# Clustering Defenders

LZ

#### 26 4 2023

## **Clustering Defenders**

The goal of this project is to profile defenders of the English Championship through clustering. We will perform clustering on player stats of Season 22/23 scraped from FBref (https://fbref.com/en/comps/10/stat s/Championship-Stats) with the worldfootballR package (https://github.com/JaseZiv/worldfootballR). The data has already been downloaded and saved, see the Markdown document named 'Download Player Stats' for more information (also on the metrics).

We load the tibble with the player stats:

```
library(tidyverse)
load(paste0(getwd(), "/data/Championship22_23_playerStats.RData"))
NL22_all
```

```
## # A tibble: 733 x 110
##
                                               Born `MP_Playing Ti~` `Starts_Playin~`
         Rk Player Nation Pos
                                 Squad Age
##
      <int> <chr> <chr>
                           <chr> <chr> <chr> <int>
                                                                <int>
                                                                                  <int>
##
    1
          1 Max A~ eng E~ DF
                                 Norw~ 23-1~
                                               2000
                                                                   43
                                                                                     42
    2
          2 Thelo~ no NOR FW,MF Wiga~ 20-3~
                                                                   39
##
                                               2002
                                                                                     11
##
    3
          3 Nelso~ eng E~ DF
                                 Read~ 19-2~
                                               2003
                                                                    3
                                                                                      0
          4 Kelvi~ <NA>
                                                                    7
                                                                                      0
    4
                           DF,MF Read~ <NA>
##
                                                 NA
##
    5
          5 Finla~ eng E~ FW,MF Pres~ 18-1~
                                               2005
                                                                    4
                                                                                      0
##
    6
          6 Elija~ eng E~ FW
                                 Luto~ 25-1~
                                               1998
                                                                   41
                                                                                     38
##
          7 Toby ~ eng E~ MF,FW Watf~ 18-0~
                                               2005
                                                                    4
                                                                                      0
                                                                                     10
          8 Alber~ gh GHA FW,MF QPR
                                                                   36
##
                                        35-1~
                                               1987
          9 Micha~ eng E~ FW
##
                                 Watf~ 17-2~
                                               2005
                                                                    1
                                                                                      0
         10 Benik~ cd COD FW
                                 Mill~ 30-0~
                                               1993
                                                                   19
                                                                                      8
##
  10
     ... with 723 more rows, and 101 more variables: `Min Playing Time` <dbl>,
       `Mins_Per_90_Playing Time` <dbl>, Gls <int>, Ast <int>, `G+A` <int>,
## #
       G_minus_PK <int>, PK <int>, PKatt <int>, xG_Expected <dbl>,
## #
       npxG_Expected <dbl>, xAG_Expected <dbl>, `npxG+xAG_Expected` <dbl>,
## #
       PrgC_Progression <int>, PrgP_Progression <int>, PrgR_Progression <int>,
       `Gls_Per 90 Minutes` <dbl>, `Ast_Per 90 Minutes` <dbl>,
## #
       `G+A_Per 90 Minutes` <dbl>, `G_minus_PK_Per 90 Minutes` <dbl>, ...
```

We filter all players that have a defending position:

```
NL22_all$Pos %>% table()

## .

## DF DF,FW DF,MF FW FW,DF FW,MF GK MF MF,DF MF,FW

## 201 32 29 109 16 80 52 134 16 64

NL22_defenders <- NL22_all %>% filter(Pos %in% c("DF", "DF,FW", "DF,MF"))

dim(NL22_defenders)
```

```
## [1] 262 110
```

Some players have changed teams during the season, so we sum up the total play time for them.

```
NL22_defenders <- NL22_defenders %>% group_by(Player) %>%
  mutate(MinsPer90_total = sum(Mins_Per_90, na.rm = TRUE)) %>%
  ungroup()
```

Now we can filter those defenders with at least 180 minutes played in total during the season 22/23.

```
NL22_defenders <- NL22_defenders %>% filter(MinsPer90_total >= 2)
```

For those who changed teams, we compute the weighted mean for each metric, where the weights are chosen as minutes played within teams, divided by minutes played in total. These are the players that appear multiple times in the data, with a selection of variables.

