

Date: 2 May 2015
Opposition: Queens Park Rangers
Competition: League

2 May 2015

THE TIMES

Gerrard thrives on hardship once more to drag Liverpool over the line

Liverpool Coutinho 19, Gerrard 87 2

QPR Fer 73 1

Referee M Atkinson Attendance 44,707

Another bucket list ambition achieved, Steven Gerrard stood arms aloft in trademark celebratory pose with a banner depicting the exact same stance providing the most fitting backdrop.

At that moment, the line between Liverpool cherishing what they have and recognising what they are about to lose was crossed. Next season, the flag will remain but the player will be gone and with him will go the innate match-winning qualities that place him above so many others.

The banner's claim that Gerrard is "The best there is, the best there was and the best there will ever be," may be an inevitable topic of debate, but it taps into a belief that few, if any, in the club's history have provided as many decisive interventions in adversity.

By dragging his team over the line yet again, absolving himself of an earlier penalty miss, Gerrard had the goal in front of the Kop that he had craved before departing to Los Angeles.

On the bench, Brendan Rodgers punched the air in delight, for both team and player, before the reality dawned that he will have only three more matches to work with one of the few players in football capable of thriving in hardship. "It comes from within," the Liverpool manager said. "As a coach, you can create a cause for players to fight for, but it's a small bracket of players who have that feeling of never being beaten. Steven and the Suarezes of the world are never beaten. Suarez, away to Norwich City a couple of seasons ago, was through on goal and missed while one on one. But five seconds later he scored because he has that world-class mentality.

"I have seen it so many times. Players miss penalties at all levels and the player in question normally ends up getting substituted because it affects him. With Steven it actually inspires him. He has a phenomenal talent."

Gerrard's winner maintained Liverpool's Champions League hopes and condemned Queens Park Rangers to almost certain relegation. Lose to Manchester City next weekend and demotion to the Sky Bet Championship will be unavoidable. Belief has grown Under Chris Ramsey but, with the exception of Charlie Austin, they lack individuals able to make a difference.

There is character within the QPR ranks as they refused to yield to Liverpool after Philippe Coutinho's latest picture-book goal. Leroy Fer's equaliser looked to have earned them a point, only for Nedum Onuoha's discipline to desert him, resulting in the Gerrard penalty that Rob Green, the QPR goalkeeper, saved and a second booking in quick succession cost the visiting team a player they could not afford to lose. With three minutes remaining, Gerrard broke their resistance.

the guardian

Steven Gerrard misses penalty but scores winner for Liverpool against QPR
A plane circled Anfield before kick off carrying a banner that read "Rodgers Out Rafa In" but it was Queens Park Rangers who were directed towards the exit by the end. Steven Gerrard dug Liverpool out of a hole, just for old times' sake, with an 87th-minute winner on his penultimate home appearance. One man's fairytale ending proved a nightmare for the opposition.

QPR must avoid defeat at Manchester City next Sunday or they will make an immediate return to the Championship. They lost Steven Caulker to a suspected broken hand at half-time, another defender, Nedum Onuoha, to a needless red card and, not for the first time this season, their concentration late on when Gerrard appeared through a crowded six-yard box to head home Philippe Coutinho's corner and his 184th goal for Liverpool.

With Rodgers also defending his tenure, Anfield witnessed an important day in the life of its manager, its indefatigable captain and relegation-threatened opponents. However, as Rodgers eloquently put it, the serious narratives were rendered "insignificant" in comparison to the news that Rio Ferdinand's wife, Rebecca Ellison, had died of cancer on Friday at the age of 34. Both teams wore black armbands in memory of the mother of three young children and Leroy Fer revealed a T-shirt tribute to the Ferdinand family after equalising Coutinho's opener.

Fer's 73rd-minute volley gave QPR hope in their bid to avoid the drop. Gerrard offered them more encouragement when his 77th-minute penalty at the Kop end was saved by Robert Green. Ten minutes later he took it away.

"A lot of players when they miss a big penalty their game goes and their confidence goes. Steven is the total opposite," said the Liverpool manager, who was going to replace the 34-year-old with Lucas Leiva had he converted the spot-kick. "He is one of a unique group of players that when they need to respond, they do, and an outstanding header gets us the win. It is world-class talent.

"The career is all flashing before his eyes now. It was brilliant to get it at the Kop end as well. This is a guy that you cannot replace. He is getting on in age a wee bit but in terms of quality, his sheer quality as a player, there are not many in our team that can rival that. It will probably only be when he is gone that people will recognise what a sheer talent he is."

Anfield desperately craved another Gerrard goal but it proved an agonising wait with the captain going close with a free-kick from the edge of the penalty area and missing a penalty here for the sixth time in his career before finally delivering. QPR made a bright, determined start and Fer had the ball in Simon Mignolet's goal after 47 seconds only for an assistant referee to spot that Matt Phillips's corner had curled out of play en route. Caulker and Fer also went close before Liverpool started to play with the game 10 minutes old.

With Mario Balotelli nursing a foot injury and Daniel Sturridge in Boston for an assessment on his hip problem, Rickie Lambert was handed his first start in the Premier League since 6 December. The England international took the rare, arguably overdue, opportunity well and it was his vision that allowed Coutinho to open the scoring. Liverpool broke down their right through Raheem Sterling and found Lambert. The striker picked out Coutinho lurking on the opposite side of the area. The Brazilian cut back inside Onuoha and curled a shot into the top corner.

Adam Lallana and Sterling squandered glorious chances to put the game beyond QPR in the second half and their profligacy was punished when Fer vollied Joey Barton's corner down the centre of Mignolet's goal. Dejan Lovren and Martin Skrtel stood watching as he did so.

Then came Onuoha's self-implosion. With 12 minutes remaining he pulled Skrtel to the ground at a Liverpool corner, to concede the penalty that Gerrard failed to convert, and collected a yellow card into the bargain.

Four minutes later he scythed down the substitute Jordan Ibe and walked before Martin Atkinson could produce the second yellow card.

Further punishment arrived for Rangers when they failed to track Gerrard's run to meet Coutinho's corner and the captain steered a header into Green's bottom left-hand corner.

"The fans can see that we are not going out with a whimper," said Chris Ramsey, seemingly resigned to his team's fate.

