

Date: 26 November 2016  
 Opposition: Sunderland  
 Competition: League

Mail	Sunday Times	Times	Telegraph
Echo	Sun Independent	Guardian	Mirror
BBC	Sun Telegraph	Independent	Sunderland Echo

26 November  
 2016

# THE TIMES

Coutinho scan today as Klopp shows he makes Liverpool tick

Liverpool 2  
 Origi 75, Milner (pen) 90+1  
 Sunderland 0

Referee: A Taylor Attendance: 53,114

Contrary to the fears that most Liverpool supporters would have harboured as they drifted away from Anfield, their talisman will still be in situ when the roadshow reaches Bournemouth next weekend.

Philippe Coutinho will, of course, be resting damaged ankle ligaments, the extent of his injury likely to become clearer today after he undergoes a scan amid concerns he will be out until the new year, but Jurgen Klopp will be there: coaxing, cajoling and creating the little bolts of lightning that can prove the difference between one point and three, as was the case on Saturday. Klopp had been the last to leave the pitch, administering three fist-pumps for good measure before disappearing from view, and if he had been presented with the man-of-the-match champagne behind the scenes it would have been of no real surprise.

The sight of Coutinho leaving the field on a stretcher after being injured in a fair challenge by Sunderland midfielder Didier Ndong in the 34th minute, together with the visiting team's defensive discipline, had served to flatten the atmosphere and Liverpool's errant passing merely added to the torpor.

That was until Klopp ventured out of his technical area in the 63rd minute, turned to those behind him and implored them to support a team struggling to conjure a breakthrough as wholeheartedly as the side who had swatted Watford aside 6-1 in their previous outing on home turf. His cheerleading earned him a rebuke from the fourth official, but the surge of electricity in the stands was transferred onto the pitch and a little more than ten minutes later Divock Origi curled a shot from the right-hand side of Sunderland's penalty area into the far corner of Jordan Pickford's goal. The tension had been lanced.

If it is easy to be dismissive of Klopp's theatrics, then the reality that it was Origi who provided the game's defining moment served to underline his manager's status as Liverpool's main man.

Origo has had to wait patiently for a chance to showcase his credentials, but it serves as a reflection of the team-first ethos that Klopp has engendered that the striker was in the right frame of mind, and the right condition, to make a difference.

"To be honest, [it has been] very [difficult]," Origi said. "As a young player -- as a footballer -- your life is football. When you're on the pitch you enjoy yourself and when you are not on the pitch you have to accept it and you have to know it is a professional world and we have a very good team. You have to stay positive and believe in yourself. You never know when the team will need you."

James Milner converted a 90thminute penalty after Ndong had fouled Sadio Mane, allowing Klopp to hand highly rated 17-year-old striker Ben Woodburn his debut for the final seconds and whet the appetite for what Liverpool believe will be a productive career.

Sunderland had more about them than many visitors this term and David Moyes, his side having returned to the foot of the Premier League table, did not deserve to hear Klopp's inner chimp prompt him into dismissing them as the most defensive side he has encountered in his career.

"My job was not to come here and entertain the Anfield crowd, my job was to come here and get a result for Sunderland," countered Moyes.

"We had to try and do that. We didn't but tried hard to."

Coutinho left on crutches and his absence will prove an impediment to Liverpool's aspirations given his growing influence, which is best highlighted by the fact he has scored 13 goals in his last 39 league appearances. His first 13 were spread over 81 matches. Liverpool will need more than was seen on Saturday from the likes of Emre Can and Georginio Wijnaldum, while the anticipated return to fitness for the match against Bournemouth of Adam Lallana and Daniel Sturridge is well timed. And they also have Klopp.

## RATINGS

Liverpool (4-3-3): L Karius 7 -- N Clyne 6, J Matip 7, D Lovren 7, J Milner 6 -- E Can 6, J Henderson 6, G Wijnaldum 6 (sub: B Woodburn, 90min) -- S Mane 6, R Firmino 6 (sub: L Leiva, 87), P Coutinho 6 (sub: D Origi 34, 7). Substitutes not used: S Mignolet, A Moreno, R Klavan, O Ejaria. Booked: Lovren. Sunderland (4-1-4-1): J Pickford 6 -- B Jones 6, L Kone 7, J O'Shea 6, P Van Aanholt 6 -- J Denayer 6 -- D Watmore 6 (sub: A Januzaj, 79), D Ndong 5, S Pienaar 6 (sub: L Gooch, 79), V Anichebe 5 -- J Defoe 5. Substitutes not used: V Mannone, W Khazri, S Larsson, D Love, J Manquillo. Booked: Kone, O'Shea, Pienaar.

With Coutinho Without Coutinho 32 Premier League games 11 17 Wins 5 9 Draws 3 6 Losses 3 2.1 Average goals for 1.9 1.2 Average goals against 1.5 53.10% Win per cent 45.50% WHY HE'S CRUCIAL In Jurgen Klopp's time at Liverpool, they score more, concede fewer and have a better win percentage when Coutinho is playing

# the guardian

Liverpool edge past Sunderland but lose Philippe Coutinho to injury

The crowd here included the recently retired Steven Gerrard, the Liverpool owner, John W Henry, the chairman, Tom Werner, and several former school friends of Jürgen Klopp invited over from Germany. Their old classmate, it transpired, is still learning at the age of 49. "I learned today that we are able to beat even the most defensive team I ever played against," he said following Liverpool's brief return to the Premier League summit (ended by Chelsea). "That is a nice thing to learn."

A rewarding victory came at a price for Liverpool. Philippe Coutinho was taken off on a stretcher with an ankle injury that will require a scan and left the influential Brazil international hobbling out of Anfield on crutches. His replacement, Divock Origi, would eventually break Sunderland's resistance just as the fear of a second consecutive goalless draw appeared to have gripped the home crowd, prompting another of those furious outbursts from their manager.

"The crowd was really good in the first half and in second half it was like, 'Come on, we've waited long enough'," he said. "Atmosphere is a big, big part of the game and I tried to remind the crowd. They reacted brilliantly."

Origo's influence on Liverpool's sixth win in seven home matches provided another demonstration of the quality attacking options at Klopp's disposal. The performance and atmosphere showed how far Liverpool have come in the nine months since Sunderland were last here and recovered from a two-goal deficit thanks to a player who now languishes in jail, Adam Johnson. Back in February Liverpool were wracked by division, thousands walking out in protest at proposed ticket price rises, and brittle when faced with recovery by a relegation-threatened team. Today, they are united, confident and finding solutions.

Klopp said: "I didn't think about Southampton [last week's opponents] for one second. This was much more defensive. I don't think I have ever played against a more defensive team, man-marking against Coutinho, Victor Anichebe at left full-back and how many touches did Defoe have? We forced them to be so defensive. "It was a real challenge in our development and we showed we are ready to play against teams like this."