NL22\_defenders %>% filter(Player %in% NL22\_defenders[duplicated(NL22\_defenders\$Player), ]\$Player) %>% select(Player, Squad, Mins\_Per\_90, Tkl\_Tackles, TklW\_Tackles)

```
## # A tibble: 12 x 5
##
      Player
                             Squad
                                             Mins_Per_90 Tkl_Tackles TklW_Tackles
##
      <chr>
                             <chr>
                                                   <dbl>
                                                                <dbl>
                                                                             <dbl>
   1 Rarmani Edmonds-Green Wigan Athletic
                                                     2.7
                                                                2.59
                                                                             1.48
## 2 Rarmani Edmonds-Green Huddersfield
                                                                             1.18
                                                     8.5
                                                                1.88
## 3 Dominic Hyam
                             Blackburn
                                                    34.1
                                                                1.44
                                                                             0.762
                             Coventry City
                                                     2
                                                                2
## 4 Dominic Hyam
                                                                             1
## 5 Martin Kelly
                             West Brom
                                                     4.1
                                                                0.976
                                                                             0.976
                             Wigan Athletic
## 6 Martin Kelly
                                                     0.8
                                                                0
## 7 Luke McNally
                             Burnley
                                                     0
                                                             NaN
                                                                           NaN
## 8 Luke McNally
                             Coventry City
                                                    17
                                                                2.47
                                                                             1.47
## 9 Curtis Nelson
                             Cardiff City
                                                     5.3
                                                                             0.377
                                                                1.13
## 10 Curtis Nelson
                             Blackpool
                                                    15
                                                                1
                                                                             0.533
## 11 Bailey Wright
                             Rotherham Utd
                                                                             0.444
                                                     4.5
                                                                0.667
## 12 Bailey Wright
                             Sunderland
                                                     7.6
                                                                1.18
                                                                             0.526
```

Now 'the new value for Rarmani Edmonds-Greens Tkl\_Tackles statistics should be (2.5926 \* 2.7 + 8.5\*1.8824)/(2.7 + 8.5). The following function does that.

```
weighted_avg_duplicates <- function(df) {
  duplicated_ids <- df[duplicated(df$Player), ]$Player

  df_duplicates <- df %>% filter(Player %in% duplicated_ids)

  df_not_duplicated <- df %>% filter(!(Player %in% duplicated_ids))

  df_nest <- df_duplicates %>% group_by(Player, Born, Nation) %>% nest()

  weighted_avg <- function(weights, values) {
    sum(weights*values, na.rm = TRUE)/sum(weights, na.rm = TRUE)
}

  paste_chr_info <- function(vec) {

    if(vec[1] == vec[2]) {
        return(vec[1])
    }
    else {
        paste(vec, collapse = ",")
    }
}</pre>
```

```
}
}
df_duplicates <- df_nest %>%
  mutate(data = purrr::map(data, ~ {
  mins.tmp <- .x$Mins_Per_90</pre>
  x_no_avg <- .x %>% select(Rk, Pos, Squad, Age)
  x_no_avg <- x_no_avg %>% summarise(across(where(is.character), paste_chr_info))
  summarise_vars <- colnames(.x)</pre>
  summarise_vars <- summarise_vars[!(summarise_vars %in% c("Rk", "Pos", "Squad", "Age"))]</pre>
  xnew <- .x %>% summarise_at(summarise_vars,
                       ~ weighted_avg(weights = mins.tmp, values = .x))
  xnew <- x_no_avg %>% bind_cols(xnew)
  xnewRk <- .x$Rk[1]
  xnew
  }
  )) %>%
  ungroup() %>%
  unnest(cols = data)
df not duplicated %>% bind rows(df duplicates)
}
```

NL22\_defenders <- weighted\_avg\_duplicates(NL22\_defenders)</pre>

## Choosing relevant defending metrics

Not all available metrics are important for measuring the quality of a defender. We therefore define several metrics that we consider to be of central importance for defenders. First of all, we add some further metrics (Cards Per 90, Fouls per Tackle, Tackles Won).

