SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL OF SPORT AND PERFORMANCE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Comparison of technical-tactical performance among national football teams at Euro and Copa America 2024

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this study was to compare the technical-tactical performance of national teams participating in Euro and Copa America 2024, considering match outcome, tournament phase, and semi-final qualification status. A total of 46 matches from Euro and 31 from Copa America were analyzed. Matches with extra time were excluded. Nine technical-tactical performance indicators were selected: total shots, shots on target, shot accuracy, attempted passes, completed passes, pass accuracy, attempted crosses, completed crosses, and cross accuracy. ANOVA was used to compare competitions, match outcomes, tournament phases, and semi-finalist vs. non-semi-finalist teams, as well as their statistical interactions. The results showed no statistically significant interactions for any performance indicator ($p > .05$). Significant main effects indicated that European teams had higher values for attempted passes, completed passes, and pass accuracy than American teams. In both competitions, winning teams performed more total shots, shots on target, and completed passes, and achieved higher accuracy on shots, passes, and crosses than drawing or losing teams. Semi-finalist teams showed better performance in passing and crossing. In conclusion, the two competitions differ in variables associated with passing, and these differences are not moderated by tournament phase, match outcome, or semi-final qualification status.

Keywords: performance analysis; tournament; sport performance; passes; observational analysis; confederations.

Cite this article as:
Valerio-Ramírez, J. C., Ugalde-Ramírez, J. A., & Fonseca-Schmidt, H. (2027). Comparison of technical-tactical performance among national football teams at Euro and Copa America 2024. *Scientific Journal of Sport and Performance*, *6*(1), 14-26. https://doi.org/10.55860/DBSY9344

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Submitted for publication July 01, 2026.
Accepted for publication August 31, 2026.
Published November 25, 2026.
Scientific Journal of Sport and Performance. ISSN 2794-0586.
©Asociación Española de Análisis del Rendimiento Deportivo. Alicante. Spain.
doi: https://doi.org/10.55860/DBSY9344

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INTRODUCTION

Football is played across competitions on every continent. Its global reach is reflected in the tournaments organized by the confederations and national federations affiliated with the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), the entity responsible for governing the sport at both club and national team levels. At the international level, the most prominent competitions are the World Cups and the continental championships run by each confederation. The FIFA member confederations are responsible for organizing the highest-level international competitions for national teams within their respective regions. The Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) organizes the Euro, while the South American Football Confederation (CONMEBOL) oversees the Copa America. The Confederation of North, Central America, and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF) organizes the Gold Cup. The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) is responsible for the AFC Asian Cup, the Confederation of African Football (CAF) organizes the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON), and the Oceania Football Confederation (OFC) hosts the OFC Nations Cup. These tournaments bring together the strongest national teams from each region, producing high volumes of play and setting trends across physical, technical, and tactical dimensions. For these reasons, both from a scientific-academic and an applied standpoint, analysing performance indicators is essential to understand the factors that drive sporting success and to evaluate more precisely the physical, technical, tactical, and contextual variables that shape team outcomes across different competitions (Bischofberger et al., 2024; Sarmento et al., 2018).

Match statistics have been used to assess the frequency and relevance of in-game actions and player interactions on the pitch, capturing the technical skills and tactical behaviours that football demands at both individual and collective levels (Akyildiz et al., 2022; Low et al., 2020; Rein & Memmert, 2016). These include attacking actions such as passes, shots on goal, dribbles, crosses, and assists (Andrzejewski et al., 2022; Barthelemy et al., 2024), as well as defensive actions such as ball recoveries, clearances, and goalkeeper saves (Nazarudin et al., 2025). Prior research also has shown that such technical-tactical performance can influence attacking effectiveness, defensive output, and match results, proving useful for distinguishing team performance and predicting tournament success (Delgado-Bordonau et al., 2013; Freitas et al., 2023; Muazu-Musa et al., 2019).

In European competitions, ball possession and completed passes are key variables associated with success. In Euro 2012, the quarter-finalists were more consistent in possession and passing (Shafizadeh et al., 2013; Sgrò et al., 2015). In Euro 2016, the winners were more efficient offensively, particularly with shots inside the penalty area (Konefal et al., 2016), and at Euro 2024 they displayed a more attacking style and stronger passing networks through the midfield and wide channels (Huang et al., 2025).

