





Investigating metrics and performance behaviours that significantly differentiated winning and losing teams during the 2022 FIFA World Cup

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ABSTRACT

The FIFA World Cup has been widely studied using different methodologies and objectives. This study investigated metrics that statistically distinguished winning from losing teams in the knockout stage of the 2022 FIFA World Cup, aiming to highlight tactical trends of modern football. Data was sourced from “Wyscout” match-reports regarding the sixteen knockout matches, but five were excluded for being decided by penalties, leaving 11 games (n=11). A total of 270 metrics were analysed using One-Way ANOVA and Cohen’s D Effect Size (ES) to identify key differences. Winning teams showed significant indicators such as counterattacks (ES 3.60), goals in the 1st half (ES 2.43), total goals (ES 2.17), goals-minus-expected-goals ratio (ES 2.13), key passes (ES 2.12), and expected-goals created from the left-flank (ES 2.04). Losing teams conceded more goals (ES -2.43), had higher possession late in the game (ES -2.03), and more right-flank attacks (ES -1.34). Results suggest winners scored early thanks to their efficiency creating chances and effectiveness in scoring, then defended compactly in a low block, forcing opponents into high possession and right-flank play, which winners exploited through same-side counterattacks with accurate and longer passes. These findings can guide coaches in training design, tactical planning, and match preparation.

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1. Introduction

The FIFA World Cup has been widely studied using different methodologies and objectives, often aiming to identify performance indicators associated with match-success, which could potentially influence approaches from national teams towards training sessions, playing styles, or tactical trends in modern football (Iván-Baragaño et al., 2024; Yan et al., 2024). However, most studies analyse multiple editions and multiple stages across long periods of time, which may reduce the ability to detect the latest patterns within a specific context, due to the ever-evolving nature of football. Limited research has focused on differentiating winning and losing teams within a specific knockout-stage, where performance indicators differ from previous editions and stages, matches are typically balanced in terms of opposition quality and are decided by smaller margins of performance. For this reason, the present study adopts a narrow scope and in-depth nature, focusing on the knockout-stage of the 2022 FIFA World Cup as a deliberate restriction for research design, allowing a specific and comparable context. By restricting the sample, the influence of external factors such as tactical evolution, competition format, and contextual variability is reduced, enabling a more focused analysis of team performance and the latest tactical trends. This study adopts an exploratory approach, analysing a wide range of performance indicators across different aspects of the game to identify potential patterns associated with match-outcomes.

Previous FIFA World Cup research has identified several key performance indicators associated with success across different editions. Metrics such as goals scored, shots on target, and shooting effectiveness are consistently linked with winning outcomes (Szwarc, 2004; Castellano et al., 2012; Collet et al., 2013; Delgado-Bordonau et al., 2013; Clemente et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2015; Dufour et al., 2017; Rumpf et al., 2017; Alves et al., 2019; Yi et al., 2019; Lepschy et al., 2021; Myftiu & Thaqi, 2023; Huang et al., 2024; Wei et al., 2024; Yan et al., 2024).

Ball possession, total passes and passing accuracy have been associated with the creation of scoring opportunities (Castellano et al., 2012; Saito et al., 2013; Clemente et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2015; Da Mota et al., 2016; Alves et al., 2019; Vergonis et al., 2019; Yi et al., 2019; Kubayi, 2020). However, the relationship between these variables and match success is not always consistent. While several studies report a positive relationship between ball-possession and successful outcomes (Castellano et al., 2012; Saito et al., 2013; Clemente et al., 2015; Goral, 2015; Liu et al., 2015; Da Mota et al., 2016; Alves et al., 2019; Vergonis et al., 2019; Yi et al., 2019; Kubayi, 2020), others suggest that possession may have limited or even negative effects depending on the context (Alves et al., 2019; Myftiu & Thaqi, 2023), like ball-possession being beneficial against weaker opposition and less effective against teams of similar level (Collet 2013).

Similarly, passing effectiveness is often linked to success (Szwarc, 2004; Clemente, 2012; Collet, 2013; Saito et al., 2013; Goral, 2015; Liu et al., 2015; Smith, & Lyons, 2017; Alves et al., 2019; Yi et al., 2019; Wei et al., 2024), while other authors have found no significant relationship (Scoulding et al., 2004; Dufour et al., 2017).

Defensive metrics such as tackling success, duels won, shots blocked, and clearances are commonly associated with success (Liu et al., 2015; Lepschy et al., 2021; Wei et al., 2024). Moreover, several studies have shown that most goals in FIFA World Cup matches are scored in the second half (Delgado-Bordonau et al., 2013; Vergonis et al., 2019; Kubayi, 2020; Micovic et al., 2023; Degrenne, & Carling, 2024), highlighting context-dependent nature of football performance.

Despite the extensive literature on FIFA World Cup performance analysis, previous studies have focused on broader samples across multiple editions and stages, omitting potential evidence on the specific demands and tactical behaviours of the single latest knockout-stage. Since these matches are often decided by small margins and may reflect the latest trends in elite football, understanding the indicators determining success in this context is of practical importance. This study addresses this gap by providing an in-depth comparative analysis between winning and losing teams, aiming to identify performance indicators that differentiated both groups in the knockout-stage of the 2022 FIFA World Cup. Given the large number of variables and reduced sample size, results are interpreted with caution, placing greater emphasis on the magnitude and practical relevance of differences rather than confirmatory statistical inferences.

2. Method

2.1 Participants

A total of 14 national teams and 241 players aged 18 to 39 were analysed. The 2022 FIFA World Cup knockout-stage had a total of sixteen matches, but five of them were not included in the study for being decided via penalty-shootout, since they did not establish a “winning” or “losing” team after either 90 or 120 minutes, resulting in a total of eleven matches analysed (n=11). These matches included: Netherlands vs USA — Argentina vs Australia — Brazil vs South Korea — England vs Senegal — France vs Poland — Portugal vs Switzerland — England vs France — Morocco vs Portugal — Argentina vs Croatia — France vs Morocco — Croatia vs Morocco.

The sample size is inevitably small, restricted to the knockout-stage of one FIFA World Cup edition. Including extra matches across editions, stages, or different tournaments would alter the specificity of the findings, which differentiates our study from others. Similarly, including adjustments or corrections for multiple comparisons would reduce likelihood of Type I errors but would increase the risk of Type II errors, hindering the identification of potentially meaningful findings. However, to provide additional confidence when observing the data, statistical tools like p-values and omega squared (ω^2) were included. As football is complex, uncertain and ever-evolving, this study does not pretend to unveil absolute truths applicable to all scenarios, but to explore objective data from these specific matches to identify performance indicators in this particular context. For this reason, the study presents a deep analysis (270 variables), detecting patterns without confirmatory inferences outside the scope of the study, recognizing that results must be interpreted with caution.

Data was collected as secondary information from “Wyscout” match-reports, industry standard for football data collection, scouting, and performance analysis (<https://wyscout.hudl.com/>). This data was then manually transferred into a spreadsheet document for further statistical analysis. Additional metrics derived from the collected data were included into the analysis, such as the percentage of shots on target, the ratio of goals per shot, the ratio of goals per shot on target, and the number of accurate passes from the GK inside the own third.

2.2 Procedure

Each match was analysed across 270 different indicators attempting to identify statistical differences between winning and losing teams. Cohen’s D Effect Size (ES) was the principal measure to assess statistical differences between winning and losing teams. These 270 indicators were classified into the following categories: General, Attacking, Defensive, Transition, Duels, Possession, Passing, and Goalkeeping. Each of the 270 indicators showed one stat for the winning team and one for the losing team across the eleven matches, as well as an overall section including the following statistical measures: Max value; Min value; Mean value; Standard Deviation (SD); Variance; p-value; F-value; Omega Squared; Pooled SD; and Cohen’s ES. All indicators, measures and categories can be found in [Appendix 1](#).

2.3 Reliability

Intra-rater reliability was assessed three times during a period of three weeks assessing the manual transfer of data, calculations confirming the veracity of the data, and calculations of additional metrics derived from the data, obtaining a percentage error of 0.04% in each round (O’Donoghue & Hughes, 2019). This error originated from one same inconsistency between our calculations and the result for one metric in one match. Regardless of this discrepancy, no statistical significance was found.

2.4 Statistical analysis

This study followed an exploratory cross-sectional comparative design, comparing winning and losing team performances during the knockout-stage of the 2022 FIFA World Cup. The analytical sample consisted of 11 winning team performances and 11 losing team performances. Separate One-Way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) tests were conducted independently for each of the 270 performance indicators, with individual team performance as the unit of analysis, enabling examination of general performance tendencies across groups rather than within-match contrasts. Performances were treated as independent observations despite some inherent dependency between teams from the same match, consistent with research in football performance analysis. Results were interpreted primarily from an exploratory perspective through ES and Mean Values.

Cohen’s D Effect Sizes (ES) ranging between ($0.2 \leq ES \leq 0.49$) are considered small, those between ($0.5 \leq ES \leq 0.79$) are considered medium, and equal or higher than 0.8 ($ES \geq 0.8$) are considered large, showing a clear tendency of the data towards one of the groups (Cohen, 1988). Results suggested that after one goal was scored, each study group displayed characteristics of a specific style of play, this observation was further examined using Z-scores tables.

3. Results

[Figure 1](#) displays all metrics in the study with large Effect Sizes (ES), indicating strong statistical differences between both groups in favour of winning teams, meaning these indicators were frequent and/or showed higher values among winning teams, showing a positive relationship with success and being associated to positive match-outcomes, distinguishing them from a statistically significant perspective.

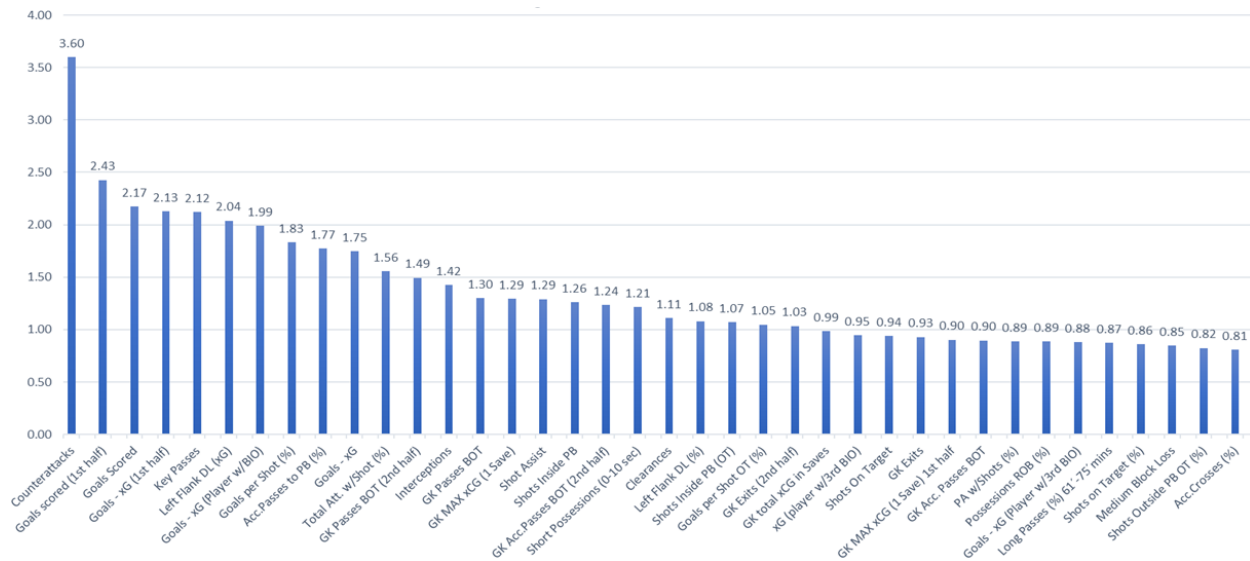


Figure 1. Metrics in the study with large ES ($ES \geq 0.8$).

Figure 2 shows metrics with the smallest ES, meaning they were commonly found in losing teams unlike winning teams, showing negative relationships with success and being statistically detrimental for match-outcomes. These metrics represent negative numbers but are displayed in absolute values.

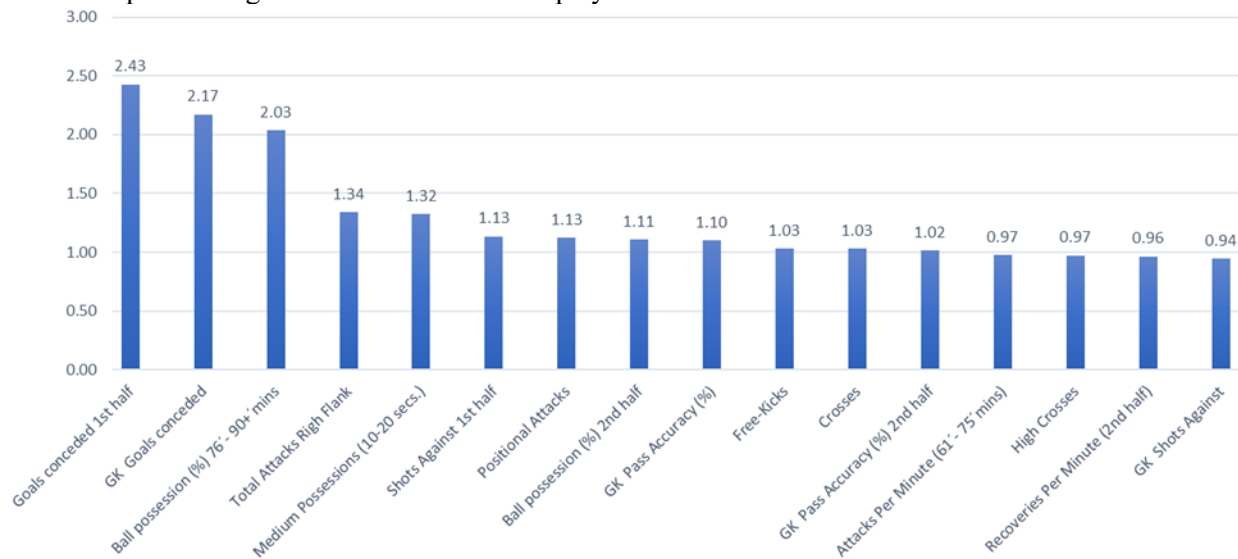


Figure 2. Metrics with smallest ES, displayed in absolute value.

Nine main findings derived from these results, which are explored in detail within their respective category: *Styles of Play*; *Scoring in the 1st Half*; *Shooting Effectiveness*; *Attacking Effectiveness*; *Passing Effectiveness*; *Defending*; *Transition & Team Behaviour*; *Set-Pieces*; and *Goalkeeping*.

3.1 Styles of play

Figure 1 shows the metric with largest ES is counterattacks (ES 3.60), whereas **Figure 2** includes positional attacks (ES -1.13) as one of the smallest ES in the study. This begs the question if winning teams showed characteristics of a counterattacking style of play while losing teams showed characteristics of a possession style of play, as these metrics are considered main components of those respective styles of play (Castellano et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2015; da Mota et al., 2016; Yi et al., 2019). These notions will be explored individually within this category.

3.1.1 Counterattacking style of play

To confirm if winning teams presented characteristics of a counterattacking style of play, metrics commonly associated to counterattacking teams were grouped together and analysed using ES (table 1) and Z-scores (table 2) to identify consistencies and exceptions across matches, groups, and metrics.

Table 1. ES results from metrics associated to a counterattacking style (Liu et al., 2015; Yi et al., 2019).