We have metrics of central importance, then some additional ones, and some measuring player aggressiveness:

#### Cluster analysis

## #

Now we are ready for the cluster analysis. Our new tibble of centre backs only consists of the chosen metrics and the Player's name and minutes played:

```
cbs_ana <- NL22_defenders[ , c("Player", "Mins_Per_90", metrics)]</pre>
cbs_ana
## # A tibble: 226 x 28
##
      Player
                   Mins Per 90 Blocks Blocks Sh Blocks
                                                          Clr
                                                                 Int `Won Aerial Du~`
##
      <chr>
                         <dbl>
                                        <dbl>
                                                  <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
                                                                                <dbl>
##
    1 Max Aarons
                           40.8
                                        0.833
                                                  0.392 1.79 1.15
                                                                                0.441
##
    2 Anel Ahmedh~
                          29.8
                                        0.940
                                                  0.403 3.19 1.85
                                                                                2.05
  3 Semi Ajayi
                          13.2
                                        0.833
                                                  0.379 2.95 1.36
                                                                                3.11
##
  4 Ajibola Ale~
                           15.6
                                        1.47
                                                  0.513
                                                         3.78 1.86
                                                                                2.18
## 5 Ryan Andrews
                           3.4
                                        0.588
                                                          2.35 2.35
                                                                                2.06
                                                  0
## 6 Robert Atki~
                           23.8
                                        0.924
                                                  0.462 3.91 1.51
                                                                                5.46
## 7 Daniel Ayala
                                                  0.727
                                                         4.73 1.64
                                                                                3.09
                           22
                                        1.09
##
    8 George Bald~
                           29.4
                                        1.19
                                                  0.272
                                                         1.60 0.782
                                                                                1.12
## 9 Daniel Ball~
                           17.9
                                        1.28
                                                  0.838 5.03 1.62
                                                                                3.69
## 10 Leon Balogun
                           13.7
                                        1.17
                                                  0.511 5.26 2.12
                                                                                3.80
## # ... with 216 more rows, and 21 more variables: TacklesWonPercent <dbl>,
       Tkl_percent_Challenges <dbl>, Cmp_percent_Total <dbl>,
## #
       Lost_Challenges <dbl>, Err <dbl>, Mins_Per_90 <dbl>, Carries_Carries <dbl>,
## #
       PrgC_Carries <dbl>, Mis_Carries <dbl>, Dis_Carries <dbl>,
## #
       PrgDist_Carries <dbl>, CrsPA <dbl>, Cmp_percent_Long <dbl>,
```

Since these are still many metrics, we perform a cluster analysis in order to reduce dimension.

cbs\_ana <- cbs\_ana[complete.cases(cbs\_ana), ]</pre>

```
pca <- prcomp(cbs_ana[ , metrics], scale. = TRUE)
summary(pca)</pre>
```

Cmp\_percent\_Short <dbl>, Cmp\_percent\_Medium <dbl>, PKcon <dbl>, OG <dbl>,
Fls <dbl>, Tkl\_Tackles <dbl>, CardsPer90 <dbl>, FoulsPerTackle <dbl>

```
## Importance of components:
##
                             PC1
                                    PC2
                                            PC3
                                                    PC4
                                                            PC5
                                                                    PC6
                                                                            PC7
## Standard deviation
                          2.5079 1.9958 1.56837 1.26772 1.1827 1.12630 1.07669
## Proportion of Variance 0.2419 0.1532 0.09461 0.06181 0.0538 0.04879 0.04459
## Cumulative Proportion 0.2419 0.3951 0.48972 0.55153 0.6053 0.65412 0.69871
##
                              PC8
                                      PC9
                                             PC10
                                                    PC11
                                                             PC12
                                                                    PC13
                                                                            PC14
## Standard deviation
                          1.01354 0.95571 0.91143 0.8470 0.83281 0.7750 0.75440
## Proportion of Variance 0.03951 0.03513 0.03195 0.0276 0.02668 0.0231 0.02189
## Cumulative Proportion
                          0.73822 0.77335 0.80530 0.8329 0.85957 0.8827 0.90456
##
                             PC15
                                     PC16
                                             PC17
                                                    PC18
                                                             PC19
                                                                     PC20
## Standard deviation
                          0.69746 0.66531 0.54640 0.5073 0.46437 0.43889 0.41464
## Proportion of Variance 0.01871 0.01702 0.01148 0.0099 0.00829 0.00741 0.00661
## Cumulative Proportion 0.92327 0.94030 0.95178 0.9617 0.96997 0.97738 0.98399
                                                              PC26
##
                             PC22
                                     PC23
                                             PC24
                                                      PC25
## Standard deviation
                          0.37063 0.33173 0.27078 0.25072 0.18049
## Proportion of Variance 0.00528 0.00423 0.00282 0.00242 0.00125
## Cumulative Proportion 0.98928 0.99351 0.99633 0.99875 1.00000
```

