

2022/23 Premier League Preview



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Thank you for taking the time to download and take in the 2022/23 Premier League preview guide. Last season was a very profitable one for my clients as we finished with a +80.41% bankroll gain with all plays, props, and futures in the EPL, and with this season's guide I'd like to focus on the projected Top 9 Sides in the betting markets and looking at their summer incoming transfers as well as outgoing players and as to what, if any, future bets offer value for each and every side. We'll also look at teams that are competing in the Champions League tournament this season and discuss whether to play ON or Against them on the weekends prior to a tournament match.

I have incorporated future bets into my European football season for the past 4 or 5 years with great success and in tournaments will look for prices that can allow for hedging at a later part of the season or event. Below are client plays that we have all cashed.

World Cup 2018

France 7-1 (winner)

Croatia 40-1 (made the final/hedged for profit)

Champions League 20/21

Chelsea FC 20-1 (winner)

Champions League 21/22

Real Madrid 18-1 (winner)

Euro Championship 2021

Italy 12-1 (winner)

Denmark 50-1 (made semifinals/hedged for profit)



Manchester City

Preview: Title odds: -165

The 2021/2022 Titleholders were anything but quiet during the summer transfer market with the signing of the marquee star Erling Haaland from Borussia Dortmund which should give them a new dimension to their already potent attack. With every addition there seemingly needs to be subtraction and those came in the way of outgoing forwards Gabriel Jesus (Arsenal) and Raheem Sterling (Chelsea) along with the notable release of Fernandinho. So what can we expect from the Citizens this season? The focus of this team is trophies, with the Champions League title being the biggest prize. They should get off to a strong start with a favorable schedule for the first 16 games (which is the World Cup break) with 9 home games and key fixtures on home soil and of their opening 16, only the Oct 15th fixture at Anfield to face Liverpool is one where they are unlikely to be a priced favorite.

Notable Summer Transfers

Incoming

Erling Haaland (Borussia Dortmund)
Kalvin Philips (Leeds)

Outgoing

Fernandinho (Released)
Gabriel Jesus (Arsenal)
Raheem Sterling (Chelsea)

Citizen Facts

4 Titles last 5 years
91.6 average points per season
29.2 wins per season

Future Bets

While an already elite team somehow improved through the summer transfer market, we'll be looking elsewhere for this season's winner as the thought of tying up your money at the current price of -165 offers little or no value unless you are a devoted fan of the Citizens. We'll look at a few other options in the betting markets and the first couple centered around their prized striker. With City now having a recognized center forward we can expect their attack to feed directly from and through him which takes us to the Top Goalscorer prop where +300 albeit lower than most years for a PL favorite seems high here. The 22-year-old striker has gotten better with each season and at Dortmund registered 62 goals in 2 1/2 seasons including 27 and 22 in the past 2. This takes us to another prop bet of Haaland to register 25 or more goals at +150 this season. Those 22 and 27-goal seasons at Dortmund were 28 and 22-game seasons shortened with minor injuries. He'll have a much better midfield to offer support and +150 seems generous.

Recommendations

1. Erling Haaland +300 Top Goalscorer
2. Erling Haaland +150 Total Goals 25 or more
3. Manchester City 90 or more points +110



Liverpool FC

Title odds: +250

Preview:

The Reds enter this season as a clear choice to upend a two-year hold of Manchester City's rule atop the Premier League mountain. Last season saw Liverpool finish a point back of the top spot despite having the fewest losses (2) in the league. While the summer transfer window remains open at the time of publishing, the Reds made a few significant moves with the addition of Benfica striker Darwin Nunez and also saw a part of their original trident Sadio Mane leave for Bayern Munich. What can we expect from Liverpool this season? Outside of Liverpool fans there is almost a consensus feeling that with the addition of Erling Haaland it should be another title defense by the Citizens but that's not the opinion here and the Reds could be primed to retake a title they held 3 seasons ago finishing with 32 wins in 38 games and an 18 point margin over Manchester City. Last season they shared the lowest amount of goals conceded at 26 with the Citizens and the addition of Nunez and a full season of Luis Diaz is likely to see some inflated totals by sportsbook traders and some entertaining football on the pitch.

