# Manchester United players ask fans for help paying e-scooter bills amid turbulent Malaysia tour



In an unusual episode during their post-season tour in Malaysia, Manchester United players found themselves in the peculiar position of needing assistance from local fans to secure payment for e-scooters. This incident unfolded in Kuala Lumpur after a disappointing season for the team, marked by a 16th-place finish in the Premier League and a loss to the ASEAN All-Stars in the Maybank Cup. Despite their sorrowful exit from the Europa League, where they lost to Tottenham, the players sought to make the most of their time abroad, engaging with fans and exploring the city.

However, amidst the loss, the players were spotted renting e-scooters to venture out. Amad Diallo, one of the players seen on the scooters, appeared to ask a local for help with payment, suggesting a confusion related to the scooter's app-based rental system. This moment was quickly shared on social media, provoking a wave of mockery directed at the club’s financial situation. Jokes abounded, with fans quipping about the state of Manchester United's finances, indicating a growing frustration among supporters concerning the club's management, especially in the wake of ownership issues under Sir Jim Ratcliffe.

The broader context of this incident speaks to the challenges faced by Manchester United this season. The club has struggled significantly on the pitch, culminating in boos from the 72,000-strong crowd in their opening tour match against Southeast Asian internationals. Manager Ruben Amorim acknowledged the mounting pressure from supporters, expressing the team's need for accountability and a stronger connection with their fanbase. Each loss seems to add weight to a narrative of decline, one that emphasises the psychological toll on players who are already beset by the pressures of elite sport.

Critically, the timing of the tour itself has come under scrutiny. Initiated just days after the conclusion of the Premier League season, it has ignited debates about the welfare of players and the relentless demands of the football calendar. Critics have lambasted the club for prioritising commercial interests over player health, questioning the rationale behind compelling players to participate in such a taxing regimen so soon after the season's end. The packed schedule, particularly with upcoming international commitments, poses significant risks for overtraining and injuries.

Amidst this chaotic backdrop, Diallo's recent outburst, in which he made an obscene gesture towards fans, further encapsulates the tension between player frustrations and public expectations. He justified his actions by citing a personal provocation but acknowledged the challenges posed by the intense scrutiny that comes with being a high-profile athlete. This incident, alongside the laughter from fans regarding e-scooter payments, adds a surreal layer to a tour that is no doubt meant to foster goodwill and engagement with fans across Asia.

