

Tottenham Hotspur vs Rubin Kazan

TEAM NEWS - Sandro, Aaron Lennon and Danny Rose all return from injury as Harry makes nine changes from the team that drew with Newcastle on Sunday. We expect to see Jake Livermore playing centre back, Heurelho Gomes starts in goal and there's another start for young Tom Carroll in midfield. STARTING XI: Gomes; Walker, Bassong, Livermore, Rose; Lennon, Carroll, Sandro, Giovani; Defoe, Pavlyuchenko. SUBS: Cudicini, Assou-Ekotto, Kaboul, Modric, Townsend, Falque, Kane.

It's over and out from White Hart Lane. Look out for my colleague Paul Miles' match report and post-match reaction on Spurs TV Online. See you on Sunday for the Premier League clash against Blackburn.

So, a gritty, determined, hard-fought etc. etc. win for Spurs over a good Rubin Kazan side. The winning margin could have been wider but Rubin also missed several excellent chances, particularly early in the first half. But it's Spurs who take the three points and will face Rubin again in Russia on Thursday, November 3rd.

93.11- FULL TIME - SPURS 1-0 RUBIN KAZAN

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92.47: ... but float a ball into Gomes' arms, and that should be that.

92.04: One minute to go, Rubin have the ball in midfield...

90.26: There will be three minutes of added time and it's a corner to Spurs after good work by Danny Rose on the left wing.

88.03: But Gomes gets himself behind the ball and makes a comfortable save.

86.58: It's a free-kick to Rubin about 5-yards outside the penalty area, left of centre.

85.21: Into the last five minutes and Spurs still lead 1-0. The crowd is getting a little nervous...

83.12 - CHANCE - RUBIN - And from the resulting corner, Rubin should be level. Martins had a free header a few yards from goal but couldn't get the ball on target.

82.40: Another good block by Kaboul, this time after Obafemi Martins had created some space for himself inside the penalty area. Eremenko was booked for a poor tackle a minute ago.

78.07: SUB - RUBIN - Alexey Eremenko on for Alexandre Ryazantsev.

77.11: Kaboul does brilliantly to track back and block Gonzalez Navas' shot in the six-yard box.

72.41: SUB - SPURS - Younes Kaboul and Luka Modric come on for Sandro and Aaron Lennon respectively.

71.14: SAVE - RYZHIKOV - A lovely through ball by Tom Carroll sets Lennon free on the right. He plays in a cross and Defoe gets his head to the ball about six-yards out, but Ryzhikov dives to his right to make the save.

66.47: Rubin are having a decent spell of pressure here and look dangerous. Despite good build-up play, their finishing has been poor.

65.20: SUB - SPURS - Benoit Assou-Ekotto comes on for Giovani Dos Santos.

61.20: CHANCE - RUBIN - Nobos Tello misses a great chance to equalise. Danny Rose lost the ball on the edge of the area and Kuzmin's deflected effort fell in the path of the unmarked midfielder on the penalty spot. He struck his shot just wide but had time and space to do better.

60.20: SUB - RUBIN - Obafemi Martins comes on for Alan Kasaev.



54.41: SAVE - GOMES - Valdez forces Gomes to make a quick reflex save. Rubin took the ball from Lennon after the winger was put under pressure close to the Spurs penalty area. The striker made some space for himself in the box and hit the ball towards the corner of the goal, only for the goalkeeper to get down to his right and palm the ball around the post.



51.33: Kyle Walker is having an excellent game at right-back and he does very well to dispossess the lively Karadeniz once again.

49.35: SAVE - GOMES - Sandro flicks on a Karadeniz cross and Gomes is forced to claw the ball away, saving what would have been a fantastic headed own goal.



47.30: CHANCE - SPURS - Tottenham patiently move the ball around the pitch.

Lennon makes some space for himself on the right, cuts in and passes to Pavlyuchenko on the edge of the area. The Russian has a shot that's deflected out for a corner.

21.05: Rubin Kazan get the second half underway.

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20.55: I'm having my fifth coffee of the day, it's pretty cold outside now. I'm not sure it's good to consume this much caffeine but I tell you what, I feel great. The players should be out for the second half shortly.

20.52: Well, that was a pretty entertaining half of football. The first 20 minutes or so was particularly open, with both teams creating excellent scoring opportunities. However, it was a piece of magic from Pavlyuchenko broke the deadlock and he looks particularly dangerous tonight.

45.25: HALF-TIME. SPURS 1-0 RUBIN KAZAN.

