

# Match points: Liverpool v Everton



## Key battles

### Joel Matip v Romelu Lukaku

With nine goals in his last six Everton games, Lukaku is the form striker in the Premier League and seems to be playing his way towards a move after signing a new deal to stay at Goodison Park. Matip excelled at the Etihad Stadium two weeks ago and is the one Liverpool defender with the pace and height to challenge the Belgian striker physically.



### Philippe Coutinho v Mason Holgate

Coutinho scored in Brazil's 3-0 win over Paraguay, but has mustered only one goal in his last 15 Liverpool games as his form has suffered. Yet he could be a trump card today. Seamus Coleman's horrific leg break means the gifted 20-year-old Holgate, who has not started for two months, is likely to begin arguably the biggest game of his career.



### Roberto Firmino v Phil Jagielka

Liverpool hired a private plane to bring Firmino and Coutinho back from Brazil early after the Selecao's World Cup qualifier. Firmino, the false nine, tends to be at his most effective leading the pressing game in such fixtures, but has only one goal against top-seven opponents this season. However, he is quicker than the veteran Jagielka, who has his toughest test since regaining his place.



## Key statistics

Red-hot cauldron awaits Blues

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1 in 5

Everton have not won in the league at Anfield since September 1999.

On their last five trips across Stanley Park, the Blues have managed to breach their neighbours' defence just once.

But Koeman's men are in form

23

Points Everton have taken this year in the Premier League, the joint-most alongside Tottenham. Liverpool have taken just 13 points.

106

Number of tackles Everton anchorman Idrissa Gueye has made. His tally is the highest in the league, five more than Chelsea's N'Golo Kante.

Top Toffees

21

Goals Romelu Lukaku has scored. With nine more games, the Belgian is odds-on to be Everton's first top-flight golden boot winner in 31 years since Gary Lineker.

Reds' derby record

P: 12 W: 5 D: 7

Liverpool have history on their side, having not lost to their Merseyside rivals in 12 league derbies since a 2-0 defeat at Goodison Park in October 2010.