As Manchester United prepares to conclude their tour with a match in Hong Kong, the atmosphere remains teeming with expectations—both from the club and from a disenchanted fanbase eager for a resurgence. The players will need to demonstrate resilience not just on the field but in maintaining interactions with supporters, striving to transform the ongoing narrative of humiliation into one of renewal and promise as they approach the next season.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14760337/Bizarre-moment-Man-United-stars-ask-locals-pay-e-scooters-controversial-post-season-tour-Malaysia.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[4]](https://sportsermon.in/remember-ten-hag-man-utd-fans-rage-over-awful-post-season-tour-of-asia/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14760337/Bizarre-moment-Man-United-stars-ask-locals-pay-e-scooters-controversial-post-season-tour-Malaysia.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490), [[2]](https://www.reuters.com/sports/soccer/man-united-boss-amorim-says-it-is-tough-face-teams-angry-fans-around-world-2025-05-29/), [[5]](https://www.thepeoplesperson.com/2025/04/10/sponsors-want-all-big-name-manchester-united-players-to-be-present-during-post-season-asia-tour-292780/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://www.reuters.com/sports/soccer/man-utds-diallo-has-no-regrets-over-obscene-gesture-post-season-tour-2025-05-29/), [[6]](https://medium.com/@qqypzyr/a-tarnished-giants-tour-manchester-uniteds-kuala-lumpur-stop-under-scrutiny-ed7c7635a3fe)
* Paragraph 4 – [[5]](https://www.thepeoplesperson.com/2025/04/10/sponsors-want-all-big-name-manchester-united-players-to-be-present-during-post-season-asia-tour-292780/), [[7]](https://manchester-united-fc.uk/manchester-uniteds-post-season-tour-in-asia-sparks-controversy/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[2]](https://www.reuters.com/sports/soccer/man-united-boss-amorim-says-it-is-tough-face-teams-angry-fans-around-world-2025-05-29/), [[6]](https://medium.com/@qqypzyr/a-tarnished-giants-tour-manchester-uniteds-kuala-lumpur-stop-under-scrutiny-ed7c7635a3fe)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sport/football/article-14760337/Bizarre-moment-Man-United-stars-ask-locals-pay-e-scooters-controversial-post-season-tour-Malaysia.html?ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490&ito=1490> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.reuters.com/sports/soccer/man-united-boss-amorim-says-it-is-tough-face-teams-angry-fans-around-world-2025-05-29/> - Manchester United manager Ruben Amorim addressed the global frustration of fans following the team's dismal performance this season. After finishing 15th in the Premier League—one of their worst results—the team began their Asian tour with a 1-0 loss to the ASEAN All-Stars in Malaysia, drawing boos from 72,000 spectators. Amorim acknowledged the difficulty of facing supporter dissatisfaction but emphasised the importance of accountability and reconnecting with fans. He admitted the squad lacked focus during the match and is determined to deliver a better display in their upcoming friendly in Hong Kong. Notably, players Harry Maguire, Andre Onana, and Diogo Dalot were absent as they attended a sponsor event in India, while Luke Shaw was ruled out due to injury. However, Matthijs de Ligt, Mason Mount, and Joshua Zirkzee are fit for the Hong Kong match. Amorim noted the team's fatigue from travel and jet lag but expressed readiness for the final tour match. Hong Kong coach Ashley Westwood, a United academy alum, remarked that the squad likely prefers rest over post-season tours, especially with international duties approaching on June 2.
3. <https://www.reuters.com/sports/soccer/man-utds-diallo-has-no-regrets-over-obscene-gesture-post-season-tour-2025-05-29/> - Manchester United winger Amad Diallo addressed an incident during the club’s post-season tour in Asia where he made an obscene gesture by raising his middle finger towards fans in Kuala Lumpur. The 22-year-old Ivorian admitted the gesture was inappropriate but stated he had no regrets, explaining that someone had insulted his mother, prompting his reaction. Despite the incident, Diallo expressed appreciation for the overall experience in Malaysia, highlighting the kindness of the people there. The incident occurred after Manchester United lost a match against the ASEAN All-Stars, with Diallo entering the game as a second-half substitute. Following the defeat, the team was booed by fans, and manager Ruben Amorim acknowledged the criticism, stating the team cannot hide from their fans after a disappointing season that saw them finish 15th in the Premier League. Manchester United is set to conclude their tour with a match in Hong Kong.
4. <https://sportsermon.in/remember-ten-hag-man-utd-fans-rage-over-awful-post-season-tour-of-asia/> - Manchester United fans are expressing their disappointment and frustration with Sir Jim Ratcliffe following the announcement of the club’s post-season tour in Kuala Lumpur and Hong Kong. Many supporters are criticising the decision to schedule matches immediately after the final Premier League game on May 25, citing concerns over player welfare. The tour aims to engage the club’s extensive fan base in Asia and explore new commercial opportunities. However, the decision has ignited debates regarding player welfare and the demanding football calendar. Critics have questioned the rationale behind the timing of the post-season tour, suggesting that it prioritises commercial interests over the welfare of the players. The announcement has reignited debates about the increasing demands placed on footballers and the need for clubs to prioritise their health and well-being.
5. <https://www.thepeoplesperson.com/2025/04/10/sponsors-want-all-big-name-manchester-united-players-to-be-present-during-post-season-asia-tour-292780/> - Manchester United's biggest stars will be made to go on the club’s controversial post-season tour of the Far East. And the likes of Bruno Fernandes, Harry Maguire and Casemiro will not be excused from the gruelling trip. The United players are contractually obliged to take part in the tour, while sponsors want to see Ruben Amorim’s leading names in action in both matches. Portugal will line up against Germany in a Nations League semi-final less than seven days later, and there is the danger of players being overworked and picking up injuries as a result. Soon after that the 20-time English league champions will be jetting off to the United States for the Premier League Summer Series as part of their pre-season plans.
6. <https://medium.com/@qqypzyr/a-tarnished-giants-tour-manchester-uniteds-kuala-lumpur-stop-under-scrutiny-ed7c7635a3fe> - The announcement of Manchester United’s tour stop in Kuala Lumpur on May 28, 2025, has ignited a familiar cocktail of excitement and cynicism. For Malaysian fans, the prospect of witnessing the “Red Devils” in person is undeniably alluring. However, beneath the veneer of spectacle lies a complex web of commercial obligations, fan exploitation, and genuine concerns about player welfare. The modern football calendar is relentlessly demanding. Players are pushed to their physical and mental limits, juggling domestic leagues, cup competitions, and international duties. A post-season tour, scheduled mere days after the final whistle, exacerbates the risk of burnout and injury. The mental health implications are equally concerning. Players, already under immense pressure throughout the season, are forced to endure long-haul travel, unfamiliar environments, and intense public scrutiny. This relentless cycle leaves little room for rest and recovery, potentially impacting their performance and well-being in the subsequent season.
7. <https://manchester-united-fc.uk/manchester-uniteds-post-season-tour-in-asia-sparks-controversy/> - Manchester United has unveiled plans to embark on a post-season tour, scheduling matches in Malaysia and Hong Kong immediately following the conclusion of the Premier League season. This initiative aims to engage the club’s extensive fan base in Asia and explore new commercial opportunities. However, the decision has ignited debates regarding player welfare and the demanding football calendar. The announcement has been met with criticism from various quarters. Notably, Premier League legend Alan Shearer labelled similar post-season matches as “madness,” emphasising the physical toll on players, especially those involved in international tournaments like the Copa America or the European Championship. The congested schedule raises concerns about adequate rest and recovery for athletes. The modern football calendar is increasingly packed, with competitions such as FIFA’s expanded Club World Cup and UEFA’s revamped Champions League format adding to the number of fixtures. While measures like scrapping FA Cup replays have been implemented to alleviate scheduling pressures, the addition of post-season tours may counteract these efforts, potentially leading to player burnout and increased injury risks.