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The Mail

Liverpool will miss heroics of inspirational Gerrard
 LIVERPOOL 2
 QPR 1
 FOR a moment, it felt as if we had gone back in time. Steven Gerrard was sprinting, arms outstretched, to the corner of Anfield where the Kop and Centenary stands meet, pursued by elated team-mates. He made that celebration famous when performing a rescue act against Olympiacos in December 2004 but here he was doing the same thing again, more than 10 years later, saving Liverpool just when they needed him. But the joy that followed goal 184 of his Liverpool career soon gave way to poignancy. In three weeks, his remarkable journey will be over and only now is reality starting to dawn of exactly what the club will miss when he goes to the United States. Plenty of players would have gone under after seeing a penalty saved in the way he did by Robert Green but Gerrard simply went through the gears and rose inexorably in the 87th minute to give Liverpool a win that keeps their faint hopes of a top-four finish alive. 'If that is my last goal at Anfield then I will take it but I won't give up,' said Gerrard. Who will do that next season when he is no longer there? It is a question that Brendan Rodgers knows will not be easily answered. 'It's a small bracket of players who have that feeling of never being beaten,' he said. 'I have seen it so many times. Players miss penalties at all levels and normally they end up getting substituted because it affects him. With Steven it works the other way. It actually inspires him.' Defeat leaves QPR on the brink and they will be condemned to the Championship if they lose at Manchester City next week. They finished with 10 men after Nedum Onuoha was sent off but their spirit could not be questioned, particularly when Leroy Fer equalised after Philippe Coutinho's opener. SUPER STAT: There has never been a goalless draw in the 51 meetings between these clubs. LIVERPOOL (4-1-4-1): Mignolet 7; Can 6.5, Skrtel 7, Lovren 6.5, Johnson 6.5 (Markovic 84mins); Gerrard 8.5 (Lucas 89); Sterling 6.5, Henderson 7, Coutinho 7.5, Lallana 6 (Ibe 68, 6.5); Lambert 7. Subs not used: Ward, Toure, Allen, Moreno. Booked: Gerrard, Lovren. Scorers: Coutinho 19, Gerrard 87. QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-1-4-1): Green 8; Onuoha 5, Dunne 6.5, Caulker 5.5 (Yun 46, 6), Hill 6; Barton 6; Henry 6 (Zamora 71, 6), Sandro 6, Fer 6.5, Phillips 7; Austin 6. Subs not used: McCarthy, Wright-Phillips, Kranjcar, Hoillet, Grego-Cox.

The Daily Telegraph

Gerrard still writing his own legend
 Liverpool 2
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 Whenever Liverpool are struggling they revert to their default position - mobilise the historians and find solace in chasing the past. Nothing sounds as good as 'I remember that' a lyricist once noted. It could have been penned after a visit to Anfield, and May is always nostalgia central. Fifty years since the first FA Cup win; 25 years since the last title; 10 years since Istanbul - Brendan Rodgers knew when appointed how many anniversary dinners he would be invited to, but in the early days of his reign he sought to be inspired rather than weighed down by history. In the moments after Liverpool's deserved but awkward 2-1 victory against Queens Park Rangers, there were signs he has come to understand the frustrations of his predecessors. "Short memories," was Rodgers's response as he joined the ranks of the wistful by urging supporters to think of last year rather than yesteryear. It could be argued that the memories are, in fact, too long. The present, with the lack of silverware and the grim prospect of a Europa League campaign offering a ready-made excuse for failing to challenge for the title next season, just is not cutting it, so the museum artefacts soothe the pain. There will always be a momentous performance, a world-class player and a popular former manager to pine for. The paradox is that we are in the midst of events that - like so many others that were casually brushed off at the time (not least the last title in 1990) - will become more significant and celebrated with age. In 10 or 25 years' time you can well imagine a proliferation of flashbacks recognising these final weeks at Anfield of the finest all-round footballer Liverpool has produced. Steven Gerrard's greatness will swell every season he is no longer around as much as it has since his debut. You can foresee the articles of the next decade, cursing Liverpool's lack of on-field leadership, reminiscing about those era-defining winners, and commemorating Gerrard's capacity to offer meaning to the meaningless, as he did with his header three minutes from time here to - just about - keep top-four ambitions simmering. Rodgers, with a tone of irritation, said that he was being urged by supporters to substitute Gerrard prior to his winning goal, not least because he saw his penalty saved by Robert Green eight minutes earlier. Few will be referring to such incidents when the tribute dinners in Gerrard's honour recall these last moments in a red shirt. That is the point. Memory is not always truth. It distorts by giving that treasured recollection a restorative rub, removing the blemishes that were prevalent at the time. Liverpool fans yearn for the era of Istanbul because of the euphoria of that victorious moment, forgetting how freakish it was and how close they were - from Olympiakos in the group stage through to half-time in The Ataturk - to being humiliated. The man who prevented that and changed the course of Liverpool history does not need summoning back because, for another three weeks at least, he is still at the club. What we are witnessing whenever Gerrard plays now are the final scenes of the documentary footage of the future. For 87 minutes he experienced Liverpool's entire season against QPR. A poor start, better in the middle thanks to Philippe Coutinho (but lacking goals) and then desperation as the finale approached. Chris Ramsey was encouraged by his side's commitment, but they should have been well beaten before Leroy Fer's volleyed equaliser and looked like a Championship team in waiting. Nedum Onuoha's sendingoff switched the attacking momentum Liverpool's way and Gerrard took his goal tally to 184. For those he leaves behind - not least Rodgers who will still be in charge regardless of stunts involving amateur pilots (believed to be from Manchester), blogs about Jurgen Klopp and conspiracy theories regarding Rafael Benitez's ambition to get back to the club - the challenge at Anfield is perpetual; to ensure the emblems of Liverpool history are a friend rather than threat.

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Steven Gerrard saves his own blushes to score winner after seeing a penalty saved

For Steven Gerrard the sensation would almost have been second nature, the swish of the ball striking the net, the roar of the Kop. He would have known when he stood arms aloft at the corner of the Centenary Stand bathing in the applause that this would probably be the last goal he would score at Anfield, 16 years after the first in a 4-1 rout of Sheffield Wednesday. Gerrard has ridden to Liverpool's rescue in more dramatic circumstances than this. However, had he not headed his 184th goal for the club, Liverpool's season would have continued to flicker and die while the pressure on their manager, Brendan Rodgers, would have continued to mount. Queens Park Rangers would not have needed to take a point from Manchester City next weekend to avoid relegation.

