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🏠 Sport > Football

## Chelsea 1 Liverpool 0 - Cesc Fabregas apologises for red card after Gary Cahill header gives Antonio Conte friendly win



CAROL ROBERTS

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By Chris Graham  
 28 JULY 2016 • 8:41AM

- **Mamadou Sakho was sent home for breaking Liverpool club rules** (<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/27/mamadou-sakho-was-sent-home-for-breaking-liverpool-club-rules-re/>)
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- **10 young players who Chelsea fans should be excited about this season** (<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/22/10-young-players-who-chelsea-fans-should-be-excited-about-this-se/>)
- **10 young players for Liverpool fans to get excited about this season** (<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/30/10-young-players-for-liverpool-fans-to-get-excited-about-this-se/>)
- **Chelsea 1 Liverpool 0**

Chelsea had Cesc Fabregas sent off as they beat Liverpool 1-0 in their International Champions Cup clash in Los Angeles.

The midfielder was dismissed with 20 minutes remaining at the Rose Bowl Stadium for a late challenge on the Reds' new signing Ragnar Klavan.

Gary Cahill got the only goal of the game in the 10th minute, heading in a Fabregas corner.

The England defender was also booked in the clash of the Premier League rivals, with Liverpool's Alberto Moreno, Ovie Ejaria, Marko Grujic, Dejan Lovren and Kevin Stewart also receiving yellow cards.

As well as Klavan, Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp gave starts to fellow recent arrivals Sadio Mane and Loris Karius in a match which was watched by more than 53,000 in California.

The closest his team came to a goal was in the 35th minute, when Roberto Firmino's effort was ruled out for offside. [Click here for the full match report.](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/28/cesc-fabregas-sent-off-as-10-man-chelsea-win-ill-tempered-match/) (<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/28/cesc-fabregas-sent-off-as-10-man-chelsea-win-ill-tempered-match/>)

8:41am

Cesc Fabregas makes apology after his dismissal

Cesc Fabregas made a personal apology to Ragnar Klavan after his reckless challenge on Liverpool's new signing, in a feisty International Champions Cup encounter between the two Premier League clubs.

Fabregas was given a straight red card 20 minutes from time for the late tackle on the Estonian defender and also apologised to manager Jurgen Klopp in the Liverpool dressing room after the game.

Six players were also booked as Chelsea recorded a 1-0 victory in the Rosebowl Stadium after Gary Cahill's header, condemning Liverpool to their first pre-season defeat.

Fabregas accepted the red card - which is not thought to earn him further punishment - but claimed that referee Baldomero Toledo lost control in the game.

He said: "We want to win every game and everything becomes very competitive but I do think the ref for them and for us was giving cards all over the place and that's why [I was sent off]."

"In the Premier League you could probably get away with it. I got there late, he got a toe to the ball and then I was anxious to win the ball. "It was a hard tackle, so I accept it and move on."

8:04am

Klopp speaks

"First of all, I would say a little bit more freshness but that's only with the finishing. For the last pass there were two things - a little bit fresher legs would help against a deep formation and the other thing is again more belief in our skills because we are able to play really good football.

"We had a lot of good movements. I saw a lot of really good individual situations and team tactics, really good moments offensively and defensively. It was OK, we could have done better, but for the moment I am not dissatisfied. It is OK, not more."

8:01am

Conte happy but calls for improvement

In an interview with Chelsea TV, Antonio Conte said: *"It was a hard match, but this game was important because we take confidence.*

*"I saw a lot of positive things about the defensive situation but we must improve when we have the ball because I love to play the ball, but we are improving.*

*"We must continue to work. Today we win. We showed a good attitude even when we went down to ten men."*

6:35am

Sign of things to come?

You wouldn't be hugely surprised if we saw this again in the league - Chelsea solid and winning by 1-0, Liverpool undone by a set piece. One thing that would be a huge surprise is if Chelsea didn't finish above last season's 10th place.

6:30am

And it's all over!

Chelsea win 1-0 in Conte's first duel with a domestic manager.

6:29am

Chelsea solid

Liverpool really are camped in Chelsea's half here, but they just can't find a way through. Fair play to them, they're not wanting to settle for a defeat. The pressure is making Conte sweat on the sidelines...though that could also be down to the humid 30 degree heat.