Counterattacking Style	ARG-AUS	ARG-CRO	BRA-KOR	CRO-MAR	FRA-ENG	ENG-SEN	FRA-MAR	FRA-POL	MAR-POR	NED-USA	POR-SWI	MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	p-value	ω ²	Pool SD	ES	
Counterattacks	W	3	3	6	5	4	4	6	4	3	4	3	6	3	4.09	1.29	1.14	71.21	0.0000	0.76	0.91	3.60
	L	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	0.82	0.36	0.60					
Ball Possession (%)	W	59%	40%	54%	52%	41%	59%	39%	53%	27%	39%	48%	59%	27%	46%	0.01	0.10	2.74	0.1134	0.07	0.10	-0.71
	L	41%	60%	46%	48%	59%	41%	61%	47%	73%	61%	52%	73%	41%	54%	0.01	0.10					
Short Possessions (0-10sec)	W	40	36	30	29	26	27	43	36	42	56	43	56	26	37.09	80.29	8.96	8.11	0.0100	0.24	7.19	1.21
	L	33	25	24	29	25	29	25	29	22	31	39	39	22	28.36	23.05	4.80					
Total Passes	W	672	395	597	470	356	566	344	538	211	399	433	672	211	452.82	17551.36	132.48	1.19	0.2878	0.01	112.85	-0.47
	L	410	592	521	464	495	346	561	466	661	575	468	661	346	505.36	7917.25	88.98					

Winning teams showed more counterattacks (ES 3.60), more short possessions (ES 1.21) despite having lower ball-possession percentage (ES -0.71), and less total passes (ES -0.47) compared to losing teams. This is in line with the notion of a counterattacking style from winning teams.

Table 2. Z-Scores derived from metrics associated to counterattacking style of play.

Counterattacking Style		Z-Scores										
		ARG-AUS	ARG-CRO	BRA-KOR	CRO-MAR	FRA-ENG	ENG-SEN	FRA-MAR	FRA-POL	MAR-POR	NED-USA	POR-SWI
Counterattacks	W	0.29	0.29	1.91	1.37	0.83	0.83	1.91	0.83	0.29	0.83	0.29
	L	-1.33	-0.79	-0.25	-0.79	-0.79	-0.79	-0.79	-0.79	-0.79	-1.33	-1.33
Ball possession (%)	W	0.88	-0.98	0.39	0.20	-0.88	0.88	-1.08	0.29	-2.25	-1.08	-0.20
	L	-0.88	0.98	-0.39	-0.20	0.88	-0.88	1.08	-0.29	2.25	1.08	0.20
Short Possessions (0-10 seconds)	W	0.90	0.40	-0.34	-0.46	-0.83	-0.70	1.26	0.40	1.14	2.86	1.26
	L	0.03	-0.83	-1.07	-0.46	-0.95	-0.46	-0.95	-0.46	-1.32	-0.21	0.77
Total Passes	W	1.74	-0.76	1.06	-0.08	-1.11	0.78	-1.22	0.53	-2.42	-0.72	-0.42
	L	-0.62	1.02	0.38	-0.14	0.14	-1.20	0.74	-0.12	1.64	0.87	-0.10

Winning teams showed consistently positive Z-scores for counterattacks, meaning that every winning team performed more counterattacks than the compound average. The five winning teams that showed more ball-possession percentage than their opposition also made more passes than them, even when winning teams overall made fewer passes. Only one winning team showed fewer short possessions than their opposition.

3.1.2 Possession style of play

Metrics commonly associated to teams with a possession style of play were grouped and analysed using ES (table 3) and Z-scores (table 4) to identify consistencies and exceptions across matches, groups, and metrics.

Table 3. ES results from metrics commonly associated to a possession style (Castellano et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2015; da Mota et al., 2016; Yi et al., 2019).

Possession Style	ARG-AUS	ARG-CRO	BRA-KOR	CRO-MAR	FRA-ENG	ENG-SEN	FRA-MAR	FRA-POL	MAR-POR	NED-USA	POR-SWI	MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P value	ω ²	Pool SD	ES	
Positional Attacks	W	30	22	22	23	22	21	20	26	7	15	15	30	7	20.27	37.62	6.13	6.96	0.0158	0.21	7.60	-1.13
	L	16	33	26	22	25	17	37	31	38	44	28	44	16	28.82	77.76	8.82					
Ball possession (%)	W	0.59	0.40	0.54	0.52	0.41	0.59	0.39	0.53	0.27	0.39	0.48	0.59	0.27	0.46	0.01	0.10	2.74	0.1134	0.07	0.10	-0.71
	L	0.41	0.60	0.46	0.48	0.59	0.41	0.61	0.47	0.73	0.61	0.52	0.73	0.41	0.54	0.01	0.10					
Medium Possessions (10-20 seconds)	W	15	15	17	17	18	13	7	15	14	13	12	18	7	14.18	9.16	3.03	9.61	0.0056	0.28	3.64	-1.32
	L	22	18	13	13	14	19	23	22	23	24	18	24	13	19.00	17.40	4.17					
Long Possessions (20-45 seconds)	W	19	15	14	18	14	9	9	18	4	12	9	19	4	12.82	22.16	4.71	2.64	0.1201	0.07	4.46	-0.69
	L	11	21	22	16	14	8	14	17	20	17	15	22	8	15.91	17.69	4.21					
Very Long Possessions (45+ seconds)	W	9	4	6	7	5	13	7	6	0	5	5	13	0	6.09	10.29	3.21	0.70	0.4121	-0.01	3.05	-0.36
	L	4	8	4	6	10	3	10	7	9	12	6	12	3	7.18	8.36	2.89					
Total Passes	W	672	395	597	470	356	566	344	538	211	399	433	672	211	452.82	17551.36	132.48	1.19	0.2878	0.01	112.85	-0.47
	L	410	592	521	464	495	346	561	466	661	575	468	661	346	505.36	7917.25	88.98					

Losing teams overall presented more positional attacks (ES -1.13), more ball-possession (ES -0.71), and more total passes (ES -0.47) than winning teams. This is in line with the notion of a possession style from losing teams.

Table 4. Z-Scores derived from metrics associated to possession style of play.

Possession Style		Z-Scores										
		ARG-AUS	ARG-CRO	BRA-KOR	CRO-MAR	FRA-ENG	ENG-SEN	FRA-MAR	FRA-POL	MAR-POR	NED-USA	POR-SWI
Positional Attacks	W	0.65	-0.30	-0.30	-0.18	-0.30	-0.42	-0.54	0.17	-2.09	-1.14	-1.14
	L	-1.02	1.01	0.17	-0.30	0.05	-0.90	1.48	0.77	1.60	2.31	0.41
Ball possession (%)	W	0.88	-0.98	0.39	0.20	-0.88	0.88	-1.08	0.29	-2.25	-1.08	-0.20
	L	-0.88	0.98	-0.39	-0.20	0.88	-0.88	1.08	-0.29	2.25	1.08	0.20
Medium Possessions (10-20 seconds)	W	-0.38	-0.38	0.10	0.10	0.33	-0.85	-2.27	-0.38	-0.61	-0.85	-1.09
	L	1.28	0.33	-0.85	-0.85	-0.61	0.57	1.52	1.28	1.52	1.75	0.33
Long Possessions (20-45 seconds)	W	1.02	0.14	-0.08	0.80	-0.08	-1.18	-1.18	0.80	-2.29	-0.52	-1.18
	L	-0.74	1.47	1.69	0.36	-0.08	-1.41	-0.08	0.58	1.24	0.58	0.14
Very Long Possessions (45+ seconds)	W	0.80	-0.89	-0.21	0.12	-0.55	2.15	0.12	-0.21	-2.24	-0.55	-0.55
	L	-0.89	0.46	-0.89	-0.21	1.14	-1.23	1.14	0.12	0.80	1.81	-0.21
Total Passes	W	1.74	-0.76	1.06	-0.08	-1.11	0.78	-1.22	0.53	-2.42	-0.72	-0.42
	L	-0.62	1.02	0.38	-0.14	0.14	-1.20	0.74	-0.12	1.64	0.87	-0.10

Only three winning teams presented larger Z-scores for positional attacks than their opposition, of them, only two were larger than the compound average. Only three winning teams showed larger Z-scores than the compound average for medium and long possessions. Six losing teams showed more total passes than their opposition.

The results from ES and Z-scores support the notion of winning teams presenting characteristics of counterattacking style teams and losing teams presenting characteristics of possession style teams.

3.2 Scoring in the 1st half

Tables 5-7 show that winning teams often scored during the 1st half. Since these matches required a winning team to be part of the sample, winning teams obviously scored more goals (ES 2.17), but interestingly, scoring was particularly significant during the 1st half (ES 2.43).

Table 5. Results for total goals scored.

GENERAL		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Goals Scored	W	6	1	2.82	1.76	1.33	25.95	0.0001	0.53	1.00	2.17
	L	1	0	0.64	0.25	0.50					
Goals scored (1st half)	W	4	1	1.73	0.82	0.90	32.40	0.0000	0.59	0.67	2.43
	L	1	0	0.09	0.09	0.30					
Goals scored (2nd half)	W	4	0	1.09	1.29	1.14	2.09	0.1635	0.05	0.88	0.62
	L	1	0	0.55	0.27	0.52					

Table 6. Results for total expected goals.

GENERAL		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
xG (Team)	W	2.91	0.64	1.86	0.52	0.72	3.00	0.0986	0.08	0.70	0.74
	L	2.28	0.45	1.35	0.46	0.68					
xG (Team) 1st half	W	2	0.14	0.87	0.28	0.53	2.43	0.1346	0.06	0.48	0.66
	L	1.23	0.12	0.55	0.18	0.42					
xG (Team) 2nd half	W	2.16	0.23	0.99	0.29	0.54	0.61	0.4424	-0.02	0.59	0.33
	L	1.92	0.07	0.79	0.41	0.64					

Table 7. Results for total goals minus expected goals.

GENERAL		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Goals scored - xG	W	3.57	-0.43	0.95	1.18	1.09	16.76	0.0006	0.42	0.95	1.75
	L	0.55	-1.69	-0.71	0.64	0.80					
Goals scored - xG (1st half)	W	2	-0.17	0.85	0.50	0.71	24.89	0.0001	0.52	0.62	2.13
	L	0.42	-1.23	-0.46	0.27	0.52					
Goals scored - xG (2nd half)	W	2.66	-1.16	0.10	1.01	1.01	0.92	0.3486	0.00	0.85	0.41
	L	0.77	-1.33	-0.25	0.44	0.66					

3.3 Shooting Effectiveness

Table 8 shows the importance of shot-quality over sheer quantity. Even if winning teams performed more shots (ES 0.59), their shots were more accurate (ES 0.86) and effective (ES 1.83) compared to losing teams. The mean

values indicate conversion rates of nearly one goal every four shots on average for winning teams (24%), while losing teams required over fourteen shots on average to score (7%).

Table 8. Results for metrics related to number of shots, shot accuracy, and conversion rate.

GENERAL		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Total Shots	W	17	8	11.91	9.89	3.14	1.92	0.1816	0.04	3.08	0.59
	L	16	5	10.09	9.09	3.02					
Shots on Target	W	9	2	5.64	5.65	2.38	4.85	0.0395	0.15	2.42	0.94
	L	8	1	3.36	6.05	2.46					
Shots on Target (%)	W	0.78	0.15	0.48	0.03	0.18	4.08	0.0569	0.12	0.19	0.86
	L	0.75	0.10	0.32	0.04	0.19					
Rate of Goals per Shot (%)	W	0.46	0.11	0.24	0.01	0.11	18.43	0.0004	0.44	0.09	1.83
	L	0.20	0	0.07	0	0.07					
Rate of Goals per Shot On Target (%)	W	1	0.33	0.53	0.04	0.20	6.04	0.0232	0.19	0.26	1.05
	L	1	0	0.25	0.10	0.31					

Tables 9-11 show that winning teams performed more shots from inside the penalty box (ES 1.26) and with more accuracy (ES 1.07), while losing teams attempted more shots from outside the box (ES -0.53). Even if winning teams made fewer shots from outside the box, when they did so, they were more accurate compared to losing teams (ES 0.82). Losing teams also averaged longer distances for their shots (ES -0.64) and had more of them blocked (ES -0.79).

Table 9. Results of metrics related to shots inside the penalty box.

GENERAL		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Shots Inside Penalty Box	W	12	5	8.18	7.16	2.68	8.72	0.0079	0.26	2.24	1.26
	L	8	3	5.36	2.85	1.69					
Shots Inside Penalty Box on Target	W	9	1	4.09	5.09	2.26	6.30	0.0208	0.19	1.87	1.07
	L	5	0	2.09	1.89	1.38					
SIPBOT Percentage (%)	W	0.83	0.18	0.51	0.05	0.22	1.54	0.2294	0.02	0.22	0.53
	L	0.75	0	0.39	0.05	0.22					

Table 10. Results of metrics related to shots outside the penalty box.

GENERAL		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Shots Outside Penalty Box	W	7	1	3.73	2.82	1.68	1.52	0.2319	0.02	1.90	-0.53
	L	8	2	4.73	4.42	2.10					
Shots outside Penalty Box on Target	W	4	0	1.55	1.27	1.13	0.23	0.6336	-0.04	1.32	0.21
	L	4	0	1.27	2.22	1.49					
SOPBOT Percentage (%)	W	1	0	0.45	0.10	0.31	3.74	0.0674	0.11	0.28	0.82
	L	0.75	0	0.22	0.06	0.25					

Table 11. Results of complementary shooting metrics.

GENERAL		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Average Shot Distance (m)	W	22.20	13.70	16.89	4.94	2.22	2.24	0.1504	0.05	2.55	-0.64
	L	23.40	14.40	18.52	8.09	2.84					
Shots Blocked	W	4	0	1.73	1.62	1.27	3.46	0.0776	0.10	1.38	-0.79
	L	5	0	2.82	2.16	1.47					

Table 12 shows the results of individual players facing the greatest scoring chances in terms of xG. Winning teams often showed at least three players facing important scoring opportunities (ES 0.95). The player with best chances being more involved during the 1st half (ES 0.76), while the second (ES 0.64) and third (ES 0.53) being more involved during the 2nd half.

Table 12. Results of players with better scoring chances.

GENERAL	ES	GENERAL	ES	GENERAL	ES
Player xG (Best Individual Chances)	0.32	Player xG (2nd Best Individual Chances)	0.37	Player xG (3rd Best Individual Chances)	0.95
Player xG (BIC) 1st half	0.76	Player xG (2nd BIC) 1st half	-0.23	Player xG (3rd BIC) 1st half	0.45
Player xG (BIC) 2nd half	0.05	Player xG (2nd BIC) 2nd half	0.64	Player xG (3rd BIC) 2nd half	0.53

Table 13 shows the differences between the number of goals scored by these individuals and their total xG tally, indicating that it was even more significant that all these players convert their chances into goals, especially for the player with better chances (ES 1.99) and the third player with better chances (ES 0.88).

Table 13. Results of goals minus expected goals for players with best scoring chances.