Sunderland's anxieties had eased a little with back-to-back league wins, their first under David Moyes, and they succeeded where many have failed this season in stifling Liverpool throughout the first half. They were less assured than usual, their touch heavier and their penetrating runs in behind not quite paying off, but the visitors' approach was instrumental with Jason Denayer designated to track Coutinho's every step.

Liverpool's threat levels increased once the Brazilian exited, strangely, with Sunderland ending the first half hanging on in an 8-2-0 formation. He had been injured when Didier Ndong cleared the ball off his toes but connected with the right foot on the follow-through.

Origo brought a more direct, physical presence to an attack that had rarely threatened the commanding Jordan Pickford in Sunderland's goal for the opening half-hour. Dejan Lovren headed wide when Jordan Henderson's free-kick found the central defender unmarked at the back post. Emre Can also put a free header wide and Lovren went close from almost 30 yards as Liverpool stepped up the pressure as half-time approached.

It never dropped after the restart and Sunderland were clinging on, reliant on good fortune and the right breaks.

Georginio Wijnaldum volleyed wide from close range, Can's half volley sailed beyond Pickford's left post, the two midfielders both failed to connect with Firmino's low cross across the face of goal and Henderson sent a well-placed free-kick just over. When Denayer threw himself at Sadio Mané's close-range shot the tension around Anfield intensified but Origi released it out of nothing with 15 minutes remaining. The Belgium international took possession on the left of the area, cut back inside a tired challenge from Duncan Watmore and curled a shot low into the far corner of Pickford's goal.

Watmore had squandered an excellent chance at 0-0 and in stoppage time Mané broke from the halfway line, held off Denayer and was sent flying by Ndong. James Milner converted a clear penalty with ease.

"I don't know any good teams who aren't first and foremost defensively sound," said Moyes in response to Klopp's barbed comments. "If you want to win the Premier League, you are going to have to have a good defence. If you want to avoid relegation, you have to have a good defence. We have not been good enough defensively recently but the lads did a job today, but it was always going to be difficult coming here."

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## The Mail

### COUTINHO COULD MISS REST OF YEAR

LIVERPOOL 2

SUNDERLAND 0

PHILIPPE COUTINHO could miss the remainder of Liverpool's 2016 games after a nasty ankle injury.

Coutinho was carried off on a stretcher during Saturday's victory over Sunderland, following a robust challenge from Didier Ndong. The Brazilian's right foot remains in the protective boot he wore on leaving Anfield. Medical staff assessed the 24-year-old yesterday.

He will have a scan this afternoon as Liverpool try to determine the extent of ankle ligament damage.

Ndong's challenge was accidental but Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp is worried at the heavy treatment his side are receiving.

'We expected that we will win against Sunderland but also we knew it wouldn't be easy,' Klopp said. 'Now we have done it but on the other side, after each game we have players with a kick here, a kick there.'

'In some cases obviously it's more serious, but I am still hoping. I know the region where Coutinho got the kick, it's really painful, but we need to wait for the scan.'

Klopp believes his team is now more suited to breaking down stubborn opponents.

'There is no doubt this team is ready to play against parked buses,' Klopp said after Divock Origi and a James Milner penalty edged Sunderland aside. Klopp was more than a touch agitated with this game still goalless late on, his prolonged display of emotion helping to whip up Anfield. Sunderland caved in, and Liverpool ended the day second in the table.

SUPER STAT: James Milner is the second player, in Premier League history (after Emile Heskey) to score against Sunderland with five teams.

LIVERPOOL (4-3-3): Karius 6; Clyne 6.5, Matip 6.5, Lovren 6.5, Milner 7; Wijnaldum 7.5 (Woodburn 90), Henderson 6, Can 6; Coutinho 6.5 (Origi 34, 7.5), Firmino 7 (Leiva 87), Mane 7. Subs not used: Mignolet, Moreno, Ejaria, Klavan. Scorers: Origi 76, Milner 90 (pen).

SUNDERLAND (4-3-3): Pickford 7; Jones 6, Kone 7, Van Aanholt 6, O'Shea 6.5; Ndong 6.5, Denayer 6.5, Pienaar 6 (Gooch 79); Anichebe 6, Watmore 6 (Januzaj 79), Defoe 6. Subs not used: Mannone, Larsson, Khazri, Manquillo, Love.

Man of the match: Georginio Wijnaldum.

Referee: Anthony Taylor 6.5.

## The Daily Telegraph

### Origi earns the acclaim after Klopp's spot of cheerleading

It was one of those rare occasions when the hearty full-time celebrations were reassuring for both the victorious and defeated managers.

For Jurgen Klopp, this was a gruelling win that told us everything about Liverpool's endurance levels.

Likewise, David Moyes could leave Merseyside encouraged by how much the opposition had toiled, rather than deflated that his own side had succumbed.

Sunderland were unable to extend an improved run of results, but they are proving a tougher proposition than two months ago.

Liverpool have claimed bigger scalps, and produced more captivating performances, but it is the response to adversity - the banishment of self-doubt when questions are asked - that is the measure of a genuine title contender.

Klopp's side are the best equipped in the country to tangle the legs of rival centre-backs, but churning out results against more resolute opposition demands different qualities. For 75 minutes the absence of Adam Lallana and Daniel Sturridge, allied to the premature exit of Philippe Coutinho with a worrying ankle injury, was draining Liverpool of ideas.

It was to Sunderland's credit that rather than look back to his bench, or formulate a fresh tactical plan, Klopp deemed manic cheerleading the most appropriate response, thus ensuring throaty roars of encouragement from the Anfield crowd replaced groans of exasperation after another overhit Emre Can pass. The Kop responded, Liverpool kept scurrying forwards, Sunderland's blockade weakened and Divock Origi finally tricked the impressive keeper Jordan Pickford with a swerving right-foot shot.

Origi was a match winner with a suitably appropriate back story, given how the game evolved. All the talk was of patience rewarded, biding time and ensuring an untimely injury did not scupper lofty ambitions. For Origi's last seven months, read Liverpool's first 75 minutes here.

It has been a lengthy wait for Origi to be reunited with the form that made him Klopp's preferred central striker prior to being injured in April's Merseyside derby. The Europa League campaign climaxed without him, and although he played in the European Championships for Belgium, the forward was not fit enough to have an impact.

'It was a hard knock for me to get injured during that period. I was feeling good and in the best moment of my career,' Origi said.

'You have to stay patient in a positive manner. I worked a lot to stay sharp for when I can help the team. I showed I am very hungry and willing to make the steps to help the team for the rest of the season.'

'I couldn't actually describe how I felt at that moment [I scored]. Everyone was so hungry, so passionate - the supporters, the manager - everyone desired this three points. In the end we stayed patient and we deserved it.'

The 21-year-old admitted it was easier to talk about patience than demonstrate it.

'To be honest, it has been very difficult,' he said. 'As a young player, as a footballer, your life is football. When you're on the pitch you enjoy yourself and when you are not on the pitch you have to accept it and you have to know it is a professional world and we have a very good team. You have to stay positive and believe in yourself. You never know when the team will need you.'

