

# Manchester City are making a mockery of the game

Manchester City might be able to buy any footballer on the planet – but their wild excess in the transfer market won't buy them any friends or win them any respect.

Employers are all having to scale right back and making savage cuts – just like many football clubs who will next season be operating on massively reduced budgets and smaller first-team squads, while still demanding that teams deliver results.

Yet the money-bags Premier League clubs continue to prove they are completely out of step with the rest of us with their greed-is-good mentality and no-holds-barred approach to battering each other into submission with their wallets.

While many fans struggle to rake together enough cash to be able to afford tickets to watch their favourite players, doesn't it stick in the throat when you read that Manchester City's new signing Carlos Tevez will earn a staggering £39 million in wages over the next five years?

No amount of talent, goals or ability to excite fans can possibly justify anyone earning such an obscene amount of money which could feed and clothe thousands of the world's most needy.

If ever we needed proof that the football transfer market had lost touch with reality it came when Manchester City shelled out a mind-boggling £25 million fee for the Argentina star, soon to be followed by Emmanuel Adebayor for an identical fee.

Their arrival at Eastlands has sent City's spending rocketing through the £200 million barrier since Hughes took over a year ago, with the billions of owner Sheikh Mansour making his every transfer wish possible.



*Carlos Tevez*

We may have become all too familiar with football's stinking rich throwing their money around but that does not mean to say that we've grown to accept it as the norm. The more they spend, the greedier they become and it damns them.

With mega-rich City willing to spend whatever it takes to sign the players they want, the whole game is just spiralling out of control because an extra zero is now automatically being placed on the end of every player's fee.

The crazy transfer fees currently being paid give fans unrealistic expectations and puts pressure on clubs to spend beyond their means at a time when they should be tightening their belts, which is threatening their very existence.

Only foolhardy clubs will spend for the sake of it during football's current mid-summer madness and the wise ones will wait until they can get some value for their money.