

Match points: Newcastle v Arsenal



Key battles

Fabrizio Colocini v Olivier Giroud

Despite Newcastle's heavy investment, McClaren believes their key signing was keeping Colocini, who was won last by Crystal Palace. He expected against Manchester United's Wayne Rooney but faces a different challenge in Newcastle's nemesis Giroud. The tall Arsenal man has a height advantage and scored headers in both clashes last season.



Georginio Wijnaldum v Francis Coquelin

An attacking midfielder who scored 18 goals as PSV Eindhoven won the Dutch league last season, Wijnaldum is a Wenger-type signing. Newcastle have installed the £14.7 million (\$\$31.7 million) player as a No. 10, with Coquelin tasked to nullify him. Coquelin was fortunate not to be sent off against Palace and was overworked against Liverpool.



Daryl Janmaat v Alexis Sanchez

Janmaat is available to play after he was stupidly sent off against Swansea, when he could not cope with the electric Jefferson Montero. Now he faces the similarly speedy Sanchez, with the added complication that Mesut Ozil tends to wear to the left to link up with the Chilean. Janmaat has to be careful when Sanchez cuts in field to shoot.



Most tackles

17

Newcastle defender Chancel Mbemba has made the most tackles in the Premier League this season - 17.

Newcastle at home in 2015

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Newcastle have lost four of their last seven home games, winning only two of 11 games at St James' Park in 2015.

Newcastle have taken only two points from their first three games. They failed to win in their first seven league games last season, taking only four points.

Key stats

Passes attempted

1	Zazoula	253
4	Ozil	218
5	Ramsey	216

Arsenal's Santi Cazorla has attempted more passes than anyone else in the Premier League this season - 253. Mesut Ozil (218) is fourth and Aaron Ramsey (216) is fifth.

Head-to-head

Newcastle	0
Arsenal	7

Arsenal have won the last seven meetings between the two clubs. Newcastle have no wins in nine and only one in 18.

Giroud v Muggies

8

Last 5 starts

4

Last season

Olivier Giroud has scored eight goals in his five previous starts against Newcastle. He scored twice in both meetings last season.