Research based on Copa America data is comparatively scarce. A study examined attacking sequences by analysing the patterns preceding shots and goals at the 2001 Copa America and found no significant differences between successful and unsuccessful teams (Hughes & Churchill, 2005). In the 2019 edition, one study reported differences between playing positions in technical-tactical actions, with midfielders accumulating the highest number of accurate passes and fullbacks delivering the most crosses (Kubayi, 2021). Additionally, first-time shots from crosses inside the penalty area have been identified as more effective for scoring (Mitrotasios et al., 2025). In the 2019 CONCACAF Gold Cup, scoring first was associated with a higher probability of winning the match (Ugalde-Ramírez & Rodríguez-Porras, 2021).

Comparisons between European and South American competitions have largely been limited to club tournaments such as the Copa Libertadores, the UEFA Champions League, and the FIFA Club World Cup

(Moraes & Morato, 2021). Another study found no differences between European and South American club teams in technical-tactical indicators but identified distinct attacking styles: central play was predominant among European teams, while wide play was more common among South American sides (Moraes & Morato, 2021). Building on this, a more recent investigation found that UEFA Champions League teams exhibit greater variety in attacking styles than Copa Libertadores teams, particularly in the final stages of their respective competitions (Romero-Clavijo et al., 2025).

Even so, no study has compared technical-tactical performance indicators between Euro and Copa America national teams, and this gap is the starting point for the present work. In 2024, both events were played; both brought together elite national teams, and each represents a different football tradition and a different competitive structure. Analysing them side by side lets us see how national teams from two continents perform at the highest level of international football and where their profiles diverge. These tournaments provide unparalleled settings for establishing team performance profiles, allowing a clearer picture of the differences and similarities that emerge from technical-tactical indicators (Kubayi & Toriola, 2020). The findings of this study contribute to the existing knowledge base on high-performance football and may be of practical value to coaches and analysts, given that identifying strengths and areas for improvement, both at the individual and collective level, is critical when preparing for international competition (Barthelemy et al., 2024; Oliva-Lozano et al., 2023). Therefore, the aim of this study was to compare the technical-tactical performance of national teams participating in the Euro and Copa America 2024, considering match outcome, tournament phase, and semi-final qualification status.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Study design

This study followed a non-experimental, retrospective, and observational design, with no direct intervention on participants or manipulation of variables (Jones, 2024). Data were obtained exclusively from publicly available official sources on the websites of the analysed international competitions. No sensitive, confidential, or private information was accessed, and no individual or collective rights were infringed. This study falls within the framework of secondary analysis of publicly accessible data and does not involve the direct or indirect identification of any individuals.

Sample

The study sample comprised 77 matches: 46 from the Euro and 31 from the Copa America, both held in 2024. The Euro involved 24 UEFA national teams, while Copa America included 16 teams: 10 from CONMEBOL and 6 from CONCACAF. Matches that went to extra time were excluded from the analysis (five in the Euro and one in the Copa America), removing those fixtures entirely to ensure a uniform match duration of 90+ minutes across all observations. The unit of analysis was the team-match observation; each match therefore contributed two observations, one per team, yielding 154 team-match records (92 from the Euro and 62 from the Copa America).

Materials and procedures

Match data were retrieved from the official websites of each tournament. Data for UEFA Euro 2024 were obtained from UEFA match reports (2025), available at https://es.uefa.com/uefaeuro/history/seasons/2024/#/d/2022-10-09. Data for the 2024 Copa America were sourced from CONMEBOL reports (2025), available at https://copaamerica.com/es/copa-america-2024/partidos. Because the study used only publicly available match-level data and did not involve human participants, personal data, or intervention procedures, formal informed consent was not required.

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Data reliability was assessed by independently coding five randomly selected matches from the available video or match-report material. Intra- and inter-rater reliability were evaluated using Cohen's kappa, yielding coefficients greater than .90 across the coded variables.

Based on the match reports and prior research (Arruda Moura et al., 2014; Díez et al., 2021; Liu et al., 2015), nine technical-tactical performance variables, all corresponding to the offensive phase of play, were selected (see Table 1). Contextual factors were also considered, including match outcome, tournament phase, and whether the team reached the semi-finals. All data were tabulated in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet.

Table 1. Operational definitions of the selected technical-tactical performance indicators and contextual factors.

