

Date: 30 March 2014

Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur

Competition: League

Times	Telegraph	Standard
Guardian	Mirror	Echo
Independent	Mail	BBC

30 March 2014

THE TIMES

Sense of longing reaches fever pitch at Liverpool

Liverpool Kaboul (og) 2, Suarez 25, Coutinho 55, Henderson 75 4
Tottenham Hotspur 0 Referee P Dowd Attendance 44,762

As Liverpool's players milked the post-match applause and prepared to leave the pitch, a huge roar reverberated around this old ground. It spoke of longing, desire and a growing, intoxicating sense of belief. The bookmakers still have Manchester City as odds-on favourites to win the Barclays Premier League title, but you would have been laughed out of Anfield for suggesting so yesterday afternoon. Liverpool are riding on the crest of a wave, performing with such confidence and flair that, after eight consecutive victories, it feels entirely natural for their players and supporters to believe that they will win the next six, including games against City and Chelsea, and end up as champions of England for the first time since 1990. What is happening at Liverpool is extraordinary. They were not even at their most clinical yesterday, but, against an admittedly abject Tottenham Hotspur, they produced some enthralling football. When Martin Skrtel is spraying through-balls with the outside of a foot, when Jon Flanagan is setting up goals by body-swerving around opponents and when Philippe Coutinho, Raheem Sterling and Daniel Sturridge are rising to Luis Suarez's standards, it feels as if something special is afoot. Brendan Rodgers, the man who has overseen Liverpool's remarkable transformation, called it an "exceptional performance, everything we have been working towards for a year and a half". Looking ahead to those crucial next two home games, against City and Chelsea, he spoke about the synergy between team and crowd. "There's no doubt they [City and Chelsea] understand this is going to be a real tough place to come," he said.

"We love playing here. The support was incredible and that's only going to intensify as the season goes on. It works for us rather than against us." It certainly worked for Liverpool yesterday. The pre-match rendition of You'll Never Walk Alone seemed to contain more gusto than at any time since that run of Champions League semi-finals under Rafael Benitez. There followed another huge roar, a reminder of what was at stake, and, with that, Liverpool tore into Tottenham with such ferocity and such intensity that within 100 seconds they were 1-0 to the good, Glen Johnson's cross forcing Younes Kaboul into an embarrassing own goal. It stemmed from Coutinho's diagonal pass to Sterling. The winger was to have an excellent afternoon, full of eye-catching tricks, but on this occasion, with Danny Rose in attendance, he bided his time before playing a simple pass to Glen Johnson on the overlap. Johnson, surging past Christian Eriksen to the byline, crossed into the six-yard box, where it went through Jan Vertonghen's legs before Kaboul, flat-footed, panicked and knocked the ball into the Tottenham net. Anfield erupted. Rodgers likes to cite arrogance as a virtue on the football pitch. You could certainly see what he meant at times yesterday as Coutinho almost picked out Jordan Henderson with an outrageous through-ball before Skrtel, of all people, used the outside of his right foot to find Suarez in the inside-left channel. It is far more than just arrogance on the ball, though. When not in possession, Liverpool hustle their opponents in a manner that forces mistakes. Henderson and Sterling, perhaps the two most improved English players in the Premier League this season, excel in this regard, as does Suarez. Tottenham could not cope. For all the impressive names on their team sheet, they have rarely this season, either before or after Tim Sherwood replaced Andre Villas-Boas as head coach, looked like a team. Their record against the Premier League's top four this season now stands at one draw and seven defeats in eight matches, with two goals scored and 27 conceded.

Kaboul had a dreadful afternoon, misjudging the flight of passes and losing possession to Sterling, who set up Suarez for a header that was superbly saved by Hugo Lloris, while Vertonghen departed through injury in the 24th minute. His replacement, Michael Dawson, had been on the pitch for only a minute when he miscued Steven Gerrard's pass into the path of Suarez, who accelerated away from Kaboul and, with his left foot, beat Lloris with ease.

The moment that summed up Liverpool's confidence came ten minutes into the second half, when Flanagan, who began the season as third-choice right back, received the ball in what is becoming a comfortable position at left back. A swivel of the hips took him away from Aaron Lennon and, with that, he carried the ball forward and sought out Coutinho, who, with Tottenham's defenders backing off him, drove a low shot into the far corner to make it 3-0. Sherwood continued to scowl. The supporters might have taken issue with his lack of visibility yesterday, but his ability to make his presence felt on the touchline has never been in doubt. Whether he can be a successful manager, particularly with this group of players, is far less certain. Uncertainty and unrest abound at Tottenham.

Liverpool were so comfortable that they could afford to take off Gerrard, thus sparing him the risk of a yellow card that would keep him out of the next two matches. The captain, a controlling presence in midfield to that point, was on the bench by the time Henderson whipped a free kick through a crowd of players to score a rather fortuitous fourth goal. Sherwood shook his head in disgust, while all around him, famous faces from Liverpool's illustrious past -- Ian St John, Kenny Dalglish, Ian Rush, Jamie Carragher -- lit up in wonder.

It was 50 years to the day since St John scored twice in a Liverpool victory over Tottenham at Anfield to move them top of the table, with six matches remaining, before winning their first league championship of Bill Shankly's tenure. Omens like that are everywhere at Anfield at the moment, but this notion of winning another six consecutive matches is easier said than done. Only once in English football

history have a team won 14 consecutive top-flight games (Arsenal in 2002). It is some task, but Liverpool, in this mood, believe.

5 Goals Liverpool scored in their first five league games this season, since when they have hit 83 in 27 (3.07 per game)

9 Gap between tally of Premier League's top goalscorer (Luis Suarez, of Liverpool, with 29) and his nearest rival (Daniel Sturridge, also of Liverpool, with 20)

17 Liverpool's points lead over Manchester United. Last season, United finished 28 points above Liverpool

3 Goals Tottenham have conceded in first two minutes against top-four teams this season: first minute v Manchester City (Jesus Navas); second minute v Arsenal (Tomas Rosicky) and Liverpool (Younes Kaboul own goal)

RATINGS

Liverpool (4-3-3): S Mignolet 6 -- G Johnson 7, M Skrtel 8, D Agger 7, J Flanagan 7 -- J Henderson 7, S Gerrard 8 (sub: Lucas Leiva, 70min 6), P Coutinho 8 (sub: J Allen, 63 6) -- R Sterling 8 (sub: V Moses, 83), L Suarez 8, D Sturridge 7. Substitutes not used: B Jones, M Sakho, A Cissokho, I Aspas.