Before kick-off a plane that usually flies over Anfield to advertise the services of a "gentleman's club" carried a banner that demanded: "Rodgers Out, Rafa In". The thought of Benitez going back to Liverpool is somebody's fantasy but the club's owner, John W Henry, proved himself ruthless enough to fire Kenny Dalglish after a season that dribbled away with four defeats in the final six matches. Henry counted the fact that Dalglish had led Liverpool to two Wembley finals irrelevant to the wider picture.

"I saw the plane; I thought Rafa's agent was in it," said Rodgers with a smile. "Football has short memories. This time last year I was sitting here nearly having won the league. I know that the size of this club means that many people are linked to this job."

Rodgers had been preparing to take Gerrard off when his captain walked up to take a penalty, awarded when Nedum Onuoha had dragged down Martin Skrtel in ridiculous circumstances – a centre-half with his back to goal trying to meet Jordan Henderson's corner was no kind of threat. Moments later, another challenge saw Onuoha sent off.

Rodgers told Lucas Leiva that he could come on once Gerrard had scored; except that he didn't. Of all his penalties, this was one of the weakest, taken with a couple of steps at a comfortable height for Rob Green to save. "I changed my mind on the run-up," Gerrard said. "The No 1 rule with penalties is you don't change your mind – the last time I changed my mind I missed as well." Rodgers then changed his mind about replacing his captain.

"There were people behind me shouting to take him off," he said. "There are players whose game goes when they miss a penalty but Steven is one of those who responds. He scores the big goals and makes the big contributions, he has done that throughout his career. This is a guy you cannot replace."

For Queens Park Rangers this was no ordinary loss. The morning of the match had been scarred by the death of Rio Ferdinand's wife, Rebecca Ellison, from breast cancer at the age of 34. Bill Shankly's remark about football's importance above life and death was never meant to be taken seriously. In a room with photographs of Shankly all around him, the QPR manager, Chris Ramsey, remarked that it was not just the defeat that had spread solemnity around the dressing room.

"Everyone will tell you that as a man Rio has been fantastic," he said. "He has come in and trained and kept everything to himself. He has not had the world on his shoulders, he has found the time to talk to the young players. "We hope his family can find the strength to recover from this."

When Leroy Fer volleyed home Joey Barton's corner, it not only cancelled out Philippe Coutinho's beautifully crafted opener, it emphasised some glaring Liverpool misses from first Adam Lallana and then Raheem Sterling, who somehow contrived to miss from six yards.

Fer pulled up his shirt to reveal a message to Ferdinand's family, which stated simply "stay strong". It would have been fitting had Queens Park Rangers stayed strong for the final 17 minutes of the game but their concentration, as it has done so often away from Loftus Road, failed them. The price for those lapses will be relegation come the end of the season.

Line-ups:
 Liverpool: (4-1-4-1) Mignolet; Can, Skrtel, Lovren, Johnson; Gerrard (Lucas, 89); Sterling, Henderson, Coutinho, Lallana (Ibe, 67); Lambert.
 Queens Park Rangers: (4-4-1-1) Green; Onuoha, Dunne, Caulker (Yun, h-t), Hill; Phillips, Barton, Sandro, Henry (Zamora, 71); Fer; Austin.
 Referee: Martin Atkinson
 Man of the match: Gerrard (Liverpool)
 Match rating: 6/10



KISS ME WHEN I'M GONE

THERE have been so many in recent weeks, that the milestone Steven Gerrard passed with his match-winning goal went largely unnoticed. The winner here was not only a timely reminder of what the Liverpool skipper should be remembered for, but what the Reds will have to somehow replace when he departs.

His header, a leap above Queens Park Rangers' towering defence, took him past Robbie Fowler into fifth on the all-time list of Anfield goalscorers. That's from a midfielder, remember, and ahead of true striking greats like Kenny Dalglish and Fowler.

It is a fundamental problem for Brendan Rodgers. His side boasts Philippe Coutinho, Raheem Sterling, Adam Lallana and Jordan Henderson, and all possess real technical ability around the box. Yet none of them scores enough goals. Coutinho is a case in point. His opener here in the 20th minute was only his fifth league goal of the season. Given his technique, that is mystifying.

Gerrard (with Rodgers, right) is Liverpool's joint top scorer this season. Amazing when you consider he's missed long stretches of the campaign.

"What Steven has achieved is incredible. We know the standard and status here of Robbie and the sheer talent he was in terms of goals," said Rodgers.

"So to pass that shows just what an achievement it is for Steven. How do we replace that? We have to find a way to get the goals. It's getting the right kind of players. Our football hasn't changed. We are still very attacking and creative."

That much is true. Coutinho was outstanding around the box, and at times, Liverpool bamboozled their opponents with the speed of their passing game.

ALBOTP a Yet they missed a string of chances - Lallana and Sterling the worst culprits - and almost handed Rangers a vital point, when Leroy Fer levelled on 73 minutes.

That has been the story of the Reds' season - dominating possession, creating chances, not taking them, paying the price. This time, as many times in the past, Gerrard saved them. He did it despite missing a penalty, which would have crushed many others.

And while everyone else seems to have given up on the top four, the captain has not.

"I'm sure the manager's already got one eye on next season, but these games are still important," he said. "You want to win them all and keep pressure on the teams above. If they do slip up, we must be ready to pounce."

Rangers caretaker boss Chris Ramsey has produced some good performances from his relegation-threatened side but results have remained poor.

"The reason is simple really - we haven't spread the goals around," he conceded. "We have relied a lot on Charlie Austin to score the goals this season. We haven't got enough goals from around the pitch."

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Departing Gerrard shows why he isn't finished just yet
 Rarely has a late winner against such limited opposition with the stakes so low been greeted at Anfield with such fervour. As the seconds ticked away against Queens Park Rangers, Liverpool were on the brink of completing another tale of woe. Brendan Rodgers' side should have been out of sight but looked to have carelessly tossed away another two points.

Some gilt-edged chances had been spurned following Philippe Coutinho's classy opener and some shambolic defending had put the equaliser on a plate for Leroy Fer. Steven Gerrard's send-off had taken another painful turn for the worse with Robert Green pushing away his spot-kick 11 minutes from time.

