he introduced Luis Suarez from the substitutes' bench to give Liverpool a helping hand as his team toiled to victory against Mansfield.

On the ropes against the Blue Square Bet Premier club, who had laid siege to the Liverpool goal as Rodgers' players defended their first-half lead, Suarez's handled goal within four minutes of entering the action sealed the Merseysiders' progression to a fourth-round tie against Oldham at Boundary Park later this month.

Despite the Liverpool manager's post-match assertion that Suarez's handball was not deliberate, it was no surprise to hear chants of "cheat, cheat, cheat", raining down from the stands inside Field Mill. Robbie Fowler might have urged the referee to backtrack on a penalty award during a game against Arsenal at Highbury in 1996, but that was a oneoff in a hard-bitten profession where any inch is taken to claim a mile.

Referee Andre Marriner, having looked across at his linesman Mike Mullarkey, awarded the goal to Suarez, a 54th-minute replacement for [pounds sterling]12million debutant Daniel Sturridge, despite the appeals of the incensed Mansfield players, led by goalkeeper Alan Marriott. Their anger was fuelled by Mansfield having had a penalty appeal turned down moments earlier when Matt Green's back-heel was blocked by a stray Liverpool alarm on the goal-line.

With tensions running high, a supporter wearing a blue and yellow jester's hat then ran on to the pitch and approached Suarez before being ushered away by stewards.

Whether the Uruguayan's handball was deliberate or not, it distracted from a stirring Mansfield fightback. In the second half, they belied their status as a mid-table non-League club lying 93 places behind their illustrious opponents.

Having insisted prior to the game that he would be taking the tie seriously, Rodgers opted to make eight changes to his starting line-up, with the likes of Steven Gerrard, Glen Johnson and Daniel Agger given a day off altogether, and Suarez a substitute. When Sturridge put Liverpool ahead inside the opening 10 minutes, it appeared less of a gamble. The England forward displayed slick movement to escape centre-half Exodus Geohaghon and latch onto Jonjo Shelvey's through-ball before guiding a first-time shot past Marriott.

Sturridge's inconsistency at Chelsea ultimately proved key in their decision to sell the former Manchester City youngster, but his FA Cup record cannot be questioned, with his debut goal making it nine in his last 12 games in the competition.

At that stage, it appeared as though Mansfield were destined for a brutal dose of reality against the five-time European champions. But Paul Cox's team overcame their nervous start and began to push Liverpool back, taking advantage of the uneven pitch and Geohaghon's long throw-ins.

Chris Clements saw a free-kick blocked by the Liverpool wall, while the industrious Green forced Brad Jones into an important save. Liverpool still carried plenty of threat, with the impressive Shelvey linking well with Sturridge, but their failure to score a second injected Mansfield with energy and belief.

Within the space of three minutes, Anthony Howell went close twice. The home fans sensed an opening as Liverpool were penned back. But the goal would not come. Having seen his team go close to conceding, Rodgers made the change which ultimately decided the game by introducing Suarez in place of Sturridge. And within minutes, Liverpool's talisman did what he been sent on to do by doubling his team's lead.

Mansfield responded well and the goal they deserved came when Green scored with a half-volley from Lee Beevers' cross.

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THE INDEPENDENT

Mansfield handed a hard lesson in injustice by Suarez

Nestled next to Mansfield Town's ground is a shop called Dreams and over its door was a sign announcing it was closing down. It was a metaphor of sorts.

They were wild, ridiculous and improbable dreams and they took such a long time to flicker and fade. Mansfield lost gloriously and controversially.

The tie climaxed with men dressed in what Mansfield's young chief executive, Carolyn Radford - who had once worked for Gucci - called "our beautiful kit" hurling themselves forward, knowing they were being eliminated by an injustice. The match ended much as the second half had begun, with the non-league side repeatedly attacking the five-times champions of Europe, who had been utterly dominant before the interval.

Mansfield's manager, Paul Cox, had got married on Friday and whatever words he employed in his wedding vows could not have been more stirring than the ones he reached for in the dressing room.

His players, who had been overrun by the combination of Daniel Sturridge and Jonjo Shelvey, emerged as a team transformed. Brad Jones saved dramatically, Jamie Carragher cleared desperately. Then Liverpool broke away and broke Nottinghamshire hearts.

Stewart Downing put Luis Suarez through. Alan Marriott parried and so did the Uruguayan, only this time he used his hand to do it, smiling as he smashed the ball into an unguarded net. The outrage he caused when kissing his wrist was misleading. It was the way he celebrates every goal, kissing the name of his daughter.

However, everyone, from the Liverpool players gathering around Suarez, the two managers standing in front of Field Mill's abandoned fourth stand and the crowds jammed into the other three expected the whistle to blow. Nothing happened and cries of "cheat" began to fill the night air.

It was a tie that deserved better and was almost closer than Liverpool's last visit to Field Mill, a League Cup tie in September 1970 that finished in a goalless draw. Since Bill Shankly's side struck the frame of the goal five times, it could hardly be called dull.

Nevertheless, by the time the tie was eight minutes old, Daniel Sturridge had become the quickest Liverpool debutant to score since George V was handing out the FA Cup at the Empire Stadium and Marriott was telling himself he was facing a "cricket score".

Its origins lay in a fabulously timed ball from Shelvey through to Sturridge, who very calmly and very confidently took his second touch as a Liverpool player, scored his first goal for the club and his ninth in a dozen FA Cup games.

Brendan Rodgers' tactics of employing Shelvey at the centre of three midfielders was something Mansfield never came to terms with in the opening 45 minutes. A pitch that Cox joked should have been soaked with water to cut it up more, played very much to Liverpool's liking.

Once more, Shelvey, who has been lethally effective against anything less than top-class opposition this season, put Sturridge through. However, the debutant hesitated, thinking he was offside, and allowed Marriott to narrow the angle and block.

