Match points: Liverpool v Brighton



Key battles

Virgil van Dijk v Glenn Murray

Murray turns 35 next month but did not look it in a display of relentless running in the 3-2 win over Manchester United, when he scored the first goal. Van Dijk, who was in imperious form against Palace on Monday, is well equipped to deal with the veteran's aerial ability. Murray did score against Liverpool last season – though Brighton still lost 5-1.





Mohamed Salah v Leon Balogun

It could be a baptism of fire for the Nigeria international Balogun. His Brighton bow came as a substitute for the injured Lewis Dunk against Manchester United. Now his first start could come at Anfield, charged with stopping Salah and, in particular, marking the Egyptian when he comes infield or sprints behind the defence.





Naby Keita v Dale Stephens

Keita's all-action approach and audacious skill suggest Liverpool's new No. 8 has the makings of a crowd favourite after his £52 million (\$\$91.4 million) move from RB Leipzig. Stephens was a much cheaper alternative for the Seagulls but he has formed an efficient, effective partnership with the Netherlands international Davy Propper.



Key statistics

Reds on song



Days since Liverpool conceded a league goal at Anfield.

5000

Average goals per game in their last three Liverpool have put past Brighton. Away day blues



Years since Brighton last beat Liverpool. W2 D5 L13

The Seagulls have picked up just 11 points from their 20 Premier League away games.

Danger men



Teams Glenn Murray has scored against after his opener against Manchester United last week. Liverpool are one of them.

140000000

Goals Liverpool's Sadio Mane has scored in his last 19 games.