GENERAL		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Goals scored - xG (Player with Best Individual Opportunities)	W	1.40	-0.07	0.39	0.19	0.44	21.81	0.0001	0.49	0.39	1.99
	L	0.32	-0.78	-0.39	0.12	0.35					
Goals scored - xG (Player with 2nd BIC)	W	1.50	-0.78	0.02	0.42	0.65	1.66	0.2126	0.03	0.52	0.55
	L	0.57	-0.73	-0.27	0.12	0.35					
Goals scored - xG (Player with 3rd BIC)	W	1.55	-0.34	0.39	0.37	0.61	4.26	0.0522	0.13	0.50	0.88
	L	0.96	-0.32	-0.04	0.12	0.35					

3.4 Attacking Effectiveness

Tables 14-16 show the importance of efficiency and effectiveness over sheer number of attacks. More positional attacks correlated to negative match outcomes (ES -1.13), but a larger percentage of positional attacks ending in a shot had a positive relationship with success (ES 0.89), meaning that winning teams performed fewer positional attacks, but when they did so, a larger percentage of them ended in shots. Similarly, more total attacks had a detrimental effect on match outcomes (ES -0.48), however, a larger number of attacks ending in a shot (ES 0.79) and percentage of times this occurred (ES 1.56), showed positive relationships with success. The sheer number of possessions reaching the opponent's box (ES 0.68) and sheer number of touches inside the penalty box (ES 0.59) showed positive relationships with success, however, the effectiveness of possessions reaching opposition's box was even more significant (ES 0.89).

Table 14. Results of positional attacks.

ATTACKING		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Positional Attacks	W	30	7	20.27	37.62	6.13	6.96	0.0158	0.21	7.60	-1.13
	L	44	16	28.82	77.76	8.82					
Positional Attacks with Shots	W	8	1	5.45	5.07	2.25	0.03	0.8620	-0.05	2.42	-0.08
	L	11	2	5.64	6.65	2.58					
PAWS Percentage (%)	W	0.57	0.05	0.29	0.02	0.15	4.32	0.0507	0.13	0.11	0.89
	L	0.29	0.09	0.19	0	0.06					

Table 15. Results of total attacks.

ATTACKING		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Total Attacks	W	48	19	35.73	64.82	8.05	1.26	0.2747	0.01	9.87	-0.48
	L	61	23	40.45	130.07	11.40					
Total Attacks with Shots	W	16	8	11.45	8.07	2.84	3.46	0.0778	0.10	2.87	0.79
	L	16	5	9.18	8.36	2.89					
Total Attacks w/ Shot Percentage (%)	W	0.47	0.20	0.33	0.01	0.08	13.34	0.0016	0.36	0.07	1.56
	L	0.30	0.18	0.23	0.00	0.04					

Table 16. Results of possessions reaching opposition box.

POSSESSION		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Possessions Reaching Opponent Box	W	20	8	13.55	15.87	3.98	2.55	0.1257	0.07	4.54	0.68
	L	23	6	10.45	25.27	5.03					
PROB Percentage (%)	W	0.20	0.09	0.15	0.00	0.04	4.32	0.0507	0.13	0.04	0.89
	L	0.22	0.06	0.11	0.00	0.05					
Touches inside Penalty Box	W	30	11	17.45	34.27	5.85	1.94	0.1786	0.04	6.42	0.59
	L	28	7	13.64	48.25	6.95					

Table 17 displays attacking information for each flank, including the average number of attacks, the danger level generated in terms of xG, and the percentage of total xG generated. It is noted that losing teams performed more attacks in every flank, especially on the right side, meanwhile winning teams performed more attacks on the left flank.

Table 17. Results of total attacks and danger level (xG) in each flank.



Table 18 supports these results evidencing that losing teams concentrated their attacks on the right flank, in both number of attacks (ES -1.34) and percentage of attacks (ES -0.63), meanwhile winning teams concentrated their number of attacks (ES 0.60) and percentage of attacks (ES 1.08) on the left flank. Interestingly, winning teams generated more xG with fewer attacks in every single flank, with a great amount of their xG being generated on the left flank (ES 2.04).

Table 18. ES Results of total attacks and danger level (xG) in each flank.

ATTACKING	ES	ATTACKING	ES	ATTACKING	ES
Total Attacks Right Flank	-1.34	Total Attacks Centre Flank	-0.25	Total Attacks Left Flank	0.60
Right Flank Danger Level (xG)	-0.11	Centre Flank Danger Level (xG)	0.33	Left Flank Danger Level (xG)	2.04
RFDL Percentage (%)	-0.63	CFDL Percentage (%)	-0.22	LFDL Percentage (%)	1.08

3.5 Passing Effectiveness

Table 19 shows the relationship between key passes (ES 2.12), shot assists (ES 1.29), accurate smart passes (ES 0.53) and deep completions (ES 0.52) with successful match-outcomes. While losing teams performed more passes into the penalty box (ES -0.52), winning teams were more effective doing these accurate passes into the penalty box (ES 1.77).

Table 19. Results of passing effectiveness metrics.

PASSES		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Smart Passes	W	7	3	5	2	1.41	0.83	0.3718	-0.01	2.33	0.39
	L	11	0	4.09	8.89	2.98					
Accurate Smart Passes	W	4	1	1.82	0.76	0.87	1.52	0.2317	0.02	1.21	0.53
	L	4	0	1.18	2.16	1.47					
ASM RTP Percentage (%)	W	0.67	0.14	0.39	0.03	0.18	1.02	0.3257	0.00	0.26	0.43
	L	1	0	0.28	0.10	0.32					
Shot Assist	W	12	6	8.45	4.67	2.16	9.17	0.0066	0.27	2.18	1.29
	L	10	2	5.64	4.85	2.20					
Key Passes	W	7	3	4.73	2.02	1.42	24.80	0.0001	0.52	1.50	2.12
	L	4	0	1.55	2.47	1.57					
Passes to Penalty Box	W	23	7	16.36	28.25	5.32	1.46	0.2408	0.02	6.70	-0.52
	L	37	11	19.82	61.56	7.85					
Accurate Passes to Penalty Box	W	12	5	9	6.60	2.57	0.19	0.6650	-0.04	3.40	0.19
	L	19	4	8.36	16.45	4.06					
APPB Percentage (%)	W	0.73	0.45	0.57	0.01	0.10	17.33	0.0005	0.43	0.08	1.77
	L	0.51	0.3	0.42	0	0.06					
Deep Completions	W	11	4	7.91	4.69	2.17	1.47	0.2388	0.02	3.34	0.52
	L	16	2	6.18	17.56	4.19					

Table 20 shows that a larger number of crosses correlated to negative match-outcomes (ES -1.03), especially high crosses (ES -0.97), however, the effectiveness in delivering accurate crosses had a positive relationship with success (ES 0.81).

Table 20. Results of crossing metrics.

PASSES		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Crosses	W	24	3	9.36	38.45	6.20	5.82	0.0255	0.18	5.04	-1.03
	L	21	11	14.55	12.27	3.50					
Accurate Crosses	W	7	1	3.36	3.65	1.91	0.35	0.5585	-0.03	1.79	-0.25
	L	6	2	3.82	2.76	1.66					
Acc. Crosses Percentage (%)	W	0.75	0.25	0.38	0.02	0.15	3.60	0.0722	0.11	0.14	0.81
	L	0.46	0.13	0.27	0.01	0.12					
Low Crosses	W	7	0	2.09	5.29	2.30	2.49	0.1306	0.06	2.16	-0.67
	L	8	1	3.55	4.07	2.02					
High Crosses	W	12	1	5.36	12.85	3.59	5.19	0.0339	0.16	3.37	-0.97
	L	15	5	8.64	9.85	3.14					
Blocked Crosses	W	5	1	1.91	1.89	1.38	0.68	0.4195	-0.01	1.29	-0.35
	L	4	0	2.36	1.45	1.21					

3.6 Defending

Table 21 shows significant defensive metrics such as interceptions (ES 1.42) and clearances (ES 1.11).

Table 21. Statistically significant results of defending metrics.

DEFENDING		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Interceptions	W	59	29	44.64	57.45	7.58	11.15	0.0033	0.32	7.79	1.42
	L	46	20	33.55	63.87	7.99					
Clearances	W	34	8	16.55	55.47	7.45	6.78	0.0170	0.21	5.89	1.11
	L	15	3	10	14	3.74					

3.7 Transition & Team Behaviours

Table 22 show that both study groups averaged the same number of ball-recoveries (ES 0.0). However, winning teams made most of their recoveries in a low-block (ES 0.66) while losing teams made most of their recoveries in a medium-block (ES -0.63) and opposition's half (ES -0.77).

Table 22. Results of ball-recovery metrics.

TRANSITION		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Total Recoveries	W	89	69	75.64	48.25	6.95	0	1	-0.05	9.36	0
	L	98	59	75.64	127.05	11.27					
Low Block Recoveries	W	52	26	37.91	69.09	8.31	2.42	0.1359	0.06	8.78	0.66
	L	41	15	32.09	85.09	9.22					
Medium Block Recoveries	W	41	20	28	41.40	6.43	2.21	0.1528	0.05	7.32	-0.63
	L	48	22	32.64	65.65	8.10					
High Block Recoveries	W	17	4	9.73	19.82	4.45	0.52	0.4789	-0.02	4.14	-0.31
	L	21	6	11	14.40	3.79					
Opposition Half Recoveries	W	37	8	20.73	59.22	7.70	3.27	0.0855	0.09	8.13	-0.77
	L	42	17	27	73	8.54					

On the same line, table 23 shows that winning teams lost possession mostly in a medium-block (ES 0.85), while losing teams mostly lost possession in a high-block (ES -0.78).

Table 23. Results of possession loss metrics.

TRANSITION		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Total Possessions Losses	W	115	80	93.18	118.96	10.91	0.01	0.9339	-0.05	10.16	-0.04
	L	108	80	93.55	87.47	9.35					
Low Block Loss	W	28	11	17.82	32.16	5.67	1.12	0.3025	0.01	6.04	0.45
	L	28	4	15.09	40.89	6.39					
Medium Block Loss	W	56	29	37.18	79.16	8.90	3.93	0.0613	0.12	7.63	0.85
	L	42	21	30.73	37.42	6.12					
High Block Loss	W	52	19	38.18	91.36	9.56	3.34	0.0824	0.10	12.24	-0.78
	L	74	26	47.73	208.42	14.44					

Table 24 shows that losing teams were positioned wider (ES -0.50) and winning teams longer (ES 0.35).

Table 24. Average team distribution.

TEAM POSITIONING		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Average Team Length (mts)	W	66	33	45.27	83.22	9.12	0.69	0.4150	-0.01	7.68	0.35
	L	53	35	42.55	34.87	5.91					
Average Team Width (mts)	W	54	43	47.91	10.89	3.30	1.39	0.2530	0.02	3.08	-0.50
	L	54	46	49.45	8.07	2.84					

Table 25 shows the relationship between pressing-intensity and recoveries-per-minute throughout the match. Winning teams showed higher ratings of passes-per-defensive-action (PPDA), allowing more passes from the opposition without a defensive action (ES 0.65), meaning that winning teams performed lower pressing-intensity, particularly during the 2nd half (ES 0.74). Meanwhile losing teams performed more recoveries-per-minute (ES -0.52), especially during the 2nd half (ES -0.96).

Table 25. Results of PPDA and recoveries per minute.

DEFENDING		MEAN value	ES	TRANSITION		MEAN value	ES
Pressing Intensity (PPDA)	W	16.20	0.65	Recoveries Per Minute	W	0.21	-0.52
	L	12.37			L	0.24	
Pressing Intensity (1st half)	W	19.54	0.32	Recoveries Per Minute (1st half)	W	0.20	-0.01
	L	16.36			L	0.20	
Pressing Intensity (2nd half)	W	15.30	0.74	Recoveries Per Minute (2nd half)	W	0.22	-0.96
	L	10.33			L	0.27	
Pressing Intensity (1' - 15' mins)	W	26.98	0.49	Recoveries Per Minute (1' - 15' mins)	W	0.21	-0.23
	L	18.12			L	0.23	
Pressing Intensity (16' - 30' mins)	W	28.76	0.63	Recoveries Per Minute (16' - 30' mins)	W	0.26	0.23
	L	16.75			L	0.22	
Pressing Intensity (31' - 45+ mins)	W	20.39	0.07	Recoveries Per Minute (31' - 45+ mins)	W	0.14	-0.06
	L	18.92			L	0.14	
Pressing Intensity (46' - 60' mins)	W	22.05	0.14	Recoveries Per Minute (46' - 60' mins)	W	0.22	-0.51
	L	19.59			L	0.27	
Pressing Intensity (61' - 75' mins)	W	19.39	0.77	Recoveries Per Minute (61' - 75' mins)	W	0.21	-0.33
	L	8.55			L	0.25	
Pressing Intensity (76' - 90+ mins)	W	15.83	0.50	Recoveries Per Minute (76' - 90+ mins)	W	0.23	-0.71
	L	11.20			L	0.30	

Table 26 shows the inverse relationship between ball-possession along with attacks-per-minute against the percentage of long passes. Losing teams displayed more ball-possession (ES -0.71) and attacks-per-minute (ES -0.48), but a fewer percentage of long passes (ES 0.15), especially during the 2nd half where these metrics raised to (ES -1.11), (ES -0.74) and (ES 0.49) respectively. Interestingly, both groups averaged similar percentages of ball-possession, attacks-per-minute, and percentage of long passes during the 1st half.

Table 26. Results of ball possession (%), attacks per minute, and long passes (%) throughout the match.

POSSESSION		MEAN value	ES	ATTACKING		MEAN value	ES	PASSING		MEAN value	ES
Ball possession (%)	W	0.46	-0.71	Attacks Per Minute	W	0.36	-0.48	Long Passes Share (%)	W	0.09	0.15
	L	0.54			L	0.40			L	0.08	
Ball possession (%) 1st half	W	0.49	-0.23	Attacks Per Minute (1st half)	W	0.37	0.11	Long Passes (%) 1st half	W	0.08	-0.20
	L	0.51			L	0.36			L	0.08	
Ball possession (%) 2nd half	W	0.44	-1.11	Attacks Per Minute (2nd half)	W	0.35	-0.74	Long Passes (%) 2nd half	W	0.11	0.49
	L	0.56			L	0.45			L	0.09	
Ball possession (%) 1' - 15' mins	W	0.51	0.12	Attacks Per Minute (1' - 15' mins)	W	0.41	0.63	Long Passes (%) 1' - 15' mins	W	0.07	-0.63
	L	0.49			L	0.28			L	0.10	
Ball possession (%) 16' - 30' mins	W	0.46	-0.63	Attacks Per Minute (16' - 30' mins)	W	0.30	-0.67	Long Passes (%) 16' - 30' mins	W	0.07	0.23
	L	0.54			L	0.39			L	0.07	
Ball possession (%) 31' - 45+ mins	W	0.48	-0.21	Attacks Per Minute (31' - 45+ mins)	W	0.38	-0.09	Long Passes (%) 31' - 45+ mins	W	0.08	-0.03
	L	0.52			L	0.39			L	0.08	
Ball possession (%) 46' - 60' mins	W	0.46	-0.50	Attacks Per Minute (46' - 60' mins)	W	0.39	0.03	Long Passes (%) 46' - 60' mins	W	0.11	0.64
	L	0.54			L	0.39			L	0.08	
Ball possession (%) 61' - 75' mins	W	0.46	-0.62	Attacks Per Minute (61' - 75' mins)	W	0.32	-0.97	Long Passes (%) 61' - 75' mins	W	0.11	0.87
	L	0.54			L	0.48			L	0.07	
Ball possession (%) 76' - 90+ mins	W	0.41	-2.03	Attacks Per Minute (76' - 90+ mins)	W	0.35	-0.67	Long Passes (%) 76' - 90+ mins	W	0.11	0.09
	L	0.59			L	0.47			L	0.11	

3.8 Set-Pieces

Table 27 shows that set-pieces were statistically detrimental for success, especially free-kicks (ES -1.03). Moreover, a larger number of fouls committed had a positive relationship to success (ES 0.66) and a larger number of fouls received had a negative relationship to success (ES -0.68).

Table 27. Results of set-pieces metrics.

