

Date: 15 December 2013  
 Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur  
 Competition: League

BBC	Times	Telegraph	Standard
	Guardian	Mirror	Echo
	Independent	Mail	Post

15 December  
2013

# THE TIMES

Villas-Boas needs lifeline as Suarez sinks Tottenham  
 Tottenham Hotspur 0  
 Liverpool 5

Suarez 18, 84 Henderson 40 Flanagan 75 Sterling 89  
 Referee J Moss Attendance 36,069

Daniel Levy is renowned as a formidable negotiator, but there are some dealings he regrets. Ignoring Harry Redknapp's request to sign Luis Suarez from Ajax three years ago is perhaps the clearest example of a missed opportunity, and the striker's masterclass yesterday may lead to further feelings of reproach in the Tottenham Hotspur boardroom over the decision to hire Andre Villas-Boas as Redknapp's replacement.

Villas-Boas retains some support at the club, but judging by the manner in which his players capitulated just three weeks after conceding six goals away to Manchester City there is precious little of it on the pitch.

There were some mitigating factors yesterday -- the absence of three centre backs through injury, the loss of Sandro after half an hour with a calf problem and Paulinho's sending-off with 26 minutes remaining -- but the ease with which Liverpool swept forward to create late goals for Jon Flanagan, Suarez and Raheem Sterling was embarrassing. Playing to the final whistle is a prerequisite for any professional sports team that Tottenham are not fulfilling.

Just as concerning as Tottenham's defensive deficiencies is the lack of any goal threat at the other end of the pitch, and even more worrying is the sense that Villas-Boas seems to be in a state of denial. The Portuguese clung to the statistic that his side have had more shots than anyone else in the Barclays Premier League like a life raft -- they failed to hit the target once yesterday -- but that particular vessel will not guide him to safety.

Villas-Boas's claim that Paulinho's red card changed the game was also somewhat disingenuous, as the contest was over long before he caught Suarez in the chest in a reckless challenge, not least owing to the Brazilian being outplayed in midfield by the outstanding Jordan Henderson. Moussa Dembele and Sandro were also off the pace, leaving Roberto Soldado as isolated as ever up front and Villas-Boas in urgent need of rethinking his attacking strategy.

Brendan Rodgers, in contrast, was left to bask in a complete performance and for once he was not guilty of overstatement. Suarez's superlative form has often led to the characterisation of Liverpool as a oneman team, but not yesterday. While Liverpool's latest captain enhanced a magnificent victory with two goals the Merseysiders produced the ultimate team display, which could have yielded many more than five goals.

The first goal of Flanagan's fledgling career illustrated that point perfectly, but Liverpool had heroes all over the pitch. Henderson was utterly dominant in an advanced midfield role behind Suarez, Sterling was so threatening on the right that Kyle Naughton was removed for his own good at half-time, and Philippe Coutinho exuded class and craft. Then there was Suarez, who produced the epitome of a captain's performance after his surprising elevation.

The Uruguayan has scored 17 goals in 11 Premier League matches since returning from suspension in September -- two more than all of Tottenham's players combined, incidentally -- and yesterday he created goals for Henderson and Sterling for good measure.

The first indication of the looming demolition job came when Suarez skipped away from Etienne Capoue in the seventeenth minute, but being forewarned is not necessarily forearmed where the striker is concerned and he opened the scoring two minutes later.

Michael Dawson attempted to block Joe Allen's probing pass from the right, but he lost his footing. Henderson, alert to the opportunity, released Suarez, who scored after some dazzling footwork.

The really frightening thing about Suarez is that he could have scored even more goals this season -- he was twice denied one-on-one chances by Hugo Lloris -- and such is his speed and sharpness that he somehow manages to be both prolific and profligate at the same time.

Tottenham's decidedly onepaced midfield simply could not cope with the speed of Liverpool's transitions, yet their second goal, in the 40th minute, was surprisingly direct. Sterling found Coutinho with a brilliant crossfield ball from his own half and he touched on to Henderson, whose shot was saved. Lloris also blocked Suarez's follow up, but was hopelessly out of the position by the time the ball rebounded to Henderson, allowing the England midfielder to volley into an empty net for his first league goal of the season.

If he maintains this outstanding level of performance then Steven Gerrard may not be missed too much over the next few weeks. Such form would also give Henderson a great chance of joining his team-mate in England's World Cup squad. Tottenham were booed off at halftime, a familiar sensation this season at White Hart Lane, where they have already been beaten three times, and worse was to come. Soldado provided a brief reminder of his presence -- and many in attendance will have needed it -- by shooting over the bar at the start of the second half, but otherwise it was all Liverpool, particularly after Paulinho's dismissal.

In keeping with the pantomime season Suarez was predictably booed, but he enjoyed the heartiest of last laughs, crossing for Flanagan to score a volley at the far post, chipping Lloris for his second of the game and then playing the through-ball from which Sterling completed the damage with a minute remaining.

The ground was only half-full by that stage, with those who remained giving Levy plenty to ponder by directing their ire firmly towards Villas-Boas.

## RATINGS

Tottenham Hotspur (4-2-3-1): H Lloris 6 -- K Walker 6, E Capoue 5, M Dawson 5, K Naughton 4 (sub: Z Fryers, 46min 5) -- Sandro 4 (sub: L Holtby, 30 5), M Dembele 4 (sub: A Townsend, 60 5) -- A Lennon 4, Paulinho 5, N Chadli 5 -- R Soldado 4.

Substitutes not used: B Friedel, E Lamela, J Defoe, G Sigurdsson. Booked: Walker, Sandro, Dawson. Sent off: Paulinho.

Liverpool (4-2-3-1): S Mignolet 6 -- G Johnson 6, M Skrtel 6, M Sakho 7, J Flanagan 7 -- Lucas 6 (sub: L Alberto, 79), J Allen 6 -- R Sterling 8, J Henderson 8, Coutinho 7 (sub: V Moses, 90) -- L Suarez 8. Substitutes not used: B Jones, K Toure, D Agger, I Aspas, M Kelly.

## the guardian

Ominous look of horror on Levy's face after Spurs wilt and fall apart  
 Andre Villas-Boas actually departed down the tunnel at the end arm in arm with Luis Suarez, as if even he had been swept up by the Uruguayan's brilliance, yet the expression on Daniel Levy's face up in the directors' box was more reflective of the prevailing mood. The Tottenham Hotspur chairman stared down upon the scene with horror etched across his face, disgusted with all he had witnessed. He has probably seen enough.

This was a humiliation. A game billed as an opportunity to build on that recent spurt of momentum which had yielded seven points in a week, easing some of the pressure on the Portuguese, had served merely to expose his shortcomings. And brutally, at that. Villas-Boas had patrolled his technical area as his makeshift back line was picked apart from the start, scorched by Raheem Sterling down the right and tormented by Jordan Henderson through the centre. Suarez bedevilled all-comers, but that had been expected given his prolific form. Seeing the others reel was more damaging, and the Spurs manager had no answer. No means of imposing his own gameplan.

