

## Bulletin 8 - 1 December 2022

### **Australia 1 – 0 Denmark**

Australia secured their place in the World Cup knockout stage by beating a disappointing Denmark side 1-0. Tipped by many to go far in the tournament, Denmark dominated much of the ball, but their toothless attack yet again proved them to be the most underwhelming team in the competition. Australia took the lead in the 60th minute through Matthew Leckie who finished off a brilliant counter-attack by nutmegging Maehle on his way to finding the bottom corner – a goal which saw the Socceroos reach the World Cup knockout stage for the first time in 16 years. A tournament to remember for the Aussies, but one to forget for the not-so-great Danes.

### **Tunisia 1 – 0 France**

Tunisia shocked France in one of the biggest upsets thus far as they defeated the current holders 1-0. Tunisia went ahead in the 58th minute via ex-Sunderland man Wahbi Khazri slotting the ball home after a fantastic solo run. The African side took full advantage of Deschamps resting nine of his key XI, including star-man Kylian Mbappe - though the French won't be losing any sleep over it, as they still managed to top the group despite both Group D results going against them. A bit of late drama saw an Antoine Griezmann equaliser ruled out by VAR, but the Australia vs Denmark result ultimately meant that the Tunisians would be going home regardless.

***France (as winners) and Australia (as runners up) progress to the last 16.***

### **Saudi Arabia 1 – 2 Mexico**

Despite beating Saudi-Arabia 2-1, Mexico were eliminated following their final game in Group C. Henry Martin (not the most Mexican-sounding name) scored the opener just two minutes into the second half, followed closely by a glorious 30-yard free-kick courtesy of Luis Chavez (a much more Mexican-sounding name). As it entered the dying stages of the game, with Mexico set to be eliminated due to their greater yellow card count than Poland, wave after wave of Mexican attacks left them susceptible to being done on the counter, and well, they were. A 95th minute Al-Dawsari consolation goal sealed Mexican fates and sent them home (on goal difference) from the World Cup group stage for the first time since 1978.

### **Poland 0 – 2 Argentina**

A dominant Argentina performance against Poland dispelled any pre-match doubts supporters may have had before kick-off regarding knockout phase qualification, as the Argentines battered the Poles from pillar to post for the best part of 90 minutes. A trademark Lionel Messi performance (and penalty miss) orchestrated the Argentina win, with Brighton's Alexis Mac Allister and Man City's Julian Alvarez getting on the scoresheet. Poland will count themselves lucky to qualify on goal difference with the game only finishing 2-0, as more clinical opposition could've turned it into a rugby score. This game sets up the next two RO16 fixtures, France vs Poland and Argentina vs Australia.

***Argentina (as winners) and Poland (as runners up) progress to the last 16.***



## Points for good behaviour

Before Saudi Arabia pulled one back late on, both Poland and Mexico were level on points, goal difference and had an equal head to head record, so by virtue of receiving fewer yellow cards than the Mexicans (5 versus 7), the Poles were progressing because of their superior discipline. Had they been level on bookings, the next step was to draw lots to determine who would make it through!

The only ever instance of fair play points proving pivotal came very recently, with Senegal being the unlucky side on the receiving end of too many cards at the last tournament in 2018.

## Results

**Andrew Pritchard** remains out in front but his lead has been cut to just 5 points as **Matthew Allen** climbs 8 places to become his closest challenger after picking up a handy 26 points yesterday. The **Kennedy duo (Neil and George)** also fared well rising 11 and 15 places respectively, but Pete Norman was the biggest mover of the day (in the right direction at least) now sitting 18 places higher in the standings.

With 8 group stage games left, still plenty of points (and pride) to play for!