Sides looking for a Cup run might not appreciate fielding a player called Exodus but Exodus Geohaghton's long throws, which were greeted with a stamping of feet in the stands, began to give Mansfield a foothold in the tie and 13 minutes from time, Matt Green forced the first save from Brad Jones.

Had Liverpool not been controversially two goals to the good when he scored, it might have been more than a cherished memento. It was still in the young striker's words "something you dream about when you are a nipper". Colin Daniel crossed, Lee Beevers volleyed it back across Jones's goal and Green did the rest. For the final 11 minutes the scent of justice was in the air.

When the final whistle went, it still lingered, although Cox, who was convinced Mansfield might have had a penalty for one of two "blatant" handballs, had his reactions absolutely right. He did not attack Suarez for obeying the natural instincts of a centre forward but added: "I am 41 and I am not going to celebrate losing a football match but there are a lot of positives today."

They were to be found in the reaction of his players after the interval and in the way the club staged the tie. They left 96 seats empty as a mark of respect to the dead of Hillsborough and played Liverpool's battle hymn before following "You'll Never Walk Alone" with their own song, Elvis Presley's "The Wonder of You".

Mansfield's owners, Carolyn and John Radford, had said in the match programme that was being sold by the box-load outside the ground that, apart from the Olympic gold Rebecca Adlington won in the pool in Beijing, the town had "struggled to find beacons".

Yet as the lights shone out over what DH Lawrence, who lived a short drive from Field Mill, called "this once-romantic and now utterly disheartening colliery town", the beacons glowed.

Anthony Howell's shot at the near post was pushed away for a corner; another attempt was blocked by Carragher; another from Louis Briscoe was saved. This was the FA Cup in its raw glory.

Had Mansfield won, the betting firm, Blue Square, had promised to send Cox on the honeymoon of his dreams. However, when he woke this morning he would have been happy with two weeks in Bridlington. They were that good.

DAILY Mirror

SUAREZ A SINNER ON PALM SUNDAY; Mansfield up in arms as Kopstar hands Liverpool victory

YOU'VE got to hand it to Luis Suarez - he knows how to make an entrance!

Like a classic pantomime villain, the Liverpool striker effortlessly embraces controversy. And in this combustible, fervently exciting Cup tie, he didn't disappoint, with what some would suggest was a cynical handball that broke Mansfield hearts.

The Uruguayan didn't even start the tie, yet within seconds of his introduction he had reduced the One Call Stadium audience to apoplectic hissing and booing, and the unlucky home side to the status of wronged losers. The moment that defined the losers. The moment that defined this game came within three minutes of him replacing debut goalscorer Daniel Sturridge on 56 minutes.

With a revived Mansfield building a pulsating head of steam after a shaky start, a major upset looked possible as the stunned visitors slumped on to the ropes. But Suarez delivered the knockout blow with a decisive flourish of his right hand which, to be fair to him, was an instinctive rather than calculated attempt to control a clearance from Mansfield keeper Alan Marriott, and rolled the ball almost sheepishly into the empty net.

That reaction probably gave the game away, but referee Andre Marriner ignored the obvious clue and inexplicably allowed the goal to stand.

Cue outrage from a home crowd whose ire was provoked further when their side managed to claw their way back into the game with a goal from Matt Green 11 minutes from time.

They seemed destined for the most embarrassingly tame of exits as they were outpaced in the first half by a Liverpool side whose dominance could have created a hat-trick for a sharper Sturridge.

After the break it was a different story as the Blue Square Premier side blew a hurricane through the visiting defence, led by the devilish long throws of Exodus Geohaghton which created panic in the visitors' box.

They created at least five chances in an eight-minute period, and could have had a penalty when the ball appeared to strike Jamie Carragher's arm as he blocked Anthony Howell's shot. Reds boss Brendan Rodgers spotted the obvious danger signs and sent on his cavalry - and Suarez scored with virtually his first touch. His handball was unfortunate for Mansfield, as was the fact that the striker naturally unveiled the celebration he performs after every goal he scores, when he kissed his daughter Delphino's name tattooed on his wrist.

Imagine the anger of the home fans who didn't know that, and assumed the striker was taunting them. In his typically relaxed way, he probably wondered what all the fuss was about. The goal pumped up the crowd to boiling point and produced an emotional cup tie that will live long in the memory. As the Mansfield manager Paul Cox and their keeper Marriott both stressed afterwards, Suarez acted instinctively and didn't cheat, but it was still a cruel blow that cut even deeper when Green scored to set up a grandstand finish.

Liverpool were put under pressure all afternoon by the home side's direct approach and set-pieces. When they failed to clear a free-kick, Lee Beevers sent the ball back in for the talented striker to score from close range.

That left the Reds clinging on, which they just about did despite an incessant late bombardment. No one could have predicted such a tense finish in the first half when Liverpool simply strolled and Sturridge dazzled.

As debuts go, it was something approaching a dream for the striker, given even he expected to be anchored to the bench. It is the fastest goal from the start of a game by a Liverpool player making his debut since 1935, when Bob Glassey set a Reds landmark. Sturridge (right, replaced by Suarez) instantly established his credentials with team-mates who must be sceptical about the idea of the young England man shifting Suarez from the central position where he has struck such a rich vein of form.

After the break though, his lack of fitness told, and Suarez was the perfect back up plan, as he tormented the home defence - in more ways than one.

MANSFIELD: Marriot 8, Beevers 7, Dempster 6, Geohaghton 7, Thompson 6, Briscoe 6 (Daniel 64, 6), Clements 6 (Rheade 81), Murray 6, Meikle 7, Howell 7, Green 7. LIVERPOOL: Jones 8, Wisdom 7 (Flanagan 80), Carragher 7, Coates 7, Robinson 6, Lucas 6, Allen 7, Suso 6 (Henderson 56, 6), Shelvey 7, Downing 6, Sturridge 7 (Suarez 56, 7).