His show of emotion was limited to an apparently baffled shake of the head when Paulinho was dismissed for raising his foot and planting it in Suarez's midriff after the interval. The reaction appeared to acknowledge that everything - fate, fortune, "harsh" judgment calls, careless high challenges from pounds 17m signings - was contriving against the hosts, leaving him with one central midfielder on the pitch and chasing a two-goal deficit.

But Spurs were so befuddled, so bereft of authority from the opening, that it was hard to muster much sympathy. Even if Gareth Bale had been lost to Real Madrid, the pounds 107m poured back into strengthening this collective over the summer made 5-0 home defeats unacceptable. Or 6-0 away losses at Manchester City, for that matter. Liverpool had lost on their last six visits here and not won away from home since September. The management bemoaned the injuries which had left the influential Jan Vertonghen on crutches, and Vlad Chiriches and Younes Kaboul also in the stands. The France midfielder Etienne Capoue had filled in capably against Fulham and Sunderland, sides beneath the cut-off, but confronting Suarez was another matter.

Villas-Boas had also lost his left-backs, Danny Rose or Vertonghen, and the manner in which Sterling tucked eagerly into Kyle Naughton sent shockwaves through the hosts. Naughton is more comfortable on the other side and, while Zeki Fryers kicked his heels on the bench until the interval and Nacer Chadli offered no semblance of cover, his game was systematically dismantled by the teenage winger. Roy Hodgson, watching from the stands, will have departed heartened at the clear progress on show from Sterling and Henderson.

Yet their efforts undermined Villas-Boas mercilessly. With two members of his back line effectively playing out of position and Michael Dawson unsettled and forever wary of being exposed for pace, Tottenham creaked and broke. A physically imposing team had been diminished long before Paulinho's dismissal. They were rudderless and utterly lacking in conviction. Hassled out of possession too often, Spurs wilted as Suarez rejoiced in the ease of it all. By the end he had 17 Premier League goals from 11 games this season - no other Liverpool forward has managed that many before Christmas since the division was revamped - with his team having scored more from open play at White Hart Lane this season than Spurs.

It was embarrassingly easy at times, even if the construction of the goals was slickly impressive. Suarez had opened the scoring, first sliding a pass towards Henderson that Dawson could not clear. The midfielder laid off the ball inside where Suarez had galloped unchecked. He cut inside Capoue and Sandro and curled it in with his left foot. His second came late on, a cheeky clip over Hugo Lloris.

Sterling and Philippe Coutinho had combined to liberate Henderson for the second goal, Lloris saving an initial effort and then springing up to palm away Suarez's follow-up, only for Henderson to thump in the loose ball on the volley. The excellent Jon Flanagan half-volleyed a third from Suarez's centre, the Uruguayan then slipping Sterling in for the fifth in stoppage time at the end. Lloris was Tottenham's outstanding performer. The reality is this could have been so much worse. West Ham, 3-0 winners here in the league, are due back in the League Cup on Wednesday and even they will relish their return. The next few days may determine whether Villas-Boas had actually departed down the tunnel expressing admiration for his executioner.

Man of the match: Luis Suarez (Liverpool)

Date: 15 December 2013

Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur

Competition: League

BBC	Times	Telegraph	Standard
	Guardian	Mirror	Echo
	Independent	Mail	Post

15 December  
2013

## The Mail

**SUAREZ TEARS SPURS APART; Horror show for AVB as Liverpool captain leads from the front to pile on the misery**

Luis Suarez marched his team out of the tunnel and led Liverpool by example. This was as close as it comes to the complete performance.

The Liverpool forward, captaining the club in the absence of Steven Gerrard, radiated in the role. He played as if he owned the place. Both his goals were majestic and he responded to Paulinho's 63rd-minute dismissal by finishing the game with assists for the other three.

The Tottenham midfielder was sent off when he raked his studs down Suarez's chest and after that it was just a matter of how many Liverpool would score. They settled on five.

Suarez's contribution was immense, the kind of performance that leaves opposition managers fearing the sack. Andre Villas-Boas was a broken man by the end and his decision to hug Suarez as they went down the tunnel was crazy. You just cannot do that, not after this.

This was a display of such staggering incompetence by Tottenham that it would merit a separate inquest all of its own. The players should be ashamed.

Three weeks ago they were thrashed 6-0 by a rampant Manchester City side in what the manager confidently announced was a one-off.

Even inside their own stadium, with all its rich traditions and heritage, it is hard to believe this could turn out any worse, but it somehow feels like it did.

There is not a central defensive performance in living memory that compares with Michael Dawson and Etienne Capoue's contribution yesterday. The way they allowed Suarez to twist like a little eel whenever he was on the ball and shimmy across the surface with such poise was pathetic. The pair of them were abysmal. So, too, were the rest of this Tottenham team and they owe the 36,000 decent souls who were in this stadium an apology many times over. By the time Raheem Sterling danced around Tottenham's imaginary defence to score Liverpool's final goal, the place was a ghost town.

The Spurs defence had been spooked by Suarez's presence, allowing themselves to be caught up in all the hype around his 15 goals in the Barclays Premier League. Their job was to stop him adding to that impressive tally and they failed. Miserably, as it turned out.

Liverpool's stand-in captain now has 17, which is two more than Tottenham's entire team have in 16 league matches. Safe to say the title challenge from White Hart Lane is on hold for another season.

More on this embarrassment shortly.

Suarez scored his first when Dawson, Capoue and Kyle Walker muddled their knees with a series of humiliating sliding tackles. It was as close to Dancing On Ice as they will get.

Another goal arrived before the break when Jordan Henderson's effort was blocked, Suarez was denied at close range and the Liverpool midfielder followed up to finish.

Rodgers turned to the travelling Liverpool fans to salute them with a joyous fist pump, but their work here had only just begun.

'This was Brendan's best game since he became manager,' was the response of Steven Gerrard, sidelined with a hamstring injury and watching from a television studio.

Victory over Manchester United earlier in the season meant so much to the supporters, but this is a reference point on the long road to recovery under their manager.

'One Brendan Rodgers,' they sang. Villas-Boas, standing inches away from him in his technical area, has nothing like that support from the Spurs crowd.

He can be as frustrated as he likes about the decision to send off Paulinho, but it was the correct call by referee Jon Moss.

After that, Spurs disintegrated. No-one left on the field had the first idea where they were meant to be playing and those left on the bench had been broken, too. Jermain Defoe, who started the last two league games but was an unused substitute this time, was off down the tunnel before the end.

He, too, has had enough. Liverpool were in the mood for more and they scored their third when Suarez's chip was finished with some authority by Jon Flanagan.

The little defender deserved his goal for an energetic, eye-catching display. 'I'm putting Jon up for the Ballon D'Or,' said Rodgers and he was entitled to crack a joke. This was a big statement from Liverpool.

