



**FANTASY CHALLENGE  
PYRAMID CUP  
FINAL  
2022**

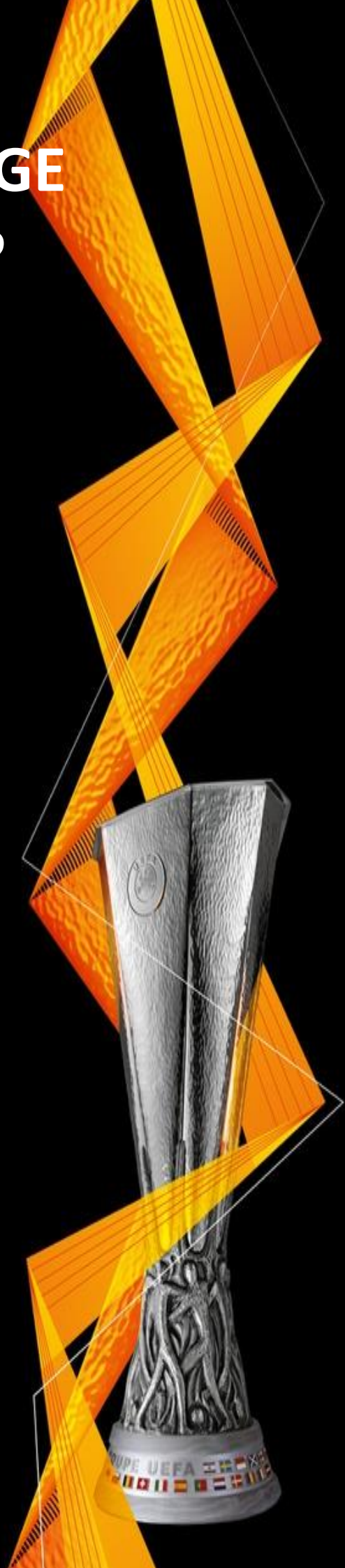
**Louis Irvine**

**VS**

**David Dinh**

***14<sup>th</sup> Final***

**GAMEWEEK 38**



# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this seasons Pyramid Cup Final preview.

I am very conscious of the time so this is going to be a very short introduction.

The Pyramid Cup continues to be the competition that all in the FC World hoped it would be highlighting the new and growing talent within the FC World with those previous finalists being proof of this fact.

Louis Irvine in just his second season in the FC World will have people taking notice this season as he has secured promotion from Pyramid Two this season and now has a chance of claiming a major trophy.

David Dinh is slightly more experienced. Having had seasons break in his FC Career. This season securing his second promotion gaining promotion from Pyramid One and will take his place in the Pyramid Premier next season. For Dinh this also represents a great chance to win a first major trophy.

Two debutants in this final both hoping to get their hand on that major trophy and we will see a new name on the Pyramid Cup which is yet to have a manager win it more than once.

We all hope for a high scoring and a close final, the Pyramid Cup is alongside the Super20 Cup as the only finals where no manager has broken the hundred-point margin it would be great to see that happen in what has already been one of the strangest seasons ever.

Over the next pages in this preview, we profile our two managers how their run got them to this year's final. The FC expert takes a look at the two manager's teams and we show the history of the competition.

I hope you enjoy this Pyramid Cup Final Preview Edition.

All that is left for me to do is to wish both Louis Irvine and David Dinh all the best for this final.

*Paul Richardson*

Fantasy Challenge Founder

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# PLAYER PROFILES

## LOUIS IRVINE

Joined Fantasy Challenge 2021  
Career Honours

### STAT ATTACK

(After Gameweek 37)

AVERAGE GAMEWEEK SCORE	63.7
HIGHEST GAMEWEEK SCORE	151
LOWEST GAMEWEEK SCORE	28
GAMEWEEK SCORE OVER 49	22
GAMEWEEK SCORE UNDER 50	15
PYRAMID CUP AVERAGE	67.5

### ROAD TO THE FINAL

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Round Group Stage

##### Group H

Rikki Bodini	76	-	59
Aine Reilly	64	-	58
Neil Williams	70	-	55
Lewis Wyatt	64	-	78
Rikki Bodini	41	-	39
Aine Reilly	67	-	49
Neil Williams	49	-	89
Lewis Wyatt	49	-	35