The gloom was about to descend a little further. But Gerrard has never been one to accept his fate. The past 17 years have been littered with glorious examples of him providing the inspiration to drag the Reds kicking and screaming over the line. And just when his remarkable story looked set to be limping to an underwhelming conclusion, he added another rescue act to his unrivalled Anfield collection.

When Coutinho delivered a 87th-minute corner, there was only one winner. Gerrard got away from Bobby Zamora and soared above Joey Barton to emphatically head home in front of the Kop. It was a show of burning desire.

The outpouring of emotion showcased just what it meant to the club's departing talisman on his penultimate appearance at Anfield.

The beaming skipper raced towards the corner, planting a kiss on the liver bird on his shirt before being mobbed by his jubilant team-mates.

His first goal since February – his 184th for the club - took him above Robbie Fowler and into fifth place in the club's all-time list of scorers. Only Ian Rush, Roger Hunt, Gordon Hodgson and Billy Liddell have been more prolific in the Reds' history. There will be no Hollywood ending for Gerrard prior to his move to Los Angeles Galaxy in July. Liverpool's disastrous display at Wembley last month put paid to that but this season won't dent his legacy.

There was a deafening ovation when he was substituted late on and there will be another when he graces Anfield for the final time on May 16.

An era is coming to an end and Kopites owe a debt of gratitude to Gerrard which they can never repay. It was an uplifting end to an afternoon which had begun with the banner 'Rodgers Out Rafa In' being flown over the stadium.

Even fans whose patience has been stretched to the limit by Liverpool's slump over the past six weeks shook their heads in dismay.

Rodgers rung the changes following the limp midweek defeat to Hull as Gerrard, Adam Lallana and Rickie Lambert replaced Joe Allen, Jordan Ibe and the injured Mario Balotelli. QPR, who look doomed to relegation, arrived with the worst defensive record in the top flight but it was Chris Ramsey's men who made the brighter start. The visitors had the ball in the net inside 55 seconds but Matt Phillips' corner had gone out of play before Fer turned it home.

Liverpool were second best and the warning signs were there. Glen Johnson somehow lost a sprint with veteran Richard Dunne down the left before Dejan Lovren clumsily upended Charlie Austin.

The ensuing free-kick from Phillips wasn't dealt with but to the Reds' relief Steven Caulker volleyed wide. Simon Mignolet was then called into action to push behind Fer's 25-yarder before the hosts belatedly came to life.

In the 20th minute Liverpool broke the deadlock. Lambert, who was making his first league start since December, showed great awareness to pick out Coutinho on the far side of the box. The little Brazilian took a touch to steady himself and expertly curled into the top corner for his eighth of the campaign.

The lead flattered Liverpool but once in front they went on to dominate. Martin Skrtel flashed a header wide before the captain failed to hit the target after stretching to reach Sterling's lay-off. Lallana hasn't come close to living up to his £24million price tag during an injury-plagued first season at Anfield.

But back in the starting line up after six weeks out with a groin problem, he provided a welcome injection of creativity. His willingness to press the ball also improved Liverpool as he forced the opposition into coughing up possession.

Lambert could also hold his head high after producing the kind of tireless shift you simply don't get from Balotelli. The big frontman's wait for a first Anfield goal goes on but he held the ball up well, occupied defenders and brought team-mates into play. When Emre Can was cynically brought down by Barton, Gerrard's curling free-kick was tipped behind by Green. In the second half Liverpool remained in control but the lack of a ruthless streak continued to hamper them.

Lallana should have doubled their tally after being put through by Coutinho but his left-footer flew wide. Sterling was the next to wish the ground would open and swallow him up as he somehow lifted Henderson's enticing cross over from five yards out. It was another tough afternoon for Sterling, who later felt the wrath of the Kop after pulling out of a challenge with Dunne.

Ibe replaced the tiring Lallana as Liverpool continued to press. Gerrard's strike was deflected wide before Lovren's header was parried by Green. Lovren produced another erratic display – dominant one minute and all over the shop the next. His tendency to dive into tackles remains a glaring weakness.

With 17 minutes to go Lovren simply stood and watched as the unmarked Fer volleyed home from Barton's corner. Suddenly, a scrappy win was looking like being a damaging stalemate. However, to their credit, Liverpool responded and

finished with a flourish. There were awarded a penalty when Nedum Onuoha hauled down Skrtel but Green guessed right and thwarted Gerrard. Onuoha soon got his marching orders – getting a second yellow in the space of three minutes after clattering Ibe. Liverpool's search for a winner was getting ever desperate when Gerrard took centre stage. Captain Fantastic delivered once again to lift the gloom. He isn't finished yet.



Steven Gerrard scores winner after missing penalty as relegation looms large for struggling Rangers
 Captain Steven Gerrard may be on the final leg of his Liverpool farewell but the midfielder showed he still has a head for the big moments. After missing the penalty to put them back in the lead after Leroy Fer's volley had cancelled out Philippe Coutinho's first-half goal, he stole in to head home in the 88th minute for a 2-1 win which leaves 10-man QPR's survival hopes hanging by the slenderest of threads. The hosts looked like they had paid the price for not taking their chances when Fer's strike gave QPR hope of a point with 17 minutes remaining, but Gerrard got them out of trouble.

There will not be many more moments like this and Anfield rose as one for an extra special cheer as he was substituted soon after.

In two weeks' time Gerrard will make his final appearance on this ground before he leaves for Los Angeles Galaxy and you would not rule out a fairytale finish of some sort. His late winner leaves QPR, who had Nedum Onuoha sent off for two bookable offences within the space of four minutes, seven points from safety with just nine to play for and Manchester City at the Etihad Stadium next up.

Both sets of players wore black armbands for the match following this morning's tragic news that Rio Ferdinand's wife Rebecca had died after a short battle with cancer. The QPR fans also chanted their support for the Hoops centre-back at the start of the match, which began with the visitors on top.

Respects: Gerrard hands QPR captain Barton flowers before the match they had a goal disallowed early on before Fer saw his shot well saved by Simon Mignolet. However, Liverpool weathered that storm and went on to claim the points - albeit it in far from comfortable fashion. The win ended a miserable fortnight for the Reds after they lost an FA Cup semi-final and saw their slim hopes of a top-four finish virtually extinguished. But there was little in the way of celebration as they know their chance has gone, while visitors traipsed off knowing their Premier League existence is now extremely fragile. After Leicester's fourth win in five matches earlier in the day, Chris Ramsey's side knew they had to get something out of the game and safety seems a long way off.