His main man Suarez scored the fourth when Luis Alberto, on as a substitute, provided the pass for the forward to lift his chance over Hugo Lloris.

Tottenham's defence was nowhere. They had been shredded by the energy of Suarez and it is difficult to imagine they will recover any time soon.

Still, there was time for Liverpool to add another goal and it came when Suarez teed up England's Sterling to make it 5-0. This is a handsome victory for Rodgers as Liverpool hurtle towards the hectic Christmas period. Cardiff are next up and then it is on to the Etihad Stadium for an almighty clash with Manchester City on St Stephen's Day.

Liverpool are in it for the long haul and are now two points behind leaders Arsenal. What a weekend it has been.

That view will not be shared by Tottenham chairman Daniel Levy as he wonders where it went wrong.

But the search will not last long. It starts and ends with Liverpool's No 7.

## The Daily Telegraph

Liverpool vibrancy lares bare problems with lumpen rivals; Thrashing at the Lane suggests Villas-Boas has no idea about how to sculpt an attacking team

In this contest of two "bright young managers" Brendan Rodgers crushed Andre Villas-Boas. So disorientated was Tottenham Hotspur's coach after this devastating 5-0 defeat that he found himself hugging Luis Suarez as the teams headed up the tunnel. If all else fails, love thy enemy.

In the red corner: a vibrant, eager Liverpool side led by the lethal Luis Suarez, who did to Spurs' centrebacks what Australia's bowlers have been doing to England's batsmen. In the white: a slow, lumpy mishmash with a wide-open back-four, a non-inventive central midfield 'three' and an isolated striker. There was no rhythm, no zest and certainly no confidence in the attacking play of a Spurs side whose 6-0 loss at Manchester City on November 24 is now joined in the hall of infamy by this humiliation at White Hart Lane.

"Bright young manager" is, of course, a curse masquerading as compliment. Rodgers wears it well. Villas-Boas may have sported it for the last time, certainly in England, where the political minefield of managing Chelsea was not the last of his bad experiences in the Premier League.

Like Rodgers, he is an advocate of bold, expressive football. But that reputation is fraying. On this evidence Villas-Boas has no idea how to sculpt an attacking team from the mass of players bought this summer to replace Gareth Bale.

Assimilation is no longer an excuse. No manager can oversee 6-0 and 5-0 losses inside three weeks and claim that top professionals are still getting used to the training ground, the tactics or the culture. Too few of those bought with the Bale money are adding anything.

Paulinho, who was sent off for embedding his studs in Suarez's chest, is probably the best of them. Soldado scored a Europa League hat-trick on Thursday but looks cut-off in this formation. Nor does he exude the class of a [pounds sterling]26million finisher. Etienne Capoue was pressganged to play centre-back again and endured a torrid afternoon with Michael Dawson against the movement and cleverness of Suarez, Raheem Sterling and Jordan Henderson. On the flank, Nacer Chadli chugs about without really hurting opponents.

Erik Lamela, a record [pounds sterling]30million buy, warms the bench. Tottenham were feeble going forward against Liverpool and a mess in defence. They might have lost 8-0. They have won one of six league games at the Lane and scored only 15 times in 16 fixtures. In the centre, Mousa Dembele, Paulinho and Sandro are a recipe for immobility and duplication. There was no zip or speed or intent in the movement of the ball through midfield.

While the Tottenham board doubtless questioned the wisdom of giving Villas-Boas a second go in Premier League management - and wondered why so many of the summer buys appear so mediocre -- Rodgers bore the look of a man whose grand design is bearing fruit. While players stagnate under Villas-Boas they thrive under Rodgers. Henderson - "a beautiful boy to train," his boss said - is a prime example of footballer inspired to fulfil his potential by good coaching and man management.

Gone was the tentative, floaty Henderson of his early years at Anfield. His place was taken by a quick-thinking, decisive, authoritative midfielder who wants to shape games and thread incisive passes. We already know Daniel Sturridge (absent with injury) is finally living up to his billing. Under Rodgers, Suarez appears not to have noticed that the Champions League is going on without him. This, surely, is Liverpool's last season with Uruguay's finest on the payroll unless they can secure a top-four finish. They are second now, two points behind Arsenal, and playing like this every week could afford to dream of Madrid and Milan again. In AVB's world, conversely, the team is constantly changing, the hierarchy is ill-defined and the side is not set-up to facilitate fluent attacking play. There may also be a sense of alienation among some players, or a lack of faith in the leader, just as there is in the stands. It is not Harry Redknapp's shadow that hangs over Villas-Boas so much as the sense that the decision to sack 'Arry could only be justified by the appointment of a proven A-list manager, rather than a young academic type who had already been blown out by Chelsea.

Rodgers started out with a big idea: a Spain-derived passing game that would restore Liverpool's identity and give the players something to work for and believe in. His judgment of individual players appears to be excellent. Even though a transfer committee influences recruitment, Rodgers has mastered the art of producing results from whatever he gets, or is given. As he said here, his players were not only creative on the ball but "animals" in hounding it back on the few occasions Spurs looked threatening.

With everyone enjoying the style of play and agreed on the way ahead, momentum will be added to Liverpool's season by this vibrant display. For Spurs, the task is to make sense of a large, expensive, ability-rich but imbalanced squad. Whether the responsibility for those structural faults rests with Villas-Boas or Franco Baldini, the technical director in charge of transfers, was hardly relevant on an abysmal rainy day in north London.

Pity the young manager whose appointment reflects a "vision" for the club. A few, like Rodgers, validate those high ideals by producing performances of this quality. Many more end up like Villas-Boas, lost in a swirl of bad results and appearing helpless, overwhelmed.

Date: 15 December 2013  
 Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur  
 Competition: League

BBC	Times	Telegraph	Standard
	Guardian	Mirror	Echo
	Independent	Mail	Post

15 December  
 2013

## THE INDEPENDENT

Suarez plays captain's role to put spotlight on Villas-Boas

If Andre Villas-Boas thought Tottenham were contenders, that they were moving in the right direction, or even that they were a coherent team, he received a brutal lesson from Liverpool yesterday in what that means.

This was one of the most comprehensive victories of the season, and even the five-point, five-place gap between them now feels insufficient. It owed just as much to Spurs' abject poverty as to Liverpool's skill and intensity. Even though three of the five goals came in the desperate mess of the last 15 minutes, against 10 men, the scoreline was a fair reflection of the whole match. Liverpool made enough good chances to reach double figures. Sebastian Mignolet did not have a save to make. From the first minute to the last, Liverpool were far superior. Brendan Rodgers said it was "the most complete performance" of his time in charge. Both Rodgers and Villas-Boas are managers with clear ideas of how football should be played, and while Spurs looked like a team who had never trained or played together before, Liverpool executed Rodgers' plans perfectly.