Tottenham Hotspur (4-4-1-1): H Lloris 6 -- K Naughton 4, Y Kaboul 3, J Vertonghen 3 (sub: M Dawson, 24 4), D Rose 4 -- A Lennon 4 (sub: A Townsend, 60 6), G Sigurdsson 5, N Bentaleb 6 (sub: M Dembele, 60 6), C Eriksen 5 -- N Chadli 4 -- R Soldado 3. Substitutes not used: B Friedel, Sandro, H Winks, H Kane. Booked: Kaboul, Sigurdsson.

the guardian

Liverpool whip Anfield into title frenzy while Levy looks on in envy

It is all falling into place for Liverpool. "Brendan Rodgers - The Carefully Chosen One" read a pointed banner inside Anfield and his team moved imperiously to the Premier League summit with a defeat of Tottenham Hotspur that illustrated the belief running through the club. Six repeats and the once remote prospect of title No19 will be a reality.

A spine-tingling roar rolled off the Kop after an eighth consecutive league win lifted Liverpool above Manchester City and Chelsea with perfect timing. Anfield has been revived by a clear managerial vision, the world-class talent of Luis Suarez, now Liverpool's record goalscorer in a Premier League season, and a work-rate encapsulated by the likes of Jordan Henderson and Raheem Sterling. Daniel Levy, the Tottenham chairman, looked on with only envy. He sanctioned a pounds 110m spending spree last summer and his club have none of the above.

Tottenham wanted Rodgers to take charge at White Hart Lane in 2012 but their track record of managerial instability prompted rejection from the man from County Antrim. Two seats behind Levy sat Tim Sherwood, the present incumbent, who squirmed through an inept Spurs performance while angry away supporters chanted "Where is our manager?"

The season started with talk of a Tottenham title challenge and Liverpool facing a fight for Champions League qualification. An own goal from Younes Kaboul, Suarez's 29th of the season, a rare Philippe Coutinho strike and a merited reward for Henderson underlined the scale of the role reversal. This season's aggregate score reads 9-0 and, at 2.75 goals per game, Liverpool have replaced the 1960-61 Spurs team as the most prolific top-flight side of the post-war era.

Sherwood had just taken his place in the directors' box when Rodgers' decision to add even greater incisiveness to the Liverpool attack by selecting both Coutinho and Sterling paid dividends. The pair combined to release Glen Johnson clear of a lazy Christian Eriksen challenge on the right. His low cross deflected off Jan Vertonghen, then Kaboul and trickled over the line with Hugo Lloris stranded. Title contenders do not require gifts but a delirious Anfield accepted gratefully.

Questions were raised over Liverpool's nerve following an anxious ending against Sunderland on Wednesday. The luxury of an early goal, and facing a Spurs defence without the discipline, concentration or organisation of Gus Poyet's relegation-threatened side, rendered that an issue for another time.

The failure of two centre-halves to deal with a routine cross set the tone for a hapless defensive show from the visitors. Sherwood was a model of pent-up fury. Kaboul was dispossessed by Sterling and only a stunning save from Lloris prevented Suarez scoring with a header.

Liverpool's second stemmed from another mix-up in the centre of Tottenham's rearguard. Michael Dawson had only been on the pitch for a minute as a replacement for the injured Vertonghen when he steered a sloppy pass inside for Kaboul. The French defender's poor first touch sent the Uruguayan international clear and he raced into the area and swept a left foot shot low into Lloris's far corner, eclipsing Robbie Fowler's record of 28 goals in a Premier League season for Liverpool in the process.

There was no let-up in the tempo of the Liverpool display or the demands on them. Rodgers berated Coutinho for hugging the touchline when he was under instruction to play centrally. The reason why was underlined when the Brazilian scored an excellent third. Simon Mignolet started the move, Jon Flanagan ventured into the Spurs' half unchallenged and squared to Coutinho, who sent a precise finish into the corner from 20 yards.

Henderson skied a glorious chance over from Sterling's pass and it needed an instinctive save from Lloris to prevent Sturridge scoring with an impudent back-heel. The inevitable fourth arrived when Henderson whipped over a free-kick from the left that sailed through Suarez's legs and into the far corner. "Now you're gonna believe us," has not sounded this convincing at Anfield for over two decades. There is momentum behind Liverpool, a frenzied expectation around the

Date: 30 March 2014

Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur

Competition: League

Times	Telegraph	Standard
Guardian	Mirror	Echo
Independent	Mail	BBC

30 March 2014

club similar to the triumphant Champions League run of 2005, and history. The similarities between Rodgers' transformation and Bill Shankly's first title-winning campaign of 1963-64 are uncanny. In Suarez and Sturridge, Liverpool have two players to score 20 league goals or more in a season for the first time since Ian St John and Roger Hunt 50 years ago. Shankly's championship breakthrough also featured 1-0 and 3-0 wins over Manchester United and, on this day half a century ago, Liverpool beat Tottenham at Anfield to go top of the table. First place was not relinquished and Liverpool claimed their first title in 17 years. They look in the mood to do likewise this spring.

Man of the match Raheem Sterling (Liverpool)

The Mail

REDS ON FRONT FOOT

LIVERPOOL 4 Kaboul 2 (og), Suarez 25, Coutinho 55, Henderson 75
TOTTENHAM 0

AN immense performance, Brendan Rodgers called it. Suffice to say that Liverpool owned the weekend. Saturday without even playing as their rivals stumbled; Sunday with a display which dispelled any notion that this team may crack under the pressure of leading from the front. Liverpool are two points clear at the top of the Premier League table with six matches remaining. The way the fixtures fall, if they maintain a 100 per cent record from here they will win the title and there is nothing the rest can do. They will deserve it, too.

