

= 2002 FA Community Shield =

The 2002 FA Community Shield was the 80th FA Community Shield , an annual English football match played between the winners of the previous season 's Premier League and FA Cup . It was the first to be contested following the renaming of the competition , formerly titled the FA Charity Shield . The match was contested by Arsenal , who won a league and FA Cup double the previous season , and Liverpool , who finished runners @-@ up in the league . It was held at Cardiff 's Millennium Stadium , on 11 August 2002 . Arsenal won the match by one goal to nil , watched by a crowd of 67 @, @ 337 .

This was Arsenal 's 16th Shield appearance and Liverpool 's 20th . Arsenal was without several of their first choice players in midfield , who were absent through injury ; this prompted a shuffle in the team which saw striker Sylvain Wiltord positioned on the left wing . For Liverpool , defender Markus Babbel was named as a substitute ater a lengthy period out of the side through illness . New signing El Hadji Diouf started in a creative role , behind strikers Michael Owen and Emile Heskey to begin with .

The only goal of the match came in the second half ; Arsenal substitute Gilberto Silva on his debut collected a pass from Dennis Bergkamp and struck the ball through goalkeeper Jerzy Dudek 's legs . Arsenal manager Arsène Wenger praised the match @-@ winner in his post @-@ match interview , while opposing manager Gérard Houllier felt the result showed that his team needed more game time and attention to passing , in order to improve . The result meant Arsenal was the first team to win the Shield outright 11 times , while it marked Liverpool 's first defeat at the Millennium Stadium .

= = 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 . Cardiff 's Millennium Stadium was hosting the Shield for the second time ; it took over as the venue for the event while Wembley Stadium underwent a six @-@ year renovation between 2001 and 2006 .

In February 2002 , the trophy was renamed the FA Community Shield . The then @-@ FA marketing director Paul Barber noted this was in order to reward the work of those contributing to the game , who go unnoticed : " The most important thing is that the many good causes that have benefited from the shield in the past will continue to benefit from the Community Shield in the future . " The FA also intended to prevent any interference made by the Charity Commission into where money raised by the game should go . In April 2002 , McDonald 's was announced as the main sponsor of the Community Shield , in a four @-@ year , £ 28 million pound contract . The deal included the company making an " invest [ ment ] in 8 @, @ 000 new community @-@ based coaches for young players " .

Arsenal qualified for the 2002 FA Community Shield as the holders of the FA Cup , beating Chelsea 2 ? 0 in the 2002 FA Cup Final . The team later won the 2001 ? 02 FA Premier League and completed the domestic double . The other Community Shield place went to league runners @-@ up Liverpool , who secured second place on the final day of the season . The game marked Arsenal 's 16th Charity Shield appearance and first since 1999 , where they beat Manchester United by two goals to one . By contrast this was Liverpool 's 20th , who incidentally played United and won by exactly the same scoreline to become holders of the trophy . The last meeting between the two teams was in the FA Cup ; a goal by Dennis Bergkamp ensured Arsenal progressed into the fifth round of the competition .

= = Pre @-@ match = =

In spite of the game 's traditional friendly feel , Liverpool manager Gérard Houllier highlighted in pre

@-@ match press conference the importance of winning the Shield : " It is very important to me . This match is more than a friendly . It represents the start of the season . The Community Shield is like a final . There is a trophy at stake and we are the holders . " Arsène Wenger wanted to use the match as " the final preparation game for the championship " and commented that Liverpool , amongst four other teams ( Manchester United , Newcastle United , Chelsea and Leeds United ) would challenge Arsenal in the league .

= = Match = =

Arsenal was without injured trio Robert Pirès , Freddie Ljungberg and Giovanni van Bronckhorst and lined up in their traditional 4 ? 4 ? 2 formation ; striker Sylvain Wiltord was accommodated to the left wing , with Bergkamp playing off main striker Thierry Henry . After a lengthy illness , Liverpool defender Markus Babbel returned to the squad and was named as a substitute . Houllier deployed a 4 ? 3 ? 1 ? 2 formation with Steven Gerrard , John Arne Riise and Dietmar Hamann as a midfield three and new signing , El Hadji Diouf positioned in a free role to begin with and as the game went on , moved to the right wing to stretch Arsenal 's defence .