We see that the first 10 Principal Components explain approx 80% of variance.

```
rownames(pca$x) <- cbs_ana$Player</pre>
n_pcs <- 10
df_pca <- as_tibble(reshape2::melt(pca$x[, 1:n_pcs]))</pre>
df_pca <- df_pca %% rename("Player" = Var1) %>% left_join(cbs_ana %>% select(Player))
## Joining, by = "Player"
df_pca
## # A tibble: 2,250 x 3
##
     Player Var2
                            value
##
     <chr>
                    <fct> <dbl>
## 1 Max Aarons PC1
                            1.68
## 2 Anel Ahmedhodzic PC1
                           0.610
## 3 Semi Ajayi PC1 -2.40
## 4 Ajibola Alese PC1 -0.259
## 5 Ryan Andrews
                     PC1
                           1.31
## 6 Robert Atkinson PC1
                          -1.14
## 7 Daniel Ayala
                     PC1
                          -3.89
## 8 George Baldock PC1
                           2.11
## 9 Daniel Ballard
                     PC1
                           -2.45
## 10 Leon Balogun
                     PC1
                          -1.55
## # ... with 2,240 more rows
```

### hierarchical clustering

We use Ward's method (other methods yielded way worse separations).

```
#dist_pcs <- dist(pca$x[ , 1:8], method = "max")

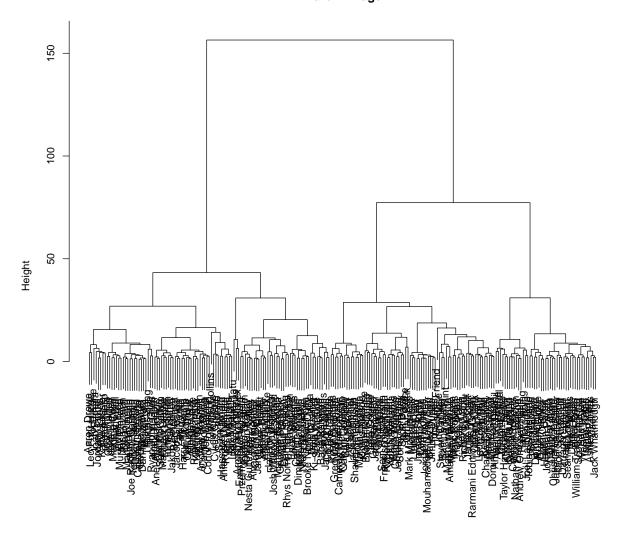
dist_pcs <- dist(pca$x[ , 1:n_pcs])

clust_pcs <- hclust(dist_pcs, method = "ward.D")</pre>
```

Now we plot the dendrogram for a first time.

```
plot(clust_pcs, main = "Ward Linkage")
```

## Ward Linkage

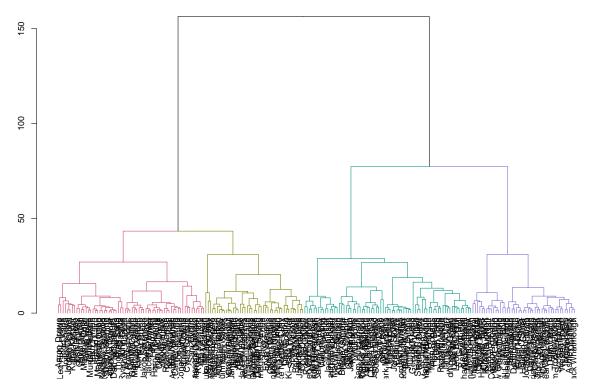


dist\_pcs hclust (\*, "ward.D")

It seems reasonable to cut the dendrogram such that we obtain 4 clusters.

```
cut_cl <- cutree(clust_pcs, k = 4)
clust_pcs <- as.dendrogram(clust_pcs)
dend_cl <- dendextend::color_branches(clust_pcs, k = 4)
plot(dend_cl, main = "Ward Linkage")</pre>
```

#### Ward Linkage



We count the number of players per cluster:

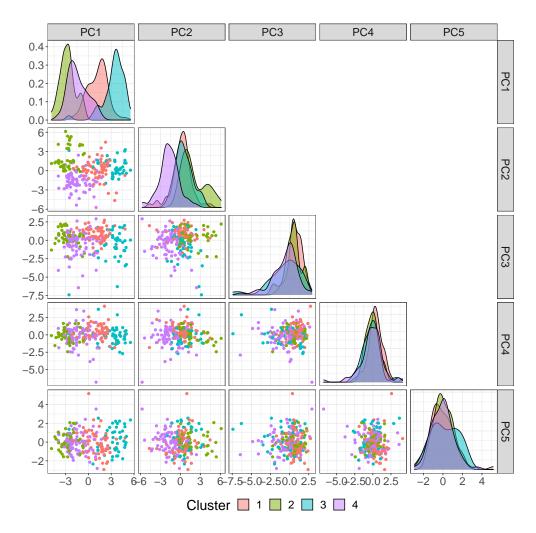
table(cut\_cl)

```
## cut_cl
## 1 2 3 4
## 64 45 43 73

tib_clusters <- tibble(cluster = cut_cl) %>% mutate(Player = names(cut_cl))
```

Join the principal component scores with the obtained cluster labels, and plot the densities of principal component scores within clusters, as well as pair-wise plots of the principal component scores.

```
df_pca <- df_pca %>% left_join(tib_clusters)
```



The distributions of principal component scores are well separated between clusters (at least for the first two principal components). We can now try to interprete what the scores on the differend PCs actually mean. For this, we look at the matrix of loadings.

```
loadings <- as_tibble(pca$rotation[ , 1:n_pcs]) %>%
  mutate_all( ~ { ifelse(abs(.x)> 0.1, round(.x,2), "")}) %>%
  mutate(metric = rownames(pca$rotation))

knitr::kable(loadings[, c(n_pcs+1, 1:n_pcs)])
```

metric	PC1	PC2	PC3	PC4	PC5	PC6	PC7	PC8	PC9	PC10
Blocks_Blocks		-0.17		-0.34	0.2	-0.43	0.28	-0.26	-0.22	0.15
Sh_Blocks	-0.26	-0.19		-0.26		-0.18	0.12	-0.13	-0.21	
$\operatorname{Clr}$	-0.29	-0.2	-0.12		0.11					
Int		-0.13			0.44	0.26	0.26	0.13	0.25	0.45
Won Aerial Duels	-0.27	-0.21			0.1				-0.11	
TacklesWonPercent				0.12	0.14	-0.6	-0.43	-0.12		-0.15
Tkl percent Challenges			0.14	0.56	0.35		0.22		-0.17	-0.22
Cmp_percent_Total	-0.23	0.37						-0.18		
Lost Challenges	0.25			-0.47			-0.14	-0.18	0.27	
Err				-0.37	0.22			0.53	-0.28	-0.26
Mins Per 90			0.16		-0.3	-0.26	0.55			0.16

metric	PC1	PC2	PC3	PC4	PC5	PC6	PC7	PC8	PC9	PC10
Carries_Carries	-0.12	0.42			0.12			0.14	-0.11	
PrgC_Carries	0.29	0.21					0.1	0.28	-0.11	0.15
Mis_Carries	0.32				0.12					-0.13
Dis_Carries	0.31	0.13								-0.28
PrgDist_Carries		0.41						0.28	-0.14	0.16
CrsPA	0.28		0.11			-0.21		0.26		0.15
Cmp_percent_Long	-0.25	0.2		-0.2	0.12					-0.17
Cmp_percent_Short		0.4				-0.11		-0.22		
Cmp_percent_Medium	-0.29	0.26						-0.13		
PKcon			-0.26	0.17	0.15	-0.38	-0.17	0.22	0.4	0.34
OG				-0.12	-0.18	-0.19	0.37	0.32	0.58	-0.45
Fls	0.11		-0.49		0.18		0.26	-0.13		-0.17
Tkl_Tackles	0.24		0.18		0.48			-0.16	0.16	-0.17
CardsPer90			-0.47		0.2			-0.12		
FoulsPerTackle			-0.56		-0.18				-0.19	