Liverpool are playing a technically ambitious, high-energy brand of football that is a pleasure to watch. As much as Tottenham were architects of their own downfall with a series of defensive errors, they were also dismantled by the ambition of Liverpool's play. This team is quick, it takes risks and got in behind Tottenham's high back line time and again. Luis Suarez scored his 29th goal in 27 Premier League games, overtaking the modern-era club scoring record held by Robbie Fowler, but this is very much a collective team effort now, not some one-man band. Goals came from midfield, and catastrophic Tottenham mistakes caused by intense pressure all over the field. Yes, there may yet be an occasion between now and the end of the season when the game is deadlocked and the players turn to Suarez for individual inspiration again but, right now, they are in this together. Daniel Sturridge was not on the scoresheet yesterday but his movement and hard work made him a vital part of the victory, although perhaps not as important as Younes Kaboul. For if there was any chance of Liverpool feeling the weight of this title challenge it evaporated after two minutes here, thanks to the hapless contribution of the Tottenham captain. Can we play you every week? That would have been the message after Kaboul turned a low cross from Glen Johnson into his own net, to the despair of visiting manager Tim Sherwood. For Rodgers, however, it would have been as sweet a sight as any this season. For a team of title novices, needing to hold their nerve between now and mid-May, there must have been something very reassuring in witnessing Tottenham in such panicky disarray from the start. If only Rodgers could arrange a set of fixtures as hassle-free as this for Liverpool's six game run-in, they could start minting the medals now. An own goal, a misplaced pass, a complete absence of midfield pressure, a free-kick that bounced in the six-yard box: it is taking nothing away from Liverpool to admit that every one of their goals involved at least one suicidal defensive tactic from the visitors.

Liverpool burrowed in behind them from the first attack, with Johnson on the overlap crossing the ball at the by-line. Jan Vertonghen should have cut it out, but didn't and Kaboul got in a dreadful tangle, his angle to the ball all wrong, as he turned it into his own goal. Pressure off and, from Liverpool's point of view, game on. Vertonghen had just been substituted when the second arrived and it was his replacement, Michael Dawson, at fault. He cut out a Steven Gerrard pass but tried to slip the ball across to Kaboul first-time and instead played in Suarez, 40 yards out. He turned Kaboul effortlessly and headed towards goal. Hugo Lloris, Tottenham's goalkeeper, is usually outstanding off his line, but here he had no chance, and Suarez swept the ball past him low into the far corner.

It was the finish of a player at the top of his game, the Footballer of the Year in waiting. The turnaround in his fortunes is an echo of that presided over by Rodgers at this club and he almost had a second three minutes before half-time when Kaboul was caught in possession by Raheem Sterling and his cross fell perfectly to Suarez, Lloris acrobatically tipping the ball on to the inside of the post, and out. Tottenham have pulled off some significant second-half revivals under Sherwood this season but this was not one of them. In the 54th minute, the excellent Sterling unselfishly squared for Jordan Henderson, having driven into the penalty area, only for his England team-mate to scoop a gilt-edged opportunity over the bar. A minute later the game was out of Tottenham's reach, Philippe Coutinho collecting the ball just beyond the centre circle and moving unchallenged to the edge of the area where he struck a low shot that left Lloris grasping at air. Sturridge came close with a delightful back heel after 68 minutes but the rout was completed 15 minutes from time. Henderson curled a flat free-kick into the area and Suarez caused sufficient distraction for it to pitch, unmolested, in the six-yard box, kicking up and past the startled Lloris. By then, Sherwood could only shake his head in dumb resignation.

There is a growing schism between manager and club as the ramification of another defeat by a top-four team sinks in. The league table gives the illusion of contact but Tottenham are in truth a distance behind the elite, having lost Gareth Bale. The claim that Tottenham sold Elvis and bought The Beatles -- a sizeable

array of talent replacing the master -- now looks most hollow.

There is no John, Paul or even George in Tottenham's new recruits, just seven Ringos, or maybe the odd Pete Best. Christian Eriksen is the best of it but even he gave the ball away too frequently yesterday. The best, most consistent, passers on the field all wore red shirts. Tottenham have now played eight games against the top four this season and taken one point in 24, from a 1-1 home draw with Chelsea on September 28. In those matches, they have leaked 27 goals. Sherwood sat in thunderous silence in the directors' box as travelling fans questioned his absence from the touchline. 'Where is our manager?' they chorused. 'We want a manager.' The constant presence of Rodgers in his technical area would not have been lost on them, either. He was wanted to succeed Harry Redknapp but Rodgers compared the two regimes and chose Liverpool. Clearly, he made the right decision. Liverpool have backed his judgments over contentious issues such as the rejection of Andy Carroll and are now being rewarded. They believed in his philosophy and it has taken them to the Premier League's summit. It is now theirs to lose. The only advice from here would be don't look down.

The Daily Telegraph

Liverpool bear the stamp of champions

LIVERPOOL 4 Kaboul 2 og, Suarez 25, Coutinho 55, Henderson 75
Tottenham 0 Att: 44,762

The Premier League crown is there for Liverpool. They can see it, smell it and dream of it; and an emphatic victory over Tottenham Hotspur offered the most compelling evidence yet of how close they are to touching it.

Brendan Rodgers once suggested the expectations on those who wear the Liverpool shirt made it one of the heaviest in football. The manager's intention was to lighten the load, but the inevitable consequence of an increasingly persuasive title charge is that his players will feel they are carrying the weight of Atlas in the closing weeks of the season. Not that you would have noticed during the 4-;0 win. Any pre-;match notions -; suggested by Tim Sherwood -; that Liverpool would "bottle" it as the finishing line approaches were dispelled emphatically and, at times, thrillingly. This is not supposed to be the time for routine hammerings but from the moment Younes Kaboul deflected in an own goal after two minutes, Rodgers' side were thriving under the pressure of returning to the top of the Premier League.

"There were no nerves. No anxiety and no pressure. It was great to watch," said Rodgers, who has excelled in reducing the feelings of anxiety on the pitch even if he is powerless to do so in the stands. Forget the players, it will be the supporters arranging a session with Dr Steve Peters to cope with what promises to be a stirring but torturous finale for a club craving what they have missed since 1990. This performance will make believers of the most hardened cynics.

There were signs even the Kop is starting to relax. Liverpool have dropped only five points on their own turf all season and there was no danger they would do so against such limp opponents yesterday. There was another record -; there have been more than the national archive at Anfield this season -; when Luis Suarez eclipsed Robbie Fowler's best of 28 Premier League goals with Liverpool's second, but this performance was another tribute to what Rodgers calls "the collective".

Further goals from Philippe Coutinho and Jordan Henderson left Sherwood in uncharacteristically impassive mood, his job application looking increasingly weak. Liverpool are greatly assisted by their ability to recreate the blitz at the start of each home game. Tottenham could empathise with their north London neighbours as, like Arsenal recently, they were behind before they had exchanged a pass. Raheem Sterling, who terrorised Danny Rose all afternoon, sent Glen Johnson scurrying down the right wing and his cross was diverted past Hugo Lloris by Kaboul. Sterling was later granted a standing ovation for a performance which has surely secured his World Cup place. Ray Lewington, the England assistant coach, was here and must have been tempted to applaud with everyone else. Kaboul and Jan Vertonghen's exposure was alarming, the movement of Liverpool's flexible front-;runners threatening with every advance. Edgy on the ball and impulsive in the tackle, the Spurs pair looked like they would rather have been somewhere else, and although the Belgian's substitution on 24 minutes was down to injury, it resembled an act of mercy.