SET-PIECES		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
Fouls Committed	W	16	8	11.82	7.76	2.79	2.40	0.1372	0.06	2.75	0.66
	L	15	5	10.00	7.40	2.72					
Fouls Received	W	14	4	9.36	7.25	2.69	2.56	0.1254	0.07	2.80	-0.68
	L	15	7	11.27	8.42	2.90					
Free-Kicks	W	4	0	1.82	1.56	1.25	5.84	0.0253	0.18	1.41	-1.03
	L	6	1	3.27	2.42	1.56					
Free-Kicks with Shot	W	2	0	0.73	0.42	0.65	1.64	0.2143	0.03	0.83	-0.55
	L	3	0	1.18	0.96	0.98					
Yellow Cards	W	3	0	0.91	1.29	1.14	1.30	0.2673	0.01	0.93	-0.49
	L	2	0	1.36	0.45	0.67					
Corner-Kicks	W	7	1	3.73	4.02	2.00	0.27	0.6083	-0.03	2.05	-0.22
	L	9	1	4.18	4.36	2.09					
Corner-Kicks with Shot	W	2	0	1.18	0.36	0.60	0.26	0.6181	-0.03	0.84	-0.22
	L	3	0	1.36	1.05	1.03					
Throw-Ins	W	24	11	16.27	13.02	3.61	2.29	0.1455	0.06	4.50	-0.65
	L	27	12	19.18	27.56	5.25					

3.9 Goalkeeping

Table 28 shows that Goalkeepers (GKs) from losing teams conceded more goals (ES -2.17) and received more shots (ES -0.94), especially during the 1st half of matches where these metrics increased to (ES -2.43) and (ES -1.13) respectively.

Table 28. Results of goals conceded and shots against.

GOALKEEPING		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
GK Goals conceded	W	1	0	0.64	0.25	0.50	25.95	0.0001	0.53	1.00	-2.17
	L	6	1	2.82	1.76	1.33					
Goals conceded 1st half	W	1	0	0.09	0.09	0.30	32.40	0.0000	0.59	0.67	-2.43
	L	4	1	1.73	0.82	0.90					
Goals conceded 2nd half	W	1	0	0.55	0.27	0.52	2.09	0.1635	0.05	0.88	-0.62
	L	4	0	1.09	1.29	1.14					
GK Shots Against	W	8	1	3.55	5.47	2.34	4.90	0.0387	0.15	2.31	-0.94
	L	9	2	5.73	5.22	2.28					
Shots Against 1st half	W	3	0	1.45	1.07	1.04	7.07	0.0150	0.22	1.44	-1.13
	L	6	1	3.09	3.09	1.76					
Shots Against 2nd half	W	6	0	2.09	2.89	1.70	0.72	0.4062	-0.01	1.51	-0.36
	L	4	0	2.64	1.65	1.29					

Table 29 shows that GKs performance was a significant indicator of success, by denying scoring chances with large values of expected-conceded-goals (xCG). Individual saves with large xCG (ES 1.29) and total tallies of xCG from multiple saves (ES 0.99) distinguished GKs from both groups. Individual saves were especially significant during the 1st half (ES 0.90).

Table 29. Results of xCG for individual saves and total saves.

GOALKEEPING		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
GK MAX xCG in one Save	W	0.86	0.13	0.52	0.06	0.24	9.22	0.0065	0.27	0.22	1.29
	L	0.7	0	0.24	0.04	0.20					
GK total xCG in Saves	W	1.84	0.16	0.82	0.24	0.49	5.37	0.0313	0.17	0.41	0.99
	L	1	0	0.41	0.10	0.32					
MAX xCG in a Save 1st half	W	0.79	0	0.39	0.10	0.32	4.49	0.0468	0.14	0.27	0.90
	L	0.70	0	0.14	0.05	0.22					
MAX xCG in a Save 2nd half	W	0.86	0	0.27	0.09	0.30	1.74	0.2026	0.03	0.23	0.56
	L	0.37	0	0.14	0.02	0.15					

Table 30 shows GKs of winning teams performing more exits (ES 0.93), especially in the 2nd half (ES 1.03).

Table 30. Results of goalkeeper exits.

GOALKEEPING		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
GK Exits	W	5	0	2.27	3.62	1.90	4.75	0.0415	0.15	1.47	0.93
	L	2	0	0.91	0.69	0.83					
GK Exits (1st half)	W	3	0	0.64	1.05	1.03	0	1	-0.05	0.87	0
	L	2	0	0.64	0.45	0.67					
GK Exits (2nd half)	W	4	0	1.64	3.25	1.80	5.89	0.0248	0.18	1.32	1.03
	L	1	0	0.27	0.22	0.47					

Tables 31-33 show GKs from losing teams having better passing accuracy (ES -1.10), especially in the 2nd half (ES -1.02), possibly due to their tendency to execute passes inside-own-third (ES -0.74) and with more accuracy (ES -0.79), as they typically imply lower difficulty. GKs from winning teams performed more passes beyond-own-third (ES 1.30), especially in the 2nd half (ES 1.49) and with more accuracy (ES 1.24).

Table 31. Results of passing accuracy percentage.

GOALKEEPING		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
GK Pass Accuracy (%)	W	0.96	0.75	0.84	0.01	0.07	6.64	0.0180	0.20	0.06	-1.10
	L	0.98	0.83	0.91	0.00	0.05					
GK Pass Accuracy (%) 1st half	W	1	0.75	0.89	0.01	0.09	1.86	0.1878	0.04	0.08	-0.58
	L	1	0.77	0.93	0.01	0.08					
GK Pass Accuracy (%) 2nd half	W	0.92	0.50	0.79	0.02	0.13	5.69	0.0270	0.18	0.10	-1.02
	L	1	0.81	0.89	0.01	0.08					

Table 32. Results of passes inside own third.

GOALKEEPING		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
GK Passes Inside Own Third	W	26	4	14.82	48.76	6.98	2.98	0.0998	0.08	8.03	-0.74
	L	38	10	20.73	80.22	8.96					
GK Accurate Passes IOT	W	24	3	13.73	45.62	6.75	3.45	0.0781	0.10	7.81	-0.79
	L	36	10	19.91	76.29	8.73					
GK Accurate Passes IOT (%)	W	1	0.75	0.91	0.01	0.09	2.45	0.1330	0.06	0.07	-0.67
	L	1	0.86	0.96	0.00	0.05					

Table 33. Results of passes beyond own third.

GOALKEEPING		MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES
GK Passes Beyond Own Third	W	22	6	13.45	20.87	4.57	9.31	0.0063	0.27	4.05	1.30
	L	14	3	8.18	11.96	3.46					
GK Passes BOT 1st half	W	8	0	4.55	5.27	2.30	0.21	0.6538	-0.04	2.34	0.19
	L	10	1	4.09	5.69	2.39					
GK Passes BOT 2nd half	W	17	4	8.91	13.89	3.73	12.29	0.0022	0.34	3.22	1.49
	L	9	1	4.09	6.89	2.63					
GK Accurate Passes BOT	W	16	1	10.00	18.40	4.29	4.42	0.0483	0.13	3.85	0.90
	L	12	2	6.55	11.27	3.36					
GK Accurate Passes BOT 1st half	W	5	0	3.36	3.45	1.86	0	1	-0.05	2.13	0
	L	9	1	3.36	5.65	2.38					
GK Accurate Passes BOT 2nd half	W	12	1	6.64	10.85	3.29	8.41	0.0089	0.25	2.79	1.24
	L	7	0	3.18	4.76	2.18					

4. Discussion

The results suggest an overall notion where both teams started with similar levels of ball-possession, attacks per minute, and percentage of long passes, indicating relatively balanced initial conditions. However, winning teams differentiated themselves by creating higher-quality scoring opportunities, involving a wider range of players in these opportunities, performing more shots with more effectiveness, and benefitting from decisive saves from their goalkeepers, leading them to score during the 1st half.

After conceding, losing teams displayed characteristics of a possession style of play, increasing their ball-possession and relying on positional attacks, particularly on the right flank. Winning teams instead adopted a defensive focus, sitting in a low and compact defensive block, showing low pressing intensity, and relying on direct-transitions using long passes, particularly on the left flank, possibly exploiting the very same flank which

the opposition focused their attacks on. This allowed winning teams to be more effective in reaching the opposition's box and creating shots with fewer attacks, supported by their effective passing, their goalkeepers providing accurate passes beyond-own-third, and their increased number of defensive actions like interception and clearances. These patterns suggest that match-outcomes were influenced less by volume of actions and more by their effectiveness.

4.1 *Styles of play*

The results show that winning teams focused on direct-transitions and displayed characteristics of a counterattacking style of play, while losing teams performed more positional attacks and displayed characteristics of a possession style of play, with more ball-possession leading to a larger number of passes. However, these results should be interpreted cautiously as this phenomenon is largely attributed to the context of the game, and the relationship between playing style and success is complex as it varies across different authors, competitions, and stages.

Regarding the 2022 edition, our results align with Myftiu & Thaqi (2023), but contrast with Rance (2023) who found longer possessions to be effective, however, these studies included both stages of the tournament. Iván-Baragaño et al. (2024) indicates that successful teams showed possession-style characteristics in the group-stage, meaning that successful teams could have changed their tactical approach in the knockout-stage, possibly aiming to manage efforts from players and reduce defensive actions, benefitting further in the tournament (Branquinho et al., 2023).

In the 2018 edition, successful teams predominantly showed possession-style characteristics but were also able to change depending on the match context (Yi et al., 2019). Most goals came from elaborate attacks and positional play using short and effective passes (Vergonis et al., 2019; Kubayi, 2020), evidencing differences across editions. Collet (2013) affirms that throughout the 2002 to 2010 editions, ball-possession was beneficial when facing opposition of lower quality, but detrimental facing opposition of similar quality.

4.2 *Scoring in the 1st half*

The results align with Wei et al. (2024) indicating that most goals in the 2022 knockout-stage were scored during the 1st half, unlike the group-stage, evidencing differences across stages, possibly due to different tactical approaches. Contrary, Rance (2023) indicates that most goals were scored during the 2nd half, even if scoring first was associated with success.

Most goals in the 2018 edition and in the 2010 knockout-stage were scored during the 2nd half (Delgado-Bordonau et al., 2013; Vergonis et al., 2019; Kubayi, 2020), showing differences across editions and stages.

Degrenne & Carling (2024) indicate that teams underperformed their G-xG ratios during the 2022 and 2018 editions, meaning that they scored fewer goals than expected according to their chances created. This aligns with our results regarding losing teams, possibly explained by their lower shot-effectiveness and the increased shot-stopping ability from winning team's goalkeepers.

4.3 *Shooting Effectiveness*

Shot effectiveness, in terms of accuracy and conversion-rate, was more significant than the number of shots, highlighting the importance of shot-quality over sheer quantity, possibly explained by winning teams attempting shots from shorter distance with increased probability of scoring, which is in line with literature across editions (Alves et al., 2019; Yi et al., 2019; Micovic et al., 2023).

Shooting effectiveness metrics are common indicators of success across FIFA World Cups (Szwarc, 2004; Castellano et al., 2012; Collet, 2013; Delgado-Bordonau et al., 2013; Clemente et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2015; Dufour et al., 2017; Rumpf et al., 2017; Alves et al., 2019; Yi et al., 2019; Myftiu & Thaqi, 2023; Huang et al., 2024; Wei et al., 2024; Yan et al., 2024). Some authors suggest that total shots alone might indicate success (Castellano et al., 2012; Wei et al., 2024), but our results suggest that effectiveness provides a clearer distinction.

Alves et al. (2019) found that successful teams presented more shots and shots on target during the 2018 edition, with shooting accuracy being especially significant during the knockout-stage. However, for the 2006 edition, Lago (2007) indicates no statistical differences between winning and losing teams during the knockout-stage, unlike the group-stage, showing differences across stages and editions.

4.4 Attacking Effectiveness

Winning teams were more effective in creating attacks reaching the opposition's box and ending in shots, supporting previous findings of attempting shots from closer range. Losing teams performed more attacks, focusing them on the right flank, meanwhile winning teams focused their attacks on the left flank and created better scoring chances with fewer attacks. This provides clues of the location from where counterattacks are being generated, suggesting that winning teams exploited the very same flank that losing teams focused their attacks on, possibly taking advantage of opposition players being out of position to initiate direct-transitions, generating a great percentage of their total xG.

Regarding the 2018 edition, our results align with Alves et al. (2019) as successful teams presented better metrics related to attacking efficiency, such as number of shots, shot accuracy, and passing success, especially during the knockout-stage. But they contrast with Yi et al. (2019) as possession-style teams showed better metrics related to effectiveness in attacking and passing. Interestingly, Clemente (2012) found that successful teams in the 2010 edition attacked more from the sides than the centre, however, all teams attacked more on the right side.

4.5 Passing Effectiveness

Winning teams showed better passing effectiveness metrics, which are associated to successful match-outcomes and to the ability of a team to create scoring chances (Castellano et al., 2012; Saito et al., 2013; Clemente et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2015; Da Mota et al., 2016; Alves et al., 2019; Vergonis et al., 2019; Yi et al., 2019; Kubayi, 2020). This aligns with previous findings indicating that winning teams were more effective by attempting shots from closer range, possibly facilitated by their increased passing effectiveness.

Results for crossing metrics suggests that the sheer number of crosses was detrimental to success, unlike the effectiveness of accurate crosses, aligning across editions with (Liu et al., 2015; Smith & Lyons, 2017; Lepschy et al., 2021; Mitrotasios et al., 2022; Myftiu & Thaqi, 2023).

4.6 Defending

Defensive metrics showed positive relationships with success, aligning with (Wei et al., 2024; Yan et al., 2024) for the 2022 edition, and with Yi et al. (2019) for the 2018 edition. Iván-Baragaño et al. (2024) found that successful teams in the 2022 group-stage maintained a high-defensive-block when out-of-possession, often associated to ball-possession teams pressing high, suggesting that contrasting styles of play had success in different stages of the tournament. This could be a deliberate strategy to deceive the opposition with their match preparation, minimize defensive actions, or reduce the effort from players in early stages (Branquinho et al. 2023).

These results support the notion that winning teams adopted a more defensive approach, conceding ball-possession to the opposition and performing more defensive actions like interceptions and clearances, facilitating the initiation of counterattacks.

4.7 Transition & Team Behaviour

The results suggests that winning teams showed characteristics of a counterattacking style of play by sitting in a low-block, having low pressing-intensity, and few recoveries-per-minute, especially during the 2nd half, as well as displaying a compact and long overall shape distribution, facilitating a defensive approach and the initiation of direct-transitions. In contrast, losing teams displayed possession-style characteristics by having more ball-possession, more attacks-per-minute, and fewer long passes, especially during the 2nd half, as well as having a wider overall distribution, and pressing high to recover possession in a mid-block or opposition's half. This led them to lose possession higher up the pitch far away from their goal, possibly exposing them to direct-transitions with long passes behind the defensive line, whereas winning teams tended to lose possession in a mid-block, possibly after failed counterattacks.

Interestingly, both groups showed almost the same percentages of ball-possession, attacks-per-minute, and percentage of long passes during the 1st half, suggesting the influence of the scoreline in the style of play, as winning teams reduced their ball-possession and attacks-per-minute during the 2nd half, but also increased their percentage of long passes, possibly due to the urgencies to score and to not concede to move into the next stage.