Offensive indicators	**Operational definition**
Total shots	Number of attempts made to score a goal. Includes shots on target, shots off target, and shots blocked by the opposing defence.
Shots on target	Number of attempts made to score a goal. Only shots directed at the goal frame are counted.
Shot accuracy	Percentage of total shots directed on target.
Attempted passes	Number of passes attempted by players. Includes both successful and unsuccessful passes.
Completed passes	Number of passes successfully exchanged between at least two players.
Pass accuracy	Percentage of passes successfully completed during the match.
Attempted crosses	Any ball played into the opposing team's penalty area from a wide position.
Completed crosses	Any ball played into the opposing team's penalty area from a wide position that reaches a teammate in a position to shoot or control and finish the play.
Cross accuracy	Percentage of crosses successfully completed during the match.
Contextual factors	
Competition	Teams participating in the UEFA European Championship and the Copa America.
Match outcome	Based on the final match result, teams were classified as winners, losers, or teams involved in a draw.
Tournament phase	Based on the stage of each tournament, three phases were considered: (1) group stage; (2) round of 16 and quarter-finals; and (3) semi-finals and final.
Semi-finalist teams	Whether or not a team reached the semi-final stage of its respective competition.

Statistical analysis

Data normality was checked using the Shapiro-Wilk test. To examine the effect of contextual factors such as match outcome, tournament phase, and semi-final qualification on technical-tactical performance indicators across both competitions, factorial analyses of variance (ANOVA) were conducted. Specifically, the following comparisons were performed: competition (Euro vs. Copa America) × match outcome (win, draw, defeat) (2 × 3); competition (Euro vs. Copa America) × tournament phase (group stage, round of 16/quarter-finals, semi-finals/final) (2 × 3); and competition (Euro vs. Copa America) × semi-final qualification (semi-finalists vs. non-semi-finalists) (2 × 2). Homogeneity of variance was assessed using Levene's test. Bonferroni post hoc tests were applied for significant main effects. Effect size (ES) was estimated using partial omega squared (ωp^2), interpreted against the following thresholds based on Ferguson (2009): .01 (small), .06 (medium), .14 (large). All analyses were performed using Jamovi software, version 2.6.44. Statistical significance was set at $p < .05$.

RESULTS

No statistically significant interactions were found for any of the variables analysed ($p > .05$) across the three factorial comparisons: competition × match outcome, competition × tournament phase, or competition × semi-final qualification.

Table 2. Technical-tactical performance indicators by competition.

Performance indicators	Euro	Copa America	*F*	*p*	ωp^2
Total shots (n)	12.48 ± 5.87	11.60 ± 5.20	1.114	.293	.00 S
Shots on target (n)	4.12 ± 2.45	3.92 ± 2.19	0.452	.503	.00 S
Shot accuracy (%)	32.90 ± 14.45	35.55 ± 18.71	0.804	.371	.00 S
Attempted passes (n)	476.79 ± 134.06	386.66 ± 107.32	21.814	<.001*	.12 M
Completed passes (n)	415.17 ± 136.41	311.77 ± 108.23	27.973	<.001*	.15 L
Pass accuracy (%)	85.82 ± 5.36	79.15 ± 6.57	51.941	<.001*	.25 L
Attempted crosses (n)	16.72 ± 7.88	14.71 ± 6.69	2.615	.108	.01 S
Completed crosses (n)	4.13 ± 2.53	3.85 ± 2.41	0.528	.468	.00 S
Cross accuracy (%)	24.47 ± 12.32	26.81 ± 15.82	0.936	.335	.00 S

*Note. * indicates a statistically significant difference. Effect size classification: S = small, M = moderate, L = large.*

Table 3. Technical-tactical performance indicators by match outcome, combining both competitions.

Performance indicators	Winning	Drawing	Losing	*F*	*p*	ωp^2
Total shots (n)	14.64 ± 5.96 AB	11.98 ± 5.07	9.74 ± 4.63	11.198	<.001*	.12 M
Shots on target (n)	5.34 ± 2.50 AB	3.85 ± 2.09	2.91 ± 1.71	16.828	<.001*	.17 L
Shot accuracy (%)	38.98 ± 15.32 AB	32.98 ± 14.90	29.85 ± 17.36	4.100	.018*	.04 S
Attempted passes (n)	489.83 ± 135.01 AB	440.60 ± 131.37	391.09 ± 109.34	8.888	<.001*	.09 M
Completed passes (n)	425.26 ± 141.11 AB	371.10 ± 135.12	324.04 ± 110.80	9.100	<.001*	.10 M
Pass accuracy (%)	85.34 ± 6.34 AB	82.67 ± 6.52	81.34 ± 6.74	7.157	.001*	.07 M
Attempted crosses (n)	16.30 ± 7.02	16.44 ± 8.18	15.04 ± 7.30	0.634	.532	.00 S
Completed crosses (n)	4.43 ± 2.39	4.15 ± 2.52	3.49 ± 2.48	2.463	.089	.01 S
Cross accuracy (%)	29.15 ± 15.47 AB	24.81 ± 11.77	22.21 ± 13.17	4.218	.017*	.04 S