### FINAL TABLE

POS	TEAM	PLD	WON	DRW	LST	FOR	AGST	+/-	PTS
1	Lewis Wyatt	8	6	0	2	465	419	46	18
2	Louis Irvine	8	6	0	2	480	462	18	18
3	Neil Williams	8	3	1	4	462	435	27	10
4	Rikki Bodini	8	3	1	4	447	440	7	10
5	Aine Reilly	8	1	0	7	375	473	-98	3

### KNOCKOUT STAGE

		1 <sup>st</sup> Leg		2 <sup>nd</sup> Leg		Aggregate	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Round	Simon Dee	59	- 59	66	- 62	125	- 90
3 <sup>rd</sup> Round	Mark Freear	41	- 45	130	- 65	171	- 110
Quarter-Final	Calum Reade ***	47	- 52	64	- 59	111	- 111
Semi-Final	Adam Galley	42	- 36	151	- 105	193	- 141

\*\*\* See last Page for the Penalty Shoot -Out Drama.

### PYRAMID CUP HISTORY

SEASON	ROUND REACHED
2021	Group Stage

## STAT ATTACK

(After Gameweek 37)

AVERAGE GAMEWEEK SCORE	65.29
HIGHEST GAMEWEEK SCORE	131
LOWEST GAMEWEEK SCORE	27
GAMEWEEK SCORE OVER 49	28
GAMEWEEK SCORE UNDER 50	9
PYRAMID CUP AVERAGE	55.71

## ROAD TO THE FINAL

### 1<sup>st</sup> Round Group Stage

#### Group N

Joseph Nicolaides	45	-	50
Halim Miah	42	-	58
Jonas Silva	63	-	52
Joseph Nicolaides	64	-	60
Halim Miah	52	-	44
Jonas Silva	62	-	62

## FINAL TABLE

POS	TEAM	PLD	WON	DRW	LST	FOR	AGST	+/-	PTS
1	Joseph Nicolaides	6	4	0	2	314	306	8	12
2	David Dinh	6	3	0	3	353	338	15	9
3	Jonas Silva	6	3	0	3	292	294	-2	9
4	Halim Miah	6	2	0	4	332	353	-21	6

## KNOCKOUT STAGE

		1 <sup>st</sup> Leg			2 <sup>nd</sup> Leg			Aggregate		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Round	Joe Rudd	27	-	28	66	-	58	93	-	86
3 <sup>rd</sup> Round	Mike Davies	39	-	62	107	-	62	146	-	124
Quarter-Final	Tim Oldfield	57	-	39	77	-	60	134	-	99
Semi-Final	Robin Wilson	46	-	32	93	-	100	139	-	132

## PYRAMID CUP HISTORY

SEASON	ROUND REACHED
2018	Group Stage
2019	Group Stage
2020	Group Stage
2021	Group Stage



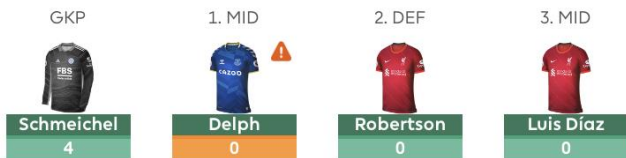
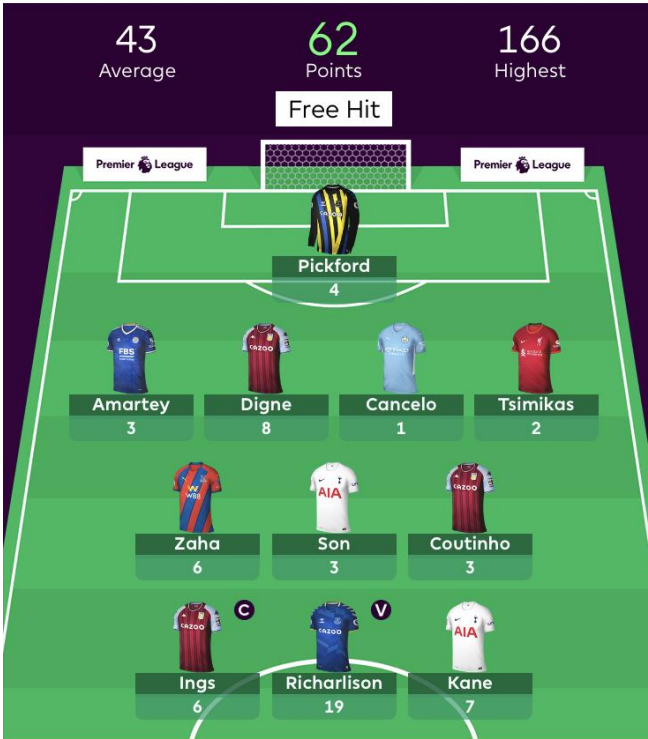
# FC EXPERT MATCH ANALYSIS

We asked the Fantasy Challenge Expert to give us his thoughts on this year's Pyramid Cup Final. We have managed to give the FC Expert the two team line-ups from Gameweek 37.

