



Biased Ref for Man Utd game (3/2/2006)

Referee Martin Atkinson - Leeds, Yorkshire

Yorkshire-based referee Martin Atkinson takes charge of only his second Fulham fixture when Fulham visit Man Utd in another televised game for The Cottagers.

Ref Atkinson must have friends in high places as he has gone from the Conference to the Premiership in two seasons. Last season he officiated at four Premiership games and so far this season he has looked after ten games in the top flight.

He had a reputation of being a lenient referee in The Championship and managed to avoid sending anyone off between August 2004 and October 2005.

At the moment Ref Atkinson is the biggest homer in the Premiership and on the stats is likely to ensure that struggling Man Utd has a friend in need. Hopefully being on T.V. will make him think twice before making any debatable decisions

Referee Stats - 2005/2006

Ref Atkinson is blowing his whistle noticeable less than his mates but when he does use it he is more likely to issue a yellow. In his first ten games he has averaged more than 3 yellows a game, right on the Premiership referee average. In terms of red cards he has only pulled his little red card out once during his 10 Premiership games this season. He used it against man mountain Darren Moore when he was at West Brom. He still has to make his first penalty decision this season in comparison to last season when he awarded 3 pens in 4 Premiership games.

	Mr. Atkinson's		Av Premiership Ref	
	Total	Match Avg	Total	Match Avg
Games	10		12	
Fouls	232	23.20	335	27.30
Yellows	32	3.20	39	3.21
Reds	1	0.10	3	0.22
Penalties	0	0.00	2.5	0.20
Fouls per Yellow	-	7.3	-	8.5

Homer? (2005-2006)												
Total	Home				Away				Total			
Games	Fouls	Yellow	Red	Pen	Fouls	Yellow	Red	Pen	Fouls	Yellow	Red	Pen
10	110	10	0	0	122	22	1	0	232	32	1	0
	47%	31%	0%	0%	53%	69%	100%	0%	-	-	-	-
Premiership Average												
12	50%	41%	33%	59%	50%	59%	67%	41%	335	39	3	2

Ref Atkinson is the biggest homer in the Premiership this season. Of the 32 times he has decided to issue a yellow card 70% have been given to visiting players. Hopefully he has a personality change before Saturday and becomes more even-handed.

Previous Fulham games what was refed by Martin Atkinson

22-10-2005 Premiership Fulham 2-0 Liverpool

Bookings: Josemi, Sissoko (Liverpool)

Referee Atkinson held out against heavy pressure from Liverpool players about a number of decisions

Match Report: Fulham, who are yet to win away in the league this season, were vibrant in midfield and up front, but defensively, were venerable both from pace and in their marking. United opened the scoring with a Ji-Sung Park right-foot shot from 12 yards which took a deflection off Fulham's Carlos Bocanegra on its way past goalkeeper Antti Niemi. United's second goal eight minutes later came from a superb right-foot free-kick into the roof of the net. The Cottagers showed great character when they stormed back to reduce the arrears in the 22nd minute. Liam Rosenior's cross from the right found Brian McBride leaping above Neville to head home from seven yards. Back came United to make it 3-1 a minute later. Saha cut in from the left, but when he found Ruud van Nistelrooy just inside the Fulham box, **the Dutchman was clearly offside**. Play was allowed to continue and, although Niemi saved van Nistelrooy's shot, Saha followed up to score with a close-range tap-in against his former club. Fulham boss Chris Coleman's protests saw him **sent to the stands by referee Martin Atkinson**. United's defensive frailties were there for all to see again in the 36th minute. Bridge beat off Park's challenge as he raced down the left. His cross to the far post from the byline was met by Heidar Helguson leaping high above Evra to head home from six yards - United goalkeeper Edwin Van der Sar parrying the ball into his own net against his former club. United's defence, shaky in the first half, became shambolic in the second. The farce was encapsulated in Evra's aerial collision with Mikael Silvestre when they went for the same ball. The hosts held on and clinched victory five minutes from the end with another superb goal. Van Nistelrooy released Saha down the left and his cross set up the Dutchman to fire in a shot from the edge of the box. Niemi clawed the ball away but Ronaldo reacted quickly to get in a shot from the right byline which hit the far post and rolled over the line and into the back of the net.