His replacement, Michael Dawson, fared no better. Within a minute he had miskicked into Suarez's path and the Uruguayan showed pace, strength and accuracy with his finish. They have been calling a two-;goal lead compulsory here for most of this season, the remaining question being whether apprehension would creep in. Instead it was the platform for the kind of hammering they meted out at White Hart Lane. The Tottenham manager was a subdued, temperate presence, although there were moments towards the end of the first half he might have felt encouraged. Liverpool goalkeeper Simon Mignolet was not exclusively a spectator, but there was a notable lack of physicality and guile in the Spurs forward line. If the jury was out on Roberto Soldado, surely the verdict is unanimous now. He was out of his depth.

"Where is our manager," was the rendition from the visiting fans. They have witnessed one beating too many from those they considered rivals at the start of the season. Daniel Levy, the Tottenham chairman, must lament missing out on Rodgers in 2012, when the Northern Irishman felt the lure of Anfield was greater than that of north London. While Liverpool were poised in possession, finding angles with their passing and full of the penetration and pace which is becoming their hallmark, Spurs were disparate and fragile. The absence of Emmanuel

Date: 30 March 2014

Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur

Competition: League

Times	Telegraph	Standard
Guardian	Mirror	Echo
Independent	Mail	BBC

30 March 2014

Adebayor was severe and, but for Lloris, Liverpool could have cancelled out Manchester City's advantageous goal difference. Suarez thought he had his second three minutes before half-time, Sterling again stealing possession from Kaboul and crossing for the South American. Lloris somehow palmed the header on to the bar. They would not have to wait too long to extend the lead, however, as Coutinho slammed past Lloris from 25 yards.

Rodgers then had the luxury of protecting Steven Gerrard from the booking that will lead to a two-game suspension, replacing him with Lucas on 70 minutes. Henderson, who must also have impressed Lewington, made amends for an earlier miss by scoring directly from a free-kick after 75 minutes.

So many questions have been asked of this Liverpool team and a startling aspect of their title challenge is they may never need to answer them all. Firstly, there is the Liverpool squad -; you only need to see the bench every week to realise it still lacks depth. There is a first XI, a couple of reserves and not much else. It has not mattered. The inconsistent defence have conceded as many goals as Crystal Palace, but Agger and Skrtel have started to improve recently. Finally, there is the suggestion that lacking experience of a title bid in the final weeks of the season could take its toll. There is little evidence to support that. Sherwood no doubt echoed the majority view when he suggested he still expected Manchester City to win the league, but with their rivals losing points on Saturday, this was the perfect finish to a potentially defining weekend for Rodgers. The din greeting the players at the final whistle matched those welcoming each goal. Forthcoming meetings with Chelsea and Manchester City will be epic.

THE INDEPENDENT

Liverpool dare to dream of title that will change history

Six games to greatness, to borrow a phrase from G[r]ard Houllier, a Liverpool manager from the recent past who came close to winning a league title 12 years ago, but having envisaged the path that would take his team there, could not quite see them over the line. Back then, Liverpool's success was contingent on the fortunes of their rivals but there is no such obstacle this time around. Win all of their remaining six matches and Liverpool, top of the league today, will be the champions of England for the first time since 1990. It will end one of the most widely-chronicled and intensively scrutinised fallow periods, in terms of the league title, of any British sporting institution. At the club itself it will be an epoch to compare with some of the biggest milestones in their 122-year history. And all they need to do is win the next six games.

West Ham (away), Manchester City (home), Norwich (away), Chelsea (home), Crystal Palace (away) and Newcastle at home are left in the fixture list. For a team that has won eight league games on the spin already, winning the remaining six does not seem beyond the realms of possibility, even when one takes into consideration the strength of Chelsea and City. But then it is not just any six games that Liverpool face. It is six to change the course of their history.

At City the situation is the same: win their remaining eight games and they will have their second title in three seasons. The meeting between City and Liverpool at Anfield on 13 April is, as it stands, the game to define the season. It also falls closest to the 25th anniversary of the Hillsborough stadium disaster. The weekend results went as well as Liverpool could have hoped and, into the bargain, Tottenham rolled over, too. Things are not getting any better for Tim Sherwood's team against opponents at the top of the table, having conceded five to City, four to Chelsea and now four to Liverpool since the end of January - not to mention the 1-0 defeat to Arsenal this month. If there was a side that suited the role of warm-up for Liverpool's big title run-in then it was hapless Spurs.

The chase is well and truly on for Liverpool, starting at the Boleyn Ground on Sunday. The records are already tumbling. They have now scored 88 goals, and at a greater rate per game than the previous-best, the Spurs team that won the league in the 1960-61 season, who scored 115 over 42 games. Luis Suarez's goal took him to 29, making him Liverpool's highest goalscorer in a single Premier League season. It was not an easy afternoon for Sherwood who again opted to watch from the directors' box and was the target for an increasingly unhappy Spurs travelling support. "We're shit and we're sick of it," they sang in the closing stages at Anfield and then, "Where's our manager?" Tottenham's dream of Champions League football has died once again, only this time on the back of that [pounds sterling]107m summer investment.

From Spurs it was a lesson in how not to play against the Liverpool team of 2014. Part I: concede a goal in the first two minutes. Sherwood had scarcely taken his seat than Jan Vertonghen had fallen over trying to clear a ball, Younes Kaboul had come rushing in behind and, well, it was not pretty.

Spurs struggled all first half with the pace that Liverpool had on both flanks. Kyle Naughton and Danny Rose are doing their best at full-back but these two found themselves out of their depth against the pace of the impressive Raheem Sterling and Suarez. With Roy Hodgson's assistant, Ray Lewington, in the stand, Sterling once again made a striking case that he has to go to the World Cup finals.

Kaboul's error for the first goal which he put into his own net was one of those dreadful moments for a footballer when he cannot get his feet working in sequence quick enough. A late deflection off Vertonghen did not help matters and it was Kaboul who will take the blame. But Spurs found themselves completely out-paced and strong-armed by Sterling and then Glen Johnson, who delivered the cross.