**LOUIS IRVINE**

< **Gameweek 37** >

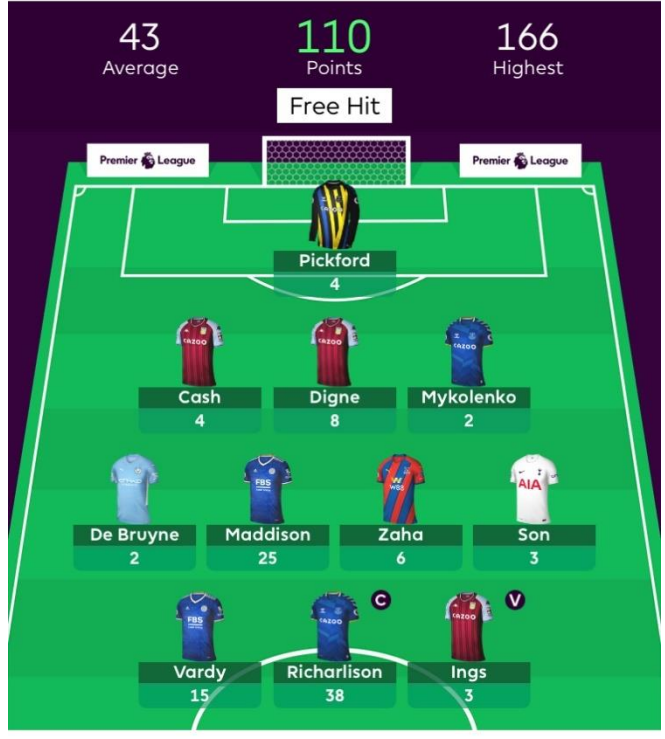
Squad List



**DAVID DINH**

< **Gameweek 37** >

Squad List



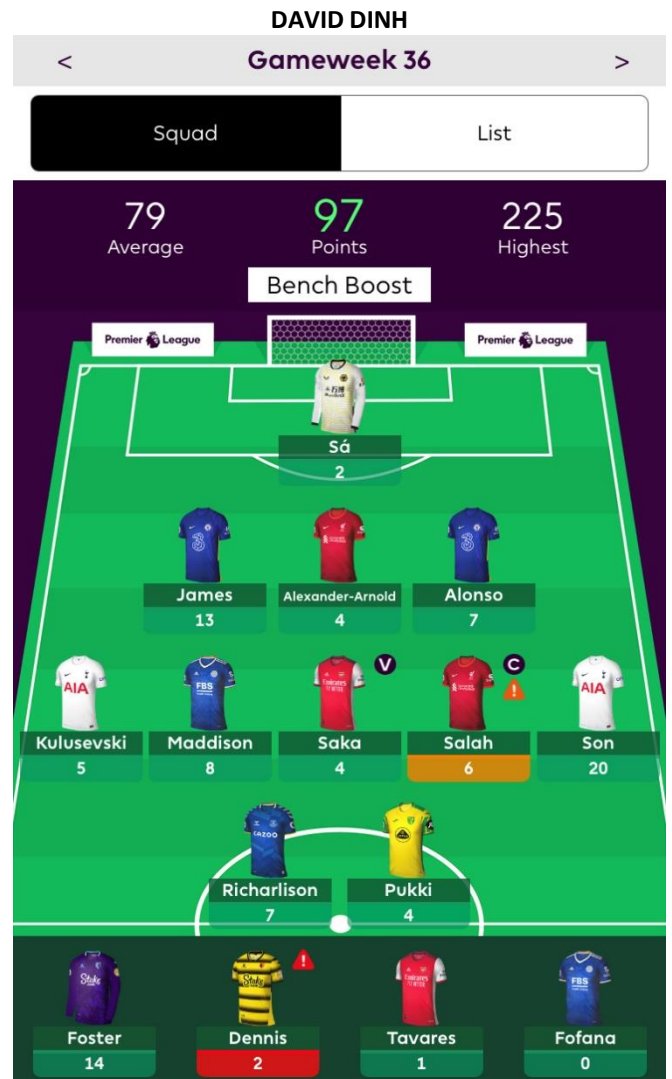
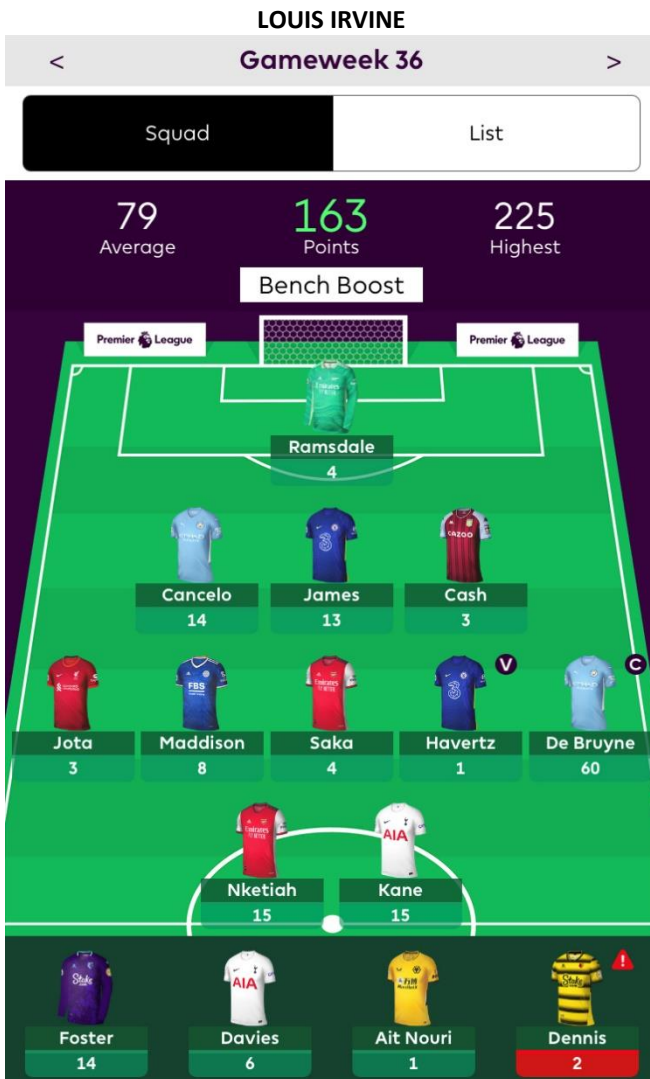
## STAT ATTACK

62	SCORE	110
6	CAPTAIN	38
18	DEFENCE	18
12	MIDFIELD	36
32	ATTACK	56
0	TRANSFERS	0
4-3-3	FORMATION	3-4-3
FREE HIT	CHIP PLAYED	FREE HIT
NONE	CHIPS LEFT	NONE

# THE ANALYSIS

Wow for the first time ever the two teams from Gameweek 37 mean nothing as both managers played their Free Hit.

Their Teams will in fact be very different. So here are their line-ups in Gameweek 36 and can you believe it both played a Bench Boost!!!!



## STAT ATTACK

151 **	SCORE	93 ***
60	CAPTAIN	6
34	DEFENCE	26
76	MIDFIELD	43
30	ATTACK	11
4 (-12 pts)	TRANSFERS	2 (-4 pts)
3-5-2	FORMATION	3-5-2
	<b>CHIP PLAYED</b>	
BENCH BOOST		BENCH BOOST
NONE	<b>CHIPS LEFT</b>	NONE

