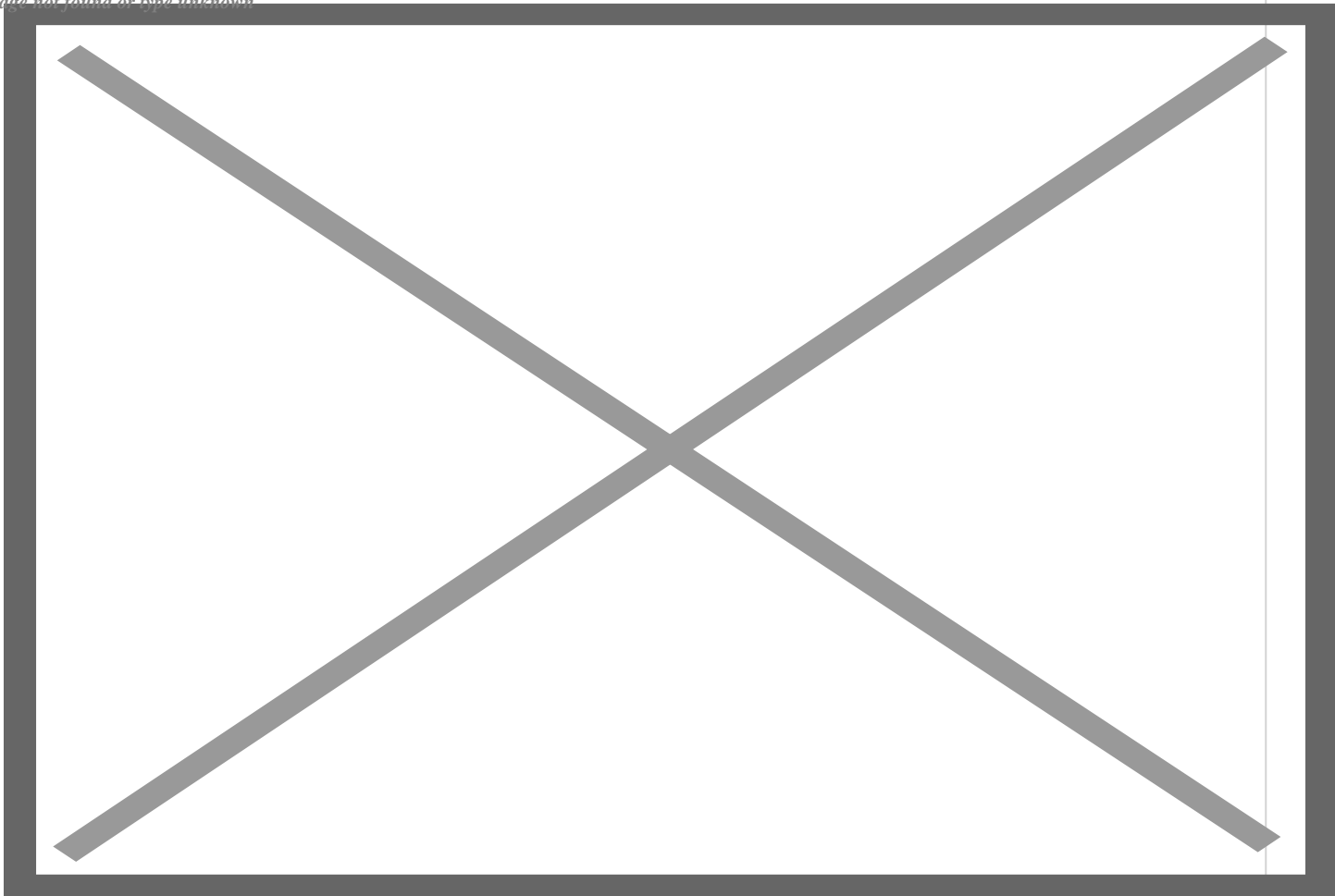


Manchester City ends 2021 as Premier League leader

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Manchester City, led by Spanish coach Josep Guardiola, will face Brentford today in a bid to take three points and finish 2021 as the leader of the English Premier League.

Havana, December 29 (RHC)-- Manchester City, led by Spanish coach Josep Guardiola, will face Brentford today in a bid to take three points and finish 2021 as the leader of the English Premier League.

In their visit to Brentford Community Stadium, "The Citizens", who have 47 points, will face the challenge boosted by nine straight wins, the last one a 6-3 victory over Leicester.

Guardiola's men have 15 wins, two draws and an equal number of defeats, backed by a lethal attack that has scored 50 goals and conceded just 12.

Meanwhile, the home side is in need of a win that could catapult them from 13th to 10th place in the league, where they have two games in hand.

With a win, Manchester City will remain at the top of the table with 50 points, nine ahead of Liverpool, who lost 1-0 to Leicester the day before with a goal by striker Ademola Lookman in the 59th minute.

The setback jeopardizes Liverpool's status, which maintains the same 41 points as Chelsea, which faces Brighton at Stamford Bridge on Wednesday.

The "Blues" will face the 20th matchday in third place, while their rivals are in ninth place with only 23 points.

The home side have 12 wins, five draws and two defeats with 42 goals scored and 13 conceded, while Brighton are boosted by their 2-0 win over Brentford to end a run of 12 matches without a win.

On Tuesday, in addition to Liverpool's success, Cristal Palace and West Ham United, respectively, beat Norwich City and Warford.

Crystal Palace defeated Norwich 3-0 to move up to ninth place with 23 points, while West Ham beat Warford 3-1 to take fifth place with 31 points, one more than Tottenham, who drew 1-1 with Southampton.

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