
Punching Their Weight???

Posted by harbinger of hope - 17-05-2008 15:31

I was looking at the stats for the past season and found a few things quite interesting. The main one is how the Average Attendance league actually compares to the final tables. Normally having more fans at matches, generates more money, and therefore should create better teams on the pitch. This of course is not always the case, due to how the clubs are managed on and off the pitch. Anyway I thought I would point out the largest discrepancies of league position versus attendance.

Below Where They Should Be

Bradford are 39 places below.
Leeds are 34 places below.
MK Dons are 23 places below.
Leicester are 21 places below.
Norwich are 20 places below.
Forest are 17 places below.
Sheff Utd/S'ton are 13 places below.

In the case of Forest & Dons this discrepancy is being righted due to promotion. For Leicester things are getting worse.

Above Where They Should Be

Portsmouth are 22 places above.
Wigan are 18 places above.
Stoke are all 13 places above.
Bolton/Plymouth/Bristol C/Palace are all 12 places above.
Blackburn/Burnley are 11 places above.
Hull are 10 places above.

Hull and Stoke will be punching even further above their weight next year.

Middlesbrough, Man Utd, Liverpool and Southend are in exactly the same position in the Average Attendance table. A distinctly average and satisfactory season!

Hope you find this interesting and I apologise to any I have missed. These figures are obviously slightly exaggerated the further from their position you go. In lower leagues, away attendances drop and some home fans lose interest, and vice-versa.

ps. I have only used the top 50 attended teams in England for these figures. Any teams with Attendances of less than 8,000 have not been included.

Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by harbinger of hope - 17-05-2008 16:14

Portsmouth are the club who has over-achieved most in the League (22 places), and have gone and added the Cup as well. Does not get any better than that really...

Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Cavalry Trouser Tips - 17-05-2008 16:19

Bradford had a season ticket offer this season.

Our season tickets are £100/£125/£175 next season. It's reckoned we'll sell about 14,000 and have an average attendance of around 16-18k.

Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by harbinger of hope - 17-05-2008 16:23

An average attendance of 13,692 for a team mid-table in League 2 is very good indeed.

Bradford is a very sad story, and there must be better times ahead for them.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Cavalry Trousers Tips - 17-05-2008 18:50

Also, Bradford count all season ticket holders as 'attended' - even if they don't bother to turn up.

It's a very sad story indeed. Forgive me if I don't shed any tears for them though...

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by EIM - 17-05-2008 19:22

FC United would be about 5th in the Conference, I think, if it were judged on attendance.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 17-05-2008 19:26

Exeter City would be about half way up League One. Slightly behind Oxford, it has to be said. Come on, City, tomorrow!

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by EIM - 17-05-2008 19:28

<http://www.tonykempster.co.uk/attcomp.htm>

God Bless Tony Kempster.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by E10 Rifle - 17-05-2008 20:04

There's some interesting home and away gate breakdowns on the stats. I was modestly cheered by the fact that while our home gates are something like 19th in League One, our average away turnout this year was the ninth best in the division. Which, given that we're always being mocked for small support and given that we had trips to Hartlepool and Carlisle this season, is a small puny straw to clutch

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Alderman Barnes - 17-05-2008 20:17

Bit of a disaster there for Brache Sparta at the foot of the table.

After averaging a healthy 16 spectators the season before, this term their attendances plummeted by 58.7% to 7, the

highest crowd being 12 and the lowest 1.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by harbinger of hope - 17-05-2008 21:48

Makes me laugh that Forest get better attendances than both Wigan and Portsmouth. Even though we don't have the advantage of teams like Utd, Liverpool etc bringing large numbers of away fans. We have Yeovil bringing 600 instead.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Alderman Barnes - 17-05-2008 21:58

Weird, isn't it? Do you think it might be because there are more of you?

Down with the Yeovil 600!

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by ant259 - 18-05-2008 06:25

Bradford count all season ticket holders as 'attended' - even if they don't bother to turn up.

That can't be right, can it? It makes a complete mockery of the whole thing.

Shocking to see that my beloved Epsom & Ewell had only 19 for one game, and averaged 61 over the season. We used to get 250-300 every week when I was a lad.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Nathan Helena Handcart - 18-05-2008 09:19

Ant - it's standard practice. I was at Wembley yesterday and there were way] more than 275 seats not taken up yesterday at the Final which would be the case were every one of the 89724 in the recorded attendance been in the ground.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by rick derris - 18-05-2008 09:41

you were there? why didnt you pop over to the 1927 designated pub to say hello?

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by ursus arctos - 18-05-2008 09:47

I don't have a problem with the standard practice, as long as it is uniform (and they don't double count if they have some kind of system that allows season ticket holders to resell their tickets). After all, the club is still getting the revenue from having sold the season ticket.

