

TOP 10 LIST

Red Card Performances

When your team sees red, you brace for the worst, right? Here are the best selection of performances with 10 or less men, including some Aussie battlers

01 **Barcelona 1 Inter 0, Champions League, 2010**
Jose Mourinho's Inter were expected to be disciplined against Barcelona in the second leg of the semi-final of Europe's biggest contest. However when Thiago Motta was sent off early, an army of defenders multiplied. Barcelona completed 330 passes to Inter's 43 but the almost 70-minute scene that followed would not have been out of place in *Gladiator*, with Inter holding the aggregate score at 3-2 in their favour.

02 **Rangers 1 St Mirren 0, League Cup Final, 2010**
Although beating Rangers or Celtic is almost as common as a sober Glaswegian, Rangers deserved huge credit for becoming the first team to win a major domestic cup with nine men. Under pressure for most of the game with a generous eleven footballers, they answered with some dangerous bone-shaking challenges. But as the back-line remained staunchly resolute, Kenny Miller headed a 84th minute winner.

03 **Italy 2 Nigeria 1, World Cup finals, 1994**
Eventual World Cup runners-up Italy trailed against Nigeria in the knockout stages and looked dead and buried when Gianfranco Zola saw red. Step forward the previously quiet Roberto Baggio. In the dying minutes he scored the equaliser and then the winner in extra-time. What makes this feat even more remarkable was it followed a game against Norway when their keeper Pagliuca was dismissed but they still won 1-0. Who says violence never pays?

04 **Puebla 4 Cruz Azul 1, Mexican First Division, 2010**
It is always good to give yourself a head start. So after going three goals up in the first-half in a remarkable match, Puebla decided this was all too easy and consequently had two men sent off in quick succession. This still wasn't enough for their opponents to manage a single goal as they swarmed the Puebla penalty box for the remaining 45 minutes, to no avail.



Giggs scores one of the FA Cup's greatest goals for 10-man United

05 **Australia 1 Ghana 1, World Cup finals 2010**
After an embarrassing mauling at the hands of Germany, the Socceroos needed Harry Kewell to shine but after 20 minutes he stopped a certain goal and earned an early bath. They held strong for the rest of the game against the determined Ghanaians and looked like the only team that was going to win. If only Luke Wilkshire could have converted his very good chance...

06 **Hamburger SV 0 W Bremen 1, Bundesliga, 2008**
A Champions League place was at stake in this tempestuous affair in the Bundesliga's Northern derby. Bremen scored through Almeida in the 50th minute but they had to resort to some ugly football when captain Baumann and then Vranjes were dismissed before holding on.

07 **Ghana 0 Brazil 0 U-20 World Cup final, 2009**
The Africans were clear underdogs beforehand, but when Addo was dismissed, this final seemed a mere formality. A fabulous defensive display from the Black Stars ensued as the game entered extra-time and then a penalty shoot-out, which they won when Teixeira's weak effort was saved.

Below Zola sees red for Italy against Nigeria

08 **Arsenal 1 Man United 2, FA Cup semi-final, 1999**
David Beckham put United ahead before Bergkamp equalised and United pit-bull Roy Keane was then sent off. As the clock ticked into injury-time Arsenal were awarded a penalty and missed. Extra-time prevailed and with moments remaining before penalties, Ryan Giggs went on a mazy run, beat several Arsenal players and slammed a savage shot into the roof of the net.

09 **Monaco 3 Chelsea 1, Champions League, 2004**
Chelsea grabbed a vital away goal in the semi-final first leg and looked comfortable to return to Stamford Bridge with a 1-1 draw. Cue the sending off of Monaco's Andreas Zikos and plucky Monaco delivered a devastating double-blow, scoring twice in four minutes.

10 **Tottenham 3 Man City 4, FA Cup, 2004**
With Tottenham cruising 3-0 at half-time in this FA Cup fourth round, the notorious Joey Barton was sent off for City. With little hint of what was to come the visitors gradually built up steam like a juggernaut, clawing goals back through Distin, Bosvelt and Wright-Phillips. A late winning header by Macken shook White Hart Lane to its core. ♦