## Interpretation

- first PC separates all clusters quite well:
- clearest separation between clusters 1,2 and 2,3; 1,3; 3,4;
- some overlap of clusters 1 and 4, but rather due to large variation; modus is well separated;
- cluster 2 and 4 overlap most
- second PC separates cluster 4 from the rest.
- PC3 doesn't separate too well between the groups
- first PC
  - high negative loads on Shots blocked, Clearances, Won Aerial Duels, completed pass percentage (also long + medium completed pass perc.)
  - moderately negative load on carries
  - high positive loads on lost challenges, Progressive carries, Mis\_carriesm dispossessed carries,
     Crosses into penalty area, Number of tackles
  - moderately positive load on Fouls
  - → high negative scores on PC1 can be interpreted as having good positioning and defendings skills (able to clear, block shots, win aerial duels) while not taking too many risks (few tackles, fouls; safe passes, few failed or dispossessed carries)
  - confident and safe playing style
  - contarily, high scores on PC1 are related to rather bad positioning and
  - having to tackle/foul more, less safe playing style
- second PC
- has moderately high negative loads on Blocks in total, shots blocked, clearances, intercepts and aerial duels,
- high positive loads on pass completion percentage (all distance categories), carries, progressive carries, progressive distance carried
- balances classic defending skills and ball playing qualities,
- high scores on PC2 related to great ball playing qualities,
- low scores to great defending skills and less good ball playing ability.

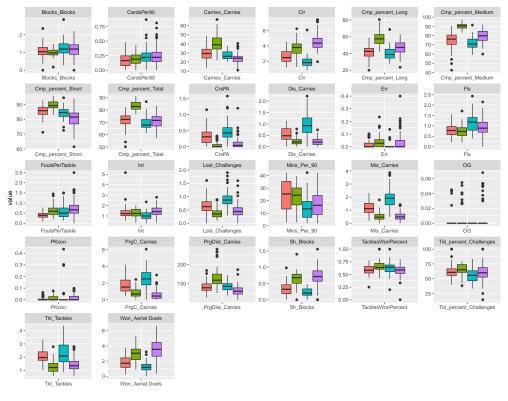
- Clusters 1 and 3 are quite balanced, cluster 4 with negative scores, cluster 2 with positive scores
- third PC
  - loadings suggest that PC3 measures 'intelligent'/good tackling skills or experience/routine
  - positive loadings on Tkl\_percent\_challenges, Mins\_Per\_90, Total Tackles
- negative loadings on conceded penalties, Fouls, CardsPer90, FoulsPerTackle
- having low scores on PC3 is rather unpleasant.

Groupwise boxplots of original stats

```
cbs_ana <- cbs_ana %>% select(-"Mins_Per_90") %>% left_join(tib_clusters)
```

```
## Joining, by = "Player"
```

```
cbs_ana %>% pivot_longer(cols = Blocks_Blocks:FoulsPerTackle) %>%
   ggplot(aes( x = name, y = value, fill = as.factor(cluster)))+
   geom_boxplot()+
   facet_wrap(~name, scales = "free")+
   labs(fill = "Cluster Label:", x = "")+
   theme(legend.position = "bottom")
```



Cluster Label: i 1 i 2 i 3 i 4

Finally, we get a list of players assigned to clusters.

```
cluster_list <- df_pca %>% select(Player, cluster) %>% unique() %>%
  group_by(cluster) %>%
  nest()%>%
  mutate(playerlist = purrr::map_chr(data, ~ paste(unlist(.x), collapse = ", "))) %>%
  select(-data) %>% ungroup()
```