"The model of our game was outstanding," Rodgers said. "We were like animals without the ball." Liverpool were relentless throughout, ripping through Spurs with their aggressive 4-3-3 formation. They knew, as Manchester City did three weeks ago, that there is a softness to this Spurs team, that with enough pressure they will collapse. Liverpool pressed high, won the ball back quickly, and attacked into the gaping space behind Tottenham's back four.

Leading all of this, as ever, was Luis Suarez, who scored two and set up two others. He now has 17 league goals from 12 games this season. As Spurs know very keenly since Gareth Bale departed, there are only so many world-class players and it is better to have them than not. Liverpool had to fight to keep Suarez this summer but he captained them yesterday, and Rodgers was delighted with his example. "I wanted someone who could represent me and the club in that tunnel before we step on the pitch. If Luis Suarez is standing with the armband on, everyone knows this is a team who's ready to go out and fight." Leadership was not the only thing Spurs were lacking yesterday - there was no control, precision, application or threat either - but it was striking just how easily they folded under Liverpool's pressure. Villas-Boas mentioned their injuries after the game but their back four - thrown together then torn apart - was dismal. With no Danny Rose, Jan Vertonghen, Younes Kaboul or Vlad Chiriches, Spurs had Michael Dawson and Etienne Capoue at centre-back with Kyle Naughton at left-back. Naughton had to be withdrawn for Ezekiel Fryers, making his first league appearance for Spurs, at half-time. It was Naughton's one-sided battle with Raheem Sterling which made it immediately clear that Spurs would find it difficult. Stationed on the right of Liverpool's front three, Sterling soon realised that he was faster and sharper than Spurs' left-back, beating him three times in the first 15 minutes, drawing free-kicks, causing problems and lacing panic in the Tottenham back-line. So it was no surprise when, 18 minutes in, Suarez put Liverpool ahead. Dropping deep into space, he played an incisive pass forward for Jordan Henderson's run. Dawson slid in to tackle and the ball rolled loose. Suarez, with his quick instincts, charged forward, Henderson touched it to him, Suarez skipped past Capoue's desperate lunge and found the bottom corner.

Liverpool knew that Spurs' back four were playing too high and there was space for them to exploit. A long Martin Skrtel clearance brought Hugo Lloris out, but his header was poor, Suarez reached the ball first but uncharacteristically turned down the chance to score. He waited too long, Lloris got back into position and the moment was gone. Liverpool need not have worried. Five minutes before the interval they had their second after another move that was just too quick for Spurs' flat and stranded defence. Sterling played a brilliant diagonal pass to Philippe Coutinho on the left, whose lay-off was perfection. Henderson shot, Lloris came out to save, Suarez shot, Lloris scrambled back to save, but when Henderson picked it up again Lloris could not stop him from making it 2-0. Spurs needed a radical improvement after the interval but all they could muster was Roberto Soldado hitting one shot over. Liverpool soon reasserted their control, and could have scored their third far sooner, when Mamadou Sakho headed against the bar. The towel was thrown in soon after, when Paulinho planted his foot in Suarez's chest and was sent off. Villas-Boas said it was "an extremely poor call", that was the "key to the result", as two minutes earlier he had replaced Mousa Dembélé with Andros Townsend, his final change, now leaving him with just Lewis Holtby and Nacer Chadli in the middle.

Suarez and Coutinho missed more chances, but both were involved in making the third. Coutinho rolled the ball down the channel to Henderson, on another forward charge, and he reached the byline and back-heeled it to Suarez. His chipped cross to the far post was perfect and Jon Flanagan, the 20-year-old left-back, was there, volleying it in off the underside of the bar and gleefully charging over to the away fans. It was not easy before, it was very simple now, Spurs' 10 tired men providing little resistance as Liverpool revelled in one of their greatest away wins for years. Suarez soon scored his second, taking a pass from substitute Luis Alberto, facing no challenge, and lifting it with the outside of his right over Lloris from the edge of the box. Suarez even turned down a chance of a hat-trick with one minute left, choosing instead to roll the ball through to Sterling, who did not have any difficulty scoring Liverpool's fifth. It was a special afternoon for Liverpool. "Obviously, you dream," said Rodgers, when asked if he ever thought about the title. "That was my dream. I didn't come here to be fourth,

third or second. Eventually you want to win."

### MATCH NUMBERS

17 Premier League goals for Luis Suarez this season, two more than Tottenham  
 25 Of Liverpool's 39 league goals, 25 have come before half-time  
 1 Tottenham have only beaten one side in the top half this term



### RED AND BURIED

NO Steven Gerrard, no Jose Enrique and no Daniel Sturridge.

Yet this was an emphatic answer to all those who believed there would be no life in Liverpool's title challenge by this stage of the season. And make no mistake, it is a title challenge. Because with King Luis Suarez anything is possible. The Uruguayan striker completed his rehabilitation from being the most reviled footballer in England to arguably the best. That bite on Branislav Ivanovic now seems a world away and Suarez is fast on course to becoming a shoo-in for this season's Player of the Year. While Sergio Aguero at Manchester City may be able to match him for cutting edge, no one in this country can match Suarez's ability to carry a team on his back. His two goals here take his Premier League total to 17 - more than the entire Tottenham team put together. Last season he became the first Liverpool player to score 30 times since Fernando Torres five years previously. This thumping of Spurs lifted Liverpool above Chelsea and into second in the table. City may have produced a stunning performance to sink Arsenal on Saturday lunchtime, but they too sit behind the Reds and have scored only eight goals more than Brendan Rodgers' side. Yet it is not just goals Suarez brings to this Liverpool party. Captain for the day in the absence of Gerrard, he was the fulcrum for a masterclass from his team. Tottenham's shell-shocked players had no answer. Suarez lifted the team-mates around him to such an extent the much-maligned Jordan Henderson destroyed Sandro and Paulinho. Kyle Naughton was torn apart at left-back so completely by Raheem Sterling that the defender was withdrawn by Andre Villas-Boas at halftime. Philippe Coutinho hit the crossbar and pulled Etienne Capoue and Michael Dawson hopelessly out of position. And while Spurs can point to the absence of their first choice defence, Liverpool also had key players absent. Gerrard, sidelined with a hamstring injury and spending the day as a TV pundit, suggested man-of-the-match awards could have been presented to all of the Liverpool team after this incredible display. He was right. Liverpool have quality and cutting edge but also belief. Confidence is coursing through the squad. They are reaping the benefits of the brand of football Rodgers (below) had been drilling into the team since his arrival at the club. While the doubters may be sticking to their guns, their arguments are falling away quicker than Spurs supporters poured out of White Hart Lane after Liverpool's fifth. The Reds' hierarchy did a superb job of resisting the temptation to take the money and run for Suarez (right, celebrating his second goal) during the summer. They will most certainly be successful again in January despite the clubs that will try to test them with even bigger offers. To be part of a team challenging for top honours is all Suarez has ever wanted. He is getting that at Liverpool, who will surely look to add more quality around him next month. So when Roman Abramovich comes calling and Ivan Gazidis sanctions another tilt at trying to tempt John W Henry into doing the unthinkable, they will find an answer even more emphatic than the one they received in August.