\*\* Louis Irvine points adjusted to 151 after deducting 12 points for transfers

\*\*\* David Dinh points adjusted to 93 after deducting 4 points for transfers

**CAPTAIN** – (Points for the Could have selected have been doubled)

**LOUIS IRVINE**  
**GAMEWEEK 36**

De Bruyne (Manchester City) 60 Points

**CORRECT**

**GAMEWEEK 37**

Ings (Aston Villa) 6 Points

**6 Players would hve been better**

**DAVID DINH**  
**GAMEWEEK 36**

Salah (Liverpool) 6 Points

**8 Players would hve been better**

**GAMEWEEK 37**

Richarlison (Everton) 38 Points

**Maddison (Leicester City) 25 Points**

A spectacular pick for Irvine in Gameweek 36 getting his captain pick 100% correct. Dinh didn't get his captain pick right in the last two gameweeks which is very worrying although he will point out that the injury to Mo Salah (Liverpool) affected him in Gameweek 36. For this Final I think Irvine has 3 good options, Maddison whose Leicester City side are at home to Southampton in a game which doesn't really have anything riding on it so could be a free-flowing game. De Bruyne Manchester City chasing victory to secure the Premier League title are at home to Aston Villa then he has Harry Kane of Tottenham who need victory away to Norwich to secure the last Champions League place. Dinh also has Maddison and Tottenham's Son maybe his two Chelsea defenders James and Alonso however I think he will have to plump for Son so Irvine has more options in this area.

## FINANCE / TRANSFERS / OPTIONS

**LOUIS IRVINE**

**FINANCE**

£102.9

**TRANSFERS**

1

**DAVID DINH**

**FINANCE**

£102.7

**TRANSFERS**

1

What I find interesting here is that David Dinh has to transfer out Salah (Liverpool) it leaves a lot of money in the bank but who would he put in go for an alternative Liverpool replacement or maybe something left field like A Jarrad Bowen of West Ham who are at home to Brighton on the last day of the season having secured European Football and with a chance of getting a Europa League place with a big win. Dinh is under pressure here h only has one free transfer and we are in pure match play here with neither manager having a chip, if Salah was not injured surely, he would be bringing in Kane to nullify that threat from Irvine, instead to do that he will have to lose 4 points a risk he is going to give serious consideration to. For Irvine it is also not that clear you would think you would want to cancel out Tottenham's Son but he does not have the finances to do this without making two transfers also he can't transfer Arsenal's Nketia out for Everton's Richarlison. I am struggling to see an obvious transfer for Irvine whilst the more consideration I give to the forced transfer for Dinh maybe a straight swap for Mane (Liverpool) which will also give him sme differential to Irvine's midfield hoping tha Son and Mane will cancel out kane upfront for Irvine.

## THE CHIP EFFECT

CHIP	EXPLANATION
Wildcard	The Wildcard chip can be used twice a season, once in the first half of the season and once in the second half of the season. The Wildcard chip is played when confirming transfers that cost points and can't be cancelled once played.
Bench Boost	All the Players on your Substitute Bench score points for that gameweek
Free Hit	You can make unlimited transfers in the gameweek you play your free hit. When the gameweek finishes your team will revert to how it was setup the previous gameweek. You will lose any saved transfers so will only have 1 free transfer after a free hit has been played.
Triple Captain	Instead of the normal double points your Captains Points are tripled
<b>OTHER INFORMATION</b>	<p><b>Can I Play More than One Chip in a Gameweek</b> Only one chip may be active in a Gameweek. For example, it is not possible to make transfers with your Wildcard chip and then use your Bench Boost chip in the same Gameweek</p> <p><b>The following chips can only be played once per season</b> Bench Boost, Free Hit and triple Captain</p> <p><b>What happens to my Triple Captain chip if my captain doesn't play</b> The triple point's bonus will be passed to your vice-captain. If your vice-captain doesn't play either then the bonus is lost, the chip isn't returned.</p>

Both managers will need to take a look at the fixtures below of the final day of the season to try and figure out who will be really trying and whose season is over. The selection of captain could be vital to gaining success in this final.

## THE FIXTURES FOR GAMEWEEK 38

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

Arsenal	V	Everton
Brentford	V	Leeds United
Brighton & Hove Albion	V	West Ham United
Burnley	V	Newcastle United
Chelsea	V	Watford
Crystal Palace	V	Manchester United
Leicester City	V	Southampton
Liverpool	V	Wolverhampton Wanderers
Manchester City	V	Aston Villa
Norwich City	V	Tottenham Hotspur

## THE VERDICT

With neither manager having a chip this going to be a fantastic final with each manager pouring over the others team, David Dinh showing his pedigree with his pick in the free Hit massively outscoring Louis Irvine but Irvine then showed his credentials by getting the De Bruyne captaincy in gameweek 36 right.

Both show they can make good decisions; I see the defences cancelling each other out the midfield being a key battle if Dinh does bring in Mane (Liverpool) it will be the Senegal midfielder and Tottenham's Son taking on Loui Irvine's De Bruyne and his forward Kane (Tottenham) these are the players that will hold the key to this final.