Notable summer transfers

Incoming

Darwin Nunez (Benfica)
Fabio Carvalho (Fulham)
Calvin Ramsey (Aberdeen)

Outgoing

Sadio Mane (Bayern Munich)
Divock Origi (AC Milan)

Red Alert

Over the past 4 seasons, the Reds have accumulated 357 points (2nd only to Manchester City at 358)

The Reds are currently unbeaten in 19 straight league matches (16 wins 3 draws) entering this season

Future Bets

We've already discussed that Liverpool is the most likely squad to end a two-year run by Manchester City and we'll go a step further taking them to win the PL Title at a decent plus money price. That price can be further enhanced by betting the "forecast" odds offered at many books in which you'd need to predict the top 2 finishers in the exact order and the current price of Liverpool/Manchester City is +350 giving you a 40% boost in value. We've looked elsewhere on the Top Goalscorer market as the trio of Salah, Nunez and Diaz are likely to share the scoring this season. Normally we'd avoid laying any vig with futures but we will with the option of whether Liverpool wins a major trophy this season and with them likely to be amongst the favorites in the FA Cup, League Cup along with the PL title and Champions League we feel comfortable laying that number.

Recommendations

1. Liverpool/Manchester City to finish 1-2 +350
2. Liverpool to win a major trophy -160



Chelsea FC

Title odds: +1600

Preview:

The Blues enter this new season fourth amongst the books in the futures market after a third-place finish last season. The managerial change a season and a half ago sparked what would become a magical run by the Blues culminating in a Champions League title. Last season ended with the Blues struggling over the final 2 months winning only 2 of 9 including a loss to Liverpool in the final of the FA Cup. Their summer transfer window was somewhat active with some notable arrivals and departures but it's unlikely enough to make them serious threats to break into the top 2 this season. An ownership change and a squad I feel may take a slight step backward in what will be a tough battle this season for a top 4 spot has us looking at some different betting markets.

Notable summer transfers

Incoming

Raheem Sterling (Man City)

Kalidou Koulibaly (Napoli)

Outgoing

Antonio Rudiger (Real Madrid)

Romelu Lukaku (Inter Milan)

Andreas Christensen (Barcelona)

Blue me away

Chelsea has not trailed at halftime in 19 straight away games (league play)

Chelsea did not trail at halftime in all 38 games last season despite losing 6 games.

Future Bets

We're likely to get the ire of many Blues supporters but the summer moves were either like-for-like substitutes (to use an in-game phrase) or a small improvement. The addition of Koulibaly does improve their defense and that's coming from someone that enjoyed the competitive spirit and heart Rudiger brought to this team. Sterling replacing Lukaku, whose season was wrought with havoc and lessens the drama but doesn't upgrade the attack, but with that narrative, it does allow for a future bet on the teams scoring leader.

Recommendations

1. Not to finish in Top 4 -110
2. Team Top Goalscorer - Kai Havertz +165
3. Golden Glove (1/2 unit) - Edouard Mendy +800



Tottenham

Title odds: +1200

Preview:

We touched on how the summer transfer market can change a team's outlook significantly and last season's managerial change was a positive one and the start of the Antonio Conte effect in North London. The Spurs improved dramatically with the Italian manning the sidelines and he's been active in the market improving this team to the point they are top 3 in the betting markets. What can we expect from the Spurs this season? They'll face some acid tests in their first 16 games prior to the World Cup break with fixtures at Chelsea, West Ham, Manchester City & United, and Arsenal which might allow you to get a better Top 4 price at the WC break should they come out of the gate slowly.