### TOTTENHAM OUR RATING

Lloris 5 Playing behind this defence would destroy any keeper  
 Walker 6 Booked. Not quite as bad as some of them  
 Dawson 4 Booked. Torn apart by Suarez in front of the England manager  
 Capoue 4 An emergency centre-half. Dial 999. Had a nightmare  
 Naughton 3 Got completely and utterly destroyed. Subbed at half-time  
 Sandro 4 Went off injured early, which disrupted Tottenham's plans  
 Dembele 5 Surprisingly substituted while others were far worse  
 Paulinho 5 Sent off. The decision looked a bit harsh by referee Moss  
 Lennon 5 Didn't influence the game. Flanagan had him in his pocket  
 Chadli 4 Solid but offers very little flair or excitement  
 Soldado 5 Put a great chance over the bar just after the break  
 SUBS Holtby (Sandro 29) 5 Fryers (Naughton 46) 6 Townsend (Dembele 61) 5  
 43% Possession 57% 0 Shots on target 10 6 Shots off target 6 2 Corners 9  
 0 Offside 4 17 Fouls 15 Referee: J Moss Att: : 36,069

First time since Opta began full collection in 2006/07 that Spurs have failed to get a shot on target at home

### LIVERPOOL OUR RATING

Mignolet 7 Was largely a spectator but looked in control  
 Johnson 7 Went very close with a terrific shot in the first half  
 Skrtel 7 Looked commanding, big and strong against Spurs' attack  
 Sakho 6 Poor distribution and missed a sitter after heading against the post  
 Flanagan 8 Had a terrific game, capped by a superb goal. Excellent  
 Lucas 7 Put in a good shift and allowed others to shine  
 Allen 6 Good passing and some good movements. Steady  
 Henderson 9 MOTM. Dominant in midfield. Scored and played brilliantly  
 Coutinho 8 So clever, dangerous and can be huge for Liverpool  
 Sterling 8 Had a fabulous game. Exciting wing play and always a threat  
 Suarez 8 Will give Hodgson nightmares from now until the World Cup  
 SUBS Alberto (Lucas 78) Moses (Coutinho 90)

Date: 15 December 2013  
 Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur  
 Competition: League

BBC	Times	Telegraph	Standard
	Guardian	Mirror	Echo
	Independent	Mail	Post

15 December  
 2013



Flawless Reds demolish Spurs and flat-track bully critics

So much for merely being flat-track bullies. Liverpool FC announced themselves as genuine top four contenders in glorious fashion on an unforgettable afternoon in the capital. This was an emphatic statement of intent as Brendan Rodgers savoured the most significant triumph of his Anfield tenure.

For the first time during his reign the travelling Kop, who repeatedly chanted the manager's name, toasted an away victory against one of the Premier League's big-hitters. So often in recent years Liverpool have under-delivered in contests like this. Wounds have been self-inflicted – an inferiority complex against the top sides leading to tales of what might have been. Not this time. Tottenham weren't simply beaten, they were embarrassed as Rodgers' side produced a breathtaking display of total domination. Make no mistake, the scoreline didn't flatter Liverpool, who registered their biggest ever win at White Hart Lane. But for the heroics of keeper Hugo Lloris the humiliation for the hosts would have been much greater. Paulinho's red card for recklessly planting his studs in Luis Suarez's ribs gave the Reds a numerical advantage for the final half hour but by then they were already 2-0 up and cruising. This was Liverpool's most complete performance under Rodgers. Their creativity, guile and movement when in possession repeatedly carved Spurs apart. That quality was coupled with a tireless work ethic as they simply refused to allow the Londoners to gain a foothold in the game. Two-goal Luis Suarez continued his scintillating form as he excelled after being handed the armband in the absence of Steven Gerrard. But this was truly a collective effort with heroes in all departments.

Rarely has a goal been celebrated with the outpouring of joy which greeted Jon Flanagan's first strike for the club. Usually so calm and composed on the touchline, Rodgers charged down the touchline with both arms aloft. The manager stopped just short of joining his players in piling on top of the Academy graduate. It was a moment the young full-back from Childwall will never forget – meeting Suarez's cross with a stunning half volley which flew in off the underside of the bar. The goal was reward for another hugely impressive shift from Flanagan on his fifth successive start. Aaron Lennon barely had a kick. This was the day when Liverpool finally found a cure for their travel sickness as they clinched their first away win since September. Finally, they performed with the same kind of swagger on the road as fans have become accustomed to at Anfield.

Attacking wise they were irresistible and defensively they heeded Rodgers' call to toughen up. Centre-backs Martin Skrtel and Mamadou Sakho vindicated the decision to leave vice-captain Daniel Agger on the bench as they snuffed out the threat of £26million striker Roberto Soldado. Simon Mignolet wouldn't have been missed if he had decided to do some Christmas shopping on Oxford Street such was the authority of the visiting backline. With Gerrard out, Rodgers had urged the central midfield trio of Jordan Henderson, Lucas Leiva and Joe Allen to fill the void and they delivered in style. Lucas and Allen provided the control in front of the back four and left it to Henderson to pull the strings further forward.

The England international did it with relish. Henderson, who scored the second, deservedly walked away with the man of the match award after the most memorable shift of his Anfield career. Henderson was at the heart of everything good about Liverpool – taking on Gerrard's mantle with his range of passing and vision tormenting Spurs throughout. Philippe Coutinho cut in off the left flank with menace to link up expertly with Suarez, while on the other flank Raheem Sterling reaffirmed that he belongs at this level. It's been a difficult 12 months for Sterling since the initial impact he made after breaking into the side. But the 19-year-old has come through it and is now showing why the Reds handed him that lucrative long-term contract. His confidence is back and the winger terrorised Kyle Naughton during the first half before doing the same to Zeki Fryers after the break. Sterling, who ran himself into the ground, could hardly believe his luck when he was given the freedom of the penalty box to net Liverpool's fifth late on. History was against the Reds having lost their last six visits to White Hart Lane, but they played with an intensity and tempo Spurs simply couldn't handle.

Just four months after being banished to train on his own after accusing his manager of breaking a promise to let him leave and demanding a transfer, Suarez led Liverpool into battle.

Considering his chequered past the sight of the Uruguayan leading the team will sit uneasily with some but if the Reds continue to perform like this there will be few complaints. Suarez inspires those around him with actions rather than words and he started the rout in the 18th minute, latching on to Henderson's pass before clinically finding the bottom corner. Belief surged through the Reds' veins. Suarez was thwarted by Lloris before Coutinho struck the bar and Glen Johnson lashed just over. Nacer Chadli and substitute Lewis Holtby wasted chances to restore parity but Liverpool were always in the ascendancy. Suarez fired straight at Lloris after pouncing on the Frenchman's error but six minutes before the interval the visitors had breathing space. Sterling's lofted pass was expertly touched into the path of Henderson by Coutinho. His initial effort was blocked by Lloris, who also clawed away Suarez's attempt from the rebound. However, the ball dropped to Henderson and he coolly volleyed home. The expected second-half revival from Spurs failed to materialise as Liverpool's vice-like grip on proceedings remained.