REF: Andre Marriner ATT: 7,574



LFC through but this was too close for comfort

AS BERATING Luis Suarez once again became a national pastime, Liverpool FC fans were preoccupied with a bigger issue. Whether the helping hand the Uruguayan striker gave Brendan Rodgers' side at Field Mill was cynical or simply instinctive won't bother Kopites. However, the fact the Reds ultimately needed Suarez's controversial strike to see off non-league Mansfield Town and progress into the fourth round of the FA Cup will be of much greater concern. Liverpool achieved their mission in Nottinghamshire to set up a trip to Oldham

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Athletic but this was far too close for comfort.

Suarez's handball before he knocked in the Reds' second goal, which referee Andre Marriner failed to spot, should have been merely a footnote in a pulsating tie between two sides separated by 93 places in the football pyramid.

But a succession of missed chances from the wasteful visitors – coupled with Matt Green's late strike – meant Suarez departed with chants of 'cheat' ringing in his ears. David felt he had been cruelly denied another shot at Goliath.

Having spent recent months just making headlines for his scintillating performances, Suarez can expect another avalanche of criticism. It will be water off a duck's back. Suarez took the spotlight off new boy Daniel Sturridge, who enjoyed a hugely encouraging start to his Liverpool career. The £12million signing made an instant impact as he scored the fastest goal by a Reds player on his full debut since Bob Glassey in 1935.

His touch was good and his movement intelligent. He should have had greater reward but having not played for nearly two months the absence of that sharpness in the final third was understandable.

Liverpool's performance was better than the scoreline but in the end Rodgers was indebted to a show of character rather than quality. That was epitomised by the outstanding Jamie Carragher as the stand-in skipper repeatedly put his body on the line to repel the Stags' advances. Mansfield emerged from the tie with immense credit. Off the pitch, there was a touch of class with 96 empty seats in the away end adorned with the names of each of the supporters who died at Hillsborough. On the pitch, they also did themselves proud with a late flourish which almost forced the Anfield replay the chairman craved.

After four games in 12 days over the festive period, Rodgers opted to make wholesale changes with only Andre Wisdom, Joe Allen and Stewart Downing retained following the midweek win over Sunderland.

Steven Gerrard, Daniel Agger, Glen Johnson and Pepe Reina didn't even travel but the Reds' starting line up still included eight full internationals.

The gulf between the teams was evident early on as the visitors repeatedly carved the Stags open. Downing's shot was deflected wide before the breakthrough arrived in the eighth minute. Jonjo Shelvey provided the perfect pass into the path of Sturridge who rifled a clinical first time drive into the bottom corner.

Sturridge almost doubled his tally soon after as he pounced on John Dempster's poor backpass but Alan Marriott raced out to deny him.

Downing enjoyed plenty of joy down the left flank and a short corner routine ended with Allen's low drive being kept out by the keeper.

Shelvey, who has the ability to infuriate and delight in equal measure, enjoyed a field day in the space between Mansfield's midfield and back four.

Another inviting through ball from Shelvey set Sturridge through and with Mansfield appealing forlornly for offside he had time to pick his spot.

However, Sturridge delayed the shot and in the end Marriott made the block.

Midway through the first half Sturridge, Suso and Shelvey combined to release Wisdom but Lindon Meikle got back to make a crucial tackle before he could pull the trigger. The Stags finally got out of their own half and there was an air of anticipation around the ground whenever Exodus Geohaghton got the chance to showcase his long throw. Liverpool were equal to the challenge as Carragher and Sebastian Coates won their aerial duels. It was a rare opportunity for Coates who is set to leave on loan before the end of the transfer window. There will be no shortage of takers for the Uruguayan and regular football will help his development. Coates' height and brawn were a welcome addition to the backline and it was his strength to win back possession which kick-started a pacy counter-attack. This time Sturridge turned provider and sent Shelvey scampering through the middle but Geohaghton got back to put him off and the keeper made a comfortable save. Downing saw his strike brilliantly blocked by Chris Clements after another intelligent flick from Sturridge. Brad Jones was belatedly called into action 13 minutes before the interval as he beat away Green's 20-yarder.

Normal service was soon resumed but Liverpool lacked a ruthless streak. Sturridge was thwarted again by Marriott as Mansfield clung on and their rearguard effort was rewarded with a standing ovation at the break.

In the second half it was a very different story. The Reds got sloppy as passes went astray and the Stags smelt blood. Jones hadn't put a foot wrong in the first half but, suddenly, the Aussie looked shaky and the visitors were fortunate to remain in front. The impressive Carragher made two vital blocks to keep out efforts from Anthony Howell and Green before Jones parried away Louis Briscoe's effort. The shot-stopper then spilled Meikle's shot and Wisdom had to hack clear. It was desperate stuff and the pressure was maintained. After a slip from Jack Robinson, Briscoe's strike from a tight angle was turned behind by Jones.

The Reds were reduced to hitting the Stags on the counter-attack and Sturridge dragged a decent chance wide before making way for Suarez. A double change also saw Jordan Henderson replace Suso. The flashpoint arrived in the 59th minute shortly after Suarez's arrival. After his initial shot was blocked by Marriott, the rebound struck his right hand before he stroked it home.

Suarez looked around sheepishly, expecting a whistle, but Mansfield's protests were ignored and he had his 19th goal of the campaign. That sense of injustice galvanised the hosts and as Liverpool continued to fritter chances away, the Stags threw caution to the wind. In the 79th minute a capacity crowd erupted as Green swept the ball past Jones. From then on it was grim as Geohaghton's long throws caused panic and Jones was called upon to claw away Green's 25-yarder.

Liverpool survived to take their first steps on the long road back to Wembley with a trip to Oldham in the fourth round but it wasn't pretty.