Longer term, Origi demonstrated what he can add to the side should Coutinho be absent - the extent of his injury will be determined by a scan today. Regardless of that diagnosis, with Sadio Mane away on African Nations Cup duty in January, this form bodes well to ensure a replacement is already at the club.

Mane, in fact, had his most difficult afternoon of the season yet his power and pace still brought the second goal when he won the 90th minute penalty converted by James Milner.

That gave the result a fairer reflection of the balance of play, but Sunderland are fighting for their manager, and although Klopp remarked about a defensive approach he felt unique in his career, he also acknowledged the visitors did not have much choice. Worse teams than Sunderland have come to Anfield this season. Worse teams will follow.

Klopp is under no illusions exactly how they are likely to set up - the cautious tactical blueprint is presumably pasted to the away dressing room wall - which is why finding and demonstrating away to break through those barricades bodes well for the rest of Liverpool's campaign.

Touchline inspirations Others who rouse teams Diego Simeone Atletico Madrid The energetic Argentine whips the Vicente Calderon crowd into a frenzy to help his team.

Chelsea The excitable Italian is unable to stand still on the Stamford Bridge touchline and has leapt into the crowd to celebrate goals.

Ian Holloway QPR Holloway is a bundle of energy at the side of the pitch - although he has occasionally gone too far with the officials.

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Klopp's unshakeable spirit underpins everything good about the Reds this season

A theme is developing at Liverpool, one where Jrgen Klopp enters the press room having watched his team crush the opposition in a snappier frame of mind than you might imagine; the other where he takes the same walk having not achieved the result he desires but instead, you find him as charming and hospitable as an old count at the top table of a banquet hall.

Saturday's win over Sunderland arrived at a cost. Perhaps injuries to Philippe Coutinho and Roberto Firmino explained Klopp's state. With Adam Lallana and Daniel Sturridge also unavailable to him, he issued a debut to 17-year-old Ben Woodburn in the closing minutes, who in turn became the third youngest player in the club's history.

Depending on who you listen to, Woodburn could be the next Robbie Fowler or the next Michael Owen. Lucas Leiva later used social media to congratulate him, describing the forward as a oetop young player. It would be understandable, though, if Klopp was concerned by his present options, for he is likely to be without the experience of five attacking players for Tuesday's League Cup quarter-final against Leeds United, when you add Danny lngs to the list of the fallen.

Perhaps Klopp is just trying to meet glory and disappointment by treating them equally as imposters. Seventeen of Liverpool's goals at home prior to Sunderland's visit had arrived across just four games and their success and the style with which it has been delivered has led to unrealistic expectations; that Liverpool can slaughter opponents every week.

At 0-0, Anfield was quiet until Klopp twice flew into a rage, screaming at supporters to raise the level of noise. What followed was two goals from Divock Origi and James Milner. Later, with the result settled in his favour, it would be understandable if Klopp was drained. He was also involved in touchline arguments with David Moyes and his assistant, Paul Bracewell. Some managers coldly deploy tactics to try and achieve their aims. Klopp uses emotion to shake the buttresses of entire stadiums.

It was significant that more than one Liverpool fan website proposed Klopp as an option for the man of the match award on Saturday night because it shows he is getting somewhere when he says things like, oeWe all need to handle situations like this. I believe in atmosphere. I think it's a big part of the game.

Klopp, indeed, has identified many problems at Liverpool and has not been afraid to challenge them, even if they are accepted norms considered widely as positives: like the one about the Anfield crowd being the most vociferous in the country when really it only applies on special occasion, considering it has long suffered from a sense of entitlement, and more recently - like every other Premier League ground - from the era of the selfie, when some spectators on day trips complain of the mood not meeting expectations, overlooking the notion they might even be taking the place of someone who would increase that sense of time and place if they could afford it.

It also says much about the job Klopp has done when the first question asked of him relates to the challenge of keeping top quality players like Origi happy when they are not selected. The Belgian has not started a league fixture this season and had Sturridge been named as a substitute here, it is likely he would have replaced Coutinho instead.

oeThat's up to the players. I'm not a magician - that's the character of the boys, he refuted. oeThe job is still nice even on the harder days, doing what you love. It's not a big challenge. I handle all the boys exactly the same. If you play 90 mins I like you as much as when you don't play a second. If you want to be happy in this squad it's very easy to be happy.



ORIGI: WE WON'T FLAG; Everyone is so hungry for shot at title glory'  
 LIVERPOOL 2

Origi 75, Milner 90 pen

SUNDERLAND 0

IF THERE was one snapshot which underlined why Liverpool are genuine title contenders, then it came a second after Divock Origi's opening goal.

The Belgian ran to the corner flag and let out a scream that was 50 per cent ecstasy and 50 per cent relief.

And his Kop team-mates to a man joined in, all wrapped up in the emotion of the moment.

Origi admitted he could barely put into words his feelings after scoring.

"I couldn't actually describe how I felt at that moment. Everyone was so hungry, so passionate - the supporters and the manager," he said.

"In the end we stayed patient and we deserved it so I am so happy - everyone is happy."

There is a hunger about Liverpool this season. And even though they weren't at their best against the Black Cats, they still had the commitment and belief to break down a packed defence in a game even their manager admitted they would not have won a year ago.

"I think there is no doubt this team is ready to play against parked buses," said Klopp (right, with Jordan Henderson).

"Last season a few teams played defensively against us but this time, because are better, we have forced them into situations like this.

"It's our fault that teams are playing that deep because we force them back, but we are ready for teams doing that."

Origi's goal showed that. He cut inside from the left and unleashed a delicious shot that broke Sunderland hearts.

The young Belgian had come on as sub for the injured Philippe Coutinho and, with Daniel Sturridge also as back-up, it's clear Liverpool have the personnel to open up defensive clams.

Origi has already starred at a World Cup finals so to be a fixture the bench at Anfield hard for him to take.

"To be honest it is very difficult," he said. "When you're on the pitch you enjoy yourself and when you are not on the pitch you have to stay positive and believe in yourself."

For Klopp, who watched James Milner complete the victory with a stoppage-time penalty, the job of keeping his whole squad happy appears not to be the huge problem other managers claim it to be.

"It's not a big challenge," he said.

"If you want to be happy in this squad it's very easy to be happy.

The job is still nice even on the harder days, doing what you love.

"And I handle all the boys exactly the same. If you play 90 minutes I like you as much as when you don't play a second."

So, just how good are Liverpool? Well, consider the pain Sunderland boss David Moyes felt when he admitted how impressive his old rivals are.

"As well as having quality players they are an extremely hard-working team," said the former Everton gaffer.

"It's a strong team and a team which will challenge for the title."

Coutinho will have a scan on his ankle today and could be out until January.

Roberto Firmino picked up a minor knock and he is also out of tomorrow's EFL quarter-final with Leeds, along with Sturridge and Adam Lallana, who both missed yesterday's game

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Triumph of a different kind as Klopp conducts show of determination in the face of adversity Liverpool delivered.