Sakho should have killed the game off but he headed against the post from two yards out. Liverpool were relentless and after Paulinho had seen red they finished with a flourish. With 16 minutes to go Henderson's back heel found Suarez whose cross to the back post was hammered in so sweetly by Flanagan.

Suarez soon helped himself to his second of the afternoon, gleefully lobbing Lloris after a classy pass from substitute Luis Alberto. Remarkably, with 17 goals in just 11 games this season, the frontman has been more prolific than 10 of the 20 clubs in the Premier League. There was no mercy shown by the Reds with Sterling putting the icing on the cake after being released by Suarez. This was a victory to savour. Liverpool have taken a giant step forward.



Liverpool produced a stunning display to brush Tottenham Hotspur aside at White Hart Lane, Brendan Rodgers' side winning 5-0.

Luis Suarez, captain for the day, scored twice, whilst there were further goals for Jordan Henderson Jon Flanagan, who netted his first senior strike, and Raheem Sterling. Spurs, booed off by their own supporters, finished with 10 men as Paulinho was shown a red card.

Victory lifts Liverpool up to second in the Premier League, within two points of leaders Arsenal.

Rodgers, deprived of the services of skipper Steven Gerrard, had handed Suarez the armband and brought in Lucas Leiva to midfield, and was rewarded with a tremendous first-half display.

Philippe Coutinho might have made more of a chance in the second minute, after Etienne Capoue's defensive header had been helped back into the penalty area by Suarez. Coutinho, who had time to take a touch, could only send in a weak effort that Hugo Lloris gathered with comfort.

Suarez then saw a shot deflected wide off Michael Dawson, when he might have won a free kick for a foul by Sandro on the edge of the box, and Capoue cleared Sterling's cross from inside his own six-yard box.

It was impressive from the visitors, and they were rewarded on 17 minutes with the game's opening goal.

Suarez began the move, his attempted pass to Henderson being cut out at full stretch by Michael Dawson. Henderson retrieved the ball and teed up the stand-in skipper, who burst into the area, cut inside Kyle Walker and slotted past Hugo Lloris with his left foot.

The Uruguayan, too hot to handle for Spurs' defenders, found himself clean through two minutes later, latching on to Raheem Sterling's neat pass. This time, though, Lloris was equal to the task, saving with his legs.

Lloris was then forced to save at the feet of Joe Allen, after another incisive pass from Sterling, before Coutinho bounced a shot against the crossbar from the edge of the box, with Glen Johnson flashing the rebound just over the top.

Spurs finally threatened on the half hour, with Nacer Chadli heading substitute Lewis Holtby's corner over the bar when unchallenged.

But it was Liverpool who would be left kicking themselves moments later, as Lloris misjudged the bounce of a long Skrtel ball, letting in Suarez. Suarez took his time, but fired his shot against the body of the recovering Spurs' keeper, a sizeable let off for the home side.

It was, however, one they didn't enjoy for long, as five minutes before half time Liverpool doubled their advantage.

Sterling sent a glorious cross-field pass out to Coutinho, who cushioned the ball through for Henderson. The midfielder saw his initial effort blocked by Lloris, who then clawed away Suarez's follow-up effort, but Henderson was on hand to volley home from close range for his first league goal of the campaign. It capped a near-perfect half for the visitors.

Spurs, booed off at the break, saw Roberto Soldado blaze over the top shortly after the restart, before Mamadou Sakho headed a Sterling cross against the post from two yards out, with Skrtel blasting the rebound high over the bar.

Spurs' cause was not helped on 63 minutes when Paulinho, barracked by his own supporters throughout a wasteful afternoon, was sent off for a high challenge on Suarez.

If what had gone before had been good from Liverpool, then what was to come was remarkable. Henderson was sent through by Coutinho, and when he was originally snuffed out by Dawson, his backheel teed up Suarez to clip a delightful cross to the far post, where it was met by Flanagan. The 20-year-old's first senior goal rocketed in via the underside of the crossbar.

Suarez, though, was far from finished. Sent through by Luis Alberto six minutes from time, the striker jabbed a sublime finish over Lloris with the outside of his right foot and into the net.

And with two minutes remaining, the Uruguayan played in Sterling, who capped a fine performance with a cool slotted finish.

Date: 15 December 2013  
 Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur  
 Competition: League

BBC	Times	Telegraph	Standard
	Guardian	Mirror	Echo
	Independent	Mail	Post

15 December  
2013

# London Evening Standard

Luis Suarez heaped the pressure on Andre Villas-Boas with two goals as Liverpool condemned Tottenham to the biggest home defeat of the Portuguese's reign. Suarez was imperious as Liverpool cruised to a 5-0 win, the margin not flattering the visitors at all.

Tottenham were booed off by the few fans who had stayed to watch until the end. Their defensive line always looked vulnerable to Liverpool's pace and the way in which they crumbled will be a big concern to Villas-Boas, especially after Spurs lost in a similarly humiliating fashion against rivals Manchester City a few weeks ago.

John Flanagan, Jordan Henderson and Raheem Sterling also scored to give Liverpool their biggest win at White Hart Lane.

Tottenham, who had Paulinho sent off for a studs-up challenge on Suarez, did not have a shot on target all match. Roberto Soldado floundered up front once again despite his improved showing in the Europa League in midweek.

His opposite number Suarez was simply superb. The Uruguayan now has 17 league goals this season and if Roy Hodgson was watching, he will no doubt be scared about the prospect of facing the striker next summer.

Of more immediate concern to Tottenham fans will be the form of their team.

The Londoners are five points outside the top four having spent £110million this summer and their fans are growing restless.

Not even a win over West Ham in the Capital One Cup will silence the doubters who claim Villas-Boas is not the man to lead the club forward.

After weathering a hectic opening 10 minutes, Liverpool started to get into the game.

Suarez was at the focal point of every attack. The former Ajax man gave his marker the slip to break the Spurs defence but Kyle Walker came to the rescue with a crucial block.

Sterling's rapid pace down the right gave Kyle Naughton problems and Tottenham's defence looked wobbly.

After a 10-minute period of pressure, Brendan Rodgers' team took the lead and it was no surprise who scored it.

Michael Dawson could not keep control of the ball following a tackle on the edge of the area and the ball fell to Henderson who slipped in Suarez and he clipped the ball past Hugo Lloris despite a last-ditch attempt from Walker.

Lloris had to race off his line to block Suarez after he broke through moments later.

Phillippe Coutinho was the next man to test Spurs, hitting the bar to set nerves jangling.