Though the Italian practice is a bit more transparent. Here the season ticket holders are reported separately (but

included in the total), and one also gets a report on how much revenue single ticket sales generated (the latter being important here because most clubs modify their single game prices depending on the opposition).

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Hot Orangey Thing - 18-05-2008 10:02

there were way more than 275 seats not taken up yesterday at the Final which would be the case were every one of the 89724 in the recorded attendance been in the ground.

Wembley's capacity is 89,999? You'd think they could have squeezed one more seat in somewhere.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Rogin the Armchair Fan - 18-05-2008 10:09

On one of the proposed designs for the new Anfield, someone had the idea of leaving 96 seats empty right in the middle of the Kop, as a memorial.

It gathered quite a lot of favour in some quarters, but was one of the most macabre things I'd ever heard of. Imagine the furious indignation when some innocent first-time fan went and sat in one by mistake.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by TonTon - 18-05-2008 10:17

There's nothing "right" about the Franchise scum, not their promotion, not calling them "the Dons", nothing. Ok, that's the contractual obligation post done.

We do the season ticket thing too. I think it's pretty much standard practice in England.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Tony C - 18-05-2008 12:25

Bradford P.A. record a gate increase of over 98% this season.

Bloody glory hunters.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by ant259 - 18-05-2008 14:03

attendance

Noun

1. the act of attending
2. the number of people present

Whether money has been taken for the game in question has got nothing to do with it. Talk about kidding yourself!

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by EIM - 18-05-2008 14:49

Tony C - I wonder how much of that is down to the influence of us being in the division, allied to the fact they drew in thousands for their last few games due to, effectively, letting everyone in for free?

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Tony C - 18-05-2008 15:00

Oh, both for sure, Chris.

FCUM will have jacked everyone's average up considerably. I would assume that every team's biggest home gate was against you and by some distance? I'd be very surprised if it were otherwise. FCUM have been a shot in the arm for the game at the levels they have played.

Bradford will have also - obviously - helped themselves by having a good season. Semi-interested stragglers (and that's not an insult to this type of fan) will have shown interest simply by seeing that their local team are giving it a go. This number will diminish a bit if they struggle next season.

Droylsden, by the way, ended up with an average of over 600 - their largest ever. Back to 400 next season, though.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Cavalry Trouser Tips - 18-05-2008 15:01

I was just going to say, they let in for free:

Huddersfield Town season ticket holders
Huddersfield Giants season ticket holders
Bradford City season ticket holders
Bradford Bulls season ticket holders
Leeds United season ticket holders
Dennis The Menace Fan Club Badge holders

and many more.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by EIM - 18-05-2008 15:07

Everyone apart from BPA fans, in fact.

Their new chairman is a bit of a cock. He changed the music the team runs out to to You'll Never Walk Alone for the game against us. How fucking desperate is that?

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Reed of the Valley People - 18-05-2008 17:38

I thought Man City was usually the club with the biggest attendance-results disparity.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by EIM - 18-05-2008 17:46

I bet a city fan told you that.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by EIM - 18-05-2008 17:49

Sorry. I forgot wht forum I was on there for a minute.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by TonTon - 19-05-2008 06:09

I think, for us, it's so much easier to do it that way, rather than counting ST vouchers handed in.

And we understand it, and we don't really care what anyone else thinks, I suppose.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Nathan Tysons Hamstring - 05-09-2008 14:57

I realise it's early days, but I have updated my data with this seasons average attendances and league placing to see what changes have occurred over the summer.

Last season's major discrepancies were:

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Bradford are 39 places below.
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Stoke are all 13 places above.
Bolton/Plymouth/Bristol C/Palace are all 12 places above.
Blackburn/Burnley are 11 places above.
Hull are 10 places above.

This season's major discrepancies are:

Below Where They Should Be

Leeds are 36 places below.
Derby are 31 places below.
Bradford are 30 places below.
Huddersfield are 28 places below.
Norwich are 20 places below.
Leicester are 16 places below.

Leeds should have improved this season, as they have no 15 point penalty, but are actually doing worse!! New entrants

to the Under-achievers are Derby. Even as a Forest fan, I am amazed to see Derby at the bottom of the Championship. They really are plumbing new depths.

Above Where They Should Be
Preston are 22 places above.
Wigan are 21 places above.
Bolton & Doncaster are 16 places above.
Portsmouth & Blackpool are 14 places above.
Bristol City & QPR are 12 places above.

New "Most-Overachieving" club are Preston. Sitting pretty in 2nd in the Championship. Last year's overachievers Portsmouth are still doing well, but not quite as well as last year. New to this year's high-flyers, following last year's League 1 Play-off win, is Doncaster.

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Re:Punching Their Weight???

Posted by Cavalry Trouser Tips - 05-09-2008 15:40

Our stats have been skewed slightly by the £100 season ticket offer.

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