Having made a habit of dishing out hidings at Anfield this season, this was a triumph of a very different kind. Jurgen Klopp's men were far from their blistering best but, crucially, they dug deep to break Sunderland's stubborn resistance.

This was all about perseverance as Liverpool simply refused to be denied. Class may have been in short supply but there was grit and determination aplenty. Already without the injured duo of Daniel Sturridge and Adam Lallana, the Reds were stung by the sight of Philippe Coutinho departing on a stretcher before the break. The little Brazilian left Anfield on crutches with his right ankle in a protective boot amid fears he's facing an extended spell on the sidelines.

In the absence of their magician, Liverpool's powers were severely depleted. They huffed and they puffed but they struggled to find a way past the David Moyes built defensive wall in front of them. As the minutes ticked away feelings of anxiety and restlessness in the stands grew. After Jordan Henderson over-hit a pass midway through the second half, Klopp sensed that the atmosphere was getting to his players. The Reds boss took matters into his own hands. This was Klopp the conductor. Throwing his arms up in dismay at what he perceived to be unwanted negativity around him, he turned and dished out the mother of all rollickings to the fans in the Main Stand. It was a master stroke. The mood around Anfield was instantly transformed as supporters answered his rallying call.

Noise levels were cranked up and so was the pressure as Liverpool, inspired rather than inhibited by the soundtrack, started to turn the screw.

Something special was required to break the deadlock and with 15 minutes to go Divock Origi took centre stage. It's been a hugely frustrating season for the young Belgian striker. His opportunities have been limited and when he has featured he hasn't been able to hit the heights he was at back in the spring.

Origi was tormenting defenders before he was taken out of the Merseyside derby in April by Ramiro Funes Mori's X-rated challenge and suffered ankle ligament damage. It's been a long way back. Without regular action, he's been unable to do himself justice. Yet handed the chance to shine following Coutinho's early exit he grabbed it with both hands. There appeared to be little danger when Origi collected Henderson's pass on the far side of the penalty box.

However, he darted away from Duncan Watmore and whipped an unstoppable right-footer beyond Jordan Pickford and into the far corner. Anfield erupted. Relief spread like wildfire. Origi's first Premier League goal for seven months had turned a damaging setback into a cherished victory.

Belatedly, Moyes had to show a modicum of ambition and they were duly killed off on the counter late on when Sadio Mane raced away from Jason Denayer before being cynically upended by Didier Ndong. James Milner tucked away his fifth goal of the season from the penalty spot. Steven Gerrard, watching on from the directors box, will have admired that never-say-die spirit. The Kop icon knows how far that can carry a side. Moyes claimed in the build up that "anybody who plays against Liverpool has to park the double-decker bus" and there were no surprises with his game plan. Top scorer Jermain Defoe was effectively forced into action as a second left-back as Sunderland got men behind the ball and rarely ventured out of their own half. Despite enjoying 80% possession in the first half, Klopp's men failed to make it count. It was all too slow, too predictable. Denayer stuck to Coutinho like glue and prevented him from pulling the strings.

Nathaniel Clyne and Milner were playing so far forward they were effectively wingers but there was a lack of quality from the flanks.

Roberto Firmino and Gini Wijnaldum both forced saves from Pickford before the Reds suffered a scare at the other end.

Clyne was caught napping by Billy Jones' hopeful punt back into the penalty box. Steven Pienaar pounced but Loris Karius came out to make a crucial block and divert it behind. If that was the best of Karius what followed was downright bizarre. As the young German keeper attempted to play a goal kick square to Clyne, he inexplicably knocked it straight out for a corner. To his relief, the careless error wasn't punished. Klopp stood on the touchline urging Liverpool to move the ball quicker. Firmino skipped away from Patrick van Aanholt but blazed over.

Mane, who has done so much damage to visiting teams this season, was strangely subdued. The Senegal international got into some great positions but his touch let him down and he kept on taking the wrong option.

On the half hour mark came the body blow of losing Coutinho, who was caught by the studs of Ndong as the midfielder cleared. The Brazil international immediately winced in agony as he hit the turf, clutched his right boot and signalled to the bench that his afternoon was over. The midfield trio of Henderson, Emre Can and Gini Wijnaldum worked tirelessly to keep the Reds on the offensive but for so long their efforts were in vain. Before the interval Dejan Lovren and Can both wasted headers. In the second half there was much greater urgency but Liverpool continued to lose their heads in the final third.

Mane scuffed tamely at Pickford before Milner was inches away from diverting home Wijnaldum's volley and Henderson curled a free-kick over. For so long a spectator, Karius did well to save at the feet of Watmore after the Black Cats had briefly broken off the shackles. Liverpool now boast successive league clean sheets for the first time since March.

from the impressive Lovren. Urged on by the Kop, Liverpool redoubled their efforts and Origi was soon sliding on his knees in jubilation. Firmino limped off after a kick from Lamine Kone which prompted Klopp to get involved in an angry exchange with Sunderland assistant boss Paul Bracewell. When Mane was chopped down and Milner converted, Anfield could finally relax. There was a brief Premier League debut for exciting Academy attacker Ben Woodburn in stoppage time as the Kop broke into a rendition of 'David Moyes is a football genius'. An old foe scowled. He had been sent packing pointless once again.