Moussa Dembele carelessly gave the ball away and Liverpool piled forward on the break. The only way Dawson could stop the galloping Henderson was to bring him down, earning a booking that means he will miss the next match.

Lloris went walkabout again, coming out of his box to clear with a weak header, but luckily for Spurs Suarez did not take advantage.

Nacer Chadli missed a free header in the box and Soldado fluffed a weak shot, but otherwise Tottenham looked toothless in attack.

Villas-Boas was forced into making an early change when Sandro went off with an injury to be replaced by Lewis Holtby.

But Liverpool continued to dominate and their inevitable second goal came five minutes from the break.

Again, Liverpool had a man over on the break as they poured forward. Lloris was forced into two last-ditch saves from Henderson and Suarez, but the Frenchman could do nothing to stop the former Sunderland midfielder's second attempt.

Tottenham had the ball in the net just before half-time but Soldado's strike was ruled out for a barge on Simon Mignolet.

Spurs were booed off at half-time and Villas-Boas put Naughton out of his misery and replaced him with Zeki Fryers.

However, Liverpool did not relent after the break. Mamadou Sakho beat his marker to a header in the box, but the ball smacked a post.

The rain starting teeming down and Tottenham's spirits dampened when Paulinho was given a straight red for planting his studs into Suarez's chest.

After a few minutes of treatment, Suarez got to his feet. Tottenham fans branded the player a cheat and Villas-Boas shook his head at the decision.

Spurs' misery was compounded 15 minutes from time when Flanagan's half-volley crashed into the net off the underside of the bar.

Rodgers blazed down the touchline towards the ecstatic away fans. Villas-Boas stood on the touchline, hands behind his back, wondering how it had come to this.

The frustration was starting to tell on Holtby, who was lucky to avoid a second booking after remonstrating with referee Jon Moss.

Tottenham fans started leaving with 10 minutes left. More fans then headed for the exits when Suarez latched on to Luis Alberto's through ball and lifted the ball over Lloris to make it 4-0.

Sterling wrapped up the humiliation in 89th minute and the Liverpool fans taunted Villas-Boas, claiming he would be "sacked in the morning".

# BBC

Luis Suarez scored twice as Liverpool dominated 10-man Tottenham to move second in the Premier League table.

The Uruguayan's 16th goal of the season took him past the total for the whole Spurs side when he found the bottom corner from Jordan Henderson's flick.

Phillippe Coutinho hit the bar before the excellent Henderson volleyed in. Paulinho was then sent off for a high kick on Suarez before goals from Jon Flanagan, Suarez and Raheem Sterling completed Spurs' humiliation.

Liverpool were without injured skipper Steven Gerrard, who last week joined Daniel Sturridge on the treatment table, but they could have easily scored more as they took control early on and never let it slip against a poor Tottenham team, who did not have a shot on target.

This was Liverpool's first victory in seven visits to White Hart Lane, while Tottenham ended a five-game unbeaten run with another disappointing display in front of their home fans.

Andre Villas-Boas's side have now won just one of their last six matches at White Hart Lane and they must seek to overturn that form if they are to establish themselves as Champions League contenders, let alone fight for the Premier League title.

More prominently, this result will lead to further questions about the Portuguese coach's future having already fielded them after a 6-0 loss at Manchester City last month.

Spurs came up against a Brendan Rodgers side led by the irrepressible Suarez, who took his amazing scoring run to 14 goals in eight Premier League games and 17 overall this season.

But the South American, who was captain for the day, was ably supported by the effervescence of Henderson and Sterling, who tore shreds out of Kyle Naughton before the Spurs left-back was replaced at half-time.

Henderson has had his critics at Anfield but appears to be finding consistent form now and he played his part in the opener after almost being played in by Suarez.

But with Michael Dawson sliding in to intercept, the Premier League's top scorer collected the loose ball, danced around Kyle Walker and slotted into the bottom corner.

Suarez, Coutinho and Glen Johnson all went close to doubling the lead before the half hour, with Nacer Chadli heading over from an isolated Spurs attack, but the visitors went 2-0 up before the break with Sterling involved again.

His raking ball from the right found Coutinho, who touched the ball to the onrushing Henderson. His first shot was saved, but then after Hugo Lloris could only push Suarez's effort up into the air, Henderson volleyed in.

Roberto Soldado, who retained his place after a midweek hat-trick against Anzhi Makhachkala, then had the ball in the net but referee Jonathan Moss believed the Spaniard fouled Liverpool goalkeeper Simon Mignolet after a poor touch by the Belgian.

As the half-time whistle blew boos echoed around White Hart Lane, reflecting a woeful first period for the hosts.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, Ezekiel Fryers came on for Naughton but Spurs could not contain Sterling, whose cross was headed against the post by Mamadou Sakho from only two yards out.

And a nightmare afternoon for Spurs continued when Paulinho received his marching orders for a high foot, which connected with Suarez's chest.

A sign of how dominant Liverpool were came when Flanagan smashed in off the bar for his first Liverpool goal, before Suarez chipped in and Sterling steered home a crisp shot.

Liverpool's squad might not be as strong as some of the other title contenders but when they play like this they will not fear upcoming games against Manchester City and Chelsea before the year is out.

