

MOURINHO'S SCAPEGOATS

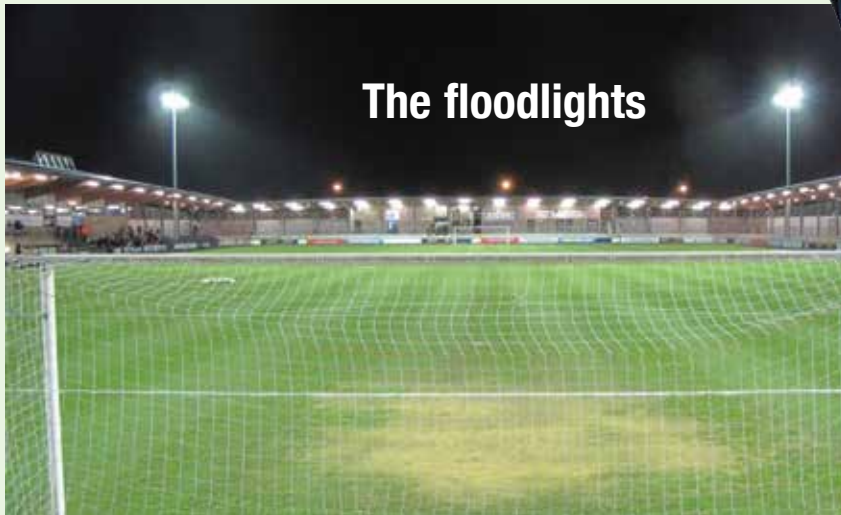
The thing to remember with Jose Mourinho is that if his team doesn't win, it was someone else's fault. The brilliant Portuguese deserves his place in the hall of fame as one of the greatest managers of all time; diverting attention away from any under-performances with the sleight of hand and skill of a master magician, one of his more devious and entertaining traits. But how does he do this? Let us show you some of Jose's very best and most common excuses for when his team doesn't win a game...

The doctor



A new season, a new scapegoat. Chelsea's weak performance in their surprise draw with Swansea last weekend was hidden beneath a screen of smoke created by Mourinho when he strongly criticised Eva Carneiro's desire to attend to an injured player, as is one of the central duties in her role as doctor. "My medical department left me with eight fit outfield players in a counter attack after a set piece and we were worried we didn't have enough players left," said Mourinho

The floodlights



In a difficult win over QPR in Oct 2014, Mourinho blamed the floodlights not being switched on early enough as one of the main reasons his team took so long to score: "I think the man responsible for the lights was in the same mood as the crowd, because everybody was sleeping. He took 20 minutes to understand that it was dark."

The fans



Mourinho moaned when "only 300" Real Madrid fans made the journey for a match in Rayo Vallecano and was heavily critical of the Bernabeu home crowd. Diverting attention away from his players and creating another talking point out of thin air, after a 2-2 draw with Borussia Dortmund in 2012 he said, "If, like me you have been here for two and a half years, you are used to the cold atmosphere here".

Real Madrid fans aren't alone either - following a tough fought 2-1 victory over QPR last October, Mourinho told talkSPORT, "At this moment it's difficult for us to play at home though, because playing here is like playing in an empty stadium. I was today looking around and it was empty, but not in terms of people because it was obviously full. That's what is frustrating."

The board

Throughout Mourinho's career he has had digs at boardroom members who have failed to sign players he alleges to have requested. At the end of Mourinho's first season at Chelsea he hit out at the club for their unwillingness to buy a striker - despite winning the Premier League - using an egg and omelette analogy to express his displeasure. "It depends on the quality of the eggs. In the supermarket you have class one, two or class three eggs and some are more expensive than others and some give you better omelettes. So when the class one eggs are in Waitrose and you cannot go there, you have a problem."

While in charge of Inter Milan in 2010, Mourinho accused his former employers Real Madrid of leaving him short upfront, despite Kaka, Cristiano Ronaldo, Karim Benzema and Gonzalo Higuain all being available: "At Madrid I wanted another striker, Higuain and Benzema are not enough."



The pitch

Real Madrid had a slow start to the 2010/11 La Liga season and began to receive criticism for their lack of cohesion and negative tactics. After a 3-0 win over Espanyol a diversion explanation was offered: "The play was not good but I'm satisfied. The team was tired, we were up against a rival with nothing to lose and we were playing on a potato field." Real quickly had the Bernabeu playing surface replaced