6:25am

Liverpool pressing for an equaliser

Liverpool get a free kick on the right, which is whipped in but Matic gets to it before Klavan. The ball goes out for a corner but the cross misses everyone.

6:24am

Poor from Cuadrado

Cuadrado is, of course, back at Chelsea and trying to regain his place in the team under Conte. But he'll have to do better than that cross just now, which goes nowhere near a Chelsea player and is collected easily by the Liverpool goalkeeper.

6:21am

And tonight's attendance is...

53,117. And it hasn't been a bad game at all for those watching. Will there be one last goal for them?

6:19am

Chelsea looking solid

A lot of huff and puff from Liverpool, but no sign that they'll be blowing Chelsea's defence down any time soon. Milner almost gets the ball through to Ings, who would have had a golden chance, but Cahill intercepts smartly.



**Chelsea FC**  
@ChelseaFC



JT in action a little earlier on. #CFCTour

♥ 710 9:19 PM · Jul 27, 2016

🗨 403 people are talking about this



6:14am

Another booking

This time Kevin Stewart goes into the ref's book for his late challenge on Pedro. This will be a long book at this rate.

6:12am

Another change from Chelsea

Meanwhile, Nathaniel Chalobah has come on for Loftus-Cheek, who's been a lively presence for Chelsea today.

6:10am

Pressure from Liverpool

Just under 20 minutes to go and Liverpool are pouring forward in a bid to make the most of their extra player. Lovely cross from the right but Cuadrado gets it clear.

6:07am

Red card!

So much for it being a friendly. Fabregas flies in late on Klavan, studs showing, and gets a straight red.

More changes

This time it's Chelsea who are making the changes - Cuadrado, Batshuayi and Pedro replace Willian, Moses, and Traore.

Looking forward to seeing Batshuayi, he scored goals for fun in France (is it ever not fun scoring goals...?) and could be great for Chelsea this season.

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6:03am

Flurry of corners

Just as the game's starts to get a wee bit stale now, Liverpool win a corner. And then they get another one strightaway and a header is deflected wide. This time, Milner's cross is whacked away easily by Matic. A poor delivery.

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6:00am

Ringin the changes

Here we go - all change. Liverpool make a raft of changes, with Milner, Wisdom, Ings, Henderson and Markovic all coming on.

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5:58am

Lovren back on

Lovren is back on and stopped Loftus-Cheek in his tracks. The young Chelsea player is being a given lesson on what it's like being a Premier League striker.

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5:56am

Lovren in pain

Lovren's efforts have left him flat on his back. he gets up a little unsteadily and is seen to on the sidelines. Meanwhile, William floats in the corner but it's easily cleared.

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5:54am

Ooph

Lovren clatters into the back of Loftus-Cheek again and Chelsea have a free kick on the right hand side of the box. A wonderful ball, but Lovren races across to head the ball out for a corner.

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5:51am

And another yellow card

This time it's Lovren who goes into the book for a challenge on Loftus-Cheek. Willian lines up a free-kick in the middle of the park...but hits it over. He scored some crackers outside the box last season, but that only troubled the fans in the stands.

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5:49am

Liverpool pressing

An ambitious shot from Coutinho way outside the area and it smacks off a defender. Liverpool are still pressing, though, and Lalalana can't quite meet a cross by Moreno. They're knocking on the door, but it's not opening. Maybe the buzzer is broken.

---

5:45am

Chelsea start on front foot

A good attack by Chelsea opens the second half, with Willian charging forward. Moses latches on to the ball but fails to get it on target.

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5:43am

And we're under way again

The second half gets under way. Lallana is now on, replacing Grujic after his head clash.

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5:41am

View from the sidelines

CHESHIRE BELIEVERS

CREDIT: REUTERS

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5:27am

Peep peep.

And that's the first half. Not a bad 45 minutes at all. Gary Cahill's header is all that separates the two, while Liverpool saw a goal ruled out for offside. You sense they have a goal in them here.

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5:23am

Another offside

Mane is caught offside in the box after nice work from Firmino. He's been fairly anonymous so far this half.

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5:21am

Ouch!

