

SPORTS

Sunday, August 20, 2017

all gilles

anchester United maintained their dream Premier League start as goals from Eric Bailly, Romelu Lukaku, Paul Pogba and Anthony Martial secured a 4-0 victory at Swansea City yesterday.

Having put West Ham United to the sword with another 4-0 win in their opening game of the new campaign, United looked like being made to settle for a narrower scoreline for much of the game in South Wales.

But after they had claimed the lead at the end of a tight first half through Bailly's first goal for the club, they netted three times in a stylish fiveminute spell late in the game to give the scoreline an emphatic look.

It meant maximum points, eight goals and two clean sheets in their opening two games for Jose Mourinho's side. Swansea were aggrieved that Pogba remained on the field to score after escaping a second yellow card for a foul on Martin Olsson late in the first half.

bagged United's second goal and his third in two games for his new club 10 minutes from full-time.

There was a scare for United in the third minute as Jordan Ayew burst forwards for Swansea, cut in from the left and mishit a cross that grazed the visitors' crossbar.

Mourinho's men broke almost immediately when Lukaku seized on an errant pass and raced towards goal, but his initial shot was blocked and his follow-up effort curled wide.

The woodwork then came to Swansea's rescue as the lively opening continued with Juan Mata's free-kick from the right headed against the crossbar by Phil Jones.

United's frustration highlighted on the half-hour when Marcus Rashford sent an ambitious long-range effort straight at home goalkeeper Lukasz Fabianski.

Pogba was walking a tightrope when, moments after being booked for a cynical foul on Tom Carroll,

The visitors ought to have led nine minutes before the interval when Swansea failed to clear a simple high ball. Rashford collected it and raced clear, but sent a tame effort straight at Fabianksi. United finally claimed the lead on the stroke of half-time as a corner from the left was headed by Pogba and forced onto the crossbar by Fabianski, with Bailly reacting quickest to poke home the rebound.

After a low-key opening to the second half, Rashford cut in from the left and tried his luck with a right-foot effort but Fabianski gathered the ball after an initial fumble.

Swansea pressed through the lively Ayew and one run from the Ghanaian allowed Leroy Fer a shooting chance, only for him to lift his effort well over

Tammy Abraham should then have tested United goalkeeper David de Gea, but he headed wide from a decent cross by Olsson.

Lukaku doubled United's lead on

