

# The Not-So-Beautiful Game

By **Alexander Baron** - Dec 24, 2015

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Whoever called soccer the beautiful game must have been blind, either that or he had a sick sense of humour. Professional footballers, especially in England, have become infamous for boorish behaviour both on and off the field. Unlike **Jimmy Hill**, who was playing when the maximum pay for players was £20 per week, the really big names in soccer today are paid megabucks. This allows them to indulge in all manner of unsavoury behaviour. And they do.

In April 2012, the now former Premier League player Ched Evans was convicted of rape. Even if he is finally cleared of this crime, which **is not unlikely**, he should have known better than to put himself in such a position where he could be accused by a young woman of loose morals after a “roast”. The same can be said of the three Leicester City players who were falsely accused of sexual assault by three women in Spain eleven years ago. Again, why would they want to consort with either sluts or outright prostitutes?

If their behaviour off the field can sometimes be criminal, the same can be said of their behaviour on the field. In October, Sunday League player Nathaniel Kerr was given a 12 month sentence for **stamping on another player's leg** causing permanent damage. If you've ever been kicked or stamped on, you will realise how much force Kerr must have used in order to do this. His sentence was clearly far too lenient.

The latest inexcusable violent attack on a soccer field comes not from an English player but from a Turkish one. Be warned, this **short video clip**, which includes an action replay, is painful to watch. The tackle made by Sanayispor player Mehmet Değirmenci could possibly be forgiven if not excused, but what he does next warrants not only a court appearance but a lifetime ban.

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