

Follow the English Premiership through your wrist watch

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By Dale James Caffrey

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A unique watch, developed by a Hong Kong based entrepreneur, enables the owner to view all fixtures and keep a record of the results of up to any three of their favourite teams in the English Premiership Football League is now on the market.

The watch, which comes in three colours, black, blue and red, is the brainchild of Robert Cave, Managing Director of Spfx Sports Watches (International) Ltd.

"At a business lunch with a friend three years ago, I said, wouldn't be great if I could instantly know whom my favourite football teams are playing and the idea of a watch having this capability was born," Robert Cave said.

"It has been quite a journey and it has resulted in the development of what is the first watch to read and download information direct from the Internet," he said.

The watch costs £99 and can be purchased through www.spfxsports.com and www.3lionssport.com

It comes with an electronic key which enables fixtures to be downloaded from the official www.spfxsports.com website.

Up to three teams can be tracked and apart from detailing fixtures and allowing results to be tabulated, it also displays the time in 20 different time zones.

Incredibly, when purchasing a watch, a buyer has the option to enter a lucky draw, drawn after the sale of the first 10,000 watches for US\$250,000 worth of diamonds, or a rolling draw, made after the sale of batches of 150 watches, to win a five day trip to the UK and VIP treatment at a Premier League match.

Author is one of the managing partners of www.3lionssport.com

Premiership Highs and Lows – Manchester United Football Club

By Chris Towland

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Most fans of English football and the Premiership in particular would agree that Manchester United have certainly had their share of 'Highs' in the twelve seasons since the Premiership began and what would be considered a 'Low' by Utd fans (such as finishing third behind Arsenal and Chelsea) would in fact be considered a significant 'High' by most other clubs!

Here are what I consider to be some of Manchester United's major highs and lows since the inaugural Premiership season kicked off in 1992:

***** Highs *****

Out of a total of just twelve seasons, Man. United have lifted the Premiership trophy no less than eight times and a particular high was taking the title in the very first Premiership season.

United have achieved the Premiership and F.A. Cup 'double' three times in 1994, 1996 and in 1999.

They have won more Premiership games, won more points and suffered less defeats than any other team in the league.

Manchester United have scored the greatest number of goals overall since the Premiership began and in fact also hold the record for the most goals scored in a single season: 97 scored in 1999–2000.

United also hold the record for the highest number of goals in a Premiership game which they achieved in March 1995 with a 9–0 victory against Ipswich a game where Andy Cole scored five of the goals.

***** Lows *****

One recent major low for Manchester United came at the end of the 2003–2004 season when they not only finished outside of the top two (a full fifteen points behind the winners Arsenal) but also equaled their lowest ever points total for a season.

How many can forget Frenchman Eric Cantona's infamous flying kung fu attack on a fan at Crystal palace in 1995? His kick may have looked at home in a Bruce Lee film but it earned him an eight month suspension which many consider was a major factor in United losing the title that season to Blackburn Rovers.

In 2003 there were two major lows for Manchester United:

The first was David Beckham leaving to join Real Madrid. His £25 million transfer fee was good for the

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United coffers but not so good for the team as there was no suitable replacement waiting to step into his shoes.

The second was defender Rio Ferdinand, the record £30 million signing from Leeds United, being banned for eight months for missing a routine drugs test.

For anyone interested in a very detailed, month by month view of Manchester United's twelve years in the Premiership, I fully recommend 'The Breedon Book of Premiership Records' by Breedon Books which is available from their website at:

<http://www.breedonbooks.co.uk/publications/1859834191.html>

Chris Towland

Chris is the webmaster of www.football-nut.co.uk where he challenges you to prove your football knowledge and win prizes in the free monthly football quiz and prize draw. The Football-Nut website also contains up-to-the-minute news for all of the major UK football clubs.



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