Notable summer transfers

Incoming

Ivan Perisic (Inter Milan)
Yves Bissouma (Brighton)
Richarlison (Everton)
Clement Lenglet (Barcelona)

Outgoing

Steven Bergwijn (Ajax)

Earn your Spurs

74% of Tottenham's home games (27) went over the total of 2.5 with an average of 3.18 goals per game.

Future Bets

The markets have the Spurs at -163 to finish Top 4 and as stated above, they have a tough away schedule to open the first half of their season and unless they hit the ground running we're likely to get a plus money price on them for that market so we'll forego that specific bet and look at a couple plus money options with the first being a trophy for the first time in 14 years.

Recommendations

1. Tottenham to win a major trophy +275
 2. Tottenham regional winner (London clubs) +110
- Note: Londons clubs include: Chelsea, Arsenal, West ham, Brentford, Crystal Palace, Fulham



Arsenal

Title odds: +3300

Preview:

The Gunners were a team we took last season at a great price (+600) to finish Top 4 and they were poised to get there before losing 2 of their final 3 fixtures to drop them to 5th and just 2 points back of London rivals Tottenham. They made a splash in the summer transfer market that will improve them this season but whether Mikel Arteta is able to get them to buy into his plan and get them above that line remains to be seen. We've got the caution flag up on this one.

Notable summer transfers

Incoming

Gabriel Jesus (Man City)

Oleksandr Zinchenko (Man City)

Fabio Viera (Porto)

Outgoing

Alexandre Lacazette (Lyon)

Guns a blazing

The Gunners scored in 19 of 23 (83%) of their home games last season while averaging a team total of 1.96 goals

Future bets

Tougher markets for this Gunners side as while we see them in the Top 6 this season it's going to be a daunting task at cracking the Top 4 as unlike last season, they'll have a congested schedule with Europa League games and questionable bench depth. With that thought, we'll look to cash the following wagers.

Recommendations

1. Arsenal to finish Top 6 -175
2. Arsenal not to finish Top 4 -225
3. Points total Under 64 +120



Manchester Utd

Title odds: +2800

Preview:

There are many adjectives you could use to describe the Manchester United season last year but super would not be one of them. A 6th place finish and 58 points have supporters believing it can't get any worse and we're here to tell you that it won't. While United hasn't had the most successful summer transfer window, sometimes it's getting rid of dead weight with a few editions and a proven manager that can right the ship and we've seen this since season's end. Former AJAX manager Erik ten Hag takes over and if he can get everyone to buy into his methodology this could be a season that supporters can finally enjoy.

Notable summer transfers

Incoming

Christian Eriksen (Brentford)

Lisandro Martinez (Ajax)

Outgoing

Edison Cavani

Paul Pogba

Jesse Lingard

Juan Mata

Nemanja Matic

Devil of a time

United failed to keep a clean sheet in 80% of their matches last season 39 of 49 games

United went unbeaten in their final 9 PL games at home (5 wins 4 draws)

Future bets

We've always been of the mindset that if a team has quality within their lineup and bench and is underperforming that a managerial change can make all the difference and if you cashed a Chelsea 20-1 ticket to win the Champions League after Tuchel took over as a client of ours then you know it's possible. With that said, we're expecting a much improved season from United, and a somewhat favorable home/away schedule prior to the World Cup break could give them the start they badly need in a chase for a top 4 spot and that puts the following plays in action for us.

Recommendations

1. Man United Top 4 +150
2. Man United Top 6 -225
3. Man United Over 67 Pts +120



West Ham Utd

Title odds: +15000

Preview:

The Hammers come off a 56-point season that left them 7th but was part of the Top 4 race prior to losing 6 of their final ten matches and a disappointing 2-2-6 run. If you're a Hammers supporter I don't have the best of news and that a 6th two seasons ago might be the ceiling for this side as we're expecting regression. Over the past 5 seasons, they've finished 7th, 6th, 16th, 10th, and 13th and a midtable spot is a prediction here and while there is not a market to finish outside the Top 6 the points market amongst others is a viable option should you decide to follow along.