*Note. * indicates a statistically significant difference. A indicates a significant difference relative to drawing teams. B indicates a significant difference relative to losing teams. Effect size classification: S = small, M = moderate, L = large.*

Table 4. Technical-tactical performance by semi-final qualification status, combining both competitions.

Performance indicators	Semi-finalists	Non-semi-finalists	*F*	*p*	ωp^2
Total shots (n)	13.36 ± 5.93	11.63 ± 5.42	3.456	.065	.01 S
Shots on target (n)	4.48 ± 2.52	3.86 ± 2.26	2.688	.103	.01 S
Shot accuracy (%)	34.23 ± 12.92	33.86 ± 17.51	0.001	.979	.00 S
Attempted passes (n)	475.48 ± 129.46	426.52 ± 130.03	7.687	.006*	.04 S
Completed passes (n)	412.66 ± 135.47	357.90 ± 132.74	9.560	.002*	.05 S
Pass accuracy (%)	85.45 ± 6.01	82.20 ± 6.78	17.257	<.001*	.09 M
Attempted crosses (n)	15.77 ± 6.76	15.96 ± 7.76	0.001	.965	.00 S
Completed crosses (n)	4.64 ± 2.50	3.77 ± 2.44	4.412	.037*	.02 S
Cross accuracy (%)	30.66 ± 13.83	23.31 ± 13.33	9.056	.003*	.05 S

Note. * indicates a statistically significant difference. Effect size classification: S = small, M = moderate, L = large.

The main effects revealed statistically significant differences between competitions in attempted passes, completed passes, and pass accuracy ($p < .05$), calculated as the average per team per match. Euro teams recorded higher values across these variables (see Table 2).

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Significant main effects were also identified for match outcome. In both tournaments, winning teams had significantly higher values for total shots, shots on target, shot accuracy, attempted passes, completed passes, pass accuracy, and cross accuracy than drawing or losing teams ($p < .05$) (see Table 3).

In both tournaments, significant differences between semi-finalist and non-semi-finalist teams were found in attempted passes, completed passes, pass accuracy, completed crosses, and cross accuracy (see Table 4), with semi-finalist teams recording higher values across these variables. No significant differences were found for total shots, shots on target, shot accuracy, or attempted crosses.

DISCUSSION

This is among the first studies to compare technical-tactical indicators and contextual factors across elite continental national-team competitions, specifically the Euro and Copa America in the 2024 editions. The main effects from the factorial ANOVA revealed differences in technical-tactical performance between competitions (Euro vs. Copa America) in passing variables. No significant interactions were found between competition and any contextual variable, suggesting that the observed differences in technical-tactical performance are not contingent on match context within a tournament, but rather reflect characteristics of the tournaments themselves.

Comparing these findings with previous research on technical-tactical performance between European club competitions (UEFA Champions League) and South American ones (CONMEBOL Copa Libertadores), several parallels emerge. Both competitions differed in the numbers of attempted and completed passes, as well as passing accuracy, with European teams showing higher values (Romero-Clavijo et al., 2025). The superior technical-tactical output observed in European teams for passing variables may be linked to playing style (Izquierdo & Redondo, 2022; Martín-Castellanos et al., 2025). These differences in competition were not uniform across indicators. They were confined to passing and, within passing, were practically meaningful. Pass accuracy and completed passes reached large effect sizes ($\omega p^2 = .25$ and .15) and attempted passes a moderate one ($\omega p^2 = .12$). In practice, this means the two confederations diverge mainly in how national teams build and circulate the ball.