Date: 15 December 2013

Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur

Competition: League

BBC	Times	Telegraph	Standard
	Guardian	Mirror	Echo
	Independent	Mail	Post

15 December  
2013



Full time Match ends, Tottenham Hotspur 0, Liverpool 5.  
90:00+2:59 Full time Second Half ends, Tottenham Hotspur 0, Liverpool 5.  
90:00+0:20 Raheem Sterling (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.  
90:00+0:20 Foul by Ezekiel Fryers (Tottenham Hotspur.  
89:39 Substitution Substitution, Liverpool. Victor Moses replaces Philippe Coutinho.  
88:32 Goal scored Goal! Tottenham Hotspur 0, Liverpool 5. Raheem Sterling (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box to the bottom right corner. Assisted by Luis Suárez with a through ball.  
86:38 Foul by Raheem Sterling (Liverpool.  
86:38 Ezekiel Fryers (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
85:35 Foul by Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool.  
85:35 Aaron Lennon (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
83:30 Goal scored Goal! Tottenham Hotspur 0, Liverpool 4. Luis Suárez (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box to the bottom right corner. Assisted by Luis Alberto with a through ball.  
79:39 Etienne Capoue (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
79:39 Foul by Luis Suárez (Liverpool.  
78:19 Foul by Luis Suárez (Liverpool.  
78:19 Michael Dawson (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
78:06 Substitution Substitution, Liverpool. Luis Alberto replaces Lucas Leiva.  
76:53 Glen Johnson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
76:53 Foul by Lewis Holtby (Tottenham Hotspur.  
75:44 Foul by Lucas Leiva (Liverpool.  
75:44 Nacer Chadli (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
74:23 Goal scored Goal! Tottenham Hotspur 0, Liverpool 3. Jon Flanagan (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box to the top right corner. Assisted by Luis Suárez with a cross.  
73:24 Attempt missed. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is close, but misses the top right corner. Assisted by Luis Suárez.  
71:09 Foul by Martin Skrtel (Liverpool.  
71:09 Michael Dawson (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
70:42 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Etienne Capoue.  
70:16 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Hugo Lloris.  
70:13 Attempt saved. Luis Suárez (Liverpool left footed shot from a difficult angle on the left is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Jordan Henderson with a through ball.  
69:04 Offside, Liverpool. Luis Suárez tries a through ball, but Raheem Sterling is caught offside.  
68:06 Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
68:06 Foul by Nacer Chadli (Tottenham Hotspur.  
65:45 Booking Lewis Holtby (Tottenham Hotspur is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.  
65:22 Foul by Lewis Holtby (Tottenham Hotspur.  
65:22 Joe Allen (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
64:47 Delay over. They are ready to continue.  
63:45 Delay in match Luis Suárez (Liverpool because of an injury.  
62:42 Dismissal Dismissal Paulinho (Tottenham Hotspur is shown the red card.  
62:38 Foul by Paulinho (Tottenham Hotspur.  
62:38 Luis Suárez (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
61:24 Foul by Paulinho (Tottenham Hotspur.  
61:24 Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
60:30 Offside, Liverpool. Mamadou Sakho tries a through ball, but Luis Suárez is caught offside.  
60:06 Substitution Substitution, Tottenham Hotspur. Andros Townsend replaces Mousa Dembélé.  
58:43 Attempt blocked. Ezekiel Fryers (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked.  
58:39 Attempt blocked. Aaron Lennon (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from the right side of the box is blocked.  
58:23 Foul by Lucas Leiva (Liverpool.  
58:23 Lewis Holtby (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
57:35 Foul by Raheem Sterling (Liverpool.  
57:35 Mousa Dembélé (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick on the left wing.  
56:37 Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Lucas Leiva.  
53:04 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Ezekiel Fryers.  
52:21 Jordan Henderson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
52:21 Foul by Mousa Dembélé (Tottenham Hotspur.  
51:07 Foul by Joe Allen (Liverpool.  
51:07 Lewis Holtby (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick on the left wing.  
50:28 Attempt missed. Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from the centre of the box is too high.  
49:42 Offside, Liverpool. Jordan Henderson tries a through ball, but Luis Suárez is caught offside.  
48:59 Attempt missed. Martin Skrtel (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is high and wide to the right.  
48:57 Mamadou Sakho (Liverpool hits the left post with a header from very close range. Assisted by Raheem Sterling with a cross.  
48:13 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Etienne Capoue.  
48:12 Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.  
46:28 Attempt missed. Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from the right side of the box is high and wide to the left. Assisted by Lewis Holtby.  
45:00 Second Half begins Tottenham Hotspur 0, Liverpool 2.  
45:00 Substitution Substitution, Tottenham Hotspur. Ezekiel Fryers replaces Kyle Naughton.  
45:00+2:00 Half time First Half ends, Tottenham Hotspur 0, Liverpool 2.

44:45 Foul by Martin Skrtel (Liverpool.  
44:45 Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
42:49 Simon Mignolet (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
42:49 Foul by Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur.  
42:20 Booking Kyle Walker (Tottenham Hotspur is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.  
42:06 Jon Flanagan (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.  
42:06 Foul by Kyle Walker (Tottenham Hotspur.  
40:52 Foul by Luis Suárez (Liverpool.  
40:52 Michael Dawson (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
39:26 Goal scored Goal! Tottenham Hotspur 0, Liverpool 2. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box to the bottom right corner.  
39:24 Attempt saved. Luis Suárez (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the top right corner.  
39:22 Attempt saved. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the top left corner. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.  
37:49 Attempt missed. Lewis Holtby (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the right. Assisted by Roberto Soldado.  
37:37 Foul by Raheem Sterling (Liverpool.  
37:37 Mousa Dembélé (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
37:13 Attempt blocked. Raheem Sterling (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is blocked.  
36:53 Luis Suárez (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
36:53 Foul by Etienne Capoue (Tottenham Hotspur.  
32:20 Attempt saved. Luis Suárez (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the bottom right corner.  
30:36 Attempt missed. Nacer Chadli (Tottenham Hotspur header from the centre of the box is just a bit too high. Assisted by Lewis Holtby with a cross following a corner.  
30:07 Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Lucas Leiva.  
29:22 Delay over. They are ready to continue.  
29:21 Substitution Substitution, Tottenham Hotspur. Lewis Holtby replaces Sandro because of an injury.  
28:27 Delay in match Sandro (Tottenham Hotspur because of an injury.  
27:21 Attempt missed. Glen Johnson (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is just a bit too high.  
27:17 Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool hits the bar with a right footed shot from outside the box. Assisted by Luis Suárez.  
26:47 Booking Michael Dawson (Tottenham Hotspur is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.  
26:43 Jordan Henderson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
26:43 Foul by Michael Dawson (Tottenham Hotspur.  
24:33 Attempt missed. Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur header from the centre of the box is too high. Assisted by Paulinho with a cross.  
21:15 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Hugo Lloris.  
21:13 Attempt saved. Luis Suárez (Liverpool right footed shot from the right side of the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Raheem Sterling with a through ball.  
17:56 Goal scored Goal! Tottenham Hotspur 0, Liverpool 1. Luis Suárez (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box to the bottom left corner. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.  
16:37 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Kyle Naughton.  
16:05 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Etienne Capoue.  
15:33 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Kyle Walker.  
14:50 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Michael Dawson.  
14:48 Attempt blocked. Luis Suárez (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked.  
13:09 Raheem Sterling (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
13:09 Foul by Kyle Naughton (Tottenham Hotspur.  
12:34 Lucas Leiva (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
12:34 Foul by Paulinho (Tottenham Hotspur.  
11:52 Attempt missed. Raheem Sterling (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the left.  
11:27 Attempt blocked. Joe Allen (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked.  
10:39 Raheem Sterling (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.  
10:39 Foul by Kyle Naughton (Tottenham Hotspur.  
9:39 Foul by Jon Flanagan (Liverpool.  
9:39 Kyle Walker (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
7:57 Offside, Liverpool. Glen Johnson tries a through ball, but Luis Suárez is caught offside.  
6:36 Foul by Martin Skrtel (Liverpool.  
6:36 Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick on the left wing.  
5:40 Attempt missed. Nacer Chadli (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the right.  
3:19 Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
3:19 Foul by Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur.  
1:57 Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
1:57 Foul by Sandro (Tottenham Hotspur.  
1:48 Foul by Joe Allen (Liverpool.  
1:48 Mousa Dembélé (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the attacking half.  
1:30 Attempt blocked. Paulinho (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Sandro with a headed pass.  
0:42 Joe Allen (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.  
0:42 Foul by Nacer Chadli (Tottenham Hotspur.  
0:00 First Half begins.  
0:00 Lineups are announced and players are warming up.