

Bulletin 4 – March 2026

Welcome to the fourth bulletin of the 2025/26 Monkey League season.

Winners and losers

Sunderland are still king of the canopy, holding onto top spot in the Premier Division despite a modest recent round of matches, with their generous handicap still doing plenty of the work. Manchester United are the big winners this time, climbing from 8th to 4th after a strong run. Arsenal have also moved up from 7th to 5th, although with very little handicap support they still need to keep delivering if they are to finally get their hands on that long-awaited Premier League title. Lower down, champions Liverpool have at least climbed off the bottom branch, but with no handicap to help them they still look vulnerable in 17th. Newcastle are still struggling for momentum, while Spurs and Wolves remain stuck near the foot of the tree.

Hull City continue to hold top spot in the Championship, but Millwall are the side really swinging through the branches, climbing from 5th to 2nd after a strong round of matches. Coventry City and Middlesbrough remain right in the hunt despite both slipping a place, while Preston North End continue to make the most of a healthy handicap in 4th. Ipswich Town remain the division's biggest frustration, with their zero-handicap leaving them down in 17th despite one of the strongest points totals around. Near the bottom, Leicester have slipped into the bottom two, while Sheffield Wednesday remain stranded on the forest floor.

Lincoln City continue to lead the way in League 1, with Cardiff City and Bradford City still close behind in a top three that is starting to look nicely settled. Bolton Wanderers are one of the big climbers from this round of matches, climbing from 6th to 4th, while AFC Wimbledon have also pulled off a fine swing from 10th to 6th to put themselves firmly in the mix. At the bottom, Luton Town are still finding that a zero handicap is about as useful as a banana skin in a rainstorm, while Port Vale have managed to scramble off the foot of the table and leave Blackpool clutching the wooden spoon.

Bromley are still sitting at the top of the tree in League 2, with Cambridge United holding onto 2nd, but Swindon Town are the ones swinging into the spotlight after climbing from 7th to 3rd. Crewe Alexandra and Accrington Stanley have also scampered sharply up the table, while Barnet have clambered their way into the top seven after a very tidy round of matches. Walsall and Salford City have both slipped from the higher branches after sitting in the top four last time and although MK Dons are up to 9th, their zero handicap is still giving them little more than an empty banana skin to work with. The danger area still belongs to Bristol Rovers, with Crawley and Barrow dangling not far above them.

The Monkey League results

Sam Ashworth has swung into top spot after a huge 50 point gain since the last bulletin, opening up a 14 point lead at the top. The biggest movers up the tree are **Lance Havell**, up 31 places, with **Kelly Winter** and **James Milligan** both climbing 30. At the other end, **Mel Wilson** has taken the biggest fall, dropping 35 places, while **Olly Wallace** has taken a terrible tumble down the branches, falling 32. **Bethany Kissock** has lost her grip on 1st and slips to 4th and at the very bottom **John Small** is still stranded on the forest floor with plenty of ground to make up.

Question of the month

Sheffield Wednesday's season has been hit hard by an 18 point deduction.

What is the biggest points deduction ever handed out across England's top four divisions?

Handicap Tables as at 2 Mar 2026

Premier Division	Played	Points	H'cap	Total
1 Sunderland	28	37	38.3	75.3
2 Brentford	28	43	28.0	71.0
3 Aston Villa	28	51	16.2	67.2
4 Manchester United	28	51	15.5	66.5
5 Arsenal	29	64	2.3	66.3
6 Everton	28	40	24.3	64.3
7 Fulham	28	40	24.3	64.3
8 Leeds United	28	31	31.7	62.7
9 Bournemouth	28	39	23.6	62.6
10 Manchester City	28	59	2.2	61.2
11 Crystal Palace	28	35	24.3	59.3
12 Brighton and Hove Albion	28	37	19.9	56.9
13 Burnley	28	19	37.6	56.6
14 Chelsea	28	45	8.8	53.8
15 West Ham United	28	25	25.8	50.8
16 Nottingham Forest	28	27	23.6	50.6
17 Liverpool	28	48	0.0	48.0
18 Newcastle United	28	36	11.1	47.1
19 Tottenham Hotspur	28	29	16.2	45.2
20 Wolverhampton Wanderers	29	13	29.8	42.8