Prior studies in national European competitions describe a style of play characterized by longer ball possession sequences and organized pressing (Martín-Castellanos et al., 2025; Stafylidis et al., 2024a). In contrast, the Copa America dynamic reflects a predominantly direct style of play, with fast transitions and individual dribbling actions (Ugalde-Ramírez & Vasquez-Bonilla, 2025). These differences are consistent with earlier observations of South American (Hughes & Churchill, 2005) and CONCACAF teams (Ugalde-Ramírez & Rodríguez-Porras, 2021) tending toward more vertical and direct possession, compared to the longer possession sequences characteristic of European football (Lobo-Triviño et al., 2023; Romero-Clavijo et al., 2025). Direct comparison of these magnitudes with earlier work is limited, because studies on Euro 2024 and on European-South American club football typically report differences in descriptive or predictive terms rather than as comparable effect sizes (Martín-Castellanos et al., 2025; Romero-Clavijo et al., 2025; Stafylidis et al., 2024a). Where comparable, the results align with existing literature. The European advantage is primarily observed in passing volume and accuracy. The magnitude of this advantage, particularly in pass accuracy, provides a benchmark for future studies to evaluate effect sizes.

From a broader perspective, it is also important to consider that these differences may be associated with physical demands and external factors, as well as reflect a sociocultural context. As argued by Giulianotti & Robertson (2004) and Rossing & Skrubbeltrang (2016), tactical playing styles manifest clearly in international

competition and may mirror cultural behaviours specific to each country or region. These accounts associate a more structured, organized style with European football and a more improvised, creative style with South American football. These characterizations are working hypotheses rather than firm explanations, since they can reduce complex tactical behaviour to broad regional stereotypes. These tendencies have long been proposed as distinguishing characteristics (Giulianotti & Robertson, 2004; Rossing & Skrubbeltrang, 2016), and they help explain differences in how players perform in both matches and training.

Regarding match outcome, and considering both competitions together, winning teams produced more total shots and shots on target and achieved higher shot accuracy. The magnitude of these effects indicates where the outcome gap is widest in practice. Shots on target had a large effect (ωp^2 = .17), while total shots, attempted passes, completed passes, and pass accuracy showed moderate effects (ωp^2 = .07-.12). Finishing volume, more than efficiency, is what most separated winning teams from the rest. This offensive output was accompanied by a higher number of attempted passes, completed passes, passing accuracy, and crosses, findings that align with prior research linking sporting success to ball possession and the capacity to create goal-scoring opportunities (Mitrotasios et al., 2019; Tousios et al., 2018; Martín-Castellanos et al., 2025). In European leagues, winning teams have consistently recorded better shots-on-target averages than losing teams (Lago-Peñas et al., 2010; Rocha-Lima et al., 2021; Stafylidis et al., 2024b). In the Americas, data from the 2014 Brazilian Série B showed that successful teams attempted more total shots and shots on target than unsuccessful ones (Barreira et al., 2016).

Along the same lines, teams that reached the semi-finals across both competitions attempted more passes and crosses. This suggests that a possession-based style of play, combined with wide play and delivery into the opponent's penalty area, may increase the likelihood of a team progressing in a tournament (Liu et al., 2015). These semi-final effects were generally modest. Pass accuracy reached a moderate effect (ωp^2 = .09), while attempted passes, completed passes, completed crosses, and cross accuracy showed small effects (ωp^2 = .02-.05). The signal is therefore consistent in direction but weaker, which fits the idea that reaching the last four depends on many factors beyond a single technical-tactical profile. At Euro 2024, semi-finalists and finalists were characterized by completing more passes, which is consistent with the results of previous editions (Shafizadeh et al., 2013; Sgrò et al., 2015). This phase-based reading, however, has to account for a structural difference between the two tournaments: the Euro included a round of 16 that the Copa America did not, so a team's path to the semi-finals involved a different number and type of knockout matches in each competition. We grouped phases into broader categories to mitigate this, but the asymmetry means that phase and semi-final comparisons should be read as approximate rather than stage-for-stage equivalents. Across multiple competitions, semi-finalists and champions have been distinguished by their ball possession figures, specifically, more completed passes, higher passing accuracy, more key passes, and more deliveries into the final third, confirming that these technical-tactical variables are competitive success factors in football (Akyildiz et al., 2022; Andrzejewski et al., 2022; Hwang, 2025). As for crosses, the findings of this study are consistent with prior work. For instance, the 2010 FIFA World Cup winners were distinguished from losing teams by a higher number of completed crosses (Casamichana et al., 2013). That said, it is also worth noting that crossing effectiveness in football matches depends partly on the opposing defence's ability to clear the ball and mark attackers, making it a context-dependent offensive resource, particularly for teams with a lower-possession style, as demonstrated in previous research (Vantarakis & Stafylidis, 2023).