4.8 Set-Pieces

Statistically speaking, set-pieces were detrimental for success. Similarly, a larger number of fouls committed had a positive relationship to success, possibly for stopping potentially dangerous attacks. At the same time, a larger number of fouls received had a negative relationship with success, suggesting a poor set-piece performance from national teams, possibly due to the reduced time allowed to train together in preparation for this specific World Cup, starting mid-November and interfering with the normal club season of most players (Micovic et al., [2023](#)). Clark et al. ([2024](#)), indicates that the effectiveness of corner-kicks depended on contextual factors such as delivery type, match status, and defensive organisation, suggesting that set-pieces are influenced by how teams adapt tactically and defensively in specific match situations.

4.9 Goalkeeping

Goalkeepers from losing teams faced more shots and conceded more goals during the 1st half, meanwhile goalkeepers from winning teams performed more quality-saves denying important scoring chances, especially during the 1st half. Degrenne & Carling ([2024](#)) indicate that teams during the 2022 and 2018 editions underperformed their ratios of (G – xG), meaning that GKs might be contributing to prevent goals from being scored after large amounts of xCG generated against them, by performing quality-saves.

Goalkeepers from losing teams showed better passing accuracy, possibly because they performed more passes inside-own-third that imply less difficulty. Goalkeepers from winning teams performed more passes beyond-own-third and with more accuracy, especially during the 2nd half, suggesting that GKs from winning teams could have helped to initiate direct-transitions providing long balls beyond their own third, especially during the 2nd half.

5. Conclusion

The present study adopts a narrow and in-depth scope, focusing on the knockout stage of the 2022 FIFA World Cup as a deliberate research design choice to ensure a specific and comparable context. This deliberate restriction reduces the influence of external factors and allows a more focused analysis of team performance; however, the reduced sample size and large number of variables require that results be interpreted with caution. The study follows an exploratory approach, emphasising the magnitude and practical relevance of differences rather than confirmatory statistical inferences, aiming to identify performance indicators that differentiated winning and losing teams.

Not many studies focus on knockout-stage matches, even when FIFA World Cup literature shows multiple variations in performance metrics across editions, and even across stages of the same competition. This study identified performance indicators that differentiated winning from losing teams, the main finding being that winning teams displayed characteristics associated to a counterattacking style of play, focusing on direct-transitions, meanwhile losing teams showed characteristics of a possession style of play, focusing on positional-play, behaviours that were especially significant during the 2nd half.

Implications for coaches include identifying behaviours and metrics that made the difference in these matches, potentially influencing future match-preparation, training sessions, and tactical decisions. For example, acknowledging that both teams changed their tactical behaviours after either of them scored, meaning coaches should be prepared to adapt their tactical approach, in terms of ball-possession, to a more propositional or conservative style of play, depending on the context of the game and allowances of the opposition. Additionally, understanding the characteristics of teams that were successful in these matches provide coaches with valuable information that can potentially affect the mentioned aspects, like having increased passing effectiveness, which allowed the creation of better scoring opportunities with a wide range of players and from shorter distances from the goal, increasing their shooting effectiveness, as well as goalkeepers performing quality saves, all this leading them to score during the 1st half.

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Data availability

Data supporting the findings of this study were obtained from Wyscout (Hudl) and are available from the authors upon reasonable request and with permission of Hudl, as the data are not publicly available. (<https://wyscout.hudl.com/>).

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6. Appendix

Appendix 1

(General, Attacks, Defence, Transitions, Duels, Possession, Passes, Goalkeepers).

GENERAL

		ARG-AUS	ARG-CRO	BRA-KOR	CRO-MAR	FRA-ENG	ENG-SEN	FRA-MAR	FRA-POL	MAR-POR	NEB-USA	POR-SWI	MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω ²	Pool SD	ES
Goals Scored	W	2	3	4	2	2	3	2	3	1	3	6	6	1	2.82	1.76	1.33	25.95	0.0001	0.53	1.00	2.17
	L	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0.64	0.25	0.50					
Goals scored (1st half)	W	1	2	4	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	4	4	1	1.73	0.82	0.90	32.40	0.0000	0.59	0.67	2.43
	L	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.09	0.09	0.30					
Goals scored (2nd half)	W	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	1	4	4	0	1.09	1.29	1.14	2.09	0.1635	0.05	0.88	0.62
	L	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	0.55	0.27	0.52					
xG (Team)	W	2.3	2.07	2.91	0.64	1.17	1.68	2.43	2.37	0.94	1.57	2.43	2.91	0.64	1.86	0.52	0.72	3.00	0.0986	0.08	0.70	0.74
	L	0.71	0.49	0.45	1.06	2.12	1.3	1.69	2.23	1.55	2.28	0.95	2.28	0.45	1.35	0.46	0.68					
xG (Team) 1st half	W	0.14	1.24	2	0.41	0.45	0.83	1.17	1.17	0.7	0.41	1.09	2	0.14	0.87	0.28	0.53	2.43	0.1346	0.06	0.48	0.66
	L	0.12	0.12	0.22	0.58	0.19	1.73	0.36	1.21	1.05	0.46	0.55	1.23	0.12	0.55	0.18	0.42					
xG (Team) 2nd half	W	2.16	0.83	0.92	0.23	0.72	0.86	1.25	1.2	0.23	1.16	1.34	2.16	0.23	0.99	0.29	0.54	0.61	0.4424	-0.02	0.59	0.33
	L	0.59	0.37	0.23	0.48	1.92	0.07	1.33	1.02	0.5	1.82	0.4	1.92	0.07	0.79	0.41	0.64					
Goals scored - xG	W	-0.3	0.93	1.09	1.36	0.83	1.32	-0.43	0.63	0.06	1.43	3.57	3.57	-0.43	0.95	1.18	1.09	16.76	0.0006	0.42	0.95	1.73
	L	0.29	-0.49	0.55	-0.06	-1.12	-1.3	-1.69	-1.23	-1.55	-1.28	0.05	0.55	-1.69	-0.71	0.64	0.80					
Goals scored - xG (1st half)	W	0.86	0.76	2	1.59	0.55	1.18	-0.17	-0.17	0.30	1.59	0.91	2	-0.17	0.85	0.50	0.71	24.89	0.0001	0.52	0.62	2.13
	L	-0.12	-0.12	-0.22	0.42	-0.19	-1.23	-0.36	-1.21	-1.05	-0.46	-0.55	0.42	-1.23	-0.46	0.27	0.52					
Goals scored - xG (2nd half)	W	-1.16	0.17	-0.92	-0.23	0.28	0.14	-0.25	0.8	-0.23	-0.16	2.66	2.66	-1.16	0.10	1.01	1.01	0.92	0.3486	0.00	0.85	0.41
	L	0.41	-0.37	0.77	-0.48	-0.92	-0.07	-1.33	-0.02	0.5	0.77	-1.33	-0.02	0.44	0.64	0.66						
Player xG (Best Individual Chances)	W	1.07	0.99	0.76	0.19	0.86	0.52	0.80	1.01	0.4	0.51	1.6	1.6	0.19	0.79	0.15	0.39	0.58	0.4555	-0.02	0.39	0.32
	L	0.26	0.23	0.33	0.59	1.59	0.76	0.78	0.99	0.73	0.68	0.88	1.59	0.23	0.67	0.15	0.39					
Player xG (BIC) 1st half	W	0.86	0.76	2	1.59	0.55	1.18	-0.17	-0.17	0.30	1.59	0.91	2	-0.17	0.85	0.50	0.71	3.18	0.0895	0.09	0.27	0.76
	L	0	0.04	0.21	0.12	0.05	0.71	0	0.07	0.59	0	0.38	0.71	0	0.20	0.06	0.25					
Player xG (BIC) 2nd half	W	2.16	0.23	0	0.05	0.66	0.03	0.80	0.22	0	0.36	0.96	2.16	0	0.50	0.42	0.65	0.01	0.9113	-0.05	0.57	0.05
	L	0.26	0.19	0.13	0.47	1.55	0.05	0.78	0.92	0.14	0.68	0	1.55	0	0.47	0.23	0.47					
Goals scored - xG (Player with Best Individual Opportunities)	W	-0.07	0.01	0.24	0.81	0.14	0.48	0.20	-0.01	0.60	0.49	1.40	1.4	-0.07	0.39	0.19	0.44	21.81	0.0001	0.49	0.39	1.99
	L	-0.26	-0.23	-0.33	-0.59	-0.59	-0.76	-0.78	0.01	-0.73	0.32	-0.38	0.32	-0.78	-0.39	0.12	0.35					
Player xG (2nd Best Individual Chances)	W	0.78	0.54	0.73	0.14	0.21	0.48	0.41	1.50	-0.23	0.33	0.57	1.5	-0.78	0.14	0.43	0.20	0.74	0.3990	-0.01	0.21	0.37
	L	0.21	0.12	0.06	0.43	0.14	0.52	0.46	0.73	0.48	0.56	0.22	0.73	0.06	0.36	0.05	0.22					
Player xG (2nd BIC) 1st half	W	0	0.16	0.73	0	0.21	0	0.33	0.02	0	0.29	0.73	0	0.16	0.05	0.23	0.29	0.5982	-0.03	0.25	-0.23	
	L	0	0.08	0	0.43	0	0.52	0.04	0.73	0.44	0	0.12	0.73	0	0.21	0.07	0.26					
Player xG (2nd BIC) 2nd half	W	0.78	0.39	0	0.14	0	0.48	0.48	0.23	0.33	0.15	0.78	0	0.28	0.06	0.24	2.24	0.1500	0.05	0.22	0.64	
	L	0.21	0.03	0.06	0	0.14	0	0.41	0	0.03	0.56	0.11	0.56	0	0.14	0.03	0.19					
Goals scored - xG (Player with 2nd BIC)	W	-0.78	-0.54	0.27	-0.14	-0.21	0.52	-0.41	1.50	-0.23	0.33	0.57	1.5	-0.78	0.12	0.42	0.65	1.66	0.2126	0.03	0.52	0.55
	L	-0.21	-0.12	-0.06	0.57	-0.14	-0.52	-0.46	-0.73	-0.48	-0.56	-0.22	0.57	-0.73	-0.27	0.12	0.35					
Player xG (3rd Best Individual Chances)	W	0.23	0.45	0.38	0.12	0.05	0.34	0.30	0.11	0.26	0.14	0.45	0.05	0.24	0.02	0.13	4.93	0.0380	0.15	0.11	0.95	
	L	0.12	0.09	0.04	0.03	0.11	0.02	0.13	0.32	0.16	0.31	0.16	0.32	0.02	0.14	0.01	0.10					
Player xG (3rd BIC) 1st half	W	0	0.31	0.18	0.12	0	0	0.3	0	0.11	0.26	0.14	0.31	0	0.13	0.01	0.12	1.10	0.3059	0.00	0.12	0.45
	L	0	0	0	0.03	0	0	0.13	0.32	0	0.24	0	0.32	0	0.08	0.01	0.11					
Player xG (3rd BIC) 2nd half	W	0.23	0.14	0.2	0	0.05	0.34	0	0	0.20	0	0	0.24	0	0.11	0.02	0.13	1.56	0.2254	0.03	0.10	0.53
	L	0	0.09	0.04	0	0.11	0.02	0	0	0.16	0.07	0.16	0	0.06	0.00	0.06						
Goals scored - xG (Player with 3rd BIC)	W	0.77	1.55	0.62	0.88	-0.05	-0.34	0.70	-0.3	-0.11	0.74	-0.14	1.55	-0.34	0.39	0.37	0.61	4.26	0.0522	0.13	0.50	0.88
	L	-0.12	-0.09	0.96	-0.03	-0.11	-0.02	-0.13	-0.32	-0.16	0.31	-0.16	0.96	-0.32	-0.04	0.12	0.35					
Total Shots	W	14	9	16	13	8	8	13	17	9	11	13	17	8	11.91	9.89	3.14	1.92	0.1816	0.04	3.08	0.59
	L	5	7	9	4	5	4	2	8	3	6	9	9	2	5.64	5.65	2.18					
Shots on Target	W	1	2	6	2	7	1	2	3	3	8	2	8	1	3.36	6.05	2.46	4.85	0.0395	0.15	2.42	0.94
	L	36%	78%	56%	31%	63%	50%	15%	47%	33%	55%	69%	78%	15%	48%	0.03	0.18	4.08	0.0569	0.12	0.19	0.86
Rate of Goals per Shot (%)	W	14%	33%	25%	15%	25%	38%	15%	18%	11%	27%	46%	46%	11%	24%	0.01	0.11	18.43	0.0004	0.44	0.09	1.83
	L	20%	0%	13%	18%	8%	0%	0%	9%	0%	13%	20%	0%	0%	0.00	0.07						
Rate of Goals per Shot on Target (%)	W	40%	43%	48%	50%	40%	75%	100%	38%	33%	50%	67%	100%	33%	53%	0.04	0.20	6.04	0.0232	0.19	0.26	1.05
	L	100%	0%	17%	50%	14%	0%	0%	33%	0%	13%	50%	100%	0%	25%	0.10	0.31					
Shots on Post	W	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.09	0.09	0.30	0.36	0.5568	-0.03	0.36	-0.25
	L	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0.18	0.16	0.40					
Shots Blocked	W	2	1	2	3	1	0	4	2	0	1	3	4	0	1.73	1.62	1.27	3.46	0.0776	0.10	1.38	-0.79
	L	7	2	5	6	2	4	6	7	6	4	13	7	1	4.45	5.07	2.25					
Shots Wide	W	1	7	2	4	3	5	4	4	4	4	3	7	1	3.73	2.42	1.56	0.78	0.3886	-0.01	1.94	0.38
	L	17.1	18.1	16.3	22.2	15.7	13.7	14.6	17.7	17.4	17.3	15.7	22.2	13.7	16.89	4.94	2.22	2.24	0.1504	0.05	2.55	-0.64
Average Shot Distance (m)	W	17.2	23.4	22	14.4	20	21	19.7	16.6	16.3	16.8	16.3	23.4	14.4	18.52	8.09	2.84					
	L	11	6	12	6	5	7	11	11	5	7	9	12	5	8.18	7.16	2.68	8.72	0.0079	0.26	2.24	1.26
Shots Inside Penalty Box on Target	W	4	5	9	3	3	3															

