

Match points: Manchester City v Leicester



Key battles

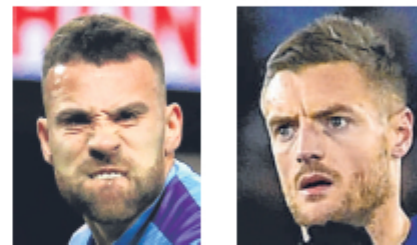
Kevin de Bruyne v Wilfred Ndidi

De Bruyne produced one of the season's outstanding individual displays at Arsenal last week, scoring two wonderful goals, hitting the post and getting an assist. The task of subduing him falls to Ndidi and statistically, the Nigerian, who is top in the Premier League for interceptions and second for tackles, is the preeminent defensive midfielder.



Raheem Sterling v Ricardo Pereira

Leicester are something of a bogey team for Sterling, who has scored only once against them but after three goals in two games, he is back in form. This should be an outstanding duel. Pereira has made the most tackles in the division, has a case to be its best right-back and has been in terrific form, both defensively and going forward.



Nicolas Otamendi v Jamie Vardy

Vardy has been the scourge of City before. He scored a hat-trick when Leicester went 4-0 up on a chastening day for Pep Guardiola three years ago. A high defensive line backfired against his raw pace then and Otamendi, who is not as quick as the Leicester forward, would lose any race, so City have to be careful against the Foxes' counter-attack.



Key stats



Points defending champions Manchester City trail Leicester by.

D1L2

City have dropped eight points at the Etihad this season.



Goals Leicester have scored in their last four away league games.



Foxes striker Jamie Vardy has five more goals than his closest competitors for the Golden Boot.



Foxes goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel has the most clean sheets in the league.