

## Bulletin 3 – 22 November 2023

Welcome to the third bulletin of the 2023/24 Monkey League season.

### Winners and losers

Since the last bulletin, the top two teams have exchanged places in the Monkey Premier League with Aston Villa now the front runners with a resurgent Tottenham tucked in behind. A notable mention for Wolves too, who many of you had fancied for the drop, as they have scavenged their way into the top four. A ten-point deduction means Everton drop from 6<sup>th</sup> to the foot of the table and now have the trio of promoted sides (and the continually underperforming Chelsea) for company, but could more financial sanctions be on the way soon to further shake up the Monkey League table?

The podium sides remain unchanged in the Monkey Championship, with the Tractor Boys continuing to harvest points at the same rate as title-tipped Leicester, with the Foxes looking to leap straight back to the top division. Play-off placed Preston complete the top three by virtue of the fact the bookies had them finishing in the relegation places this season. Sheffield Wednesday are unlikely to be looking forward to the weekend as they sit rock bottom of the Championship and its Monkey League equivalent, with the Owl's giving rival fans the chance to hoot at the side's sub-par displays this season.

Cheltenham Town remain off the pace this season, with only a point-deduction hampered Reading faring worse so far. Another side starting from behind the rest in Wigan Athletic have clearly cast their pre-season setback to the back of their minds as they continue to climb the table, now just about clear of the relegation zone, with play-off worthy form so far. At the summit, while ex-premier league sides Portsmouth and Bolton sandwich Oxford United at the top of League One, it is Stevenage, aptly led by manager Steve Evans who have grabbed top spot of the Monkey division. Hotly fancied by the bookies, Derby County aren't bleating about their season so far and currently languish in the bottom half of the table.

Taking a record equalling maximum points from their last twelve fixtures, it's no surprise to see Stockport County perched at the top of the Monkey League Two table – can their perfect form continue? However, both Crewe and Barrow aren't far behind, with the Bluebirds climbing nine places since the last bulletin into third position. Tranmere Rovers of the Wirral find themselves propping up the Monkey Football League pyramid and in the “real world” are only outperforming Sutton United this campaign. Despite their blockbuster owners, Wrexham find themselves very much in the middle of the Monkey League pack so far but there's still plenty of time for a Hollywood ending.

### The Monkey League results

A new leader has emerged in [Michael O'Donnell](#), impressively outperforming all but 8 monkeys so far. [Robert Nash](#) has seen the biggest upturn in form since last time of writing, collecting an additional 78 points and climbing a whopping 36 places. The same can't be said for [Gary Hayman](#) though, as he falls 43 places to 59th in the standings. I'm personally disappointed to report things remain unchanged at the bottom.

### Quote of the week

Notts County strike Macaulay Langstaff after hearing what the Wrexham AFC owners thought of him: *“When Ryan Reynolds and Rob McElhenney are calling you handsome and saying you should go on Peaky Blinders, you can't help but be complemented by that”.*

### Question of the week

Everton's 10 point deduction may seem like a very drastic sanction but it is dwarfed by others that have been imposed over the past 20 years. Can you name which four professional European sides have all been hit with a whopping 30-point penalty since the turn of the century?

**George Metcalf**

## Monkey League Handicap tables

Premier Division	Played	Points	H'cap	Total
1 Aston Villa	12	25	9.8	34.8
2 Tottenham	12	26	6.9	32.9
3 Liverpool	12	27	3.2	30.2
4 Wolves	12	15	14.8	29.8
5 Arsenal	12	27	2.5	29.5
6 West Ham	12	17	12.3	29.3
7 Brentford	12	16	12.6	28.6
8 Brighton	12	19	9.5	28.5
9 Nottingham Forest	12	13	15.5	28.5
10 Crystal Palace	12	15	13.3	28.3
11 Man City	12	28	0.0	28.0
12 Fulham	12	12	14.8	26.8
13 Newcastle	12	20	5.7	25.7
14 Man United	12	21	3.8	24.8
15 Bournemouth	12	9	15.5	24.5
16 Luton	12	6	18.3	24.3
17 Sheffield United	12	5	17.7	22.7
18 Chelsea	12	16	5.4	21.4
19 Burnley	12	4	15.5	19.5
20 Everton	12	4	14.8	18.8