They were given half-a-chance by Liverpool who wasted a host of chances and should have been out of sight well before their opponents got back into the game. With Daniel Sturridge and Mario Balotelli injured striker Rickie Lambert made his first Premier League start since December 6 and managed more than a passable impression of a half-decent centre-forward.

Admittedly he did not score but his hold-up play at least gave the midfield runners something to work with and his vision and pass across almost the width of the penalty area picked out Coutinho for the opening goal.

Whatever the 33-year-old does between now and the end of the season, even taking into consideration the current paucity of resources up front, it is unlikely to make a difference to his future with the exit door beckoning for the England international. Coutinho remains very much part of the future and his curling 19th-minute finish, after shifting Lambert's pass inside onto his right foot, was another to add to this season's showcase of impressive goals.

It was his fifth in the league and he is now only two behind the team's leading scorer Raheem Sterling, a statistic which tells its own story about why Liverpool's top-four challenge has faltered.

Gerrard, returning to the side after missing the midweek defeat in Hull, tried to add to his league tally of six but sliced two wide, saw Rob Green palm away a free-kick in the first half and tip another shot around the post after the break.

He eventually got there, after his spot-kick error, but it all felt a bit laboured for the hosts for whom Sterling missed a glorious chance from five yards out after the break.

Lambert forced Green into a low save and Dejan Lovren's header was pushed out by the goalkeeper who did more than enough to keep his side, who lost Steven Caulker to a suspected broken hand at half-time, in the game.

When the unmarked Fer volleyed home in the 73rd minute - the midfielder subsequently revealing a "stay strong family Ferdinand" message under his shirt - QPR sensed an upset, but Onuoha's shirt-pull on Martin Skrtel conceded the penalty and earned his first yellow card before a wild hack on Liverpool substitute Jordan Ibe saw him dismissed.

But just when it seemed they had clung on for a point Gerrard nipped in to nod home Coutinho's corner.

It was a moment to savour as there will not be many more like it.

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THE INDEPENDENT

ON SUNDAY

Gerrard finds a parting gift as QPR slip further

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"There were people behind me shouting to take him off," he said. "There are players whose game goes when they miss a penalty but Steven is one of those who responds. He scores the big goals and makes the big contributions, he has done that throughout his career. This is a guy you cannot replace."

For Queens Park Rangers this was no ordinary loss. The morning of the match had been scarred by the death of Rebecca Ellison, the wife of their central defender Rio Ferdinand. Bill Shankly's remark about football's importance above life and death was never meant to be taken seriously. In a room with photographs of Shankly all around him, the QPR manager, Chris Ramsey, remarked that it was not just the defeat that had spread solemnity around the dressing room.

"Everyone will tell you that as a man Rio has been fantastic," he said. "He has come in and trained and kept everything to himself. He has not had the world on his shoulders, he has found time to talk to the young players. We hope his family can find the strength to recover from this."

When Leroy Fer volleyed home Joey Barton's corner, it not only cancelled out Philippe Coutinho's beautifully crafted opener, it emphasised some glaring Liverpool misses from first Adam Lallana and then Raheem Sterling, who somehow contrived to miss from six yards.

Fer pulled up his shirt to reveal a message to Ferdinand's family, which stated simply: "Stay strong". It would have been fitting had Queens Park Rangers stayed strong for the final 17 minutes of the game, but their concentration, as it has done so often away from Loftus Road, failed them. The price for those lapses will be relegation come the end of the season.

Liverpool: (4-1-4-1) Mignolet; Can, Skrtel, Lovren, Johnson; Gerrard (Lucas, 89); Sterling, Henderson, Coutinho, Lallana (Ibe, 67); Lambert.

Queens Park Rangers: (4-4-1-1) Green; Onuoha, Dunne, Caulker (Yun, h-t), Hill; Phillips, Barton, Sandro, Henry (Zamora, 71); Fer; Austin.

Referee: Martin Atkinson.

Man of the match: Gerrard (Liverpool)

Match rating: 6/10

The Sunday Telegraph

Gerrard delivers vintage finish

Liverpool 2

Coutinho 19, Gerrard 87

Queens Park Rangers 1

Fer 73 Att: 44,707

The final reel of Steven Gerrard's Liverpool career will not have the show-stopping conclusion many anticipated, but his unrelenting capacity to stir the masses will be appreciated when he gets to Hollywood.

Gerrard departed to a standing ovation with two minutes left of his side's win over Queens Park Rangers having just headed the winning goal. Moments earlier he feared he would be culpable for two more dropped points when he was guilty of a rare penalty miss.

It is as if that Rudyard Kipling line about confronting the twin impostors of triumph and disaster was penned as a biography of Gerrard's career. Here it was encapsulated in the space of eight minutes.

Whatever other qualities will be recalled when Gerrard has moved on it will be his sense of personal responsibility for the fortunes of his club that may override all else.

Liverpool have had plenty of world-class players over the decades, but few who have been expected to embody the aspirations over such a prolonged period. There must have been occasions when Gerrard grew tired of being a symbol of both the greatest victories and most depressing losses. He has scored 184 goals, the fifth-highest in the club's history, but so many have been era-defining as much as match-winning.

His goal here, a header from Philippe Coutinho's corner, had more relevance at the bottom of the Premier League than for Liverpool, who are now engaged in an unlikely chase for the Champions League. Nevertheless, Gerrard celebrated at the corner flag where the Kop meets the Centenary Stand like a man cherishing the last leg of his long farewell.

"He was very determined to score, especially after the penalty," said Brendan Rodgers.

"A lot of players, when they miss a big penalty, their game goes and their confidence goes. He is the total opposite, one of a unique group of players that responds when they need to.

"There is a very, very small group of players in that bracket who score the big goals and make the big contributions as he has done throughout his career.

"The career was all flashing before his eyes now so it was brilliant to get that goal at the Kop end as well. It was a real special moment for him.

"There were people behind me shouting to get him off, take him off. It will probably only be when he is gone that people will recognise what a sheer talent he is."