NOT for the first time, Luis Suarez lent Liverpool a helping hand yesterday. But the controversy that has become as prevalent in the Uruguayan's career as his outrageous talents meant Conference side Mansfield Town were left up in arms as Brendan Rodgers' men side-stepped a potential FA Cup banana skin.

Suarez's hotly-disputed 59th-minute strike ultimately earned Liverpool passage to the fourth round after an unnecessarily difficult afternoon against a team 93 places below them in the league ladder. It wasn't quite the handball that infamously helped Uruguay through to the semi-finals of the last World Cup. But, whether intentional or not, the ball struck Suarez on the hand after his initial shot rebounded off Alan Marriott. The striker's subsequent sheepish celebrations as he tapped home into the unguarded goal suggested he knew as much.

Cue another tiresome debate over Suarez, the perennial pantomime villain. Yet it was referee Andre Marriner and his assistants who were at fault by failing to spot the clear infringement. So much for the Stag party after the wedding. Rather than freshly-hitched Mansfield manager Paul Cox, it was Daniel Sturridge who savoured his honeymoon period. Sturridge took only seven minutes to announce his arrival by scoring the quickest goal by a full Liverpool debutant since Bob Glassey in 1935. A surprise starter having not played in almost two months, Sturridge demonstrated enough during a 55-minute appearance to indicate his purchase will provide Liverpool a sharper cutting edge and Suarez some much-needed support. While Sturridge could cite rustiness for his failure to net a possible first-half hat-trick, there was no such excuse for Liverpool's collective wasteful finishing that allowed Mansfield's Matt Green to set up a grandstand finish by pulling a goal back 11 minutes from time.

This, of course, is nothing new, Liverpool's inability to press home an advantage a recurring theme this campaign and one Rodgers must keep working to address in the January transfer window.

It meant the Anfield outfit, eliminated at this stage of the competition three times in the last six seasons, were made to fight all the way by a Mansfield side who admirably refused to throw in the towel and, for a spell immediately after the interval, gave a much-changed Liverpool a real fright.

Step forward, for the umpteenth time, Jamie Carragher. The 34-year-old may no longer be a first-team regular but he still possesses in abundance the character required to negotiate such afternoons. This was the Stags' biggest home game in a generation, with some resourceful fans, unable to purchase a ticket, peering over the fence surrounding the unoccupied section of the three-sided Field Mill. Only Stewart Downing, Andre Wisdom and Lucas Leiva survived the cut from Liverpool's midweek swatting of Sunderland, with Suarez benched and skipper Steven Gerrard, Pepe Reina, Daniel Agger and Glen Johnson among those who didn't travel. They missed Sturridge announcing himself to his new club in the best manner possible, sent clear by Jonjo Shelvey's precise throughball and converting first-time beyond Mansfield goalkeeper Marriott.

Sturridge could have had more. Marriott had to be alert to take the ball off the striker's toes following an underhit backpass from John Dempster, stood up well to parry after Sturridge took too long to release a shot having again been released by Shelvey and later tipped wide a low angled shot from the England international. Shelvey, revelling in the midfield space behind the new boy, continually found holes in the Mansfield defence, Wisdom almost the beneficiary on 20 minutes until Lindon Meikle intervened to usher the ball back to Marriott. The home side were stretched once more on 25 minutes, Downing cutting inside off the left flank but denied by a fine block from Chris Clements.

Sturridge then turned creator for Shelvey, but Mansfield centre-back Exodus Geohaghton did enough to put off the midfielder and the eventual shot rolled safely into the arms of Marriott. For most of the first half, Mansfield were chasing shadows, restricted to set-pieces and trademark long throws from Geohaghton well fielded by deputy goalkeeper Brad Jones.

But the more chances Liverpool spurned, the more the home supporters believed. And they had further reason for encouragement on 32 minutes

when, after Suso gave away cheap possession, a Mansfield attack ended with Jones beating out a 20-yard Matt Green piledriver. Liverpool had to withstand a barrage at the start of the second half. Carragher twice blocked from Anthony Howell, Jones palmed out a shot by Louis Briscoe and was then grateful for Wisdom hacking clear after spilling an ambitious Meikle effort. Carragher then denied Green and Briscoe again solicited a save from Jones before the resultant corner prompted an almighty scramble with Geohaghton's header backheeled goalward by Green and Jones eventually patting the ball clear, Sturridge dragging a shot wide as Liverpool swiftly counter-attacked. That was the new boy's last action, replaced by Suarez who, with his first touch, almost doubled Liverpool's advantage before literally being on hand to score shortly before the hour.

Shelvey missed two chances to seal the victory, leading to an uncomfortable finale when Mansfield pulled a goal back on 79 minutes, a deep cross headed back by Lee Beevers for Green to smash home.

Green then shot at Jones from range but Liverpool, with Carragher directing from the back, kept Mansfield at arm's length until the final whistle.

Once again, though, the fingers will be pointing at Suarez.

MAN OF THE MATCH. Jamie Carragher. A real captain's performance from the stand-in skipper

Date: 6 January 2013

Opposition: Mansfield Town

Competition: FA Cup

BBC	Times	Telegraph	Echo
	Guardian	Mirror	Post
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6 January 2013

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A CONTROVERSIAL goal by Luis Suarez turned out to be the only difference between Conference battlers Mansfield Town and the millionaires of Premiership Liverpool as the Reds won a thrilling FA Cup third round tie 2-1 at the One Call Stadium this afternoon.

TV replays showed the winning goal on 59 minutes had gone in off the Uruguayan's hand, but referee Andrew Marriner decided it wasn't deliberate and the goal was allowed to stand.

That made it 2-0, but the resilient Stags produced a fantastic second half to push the visitors all the way, Matt Green's deserved 79th minute reply setting up a thrilling finish in a classic FA Cup tie.

It was sad that the winning goal was so controversial, the Stags having been on the receiving end of bad decisions against Liverpool twice in two League Cup ties with them back in the 70s.

