

Match points: Manchester City v Chelsea



Key battles

Kyle Walker v Eden Hazard

Hazard's league season has already produced 12 goals and 10 assists. He was outstanding against Huddersfield last week after being restored to the left flank. This may be a game where Walker has to play as he did against Arsenal on Sunday and for England at the World Cup, in effect as a third centre-back, rather than overlapping.



Sergio Agüero v David Luiz

Agüero was sent off in this fixture two years ago for a disgraceful lunge at Luiz. He ought to be in a better mood tomorrow after a hat-trick last week. He has 40 goals against the big six since joining City, a total no one else can rival. Yet while Luiz can be erratic, he was outstanding in December's win over City, defending well and scoring once.



Nicolas Otamendi v Gonzalo Higuaín

Otamendi has spent much of the season understudying John Stones and Aymeric Laporte but, after facing Arsenal and Everton, he could be used to scrap with his fellow Argentinian. Higuaín's brace against Huddersfield opened his Chelsea account during his loan move and took his tally to 38 goals in 37 league games under Maurizio Sarri.



Key statistics

Net busters

4.15

Average goals per game at the Etihad, the most at any Premier League ground.

0

Away goals Chelsea have scored in 2019.

Blues bogy

L L L L

Pep Guardiola has suffered three league defeats by Chelsea, the most against any side.

Goal difference

8

Goals City's Sergio Agüero has scored in his last eight home league games.

1

Goals apiece Chelsea's Pedro and Willian have scored in their last eight away league games.

Bookings on the cards

99

Red cards tomorrow's referee Mike Dean has shown in the Premier League.