Finally, the results of this study reinforce the idea that, while successful teams (whether winners or semi-finalists) share common technical-tactical patterns such as higher passing volume and greater offensive efficiency, the continental contexts retain distinctive characteristics that must be taken into account when

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interpreting match data and designing training and competition preparation processes for these events. Framed this way, the technical-tactical indicators do more than separate two tournaments: they help characterize competition-specific performance profiles, in which a shared core of success markers (passing volume, passing accuracy, and offensive efficiency) operates within continental environments that keep their own stylistic signatures. Reading the Euro and the Copa America as distinct performance profiles, rather than as a single ranking of better or worse football, offers a more useful frame for tactical preparation and for transferring performance models across regions.

CONCLUSIONS

Euro and Copa America teams differed in the number of passes attempted and completed, as well as in passing accuracy, with European teams recording higher values across all variables. These differences may reflect distinct playing styles between the two confederations. The lack of significant interactions means that the differences between competitions are held regardless of match outcome, tournament phase, or semi-final qualification. This does not mean these contextual factors are unimportant. When both competitions were analysed together, match outcome and reaching the semi-finals had significant effects. This shows that several indicators were linked to success in both tournaments.

Limitations

Despite the results obtained, several limitations should be acknowledged. First, the two competitions differed in the number of matches played and in their formats: the Euro featured 15 additional matches and included a round of 16, which was absent from Copa America. Furthermore, although data reliability was verified, the use of publicly available information means that the quality and consistency of the measurements recorded across competitions cannot be fully controlled. These format differences and reliance on public data may introduce bias into the inter-tournament comparison; therefore, the results should be interpreted with caution and treated as a starting point for understanding differences between confederations and for future research. The analysis was limited to offensive indicators; therefore, it is necessary to include defensive performance indicators in the future. This will require that event coding criteria be consistent across confederations.

Furthermore, excluding matches that went to extra time standardized match durations but also eliminated some highly contested knockout matches, which should be considered when interpreting tournament stage comparisons. Additionally, because some factor cells were small and the samples were unequal, the study had limited power to detect interactions; therefore, we interpret the absence of significant interactions with this caveat.

Practical applications

The findings of this study suggest several practical implications. These can inform the development of targeted training programs for coaches ahead of international tournaments. Coaches and technical staff can also draw on this information during the preparatory phases of continental or intercontinental competitions to better understand the differences and similarities between teams from different regions, with the aim of prioritizing technical-tactical variables related to playing style when facing opponents from other regions. In practice, the higher passing volume and accuracy of European teams mean that staff preparing to face UEFA opponents can expect more ball circulation and may want to rehearse organized pressing and ways to disrupt possession. Preparation against Copa America opponents can instead lean toward transition scenarios and defending against fast, direct attacks. Pass accuracy and crossing output can also be tracked as indicators of how likely a team is to advance.

Future lines of research

In light of this study's findings, further research of this kind in competitive contexts that allow meaningful comparisons between national teams from different regions is warranted. Integrating additional variables, such as match-running performance, player characteristics, and positional roles, would provide a more comprehensive picture of performance in elite football.

It would also be valuable to extend this type of research to women's and youth football contexts. Given that these populations are comparatively understudied, such work would help coaches develop competition strategies and design training programs to prepare for international tournaments.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors meet the criteria for authorship in accordance with established ethical guidelines. Contributions are specified according to the CRediT (Contributor Roles Taxonomy) as follows:

Conceptualisation: Julio César Valerio-Ramírez, Jose Alexis Ugalde-Ramírez, Héctor Fonseca-Schmidt. Methodology: Julio César Valerio-Ramírez, Jose Alexis Ugalde-Ramírez, Héctor Fonseca-Schmidt. Formal analysis: Julio César Valerio-Ramírez. Data curation: Julio César Valerio-Ramírez, Jose Alexis Ugalde-Ramírez. Writing – original draft: Julio César Valerio-Ramírez, Jose Alexis Ugalde-Ramírez. Writing – review & editing: Héctor Fonseca-Schmidt.

All authors have critically reviewed and approved the final version of the manuscript and agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work.

FUNDING

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this manuscript.

AI USE DISCLOSURE

In accordance with current publishing ethics and transparency recommendations, artificial intelligence (AI) tools were used solely to assist with translation and language editing, with the aim of improving clarity and readability. No AI tools were used in the generation of scientific content, including the study design, data collection, analysis, interpretation of results, or the formulation of conclusions. The authors retain full responsibility for the content of the manuscript and confirm its originality, integrity, and accuracy.

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