Notable summer transfers

Incoming

Gianluca Scamacca (Sassuolo)

Outgoing

Andriy Yarmolenko

Mark Nobel (Retired)

Hammer Time

West Ham allowed the 2nd most goals amongst the top 7 cup-bound teams.

West Ham lost 8 of 12 vs the Top 6 going 3-1-8 last season

Future bets

As previously mentioned, we going to look for regression this season from West Ham and some of that comes from not improving during the offseason while also having some sides directly below them improving which could eliminate those points they relied on in years past to keep them about that halfway line. David Moyes has done a fantastic job getting the most from his side but that dropoff during the last half of the season could point to the regression we anticipate. With that said, we'll look at a couple betting markets.

Recommendations

1. West Ham total points Under 51 +125
2. West Ham to finish bottom half +125



Newcastle Utd

Title odds: +10000

Preview:

The Magpies were the surprise of the 2nd half of the PL season after toiling near the bottom of the standings and relegation zone and eventually gaining safety after not only a managerial change but an ownership one. It's a change that has supporters dreaming of their glory days given their new owners have an estimated net worth 10x that of Manchester City and unafraid to try and lure big names to North East England. They made some summer transfers and are getting some respect in the Top 6 markets with bookmakers.

Notable summer transfers

Incoming

Nick Pope (Burnley)

Matt Targett (Aston Villa)

Sven Botman (Lille)

Outgoing

None

Pie's in the sky

The Magpies went 7-1-1 at home to close off the season

Newcastle scored in 29 of 40 games but yielded only 44 goals

Future bets

We discussed initially that the Magpies' new ownership has unlimited resources and while they have yet to put that into play, it does bring up a risk/reward option should you choose to do so. Their schedule for the first part of the season leading up to the World Cup break has plenty of opportunities to accumulate points and stay within striking distance of a Top 6 spot which comes with a return to European Cup play. The winter transfer window then opens shortly after the WC and some of that wealth comes into play. I'm taking the risk/reward route here and looking to grab some plus money in the process.

Recommendations

1. Newcastle to finish Top 6 +250
2. Newcastle points total Over 56 +145
3. Top team goalscorer - Callum Wilson +110



Leicester City

Title odds +20000

Preview:

The only team in the past 10 years that won a PL title that didn't come from Manchester or London and that was in 2015/2016 at astronomical odds of 5000 to 1. They are only 200-1 this season but that's not likely to give them any better of a chance. The Foxes have had an uneventful summer with no additions and any releases were non-starters at the time of publishing. They've failed to crack the top 4 since that magical season and a top 6 season would be considered a success but our thoughts here are that it's an unlikely scenario and we'll look for spots to fade the Foxes all season long. The markets have made them -150 to finish top 10 and that might be a little more vig than I'd want a book to hold for 6 months on a team that might not get there.

Notable summer transfers

Incoming

None

Outgoing

None

It's a fox trap

Leicester failed to keep a clean sheet in 82% of their games last season

Future bets

This is one scenario where our thoughts on the Foxes and the markets almost align. Currently, they have the 9th best odds to crack the top 6 at +500 while also being assigned odds of +110 to finish in the bottom 10 of the league. If that doesn't strike you as something indicative of the direction this team might be heading, then nothing will. I'll look for another year of regression from a squad that did nothing to better themselves in the offseason while teams below them did.