ATTACKS

		ARG-AUS	ARG-CRO	BRA-KOR	CRO-MAR	FRA-ENG	ENG-SEN	FRA-MAR	FRA-POL	MAR-POR	NEU-USA	POR-SW	MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω^2	Pool SD	ES	
A T T A C K S	Total Attacks	W 41	32	41	40	37	41	34	48	19	26	34	48	19	35.73	64.82	8.05	1.26	0.2747	0.01	9.87	-0.48	
	L 23	49	35	34	44	27	45	37	61	54	36	61	23	40.45	130.07	11.40							
	Total Attacks with Shots	W 14	8	14	13	8	8	13	16	9	11	12	16	8	11.45	8.07	2.84	3.46	0.0778	0.10	2.87	0.79	
	L 5	10	8	7	9	9	11	9	11	16	7	16	5	9.18	8.36	2.89							
	Total Attacks w/ Shot Percentage (%)	W 34%	25%	34%	33%	22%	20%	38%	33%	47%	42%	35%	47%	20%	33%	47%	20%	0.00	13.34	0.0016	0.36	0.07	1.56
	L 22%	20%	23%	21%	20%	30%	24%	24%	18%	30%	19%	30%	18%	23%	0.00	0.04							
	Counterattacks	W 3	3	6	5	4	4	6	4	3	4	3	6	3	4.09	1.29	1.14	71.21	0.0000	0.76	0.91	3.60	
	L 0	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	0	0	0.82	0.36	0.60							
	Positional Attacks	W 30	22	22	23	22	21	20	26	7	15	15	30	7	20.27	37.62	6.13	6.96	0.0158	0.21	7.60	-1.13	
	L 16	33	26	22	25	17	37	31	38	44	28	44	16	28.82	77.76	8.82							
	Positional Attacks with Shots	W 8	5	7	6	5	1	5	8	4	8	3	8	1	5.45	5.07	2.25	0.03	0.8620	-0.05	2.42	-0.08	
	L 2	6	4	2	6	5	8	7	6	11	5	11	2	5.64	6.65	2.58							
	PAWS Percentage (%)	W 27%	23%	32%	26%	23%	5%	25%	31%	57%	53%	20%	57%	5%	29%	0.02	0.15	4.32	0.0507	0.13	0.11	0.89	
	L 13%	18%	15%	9%	24%	29%	22%	23%	16%	25%	18%	29%	9%	19%	0.00	0.06							
	Free-Kicks	W 1	0	2	2	4	3	2	3	2	0	1	4	0	1.82	1.56	1.25	5.84	0.0253	0.18	1.41	-1.03	
	L 0	0	1	3	5	3	4	4	6	2	1	6	1	3.27	2.42	1.56							
	Free-Kicks with Shot	W 1	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	0	0.73	0.42	0.65	1.64	0.2143	0.03	0.83	-0.55	
	L 0	1	1	1	3	2	2	2	0	1	3	0	1	1.18	0.96	0.98							
	FKWS Percentage (%)	W 100%	0%	50%	100%	0%	0%	50%	33%	50%	0%	100%	100%	0%	43%	0.13	0.37	0.01	0.9359	-0.05	0.39	0.03	
	L 0%	25%	100%	33%	60%	67%	0%	50%	33%	0%	100%	100%	0%										
	Penalty Kicks	W 0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.18	0.16	0.40	0.00	1.0	-0.05	0.40	0.00	
	L 0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0.18	0.16	0.40						
	Corner-Kicks	W 1	2	5	6	2	1	2	7	3	4	6	7	1	3.73	4.02	2.00	0.27	0.6083	-0.03	2.05	-0.22	
	L 3	4	4	3	5	3	3	2	1	9	5	6	9	1	4.18	4.36	2.09						
	Corner-Kicks with Shot	W 0	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	0	1.18	0.36	0.60	0.26	0.6181	-0.03	0.84	-0.22	
	L 2	2	2	1	1	0	2	0	0	3	2	3	0	1.36	1.05	1.03							
CKWS Percentage (%)	W 0%	50%	20%	17%	50%	33%	100%	29%	33%	25%	33%	100%	0%	35%	0.07	0.26	0.01	0.9341	-0.05	0.26	0.04		
L 67%	50%	50%	33%	20%	0%	67%	0%	0%	60%	33%	67%	0%	35%	0.07	0.26								
Attacks Per Minute	W 0.41	0.32	0.41	0.4	0.35	0.42	0.34	0.48	0.19	0.27	0.35	0.48	0.19	0.36	0.01	0.08	1.26	0.2757	0.01	0.10	-0.48		
L 0.23	0.49	0.35	0.34	0.42	0.28	0.45	0.37	0.6	0.55	0.37	0.6	0.23	0.40	0.01	0.11								
Attacks Per Minute (1st half)	W 0.3	0.31	0.44	0.48	0.32	0.41	0.4	0.55	0.27	0.21	0.33	0.55	0.21	0.37	0.01	0.10	0.07	0.7984	-0.04	0.09	0.11		
L 0.21	0.39	0.34	0.29	0.42	0.24	0.42	0.38	0.4	0.47	0.35	0.47	0.21	0.36	0.01	0.08								
Attacks Per Minute (2nd half)	W 0.52	0.34	0.39	0.33	0.38	0.43	0.29	0.41	0.11	0.31	0.37	0.52	0.11	0.35	0.01	0.10	2.97	0.1000	0.08	0.13	-0.74		
L 0.25	0.6	0.37	0.38	0.41	0.31	0.49	0.35	0.78	0.63	0.39	0.78	0.25	0.45	0.03	0.16								
Attacks Per Minute (1'-15' mins)	W 0.4	0.13	0.53	0.6	0.53	0.4	0.4	0.87	0.2	0.2	0.87	0.13	0.41	0.05	0.22	2.15	0.1581	0.05	0.20	0.63			
L 0.07	0.4	0.07	0.27	0.4	0.07	0.4	0.07	0.4	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.07	0.28	0.03	0.18								
Attacks Per Minute (16'-30' mins)	W 0.2	0.33	0.4	0.47	0.07	0.27	0.27	0.4	0.4	0.27	0.27	0.47	0.07	0.30	0.01	0.11	2.44	0.1339	0.06	0.14	-0.67		
L 0.47	0.47	0.67	0.13	0.6	0.27	0.4	0.33	0.33	0.27	0.67	0.13	0.39	0.02	0.15									
Attacks Per Minute (31'-45+ mins)	W 0.29	0.42	0.4	0.39	0.35	0.53	0.5	0.41	0.22	0.18	0.47	0.53	0.18	0.38	0.01	0.11	0.05	0.8331	-0.05	0.13	-0.09		
L 0.12	0.32	0.3	0.44	0.3	0.37	0.44	0.65	0.44	0.59	0.32	0.65	0.12	0.39	0.02	0.15								
Attacks Per Minute (46'-60' mins)	W 0.6	0.27	0.47	0.27	0.47	0.6	0.13	0.6	0.2	0.13	0.6	0.6	0.13	0.39	0.04	0.20	5.01	0.9428	-0.05	0.21	0.03		
L 0.27	0.67	0.2	0.33	0.47	0.13	0.47	0.27	0.73	0.6	0.13	0.73	0.13	0.39	0.05	0.21								
Attacks Per Minute (61'-75' mins)	W 0.2	0.27	0.13	0.33	0.47	0.27	0.47	0.07	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.07	0.32	0.03	0.17	2.23	0.0333	0.16	0.17	-0.97			
L 0.2	0.53	0.6	0.53	0.6	0.33	0.2	0.4	0.73	0.6	0.6	0.73	0.2	0.48	0.03	0.18								
Attacks Per Minute (76'-90+ mins)	W 0.68	0.45	0.53	0.36	0.27	0.42	0.29	0.25	0.08	0.24	0.32	0.68	0.08	0.35	0.03	0.16	2.46	0.1325	0.06	0.18	-0.67		
L 0.27	0.6	0.32	0.32	0.27	0.42	0.71	0.38	0.83	0.67	0.42	0.83	0.27	0.47	0.04	0.20								
Total Attacks High Flank	W 8	8	9	3	16	16	8	10	5	11	13	16	3	9.73	18.82	4.10	9.88	0.0051	0.29	4.68	-1.34		
L 8	17	18	17	13	9	22	16	19	25	12	25	8	16.00	27.00	5.20								
Right Flank Danger Level (xG)	W 0.26	0	0.52	0.01	0.30	0.46	0.22	1.17	0	0.27	0.95	1.17	0	0.38	0.15	0.38	0.07	0.7908	-0.04	0.44	-0.11		
L 0	0.3	0.06	0.61	0.12	0.26	0.26	0.25	0.43	1.81	0.43	0.25	1.81	0	0.43	0.25	0.50							
RFDL Percentage (%)	W 13%	0%	18%	1%	26%	27%	9%	49%	0%	17%	39%	49%	0%	18%	0.03	0.16	2.19	0.1544	0.05	0.23	-0.63		
L 0%	61%	13%	58%	0%	20%	15%	11%	28%	79%	65%	79%	0%	32%	0.08	0.28								
Total Attacks Centre Flank	W 19	13	15	6	14	8	13	18	5	10	9	19	5	11.82	21.36	4.62	0.33	0.5719	-0.03	5.56	-0.25		
L 6	16	7	6	19	8	15	11	26	18	13	26	6	13.18	40.56	6.37								
Centre Flank Danger Level (xG)	W 1.88	1.60	1.79	0.05	0.33	0.27	1.52	0.87	0.33	0.97	0.47	1.88	0.05	0.92	0.46	0.68	0.23	0.6360	-0.04	0.67	0.20		
L 0.38	0.19	0.28	0.01	1.99	0.99	1.26	1.70	1.12	0.47	1.17	1.99	0.01	0.78	0.45	0.67								
CFDL Percentage (%)	W 82%	77%	62%	8%	28%	16%	63%	37%	35%	62%	19%	82%	8%	44%	0.07	0.26	0.57	0.4572	-0.02	0.28	-0.32		
L 54%	39%	62%	1%	94%	70%	75%	70%	71%	25%	18%	94%	1%	53%	0.09	0.30								
Total Attacks Left Flank	W 14	11	17	31	7	17	13	20	9	5	12	31	5	14.18	51.16	7.15	2.00	0.1730	0.04	5.28	0.60		
L 9	13	10	11	12	10	8	10	16	11	11	16	8	11.00	4.60	2.14								
Left Flank Danger Level (xG)	W 0.16	0.47	0.6	0.59	0.54	0.95	0.69	0.33	0.6	0.33	1.01	1.01	0.16	0.57	0.06	0.25	22.89	0.0001	0.50	0.21	2.04		
L 0.33	0	0.11	0.44	0.01	0.05	0.17	0.28	0	0	0.17	0.44	0	0.14	0.02	0.15								
LF																							

TRANSITIONS

		ARG-AUS	ARG-CRO	BRA-KOR	CRO-MAR	FRA-ENG	ENG-SEN	FRA-MAR	FRA-POL	MAR-POR	NED-USA	POR-SW	MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω²	Pool SD	ES	
TRANSITIONS	Total Recoveries	W	86	71	77	71	69	72	71	81	76	89	89	89	69	75.64	48.25	6.95	0.00	1.0	-0.05	9.36	0.00
		L	71	79	78	66	61	78	84	84	74	98	59	98	59	75.64	127.05	11.27					
	Low Block Recoveries	W	28	40	30	35	39	26	43	38	50	52	36	52	26	37.91	69.09	8.31	2.42	0.1359	0.06	8.78	0.66
		L	38	39	41	31	23	40	36	41	35	29	20	41	15	32.09	85.09	9.22					
	Medium Block Recoveries	W	41	25	20	27	21	34	21	30	20	33	26	41	20	28.00	43.40	6.43	0.21	0.1528	0.05	7.32	-0.63
		L	22	30	28	26	28	28	36	34	46	48	33	48	22	32.64	65.65	8.10					
	High Block Recoveries	W	17	6	17	9	9	12	7	13	6	4	7	17	4	9.73	19.82	4.45	2.52	0.4789	-0.02	4.14	-0.31
		L	11	11	9	9	10	10	12	9	13	21	6	21	6	11.00	14.40	3.79					
	Opposition Half Recoveries	W	37	18	30	21	19	24	15	21	8	19	16	37	8	20.73	59.22	7.70	3.27	0.0855	-0.09	8.13	-0.77
		L	28	26	21	17	23	23	33	30	42	42	22	42	17	27.00	73.00	8.54					
	Recoveries Per Minute	W	0.19	0.22	0.24	0.2	0.2	0.15	0.2	0.24	0.14	0.31	0.18	0.31	0.14	0.21	0.00	0.05	1.51	0.2330	0.02	0.06	-0.52
		L	0.25	0.21	0.25	0.25	0.16	0.18	0.23	0.31	0.22	0.37	0.16	0.37	0.16	0.24	0.00	0.06					
	Recoveries Per Minute (1st half)	W	0.23	0.18	0.28	0.13	0.28	0.14	0.19	0.19	0.08	0.32	0.14	0.32	0.08	0.20	0.01	0.07	0.00	0.9788	-0.05	0.08	-0.01
		L	0.28	0.12	0.26	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.21	0.26	0.17	0.36	0.08	0.36	0.08	0.20	0.01	0.08					
	Recoveries Per Minute (2nd half)	W	0.15	0.26	0.2	0.27	0.13	0.16	0.22	0.28	0.19	0.29	0.22	0.29	0.13	0.22	0.00	0.06	5.11	0.0352	0.16	0.06	-0.96
		L	0.23	0.3	0.24	0.35	0.18	0.22	0.25	0.35	0.26	0.37	0.24	0.37	0.18	0.27	0.00	0.06					
	Recoveries Per Minute (15-30 mins)	W	0.2	0.07	0.33	0.2	0.33	0.13	0.27	0.27	0	0.2	0.27	0.33	0	0.21	0.01	0.10	0.29	0.5982	-0.03	0.10	-0.23
		L	0.27	0.2	0.2	0.13	0.33	0.27	0.2	0.47	0.13	0.2	0.13	0.47	0.13	0.23	0.01	0.10					
	Recoveries Per Minute (31-45 mins)	W	0.4	0.47	0.33	0.13	0.2	0.13	0.07	0.27	0.13	0.53	0.2	0.53	0.07	0.26	0.02	0.15	0.28	0.6001	-0.03	0.16	0.23
		L	0.4	0.13	0.27	0.2	0.07	0.2	0.07	0.2	0.27	0.13	0.6	0.13	0.6	0.07	0.22	0.03	0.16				
	Recoveries Per Minute (46-60 mins)	W	0.12	0.05	0.2	0.06	0.3	0.16	0.22	0.06	0.11	0.24	0	0.3	0	0.14	0.01	0.09	0.02	0.8811	-0.05	0.10	-0.06
		L	0.27	0.4	0.32	0.36	0.12	0.26	0.29	0.21	0.25	0.32	0.26	0.32	0.12	0.30	0.01	0.10					
	Recoveries Per Minute (61-75 mins)	W	0.13	0.33	0.13	0.2	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.47	0.13	0.27	0.33	0.47	0.13	0.22	0.01	0.12	1.45	0.2431	0.02	0.10	-0.51
		L	0.27	0.4	0.2	0.27	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.33	0.33	0.2	0.33	0.4	0.2	0.27	0.01	0.07					
	Recoveries Per Minute (76-90 mins)	W	0.07	0.13	0.13	0.4	0.2	0.07	0.27	0.47	0.13	0.33	0.07	0.47	0.07	0.21	0.02	0.14	0.61	0.4448	-0.02	0.14	-0.33
		L	0.13	0.07	0.2	0.4	0.27	0.2	0.27	0.6	0.2	0.33	0.13	0.6	0.07	0.25	0.02	0.15					
	Total Possessions Losses	W	0.23	0.3	0.32	0.23	0.08	0.26	0.24	0.04	0.25	0.29	0.26	0.32	0.04	0.23	0.01	0.09	2.81	0.1092	0.08	0.10	-0.71
		L	0.27	0.4	0.32	0.36	0.12	0.26	0.29	0.21	0.25	0.32	0.26	0.32	0.12	0.30	0.01	0.10					
Low Block Loss	W	106	91	88	93	81	92	82	96	101	115	80	115	80	93.18	118.96	10.91	0.01	0.9339	-0.05	10.16	-0.04	
	L	107	88	86	80	96	85	95	87	103	108	94	108	80	93.55	87.47	9.35						
Medium Block Loss	W	22	13	14	17	17	11	19	11	26	28	18	28	11	17.82	32.16	5.67	1.12	0.3025	0.01	6.04	0.45	
	L	28	9	20	15	15	19	12	19	4	11	14	28	4	15.09	40.89	6.39						
High Block Loss	W	36	37	33	31	32	36	33	33	56	53	29	56	29	37.18	79.16	8.90	3.93	0.0613	0.12	7.63	0.85	
	L	42	30	32	27	21	40	30	27	25	32	32	42	21	30.73	37.42	6.12						
	W	48	41	41	45	32	45	30	52	19	34	33	52	19	38.18	91.36	9.56	3.34	0.0824	0.10	12.24	-0.78	
	L	37	49	34	38	60	26	53	41	74	65	48	74	26	47.73	208.42	14.44						