Championship	Played	Points	H'cap	Total
1 Ipswich	16	39	4.2	43.2
2 Leicester	16	39	0.0	39.0
3 Preston	16	28	8.0	36.0
4 Leeds	16	31	1.7	32.7
5 Hull	16	26	6.6	32.6
6 Southampton	16	30	2.1	32.1
7 Cardiff	16	24	7.7	31.7
8 Sunderland	16	26	5.2	31.2
9 West Brom	16	26	5.2	31.2
10 Blackburn	16	22	6.6	28.6
11 Bristol City	16	22	6.6	28.6
12 Middlesbrough	16	24	2.8	26.8
13 Birmingham City	16	19	7.7	26.7
14 Stoke	16	21	5.6	26.6
15 Watford	16	21	4.9	25.9
16 Millwall	16	20	5.6	25.6
17 Plymouth	16	16	8.7	24.7
18 Swansea	16	19	5.6	24.6
19 Norwich	16	20	4.2	24.2
20 Huddersfield	16	15	7.7	22.7
21 Coventry	16	16	5.6	21.6
22 Rotherham	16	11	8.7	19.7
23 QPR	16	10	7.7	17.7
24 Sheffield Wednesday	16	6	7.7	13.7

Sky Bet League 1	Played	Points	H'cap	Total
1 Stevenage	18	32	11.0	43.0
2 Oxford United	16	35	5.2	40.2
3 Portsmouth	16	36	2.8	38.8
4 Bolton	16	35	1.7	36.7
5 Peterborough	17	31	2.6	33.6
6 Blackpool	18	27	5.1	32.1
7 Cambridge	17	20	11.8	31.8
8 Lincoln City	17	23	7.0	30.0
9 Bristol Rovers	16	23	6.6	29.6
10 Shrewsbury	18	20	9.4	29.4
11 Barnsley	16	27	1.7	28.7
12 Burton	17	20	8.1	28.1
13 Leyton Orient	16	20	7.7	27.7
14 Wycombe	16	22	5.6	27.6
15 Wigan	17	18	9.2	27.2
16 Charlton	16	22	5.2	27.2
17 Derby County	16	27	0.0	27.0
18 Port Vale	16	19	8.0	27.0
19 Northampton	16	17	9.4	26.4
20 Fleetwood	16	16	9.0	25.0
21 Exeter City	16	17	8.0	25.0
22 Carlisle	17	14	10.0	24.0
23 Cheltenham	16	9	10.8	19.8
24 Reading	16	7	3.1	10.1

Sky Bet League 2	Played	Points	H'cap	Total
1 Stockport	18	41	1.6	42.6
2 Crewe	17	32	9.2	41.2
3 Barrow	18	31	9.0	40.0
4 Mansfield	17	35	3.7	38.7
5 Accrington	18	29	8.6	37.6
6 Morecambe	16	27	8.3	35.3
7 Notts County	18	33	2.0	35.0
8 Harrogate	18	23	10.6	33.6
9 Crawley	17	24	9.2	33.2
10 AFC Wimbledon	17	25	8.1	33.1
11 Wrexham	18	33	0.0	33.0
12 Gillingham	18	28	3.1	31.1
13 Swindon	18	24	5.9	29.9
14 Colchester	18	20	9.8	29.8
15 MK Dons	17	23	4.8	27.8
16 Newport County	18	19	8.6	27.6
17 Walsall	17	20	7.0	27.0
18 Doncaster	17	20	5.5	25.5
19 Salford	18	21	3.9	24.9
20 Grimsby	18	18	6.3	24.3
21 Bradford	18	20	3.9	23.9
22 Forest Green	17	14	8.5	22.5
23 Sutton	18	12	9.4	21.4
24 Tranmere	18	14	6.7	20.7