#### clustdayerlist

- Max Aarons, Anel Ahmedhodzic, Ajibola Alese, Amari'i Bell, Joe Bennett, Jake Bidwell, James Bree, Sam Byram, Cyrus Christie, Dennis Cirkin, Matthew Clarke, Maxime Colin, Jamilu Collins, Lewie Coyle, Fankaty Dabo, Tendayi Darikwa, Jay Dasilva, Anfernee Dijksteel, Callum Doyle, Aaron Drewe, João Ferreira, Morgan Fox, Leo Fuhr Hjelde, Jordan Gabriel, Luke Garbutt, Jacob Greaves, Andrew Hughes, Trai Hume, Ryan John Giles, Hassane Kamara, Todd Kane, Kaine Kessler, Peter Kioso, Ethan Laird, Andy Lyons, Ian Maatsen, Ryan Manning, Sam McCallum, Tom McIntyre, Dan McNamara, Kal Naismith, Perry Ng, Ryan Nyambe, Callum O'Dowda, Kenneth Paal, Harry Pickering, Brad Potts, Cameron Pring, Joe Rankin-Costello, Mahlon Romeo, Josh Ruffels, Thomas Sang, Tommy Smith, Dujon Sterling, Jakob Sørensen, George Tanner, Conor Townsend, Oliver Turton, Josh Tymon, Vitinho, Zak Vyner, Murray Wallace, Ben Wilmot, Andy Yiadom
- Semi Ajayi, Daniel Ayala, Daniel Ballard, Danny Batth, Jordan Beyer, Marc Bola, Ben Cabango, Hayden Carter, Craig Cathcart, Jake Clarke-Salter, Ameen Al Dakhil, Harry Darling, Robert Dickie, Hjalmar Ekdal, Tobias Figueiredo, Dael Fry, Ben Gibson, Grant Hanley, Taylor Harwood-Bellis, Wesley Hoedt, Phil Jagielka, Alfie Jones, Christian Kabasele, Tomáš Kalas, Joël Latibeaudière, Darragh Lenihan, Sean McLoughlin, Paddy McNair, Kyle Naughton, Dara O'Shea, Andrew Omobamidele, Jonathan Panzo, Ashley Phillips, Erik Pieters, Connor Roberts, Dion Sanderson, Charlie Taylor, Curtis Tilt, William Troost-Ekong, Axel Tuanzebe, Scott Wharton, Jack Whatmough, Nathan Wood-Gordon, Dominic Hyam, Martin Kelly
- 3 Ryan Andrews, George Baldock, Jayden Bogle, Cohen Bramall, Callum Brittain, Jack Burroughs, Harry Clarke, Alfie Doughty, Cody Drameh, Tayo Edun, Álvaro Fernández, Tariqe Fosu, Darnell Furlong, Dimitris Giannoulis, Lynden Gooch, Dan Gosling, Jordan Graham, Nesta Guinness-Walker, Jaheim Headley, Ki-Jana Hoever, Junior Hoilett, Isaiah Jones, Osman Kakay, Emmanuel Longelo, Max Lowe, Scott Malone, Luke Mbete-Tatu, James McClean, Clinton Mola, James Morris, Jeremy Ngakia, Niels Nkounkou, Rhys Norrington-Davies, Brooke Norton-Cuffy, Armstrong Okoflex, Fred Onyedinma, Przemyslaw Placheta, Baba Rahman, Matthew Sorinola, Enda Stevens, Mark Sykes, Josh Williams, Josh Wilson-Esbrand
- 4 Robert Atkinson, Leon Balogun, Kyle Bartley, Chris Basham, Tyler Blackett, Will Boyle, Sonny Bradley, Reece Burke, Steven Caulker, Ciaran Clark, Callum Connolly, Jake Cooper, Charlie Cresswell, Greg Cunningham, Scott Dann, Harlee Dean, Bambo Diaby, Jimmy Dunne, John Egan, Marvin Ekpiteta, Callum Elder, Aden Flint, George Friend, Mario Gaspar, Brodie Gilmore, Grant Hall, Wes Harding, Kortney Hause, Michal Helik, Tom Holmes, Charlie Hughes, Cameron Humphreys, James Husband, Sam Hutchinson, Shaun Hutchinson, Jason Kerr, Cédric Kipré, Timm Klose, Tom Lees, Liam Lindsay, Tom Lockyer, Kevin Long, Matthew Lowton, Amadou Mbengue, Jamie McCart, Kyle McFadzean, Mark McGuinness, Yuta Nakayama, Luke O'Nien, Gabriel Osho, Tom Pearce, Matty Pearson, Lee Peltier, Ryan Porteous, Dan Potts, Omar Rekik, Marc Roberts, Jack Robinson, Michael Rose, Mouhamadou-Naby Sarr, Francisco Sierralta, Jack Simpson, Harry Souttar, Jordan Storey, Dominic Thompson, Jordan Thorniley, Auston Trusty, Rhys Williams, Richard Wood, Rarmani Edmonds-Green, Luke McNally, Curtis Nelson, Bailey Wright