## Sunderland Echo

### Black Cats go bottom again after Anfield defeat

The Black Cats produced a spirited display for the first half, well organised and defending well but relentless Liverpool ultimately proved too strong. Origi broke the deadlock from a tight angle in the 75th minute before Milner secured the points late on from the penalty spot. It means Sunderland, who had gone into the game at Anfield on the back of wins over Bournemouth and Hull City, drop back to the bottom of the Premier League. David Moyes had made two changes, with Steven Pienaar and John O'Shea returning to the side. Pienaar replaced Paddy McNair who is facing a long spell on the sidelines with a knee injury, while O'Shea replaced the suspended Papy Djilobodji at centre-half. Jason Denayer was deployed in the holding midfield role again, with the Belgian loanee given strict instructions to man mark Liverpool dangerman Philippe Coutinho. Sunderland lined up in a 4-1-4-1 formation with Victor Anichebe wide left and Duncan Watmore wide right when Sunderland didn't have possession. Jordan Pickford was twice called into action to make low saves in the opening 15 minutes; Roberto Firmino shooting on the turn before Georginio Wijnaldum tried his luck from a similar distance. Sunderland looked a threat on the counter-attack, with Loris Karius called upon in the 17th minute to deny Pienaar's effort from six-yards out. The midfielder had latched onto a long Billy Jones pass upfield but Karius made a vital save, pushing the ball out for a corner. Liverpool were dominating the possession but Sunderland looked solid at the back, with Firmino firing a sweetly-hit shot wide from 25-yards before Wijnaldum dragged an effort well wide. Sunderland had a penalty appeal turned down 29 minutes in, Pickford's missile-seeking clearance picked up by Defoe, who went down under a challenge by Joel Matip. Replays showed there was little in it though, with referee Anthony Taylore making the right decision not to award a spot kick. Liverpool were then dealt a blow, with Coutinho carried off the pitch on a stretcher after coming off worse from a block tackle with Ndong. The best chance of the half came in the 37th minute, Dejan Lovren sending a header wide of the right-hand post from a deep Jordan Henderson free-kick. It should have been the opener. Emre Can then had two attempts with his head, one he got horribly wrong, the ball going high and wide from a Henderson corner. The second he nodded wide of the post. Lovren then tried his luck from 30-yards in the 45th minute, his fierce effort sailing just wide of the left-hand post, with Pickford at full stretch. Jurgen Klopp's Liverpool side dominated possession, with 80 per cent of the ball compared to Sunderland's 20 per cent. But well-organised Sunderland, who had defended with real determination, held firm and went in level at the break. Half-time: Liverpool 0 Sunderland 0 Liverpool started the second half as they had ended the first, with Sunderland on the back foot. Sadio Mane's weak effort at goal a let-off for the Black Cats in the opening minutes of the second half. James Milner was inches away from opening the scoring in the 52nd minute, but under pressure from Watmore at the back post failed to connect with Wijnaldum's volley. Sunderland were camped in their own half, with Liverpool pressing them back. Firmino's tricky footwork created an opening for himself but Pickford got down well to save. It was a fine stop from the England Under-21 keeper. Kone booked minutes later for kicking the ball away after conceding a free-kick. The home support was becoming increasingly frustrated, Klopp doing his best to rally them from the confines of his technical area. Can shot wide 65 minutes in, with Sunderland doggedly digging in at a bitterly cold Anfield. Watmore, Pienaar and Anichebe were all involved in a goalmouth scramble as Sunderland enjoyed a rare attack but Liverpool cleared the danger. Watmore's touch heavy. Liverpool then flexed their muscles again, Firmino flashing a pass across the face of goal before Henderson curled a free-kick over Pickford's crossbar. Denayer then produced a brilliant block to deny Mane at the back post following a Henderson corner. It was frantic entertaining game. The deadlock finally broken in the 75th minute. Liverpool's pressure finally paid off, with sub Origi finding the corner of Pickford's net. Henderson had played Origi in, he took a touch past Watmore and then curled the ball in, his effort outwitting everyone. Moyes turned to his subs bench, with Lynden Gooch and Adnan Januzaj brought on for Pienaar and Watmore. Passions were rising on the touchline too, with Klopp and Paul Bracewell involved in a heated discussion after Firmino went down injured after a firm but fair challenge from Kone. Liverpool made it 2-0 from the penalty spot in the 90th minute, Milner with the goal after Ndong had clumsily brought down Mane in the area. Sunderland had scrapped hard for 75 minutes but a touch of class from Origi and the late penalty ensured Liverpool took all three points. Full-time: Liverpool 2 Sunderland 0 Liverpool (4-1-3-2): Karius, Clyne, Matip, Lovren, Milner, Henderson, Can, Wijnaldum (Woodburn, 90), Mane, Coutinho (Origi, 34), Firmino (Lucas, 87) Subs Not Used: Mignolet, Klavan, Moreno, Ejaria. Booked: Lovren (67), Goals: Origi (75), Milner (90). Sunderland (4-1-4-1): Pickford; Jones, Kone, O'Shea (C),

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Van Aanholt, Pienaar (Gooch, 79), Denayer, N'Dong, Watmore (Januzaj, 79), Anichebe, Defoe. Subs Not Used: Mannone, Love, Manquillo, Khazri, Larsson  
Booked: Kone (60), O'Shea (64), Pienaar (70), Goals: Referee: Anthony Taylor (Greater Manchester)



### Three points for Liverpool cushion Coutinho injury

The face of David Moyes was gouged with exhaustion and disappointment. It seemed Sunderland had done enough to slink away from Anfield with a goalless draw when Divock Origi struck the game's opening goal fifteen minutes from the end.

Jrgen Klopp: the expression on his face had skirted between the feverish and the murderous. There was audible frustration when Jordan Henderson fizzed a pass directly into the advertising hoardings of Kop moments before and Klopp reacted to that by turning to those spectators grumbling in the old Paddock area, thundering, "Come on, stay fucking positive."

Ultimately, this was type of outcome that should give Liverpool and perhaps their supporters the necessary level of poise to be patient when things are not quite as they want them to be. Liverpool have won in all different ways this season. Having delivered the full on blitz, the recovery from behind and the slow lead from the front, this was a scenario where grinding was required for victory to be met.

Klopp later described Sunderland's approach as the most defensive he's ever seen, and though it did not seem like he meant it as a compliment, it should encourage Moyes that Sunderland are at least beginning to show some of the fundamental characteristics that made his Everton teams horrible to play against. Sunderland's performance had, indeed, been Moyesian to the core until Origi's intervention. Moyes had not won at Anfield in a decade at Everton but during that period, he experienced enough to appreciate, at least, how to set a team up with the sole aim of infuriating the opponent; nicking goalscoring opportunities through set-pieces.

Primary to his plan was the stopping of Philippe Coutinho, with Jason Denayer deployed in a classic man-marking job until the object of his focus was carried off on a stretcher mid-way through the first half after slamming his right foot into the studs of Didier Ndong while the left appeared to buckle agonisingly in the turf. Such had been Denayer's devotion to his role, it would not have been a surprise if he tracked Coutinho to the changing room just to make sure he was finished. The Brazilian's departure from the game represented a sort of creative disaster for Liverpool considering too that Daniel Sturridge was not primed to replace him. The striker was unavailable having felt a calf muscle tighten during a training session at Melwood on Thursday. "Something with his ankle, was the way Klopp described Coutinho's condition."

At half time, the possession statistics read Liverpool, eighty-per-cent and Sunderland twenty. Yet aside from a Dejan Lovren off-target header from Henderson's free-kick, they did not fashion any chances against a Sunderland defence sitting so deep it was almost playing on Stanley Park.

Liverpool were one paced an unimaginative. Exasperation mounted when Loris Karius, the goalkeeper who is still in the process of attempting to convince Liverpoolians of his worth, completed the significant act of conceding a corner from one of his goal kicks despite wind not being a feature of the weather. Liverpool were better after the break but Sunderland were just as determined and concentrated. Chances came for the home team for James Milner and Emre Can but on each occasion when Jordan Pickford was beaten, the ball raced instead past his far post.

Sunderland were content to absorb the pressure but countered when gaps appeared in Liverpool's defence. Had Karius not managed to save from Duncan Watmore, the visitors would have led. "Small margins, Moyes complained. "We need to take these chances."