### Rob Walker

Ranking	Player	Points	Daily Ranking Change	Daily Points Change
1	Andrew Pritchard	174	-	+14
2	Matthew Allen	169	+8	+26
3	Mark Warnes	165	-1	+14
4	Oliver Nicholls	162	-1	+13
5	Craig Moran	160	+9	+23
6	Andrew Hall	159	-2	+12
6	Dan Chapman	159	-2	+12
8	Gary Symons	158	-2	+12
9	Mara Aleixo	157	-3	+11
10	James Gardner	156	-1	+11
11	Emma Robinson	151	+1	+12
12	Steve Higginbottom	150	-6	+4
13	Rob Walker	149	-	+11
14	Neil Kennedy	148	+11	+24
15	Ashraf Mitha	144	+2	+11
15	James Milligan	144	-5	+1
17	Tim Jones	143	-2	+9
18	Luke Vickers	142	+1	+12
18	Ross Bennett	142	-	+10
20	Dan Jinks	140	+3	+15
20	Stan Hutchinson	140	+3	+15
22	Richard Stoddart	138	-	+10
22	Sharon Royston	138	-1	+9
24	Eddie Hopkin	136	-9	+2
24	George Kennedy	136	+15	+20
26	Duncan Carter	135	+1	+12



Ranking	Player	Points	Daily Ranking Change	Daily Points Change
26	John Stock	135	+1	+12
26	Larisa Wood	135	+1	+12
29	Daniel Sirl	134	+1	+12
29	Mel Wilson	134	+1	+12
31	Tim Poil	132	-6	+8
32	Nick Saxton	131	+2	+13
32	Paul Marriott	131	-	+11
34	Jasper Ellis	130	-1	+11
34	Stephen Kilgannon	130	+5	+14
34	Usman Asif	130	-15	-
37	Amrita Dasgupta	129	-	+12
38	John Small	127	+4	+12
38	Talha Gulzar	127	+4	+12
40	Bailey Coe	126	+5	+13
40	George Hinkley	126	-1	+10
40	John McLeod	126	+4	+12
43	Charlotte White	125	+4	+14
44	George Metcalf	124	+1	+11
45	Eesha Savani	123	+4	+14
46	Ian Metcalf	122	+6	+14
47	Peter Norman	121	+18	+23
47	Wendy Ludman	121	-13	+3
49	Stuart Briely	120	-2	+9
50	Josh Tittley	119	+5	+14
51	Charlotte Adshead	118	-2	+9
51	Ed Winstanley	118	-17	-
53	Michael Johnson	117	-4	+8
53	Olly Roper	117	+1	+11
55	Toni Johnson	115	+4	+14
56	Katie Sutton	114	+5	+14
57	George Bilsby	113	-1	+10
58	Jamie McLeod	110	+3	+10
58	Mark Rowlinson	110	+8	+14
60	Jonathan Hugh	109	+4	+10
61	Henry Tapper	108	-9	-
62	Darren Goodall	107	-6	+4
62	Derek Allen	107	+7	+13
62	Marcus Johansson	107	-25	-10
65	Tim Barlow	105	-6	+4
66	Chris Williams	104	-8	+2
67	Joe Bronstein	102	+9	+13
68	Graham Edmonds	101	+10	+13
68	James Saxton	101	+6	+11
70	William Rose	100	+6	+11
71	Ivan Taylor	99	+9	+12
71	Max Mauchline	99	-10	-1
73	Katie Morgan	98	+9	+13
74	Chris Marson	97	-8	+1
74	Hilary Salt	97	-3	+4
76	Chas Goddard	96	-3	+5



Ranking	Player	Points	Daily Ranking Change	Daily Points Change
76	Michael Garland	96	+6	+11
78	Owen Adams	95	+3	+9
78	Richard Nutch	95	+7	+12
80	Zoe Sadler	94	-11	-
81	Bex Thompson	92	-7	+2
81	Lance Havell	92	-10	-1
81	Rob Young	92	-3	+4
84	Phil Mann	90	+4	+12
85	Sam Ashworth	89	+2	+8
86	Sean Delaney	88	-20	-8
87	James Allen	87	+2	+11
88	Benjamin Robinson	85	-3	+2
89	Kieran Armstrong	84	+1	+9
90	Claire Herbert	83	-6	-1
91	Dale Walmsley	77	+1	+10
91	Mike Common	77	-	+8
93	Andy Wyatt	47	-	+2
94	Michael O'Donnell	22	-	+15