Lovren shoves Loftus-Cheek out the way just outside the box and it's a free kick for the blues on the left hand side. Fabregas takes it...and ooph...a clash of heads between Traore and Grujic. That's got to hurt.

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5:19am

Another booking

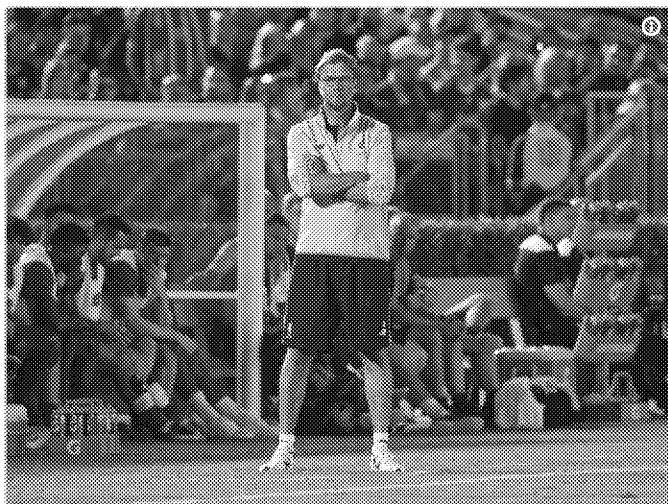
Liverpool's Ovie Ejaria is booked for a foul on Azpilicueta. Fourth yellow of the game. Not good viewing for the managers on the sidelines.

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5:16am

Almost

GOOA-Oh. Almost a goal. Liverpool get the ball into the back of the net thanks to Firmino, but it's chalked offside. Klopp doesn't look



 **Liverpool FC**   
@LFC 

 The boss watches on.

 613 · 8:15 PM · Jul 27, 2016

 357 people are talking about this 

5:14am

Moses returns

Victor Moses has been lively so far, he didn't make much of a mark at West ham last season but he's clearly being given another chance at Chelsea under Conte.

5:12am

Chance!

Willian gets a second chance to float a corner in a corner, which is headed out to Moses, who fires the ball viciously...but over.

5:11am

Conte gets ticking off

Conte has been a lively presence on the touchline - so much so that he's just got a talking to from the ref. He's pacing up and down so much he might be subbed himself in the second half. It may be a friendly, but tell that to Conte...

5:08am

Pressure from Liverpool

Good game so far, with Liverpool playing much better after that early goal. They've remembered who they're playing for and are pressing Chelsea all over the pitch. Chelsea are struggling to get out of their half at the moment.

5:04am

Replay

And here's the goal from Cahill earlier. With some Spanish commentary for you, too. Ole.

 **Planeta Liverpool**  
@LFC\_America 

Gol de Cahill que adelanta a los Blues. Chelsea 1 - 0  
[Liverpoolvine.co/v/5KguzXgmIve](https://www.liverpoolvine.co/v/5KguzXgmIve)

 16 · 7:58 PM · Jul 27, 2016 

 See Planeta Liverpool's other Tweets 



Oooph

And another set-piece for Liverpool. Coutinho lines up for a free kick on the left hand side of the box, hits the target but Begovic palms the ball away in style. One for the cameras that.

4:59am

Pressure from Liverpool

And now Liverpool have a corner after good work by Stewart down the left. Coutinho lofts the ball into the box but Cahill heads it clear...for a bit. The ball comes back in but Liverpool scramble it clear.

4:57am

Wasteful

Liverpool get a free-kick just outside the box on the right hand side. But Firmino floats the ball too far and it goes out. What a waste. We'll put that down to pre-season rustiness.

4:55am

Another booking

And another yellow card for a Liverpool player, this time for Marko Grujic, who brought down Willian. It really isn't a good start for the young Serbian.

4:51am

Not a good start for Grujic

Moses earned a corner after charging into the penalty box, before Cahill beats Grujic in the air to head home. 1-0 Chelsea.

4:49am

GOOOOAL

9 minutes gone and Chelsea take the lead through Gary Cahill.

4:47am

Early yellow card

This might be pre-season, but Moreno has just brought down William and got a yellow card for his troubles. Six minutes gone and we already have a booking. William gets back up, but Conte won't be a happy bunny if he sees any more challenges like that.

