# David Beckham set to receive knighthood years after OBE and amid controversy



David Beckham’s long-anticipated knighthood appears imminent as he prepares to receive this esteemed honour at the King's Birthday Honours. This recognition comes over two decades after he was awarded an OBE in 2003 for his contributions to sport and charity, highlighting a journey marked by both triumph and controversy. The connection forged between Beckham and King Charles during their recent meeting at Chelsea's flower show showcased not only their mutual interests in gardening and bee-keeping but also hinted at Beckham’s status in royal circles. As the King reportedly inquired, “You got it, didn’t you?” it was evident that the former England captain was privy to his forthcoming honour.

Celebrated royal press spokesman Dickie Arbiter noted that the knighthood recognises Beckham for his charitable efforts, particularly his support of the King’s charities, rather than merely for his storied football career. “This is about someone being recognised for the huge work he has done in supporting the King’s charities and communities,” Arbiter remarked, underlining Beckham’s pivot from the pitch to philanthropy. With his wife, Victoria Beckham, set to receive the title of “Lady Beckham,” the honour reflects a culmination of years of dedication beyond his athletic prowess.

Though Beckham has enjoyed considerable acclaim—amassing 115 caps for England, leading various top clubs globally, and being an advocate for organisations like UNICEF—his quest for a knighthood has been fraught with challenges. Allegations regarding his involvement in a tax avoidance scheme have complicated his public image, raising questions about his suitability for such recognition. Public relations experts have pointed to this controversy as a significant factor that may have delayed his knighthood, striking a dissonant note in an era increasingly sensitive to issues of wealth and privilege.

Despite setbacks, Beckham’s efforts to align himself more closely with royal family members, particularly King Charles and Prince William, have strengthened his standing in royal circles. Reports of his support for fellow footballer Gareth Southgate receiving a knighthood have emerged, suggesting a prioritisation of camaraderie over personal ambition. Sources indicate that Beckham has maintained silence on his exclusion from the New Year Honours List but remains actively engaged in charitable pursuits. His recent appearances alongside the Royal Family this year potentially signal a newfound goodwill that may have played a role in the impending honour.

While Beckham may finally bask in the glory of his knighthood, the journey has not been devoid of complications. Those close to the matter suggest that despite the previous obstacles, the timing of this honour could transform Beckham’s legacy, reinforcing his status not just as a football icon but as a cherished public figure committed to social causes. The anticipation building around this announcement reflects not only the public’s affection for Beckham but also a growing recognition of his contributions beyond the realm of sport.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2065397/real-reasons-beckham-finally-getting), [[2]](https://www.geo.tv/latest/578529-king-charles-makes-big-decision-about-knighthood-for-david-beckham)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2065397/real-reasons-beckham-finally-getting), [[3]](https://www.standard.co.uk/lifestyle/david-beckham-knighthood-new-year-honours-list-b1198360.html)
* Paragraph 3 – [[5]](https://www.mundodeportivo.com/us/en/20231230/673122/david-beckham-snubbed-once-again-for-knighthood-in-new-year-s-honours-list.html), [[6]](https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1259122-king-charles-makes-final-decision-about-david-beckhams-knighthood)
* Paragraph 4 – [[4]](https://www.geo.tv/latest/578678-david-beckham-breaks-silence-after-king-charles-major-decision-about-his-knighthood), [[6]](https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1259122-king-charles-makes-final-decision-about-david-beckhams-knighthood)
* Paragraph 5 – [[1]](https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2065397/real-reasons-beckham-finally-getting), [[7]](https://www.express.co.uk/sport/football/1715441/David-Beckham-snubbed-King-Charles-New-Year-Honours-List-again)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/2065397/real-reasons-beckham-finally-getting> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.geo.tv/latest/578529-king-charles-makes-big-decision-about-knighthood-for-david-beckham> - King Charles has decided not to grant David Beckham a knighthood this year, despite Beckham's close ties with the royal family. An insider revealed that Beckham is supportive of Gareth Southgate receiving the honour instead. Beckham previously faced obstacles for a knighthood due to tax fraud allegations during Queen Elizabeth's reign. He is now building closer ties with King Charles and Prince William. ([geo.tv](https://www.geo.tv/latest/578529-king-charles-makes-big-decision-about-knighthood-for-david-beckham?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.standard.co.uk/lifestyle/david-beckham-knighthood-new-year-honours-list-b1198360.html> - David Beckham has once again been excluded from the New Year Honours List, missing out on the knighthood he has long sought. Despite his extensive charitable work and close relationship with the royal family, Beckham was overlooked, with Gareth Southgate receiving the honour instead. Beckham's previous attempts were hindered by tax avoidance allegations. ([standard.co.uk](https://www.standard.co.uk/lifestyle/david-beckham-knighthood-new-year-honours-list-b1198360.html?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://www.geo.tv/latest/578678-david-beckham-breaks-silence-after-king-charles-major-decision-about-his-knighthood> - Following King Charles's decision to exclude him from the New Year Honours List, David Beckham has remained silent on the matter. Reports indicate that Beckham is supportive of Gareth Southgate receiving the knighthood instead. Beckham has previously faced obstacles for a knighthood due to tax fraud allegations during Queen Elizabeth's reign. ([geo.tv](https://www.geo.tv/latest/578678-david-beckham-breaks-silence-after-king-charles-major-decision-about-his-knighthood?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.mundodeportivo.com/us/en/20231230/673122/david-beckham-snubbed-once-again-for-knighthood-in-new-year-s-honours-list.html> - David Beckham has once again been excluded from the New Year's Honours List, failing to secure the knighthood many believe he deserves. Despite his popularity and charitable work, Beckham was overlooked, with Gareth Southgate receiving the honour instead. Beckham's previous attempts were hindered by tax avoidance allegations. ([mundodeportivo.com](https://www.mundodeportivo.com/us/en/20231230/673122/david-beckham-snubbed-once-again-for-knighthood-in-new-year-s-honours-list.html?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1259122-king-charles-makes-final-decision-about-david-beckhams-knighthood> - King Charles has made a final decision regarding David Beckham's knighthood, opting to award the honour to Gareth Southgate instead. Beckham attended his first State Banquet with his wife, Victoria, but reports indicate he will not receive the honour this time. Beckham previously faced obstacles for a knighthood due to tax fraud allegations during Queen Elizabeth's reign. ([thenews.com.pk](https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1259122-king-charles-makes-final-decision-about-david-beckhams-knighthood?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://www.express.co.uk/sport/football/1715441/David-Beckham-snubbed-King-Charles-New-Year-Honours-List-again> - David Beckham has once again been left off the New Year Honours List, continuing his wait for a knighthood. Despite his contributions to football and charity, Beckham was overlooked, with Gareth Southgate receiving the honour instead. Beckham's previous attempts were hindered by tax avoidance allegations. ([express.co.uk](https://www.express.co.uk/sport/football/1715441/David-Beckham-snubbed-King-Charles-New-Year-Honours-List-again?utm_source=openai))