Championship	Played	Points	H'cap	Total
1 Hull City	34	60	23.7	83.7
2 Millwall	35	62	18.3	80.3
3 Coventry City	35	71	9.1	80.1
4 Preston North End	35	49	25.9	74.9
5 Middlesbrough	34	63	11.8	74.8
6 Queens Park Rangers	35	47	25.9	72.9
7 Derby County	35	51	21.3	72.3
8 Wrexham	35	57	15.2	72.2
9 Watford	35	51	19.8	70.8
10 Charlton Athletic	35	41	25.9	66.9
11 Stoke City	35	47	19.8	66.8
12 Bristol City	35	50	16.7	66.7
13 Swansea City	35	46	19.8	65.8
14 Portsmouth	34	39	25.1	64.1
15 Blackburn Rovers	35	38	24.3	62.3
16 Oxford United	35	32	28.9	60.9
17 Ipswich Town	33	60	0.0	60.0
18 Southampton	35	53	4.6	57.6
19 Norwich City	35	45	12.2	57.2
20 Birmingham City	34	49	7.4	56.4
21 Sheffield United	35	48	7.6	55.6
22 West Bromwich Albion	35	35	13.7	48.7
23 Leicester City	35	34	9.1	43.1
24 Sheffield Wednesday	35	-7	27.4	20.4

Sky Bet League 1	Played	Points	H'cap	Total
1 Lincoln City	34	71	14.8	85.8
2 Cardiff City	34	72	3.7	75.7
3 Bradford City	34	58	13.3	71.3
4 Bolton Wanderers	35	61	6.1	67.1
5 Stevenage	33	51	15.8	66.8
6 AFC Wimbledon	33	43	20.8	63.8
7 Stockport County	34	56	7.4	63.4
8 Peterborough United	35	46	14.5	60.5
9 Exeter City	33	41	19.4	60.4
10 Reading	34	51	8.9	59.9
11 Burton Albion	34	39	19.2	58.2
12 Wycombe Wanderers	34	50	8.1	58.1
13 Northampton Town	35	35	21.3	56.3
14 Huddersfield Town	35	52	3.8	55.8
15 Barnsley	31	44	10.8	54.8
16 Mansfield Town	32	40	14.6	54.6
17 Doncaster Rovers	33	39	14.3	53.3
18 Plymouth Argyle	34	46	4.4	50.4
19 Wigan Athletic	33	37	10.8	47.8
20 Luton Town	34	47	0.0	47.0
21 Leyton Orient	33	36	10.8	46.8
22 Rotherham United	33	34	12.2	46.2
23 Port Vale	32	27	17.4	44.4
24 Blackpool	34	37	6.7	43.7

Sky Bet League 2	Played	Points	H'cap	Total
1 Bromley	34	68	16.3	84.3
2 Cambridge United	34	64	10.3	74.3
3 Swindon Town	35	62	7.6	69.6
4 Crewe Alexandra	35	56	12.9	68.9
5 Notts County	34	61	7.4	68.4
6 Accrington Stanley	34	46	17.7	63.7
7 Barnet	35	53	10.7	63.7
8 Grimsby Town	33	52	11.5	63.5
9 Milton Keynes Dons	34	62	0.0	62.0
10 Walsall	33	53	8.6	61.6
11 Salford City	33	55	6.5	61.5
12 Colchester United	33	49	10.0	59.0
13 Fleetwood Town	33	45	13.6	58.6
14 Chesterfield	34	53	3.7	56.7
15 Oldham Athletic	32	45	11.1	56.1
16 Cheltenham Town	33	36	15.8	51.8
17 Gillingham	33	44	6.5	50.5
18 Shrewsbury Town	35	38	12.2	50.2
19 Tranmere Rovers	34	35	14.0	49.0
20 Harrogate Town	35	27	19.8	46.8
21 Newport County AFC	34	25	20.7	45.7
22 Barrow	33	27	13.6	40.6
23 Crawley Town	35	28	12.2	40.2
24 Bristol Rovers	34	31	7.4	38.4

Results

Position	Name	Monkeys beaten	Points
1	Sam Ashworth	996	290.7
2	Tim Barlow	994	276.9
3	Nick Saxton	993	272.9
4	Bethany Kissock	988	261.6
5	Mark Warnes	985	258.1
6	Rob Walker	980	248.5
7	Andy Pritchard	974	244.3
8	Brendan O'Connor	964	239.5
9	Gary Symons	958	233.8
10	Tom Howarth	957	232
11	Olly Roper	957	230.9
12	Will Rose	956	230.1
13	Luke Vickers	955	228.5
14	Darren Goodall	950	225.4
15	Philippa Lloyd	947	221.1
16	George Koeltgen	935	216
17	Bradley Todd	932	214.3
18	John Matczak	931	213.9
19	Tim Poil	927	208.5
20	Emma Robinson	877	188.2
21	Usman Asif	877	187.3
22	Richard Hague	872	184.7
23	Dale Walmsley	866	183.5
24	James Gardner	859	179.6
25	John Stock	855	178.2
26	Bryan Gardner	853	177.1
27	Richie Lloyd	831	170.7
28	Sharon Royston	829	170.1
29	Tracy Underdown	829	170.1
30	Tim Jones	829	169.7
31	Kelly Winter	824	167.6
32	Jude Keane	811	165.4
33	John McLeod	799	161.8
34	Thomas Harrington	798	161.6

