

Flat 14
4 Carved Up Road
Defeatshire
WOE 14ME

21 August 2025

Dear Sirs,

While it is customary to address such letters to the opposition, on this occasion it is my teammates who deserve the apology. For the away team clearly revelled in their evening's work: roaring their goals in, passing us to a standstill, pressing until the end. Smug bastards.

But I and my fellow, bedraggled losers were left chastened by the annihilation. And while others seem eager to shift blame, I feel it incumbent on me to shoulder a good portion of it. Spurning multiple chances (even those headed off the line) and butchering cutbacks are unforgiveable at this level. I was also guilty of ill-discipline in terms of positioning, giving the ball away for the crucial second goal and a sub-par work rate (my spaghetti porn showing a 1/2km reduction in typical distance covered).

Moreover, in the sparsely attended, yet deeply moving, post-match 'truth and reconciliation' meeting, it was brought to my attention that some teammates feel I fail to pass to them and that I become too vociferous in my criticism when the chips are down. While I would argue my failure to pick the right ball is down simply to a lack of ability, and over-voluble critique merely a tool to shelter my fragile ego from my own glaring inadequacies, I recognise the hurt this causes and the need for urgent change.

This root and branch review will extend to the wider statistics office as the balance of the two teams was also called into question. However, some allowance was proffered – and indeed accepted – for cataclysmic goalkeeping at one end (musical Dan would have blushed) – and at the other end, the polar opposite (aka. Doparumma).

I shall not darken Leafy Lane's doors for a couple of weeks, granting me a much-needed opportunity to reflect on my own performance - and that of the algo.

With profound apologies,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Statman Dom". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style with a horizontal line underneath the name.