The winger's miss proved crucial because five minutes later, Liverpool were ahead. Watmore was involved again and in fairness to him, there was no sense of danger when Origi received the ball so far away from goal in the corner of the penalty box, subsequently releasing a shot that possessed the manner of a cross. From there, Sunderland's defensive shutters came down. Liverpool's second, a penalty from Milner, came after Sadio Mané was tripped by Ndong. There had been a 50-yard sprint between the pair.

"We got to the point where they needed the manager to get the crowd going, Moyes raved correctly."

But it still wasn't quite enough.

## The Sunday Telegraph

Klopp pumps up the volume to crack stubborn Sunderland  
Liverpool 2

Orig 75, Milner 90pen  
Sunderland 0

Att: 53,114

The goals had been raining in all season at Anfield, but none have been met with the wave of relief that greeted substitute Divock Origi's low shot that finally snapped stubborn Sunderland's resistance and kept Liverpool on the pace at the top of the Premier League.

Free-scoring Liverpool had hit 17 goals in five home league matches but frustration was mounting before Origi's crucial intervention, just as the lowly Wearsiders were looking poised to muzzle the home side's prolific attack.

After a goalless draw at Southampton in their previous match, Liverpool are finding the goal magic harder to conjure, but in front of freshly-retired Anfield legend Steven Gerrard, they grafted a victory, embellished by James Milner's late penalty, that paid tribute to the powers of perseverance.

There was, however, another injury blow for Jurgen Klopp's side when Philippe Coutinho, scorer of six goals and creator of five more this season, was carried off with an ankle injury just after the half-hour mark.

Coutinho was left writhing in agony after appearing to be caught by Didier Ndong as he turned inside Billy Jones in the Sunderland penalty area. After receiving on-field treatment for several minutes, the Brazilian was carried off on a stretcher with his right leg in a protective splint.

Klopp, who had ventured along the touchline to exhort the fans to pump up the volume as his side toiled to find a way through in the second half, said: "I'm not sure I've ever played a more defensive team than today. I don't know how many touches their forwards had. But with the quality we have we force teams to play on the defence."

"We all need to learn to handle a situation like this but I believe in atmosphere. It is a big, big part of the game. The crowd was really good in the first half but, in the second half, it was 'come on'. Atmosphere makes things easier and that's why I tried to remind the crowd and after that it was easier for everyone to enjoy themselves."

It was another painful afternoon at Anfield for Sunderland manager David Moyes. The former Everton and Manchester United manager has now failed to win in 14 attempts in the red citadel of Liverpool.

Sunderland have not won at Anfield since 1983 and so approached their Anfield mission with understandable caution.

Holding midfielder Jason Denayer was quick to shore up the right flank whenever Milner threatened to get forward, while Jermain Defoe's attacking instincts were tempered by similar duties on the opposite wing, where Nathaniel Clyne and Sadio Mane posed a dual threat. It was a barrier that Liverpool found difficult to penetrate, the clearest chance in a quiet opening coming when Georginio Wijnaldum was given space inside the visitors' penalty area to turn and shoot, though goalkeeper Jordan Pickford saved cleanly.

Liverpool started without the creative qualities of Adam Lallana, recovering from a groin injury sustained on England duty this month, and with little more than half an hour gone, Coutinho's departure reduced their artistic abilities yet further.

Yet they stepped up the threat after the restart. Clyne just failed to control the ball as he angled in, Mane miscued from six yards out and Milner was squeezed out as he tried to touch in.

It was a full-on Liverpool siege. Emre Can crashed a half-volley wide and Roberto Firmino turned the ball across a gaping goal, Jordan Henderson dispatched a free-kick marginally too high. It was unrelenting and the pressure finally told with 15 minutes left. Origi, who had replaced the unfortunate Coutinho, gathered the ball out on the left and appeared to be shaping for a cross. Instead, his low, swinging shot seemed to catch Pickford unawares.

Liverpool rounded it off in the 90th minute, Milner firing home from the penalty spot after Denayer had brought down Mane.

Moyes, whose lowly side had won their two previous matches and looked equipped to fight their way out of the bottom three, said: "The players did a good job in managing the game but in the end it wasn't good enough."

Liverpool (4-3-3): Karius 6; Clyne 6, Matip 6, Lovren 6, Milner 6; Can 7, Henderson 6, Wijnaldum 7 (Woodburn 90); Mane 7, Firmino 7 (Leiva 88), Coutinho 6 (Orig 34).

Subs Mignolet (g), Klavan, Moreno, Ejaria. Booked Lovren. Sunderland (4-1-3-1-1): Pickford 6; Jones 6, Kone 6, O'Shea 6, Van Aanholt 6; Denayer 7; Watmore 6 (Januzaj 79), Ndong 6, Pienaar 6 (Gooch 79); Defoe 5; Anichebe 5. Subs Mannone (g), Larsson, Khazri, Manquillo, Love. Booked Kone, Pienaar, O'Shea. Referee A Taylor (Cheshire).

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## THE SUNDAY TIMES

Coutinho injury rocks Liverpool

LIVERPOOL 2

Origi 75, Milner 90+2 pen

SUNDERLAND 0

IT was not overly pretty, nor was it especially rampant by Liverpool's swashbuckling standards, but three points are three points and two late goals finally dispensed with dogged, hard-working, careful Sunderland. However a more significant moment may have occurred in the 30th minute when Philippe Coutinho was carried off with an ankle injury in the wake of Didier Ndong's hard but unquestionably fair challenge. "I don't know how bad it is," shrugged manager Jurgen Klopp. "We all have to wait for the scan."

If the tide is not necessarily turning for Sunderland, they can take heart from much of yesterday's showing. Two wins from their previous two Premier League games began to suggest to some on Wearside that David Moyes may not be their King Canute after all. "We've come a long way, but we've a long way to go," Moyes noted.

"We frustrated the Premier League's best attacking team to the point where the manager needed to get the crowd going."

Right now, Liverpool are nobody's idea of ideal hosts, certainly not Moyes who has still to record a victory at Anfield. Yet, to the central, complex conundrum facing those who chance their arm at Liverpool -- how to foil Coutinho -- Moyes offered a very simple solution.

He deployed Jason Denayer, the dreadlocked, glove-wearing Belgian on loan from Manchester City, as the tightest of manmarkers. So, wherever Coutinho went, Denayer was sure to follow. The Brazilian hovered around the insideleft channel, dropped back, drifted forwards, edged surreptitiously to the right, but Denayer went with him. Indeed, at one surreal point as Liverpool attacked, Coutinho and Denayer found themselves together, alone, in the centre circle.

"I've never played a team so defensive," said Klopp. "Victor Anichebe was mostly at left-back, but we've learned we can be patient, not get frustrated and beat teams like this."

The Denayer-Coutinho battle looked ready to define the afternoon. Then, disaster struck for Liverpool, ironically at the very moment the seemingly inseparable pair were finally parted. Coutinho cut to the goal line where he was thwarted by Ndong. Alas, Ndong's follow-through caught Coutinho on the right foot and after lengthy treatment, the Brazilian imp was taken off on a stretcher and Denayer turned his robust attentions towards Sadio Mane, who struggled from that moment on until he won a penalty.