DUELS

		ARG-AUS	ARG-CRO	BRA-KOR	CRO-MAR	FRA-ENG	ENG-SEN	FRA-MAR	FRA-POL	MAR-POR	NED-USA	POR-SW	MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω²	Pool SD	ES	
DUELS	Total Duels	W	198	204	177	205	193	195	194	189	162	202	139	205	139	187.06	414.09	20.35	0.00	1.0	-0.05	20.35	0.00
		L	198	204	177	205	193	195	194	189	162	202	139	205	139	187.09	414.09	20.35					
	Total Duels Won	W	96	99	89	95	90	89	91	99	75	93	73	99	73	89.91	74.89	8.65	0.00	0.9835	-0.05	10.16	-0.01
		L	91	103	84	98	93	100	96	78	83	99	65	103	65	90.00	131.40	11.46					
	TDW Percentage (%)	W	48%	49%	50%	46%	47%	46%	47%	52%	46%	46%	53%	53%	46%	48%	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.9308	-0.05	0.03	0.04
		L	46%	50%	47%	48%	48%	51%	49%	41%	51%	49%	47%	51%	41%	48%	0.00	0.00					
	Challenge Intensity	W	5.4	5.1	4.4	5.9	3.9	6.5	4.7	4.6	3.4	4.9	4.3	6.5	3.4	4.83	0.78	0.88	0.63	0.4368	-0.02	0.91	-0.34
		L	4.3	5.4	4.6	5.1	5.3	4.1	5.5	5.6	6.9	6.1	3.6	6.9	3.6	5.14	0.89	0.94					
	Offensive Duels	W	82	65	79	71	56	63	59	72	57	57	44	82	44	64.09	125.09	11.18	0.00	0.9881	-0.05	14.15	-0.01
		L	50	100	52	74	61	66	75	42	53	78	55	100	42	64.18	275.16	16.59					
	Offensive Duels Won	W	30	23	33	31	21	24	24	36	24	25	23	36	21	26.73	24.02	4.90	0.02	0.9030	-0.05	6.91	-0.05
		L	17	41	17	34	27	27	35	27	35	36	36	24	17	21.09	71.49	8.44					
	ODW Percentage (%)	W	37%	35%	42%	44%	38%	38%	41%	50%	42%	44%	52%	52%	35%	42%	0.00	0.05	0.01	0.9074	-0.05	0.05	0.05
		L	34%	41%	33%	46%	44%	41%	47%	46%	43%	46%	44%	47%	33%	42%	0.00	0.05					
	Defensive Duels	W	50	100	52	74	61	66	75	42	53	78	55	100	42	64.18	275.16	16.59	0.00	0.9881	-0.05	14.15	0.01
		L	82	65	79	71	56	63	59	72	57	57	44	82	44	64.09	125.09	11.18					
	Defensive Duels Won	W	33	39	35	40	34	39	40	25	30	42	31	39	25	37.09	78.89	8.88	0.01	0.9406	-0.05	8.48	-0.03
		L	42	30	32	27	21	40	30	27	25	32	32	42	21	37.36	64.85	8.05					
	DDW Percentage (%)	W	66%	59%	67%	54%	56%	59%	53%	60%	57%	54%	56%	67%	53%	58%	0.00	0.05	0.01	0.9074	-0.05	0.05	0.05
		L	63%	65%	58%	56%	63%	62%	59%	50%	58%	56%	48%	65%	48%	58%	0.00	0.05					
	Loose Ball Duels	W	29	17	21	32	28	33	33	40	17	33	15	40	15	27.09	68.69	8.29	0.00	1.0	-0.05	8.29	0.00
		L	29	17	21	32	28	33	33	40	17	33	15	40	15	27.09	68.69	8.29					
	Loose Ball Duels Won	W	16	8</																			

POSSESSION

		ARG-ALS	ARG-CRO	BRA-KOR	CRO-MAR	FRA-ENG	ENG-SEN	FRA-MAR	FRA-POL	MAR-POR	NET-USA	POR-SW	MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand. Dev.	F	P-value	ω ²	Pool SD	ES	
P O S S E S S I O N	Ball possession (%)	W	59%	40%	54%	52%	41%	59%	39%	53%	27%	39%	48%	59%	27%	46%	0.01	0.10	2.74	0.1134	0.07	0.10	-0.71
		L	41%	60%	46%	48%	59%	41%	61%	47%	73%	61%	52%	73%	41%	54%	0.01	0.10					
	Ball possession (%) 1st half	W	62%	39%	55%	60%	40%	64%	43%	54%	33%	32%	53%	64%	32%	49%	0.01	0.12	0.30	0.5884	-0.03	0.12	-0.23
		L	38%	61%	45%	40%	60%	36%	57%	46%	67%	68%	47%	68%	38%	51%	0.01	0.12					
	Ball possession (%) 2nd half	W	57%	41%	52%	44%	43%	55%	35%	51%	21%	47%	42%	57%	21%	44%	0.01	0.10	6.76	0.0172	0.21	0.10	-1.11
		L	43%	59%	48%	56%	57%	45%	65%	49%	79%	53%	58%	79%	43%	56%	0.01	0.10					
	Ball possession (%) 1' - 15' mins	W	79%	36%	62%	50%	42%	65%	42%	70%	18%	43%	54%	79%	18%	51%	0.03	0.17	2.07	0.7897	-0.04	0.17	0.12
		L	21%	64%	38%	50%	58%	35%	58%	30%	82%	57%	46%	82%	21%	49%	0.03	0.17					
	Ball possession (%) 16' - 30' mins	W	39%	48%	57%	61%	29%	69%	39%	36%	40%	37%	52%	69%	29%	46%	0.02	0.12	2.21	0.1524	0.05	0.12	-0.63
		L	61%	52%	43%	39%	71%	31%	61%	64%	60%	63%	48%	71%	31%	54%	0.02	0.12					
	Ball possession (%) 31' - 45' mins	W	63%	32%	51%	68%	44%	56%	48%	59%	43%	17%	52%	68%	17%	48%	0.02	0.14	0.25	0.6216	-0.04	0.14	-0.21
		L	37%	68%	49%	32%	56%	44%	52%	41%	57%	83%	48%	83%	32%	52%	0.02	0.14					
	Ball possession (%) 46' - 60' mins	W	69%	41%	55%	50%	39%	70%	26%	45%	24%	53%	36%	70%	24%	46%	0.02	0.15	1.39	0.2525	0.02	0.15	-0.50
		L	31%	59%	45%	50%	61%	30%	74%	55%	76%	47%	64%	76%	30%	54%	0.02	0.15					
	Ball possession (%) 61' - 75' mins	W	56%	43%	44%	41%	54%	55%	40%	58%	19%	57%	44%	58%	19%	46%	0.01	0.11	2.10	0.1625	0.05	0.11	-0.62
		L	44%	57%	56%	59%	46%	45%	60%	42%	81%	43%	56%	81%	42%	54%	0.01	0.11					
	Ball possession (%) 76' - 90' mins	W	47%	40%	54%	40%	36%	41%	40%	50%	19%	35%	45%	54%	19%	41%	0.01	0.09	22.73	0.0001	0.50	0.09	-2.03
		L	53%	60%	46%	60%	64%	59%	60%	50%	81%	65%	55%	81%	46%	59%	0.01	0.09					
	Total Number of Possessions	W	103	84	94	100	79	88	89	100	85	104	94	104	79	92.73	70.22	8.38	0.42	0.5251	-0.03	8.24	-0.28
		L	94	95	83	90	91	85	99	92	109	105	102	109	83	95.00	65.60	8.10					
	Pure Possession Time (minutes)	W	35.90	21.98	32.38	28.78	22.65	33.38	22.32	30.68	14.18	22.95	24.60	35.90	14.18	26.35	41.34	6.43	2.38	0.1389	0.06	5.78	-0.66
		L	24.58	33.23	27.88	26.63	32.58	22.82	34.88	27.55	37.95	36.38	27.13	37.95	22.82	30.15	25.57	5.06					
	Average Possession Duration (seconds)	W	20	15	20	17	17	22	15	18	10	13	15	22	10	16.55	11.87	3.45	2.07	0.1652	0.05	2.96	-0.61
		L	15	20	20	17	21	16	21	17	20	20	15	21	15	18.36	5.65	2.38					
	Possessions Reaching Opponent Half	W	62	48	61	60	43	51	44	61	25	48	47	62	25	50.00	121.40	11.02	2.18	0.1554	0.05	13.57	-0.63
		L	39	65	51	48	51	40	73	54	88	78	57	88	39	58.55	247.07	15.72					
	PROH Percentage (%)	W	60%	57%	65%	60%	54%	58%	49%	61%	29%	46%	50%	65%	29%	54%	0.01	0.10	2.41	0.1361	0.06	0.11	-0.66
		L	41%	68%	61%	53%	56%	47%	74%	59%	81%	74%	56%	81%	41%	61%	0.01	0.12					
	Possessions Reaching Opponent Box	W	17	9	18	12	11	13	14	20	8	10	17	20	8	13.55	15.87	3.98	2.55	0.1257	0.07	4.54	0.68
		L	7	7	8	10	8	7	15	11	13	23	6	23	6	10.45	25.27	5.03					
	PROB Percentage (%)	W	17%	11%	19%	12%	14%	15%	16%	20%	9%	10%	18%	20%	9%	15%	0.00	0.04	4.32	0.0507	0.13	0.04	0.89
		L	7%	7%	10%	11%	9%	8%	15%	12%	12%	22%	6%	22%	6%	11%	0.00	0.05					
	Touches inside Penalty Box	W	20	12	30	15	16	17	17	25	11	11	18	30	11	17.45	34.27	5.85	1.94	0.1786	0.04	6.42	0.59
		L	13	8	8	11	8	9	22	18	18	28	7	28	7	13.64	48.25	6.95					
	Total Open Play Possessions	W	83	70	67	71	63	62	66	75	60	86	69	86	60	70.18	68.96	8.30	0.01	0.9365	-0.05	7.93	-0.03
		L	70	73	63	64	63	59	72	75	74	84	78	84	59	70.45	56.67	7.53					
	Short Possessions (0-10 seconds)	W	40	36	30	29	26	27	43	36	42	56	43	56	26	37.09	80.29	8.96	8.11	0.0100	0.24	7.19	1.21
		L	33	26	24	29	25	29	25	29	22	31	39	39	22	28.36	23.05	4.80					
Medium Possessions (10-20 seconds)	W	15	15	17	17	18	13	7	15	14	13	12	18	7	14.18	9.16	3.03	9.61	0.0056	0.28	3.64	-1.32	
	L	22	18	13	13	14	19	23	22	23	24	18	24	13	19.00	17.40	4.17						
Long Possessions (20-45 seconds)	W	19	15	14	18	14	9	9	18	4	12	9	19	4	12.82	22.16	4.71	2.64	0.1201	0.07	4.46	-0.69	
	L	11	21	22	16	14	8	14	17	20	17	15	22	8	15.91	17.69	4.21						
Very Long Possessions (45+ seconds)	W	9	4	6	7	5	13	7	6	0	5	5	13	0	6.09	10.29	3.21	0.70	0.4121	-0.01	3.05	-0.36	
	L	4	8	4	6	10	3	10	7	9	12	6	12	3	7.18	8.36	2.89						