Mansfield seemed to pay the star-studded visitors too much respect in the first half as the Reds dominated possession, Stags completely starved of the ball for long periods.

And they were stung by a goal from debut-making Daniel Sturridge after only seven minutes which could have spelled disaster.

After that Liverpool wasted several good chances to put the tie beyond the home side, Alan Marriott in great form in the Stags' goal.

It was gritty stuff from the Stags as they hung on by the seat of their pants to reach half-time still only the one goal behind.

However, when Mansfield then came out all guns blazing after the break, we had a fantastic tie on our hands with the home fans turning up the volume and Liverpool clearly reeling, Brendan Rogers making a double substitution on 55 minutes, after Matt Green had almost levelled with a backheel.

The changes saw the introduction of the controversial yet hugely talented Suarez who, within four minutes had produced his 'hand of god' winner.

Massive credit is due to Stags for not caving in at this point and piling on the pressure with Brad Jones making a string of saves.

He was finally beaten by Green's rasping half-volley to keep the dream alive. But Liverpool hung on to book their passage.

No one who managed to bag a ticket for this game will ever forget it.

Yet the most important thing for the club is to now see how many new fans they may have won over for the important league visit of Kidderminster next weekend. And the players can stand taller, knowing they were every bit the equal of the Premier league side in the second half.

Boss Paul Cox, celebrating his birthday just two days after getting married, made one change, bringing back winger Louis Briscoe in place of Junior Daniel.

Otherwise Cox kept faith with the players and the 4-3-3 line-up that saw the Stags win 3-0 at Alfreton on New Year's Day.

As expected, Liverpool did leave out some of the big guns, but Suarez was on the bench and there were enough top quality first team players in the starting XI to keep both sets of fans happy and a debut for the Reds' new £12m striker Sturridge.

The pre-match draw handed the winners a trip to Oldham Athletic.

Amid a superb atmosphere, Liverpool kicked off and played some early keep-ball, not giving Stags a kick for over two minutes.

In the fourth minute, with Mansfield still unable to take possession, Downing had a 20 yard shot deflect for a corner which Howell rose to head away.

Then Suso was well over with a 25 yard effort after ghosting inside from the right.

Home noise increased as Murray tried to put Green in on goal with a lovely ball over the top on six minutes, but it was just too hard and ran through for Jones.

Sadly it took just seven minutes for the Anfield giants top open their account.

Shelvey's pinpoint through ball carved open the home defence down the centre as new boy Sturridge skipped away to coolly open his account for his new club, slotting past a helpless Marriott.

Dempster almost gifted Liverpool a second three minutes later with a nervous short backpass that left Marriott having to act quickly to drop on it.

It took Stags 11 minutes to finally get some decent possession which ended with Meikle upended 25 yards from goal. But Clements saw his powerful free kick rebound off the Liverpool wall.

Allen tested Marriott with a low shot from 20 yards from a well-worked short corner though the shot was straight at him and a comfy take.

Allen's loose pass then offered Stags some hope as Howell burst forward and tried to put Green in, again the pass too hard.

Sturridge should have doubled his tally on 15 minutes after being put through again by Shelvey. But Marriott stood up strong and brave to this time beat away his finish.

Two minutes later, Suso sent a tame free kick into the home wall and Shelvey poked a poor follow-up well wide.

Dempster slid in with a superb last ditch tackle as Sturridge threatened again on the left of the box.

Clever, quick passes from Sturridge and Shelvey almost created a goal for Wisdom, this time Meikle back to slide in and win a crucial tackle on the edge of the home six yard box.

Carragher headed clear a Clements free kick to finally give Geohaghton his first

long throwing opportunity on 23 minutes which was again headed clear.

A second followed soon after which found its way through to the hands of Jones. Shelvey put yet another through ball for Sturridge to chase and again Marriott had to anticipate and move quickly to dive on the ball.

The Red machine rolled forward relentlessly and Clements had to get in a block on a Downing shot.

Sturridge tried to return the compliment by sending Shelvey through on 29 minutes. But Geohaghton stayed in pursuit and did just enough to see the ball safely back in the hands of Marriott.

On 33 minutes some of the best home pressure so far saw Green finally test Jones with a 20-yard stinger, the keeper beating it away to his right.

Geohaghton then did well to throw his body on the way of Shelvey after great work from Sturridge had taken him to the right by-line before pulling a dangerous ball back towards Shelvey at the near post.

Beevers brought down Sturridge to earn the first booking on 37 minutes. A minute later Lucas was also cautioned for hauling down Green.

Jones had to fist away another Geohaghton throw, then Stags won their first corner on 40 minutes but conceded a silly foul as it came over.

Meikle did well to make space for himself on the left before lashing the ball wildly across the box behind the waiting Green and Howell.

Shelvey and Sturridge were causing mayhem and a minute from the break another through ball from Shelvey put Sturridge in space on the right. He fired hard and low towards the far post where the ball seemed to beat Marriott's hand and go for a goalkick but was deemed a save and a corner by the referee.

But Liverpool were unable to make anything of the flag kick as we entered a minute of stoppage time.

Stags were warmly applauded from the field as they remained firmly in the contest at the break.

Stags were almost level within 40 seconds as Green found Howell at the near post where his attempted finish was blocked for a corner by Carragher.

Sturridge was booked for his foul on Thompson on 47 minutes.

Stags were on fire and Carragher had to get his foot in the way of another Howell shot.

Then Briscoe had a blast at goal stopped by the keeper before, seconds later, a near post by Briscoe, Green was foiled at the near post by the evergreen Carragher.

A Jones flap conceded another home corner as the Stags fans began to make themselves heard with their side throwing everything at their illustrious opponents.

Carragher again did a great job to stop Green getting a shot away from a Meikle header.

And on 53 minutes a crossfield ball from Murray set up Briscoe for a rasping shot that Jones turned away.