= = = Summary = = =

Arsenal won the toss and kicked off . Within the first three minutes they fashioned their first opening : Wiltord found space outside the Liverpool box , yet failed to give the ball to Henry , as the through ball was cleared . Gerrard was booked for a tackle on Vieira in the sixth minute , which left the Frenchman seeking medical attention and moments after , he caught Henry late with a similar lunge ; Gerrard was given the benefit of the doubt by the referee . Bergkamp volleyed the ball " from close range " which was blocked by defender Abel Xavier and two of his efforts were saved in quick succession by Jerzy Dudek after the 20 @-@ minute mark . Liverpool managed their first shot on target before the half @-@ hour : a shot from Emile Heskey which hit goalkeeper David Seaman 's chest . After a quiet period towards the end of the first half , Ray Parlour went close to giving Arsenal the lead , through a long @-@ range shot that missed the post by fractions . A move from Arsenal soon after concluded with Wiltord firing the ball straight at Dudek , having been under pressure by Djimi Traoré .

Midfielder Gilberto Silva made his debut in the second half , coming on in place of fellow Brazilian Edu . In the 47th minute , Henry went close to scoring his first goal at the Millennium Stadium ; he collected a pass from Bergkamp and used his pace to get past the Liverpool defence . His shot caught Dudek and rebounded off the post . Henry created further chances in the 51st and 54th minutes , forcing more saves from the Liverpool goalkeeper . Owen was unable to reach the ball from a corner and Liverpool continued to pressure Arsenal , with Gerrard regaining control of the midfield and making a substitution which saw Danny Murphy come on for Hamann . In spite of this , it was Arsenal who scored the opening goal , in the 68th minute . A move by Liverpool , which had broken down , allowed Gilberto to pass the ball out to Ashley Cole , who in turn fed Bergkamp . His cut @-@ back met the Brazilian 's left foot " with a shot that squeezed through Dudek 's legs . " Diouf went down in the penalty box four minutes after , which provoked a reaction by Vieira , who believed he had dived . Both managers made numerous changes in the final 15 minutes , which included Milan Baroš replacing Heskey and midfielder Kolo Touré on for Bergkamp . The final notable chance went to Liverpool a minute before additional time : Sol Campbell was caught out of position in Arsenal 's half , but Diouf 's shot went over the goal bar .

= = = Details = = =

= = = Statistics = = =

= = Post @-@ match = =

The result marked the first time that Liverpool had lost at the Millennium Stadium . Wenger used his post @-@ match news interview to praise goalscorer Gilberto Silva and asserted that the Brazilian would be a " very strong player " for the team , in the incoming future . He noted that Dudek had " kept [ Liverpool ] in the game for a long time " and was critical of Gerrard , who he felt was fortunate not to have been sent off for a " reckless and dangerous " challenge on Vieira . Wenger believed Arsenal 's experience put the team in good stead for the upcoming season : " There are two attitudes to being champions . One is to get respect , another is to get kicked more and to face more aggression as people want to beat you more . We are quite used to that though as we have had some big fights in the past four or five years . "

Houllier argued that his team paid Arsenal " too much respect " in the match and blamed his full @-@ backs Xavier and Traoré for not providing width , adding : " We need to have more flow in our game , more safety in our passing construction " . Gerrard was unrepentant for tackling Vieira and stated he was trying to " stamp [ his ] authority " on the match . He accepted defeat and was optimistic Liverpool had the means to win the Premier League : " We 'd rather they beat us in this game and then we go on to pick up the title . That 's what we 're really looking at . Even though they got the better of us yesterday , it doesn 't mean they 'll do better than us over the whole season . " Diouf insisted he should have earned a penalty in the second half , given he felt there was " definite contact " from a challenge in the penalty box : " It was a penalty , definitely , but the referee is the master on the pitch and he didn 't give it . I know the Arsenal players think I dived , but I didn 't . "