Even so Liverpool still had the bulk of possession, albeit without creating chances other than Dejan Lovren planting a header wide from Jordan Henderson's crafty free kick.

Sunderland defended stoutly, stymied Liverpool's less than lambent midfield, and when Billy Jones hoofed the ball forwards there was danger afoot. Steven Pienaar barged his former Everton teammate Anichebe aside, only to be foiled by the alert, onrushing Loris Karius.

After the break Liverpool were neater, crisper and more menacing, but patience was wearing thin until Klopp prowled towards the Kop and urged more and louder support. It worked, just as most things Klopp chances work, and instantly Divock Origi headed Firmino's cross down and Can fired just wide. "I believe in atmosphere, it's part of the joy and the crowd responded more than brilliantly," Klopp said.

Sunderland were content to absorb rather than thrust, but Karius did have to be alert to dive at Duncan Watmore's feet after excellent hold-up play from Anichebe. When Liverpool's opener came, though, it was as anodyne as a Jeffrey Archer paragraph. Henderson dinked a little ball to Origi on the left and the Belgian's bobbly curler eluded Jordan Pickford to nestle snugly in the far corner of his goal. "I'm not sure whether it was a shot or cross," sighed Moyes. "We'd done a good job, but it wasn't good enough."

For all their doughty defending, Sunderland were not built to overturn a deficit, but Moyes made a double substitution and shoved men hopefully forward.

Inevitably, it was too much to ask and they gave away a penalty in stoppage time when Mane was felled by Ndong. James Milner sent Pickford the wrong way and that was that.

Star man: Jason Denayer (Sunderland) Yellow cards: Liverpool: Lovren

Sunderland: Kone, O'Shea, Pienaar Referee: A Taylor Attendance:

53,114 Liverpool: Karius 6, Clyne 6, Matip 6, Lovren 6, Milner 6, Henderson 7,

Wijnaldum 6 (Woodburn 90+2min, 3), Can 7, Mane 6, Firmino 6 (Lucas 86min, 4),

Coutinho 6 (Origi 32min, 6) Sunderland: Pickford 7, Jones 7, Kone 7, O'Shea 7, Van

Aanholt 6, Denayer 8, Watmore 6 (Januzaj 79min, 4), Ndong 6, Pienaar 7 (Gooch

79min, 4), Defoe 6, Anichebe 6

# The Observer

Date: 26 November 2016  
 Opposition: Sunderland  
 Competition: League

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Liverpool extended their unbeaten run in the Premier League to 11 games with a win against Sunderland but could face a spell without Philippe Coutinho who was taken off on a stretcher at Anfield. The Brazilian clutched his ankle after a challenge from Didier Ndong late in a first half where Liverpool failed to turn 80% possession into clear chances. Sunderland threatened briefly in each period, with Steven Pienaar and Duncan Watmore taking heavy touches when presented with openings. But as Jurgen Klopp's side continued to press, it was Coutinho's replacement, Divock Origi, who found the net with what appeared to be a right-foot cross from the left side of the area. It sparked relief at Anfield and when Ndong felled Sadio Mane in the box, James Milner converted a spot-kick to make it 14 games unbeaten in all competitions for the Reds. They now sit second in the table, a point behind Chelsea, while Sunderland drop to bottom spot.

Klopp's demand for more answered

Coutinho's injury, coupled with admirable Sunderland resistance, kept home fans quiet for long spells. Klopp clearly banks on Anfield being an intimidating place to visit and a return of 16 points from 18 available at home this season points to him getting his wish. But he was visibly frustrated early in the second half when he waved to the Kop and demanded more from supporters. Sunderland created their best opening moments later when Liverpool keeper Loris Karius dived at Watmore's feet to block and Victor Anichebe's shot in the following melee was cleared. But Liverpool's positivity was undeniable, with full-backs Milner and Nathaniel Clyne playing high up the pitch, Emre Can repeatedly joining attacks and even centre-back Joel Matip spending long spells in midfield. They missed chances through a Dejan Lovren header and a Georginio Wijnaldum volley. But with a touch of fortune, Origi's in-swinging cross nestled in the corner and Milner's penalty was emphatic. With no European football to distract them and no league defeat since August, Liverpool have clear momentum. Their former skipper Steven Gerrard watched their latest win from the stands just days after his retirement. Are Klopp's men capable of landing the one honour which eluded him?

A win at a cost?

How Liverpool deal with a potential lay-off for Coutinho will be critical in whether their momentum can lead to a push for that elusive Premier League title.

His contribution of five goals and six assists in the league sums up the key role he has under Klopp and his all-round displays have seen reports of interest from Barcelona. Against David Moyes' side Coutinho seemed to be man-marked early on. When he escaped the attentions of Jason Denayer after half an hour he took a heavy touch in the area and felt the full force of Ndong's clearance.

There was no suggestion of a foul but Coutinho's foot took the impact of both the ball and Ndong's follow-through, and he instantly waved to the bench before grimacing during treatment. Origi's impact points to Liverpool having the resources to deal with any spell out for Coutinho. But with Mane primed to attend the African Cup of Nations with Senegal in January, Klopp will desperately hope he has not lost arguably his most creative force for long. "The most defensive team I ever saw" Moyes had spoken of "parking the double decker bus at Anfield" and for long spells that tactic was deployed.

But Sunderland clearly had confidence as a result of back-to-back wins and they threatened early on, notably when Pienaar's heavy touch gave Karius the chance to save. Frustratingly for their travelling contingent, the Black Cats dropped deep after half an hour and never really established a footing again. Denayer played the full match in midfield yet made just seven passes. He perhaps summed up Sunderland's retreat. "This was the most defensive team I ever saw in my life," said Klopp afterwards.

Man of the match - Jordan Henderson

Henderson started attacks as Liverpool faced a wall of white shirts. He had 143 touches, playing 128 passes. But as Liverpool committed men forward, he impressively kept his discipline too as a lack of a single touch in the opposition area perhaps shows

What the managers said

Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp: "It was an intense game for us and a deserved win at the end. Sunderland always play a defensive style and that is OK. We forced them to be that. It is the most difficult thing in world football to come through but we stayed concentrated, worked for the moment and found a way." Sunderland manager David Moyes: "I thought we had done enough to keep them out. But overall we worked very hard to stay in the game. We were never going to come here and have lots of chances so it was always going to be tough. But we weren't going to be rolled over and we weren't."

Stats - Origi the super-sub Five of Divock Origi's six Premier League goals for Liverpool have come as a substitute. Only Burnley (19.6%) have posted a lower possession figure than Sunderland (22.5%) in a Premier League game this season [both v Liverpool]. Klopp named an unchanged starting line-up in the Premier League for the first time since October 2015 [previously 40 games without doing so]. Jordan Henderson (117) completed 100 or more passes for the third time in a Premier League game this season; he's the only player to do so on more than one occasion.