The home corner saw Geohaghton's header blocked in a mass of players and then a cheeky Green backheel saved at point blank range by Jones, who had become the busier of the keepers.

Liverpool then threatened to race clear for a second, but Sturridge sent his finish wide of the far post.

Clearly rattled by the home onslaught, Liverpool made two changes on 55 minutes, sending on Suarez and Henderson for Sturridge and Suso.

Within seconds Suarez had spun on the right and, with the outside of his boot, curled a superb effort just wide of the far post.

And within four minutes of coming on, Suarez made it 2-0 on 59 minutes, albeit in controversial circumstances.

Shelvey's long ball over the top picked out the run of Suarez. His first shot was well saved by Marriott, but the ball then appeared to cannon back off the hand of Suarez into the net.

Stags protested to the officials and TV replays seemed to confirm they had a case. But the luck was with the Merseysiders as the goal was allowed to stand.

Green beat the Liverpool offside line on 64 minutes to reach Meikle's lofted ball only to then curl well over the far angle.

At this point Daniel took over from Briscoe on the wing for the home side.

Stags won a corner on 68 minutes which almost led to a third for the visitors as they broken quickly from Murray's loose pass and, three on one at one stage, it ended with Suarez setting up Shelvey to his left for a low finish wide of the far post.

Clements shot tamely at Jones in the next home attack as Stags desperately searched for a way back into the tie.

Shelvey might have added a third on 77 minutes but, after controlling a far post cross well on his chest, sliced his volleyed finish wide to jeers from the home fans.

During a 78th minute stoppage sadly a Stags fan raced onto the pitch and approached Suarez but was quickly wrestled out of the way by stewards and led away by police.

Stags then set the stadium alight with a hugely deserved goal on 79 minutes.

A long ball to the back post saw Beevers knock it down towards Green whose half-volley eventually found the net from 12 yards, despite several Liverpool players trying to keep it from crossing the line.

Big striker Rhead quickly replaced Clements on 81 minutes as the stage was set for a grandstand finish to a superb FA Cup tie.

A Liverpool break saw Suarez tee up Robinson, who lifted his finish well over.

Stags seemed hard done to again from a long Geohaghton throw which seemed to

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skim off a Liverpool head and pass narrowly wide for a corner, but a goalkick was awarded.
 Rhead headed superbly on from a long throw, but Green was already offside as he forced Jones to block his finish.
 Downing broke well in the last minute, but the ball ran away from him just as he was about to pull the trigger.
 Sub Flanagan was booked for chopping down Rhead with one minute left of the 90.
 As we then went into four minutes of stoppage time, Green almost caught Jones napping was an unexpected 30 yard thunderbolt, the keeper turning it away.
 It was the final chance on an afternoon to remember with Liverpool fan Dempster quick to swap shirts with Suarez at the end and then applaud the Liverpool end.
 It was a game that lived up to every hope and expectation apart from the result and firmly put the Stags back on the map.
 Now they have to follow that up by restoring League football to the town and have belief that could be this season.
MANSFIELD TOWN: Marriott; Thompson, Dempster, Geohagbon, Beevers; Murray, Howell, Clements (Rhead 81); Briscoe (Daniel 64), Green, Meikle. Subs not used: Sutton, Speight, Wright, Hutchinson, Stevenson. **LIVERPOOL:** Jones, Sturridge (Suarez 55), Coates, Downing, Lucas, Carragher, Allen, Suso (Henderson 55), Shelvey, Wisdom (Flanagan 80), Robinson. Subs not used: Sterling, Coady, Skrtel, Gulacsi. **REFEREE:** Andre Mariner of Birmingham.
ATTENDANCE: 7,574 (1,433 away).



Luis Suarez's hotly-contested goal ensured Liverpool avoided an FA Cup third-round shock as battling Blue Square Bet Premier side Mansfield Town were beaten at Field Mill.
 Suarez emerged as a substitute after the break to again become the central character in controversy, as a clear handball preceded his scoring of Liverpool's crucial second goal.
 Daniel Sturridge announced his arrival as a Liverpool player with an early debut goal following his move from Chelsea as Brendan Rodgers's team dominated the first half.
All-rounder Suarez
 Luis Suarez and Victor Moses are the only two players to score in all competitions this season
 Mansfield, however, were subjecting Liverpool to a sustained assault in a second-half spell that persuaded Rodgers to introduce Suarez - and the Uruguayan obliged with the all-important goal, but with a helping hand that left the Stags and their fervent fans infuriated.
 Referee Andre Marriner and his officials saw no offence and it left Mansfield with too much to do, despite Matt Green setting up a frantic closing phase by pulling a goal back 11 minutes from time.
 Reds boss Rodgers will be delighted to have survived a hazardous assignment to set up a fourth-round visit to Oldham Athletic.
 The pre-match build-up inevitably focused on the prospect of Mansfield claiming a Premier League scalp - but Liverpool wasted no time in reminding their hosts of the reality of that task.
 Liverpool gave an immediate debut to Sturridge and left Suarez on the bench, and the former Chelsea man punctured the optimism around Field Mill within seven minutes, applying a composed finish to Jonjo Shelvey's precise pass.
 The same pair combined to cut Mansfield open once more but this time the striker took his time and allowed Stags' keeper Alan Marriott to make a one-handed save.
 Mansfield's main danger in the opening 45 minutes was the colossal throws of defender Exodus Geohagbon. He had several opportunities in the first half but Liverpool dealt well with the threat.
 The non-league side were not short on endeavour but Liverpool's pace and quality, understandably, was often simply too much for Mansfield to cope with. Stewart Downing saw a powerful drive blocked as he drove into the area, while Shelvey was a prominent figure.
 While Mansfield remained only one goal in arrears there was always hope - and their spirits were lifted when Green's powerful shot drew a smart save from Liverpool keeper Brad Jones.
 Sturridge was enjoying the space and service afforded to him in his first Liverpool appearance and he forced Marriott into another fine fingertip save with an angled effort.
 The Stags gave Liverpool anxious moments early in the second half as Anthony Howell and Louis Briscoe brought blocks from Jones, the signal for a busy second half for the Australian.
Leaky Liverpool
 The last time Liverpool kept a clean sheet in the FA Cup was in the 2008-09 third round, a 2-0 win over Preston
 As Mansfield grew in confidence, the visitors were placed under heavy pressure and Jones saved once more from Briscoe. Liverpool then survived an almighty scramble as Jones clawed away an effort from John Dempster who touched on Geohagbon's header.
 Rodgers wasted no time in responding, removing Sturridge and Suso for Suarez and Jordan Henderson.
 The introduction of the Uruguayan worked as Rodgers intended, the striker putting a stop to Mansfield's revival, but only after the ball clearly struck his hand before he put the ball away.
 Once Mansfield's heads had cleared from Suarez's controversial goal, they came again and Green established the platform for a grandstand finish, in which he tested Jones once more, but Liverpool survived.