Ref League

("Rate the Ref.co.uk")

Each Ref League table is the equivalent for the refs as the Premier, First Division or SPL league tables are to the football clubs. It is the table by which we, the fans, rate the performance of the refs over the season, across the chosen attributes.

It simply tells us who the fans believe to be the best Ref in the Select Group, National Group and the SPL and those who the fans believe need to improve their overall refereeing standards in order to become the best.

Select Group (at 17/2/06)

Name	Fixtures	Comm	Cons	Cont	Fair	Fit	Flow	Pos	Total
D'urso, Andy	9	3.89	3.78	3.96	3.85	4.14	3.67	3.99	27.28
Atkinson, Martin	13	3.82	3.63	4.10	3.58	4.27	3.73	3.93	27.06
Webb, Howard	18	3.90	3.54	3.72	3.56	4.20	3.79	3.67	26.38
Bennett, Steve	22	3.80	3.55	3.94	3.62	4.01	3.62	3.72	26.26
Styles, Rob	18	3.72	3.34	3.73	3.58	4.16	3.83	3.63	25.99
Clattenburg, Mark	16	3.42	3.06	3.87	3.48	3.95	3.64	3.56	24.98
Halsey, Mark	11	3.77	3.28	3.69	3.11	4.00	3.55	3.42	24.82
Poll, Graham	17	3.42	3.13	3.61	3.26	3.64	3.26	3.49	23.81
Wiley, Alan	20	3.31	3.17	3.35	3.30	3.48	3.32	3.35	23.28
Marriner, Andre	5	3.08	3.31	3.24	3.10	3.54	3.31	3.30	22.88
Rennie, Uriah	11	3.09	2.81	3.32	2.65	3.65	2.92	3.02	21.46
Dean, Mike	11	3.09	2.65	3.03	2.63	3.45	3.25	3.10	21.20
Walton, Peter	11	3.18	2.76	3.36	2.67	3.24	2.85	2.76	20.82
Foy, Chris	12	3.06	2.50	3.10	2.56	3.40	3.14	2.95	20.71
Hall, Andy	11	3.00	2.83	3.22	3.17	2.81	2.55	3.10	20.68
Gallagher, Dermot	14	3.12	2.58	2.91	2.86	3.11	2.96	2.93	20.47
Dowd, Phil	17	3.12	2.51	3.32	2.68	3.29	2.60	2.84	20.36
Riley, Mike	9	2.40	2.35	2.52	2.52	3.55	2.14	2.82	18.30
Messias, Matt	5	1.97	1.91	2.42	2.31	3.09	2.61	2.71	17.02
Knight, Barry	6	1.70	1.63	1.64	1.58	1.99	1.59	1.68	11.81
Dunn, Steve	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

KEY = **Comm:** Communication; **Cons:** Consistency; **Cont:** Control; **Fair:** Fairness; **Fit:** Fitness; **Flow:** Flow; **Pos:** Positioning

The maximum possible rating is 5 in each area:

Disciplinary Actions

Action	Total	Avg Time Taken
Yellow Card	20	65 min

Fixtures: Scores shown in red indicate a statistically below average performance:

Kick Off	Fixture	Average Score
15-01-2006 @ 13:30	f Wigan Athletic 0 vs 1 West Bromwich Albion	 (26.64)
02-01-2006 @ 15:00	f Millwall 2 vs 1 Derby County	 (28.00)
17-12-2005 @ 15:00	f Wigan Athletic 3 vs 0 Charlton Athletic	 (34.00)
10-12-2005 @ 15:00	f Hull City vs Sheffield Wednesday	 (24.00)
05-12-2005 @ 20:00	f Birmingham City 1 vs 2 West Ham Utd	 (31.25)
26-11-2005 @ 15:00	f Tranmere Rovers vs Swansea City	 (20.00)
26-10-2005 @ 19:45	f Birmingham City vs Norwich	 (31.00)
22-10-2005 @ 15:00	f Fulham 2 vs 0 Liverpool	 (33.00)
01-10-2005 @ 17:15	f Sunderland 1 vs 1 West Ham Utd	 (18.00)
10-09-2005 @ 15:00	f Everton 0 vs 1 Portsmouth	 (28.50)
29-08-2005 @ 12:00	f Luton Town 2 vs 1 Millwall	 (20.50)
27-08-2005 @ 15:00	f Crystal Palace 2 vs 0 Stoke City	 (33.00)
20-08-2005 @ 15:00	f Tottenham Hotspur 2 vs 0 Middlesbrough	 (24.00)

Martin Atkinson – Statistics - Cards

Fixture Date	Card	Min	Player	Team
22-10-2005		52	Gonzalez Josemi	Liverpool
22-10-2005		85	Mohamed Sissoko	Liverpool
01-10-2005		44	Danny Gabbidon	West Ham Utd
01-10-2005		53	Paul Konchesky	West Ham Utd
01-10-2005		74	Shaun Newton	West Ham Utd
01-10-2005		90	Nigel Reo-Coker	West Ham Utd
01-10-2005		90	Steven Caldwell	Sunderland
10-09-2005		64	Simon Davies	Everton
10-09-2005		81	Richard Hughes	Portsmouth
10-09-2005		84	Jorge Nuno Valente	Everton
29-08-2005		33	Tony Craig	Millwall
29-08-2005		39	Markus Heikkinen	Luton Town
27-08-2005		35	Marlon Broomes	Stoke City
20-08-2005		50	Jermaine Defoe	Tottenham Hotspur
20-08-2005		52	Teemu Tainio	Tottenham Hotspur
20-08-2005		67	Edgar Davids	Tottenham Hotspur
20-08-2005		68	Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink	Middlesbrough
13-08-2005		80	Jamie McCombe	Lincoln City
13-08-2005		83	David Pipe	Notts County
13-08-2005		90	Robert Ullathorne	Notts County



Soccer - Coca-Cola Football League Championship - Crewe v Burnley - Gresty Road

Burnley's Peter Whittingham is booked on his debut by referee Martin Atkinson. Later, Martin Atkinson had to lead the players off after a floodlight failure



Martin Atkinson (W Yorkshire)
31/3/71

Martin started his refereeing career when he was 16 in the local leagues and progressed to The Football League assistant referees list in 1998 before being promoted to the select group of assistant referees in 2000. He refereed the FA County Youth Cup Final in 2003 and was promoted to the national list of referees at the start of the 2003/04 season. Martin was an assistant referee in the Worthington Cup semi-final 2nd leg in 2003 and represented England at the Dallas International Youth Tournament in 2004.



Birmingham 1 – 2 West Ham
Barclays Premiership 5/12/2005 8pm
Attendance: 24,010

On the half hour Tomas Repka went in the book for a handball as David Dunn tried to flick the ball past the Czech defender after Repka had missed controlled a clearance.

The Birmingham fans thought that the Hammers right-back deserved more than just a caution from referee Martin Atkinson as the last line of defence, but Danny Gabbidon was also in attendance.

In the final minute of normal time only an excellent decision from referee Atkinson prevented Heskey from conning an equaliser. It was a great cross from Pennant that picked out the big striker and he looked to have converted with a powerful header.

But Atkinson pulled the play back and instead brandished a yellow card to Heskey for handball. Indeed, television replays confirmed that Heskey had punched the ball Maradona style into the goal.