Badly lacking in confidence and without the injured Emmanuel Adebayor, Spurs were there to be beaten and Liverpool knew it. Any nerves about taking advantage of the points dropped by Chelsea, Arsenal and Manchester City dissipated with the first goal and the second was just a matter of time.

Sherwood had left out Sandro, on the substitutes' bench. In attack he had just Roberto Soldado to rely upon and the Spanish striker's performance made it difficult to discern whether he was playing or just observing. He was carried off at the end of the game with an ankle injury leaving Spurs with 10 men for the final moments, although it made little difference by then.

On 24 minutes, Vertonghen picked up an injury and in his place came Michael Dawson, who immediately sold Kaboul short with a pass allowing Suarez to set off in the direction of the Spurs goal. Dawson almost recovered but pulled out of the tackle for fear of committing a foul and potentially being sent off, in what might have turned into a very short and fruitless afternoon's work. In the end it was longer, but equally fruitless.

There was still much to do to beat a goalkeeper of Hugo Lloris' quality but Suarez has that finish in his repertoire. He wrapped his left foot around the ball and beat the Spurs goalkeeper into his far corner. The game was over and all that remained was the question of how many Liverpool might score.

The third came when Philippe Coutinho took Jon Flanagan's ball in midfield and ran unchecked at the heart of the Spurs defence, ignoring the pass to his right to drive the ball past Lloris. Jordan Henderson's free-kick on 75 minutes beat everyone in the Spurs area, including Lloris and nestled in the far corner. At the end, the Liverpool players took the applause of what Brendan Rodgers said was the most vociferous afternoon at Anfield of the whole season.

The Liverpool manager claimed that there are other teams who have a greater weight of expectation when it comes to winning the title this season, and he is right. But there can be no greater longing in English football than the one which will make itself felt over the last six games of his club's season.



SEEING IS BELIEVING; Rampant Reds prove they have swagger & desire to end 24-year title wait

NEVER mind this 'We can't win the title' nonsense... Liverpool were emphatic yesterday in stating a total belief that they can.

To an emotional chorus of the Kop singing 'We're gonna win the league', Brendan Rodgers' side swept to the top of the table with a freedom - and even a joy - that suggested the sentiment is not misplaced.

While their rivals Chelsea and Manchester City, for all their financial advantage, appear shamefully reluctant to put their hands up as potential champions, Liverpool's performance is screaming they are ready.

The whole point of Jose Mourinho claiming his side are out of the race, of course, was to relieve the intense pressure, but clearly, the best way to do that is to attack with the verve and intensity that destroyed poor Tottenham here.

It was an astonishing performance, and but for the excellence of visiting keeper Hugo Lloris, they would have inflicted the humiliation to reflect not only their own supreme confidence, but the poverty of Spurs' display.

He made astonishing saves from Luis Suarez, Daniel Sturridge, and Philippe Coutinho, but it was like wallpapering over the grand canyon, so totally were the London club out of their depth. No wonder the visiting fans were chanting 'Where is our manager?' as Tim Sherwood sat in the directors' box throughout the game. If the answer isn't: 'In Holland', then it most certainly is at least two years behind opponents so superbly led by Rodgers. The Reds looked like a team who knew exactly what they should be doing. Spurs looked, well, clueless.

At the end, Rodgers led his entire team to salute the Kop, and they were greeted with what can only be described as an animal roar, urging their heroes to go on and end the aching 24-year wait. The desire is palpable, and not just amongst the fans. The body language of Suarez is equally driven. You can read it in his every movement, his every effort, just how much he wants this thing.

And good luck to anyone trying to stop him, as Spurs found to their bruising cost. You cannot kick him out of it, you cannot mark him out of it. His goal, Liverpool's second, was a case in point. He eased the bigger, heavier, stronger Younes Kaboul off the ball like he was a schoolboy opponent. From there, his sheer desire drove him past sub Michael Dawson into the box, and the finish was sublime, putting it in perhaps the only place across Lloris that could have beaten him.

Incredibly, that came on 25 minutes, and you knew then the game was over, bar a contest for Liverpool's goal difference. Of course, it helped that Spurs gifted a side that needs no help a farcical goal within two minutes of the start.

Liverpool's brilliant pressing won the ball on the right, and the combination of Glen Johnson and Raheem Sterling worked a fine cross which Kaboul comically turned into his own net. Tottenham had no response. Their only openings came when the game was over, with Simon Mignolet making a fine save from Christian Eriksen in the dying moments. Liverpool, conversely, had chances galore, their confidence seeping from every pore. They settled though, for two more after the break, led by the strutting brilliance of Coutinho, who added the third after the best passing move of the match, as the Reds worked the ball from defence, and then Jon Flanagan ripped a hole in the Spurs rearguard with a quite magnificent dummied turn. There was plenty of time for Sterling to show his class as he provided Jordan Henderson with a chance that was blazed over, and for the England midfielder to redeem himself with a free-kick that flew directly into the

Date: 30 March 2014

Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur

Competition: League

Times	Telegraph	Standard
Guardian	Mirror	Echo
Independent	Mail	BBC

30 March 2014

net after a clever Suarez dummy. There was also scope for the Reds to take their skipper Steven Gerrard out of the firing line as he stands only one booking away from a two-game ban. Things are so tight at the top it would be foolish to suggest any side are overwhelming favourites to lift the title. But it would be even more foolish to write off Liverpool's chances, when they play with this swagger and desire. This performance screamed the message that the Anfield club now passionately believe they can be champions. And, as the slogan on their shirts says, seeing is believing...



Reds go top of the league after nerveless win

The clocks may have gone forward this weekend but Liverpool continue to turn back time. Opportunity came knocking at Anfield yesterday – and the Reds were waiting expectantly at the front door to comprehensively take the chance of moving back to the top of the Premier League table. Brendan Rodgers' side stand two points clear after another scintillating home rout accounted for Tottenham Hotspur. While Chelsea stumbled at Crystal Palace and Manchester City were held at Arsenal the previous day, so Liverpool continued in the same vein they have at Anfield all campaign. Even with six games still remaining, this could prove a pivotal weekend in the race for the title. Liverpool's destiny is now in their own hands. Their shirts projected the message "Seeing is Believing" in support of the charity aimed to help eliminate avoidable blindness. And there can now surely be nobody who doubts the Reds can end a championship drought that stretches back to 1990. They have the momentum. They have the form. They have the confidence. And they have Luis Suarez. The striker took his tally of an astonishing campaign to 29 goals in 27 league games with Liverpool's second goal midway through the first half following the early boost of Younes Kaboul's second-minute own goal. The again-impressive Philippe Coutinho and Jordan Henderson netted after the interval as Liverpool demonstrated no sign of the nerves that almost cost them victory against Sunderland in midweek.

