

## = 1999 FA Charity Shield =

The 1999 FA Charity Shield ( also known as the One 2 One FA Charity Shield for sponsorship reasons ) was the 77th FA Charity Shield , an annual English football match played between the winners of the previous season 's Premier League and FA Cup competitions . The teams involved were Manchester United , who had won both the Premier League and FA Cup as part of the Treble the previous season , and Arsenal , who finished runners @-@ up in the league . Watched by a crowd of 70 @,@ 185 at Wembley Stadium , Arsenal won the match 2 ? 1 .

This was Arsenal 's 15th Charity Shield appearance and Manchester United 's 19th . Leading up to the match , both clubs were embroiled in controversy : Manchester United withdrew from English football 's primary cup competition , the FA Cup , in order to take part in the 2000 FIFA Club World Championship ; Arsenal were entangled in a transfer saga involving their own player , striker Nicolas Anelka , who vowed to never play for the club again and cited the English media as a reason for wanting to leave .

Brazilian midfielder Sylvinho made his debut for Arsenal , while Ukrainian defender Oleh Luzhny was named on the substitutes ' bench . Manchester United goalkeeper Mark Bosnich , signed as a replacement for Peter Schmeichel during the summer , made the first appearance of his second spell with the club . Midfielder Roy Keane was absent with an ankle injury , so Denis Irwin stood in as captain . Manchester United went ahead seven minutes before the end of the first half , when David Beckham 's free @-@ kick hit the underside of the crossbar and narrowly crossed the line before Dwight Yorke made sure . Arsenal were awarded a penalty in the second half , which Nwankwo Kanu converted . Kanu then set up Ray Parlour to score the winning goal in the 77th minute .

This result marked Manchester United 's first defeat of 1999 . It was the second consecutive year that Arsenal beat United to win the Charity Shield . Arsenal manager Arsène Wenger described it as psychological boost to beat his opponents and felt it showed that his team were ready for the upcoming season . Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson , on the other hand , believed the defeat highlighted his players needed more game time .

## = = Background = =

Founded in 1908 as a successor to the Sheriff of London Charity Shield , the FA Charity Shield began as a contest between the respective champions of the Football League and Southern League , although in 1913 , it was played between an Amateurs XI and a Professionals XI . In 1921 , it was played by the league champions of the top division and FA Cup winners for the first time . Wembley Stadium acted as the host of the Shield from 1974 .

Manchester United qualified for the 1999 FA Charity Shield as winners of the 1998 ? 99 FA Premier League . The team overcame close competition from Arsenal to win their fifth league title in seven years . In the 1999 FA Cup Final , Manchester United beat Newcastle United by two goals to nil and completed the domestic double . The team later went on to win the UEFA Champions League after defeating Bayern Munich in the season 's final and became the first English team to acclaim a treble of trophies in one season . Given United won both domestic honours , the other Charity Shield place went to league runners @-@ up Arsenal . United appeared in 18 previous Shields , winning 10 outright ( 1908 , 1911 , 1952 , 1956 , 1957 , 1983 , 1993 , 1994 , 1996 , 1997 ) , sharing four ( 1965 , 1967 , 1977 , 1990 ) and losing four ( 1948 , 1963 , 1985 , 1998 ) . In contrast , Arsenal won eight previous Shields ( 1930 , 1931 , 1933 , 1934 , 1938 , 1948 , 1953 , 1998 ) , shared one with Tottenham Hotspur in 1991 and lost five ( 1935 , 1936 , 1979 , 1989 , 1993 ) .

The last league meeting between the teams was at Old Trafford on 17 February 1999 . A goal scored by Andy Cole cancelled out Nicolas Anelka 's opener for Arsenal ; the match ended 1 ? 1 after both teams spurred chances to win . Both teams were also drawn together in the FA Cup semi @-@ final two months later , the tie was decided by a replay as the initial game controversially finished goalless . Giggs ran the length of the pitch and evaded several Arsenal players to score the winning goal in extra time . In the close season , Anelka was involved in a protracted transfer saga

and vowed to never play for Arsenal again . He cited the media in England as a reason for wanting to leave the club : " The one thing I can tell you is that I can 't stand the English Press , who cause me enormous problems on a personal level , " but it was implied that his " gold @-@ digging brothers " wanted Anelka to move abroad to make more money ? they served as his agents .

In June 1999 , United accepted an offer from the FA to withdraw from the FA Cup in order to participate in the 2000 FIFA Club World Championship , staged in Brazil . It was criticised by the new Sports minister Kate Hoey , who suggested the club were treating its supporters in a " shabby way " . Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson however replied that United had been pressurised to make the decision , which aimed to solidify England 's 2006 FIFA World Cup bid : " The Government are saying that we should be in the FA Cup , but they are the very people that were saying originally that we have to go to Brazil . They could tell us quite clearly : ' Do not bother about the World Cup bid , leave that to us . It should not be Manchester United 's responsibility . ' "

= = Pre @-@ match = =

Arsenal manager Arsène Wenger revealed before the Charity Shield game that he was not overly concerned with Anelka leaving , rather the injuries that were depleting his squad : " I cannot forget that it was because of a poor start to last season that we lost the championship to Manchester United . " He refused to categorise the match as a " friendly " much like it is traditionally viewed as : " There is a trophy and medals at stake . We won it last season and our players want to win it again . " Ferguson described the 3 ? 0 defeat in the previous season 's Shield as a " humiliation " , before discussing how it made the team prepare for the challenges ahead : " I have reminded the players how hard it is to lose when you are playing for United these days ? it makes so many other people happy . " Indeed , United only lost five matches of the whole of last season , with their last defeat coming at home to Middlesbrough in December 1998 .