I really think this final is going to come down to who the managers select as captain. I think Dinh has to go for Son (Tottenham) whilst Irvine has a big choice between Tottenham's Kane and Manchester City midfielder De Bruyne, although I think Kane is the better pick, I think Irvine will look to De Bruyne to come good once more for him.

**FINAL VERDICT: - I think this is going to be a high scoring final and a close affair. Irvine just to come out on top with De Bruyne not just securing the Premiership for City but this Champions League final for Irvine. Irvine win.**

## IN THE EVENT OF A DRAW

In the event of a draw the match will go into a penalty Shoot-Out. Each team's top five-point scorers will go head-to-head to produce a result. If the best five scorers in the two teams cannot produce a result sudden death will take place with the next highest point scorers being next.



# HISTORY

## PREVIOUS FINALS

YEAR	WINNER		MATCH SCORE		RUNNER-UP
2009	James O'Leary	30	-	28	Michael Lynn
2010	Sandeep Chohan	90	-	75	Dan Calder
2011	James Conway	54	-	34	Matt Hansell
2012	Darren Cullen	52	-	47	Ben Clarkson
2013	James Bastow	61	-	37	Jatin Joshi
2014	Miki Mielonen	49	-	46	David Pewtner
2015	Heath Cram	45	-	31	Alvar Chambers
2016	Alvar Chambers	38	-	33	Steve Claricoats
2017	David Noel	97	-	53	James Bloomer
2018	Ian Baldwin	94	-	85	Karman Bansi
2019	Dave Rogers	63	-	59	Joseph Greenwood
2020	Colin Davison	74	-	67	Joseph Nicolaides
2021	Sanj Joshi	78	-	52	Jonas Silva

### WINNERS

Alvar Chambers	1
Colin Davison	1
Darren Cullen	1
Dave Rogers	1
David Noel	1
Heath Cram	1
Ian Baldwin	1
James Bastow	1
James Conway	1
James O'Leary	1
Miki Mielonen	1
Sandeep Chohan	1
Sanj Joshi	1

### FINALISTS

Alvar Chambers	2	James O'Leary	1
Ben Clarkson	1	Jatin Joshi	1
Colin Davison	1	Jonas Silva	1
Dan Calder	1	Joseph Greenwood	1
Darren Cullen	1	Jospeh Nicolaides	1
Dave Rogers	1	Karman Bansi	1
David Dinh	1	Louis Irvine	1
David Noel	1	Matt Hansell	1
David Pewtner	1	Michael Lynn	1
Heath Cram	1	Miki Mielonen	1
Ian Baldwin	1	Sandeep Chohan	1
James Bloomer	1	Sanj Joshi	1
James Bastow	1	Steve Clarricoats	1
James Conway	1		

Progressing from, the Pyramid Cup

### MANAGER

Michael Lynn  
Matt Hansell  
Darren Cullen  
Steve Clarricoats  
James Bloomer  
Dave Rogers