In racking up an eighth straight Premier League win, the Reds have now taken 45 points from their last 55, and their total of 48 home goals has already surpassed their best Anfield return in a single Premier League season with three home matches remaining. Two of those are against Chelsea and City, games that are likely to decide the destiny of the Premier League crown.

Neither side will fancy visiting Anfield with Rodgers' side in this form.

Liverpool's 5-0 thrashing of Tottenham Hotspur back in December not only cost Andre Villas-Boas his job but also issued a statement of intent the Reds were in for the long haul. Raheem Sterling's torment of Kyle Naughton that afternoon was enough to persuade Rodgers to recall the winger at the expense of the somewhat unfortunate Joe Allen in a starting line-up that reverted to the 4-2-3-1 formation that has served so well this season. And Liverpool suggested a repeat of their White Hart Lane with yet another dominant first-half performance.

They were gifted a dream start when they went ahead in less than two minutes.

A fine crossfield pass from Coutinho picked out Sterling on the right, who fed Glen Johnson on the overlap. The right-back then progressed to the byline and crossed low into the six-yard box where Kaboul knocked the ball into his own net with Daniel Sturridge waiting to pounce. It set the tone not only for an electric Liverpool attacking display but also a half to forget for the Tottenham defender.

Suarez almost caught out Kaboul shortly afterwards in pursuit of a diagonal Sterling pass before Sturridge was only inches away from connecting with a cross from his fellow striker. The Uruguayan was clearly in the mood to wreak havoc, and a clever flick across the area created a chance acrobatically volleyed wide by the busy Coutinho from 16 yards. Suarez was narrowly over with a curling free-kick from 25 yards following a handball from Gylfi Sigurdsson.

But he was on target on 25 minutes in spectacular fashion as Liverpool made the most of disruption in the Tottenham defence caused by Michael Dawson replacing the stricken Jan Vertonghen. With his very first touch, Dawson misdirected an attempted pass back to Kaboul from Gerrard's punt forward.

That was enough for Suarez, who pounced on the slack ball and held off Kaboul before racing into the area and executing a brilliant left-foot finish beyond Tottenham goalkeeper Hugo Lloris into the bottom corner.

Tottenham, despite one of the best away records in the top flight, had offered nothing. But they were finally roused, Martin Skrtel blocking well after Christian Eriksen found space inside the Liverpool area and Simon Mignolet denying Nabil Bentaleb and then the previously invisible Roberto Soldado.

The Reds, though, could have scored again before the break, Sterling dispossessing the hapless Kaboul and standing the ball up to the far post where Suarez's header was brilliantly turned on to the crossbar by Lloris from close range. Liverpool spurned a great chance to extend their lead moments into the second half when Henderson fired over with the goal gaping after great set-up play from Sterling had removed Lloris from the equation. But they scored again on 55 minutes with a superb goal. After a period of possession inside their own area, Liverpool broke down the left flank with Jon Flanagan selling Aaron Lennon a perfect dummy before rolling the ball into the path of Coutinho, who raced on until 22 yards from goal and unleashed a fine low strike into the bottom corner. It was then a matter of how many.

Sturridge then almost capitalised on a Rose error but his improvised backheel was repelled by the increasingly busy Lloris. Henderson grabbed the fourth with 15 minutes remaining when his curling free-kick from the left flank avoided everybody and floated into the back of the net. "We're gonna win the league," sang the Kop once again at the final whistle. If Liverpool carry on in this manner, those supporters will be proven correct come May 11.

LIVERPOOL (4-2-3-1): Mignolet; Johnson, Skrtel, Agger, Flanagan; Gerrard (Lucas 70), Henderson; Sterling (Moses 83), Coutinho (Allen 63), Suarez; Sturridge. Subs: Jones, Aspas, Sakho, Cissokho.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-1-1): Lloris; Naughton, Kaboul, Vertonghen (Dawson 24), Rose; Lennon (Townsend 60), Bentaleb (Dembele 60), Sigurdsson, Eriksen; Chadli; Soldado. Subs: Friedel, Sandro, Kane, Winks. BOOKING: Kaboul (foul).

REFEREE: Phil Dowd.

ATT: 44,762.

London Evening Standard

Reds cruise past brittle Spurs and return to the league summit

Liverpool made their move in the title race as they returned to the top of the Barclays Premier League for the first time since Christmas with a comprehensive 4-0 victory over Tottenham. The last four teams who occupied that position on December 25 went on to win the title but, after back-to-back defeats immediately dropped them to fifth by the turn of the year, questions were asked about the Reds' credentials. In fact, since losing to Chelsea on December 29, Liverpool are unbeaten and have taken 35 out of a possible 39 points, which has elevated them to top spot with six games to go and answered their critics in stunning style.

Liverpool's shirts said 'Seeing is Believing', promoting sponsors Standard Chartered's global charitable initiative, and the prospect of a first title for 24 years is now closer than a speck on the horizon it has been for a couple of decades.

Anfield, where the Reds have dropped just five points all season, certainly believes, and Chelsea and Manchester City will not relish going there in the next month. Tottenham, despite being sixth and supposedly still fighting for the top four, hardly posed a challenge. Liverpool have now scored nine unanswered goals against them this season - beating their previous best in a single campaign from 1914-15. As has been so often the case this season, especially at home, Liverpool's start was explosive. Just 100 seconds had elapsed from kick-off when they went ahead with a slick move which ended with Younes Kaboul putting into his own net. Philippe Coutinho sprayed the ball out to Raheem Sterling, back in the starting line-up for the first time in three matches, and overlapping full-back Glen Johnson drilled in a cross from which, had Kaboul not done the honours, Daniel Sturridge would have cleaned up from close range.

Anfield, already at a heightened state of fervour, exploded in a wave of noise which continued to reverberate around the ground as Liverpool regularly attacked with vigour. Luis Suarez, after two crosses from either flanks which first saw the ball sail marginally over the head of the waiting Sturridge and then drilled narrowly wide by Coutinho's volley, whipped a 25-yard free-kick over before producing a sublime strike for his 29th of the season.