Position	Name	Monkeys beaten	Points
35	Zoe Sadler	796	161.4
36	Stephen Fairclough	788	159.2
37	Hugo Berry	785	158.4
38	Paul Marriott	776	155.8
39	Mike Common	775	155.5
40	Will Pickles	775	155.4
41	Jamie McLeod	765	153.8
42	Jack Presswell	757	152.3
43	Mark Sadler	752	151.1
44	Dan Chapman	752	150.4
45	Paul Landreth	744	149.5
46	James Wallace	744	149.4
47	Lucas Eagleton	743	149.1
48	Katie Trevelyan	728	144.6
49	George Hinkley	719	143.2
50	Stuart Briely	714	142.3
51	Michael O'Donnell	712	142.1
52	Amrita Dasgupta	704	141.1
53	Kev Brocklesby	700	140.4
54	Nathanael McPherson	682	137.1
55	Ian Metcalf	659	131.7
56	Jonah Rowlinson	657	131.2
57	Henry Tapper	652	131
58	Melissa Jackson	652	130.9
59	Eddie Hopkins	652	130.2
60	Lewis Ward	645	128.8
61	George Orton	642	128.1
62	William Sadler	635	126.9
63	Michael Johnson	633	126.5
64	Neil Kennedy	625	125.7
65	Kim Metcalf	625	125.6
66	Ryan Trevelyan	623	125.2
67	Mel Wilson	610	123.2
68	Joe Bronstein	583	117.9
69	John-Henry Paul	579	116.8
70	James Milligan	577	116.6

Position	Name	Monkeys beaten	Points
71	James Yacoub	568	114.7
72	Henry Burton-Wilson	539	109.3
73	Robert Nash	531	107.6
74	Lance Havell	531	107.2
75	Sam Mullock	510	104.4
76	Eesha Savani	503	102.2
77	Craig Moran	499	101.6
78	Ian Stirling	495	101.5
79	Graham Hutchings	480	97.1
80	Max Mauchline	479	96.7
81	Elliot Malcolm	471	95.8
82	Aaron Love	466	95.1
83	Owen Adams	447	91.4
84	James Allen	447	89.2
85	Michael Garland	428	84.9
86	Gyll Mauchline	428	84.6
87	Jon Gulzar	422	83.7
88	Nicola Brocklesby	416	82
89	Sean Delaney	390	78
90	Sebastian Boeck	390	77.8
91	Duncan Carter	389	77.4
92	Samuel Nyarko	371	75.6
93	Gary Potts	371	75.5
94	Kester Young	362	73.2
95	Chris Rose	361	72.9
96	Robbie Burns	360	72.8
97	Matthew Clark	345	69.5
98	Oliver Nicholls	344	68.7
99	Paul Devine	327	64.9
100	Bex Thompson	315	62.7
101	Benjamin Robinson	312	61.7
102	Chas Goddard	309	61
103	Olly Wallace	309	60.9
104	Chris Marson	303	60.4
105	Lauren King	289	57.2
106	Cara Scobie	283	55

Position	Name	Monkeys beaten	Points
107	Ben Doran	273	53.8
108	Katie Morgan	265	51.7
109	Cam McGrath	256	49.6
110	Matt Price	246	48.1
111	Maria Heyns	235	45.9
112	Sean Richmond	227	43.7
113	Marcus Johansson	221	42.5
114	Charlie Hewson	220	42
115	George Metcalf	190	32.9
116	Riley McDonagh	187	32.1
117	Katie Fairclough	178	29.6
118	Ben Hoskins	150	20.5
119	Emma Hawthorne	150	20.3
120	Charlotte White	118	9.1
121	Toni Johnson	102	3.2
122	Andy Wyatt	89	-7.2
123	Indi Rehman	88	-7.4
124	Michael Donaghy	88	-8.7
125	Caroline Rye	81	-11.7
126	Patrick Goudard	69	-21.2
127	Simon Redfern	57	-27
128	Alexander French	46	-34.4
129	Lucy Humphray	42	-37
130	Megan Valentine	41	-39.1
131	John Small	7	-91.9