Although perhaps not that significant in terms of top-four ambitions despite Manchester United's defeat last night, Rodgers still needed this win. A stunt before the game saw a plane fly overhead with a banner calling for Rodgers to be dismissed and former manager Rafa Benitez to be installed. "I think it was Rafa's agent," Rodgers said. "A few have short memories because we nearly won the league last year."

He need not have concerned himself. The stunt was roundly condemned by Liverpool supporters who suspect those not affiliated to the club to be responsible.

For Chris Ramsey there could be only frustration as his side self-destructed at a point in the game they looked like they might win.

The Championship is inevitable.

Liverpool deservedly led thanks to Coutinho's first-half strike and wasted several easy chances to secure the points earlier, especially early in the second half. Instead, the introduction of Bobby Zamora offered the visitors a forward thrust that had been lacking. Having forced a succession of corners, Joey Barton's delivery on 73 minutes found Leroy Fer who volleyed ferociously past Simon Mignolet.

The game turned back Liverpool's way when Nedum Onuoha picked up two yellow cards, the first in the build-up to Gerrard's penalty miss and the second an appalling tackle on Jordan Ibe.

"We'd be OK if the game was 80 minutes," suggested Ramsey, who has seen his side concede late to Chelsea and Hull recently.

Rodgers must balance looking ahead to next season - he will still be the manager here so the amateur pilots would be wiser not to waste valuable air time - with ensuring they at least finish top of the also-ran charts.

For Gerrard, the farewell tour must take in a torturous journey to Stamford Bridge next weekend to applaud the champions in waiting. The pleasure of his latest winner will be followed by the excruciating pain of being present when Chelsea celebrate the title. There they are shadowing him again - triumph and torment.

Date: 2 May 2015
 Opposition: Queens Park Rangers
 Competition: League



THE SUNDAY TIMES

Gerrard to the rescue

It was unseasonably cold, an odd day already, and Liverpool didn't quite know what they were playing for. With Champions League qualification probably, but not definitely, gone, would three points matter? Would any win matter in a game overshadowed by the death, at only 34 years of age after breast cancer, of Rio Ferdinand's wife, Rebecca?

Queens Park Rangers had relegation to fight and softly conceding three minutes from time was self-defeating and pushed them ever closer to the brink. But it didn't seem half as important as it would in different circumstances.

It was Steven Gerrard, not by any means for the first time yet maybe for the last time, who decided a game - heading in Philippe Coutinho's corner in front of the Kop having missed a penalty just a few minutes before. If there was a football story here, it was him.

His second-last game at Anfield, his 183rd goal, was a good one. Gerrard got across somnolent QPR defenders to meet Coutinho's centre with perfect timing and fine appreciation of the angles. From a near-post position, on the sixyard line, his glancing contact sent the ball across goal and beyond Robert Green.

Gerrard bathed, for a moment, in the Kop's applause and even smiled - a first - when substituted moments later. "It's world-class talent," said Brendan Rodgers. "There's a very small group of players in that bracket where in the big games they score big goals and make big contributions."

He revealed he'd told Lucas he was going on as Gerrard prepared to take his penalty, assuming the spot-kick would go in, and when it didn't fans behind the dug out shouted for Gerrard to be replaced. Some players wilt when they fail in a big moment and it was a timid penalty from Gerrard that Green saved. "But he's the complete opposite," Rodgers observed. "Whenever he needs to respond he does." That knack, said Rodgers, is "irreplaceable" and Liverpool need quite a bit of renewal but Jordan Henderson and Coutinho - perhaps Gerrard's successors as, respectively, captain and inspiration - had fine games, and Jordan Ibe impressed with a cameo.

Coutinho scored Liverpool's first, and what a beauty it was. On a sweeping counterattack, Raheem Sterling found Rickie Lambert just inside the box and Lambert, with defenders blocking the angles for a shot, played an intelligent pass to Coutinho, whose touch was heavy, allowing Joey Barton to slide in, but whose shot was lovely, lofting the ball over Barton's stretching body and curling in to the top corner.

Gerrard presented Barton with a bouquet, in the tunnel before kick-off, to express Liverpool's condolences and both teams wore black armbands in further respect to Ferdinand. Chris Ramsey was proud his team started so well and had such good moments, despite the difficulties of the day, but its mishap at the end was alltoo-familiar. "On 87 minutes we lost a point, 88 minutes at Chelsea, 89 minutes at Hull, after 80 minutes at Aston Villa," he said. "Our lapses of concentration are there to see and unfortunately our season has boiled down to this."

Nedum Onouha epitomised their loss of control. Previously composed, he conceded the penalty after 69 minutes by daftly placing his hands on Martin Skrtel, who went over, while attempting an overhead kick. He then committed two cautionable fouls - the second a horrible trip on Ibe - and was sent off; 11 v 10, Liverpool had the momentum to win.

Barton, Leroy Fer and Matt Phillips had led the effort and Fer's equaliser involved a fine shot when he hooked a telescopic leg around the ball to volley in a corner, Dejan Lovren's defending poor again. Fer also had a goal disallowed after 40 seconds, converting a corner which had bent out of play and back in.

Sterling missed chances - laid on a plate, with a choice of wines, by Henderson - spooning over from five yards out. An aeroplane carried a banner: Rodgers Out, Rafa In. "I thought it was Rafa's agent in it," Rodgers quipped. "Football has short memories."

Liverpool: Mignolet 6, Can 7, Skrtel 6, Lovren 5, Johnson 6 (Markovic 84, 5), Henderson 7, Gerrard 8 (Lucas 89, 5), Coutinho 7, Sterling 5, Lallana 6 (Ibe 68, 7), Lambert, 6

QPR: Green 7, Onouha 4, Dunne 6, Caulker 5 (Yun Suk-young 45, 5), Hill 6, Phillips 6, Barton 7, Sandro 6, Henry 5 (Zamora 71, 5), Fer 7, Austin 6