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44.45: SAVE - RYZHIKOV - Pavlyuchenko looks like he might score a few tonight. He lets fly from a tight angle only for the Rubin goalkeeper to get a fingertip to the ball. The corner doesn't lead to anything.



43.33: Corner to Rubin to be taken by Nacho. It's poor and Pavlyuchenko clears.

41.55: ... and it sails over, despite dipping towards the goal at the last minute.

41.00: Defoe handballs roughly 30-yards out in a central position. Rubin are going to have a strike at goal...

38.37: Given how few of them there are, the Rubin fans do well to make themselves heard. 'Rubin! Rubin!' goes the chant. Original, if nothing else.

35.17: The crowd is making some noise now and Tottenham are stroking the ball around nicely. Bocchetti has been booked for 'unsporting behaviour'.



33.02: GOAL - SPURS - A fantastic free-kick from Roman Pavlyuchenko! He smashes it into the top right corner with great pace, leaving Ryzhikov absolutely no chance. **1-0 to Tottenham.**



30.46: Danny Rose is fouled by Sharanov in the 'D' of the penalty area after some neat footwork. Defoe and Pavlyuchenko stand over the ball...



29.45: Another fantastic tackle by Sandro sets Defoe free but he loses the ball on the edge of the Rubin area.

26.00: For the first time in the match, we're enduring a slightly flat period.

Tottenham are keeping possession well without creating too much.

19.43: CHANCE - RUBIN - This is a very open game and it's making for an entertaining match. This time it's Valdez who misses a good chance from a cross, firing wide from the penalty spot when he should have done better.



18.27: CHANCE - SPURS - Close to the opening goal for Spurs. Bassong dribbles his way through several Rubin players and threads the ball through to Defoe, who lets fly from a difficult angle only to see his shot go just wide.



16.43: CHANCE - VALDEZ - Karadeniz puts a nice cross into the box but Valdez loops his header over the bar from 10-yards or so out. A good spell of pressure by the Russians.



14.15: SAVE - GOMES - Great save by Gomes! Karadeniz should probably do better when he finds himself with time and space in the box from a great cross but he places his header to close to the returning goalkeeper. Rubin's corner comes to nothing.



11.01: CHANCE - RUBIN - Great opportunity for Navas to put Rubin ahead. Natcho took the corner and Navas outjumped everybody, only for his header to dribble just wide.



10.25: Corner to Rubin after Natcho's speculative cross is deflected out.

8.40: Sandro has made a great start to the game. The Brazilian is taking the ball from the Rubin players with ease, all over the pitch.

7.20: CHANCE - SPURS - Dos Santos takes a pop from 25-yards which takes a deflection and runs through to the grateful keeper's arms.



4.43: A great tackle by Sandro on the edge of the Spurs area dispossesses the Rubin striker just as he's about to take a shot.

2.48: Lennon makes his first run of the game, losing the ball on the edge of the Rubin box having made good progress down the wing.

1.20: CHANCE - SPURS - Pavlyuchenko hits the ball just wide from 25-yards out. A good effort and the first action of the game.



8.05pm: Spurs kick-off the game.

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8.01pm: The players are out and exchange handshakes, how lovely. It's time for kick-off.

8.00pm: Many, many people are surrounding the centre circle and are waiting to wave the Europa League banner thing. And here they go!! That's some great waving.

7.55pm: Ten minutes to go until kick-off. The teams have been chosen, the bench is set and only one big decision remains: do I get a fourth coffee of the day to get me through an increasingly chilly evening?

7.46pm: Aaron Lennon has only played 45 minutes since getting injured against Manchester City back in August. He plays from the start tonight. The Rubin left-back should be worried. Very worried indeed.

7.38pm: Joe Jordan is overseeing a bit of last minute training on an immaculate looking pitch. I'm still hoping for a late call up to the team so I can play on it... I'm not particularly hopeful.

7.34pm: Modric's goal against Liverpool was just shown on the jumbotron. What an absolute belter, corker, beauty etc. that was.

7.26pm: And here come the Spurs players. It's safe to say they got a slightly louder round of applause than the Russians.

7.22pm: The Rubin players have emerged for their pre-game routine. There are around 20 or so Rubin fans in the away end at the moment, but they do their best to give their team a pre-match lift.

7.13pm: The goalkeepers receive a warm round of applause as they come out to have a warm up. We're just under an hour from kick-off.

7.08pm: Welcome to White Hart Lane. I'm Tim Love and I'll be your live match commentator tonight.