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90:00+4:31 Full time The referee blows for the end of the match.
90:00+3:19 The ball is delivered by Lee Beevers, clearance by Jack Robinson.
90:00+2:12 Unfair challenge on Luis Suarez by Adam Murray results in a free kick. Leiva Lucas takes the direct free kick.
90:00+1:27 Centre by Exodus Geohaghton, save made by Brad Jones.
90:00+0:56 Matt Green takes a shot. Save made by Brad Jones.
89:49 The official flags Matt Green offside. Indirect free kick taken by Brad Jones.
88:46 Adam Murray crosses the ball from the free kick right-footed from left wing, Sebastian Coates manages to make a clearance.
88:46 Booking for Jon Flanagan.
88:43 Jon Flanagan concedes a free kick for a foul on Matt Rhead.
87:40 Anthony Howell concedes a free kick for a foul on Luis Suarez. Jordan Henderson restarts play with the free kick.
85:25 The referee blows for offside against Matt Green. Free kick taken by Brad Jones.
85:05 Jordan Henderson challenges Anthony Howell unfairly and gives away a free kick. Direct free kick taken by Alan Marriott.
82:41 Joe Allen challenges Anthony Howell unfairly and gives away a free kick. Adam Murray delivers the ball from the free kick right-footed from left channel, save made by Brad Jones.
82:11 Shot by Jack Robinson from just outside the area goes over the net.
80:28 Substitution Substitution Matt Rhead comes on in place of Chris Clements.
78:59 Lee Beevers provided the assist for the goal.
78:59 Goal scored Goal - Matt Green - Mansfield 1 - 2 Liverpool Matt Green finds the back of the net with a goal from inside the area low into the middle of the goal. Mansfield 1-2 Liverpool.
78:55 Centre by Colin Daniel.
77:12 Free kick crossed right-footed by Chris Clements from left channel, clearance by Jordan Henderson.
77:12 Substitution Substitution Jon Flanagan comes on in place of Andre Wisdom.
77:12 Leiva Lucas challenges Anthony Howell unfairly and gives away a free kick.
76:32 Centre by Stewart Downing, Jonjo Shelvey has an effort at goal from close range which goes wide left of the goal.
75:08 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Chris Clements by Jordan Henderson. Chris Clements crosses the ball from the free kick right-footed from right channel.
75:08 Chris Clements fouled by Jordan Henderson, the ref awards a free kick. The free kick is swung in right-footed by Chris Clements.
73:20 Colin Daniel fouled by Andre Wisdom, the ref awards a free kick. Chris Clements crosses the ball from the free kick right-footed from left wing, Leiva Lucas manages to make a clearance.
72:08 Unfair challenge on Stewart Downing by Colin Daniel results in a free kick. Free kick taken by Stewart Downing.
71:28 Anthony Howell is caught offside. Brad Jones takes the free kick.
70:13 Colin Daniel delivers the ball, comfortable save by Brad Jones.
68:55 The assistant referee flags for offside against Stewart Downing. Alan Marriott restarts play with the free kick.
68:28 Chris Clements takes a shot. Comfortable save by Brad Jones.
67:35 Shot by Jonjo Shelvey from deep inside the penalty area misses to the right of the goal.
67:00 Corner from the left by-line taken by Chris Clements, Jonjo Shelvey makes a clearance.
65:27 Jordan Henderson crosses the ball, clearance by Exodus Geohaghton.
63:17 Substitution Substitution Colin Daniel replaces Luis Briscoe.
63:03 Shot from deep inside the area by Matt Green goes over the bar.
61:17 Free kick awarded for a foul by Luis Briscoe on Jack Robinson. Direct free kick taken by Leiva Lucas.
60:42 Jack Robinson fouled by Adam Murray, the ref awards a free kick. Jamie Carragher restarts play with the free kick.
58:41 Goal scored Goal - Luis Suarez - Mansfield 0 - 2 Liverpool Luis Suarez finds the back of the net with a goal from close in low into the middle of the goal. Mansfield 0-2 Liverpool.
58:13 Luis Suarez takes a shot. Save by Alan Marriott.
56:20 Centre by Matt Green, Brad Jones makes a comfortable save.
55:37 Luis Suarez produces a right-footed shot from the edge of the area and misses to the left of the target.
54:28 Substitution Substitution Jordan Henderson on for Jesus Fernandez Saez.
54:28 Substitution Liverpool makes a substitution, with Luis Suarez coming on for Daniel Sturridge.
52:36 Outswinging corner taken right-footed by Chris Clements, Exodus Geohaghton takes a shot. Blocked by Sebastian Coates. Matt Green takes a shot. Brad Jones makes a save. Effort from inside the area by Daniel Sturridge misses to the right of the goal.
52:23 Luis Briscoe takes a shot. Brad Jones makes a save.
51:33 Matt Green takes a shot. Blocked by Jamie Carragher.
49:05 Close range header by John Dempster goes wide of the left-hand post.
48:28 Outswinging corner taken from the right by-line by Chris Clements, Jamie Carragher makes a clearance. Lindon Meikle takes a shot. Save made by Brad Jones.
48:08 A cross is delivered by Luis Briscoe, clearance by Jamie Carragher.
47:45 Lindon Meikle produces a cross, Brad Jones makes a save. Luis Briscoe takes a shot. Save by Brad Jones.
47:34 Outswinging corner taken by Chris Clements from the right by-line, Jamie Carragher manages to make a clearance.
47:17 Anthony Howell takes a shot. Jamie Carragher gets a block in.
46:44 Direct free kick taken by Alan Marriott.
46:44 Booking Daniel Sturridge goes into the book.
46:30 Free kick awarded for a foul by Daniel Sturridge on John Thompson.
45:50 Chris Clements takes the inswinging corner, clearance made by Andre Wisdom.