### PYRAMID CUP

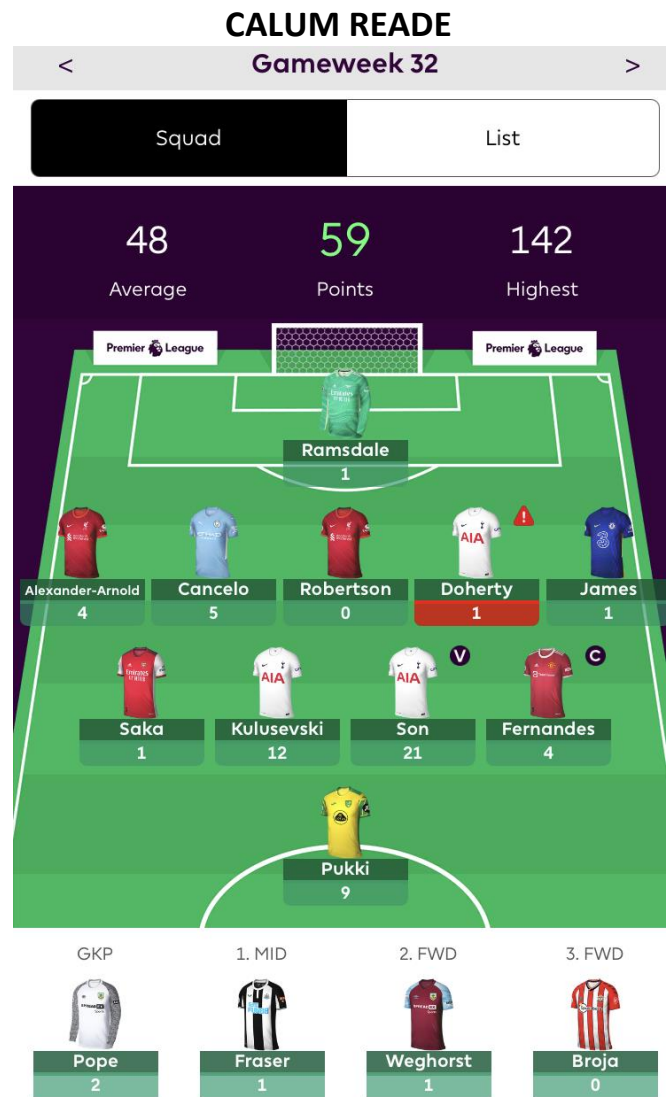
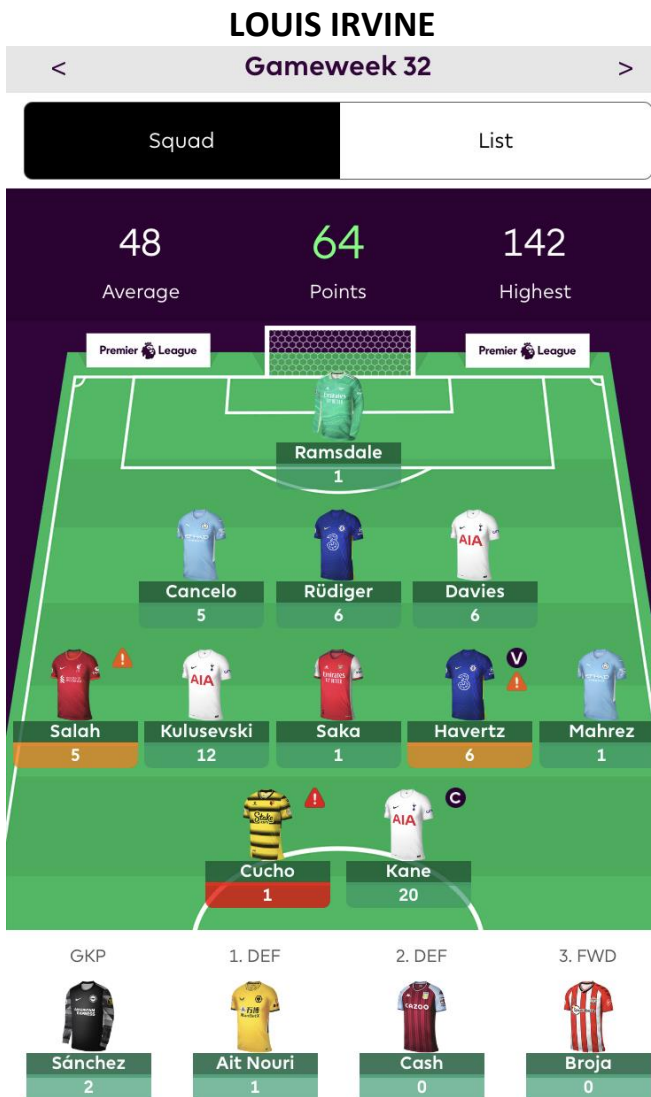
Runner-Up 2009  
Runner-Up 2011  
Winner 2012  
Runner-Up 2016  
Runner-Up 2017  
Winner 2019

### CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Runner-Up 2014  
Winner 2014  
Winner 2018  
Runner-Up 2019  
Runner-Up 2021  
Winner 2021

# PENALTY-SHOOT OUT

One of the finalists Louis Irvine was involved in a penalty Shoot-Out at the Quarter-Final Stage. Here we re-live the drama and complete the story of Louis Irvine's Road to the Final.



## PENALTY KICKS

PLAYER	SCORE	PLAYER
Kane 20	0-1	Son 21
Kulusevski 12	1-2	Kulusevski 12
Havertz 6	1-3	Pukki 9
Rudiger 6	2-3	Cancelo 5
Davies 6	3-3	Fernandes 4
<b>SUDDEN DEATH</b>		
Salah 5	4-3	Alexander-Arnold 4

Louis Irvine came from 3-1 down in the Shoot-Out to draw level then win on Sudden Death to claim his place in the Semi-Final and ultimately the Final.