Up next?

Liverpool host Leeds in the EFL Cup before travelling to Bournemouth next Sunday, while Sunderland have a week of rest before entertaining league champions Leicester - who are now just four points better off than them.

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Match ends, Liverpool 2, Sunderland 0.

90'+4' Second Half ends, Liverpool 2, Sunderland 0.

90'+2' Substitution, Liverpool. Ben Woodburn replaces Georginio Wijnaldum.

90'+2' Attempt missed. Nathaniel Clyne (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the right. Assisted by Lucas Leiva.

90'+1' Goal! Liverpool 2, Sunderland 0. James Milner (Liverpool converts the penalty with a right footed shot to the bottom left corner.

90' Penalty Liverpool. Sadio Mané draws a foul in the penalty area.

90' Penalty conceded by Didier Ndong (Sunderland after a foul in the penalty area.

89' Foul by Divock Origi (Liverpool).

89' John O'Shea (Sunderland wins a free kick in the defensive half.

87' Substitution, Liverpool. Lucas Leiva replaces Roberto Firmino.

86' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Patrick van Aanholt.

86' Attempt blocked. Emre Can (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.

85' Dejan Lovren (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

85' Foul by Victor Anichebe (Sunderland.

84' Attempt blocked. Emre Can (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Divock Origi.

79' Substitution, Sunderland. Adnan Januzaj replaces Duncan Watmore.

79' Substitution, Sunderland. Lynden Gooch replaces Steven Pienaar.

78' Attempt missed. Joel Matip (Liverpool header from very close range is too high. Assisted by James Milner with a cross following a corner.

78' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Billy Jones.

75' Goal! Liverpool 1, Sunderland 0. Divock Origi (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box to the bottom right corner. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.

74' Attempt blocked. Georginio Wijnaldum (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.

74' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Lamine Koné.

73' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Jason Denayer.

73' Attempt blocked. Sadio Mané (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the six yard box is blocked. Assisted by Dejan Lovren.

72' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Lamine Koné.

72' Attempt missed. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is too high from a direct free kick.

70' Steven Pienaar (Sunderland is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

70' Sadio Mané (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

70' Foul by Steven Pienaar (Sunderland.

69' Attempt blocked. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool right footed shot from the left side of the box is blocked. Assisted by Emre Can.

68' Attempt blocked. Victor Anichebe (Sunderland right footed shot from the centre of the box is blocked.

68' Attempt blocked. Patrick van Aanholt (Sunderland left footed shot from outside the box is blocked.

67' Dejan Lovren (Liverpool is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

67' Foul by Dejan Lovren (Liverpool.

67' Patrick van Aanholt (Sunderland wins a free kick in the attacking half.

65' Attempt missed. Emre Can (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the right.

64' John O'Shea (Sunderland is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

64' Divock Origi (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

64' Foul by John O'Shea (Sunderland.

63' Corner, Sunderland. Conceded by Joel Matip.

61' Attempt blocked. Joel Matip (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Emre Can.

60' Lamine Koné (Sunderland is shown the yellow card for a bad foul.

60' Divock Origi (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.

60' Foul by Lamine Koné (Sunderland.

58' Attempt saved. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool left footed shot from the right side of the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.

57' Attempt blocked. Jordan Henderson (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Sadio Mané with a headed pass.

57' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Victor Anichebe.

55' Attempt saved. James Milner (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom left corner. Assisted by Emre Can.

53' Attempt missed. Georginio Wijnaldum (Liverpool right footed shot from the centre of the box misses to the left. Assisted by Emre Can.

50' Attempt missed. Sadio Mané (Liverpool left footed shot from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the left.

Second Half begins Liverpool 0, Sunderland 0.

45'+5' First Half ends, Liverpool 0, Sunderland 0.

45'+4' Attempt saved. Sadio Mané (Liverpool left footed shot from the right side of the box is saved in the centre of the goal.

45'+3' Divock Origi (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

45'+3' Foul by Jason Denayer (Sunderland.

45'+2' Attempt missed. Dejan Lovren (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is close, but misses to the left. Assisted by Jordan Henderson.

45'+1' Attempt missed. Emre Can (Liverpool header from the centre of the box misses to the right. Assisted by Roberto Firmino.

41' Attempt missed. Emre Can (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is too high. Assisted by Jordan Henderson with a cross following a corner.

41' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by John O'Shea.

37' Attempt missed. Dejan Lovren (Liverpool header from the centre of the box is close, but misses to the right. Assisted by Jordan Henderson following a set piece situation.

37' Divock Origi (Liverpool wins a free kick in the attacking half.

37' Foul by Steven Pienaar (Sunderland.

34' Delay over. They are ready to continue.

34' Substitution, Liverpool. Divock Origi replaces Philippe Coutinho because of an injury.

30' Delay in match Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool because of an injury.

27' Dangerous play by Roberto Firmino (Liverpool.

27' Jordan Pickford (Sunderland wins a free kick in the defensive half.

26' Philippe Coutinho (Liverpool wins a free kick on the left wing.

26' Foul by Billy Jones (Sunderland.

25' Attempt missed. Georginio Wijnaldum (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the left. Assisted by Nathaniel Clyne.

23' Corner, Sunderland. Conceded by Loris Karius.

22' Attempt missed. Patrick van Aanholt (Sunderland left footed shot from outside the box misses to the right. Assisted by Duncan Watmore.

21' Attempt missed. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is too high. Assisted by Joel Matip.

18' Offside, Sunderland. Victor Anichebe tries a through ball, but Jermain Defoe is caught offside.

17' Corner, Sunderland. Conceded by Loris Karius.

17' Attempt saved. Steven Pienaar (Sunderland right footed shot from the left side of the six yard box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Billy Jones.

16' Corner, Sunderland. Conceded by Dejan Lovren.

16' Attempt blocked. Jermain Defoe (Sunderland right footed shot from outside the box is blocked. Assisted by Patrick van Aanholt.

15' Attempt saved. Georginio Wijnaldum (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box is saved in the bottom right corner. Assisted by Philippe Coutinho.

13' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Steven Pienaar.

12' Emre Can (Liverpool wins a free kick in the defensive half.

12' Foul by Didier Ndong (Sunderland.

11' Foul by Georginio Wijnaldum (Liverpool.

11' Steven Pienaar (Sunderland wins a free kick in the defensive half.

6' Attempt saved. Roberto Firmino (Liverpool left footed shot from outside the box is saved in the centre of the goal. Assisted by Nathaniel Clyne.

3' Attempt blocked. Duncan Watmore (Sunderland right footed shot from outside the box is blocked.

2' Foul by Georginio Wijnaldum (Liverpool.

2' Duncan Watmore (Sunderland wins a free kick on the left wing.

2' Corner, Liverpool. Conceded by Duncan Watmore.

1' Attempt missed. Nathaniel Clyne (Liverpool right footed shot from outside the box misses to the left.

First Half begins.

Lineups are announced and players are warming up.