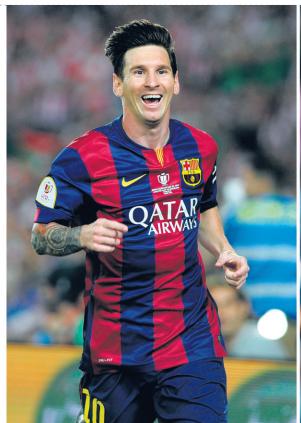
## The 2015 Ballon d'Or finalists

Who will be crowned the best footballer of the year on Jan 11? Here is a look at the three contenders.







	Lionel Messi	Cristiano Ronaldo	Neymar
Ballon d'Or winner	2009, 2010, 2011, 2012	2008, 2013, 2014	
Club and country (position)	Barcelona and Argentina (forward)	Real Madrid and Portugal (forward)	Barcelona and Brazil (forward)
Age	28	30	23
Games in 2015	56	52	54
Minutes played in 2015	4,793	4,555	4,946
Goals in 2015	48	48	45
Assists in 2015	24	14	13
Minutes per goal	100	95	110
Assists per goal	200	325	380
Titles in 2015	4*	0	4*
Stat attack	This will be Messi's ninth trip to the Ballon d'Or/Fifa World Player of the Year podium - a record.	Real Madrid's all-time leading scorer ended last season with 48 La Liga goals - a league- and personal-best.	Neymar has scored the most goals and provided the most assists in La Liga this season.

Cuistiana Danalda