= = Match = =

= = = Team selection = = =

Both teams were without several first team players because of injury problems . Manchester United midfielder Roy Keane was absent , which meant defender Denis Irwin took responsibility as the team captain . Ryan Giggs was also ruled out of the game , though his injury was unspecified . Forwards Andy Cole and Dwight Yorke started upfront for United , in a 4 ? 4 ? 2 formation where David Beckham and Jordi Cruyff acted as the two wide midfield players . Goalkeeper Mark Bosnich , signed as a replacement for Peter Schmeichel , also started , having rejoined the club after a nine @-@ year spell with Aston Villa .

For Arsenal , defender Tony Adams was ruled out with injury , as was Dennis Bergkamp , Marc Overmars , and goalkeeper David Seaman . Anelka did not partake , given his transfer to Real Madrid was on the verge of being completed . New signings Oleh Luzhny and Sylvinho were both named in the squad , but whereas Sylvinho started the game , Luzhny was selected as a substitute . Arsenal , like United , lined up in a 4 ? 4 ? 2 formation . Up front , Fredrik Ljungberg was paired with the club 's only available recognised striker , Nwankwo Kanu .

= = = Summary = = =

The severe heat meant Manchester United and Arsenal found it hard to find any rhythm early on . Sylvinho fashioned an early chance for Arsenal , though his shot was deflected over . Although midfield pair Patrick Vieira and Emmanuel Petit did well to contain their opponents in the opening half @-@ hour , Arsenal 's lack of pace and incisiveness upfront was evident ? Ljungberg missed three chances before half @-@ time . Midway through the first half , Beckham was booked by referee Graham Barber for dissent . Moments after Nicky Butt was involved in a brawl with Martin

Keown , after the latter nearly caught Butt 's face with his boot . Both players were booked for confronting each other , as was Vieira for getting involved . United performed better as the match went on and scored the opening goal . Beckham 's 30 @-@ yard free @-@ kick hit the underside of the crossbar and bounced out ; Yorke headed the rebounded ball past goalkeeper Alex Manninger . Although replays suggested the goal was Beckham 's as his free @-@ kick crossed the goal line , it was given to Yorke . Arsenal responded for a short while , but missed " three half @-@ chances " .

Defender Jaap Stam , " nursing an Achilles injury all summer " , was substituted in the second half for David May . Arsenal began the half the better of the two teams and Vieira believed he earnt his team a penalty in the 49th minute ? it was turned down by Barber . The substitution of Sylvinho for Luis Boa Morte in the 64th minute allowed Ljungberg to play in a natural midfield role . Two minutes later , Arsenal were awarded a penalty . Vieira , chasing down the ball was adjudged to have his shirt tugged by Irwin in the 18 @-@ yard box . Kanu converted the penalty , sending Bosnich the wrong way . Yorke soon after mistimed his goal effort after being sent clear by Cole . Substitute Ole Gunnar Solskjær then put Cole through , only for Manninger to produce a one @-@ handed save . Arsenal scored what proved to be the match winner in the 78th minute . A goal @-@ kick by Bosnich was headed back into United 's half by Vieira ; Kanu controlled the ball " deftly " and set up Parlour , whose shot went into the net . Teddy Sheringham was brought on by Ferguson for Butt with nine minutes of normal time remaining , but with a fourth striker on the field , United were unable to score an equaliser . Luzhny later came on for Parlour , the final substitution of the match .

= = = Details = = =

Source :

= = = Statistics = = =

= = Post @-@ match = =

The result marked the first time that Manchester United had lost in the calendar year , ending a 33 @-@ match unbeaten run . Wenger believed the result showed that Arsenal were " ready for the season " , albeit admitting that the defence had trouble coping with Yorke . He thought it was " ... psychologically important to beat United , especially after the great run they have had " . Wenger confirmed afterwards that Anelka would sign for Real Madrid : " I hope everything will be finalised in the next couple of days . In any case , he is not coming back here , and although the contract is not signed yet , I hope it will be after his medical and that is the end of it . " Kanu , who scored Arsenal 's equaliser and set up the match winner , was pleased with his performance and relished the opportunity of establishing himself in the first team , after Anelka 's departure .

Ferguson said the defeat showed that Manchester United needed more games to be ready , " particularly , in the second half " and felt travelling " half way across the world " for pre @-@ season did not aid their preparation . In terms of the result , he said it was " about as significant " as it was last year . Bosnich 's performance in goal received mixed reviews in the English press ; The Sun questioned his positioning and said his kicking was " poor " . The player himself assessed : " My kicking has been atrocious and , generally , my distribution from the back has to improve . "