4:45am

Chance for Klavan to impress

New signing Klavan, the 30-year-old Estonian, has lined up at centre-back with Lovren after Sakho [was a naughty boy](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/27/mamadou-sakho-was-sent-home-for-breaking-liverpool-club-rules-re/) (<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/27/mamadou-sakho-was-sent-home-for-breaking-liverpool-club-rules-re/>).

4:42am

Pass, pass, pass...

Chelsea have lined up again in a 4-2-4 formation, with Loftus-Cheek playing as a second striker. An attacking approach, but it's Liverpool who enjoy the most of the early possession, knocking it around like it's a kick-about in the park. Which is kind of what it is.

4:39am

And we're under way

OK, so the players might not have dreamed of winning the International Champions Cup. But hey, who doesn't like beating your rivals, even in pre-season. And some of these players are desperate on staking a claim on a first team place.

4:36am

Welcome to the Rose Bowl





**Chelsea FC**  
@ChelseaFC



The Rose Bowl Stadium is looking good, and we like the sound of Blue is the Colour! #CFCTour

776 7:26 PM - Jul 27, 2016

439 people are talking about this

4:33am

The youngsters coming through

If you want to know more about the youngsters on display, take a look at our guide to them. Grujic features in the [Liverpool list of prospects](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/20/10-young-players-for-liverpool-fans-to-get-excited-about-this-se/) (<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/20/10-young-players-for-liverpool-fans-to-get-excited-about-this-se/>), while OlaAina is included in [Chelsea's round-up](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/22/10-young-players-who-chelsea-fans-should-be-excited-about-this-s/) (<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/22/10-young-players-who-chelsea-fans-should-be-excited-about-this-s/>).

4:27am

Who to watch out for

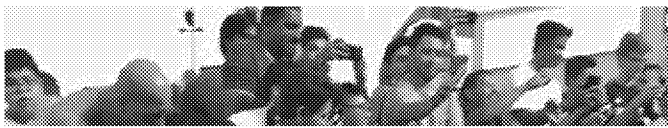
There's a few players out there today who will be worth keeping an eye on. Marko Grujic, the 20-year-old Serbian, has shone in pre-season so far and is an exciting prospect for Liverpool this season. And there are a few youngsters for Chelsea looking to push for the first team - notably Bertrand Traore and Ruben Loftus-Cheek. The latter has been deployed in a more advanced role for Conte in pre-season.

4:24am

Not long now

A little under 15 minutes to go now and the teams have been out warming up.





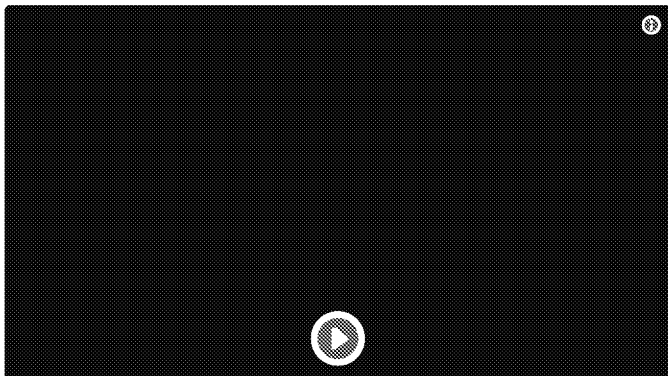
**Liverpool FC** @LFC

#LFC heading out for the warm-up earlier!

Kick-off is just under half an hour away...

652 7:09 PM - Jul 27, 2016

385 people are talking about this



**Chelsea FC** @ChelseaFC

The Blues have been warming up ahead of tonight's game against Liverpool... #CFCTour

584 7:13 PM - Jul 27, 2016

356 people are talking about this

4:07am

And here's Chelsea's line-up

**Chelsea FC** @ChelseaFC

Team v Liverpool (4-2-4): Begovic; Azpilicueta, Cahill, Terry (c), Aina; Fabregas, Matic; Wilian, Traore, Loftus-Cheek, Moses. #CFC

1,265 6:54 PM - Jul 27, 2016

1,873 people are talking about this

3:50am

Team news

Liverpool's line-up is in.