The ball is sent over by Adam Murray, save made by Brad Jones.
45:36 Anthony Howell takes a shot. Save by Brad Jones.
45:01 The second half kicks off.
45:00+1:10 Half time The ref blows to end the first period.
44:40 Corner taken by Stewart Downing from the left by-line, Effort from inside the area by Sebastian Coates misses to the left of the goal.
44:28 Effort from 18 yards by Daniel Sturridge. Save made by Alan Marriott.
42:07 The ball is swung over by Lindon Meikle.
40:52 Unfair challenge on Leiva Lucas by Anthony Howell results in a free kick. Jamie Carragher takes the direct free kick.
39:37 Corner taken right-footed by Chris Clements, Sebastian Coates fouled by John Dempster, the ref awards a free kick. Brad Jones takes the direct free kick.
39:30 The ball is sent over by Luis Briscoe, Jonjo Shelvey gets a block in.
37:44 Lee Beevers takes the free kick.
37:44 Booking for Leiva Lucas for unsporting behaviour.
37:40 Matt Green fouled by Leiva Lucas, the ref awards a free kick.
36:40 Jesus Fernandez Saez crosses the ball in from the free kick, save by Alan Marriott.
36:40 Booking Lee Beevers is shown a yellow card for unsporting behaviour.
36:37 Lee Beevers challenges Daniel Sturridge unfairly and gives away a free kick.
36:07 Luis Briscoe gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Joe Allen. Joe Allen takes the free kick.
35:08 The assistant referee flags for offside against Matt Green. Brad Jones takes the free kick.
34:09 Centre by Daniel Sturridge, Exodus Geohaghton makes a clearance.
32:54 Unfair challenge on Jesus Fernandez Saez by Adam Murray results in a free kick. Jonjo Shelvey delivers the ball from the free kick right-footed from right wing, clearance made by Adam Murray.
32:19 Matt Green takes a shot. Save by Brad Jones.
31:13 Free kick awarded for a foul by Lee Beevers on Daniel Sturridge. Direct free kick taken by Stewart Downing.
29:22 Free kick awarded for a foul by Jonjo Shelvey on Lindon Meikle. Chris Clements crosses the ball in from the free kick, Jonjo Shelvey makes a clearance.
28:07 Jonjo Shelvey takes a shot. Save by Alan Marriott.
26:56 Adam Murray concedes a free kick for a foul on Jack Robinson. Jack Robinson takes the free kick.
24:48 Stewart Downing takes a shot. Chris Clements gets a block in.
21:59 Adam Murray fouled by Leiva Lucas, the ref awards a free kick. Free kick crossed right-footed by Chris Clements, Jamie Carragher manages to make a clearance.
21:33 Matt Green challenges Sebastian Coates unfairly and gives away a free kick. Direct free kick taken by Brad Jones.
20:08 Jack Robinson concedes a free kick for a foul on Luis Briscoe. Chris Clements delivers the ball from the free kick right-footed from right channel.
20:08 Unfair challenge on Luis Briscoe by Jack Robinson results in a free kick. The free kick is swung in right-footed by Chris Clements.
18:50 Matt Green gives away a free kick for an unfair challenge on Jack Robinson. Jamie Carragher takes the direct free kick.
16:56 The ball is crossed by Jonjo Shelvey, Lee Beevers manages to make a clearance.
14:59 Foul by Lee Beevers on Jesus Fernandez Saez, free kick awarded. Strike comes in from Jesus Fernandez Saez from the free kick. Jonjo Shelvey has an effort at goal from outside the penalty box which goes wide left of the goal.
14:14 Daniel Sturridge takes a shot. Alan Marriott makes a save.
12:22 Joe Allen takes a shot. Alan Marriott makes a comfortable save.
12:09 Stewart Downing takes a short corner.
11:58 Stewart Downing delivers the ball, blocked by John Thompson.
10:42 Lindon Meikle fouled by Andre Wisdom, the ref awards a free kick. Chris Clements produces a strike on goal direct from the free kick.
6:56 Assist on the goal came from Jonjo Shelvey.
6:56 Goal scored Goal - Daniel Sturridge - Mansfield 0 - 1 Liverpool Daniel Sturridge gets on the score sheet with a goal from inside the area to the bottom right corner of the goal. Mansfield 0-1 Liverpool.
5:47 Stewart Downing produces a cross, clearance made by John Dempster.
4:14 Shot by Jesus Fernandez Saez from outside the box goes high over the target.
3:59 Daniel Sturridge produces a cross, John Dempster makes a clearance.
3:35 Outswinging corner taken left-footed by Stewart Downing, Anthony Howell makes a clearance.
3:23 Stewart Downing takes a shot. John Thompson gets a block in.
0:28 Free kick awarded for an unfair challenge on Joe Allen by Anthony Howell. Free kick taken by Joe Allen.
0:00 The game begins.