

Podcast 41 Worksheet

## Premier League – The Fans Speak

By Damian Fitzpatrick (May 16th 2008)

### Pre-Listening (Background information)

This report focuses on the Premier league and asks three fans what they thought of their team’s performance during the 2007-8 season.

### A. Listening – Main point

Listen to the whole report and fill in the chart with appropriate information.

	Team	Highlight	Lowlight	Player of the Year
Speaker 1				
Speaker 2				
Speaker 3				

### B. Listening – Main point

Listen to the section about Liverpool and decide whether the following statements are true or false. Give a reason to support your answer.

1. T / F Tim was disappointed with Liverpool’s start to the season.
2. T / F Tim felt that Liverpool’s performances during the middle of the season needed improvement.
3. T / F Torres has been at the club for three years.
4. T / F Time felt that the League matches against Arsenal were the highlights of the season.

5. T / F Tim also felt that Chelsea deserved to beat Liverpool in the Champions League semi final.
6. T / F Tim believes that Liverpool did not play badly despite drawing so many games.

### C. Vocabulary

*Listen to the section of the report about Tottenham and fill in the gaps with an appropriate word.*

I suppose if there was one word to sum up Tottenham's season it would be

(1) \_\_\_\_\_. Tipped by many to do well before the campaign started, one win from the first fourteen matches put paid to that prediction. (2) \_\_\_\_\_ that period we also replaced manager Martin Jol with Juande Ramos in a move that was at best, (3) \_\_\_\_\_.

Since then Spurs have been, well, typical Spurs lots of goals and strong performances yet since the middle of January the team has not (4) \_\_\_\_\_ from 11th place. Highlights? Well, it has to be the Carling Cup, which included a 5-1 thrashing of Arsenal in the semi finals and then we (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Chelsea 2-1 to win our first trophy in nine years. Low points? Not being able to hold onto points after taking the lead in almost half our games and, of course, missing a penalty at The Emirates when it was 1-1 and only fifteen minutes to go. (6) \_\_\_\_\_, the player who missed that penalty is my player of the year. Robbie Keane worked (7) \_\_\_\_\_ throughout the season, scoring his 100th goal for the club including the goal of the season in the 95th minute against Chelsea in the 4-4 draw at White Hart Lane.

**ANSWERS**

**A. Listening – Main point**

Listen to the whole report and fill in the chart with appropriate information.

	Team	Highlight	Lowlight	Player of the Year
Speaker 1	Derby	Beating Newcastle 1-0	Every week	The Fans
Speaker 2	Liverpool	Champions League campaign	Losing to Chelsea in s/f of Champions League. Drawing too many games	Fernando Torres
Speaker 3	Tottenham	Carling Cup wins against Arsenal and Chelsea	Not holding on to points and not beating Arsenal at the Emirates	Robbie Keane

**B. Listening – Main point**

Listen to the section about Liverpool and decide whether the following statements are true or false. Give a reason to support your answer.

- T / F** Tim was disappointed with Liverpool’s start to the season.  
**had a very promising start**
- T / F** Tim felt that Liverpool’s performances during the middle of the season needed improvement.  
**this terrible long middle patch**
- T / F** Torres has been at the club for three years.  
**Been such a good signing for us, going to be good for three years**
- T / F** Time felt that the League matches against Arsenal were the highlights of the season.  
**Champions League matches**
- T / F** Tim also felt that Chelsea deserved to beat Liverpool in the Champions League semi final.  
**Difficult to take as better team**
- T / F** Tim believes that Liverpool did not play badly despite drawing so many games.  
**We lost games without playing badly**

**C. Vocabulary**

- |                |               |               |          |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| 1. Frustrating | 2. During     | 3. Messy      | 4. Moved |
| 5. Defeated    | 6. Ironically | 7. Tirelessly |          |

## **Transcript**

### **Derby**

DB: Hans, can you sum up the season for us?

Hans: Disappointing. That's about it. Disappointing.

DB: Low points?

Hans: Lots, lots and lots. Pretty much every weekend was a low point, except when we beat Newcastle 1-0 at Pride Park.

DB: So that would be the high point, would it?

Hans: That would be the high point, yes.

DB: Player of the season?

Hans: The fans. Sellout crowd every week at the home games so, the fans, no player.

DB: What are you looking forward to next year?

Hans: Promotion.

### **Liverpool**

DB: OK, I am sitting here with Tim, a Liverpool fan. Can you sum up your Liverpool season?

Tim: Well, it had a very promising start and I think the first game we had against Chelsea we looked like we were the best team and I thought we were going to have a great season and then we had this terrible long middle patch where we got some very, a lot of innocuous results, a lot of draws, dropped points without actually really ever playing badly and we had a bit of a spring interest in the European competition, that was good, some good matches there. But at the end of the day, another season without anything to show for it.

DB: OK, who is your player of the season?

Tim: Well, that's gotta' be an easy question, that's Torres. I can't... I was trying to think of a player who's had such a ... been such a good signing for us and I don't think since the days of Barnes or Beardsley we've had someone we've signed made such an impact. He's made a difference in a lot of games, he's going to be great for three or four years.

DB: OK, what was the highlight?

Tim: Well, we probably have to look at the European Champions League. And I think the drama and the excitement, the game, the two games against Arsenal were just fantastic.

DB: The low point?

Tim: Well, there are a few actually, unfortunately. There's the odd match, which... I mean losing to Chelsea in the semi final was rather difficult to take as this year actually for the first

time I thought we were the better team. I think that...that long stretch of draws was very dispiriting. We had lots of, we just lost points without ever really playing badly and then we just lost our chance to win the title.

### **Tottenham**

Damian: I suppose if there was one word to sum up Tottenham's season it would be frustrating. Tipped by many to do well before the campaign started, one win from the first fourteen matches put paid to that prediction. During that period we also replaced manager Martin Jol with Juande Ramos in a move that was at best, messy.

Since then Spurs have been, well, typical Spurs lots of goals and strong performances yet since the middle of January the team has not moved from 11th place. Highlights? Well, it has to be the Carling Cup, which included a 5-1 thrashing of Arsenal in the semi finals and then we defeated Chelsea 2-1 to win our first trophy in nine years. Low points? Not being able to hold onto points after taking the lead in almost half of our games and, of course, missing a penalty at The Emirates when it was 1-1 and only fifteen minutes to go. Ironically, the player who missed that penalty is my player of the year. Robbie Keane worked tirelessly throughout the season, scoring his 100th goal for the club including the goal of the season in the 95th minute against Chelsea in the 4-4 draw at White Hart Lane.