Michael Dawson, only just on the pitch as a replacement for the injured Jan Vertonghen, tried to turn Steven Gerrard's clearance into the patch of fellow centre-back Kaboul only for Suarez to nip in, skip past the defender and drill an angled shot across Hugo Lloris and inside the far post - into the only spot the goalkeeper could be beaten. In doing so, he eclipsed Robbie Fowler's record of goals in a Premier League season with the promise of plenty more to come before the end of the campaign. Tottenham saw so little of the ball their chances were sporadic at best, and, when Christian Eriksen did find space in the area, Martin Skrtel threw his body in the way and Gylfi Sigurdsson's follow-up header was saved by Simon Mignolet. Free-kicks came and went as Sturridge, after a 50-yard run ended with Kaboul being booked, curled over and Suarez, still on set-piece duty despite Gerrard's effort in the midweek win over Sunderland, whipped a vicious effort just wide. The Uruguayan's best chance of doubling his tally, however, came just moments before. Kaboul's day continued its downward spiral when he was robbed by Sterling, who crossed to the back post, where Suarez's header was clawed onto the crossbar by Lloris and hooked clear by Nabil Bentaleb. Any chance Spurs had of rescuing the situation had to come from the next goal, but they were not given the remotest chance as, after Jordan Henderson ballooned over a cut-back from Sterling - who himself had only Lloris to beat - Coutinho made the result safe. Young left-back Jon Flanagan's dummy of England international Aaron Lennon typified the confidence flowing through the side but, when he offloaded to Coutinho in midfield, there was still plenty to do.

Despite the Brazilian playmaker advancing, Spurs saw fit to stand off and Coutinho made them pay with a low shot from 25 yards which easily beat Lloris for just his fourth goal of the season. The large travelling support were suitably disgruntled, chanting "Where is our manager?" at Tim Sherwood. He was actually sat in the directors' box throughout - two rows behind chairman Daniel Levy, who this week reportedly held talks with Holland coach Louis van Gaal. The pair left without exchanging words.

Date: 30 March 2014
 Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur
 Competition: League

Times	Telegraph	Standard
Guardian	Mirror	Echo
Independent	Mail	BBC

30 March 2014



Liverpool moved to the top of the Premier League as they humiliated a woeful Tottenham side at Anfield.

A second-minute Younes Kaboul own goal, following Glen Johnson's low cross, put the Reds on course for an eighth successive league victory.

Luis Suarez made it 2-0 after Michael Dawson's error, and the Uruguayan then had a header pushed onto the post.

Philippe Coutinho added a third goal from 25 yards and Jordan Henderson's low free-kick sealed the rout.

Victory moved the Reds two points ahead of Chelsea and four in front of Manchester City, though Manuel Pellegrini's side have played two games fewer than their title rivals.

However, with both City and Chelsea still to visit Anfield, Brendan Rodgers's team have their destiny in their own hands. Six wins from their last six matches will see them win the league title for the first time since 1989-90.

This game was expected to present a tough challenge, but the hosts - who last topped the table on Boxing Day, before a 2-1 defeat at Manchester City - dominated from the off and should have won by a wider margin.

As well as underlining the Reds' place at the heart of the title fight, the match also served as another reality check for a Tottenham side that face a battle to hang on to sixth place and Europa League qualification.

The Londoners remain well short of the quality needed for a Champions League spot, and have only taken one point from eight league games against the top four this season.

Defeat also increases the pressure on boss Tim Sherwood, with Netherlands manager Louis van Gaal linked with a move to White Hart Lane after this summer's World Cup.

Liverpool were always comfortable in front of a noisy and passionate Anfield crowd, who only had to wait two minutes before they were celebrating a goal.

A lucky omen?

Fifty years ago - on 30 March, 1964 - Liverpool beat Spurs 3-1 at Anfield to go top of the First Division. They went on to win the league by four points

An excellent diagonal ball from Coutinho found Raheem Sterling, who released the overlapping Johnson. The England right-back pulled the ball across the six-yard box and, after going through Jan Vertonghen's legs, it bounced off Kaboul's heel into his own net.

Suarez's cross was then narrowly missed by Daniel Sturridge and Coutinho fired just wide as the hosts pushed for a second goal.

It came after 25 minutes when Dawson, who had just replaced the injured Vertonghen, gifted the ball to Suarez and he arrowed a low shot past Spurs goalkeeper Hugo Lloris for his 29th goal of the season.

Two rare Tottenham attacks saw Nabil Bentaleb's 30-yard drive well dealt with by Simon Mignolet, and Roberto Soldado's curling effort punched clear by the home goalkeeper.

Spurs had fought back from 2-0 down to beat Southampton 3-2 last Sunday, but a repeat never looked likely and Coutinho confirmed the victory with a powerful low shot from outside the area for Liverpool's third.

A miserable day for Tottenham got worse when Henderson's low free-kick went through a crowded penalty area and into the far corner of the net to seal a convincing win.

Tottenham manager Tim Sherwood:

"The idea was to stay in the game as long as we could but at 2-0 the game is dead and buried.

"It does appear we have a problem against the top four. The statistics don't lie. We have to address it. To go where we need to go, we need to get points from those above us."

On remaining in the stand for the entire game: "I'm going to learn more about my players from up there. When the team is not doing well, the fans want to see me.

"I am not shirking responsibility. But at 3-0, it was time to take step back and assess because our performances against the top four have not been good enough."

Date: 30 March 2014

Opposition: Tottenham Hotspur

Competition: League

Times	Telegraph	Standard
Guardian	Mirror	Echo
Independent	Mail	BBC

30 March 2014



Full time Match ends, Liverpool 4, Tottenham Hotspur 0.

90:00+3:09 Full time Second Half ends, Liverpool 4, Tottenham Hotspur 0.

90:00+2:17 Attempt missed. Michael Dawson (Tottenham Hotspur header from the centre of the box is just a bit too high. Assisted by Christian Eriksen with a cross following a corner.

90:00+1:52 Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Simon Mignolet.

90:00+1:50 Attempt saved. Christian Eriksen (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Andros Townsend.

90:00+0:31 Offside, Tottenham Hotspur. Christian Eriksen tries a through ball, but Andros Townsend is caught offside.

90:00+0:28 Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Jon Flanagan.

90:00+0:15 Roberto Soldado went off injured after Tottenham Hotspur had used all subs.

90:00+0:14 Delay over. They are ready to continue.

89:31 Delay in match Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur because of an injury.

88:29 Offside, Liverpool. Jordan Henderson tries a through ball, but Luis Suarez is caught offside.

