

Soccer Match Analysis of UniKL FC Versus UPM FC

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Abstract. Universiti Kuala Lumpur Football Club (UniKL FC) is a soccer team comprises of players from Universiti Kuala Lumpur. UniKL FC is currently participating in the tournament organized by the Ministry of Higher Education of Malaysia where teams competing in the tournament are from local universities in Malaysia. This paper delineated the match analysis of UniKL FC versus UPM FC which was also the quarterfinal match of the tournament.

1. Introduction

There are numerous soccer tournaments across the globe which showed that soccer is truly a global sport. Soccer is a professional sport played by professionals, semi-professionals, amateurs, and also played for recreational purposes. There are several tournaments and leagues that revolved around universities and colleges where teams from universities compete against each other to win the coveted championship. The Ministry of Higher Education of Malaysia had organized tournaments and leagues which involved local universities across Malaysia and the primary gist is to develop students which are holistic in nature [1]. Universiti Kuala Lumpur Football Club (UniKL FC) had competed in such tournaments in order to instill competitiveness among students and to develop their characters.

Soccer matches are inherently dynamic in nature as there are several physical movements actuated by players. There movements are sprinting, side jog, back jog, high jump, heading, kicking, and others. Most professional clubs utilized match analyses to alleviate the performance of their teams. According to Miguel and et al, match analysis was used to establish proper training for players in order for players to reach their optimum performances [2]. Match analysis is broad in a sense and many approaches could be utilized to measure the productivity of players. Harridon had applied an approach to gauge the productivity of aviation workers and this could be used to assess the productivity of players as well [3]. We thus can observe the importance of match analysis and hence this is evidently shown by the application of match analysis throughout many matches in the professional arena.

2. Literature Review

Football tournaments are in abundance and the buzz and excitement of the tournaments had spectators craving for more tournaments and matches. According to Mello, even economic growths were apparent to the countries that had won the World Cup and these were attributed to enhancement of exports and alleviation of trade balance [4]. This also had led to countries racing to out-perform each other to garner the trophy. And the appropriate tool is the match analysis which can give edges to teams employing it.

Match analysis could identify errors actuated by teams. According to Harridon, human errors can be identified by utilizing a consistent approach which can be used across the board in many different industries and areas [5]. Detecting errors can prove to be fruitful where the errors can be mitigated early so that teams can be efficient in their matches.

Match analysis is deemed important in this era of modern football. As stipulated by Sarmiento and et al, match analysis provides vital information with regards to parameters of technical and tactical plays and physical fitness as well [6]. With these information, coaches could establish appropriate loading and training programmes for the players and aid them to peak at the optimum time.

Heuer and et al had used match analysis to perform several statistical counts where they stated that goal distributions somehow followed a Poisson Distribution [7]. We can observe that within this context, teams can utilize statistical approach to garner added advantage. Another method which can be utilized to gain insight upon matches is the categorization and observation method where Harridon had employed this method to assess apparels but this method is generic in a sense that it can be readily employed to other areas [8].

Match Analysis involved the stipulation of various parameters such as score lines, ball possession, duels won, number of free kicks, number of corners, and others. Lames and et al had actuated Recurrence Analysis from data compiled from matches and this could aid the design of designated training for players [9].

We thus can see the benefits of using Match Analysis where the advantages are enormous and teams could enhance their performances by identifying areas to be improved and teams could also establish proper strategies to fully utilize the talents of players.

3. Methodology

The methodology employed by UniKL FC pertaining to the Match Analysis is shown in Figure 1.

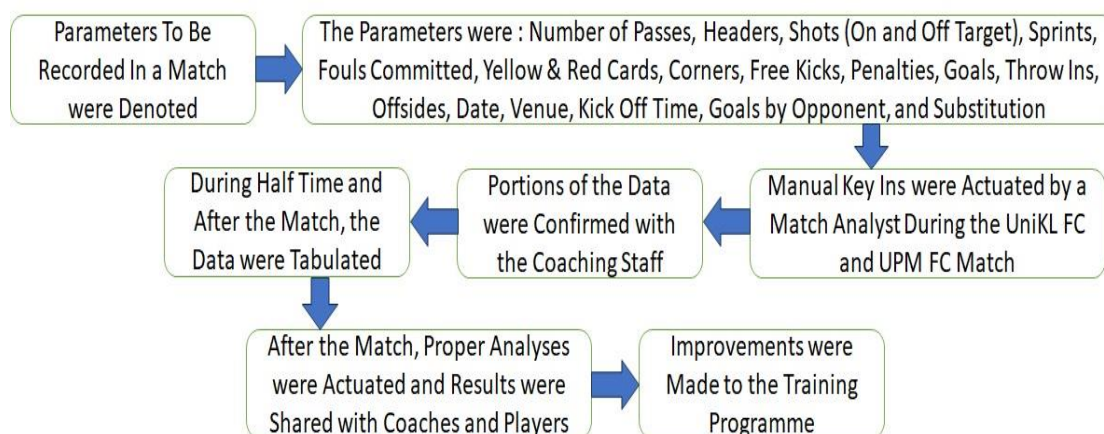


Figure 1. The Approach of the Match Analysis

The parameters to be recorded at matches were discussed among the coaching staff and a consensus was made to denote several parameters which were pertinent to the training programme of UniKL FC. The parameters that were recorded were shown in Figure 1 and there were 19 parameters that were recorded. These parameters are important for the coaches in order to evaluate the capabilities of the players and the team. For example, the number of sprints would indicate whether the team is physically fit to perform high intensity movements during matches and if the number of sprints is low, that is somehow indicative that the players need to be trained more upon their physical fitness.