Recommendations

1. Leicester City to finish bottom half +110
2. Leicester City points total Under 50 +110

Premier League futures recap

1. Manchester City 90 or more points +110
2. Erling Haaland - Top goalscorer +300
3. Erling Haaland - 25 or more goals +150
4. Liverpool/Manchester City to finish 1st-2nd +350
5. Liverpool to win a major trophy -160*
6. Chelsea - To not finish Top 4 -110
7. Chelsea team top scorer Kai Havertz +165
8. Chelsea's Edouard Mendy to win Golden Glove +800 (1/2 unit)
9. Tottenham to win a major trophy +275
10. Tottenham regional winner +110**
11. Arsenal -To finish Top 6 -175
12. Arsenal - To not finish Top 4 -225
13. Arsenal points total Under 64 +120
14. Manchester United - To finish Top 4 +150
15. Manchester United - To finish Top 6 -225
16. Manchester United points total Over 67 +120
17. West Ham points total Under 51 +125
18. West Ham to finish bottom half +125***
19. Newcastle - To finish Top 6 +250
20. Newcastle points total over 56 +145
21. Newcastle Top Scorer - Callum Wilson +110
22. Leicester City - To finish bottom half +110
23. Leicester City points total Under 50 +110

Footnotes

*Major Trophy - Any of the following: Premier League title, FA Cup, League Cup, Champions League

**Regional winner - Best finishing London club which includes the following teams. Chelsea, Arsenal, West Ham, Brentford, Crystal Palace, Fulham

***Bottom half - Any position 11th through 20th

Closing remarks

This season in Europe will be like no other. With the World Cup taking place in November and December instead of its usual summer calendar spot, we will see leagues pause in November to allow players to train with National teams for 10 days prior to the opening game. Prior to that, leagues like the Premier League will fill in full match days on Wednesday a few times to compensate for the World Cup pause. Factor in a Champions League calendar of 6 additional games from Sept. 6th to Nov 2nd for sides that have qualified and there will be a daily dose of football from August 5th onward.

What does this mean for future bets? The great thing about the football markets in Europe is that they'll adjust as the season progresses and clients will be able to get onto additional futures that were passed up originally. One such future bet we discussed earlier was Tottenham to finish top 4. While my thoughts are that they will finish top 4 this season, it's a play I wouldn't want to lay the -165 price given the fact that a better in-season number should become available as their early season schedule setup is a tough one and the price adjustments would make them plus money to finish T4. If they pass that test and the price gets worse, it would just be a complete pass.

When recapping the future plays above, my recommendation is to play them for 1 unit each unless otherwise stated. Most futures are plus money plays but I have incorporated some plays with vig that I feel are not only high percentage plays to cash but also cover an additional future play posted. An example of such is the Manchester United plays. While the battle for Top 4 will be a good one again this season, I believe they will be in that mix, and to get +150 I'm more than happy to make that play. That play to me is covered by the fact I don't expect Manchester United to finish any worse than 6th this season in what is going to be a top-weighted season, and with that, I can confidently lay the -225 which if you have followed my futures you'll know I don't normally do.

Now while I mentioned the league looking like it'll be top weighted this season, that does not mean you can blindly bet these teams as the markets are adjusting and the goal handicap lines will reflect that. Additionally, the teams competing in the Champions League competition this season are Manchester City, Liverpool, Chelsea, and Tottenham. While win rate percentages for top sides are high throughout a season, my tracking data on them the weekend prior to a Champions League midweek game make them negative EV plays. Depending on weekend opponents, most are handicapped favorites and last season's numbers for the four EPL sides (Manchester City, Liverpool, Manchester United, Chelsea) looked like this.

Total games played prior to a midweek CL match: 24

Wins: 10

Losses: 11

Pushes: 3

Totals: 24 games

Over: 12

Under: 9

Pushes: 3

Why are the win rates lower here? Teams will rotate lineups due to congested schedules and wanting to start their best possible lineup during the Champions League group stages as there are only 6 games with only 2 advancing to the knockout stages and finishing top of the group has added importance with a better playoff draw.

In closing, I'd like to thank you for taking the time to look over the EPL 2022/23 Preview and if you are following along with some or all of these future plays let's cash some tickets.

- Carmine Bianco