The Observer

Date: 2 May 2015
 Opposition: Queens Park Rangers
 Competition: League

2 May 2015



Captain Steven Gerrard grabbed a late winner for Liverpool against 10-man QPR to keep alive his side's slim hopes of Champions League qualification. Gerrard headed past Rob Green in the 87th minute having missed a penalty with the score at 1-1. Philippe Coutinho put the Reds ahead with a great strike before Leroy Fer volleyed in. Nedum Onuoha was shown a second yellow, before Gerrard's winner left QPR one defeat away from relegation. Both sets of players wore black armbands after the announcement before the match that QPR defender Rio Ferdinand's wife had died following a battle against breast cancer. Gerrard also presented Hoops midfielder Joey Barton with a bouquet of flowers to give to Ferdinand. Meanwhile, a plane was flown over Anfield before the match with a banner attached calling for Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers to be replaced by former boss Rafael Benitez, with the Reds looking likely to miss out on a top-four finish. However, his captain's winner means there is still an outside chance of Champions League qualification, particularly after Manchester United were beaten in the late kick-off by West Brom. Liverpool are now four points behind United with nine points to play for. The 34-year-old, who joined Liverpool as a youth player in 1987 before turning professional in 1998, may have thought another chance to sign off with a goal at Anfield had gone when keeper Green guessed correctly to push away his spot-kick. But with just three minutes remaining, the midfielder - bound for LA Galaxy - rose highest to nod in Coutinho's corner. Liverpool have one more home game remaining - it promises to be an emotional one for the Reds stalwart. The victory sees Rodgers's side narrow the gap to fourth-placed Manchester United to four points, after West Bromwich Albion won 1-0 at Old Trafford. Liverpool took the lead against the run of play when Rickie Lambert squared the ball to Coutinho, who brilliantly placed his effort beyond the reach of Green. The home side should have increased their advantage after the break, but both Adam Lallana and Raheem Sterling inexplicably fired wide from close range. And the Reds were punished for those misses when Fer slotted in with a controlled volley from Barton's corner. The Dutchman lifted up his shirt in celebration to display a tribute to team-mate Ferdinand. Liverpool should have retaken the lead when Onuoha gave away a penalty after he pulled back Martin Skrtel. Up stepped Gerrard, but the skipper struck a weak effort which Green easily saved. Moments later, the Hoops were reduced to 10 men when Onuoha brought down Jordon Ibe, but they still looked comfortable for the draw. However, Gerrard had other ideas. Read minute-by-minute updates as the match happened. Reaction to the game, as well as updates from Saturday's action. Listen to BBC Radio 5 live commentary of the goals

Liverpool manager Brendan Rodgers:
 "Steven Gerrard is one of a unique group of players that when they need to respond, they do. An outstanding header gets us the win.
 "It is a world-class talent. There is a very small group of players in that bracket when, in the big games, they score the big goals and make the big contributions and he has done that throughout his career.
 "He missed a penalty and you think it may go against us but there was no-one more determined to make up for it.
 "It will probably only be when he is gone that people will recognise what a sheer talent he is."
 QPR boss Chris Ramsey:
 "Is it almost impossible to avoid the drop? Yeah, but the word 'almost' is what you need to cling on to.
 "The fans can see what the players are trying to do. We are not going out with a whimper.
 "We hope we can muster up three more fantastic performances to get those nine points and make the last few weeks interesting."



Full time Match ends, Liverpool 2, Queens Park Rangers 1.
 90:00+3:22 Full time Second Half ends, Liverpool 2, Queens Park Rangers 1.
 90:00+2:52 Booking Charlie Austin (Queens Park Rangers is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.
 90:00+2:47 Martin Skrtel (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.
 90:00+2:47 Foul by Charlie Austin (Queens Park Rangers.
 90:00+2:33 Attempt saved. Jordon Ibe (Liverpool header from the left side of the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho with a cross.
 90:00+1:44 Raheem Sterling (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.
 90:00+1:44 Foul by Joey Barton (Queens Park Rangers.
 90:00+0:23 Attempt missed. Clint Hill (Queens Park Rangers left footed shot from outside the box misses to the right. Assisted by Sandro following a set piece situation.
 89:41 Foul by Jordan Henderson (Liverpool).
 89:41 Leroy Fer (Queens Park Rangers wins a free kick on the left wing.
 88:59 Hand ball by Sandro (Queens Park Rangers).
 88:30 Substitution, Liverpool. Lucas Leiva replaces Steven Gerrard.

Date: 2 May 2015 Opposition: Queens Park Rangers Competition: League				2 May 2015

86:37 Goal scored Goal! Goal! Liverpool 2, Queens Park Rangers 1. Steven Gerrard (Liverpool header from the centre of the box to the bottom right corner. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho with a cross following a corner.

86:18 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Richard Dunne.

86:14 Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Raheem Sterling.

85:39 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Matthew Phillips.

84:23 Attempt missed. Raheem Sterling (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the right. Assisted by Jordon Ibe.

83:59 Substitution, Liverpool. Lazar Markovic replaces Glen Johnson.

81:24 Dismissal Dismissal Second yellow card to Nedum Onuoha (Queens Park Rangers for a bad foul.

81:18 Jordon Ibe (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

81:18 Foul by Nedum Onuoha (Queens Park Rangers.

80:02 Foul by Emre Can (Liverpool.

80:02 Leroy Fer (Queens Park Rangers wins a free kick in the defensive half.

79:35 Dejan Lovren (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

79:35 Foul by Bobby Zamora (Queens Park Rangers.

79:06 Attempt missed. Rickie Lambert (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the right. Assisted by Jordan Henderson with a cross following a corner.

78:46 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Robert Green.

78:41 Penalty saved! Steven Gerrard (Liverpool fails to capitalise on this great opportunity, right footed shot saved in the bottom right corner.

78:03 Booking Nedum Onuoha (Queens Park Rangers is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

77:58 Penalty Liverpool. Martin Skrtel draws a foul in the penalty area.

77:58 Penalty conceded by Nedum Onuoha (Queens Park Rangers after a foul in the penalty area.

77:26 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Richard Dunne.

75:51 Booking Richard Dunne (Queens Park Rangers is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

75:43 Raheem Sterling (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.

75:43 Foul by Richard Dunne (Queens Park Rangers.

74:50 Foul by Raheem Sterling (Liverpool.

74:50 Yun Suk-Young (Queens Park Rangers wins a free kick on the left wing.

74:10 Booking Dejan Lovren (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

74:05 Foul by Dejan Lovren (Liverpool.

74:05 Bobby Zamora (Queens Park Rangers wins a free kick in the attacking half.

72:18 Goal scored Goal! Goal! Liverpool 1, Queens Park Rangers 1. Leroy Fer (Queens Park Rangers right footed shot from the centre of the box to the centre of the goal. Assisted by Joey Barton with a cross following a corner.