The number of headers would indicate the ability of the players to perform aerial duels in the match and if this value is low, then it is imperative to train the players to be proficient in winning the ball in the air. During the match UniKL FC versus UPM FC, the data of these parameters were recorded manually by the match analyst and portions of the data were cross checked with the coaching staff in order to obtain data of high fidelity. During half time, the data were tabulated so that the advice parlayed by the coaches during half time were based upon concrete evidences which are the recorded data.

After the match, the data were tabulated again and much proper analyses were actuated and the results were given to the coaches and players in order to improve the performances of the team and to gain optimum results from future matches. The results of the match analysis were also utilized to enhance the training scheme of the players and to harness the available talents of the players.

Caro and et al had utilized match analysis to collect data of players with regards to their sprints during matches and these data were subsequently used to improve the training regimes of the players [10]. This shows that match analysis is a tool which is vital to the evolution of teams in numerous leagues and tournaments.

4. Results

The Match Analysis of UniKL FC versus UPM FC is shown in the subsequent statements.

Date : 29th August 2023

Venue : UniKL MIAT

Kick Off Time : 16:20

Results : UniKL FC = 4 goals UPM FC = 1 goal

	First Half	Second Half
Total Number of Passes	209 (Highest Continuous Pass = 11)	186 (Highest Continuous Pass = 8)
Number of Headers	22	20
Number of Shots (On Target)	4	4
Number of Shots (Off Target)	1	2

Number of Sprint	49	38
Number of Fouls Committed	5	9
Number of Yellow Cards	0	2
		Chaq – time 17:37 Hisham – time 18:06
Number of Red Cards	0	0
Number of Corners	2	1
Number of Free Kicks	7	6
Number of Penalty Given	0	0
Number of Goals	1 Youssouf – time 16:57 (challenge or body contact towards the goalie of the opponent)	3 Wafi – time 17:32 Youssouf – time 17:50 Youssouf – time 17:57
Number of Throw In	14	14
Number of Offside	0	0

Start Time of Match : 16:20

End of First Half : 17:08

Start of Second Half : 17:22

End of Second Half : 18:12

Goals by UPM	Time
1 st Goal	18:00

Substitution by UniKL FC		
IN	OUT	Time
Agilan	El	Half Time
Iwan	Shafiq	17:51
Ameer Firdaus	Angah	18:01

5. Discussion

The match between UniKL FC and UPM FC was held on 29th August 2023 and it was held at the turf field of Universiti Kuala Lumpur Malaysian Institute of Aviation Technology (UniKL MIAT). The kick off time was 16:20 and the match was won by UniKL FC where UniKL FC scored 4 goals while UPM FC scored 1 goal.

In the first half, UniKL FC managed to produce 209 passes while in the seconds half UniKL FC managed to produce 186 passes. The reduction of passes was noted by the coaches and subsequent trainings were altered to increase the passing rate of the team. The training employed was the possession session where the players need to retain possession for a predetermined period of time.

The number of shots (off and on target) during the match was low but UniKL FC managed to garner 4 goals due to the effective execution of chances. The low number of shots had prompted the coaches to increase the “finishing or shooting training” during the training session in order to alleviate the offensive section of the team.

The number of sprints in the match of UniKL FC versus UPM FC was 49 sprints in the first half and 38 sprints in the seconds half. This was actually quite low in reference to the stipulation by Haugen and et al where the number of sprints for each player per game is 17 sprints till 81 sprints [11]. The match analysis of UniKL FC versus UPM FC showed the number of sprints for the whole team of UniKL FC and not for each player of UniKL FC. Thus, this is indicative that the number of sprints of UniKL FC is low in comparison with the data provided by Haugen and et al.

Sprints are indicative of the ability of players to adapt to matches that are high intensity in nature. Harridon had actuated a research where the intensity of the environment of academia was denoted as a factor that contributed to the strains endured by the academicians [12]. Similarly, high intensity matches are deemed to contribute to the increase of strains of players and its imperative to train players to be adaptable to high number of sprints in matches in order to normalize the strenuous situation.

The number of fouls committed by UniKL FC during the UniKL FC versus UPM FC match was 5 in the first half and 9 in the second half. This was treated with caution by the coaching staff as there was a ruling in the tournament where a player would be suspended if he obtained 2 yellow cards in consecutive matches. The number of throw ins for UniKL FC was 14 in the first half and 14 in the second half. Throw ins, while seems minuscule, is extremely important and the coaches at UniKL FC emphasized on the

gaining of optimum number of throw ins for the improvement of offense and the data from the match analysis is vital to gauge this improvement. In fact, Stone and et al had stated that throw ins contributed to the outcome of matches and have somehow significant influence on the ball possession of teams [13].

6. Conclusions

Match Analysis had provided the coaching staff at UniKL FC insights upon the performances, physical fitness, and productivities of players during the match UniKL FC versus UPM FC. With these information and insights, the coaches of UniKL FC had managed to alter the training programme of the players in order for the players to perform well in subsequent matches. The Match Analysis is also an important tool to gauge the ability of players to perform at certain match environments such as high intensity match or moderate intensity match. The Match Analysis of UniKL FC was also utilized to show trends or projections of the team whether the team is progressing positively or negatively.

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