PASSES

		ARG-AUS	ARG-CHG	BRA-KOR	CRO-MAR	FRA-ENG	ENG-SEN	FRA-MAR	FRA-POL	MAR-POR	NEU-USA	POR-SW	MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω ²	Pool SD	ES	
P A S S E S	Total Passes	W	672	395	597	470	356	566	344	538	211	399	433	672	211	452.82	17551.36	132.48	1.19	0.2878	0.01	112.85	-0.47
		L	410	592	521	464	495	346	466	661	575	468	661	346	505.36	7917.23	88.98						
	Total Accurate Passes	W	602	339	526	407	305	505	289	469	166	320	377	602	166	391.36	15844.65	125.88	0.95	0.3424	0.00	105.66	-0.41
		L	347	522	455	399	433	288	491	401	568	485	396	468	368	435.18	6485.38	80.53					
	Average Pass Length (m)	W	17.4	19.8	18.2	18.6	19.7	20.9	21.1	17.5	20.3	19.0	19	21.1	17.4	19.31	1.62		0.33	0.5699	-0.03	1.11	0.25
		L	19.6	18.3	19.4	18	18.7	20.3	17.8	19.7	20.4	18.2	19	20.4	17.8	19.04	0.83	0.91					
	Match Tempo	W	19.2	18.8	18.7	16.8	16.2	17.2	15.6	17.9	15.1	18.1	18	19.2	15.1	17.42	1.84	1.35	0.32	0.5791	-0.03	1.25	0.24
		L	17.1	17.9	19.3	17.8	15.5	15.7	16.5	17.3	17.9	16	17.3	19.3	15.5	17.32	1.28	1.13					
	Pass Accuracy (%)	W	90%	86%	88%	87%	86%	89%	84%	87%	79%	80%	87%	90%	79%	86%	0.00	0.03	0.08	0.7838	-0.04	0.03	-0.12
		L	85%	88%	87%	86%	87%	83%	88%	85%	84%	85%	88%	83%	86%	0.00	0.00	0.02					
	Pass Accuracy (%) 1st half	W	91%	85%	87%	88%	89%	87%	86%	85%	85%	79%	86%	91%	79%	86%	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.9429	-0.05	0.03	0.03
		L	88%	88%	88%	85%	89%	81%	90%	85%	86%	82%	90%	81%	86%	0.00	0.03	0.08	0.55	0.4660	-0.02	0.06	-0.32
	Pass Accuracy (%) 2nd half	W	86%	85%	88%	83%	80%	91%	80%	89%	61%	80%	88%	91%	61%	83%	0.01	0.08	0.02				
		L	80%	88%	86%	86%	83%	84%	85%	86%	86%	82%	86%	88%	80%	85%	0.00	0.02					
	Pass Accuracy (%) 1' - 15' mins	W	92%	83%	86%	87%	92%	87%	79%	81%	79%	82%	83%	92%	79%	85%	0.00	0.05	0.21	0.6525	-0.04	0.06	0.19
		L	90%	88%	86%	88%	80%	90%	95%	86%	88%	81%	86%	95%	80%	87%	0.00	0.04	0.10	0.9299	-0.05	0.05	0.04
	Pass Accuracy (%) 16' - 30' mins	W	91%	84%	90%	89%	90%	82%	86%	89%	87%	68%	88%	91%	68%	86%	0.00	0.07	0.01	0.7573	-0.04	0.05	0.13
		L	86%	86%	91%	80%	89%	83%	80%	88%	79%	89%	85%	91%	79%	85%	0.00	0.04					
	Pass Accuracy (%) 31' - 45' mins	W	88%	81%	89%	88%	86%	89%	79%	80%	52%	86%	86%	89%	52%	82%	0.01	0.11	0.53	0.4736	-0.02	0.08	-0.31
		L	81%	87%	85%	85%	85%	78%	86%	88%	87%	76%	89%	90%	76%	85%	0.00	0.05					
	Pass Accuracy (%) 46' - 60' mins	W	91%	83%	92%	83%	73%	96%	76%	91%	78%	83%	88%	96%	73%	85%	0.01	0.07	0.01	0.9069	-0.05	0.05	0.05
		L	81%	87%	87%	83%	84%	85%	86%	86%	87%	82%	83%	87%	81%	85%	0.00	0.02					
	Pass Accuracy (%) 61' - 75' mins	W	79%	90%	84%	76%	82%	88%	84%	93%	57%	71%	89%	93%	57%	81%	0.01	0.10	0.80	0.3815	-0.01	0.08	-0.38
	L	77%	88%	86%	85%	80%	87%	83%	84%	84%	85%	88%	88%	77%	84%	0.00	0.03						
Backward Passes	W	205	65	95	71	73	108	54	83	26	52	95	108	26	75.38	634.36	25.19	0.01	0.9414	-0.05	20.05	0.03	
	L	62	86	89	57	86	58	73	72	63	91	83	91	57	74.55	169.47	13.02						
Accurate Backward Passes	W	98	64	87	66	71	100	52	81	26	49	89	100	26	71.18	519.36	22.79	0.02	0.9012	-0.05	18.66	0.05	
	L	57	82	84	54	80	52	67	67	60	89	80	89	52	70.38	176.76	13.30						
ABP Percentage (%)	W	93%	98%	92%	93%	97%	93%	96%	98%	100%	94%	94%	100%	92%	95%	0.00	0.03	1.49	0.2359	-0.02	0.03	0.52	
	L	92%	95%	94%	95%	93%	90%	92%	93%	95%	98%	96%	98%	94%	94%	0.00	0.02						
Sideways Passes	W	289	140	240	182	119	209	134	190	53	144	129	289	53	104.45	3923.07	62.63	2.34	0.1416	0.06	59.48	-0.65	
	L	179	239	156	121	130	154	140	154	140	146	130	140	119	103.17	312.82	56.15						
Accurate Sideways Passes	W	277	133	202	165	109	199	122	170	47	123	120	277	47	151.55	3682.47	60.68	1.90	0.1837	0.04	55.89	-0.59	
	L	150	203	191	174	185	104	193	174	309	198	138	309	104	184.36	2565.25	50.65						
ASP Percentage (%)	W	96%	95%	92%	91%	92%	95%	91%	89%	89%	85%	93%	96%	85%	92%	0.00	0.03	0.62	0.4408	-0.02	0.03	0.34	
	L	91%	91%	94%	88%	91%	92%	91%	88%	91%	88%	91%	94%	88%	91%	0.00	0.02						
Forward Passes	W	178	139	156	156	121	180	115	140	140	140	140	178	140	140	140	140	0.57	0.4582	-0.02	27.06	-0.32	
	L	122	187	162	136	143	123	193	139	172	170	172	193	122	157.09	649.69	25.49						
Accurate Forward Passes	W	140	103	153	121	86	154	81	132	66	99	110	154	66	113.18	870.16	29.50	0.59	0.4505	-0.02	25.76	-0.33	
	L	94	151	124	111	114	88	158	110	130	128	130	158	88	121.64	457.25	21.38						
AFP Percentage (%)	W	79%	73%	85%	78%	71%	81%	70%	80%	66%	69%	76%	85%	66%	75%	0.00	0.06	0.89	0.3557	-0.00	0.05	-0.40	
	L	77%	81%	77%	82%	80%	72%	82%	79%	76%	72%	76%	82%	72%	77%	0.00	0.04						
Progressive Passes	W	71	67	81	66	66	86	66	83	57	43	67	68	43	64.18	176.96	13.08	0.43	0.5203	-0.03	13.36	-0.28	
	L	68	72	84	63	69	51	64	65	89	69	63	63	64	69	67.91	185.89	13.63					
Accurate Progressive Passes	W	45	45	61	54	43	72	36	31	20	38	45	78	20	44.55	201.87	14.21	1.27	0.2725	0.01	13.60	-0.48	
	L	43	58	67	41	38	35	55	49	78	53	45	78	35	51.09	168.29	12.97						
APP Percentage (%)	W	63%	67%	75%	82%	65%	87%	63%	72%	48%	56%	73%	87%	48%	68%	0.01	0.11	2.56	0.1252	0.07	0.10	-0.68	
	L	63%	81%	71%	65%	78%	69%	86%	75%	88%	77%	71%	88%	63%	75%	0.01	0.08						
Total Long Passes	W	25	33	35	42	40	56	35	31	29	46	50	56	29	39.27	71.62	8.46	0.41	0.5332	-0.03	9.70	-0.27	
	L	62	26	42	33	36	43	32	47	56	48	36	62	26	41.91	116.69	10.80						
Total Accurate Long Passes	W	20	15	23	32	22	40	14	17	12	27	26	40	12	22.55	70.47	8.39	0.45	0.5111	-0.03	8.60	-0.29	
	L	42	12	31	17	19	26	20	26	34	30	18	42	12	25.00	77.60	8.81						
ALP Percentage (%)	W	57%	45%	66%	76%	55%	71%	40%	55%	41%	59%	52%	76%	40%	56%	0.01	0.12	0.30	0.5927	-0.03	0.10	-0.23	
	L	68%	46%	74%	52%	53%	60%	63%	55%	61%	63%	50%	74%	46%	58%	0.01	0.08						
Long Passes Share (%)	W	3%	12%	4%	8%	7%	12%	5%	10%	8%	8%	7%	15%	4%	8%	0.00	0.03	0.13	0.7219	-0.04	0.03	0.15	
	L	15%	4%	8%	7%	7%	12%	5%	10%	8%	8%	7%	15%	4%	8%	0.00	0.03						
Long Passes (%) 1st half	W	5%	6%	5%	6%	7%	10%	7%	4%	10%	10%	13%	13%	4%	8%	0.00	0.03	0.22	0.6429	-0.04	0.03	-0.20	
	L	12%	4%	8%	8%	5%	11%	6%	11%	9%	6%	9%	12%	4%	8%	0.00	0.03						
Long Passes (%) 2nd half	W	4%	9%	5%	12%	17%	9%	14%	7%	20%	12%	9%	20%	4%	11%	0.00	0.05	1.30	0.2677	-0.01	0.04	0.49	
	L	18%	4%	7%	6%	9%	13%	5%	9%	7%	10%	6%	18%	4%	9%	0.00	0.04						
Long Passes (%) 1' - 15' mins	W	3%	12%	4%	7%	3%	13%	5%	3%	13%	5%	7%	13%	3%	11%								

GOALKEEPING

		ARG-AUS	ARG-CRO	BRA-KOR	CRO-MAR	FRA-ENG	ENG-SEN	FRA-MAR	FRA-POL	MAR-POR	NEU-USA	POR-SW	MAX value	MIN value	MEAN value	Variance	Stand.Dev.	F	P-value	ω ²	Pool SD	ES
GK Total Passes	W	28	20	24	30	20	48	23	25	28	34	31	48	20	28.27	62.62	7.91	0.03	0.8705	-0.05	9.04	-0.07
	L	52	27	24	43	20	20	28	26	23	23	32	52	20	28.91	100.69	10.03					
GK Passes 1st half	W	18	10	12	9	8	24	12	13	17	17	18	24	8	14.36	23.45	4.84	0.22	0.6419	-0.04	5.42	-0.20
	L	28	15	8	20	8	9	17	18	16	13	18	28	8	15.45	35.27	5.94					
GK Passes 2nd half	W	10	10	12	21	12	24	11	12	11	17	13	24	10	13.91	22.09	4.70	0.04	0.8380	-0.05	5.15	0.09
	L	24	12	16	23	12	11	11	8	7	10	14	24	7	13.45	30.87	5.56					
GK Total Accurate Passes	W	21	16	23	28	16	40	20	26	26	25	40	16	23.73	45.02	6.71	0.56	0.4617	-0.02	8.52	-0.32	
	L	48	24	21	42	18	17	27	23	22	19	30	48	17	26.45	100.27	10.01					
GK Total Accurate Passes 1st half	W	16	9	12	9	6	21	11	12	16	13	14	21	6	12.64	16.85	4.11	0.69	0.4170	-0.01	5.14	-0.35
	L	28	14	8	19	8	8	16	15	16	10	17	28	8	14.45	36.07	6.01					
GK Total Accurate Passes 2nd half	W	5	7	11	19	10	19	9	8	10	13	11	19	5	11.09	19.85	4.46	0.20	0.6631	-0.04	4.82	-0.19
	L	20	10	13	23	10	9	11	8	6	9	13	23	6	12.00	26.60	5.16					
GK Pass Accuracy (%)	W	75%	80%	96%	93%	80%	83%	87%	80%	93%	76%	81%	96%	75%	84%	0.01	0.07	6.64	0.0180	0.20	0.06	-1.10
	L	92%	89%	88%	98%	90%	85%	96%	88%	96%	83%	94%	98%	83%	91%	0.00	0.05					
GK Pass Accuracy (%) 1st half	W	89%	90%	100%	100%	75%	88%	92%	92%	94%	76%	78%	100%	75%	89%	0.01	0.09	1.86	0.1878	0.04	0.08	-0.58
	L	100%	93%	100%	95%	100%	89%	94%	83%	100%	77%	94%	100%	77%	93%	0.01	0.08					
GK Pass Accuracy (%) 2nd half	W	50%	70%	92%	90%	83%	79%	82%	67%	91%	76%	85%	92%	50%	79%	0.02	0.13	5.69	0.0270	0.18	0.10	-1.02
	L	83%	83%	81%	100%	83%	82%	100%	100%	86%	90%	93%	100%	81%	89%	0.01	0.08					
Back Passes to GK	W	21	6	14	14	9	31	9	12	10	18	21	31	6	15.00	52.60	7.25	0.29	0.5946	-0.03	7.49	-0.23
	L	32	21	13	23	8	12	17	12	7	14	25	32	7	16.73	59.62	7.72					
Back Passes to GK 1st half	W	15	4	7	4	5	16	5	6	9	11	12	16	4	8.55	19.07	4.57	0.30	0.5881	-0.03	5.03	-0.23
	L	21	12	2	12	3	4	12	10	7	9	15	21	2	9.73	33.62	5.62					
Back Passes to GK 2nd half	W	6	2	7	10	4	15	4	6	1	7	9	15	1	6.45	15.47	3.93	0.11	0.7457	-0.04	3.89	-0.14
	L	11	9	11	11	5	8	5	2	0	5	10	11	0	7.00	14.80	3.85					
GK Passes Beyond Own Third	W	6	12	7	10	16	22	15	15	16	13	16	22	6	13.45	20.87	4.57	9.31	0.0063	0.27	4.05	1.30
	L	14	4	6	8	10	8	5	12	3	9	11	14	3	8.18	11.96	3.46					
GK Passes BOT 1st half	W	2	5	3	0	6	5	4	4	6	7	8	8	0	4.55	5.27	2.30	0.21	0.6538	-0.04	2.34	0.19
	L	5	2	4	4	2	2	2	9	1	1	5	9	1	3.36	5.65	2.39					
GK Passes BOT 2nd half	W	4	7	4	10	17	11	11	10	6	8	17	4	4	8.91	13.89	3.73	12.29	0.0022	0.34	3.22	1.49
	L	9	1	2	4	8	5	2	2	2	5	5	9	1	4.09	6.89	2.63					
GK Accurate Passes BOT	W	1	10	6	9	13	16	12	11	14	6	12	16	1	10.00	18.40	4.29	4.42	0.0483	0.13	3.85	0.90
	L	12	2	5	8	6	4	11	2	5	9	12	2	6.55	11.27	3.36						
GK Accurate Passes BOT 1st half	W	0	5	3	0	5	4	3	4	5	3	5	5	0	3.36	3.45	1.86	0.00	1.0	-0.05	2.13	0.00
	L	5	2	4	4	2	2	2	9	1	1	5	9	1	3.36	5.65	2.38					
GK Accurate Passes BOT 2nd half	W	1	5	3	9	8	12	9	7	9	3	7	12	1	6.64	10.85	3.29	8.41	0.0089	0.25	2.79	1.24
	L	7	0	1	4	6	4	2	2	1	4	4	7	0	3.18	4.76	2.18					
GK Accurate Passes BOT (%)	W	17%	83%	86%	90%	81%	73%	80%	73%	88%	46%	75%	90%	17%	72%	0.05	0.22	0.44	0.5148	-0.03	0.19	-0.28
	L	86%	50%	83%	100%	80%	75%	80%	92%	67%	56%	82%	100%	50%	77%	0.02	0.15					
GK Accurate Passes BOT (%) 1st half	W	100%	100%	100%	100%	83%	80%	75%	100%	83%	66%	83%	100%	0%	66%	0.14	0.37	1.39	0.2528	0.02	0.31	-0.50
	L	100%	100%	100%	100%	67%	67%	90%	100%	25%	83%	100%	25%	82%	82%	0.06	0.24					
GK Accurate Passes BOT (%) 2nd half	W	25%	71%	75%	90%	80%	71%	82%	64%	90%	50%	88%	90%	25%	71%	0.04	0.20	0.00	0.9477	-0.05	0.25	-0.03
	L	78%	0%	50%	100%	75%	80%	100%	100%	50%	80%	80%	100%	0%	72%	0.09	0.30					
GK Passes Inside Own Third	W	22	8	17	20	4	26	8	10	12	21	15	26	4	14.82	48.76	6.98	2.98	0.0998	0.08	8.03	-0.74
	L	38	23	18	35	10	12	23	14	20	14	21	38	10	20.73	80.22	8.96					
GK Accurate Passes IOT	W	20	6	17	19	3	24	8	9	12	20	13	24	3	13.73	45.62	6.75	3.45	0.0781	0.10	7.81	-0.79
	L	36	22	16	34	10	11	23	12	20	14	21	36	10	19.91	78.29	8.73					
GK Accurate Passes IOT (%)	W	91%	75%	100%	95%	75%	92%	100%	90%	100%	95%	87%	100%	75%	91%	0.01	0.09	2.45	0.1330	0.06	0.07	-0.67
	L	95%	96%	89%	97%	100%	92%	100%	86%	100%	100%	100%	100%	86%	96%	0.00	0.05					
GK Shots Against	W	2	2	6	2	7	1	3	3	3	8	2	8	1	3.55	5.47	2.34	4.90	0.0387	0.15	2.31	-0.94
	L	5	7	9	4	5	4	2	8	4	6	9	9	2	5.73	5.22	2.28					
Shots Against 1st half	W	0	0	3	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	1.45	1.07	1.04	7.07	0.0150	0.22	1.44	-1.13
	L	1	4	6	4	2	2	1	5	2	5	6	6	1	3.09	3.09	1.76					
Shots Against 2nd half	W	2	2	3	1	4	0	1	1	2	6	1	6	0	2.09	2.89	1.70	0.72	0.4062	0.0	1.51	-0.36
	L	4	3	3	0	3	2	1	3	2	4	4	4	0	2.64	1.65	1.29					
GK Goals conceded	W	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	0.64	0.25	0.50	25.95	0.0001	0.53	1.00	-2.17
	L	2	3	4	2	2	3	2	3	1	3	6	6	1	2.82	1.76	1.33					
Goals conceded 1st half	W	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.09	0.09	0.30	32.40	0.0000	0.59	0.67	-2.43
	L	1	2	4	2	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	4	1	1.73	0.82	0.90					
Goals conceded 2nd half	W	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0.55	0.27	0.52	2.09	0.1635	0.05	0.88	-0.62
	L	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	2	0	1	4	4	0	1.09	1.29	1.14					
GK Saves	W	1	2	5	1	6	1	3	2	3	7	1	7	1	2.91	4.69	2.17	0.00	1.0	-0.05	1.87	0.00
	L	3	4	5	2	3	1	0	5	3	3	3	5	0	2.91	2.29	1.51					
Saves 1st half	W	0	0	3	0	3	1	2	2	1	2	1	3	0	1.36	1.25	1.12	0.00	1.0	-0.05	1.25	0.00
	L	0	2																			