## Results

Position	Name	Monkeys beaten	Points
1	Michael O'Donnell	992	196.8
2	Daniel Sirl	989	193.2
3	Gary Symons	988	190.9
4	Jamie McLeod	987	190
5	Sharon Royston	985	185.6
6	Jacob Kennedy	983	184.6
7	Chris Marson	983	184.2
8	Robert Nash	978	180.3
9	Michael Savidge	977	179.5
10	Andy Wyatt	977	179.3
11	Tim Jones	973	177.3
12	John McLeod	971	176.1
13	Katie Morgan	963	172.4
14	Henry Tapper	959	170
15	Andy Leyland	933	159.4
16	Aaron Mooney	902	152.5
17	George Kennedy	900	152.2
18	James Allen	857	144.2
19	Wendy Ludman	851	143.5
20	George Hinkley	840	142.2
21	Emma Robinson (Lann)	835	141.1
22	John Small	828	139.3
23	Nick Saxton	811	136.7
24	Tom Howarth	786	132.9
25	Sean Delaney	776	129.9
26	Aaron Love	744	126.9
27	Oliver Nicholls	743	126.4
28	Peter Adshead	733	125.2
29	Talha Gulzar	684	120.5
30	Stan Hutchinson	669	119.2
31	Michelle Smith	664	118.9
32	William Rose	654	118
33	Jane Carrington	642	117.2
34	Claire Herbert	624	115.4

Position	Name	Monkeys beaten	Points
35	Michael Johnson	617	114.6
36	Emma Robinson	616	114.4
37	Amrita Dasgupta	613	114.1
38	Ian Metcalf	605	113.5
39	Chas Goddard	603	113.1
40	Tim Poil	572	109.3
41	Lance Havell	571	109.1
42	Luke Withey	565	108.6
43	Keith Williams	563	108.5
44	Bryan Gardner	551	107.4
45	Paul Marriott	547	107.1
46	Charlotte Adshead	545	106.6
47	Steve Higginbottom	542	106.3
48	Benjamin Robinson	539	105.8
49	Andy Yates	536	105.5
50	Mike Booth	515	103
51	Daniel Jinks	502	102.1
52	Caroline Parker	493	101.7
53	Andrew Pritchard	442	97.9
54	Marcus Johansson	420	95.9
55	Andy Hall	411	95.2
56	James Saxton	407	94.3
57	Scott Harrison	379	91
58	Olly Roper	368	89.1
59	Gary Hayman	338	85.6
60	Toni Johnson	332	84.9
61	Emma Hawthorne	320	83.4
62	Ben Doran	316	83
63	Tony Barnard	304	82.3
64	Craig Moran	293	80.8
65	Dale Walmsley	272	78.6
66	Kim Metcalf	270	78
67	Jennifer Jackson	257	76.9
68	Mike Common	257	76.8
69	Kester Young	249	75.7
70	Paul Landreth	247	74.7

Position	Name	Monkeys beaten	Points
71	Katie Trevelyan	245	74.5
72	Tim Barlow	227	72.6
73	Graham Hutchings	215	71.3
74	Bailey Coe	211	70.7
75	Luke Vickers	195	69.3
76	James Gardner	188	68.3
77	Mel Wilson	174	67
78	Bex Thompson	172	66.9
79	Duncan Carter	158	65.1
80	Brendan O'Connor	153	63.9
81	Eddie Hopkins	135	60.7
82	Marcos Abreu	126	58.8
83	Usman Asif	109	56
84	Peter Norman	106	55.3
85	Jonathan Hugh	102	54.2
86	Matt Allen	99	53.7
87	Stephen Kilgannon	96	53.2
88	Indleeb Rehman	86	50
89	Rob Walker	86	50
90	Dan Chapman	81	47.7
91	Neil Kennedy	78	45.6
92	Max Mauchline	78	45.6
93	Owen Adams	76	44.6
94	Daren Goodall	75	44.3
95	Mark Warnes	73	42.2
96	Kelly Winter	64	38.9
97	James Milligan	37	30.8
98	Stuart Briely	28	26.6
99	Sarah Abraham	25	24.2
100	Ben Hall	25	24.1
101	John Hope	24	22.2
102	James Yacoub	22	19.6
103	George Orton	14	14.5
104	Charlotte White	3	0.9
105	George Metcalf	1	-13