71:49 Corner, Queens Park Rangers. Conceded by Glen Johnson.

70:44 Substitution, Queens Park Rangers. Bobby Zamora replaces Karl Henry.

70:04 Corner, Queens Park Rangers. Conceded by Martin Skrtel.

69:08 Corner, Queens Park Rangers. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.

68:35 Attempt saved. Dejan Lovren (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Steven Gerrard with a cross.

68:09 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Clint Hill.

68:00 Attempt blocked. Steven Gerrard (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.

67:13 Substitution, Liverpool. Jordon Ibe replaces Adam Lallana.

66:41 Offside, Queens Park Rangers. Leroy Fer tries a through ball, but Charlie Austin is caught offside.

65:49 Attempt saved. Matthew Phillips (Queens Park Rangers right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the top centre of the goal.

65:45 Attempt blocked. Sandro (Queens Park Rangers right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Karl Henry.

64:58 Adam Lallana (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

64:58 Foul by Joey Barton (Queens Park Rangers.

64:02 Attempt saved. Rickie Lambert (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is saved in the bottom left corner.

62:12 Offside, Liverpool. Philippe Coutinho tries a through ball, but Adam Lallana is caught offside.

59:44 Foul by Emre Can (Liverpool.

59:44 Yun Suk-Young (Queens Park Rangers wins a free kick on the left wing.

57:04 Attempt blocked. Rickie Lambert (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.

56:12 Hand ball by Richard Dunne (Queens Park Rangers.

53:52 Attempt missed. Raheem Sterling (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is close, but misses the top left corner. Assisted by Jordan Henderson with a cross.

52:32 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Yun Suk-Young.

52:01 Emre Can (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

52:01 Foul by Charlie Austin (Queens Park Rangers.

49:14 Attempt missed. Adam Lallana (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.

48:35 Attempt missed. Joey Barton (Queens Park Rangers left footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the left.

46:58 Attempt missed. Dejan Lovren (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is just a bit too high following a corner.

46:55 Attempt blocked. Martin Skrtel (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.

46:33 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Robert Green.

46:09 Glen Johnson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

46:09 Foul by Leroy Fer (Queens Park Rangers.

45:24 Offside, Liverpool. Philippe Coutinho tries a through ball, but Glen Johnson is caught offside.

45:00 Second Half begins Liverpool 1, Queens Park Rangers 0.

45:00 Substitution, Queens Park Rangers. Yun Suk-Young replaces Steven Caulker.

45:00+1:14 Half time First Half ends, Liverpool 1, Queens Park Rangers 0.

45:00+0:16 Offside, Queens Park Rangers. Nedum Onuoha tries a through ball, but Charlie Austin is caught offside.

42:33 Attempt missed. Dejan Lovren (Liverpool header from the centre of the box misses to the left. Assisted by Steven Gerrard following a set piece situation.

42:04 Booking Sandro (Queens Park Rangers is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

42:01 Jordan Henderson (Liverpool wins a free kick on the right wing.

42:01 Foul by Sandro (Queens Park Rangers.

40:27 Foul by Steven Gerrard (Liverpool.

40:27 Joey Barton (Queens Park Rangers wins a free kick in the defensive half.

40:00 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Sandro.

39:43 Attempt saved. Steven Gerrard (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the top right corner.

38:51 Emre Can (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

38:51 Foul by Joey Barton (Queens Park Rangers.

37:17 Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Rickie Lambert.

34:33 Attempt missed. Charlie Austin (Queens Park Rangers right footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the right. Assisted by Leroy Fer.

32:42 Offside, Liverpool. Jordan Henderson tries a through ball, but Raheem Sterling is caught offside.

31:06 Offside, Queens Park Rangers. Karl Henry tries a through ball, but Charlie Austin is caught offside.

30:03 Raheem Sterling (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

30:03 Foul by Sandro (Queens Park Rangers.

25:57 Attempt missed. Steven Gerrard (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the right. Assisted by Raheem Sterling.

25:10 Attempt missed. Steven Caulker (Queens Park Rangers right footed shot from the centre of the box is high and wide to the left following a set piece situation.

24:40 Foul by Adam Lallana (Liverpool.

24:40 Nedum Onuoha (Queens Park Rangers wins a free kick in the defensive half.

23:01 Attempt missed. Adam Lallana (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the left. Assisted by Raheem Sterling.

21:37 Delay over. They are ready to continue.

20:48 Delay in match Martin Skrtel (Liverpool because of an injury.

20:31 Attempt missed. Martin Skrtel (Liverpool header from the centre of the box misses to the left. Assisted by Steven Gerrard with a cross following a corner.

20:01 Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Nedum Onuoha.

18:56 Goal scored Goal! Goal! Liverpool 1, Queens Park Rangers 0. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box to the top right corner. Assisted by Rickie Lambert.

17:17 Booking Steven Gerrard (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

17:14 Foul by Steven Gerrard (Liverpool.

17:14 Leroy Fer (Queens Park Rangers wins a free kick in the attacking half.

17:03 Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Glen Johnson.

15:25 Attempt saved. Rickie Lambert (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner.

13:26 Adam Lallana (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

13:26 Foul by Leroy Fer (Queens Park Rangers.

12:27 Attempt missed. Steven Gerrard (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the left. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.

11:25 Glen Johnson (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

11:25 Foul by Matthew Phillips (Queens Park Rangers.

10:24 Attempt missed. Karl Henry (Queens Park Rangers right footed shot from outside the box is high and wide to the right following a corner.

9:48 Corner, Queens Park Rangers. Conceded by Simon Mignolet.

9:47 Attempt missed. Leroy Fer (Queens Park Rangers right footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Steven Caulker with a headed pass.

8:52 Corner, Queens Park Rangers. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.

7:47 Attempt missed. Steven Caulker (Queens Park Rangers right footed shot from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the right following a set piece situation.

6:53 Foul by Dejan Lovren (Liverpool.

6:53 Charlie Austin (Queens Park Rangers wins a free kick on the right wing.

3:59 Raheem Sterling (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

3:59 Foul by Clint Hill (Queens Park Rangers.

3:09 Adam Lallana (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.

3:09 Foul by Nedum Onuoha (Queens Park Rangers.

1:23 Attempt blocked. Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Steven Gerrard.

0:22 Corner, Queens Park Rangers. Conceded by Glen Johnson.

0:00 First Half begins.

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