



Manchester United Pre-Season 2026/27: Santos, Tielemans and the PSG Test in Gothenburg

Description

Manchester United round off their 2026/27 pre-season preparations with a high-profile clash against Paris Saint-Germain at the Ullevi Stadium in Gothenburg this evening – the perfect final examination ahead of their Premier League opener on 22 August against Hull City.

Ruben Amorim, confirmed as permanent manager on a two-year deal, has overseen a busy summer of recruitment. The Red Devils head to Sweden with new faces integrating into the system and genuine optimism that a difficult 2025/26 is firmly in the rear-view mirror.

New Arrivals at Old Trafford

The summer window has delivered real quality. Brazilian midfielder **Andrey Santos** completes a permanent move from Chelsea for a reported £48 million. At 22, the dynamic box-to-box midfielder was among the most coveted players in England this summer, and Amorim beat off competition to land him.



Andrey Santos pictured in Gothenburg ahead of tonight's PSG clash. Photo: Manchester United / manutd.com

Veteran Belgian international **Youri Tielemans** arrives from Aston Villa after United activated his release clause. At 29, his composure, experience and range of passing provide Amorim with a reliable anchor alongside Santos – a midfield partnership that could prove the spine of a more competitive United side.

Winger **Thompson** joins from Tottenham Hotspur for £4 million, adding pace and directness to the front line, while goalkeeper **Karl Darlow** completes the summer additions as a free-agent backup option.

Pre-Season Results: Lows, Then Highs

United's Scandinavian tour opened with an unconvincing **1-0 defeat to Wrexham** in Helsinki on 18 July. Amorim fielded a heavily rotated side, and the result, while unwelcome, reflected the experimental nature of early summer football rather than any serious cause for alarm.



Bruno Fernandes sharp in training as United build towards the new season. Photo: Manchester United / manutd.com

The response was exactly what Amorim needed: a **5-0 demolition of Rosenborg** in Trondheim on 24 July showcased the attacking firepower at United’s disposal. Bruno Fernandes orchestrated matters superbly in the number ten role, new arrivals slotted in with encouraging ease, and goals flowed freely from multiple sources.

The PSG Test and the Road Ahead

Tonight’s encounter in Gothenburg is United’s sternest pre-season challenge. [PSG have had an equally active summer in the transfer market](#), making this a genuinely competitive fixture rather than a routine friendly. It is the ideal test before the league campaign begins in earnest.

Amorim will want Santos and Tielemans to impose themselves against high-quality opposition and to see how his preferred pressing structure holds up under serious pressure. Whether United win or lose matters less than the quality of the performance but three weeks out from the Hull City opener, there is a definite competitive edge to this fixture.

[The 2026/27 Premier League season](#) will tell us a great deal about where United sit in the hierarchy after a turbulent few years. [Cross-town rivals Manchester City have also strengthened](#) this summer and competition at the top of the table will be fierce from day one.

United's rebuild under Amorim is clearly underway. Tonight's result and performance in Gothenburg will be the next measure of just how far it has come.

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