88:05 Delay over. They are ready to continue.

87:36 Delay in match Danny Rose (Tottenham Hotspur because of an injury.

86:18 Attempt missed. Michael Dawson (Tottenham Hotspur header from the centre of the box is just a bit too high. Assisted by Christian Eriksen with a cross following a corner.

85:59 Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Martin Skrtel.

84:56 Attempt missed. Christian Eriksen (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from outside the box is too high. Assisted by Gylfi Sigurdsson.

83:55 Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Lucas Leiva.

83:54 Attempt blocked. Gylfi Sigurdsson (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Andros Townsend.

82:54 Offside, Liverpool. Victor Moses tries a through ball, but Daniel Sturridge is caught offside.

82:14 Substitution Substitution Substitution, Liverpool. Victor Moses replaces Raheem Sterling.

81:42 Glen Johnson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

81:42 Foul by Mousa Dembélé (Tottenham Hotspur.

81:33 Delay over. They are ready to continue.

80:46 Delay in match Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur because of an injury.

80:24 Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Lucas Leiva.

80:21 Attempt blocked. Gylfi Sigurdsson (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Nacer Chadli.

77:23 Foul by Luis Suarez (Liverpool.

77:23 Younes Kaboul (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.

76:29 Attempt missed. Michael Dawson (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from the centre of the box is too high following a corner.

75:58 Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Daniel Agger.

75:56 Attempt blocked. Nacer Chadli (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from the right side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Gylfi Sigurdsson.

75:18 Foul by Jordan Henderson (Liverpool.

75:18 Mousa Dembélé (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the attacking half.

74:17 Goal scored Goal! Goal! Liverpool 4, Tottenham Hotspur 0. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool from a free kick with a right footed shot to the bottom right corner.

73:23 Luis Suarez (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.

73:23 Foul by Andros Townsend (Tottenham Hotspur.

72:27 Corner, Tottenham Hotspur. Conceded by Lucas Leiva.

71:31 Foul by Glen Johnson (Liverpool.

71:31 Danny Rose (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.

69:18 Substitution Substitution Substitution, Liverpool. Lucas Leiva replaces Steven Gerrard.

67:17 Attempt saved. Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the centre of the goal.

65:45 Foul by Luis Suarez (Liverpool.

65:45 Hugo Lloris (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.

63:08 Substitution Substitution Substitution, Liverpool. Joe Allen replaces Philippe Coutinho.

62:26 Attempt missed. Nacer Chadli (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from the left side of the box is high and wide to the right. Assisted by Mousa Dembélé.

59:10 Substitution Substitution Substitution, Tottenham Hotspur. Mousa Dembélé replaces Nabil Bentaleb.

59:06 Substitution Substitution Substitution, Tottenham Hotspur. Andros Townsend replaces Aaron Lennon.

58:29 Attempt missed. Nabil Bentaleb (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the left.

56:21 Foul by Raheem Sterling (Liverpool.

56:21 Christian Eriksen (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick on the left wing.

54:49 Goal scored Goal! Goal! Liverpool 3, Tottenham Hotspur 0. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box to the bottom left corner. Assisted by Jon Flanagan.

53:06 Attempt missed. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is high and wide to the right. Assisted by Raheem Sterling.

49:21 Foul by Jordan Henderson (Liverpool.

49:21 Aaron Lennon (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.

48:04 Raheem Sterling (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

48:04 Foul by Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur.

46:07 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Danny Rose.

45:46 Booking Gylfi Sigurdsson (Tottenham Hotspur is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

45:24 Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

45:24 Foul by Gylfi Sigurdsson (Tottenham Hotspur.

45:00 Second Half begins Liverpool 2, Tottenham Hotspur 0.

45:00+2:05 Half time First Half ends, Liverpool 2, Tottenham Hotspur 0.

45:00+0:12 Foul by Raheem Sterling (Liverpool.

45:00+0:12 Danny Rose (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.

44:35 Attempt missed. Luis Suarez (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the right from a direct free kick.

43:35 Hand ball by Kyle Naughton (Tottenham Hotspur.

40:53 Attempt saved. Luis Suarez (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is saved in the top left corner. Assisted by Raheem Sterling with a cross.

39:27 Attempt saved. Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from the left side of the box is saved in the top right corner.

37:26 Attempt saved. Nabil Bentaleb (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Nacer Chadli.

33:49 Foul by Luis Suarez (Liverpool.

33:49 Michael Dawson (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.

33:08 Attempt missed. Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is just a bit too high from a direct free kick.

32:17 Booking Younes Kaboul (Tottenham Hotspur is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

31:52 Daniel Sturridge (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

31:52 Foul by Younes Kaboul (Tottenham Hotspur.

29:02 Glen Johnson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

29:02 Foul by Younes Kaboul (Tottenham Hotspur.

28:30 Attempt blocked. Kyle Naughton (Tottenham Hotspur right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Gylfi Sigurdsson.

27:39 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Michael Dawson.

26:48 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Michael Dawson.

25:59 Attempt saved. Gylfi Sigurdsson (Tottenham Hotspur header from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner.

25:57 Attempt blocked. Christian Eriksen (Tottenham Hotspur left footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Kyle Naughton.

24:02 Goal scored Goal! Goal! Liverpool 2, Tottenham Hotspur 0. Luis Suarez (Liverpool left footed shot from the left side of the box to the bottom right corner.

23:27 Substitution Substitution Substitution, Tottenham Hotspur. Michael Dawson replaces Jan Vertonghen because of an injury.

22:56 Attempt missed. Luis Suarez (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the right from a direct free kick.

22:31 Delay over. They are ready to continue.

21:28 Delay in match Jan Vertonghen (Tottenham Hotspur because of an injury.

20:54 Hand ball by Gylfi Sigurdsson (Tottenham Hotspur.

18:52 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Jan Vertonghen.

17:16 Luis Suarez (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.

17:16 Foul by Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur.

16:12 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Younes Kaboul.

15:02 Attempt missed. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the right. Assisted by Luis Suarez.

7:18 Foul by Martin Skrtel (Liverpool.

7:18 Roberto Soldado (Tottenham Hotspur wins a free kick in the defensive half.

4:33 Attempt missed. Luis Suarez (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the right. Assisted by Jon Flanagan.

1:37 Goal scored Goal! Own Goal by Younes Kaboul, Tottenham Hotspur. Liverpool 1, Tottenham Hotspur 0.

0:00 First Half begins.

0:00 Lineups are announced and players are warming up.