**LINE-UP v CHELSEA**

ROSE BOWL  
1:35AM BST

KARIUS  
RANDALL  
KLAVAN  
LOVREN  
MORENO  
GRUJIC  
EJARIA  
STEWART  
COUTINHO  
MANE  
FIRMINO

Substitutes

MANNINGER, MILNER, HENDERSON, LALLANA, BRANNAGAN, INGS, WISDOM, MARKOVIC, OJO, ALEXANDER-ARNOLD

**Liverpool FC** @LFC

The #LFC starting line-up and substitutes to face @ChelseaFC in full

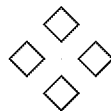
947 6:15 PM - Jul 27, 2016

1,244 people are talking about this

3:47am  
Preview

### When is the game?

Thursday, July 28 at the Rose Bowl Stadium in Pasadena, California.



## What time is kick off?

The International Champions Cup fixture will kick off at 4:35 BST.

## What TV channel is it on?

The game will be shown on Chelsea TV.

## What's the team news?

[Chelsea](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/26/chelsea-manager-antonio-conte-warns-inventus-off-nemanja-matic/) (<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/26/chelsea-manager-antonio-conte-warns-inventus-off-nemanja-matic/>) will be with Belgian pair Eden Hazard and Thibaut Courtois for their US Tour after their return from holiday following their exploits at Euro 2016. Youngsters Fikayo Tomori, Ola Aina, Ruben Loftus-Cheek, Nathaniel Chalobah, Matt Miazga and Michael Hector have also travelled and will be looking to impress manager Antonio Conte.

They will be without John Obi Mikel who is with the Nigeria squad ahead of the Olympics, while [new signing](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/22/chelsea-transfer-news-antonio-conte-eager-to-make-another-four-s/) (<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/22/chelsea-transfer-news-antonio-conte-eager-to-make-another-four-s/>) N'Golo Kante will be joining up with the squad on Monday.

Meanwhile, Liverpool are likely to give debuts to new signings Ragnar Klavan and [Georginio Wijnaldum](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/22/liverpool-complete-25-million-signing-of-georginio-wijnaldum/) (<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/22/liverpool-complete-25-million-signing-of-georginio-wijnaldum/>), while Sadio Mane, Loris Karius, Joel Matip and Marko Grujic have all travelled to the US with the squad. Emre Can is also available, as are Belgian triumvirate Simon Mingolet, Divock Origi and Chrisian Benteke after their post-Euro 2016 holidays. However, they will be without [Mamadou Sakho who was sent home from the tour by Klopp after concerns arose about his attitude](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/26/mamadou-sakhos-liver-pool-future-in-doubt-after-jurgen-klopp-orde/). (<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2016/07/26/mamadou-sakhos-liver-pool-future-in-doubt-after-jurgen-klopp-orde/>)

## What are they saying?

"Jurgen Klopp worked already for six months with this team and it's very important for him and Liverpool to understand each other. Liverpool is a great team and can fight at the end to win the title with the other teams.

"It's important to work and have the time to transfer your methods and ideas of football. Liverpool is one of the best teams in the league and I'm sure Liverpool can fight to win the title. It is a good game for us, but winning is not the most important thing. We try to work on different aspects, and we've worked a lot. But we want to play a good game and I want to see improvement from my players.

"A game against a good opponent is a good game and I'm very curious to see my team against Liverpool." - **Antonio Conte, Chelsea manager**

CRED: BEX

"Now we play Chelsea and I don't know exactly what level they are at [and] we meet each other again in a few weeks.

"It's not the most important game in the world, but we have to learn and use all we have in terms of knowledge, rhythm, fitness and put it in a game because if you wait for the perfect day [for a match], you'll wait until you're old and grey! There's always an issue here, an issue there - it's never perfect.

"It's clear we cannot be at 100 per cent, but I'm not interested - I want to see the 100 per cent that is possible on this day." - **Jurgen Klopp, Liverpool manager**

CHelsea LIVERPOOL FC

## What are the odds?

**Chelsea:** 13/10

**Draw:** 12/5

**Liverpool:** 2/1

What's our prediction?

**Chelsea to win 2-1.**

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Modern Slavery

