

# Report on Bachelor / Master Thesis

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University

<b>Student:</b>	<b>Filip Šnejdr</b>
<b>Advisor:</b>	<b>Mgr. Petr Polák, MSc., Ph.D.</b>
<b>Title of the thesis:</b>	<b>Home advantage in football during COVID-19 pandemic</b>

## **OVERALL ASSESSMENT** (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):

*Please provide your assessment of each of the following four categories, summary and suggested questions for the discussion. The minimum length of the report is 300 words.*

### **Contribution**

The thesis uses specific time period (that is determined by the virus pandemic) to evaluate the drivers of sport matches results. In his thesis, Filip Šnejdr uses data from major football leagues in Europe to analyse the effect of spectators. It is shown, that the changed conditions (playing without the crowd of people present at the stadium) changed the outcomes of the matches and also lead to deteriorate the accuracy of betting odds. There are a few studies which also use new data from the covid-19 pandemic in sports and this thesis contributes to these new evidence significantly.

### **Methods**

The main method for the analysis is the statistical comparison of calculated indicators of matches. This simple but effective method allows the author to draw clear conclusions. The author uses mainly Welch's t-test, which is suitable for comparison of groups of different sizes, which is exactly the case in this thesis – the pre-covid dataset is larger than the covid one.

### **Literature**

The literature used in the thesis can be separated into two groups – one dealing with home team advantage in general and the second group of studies using pandemic times to look at its effect of sports results. Both are used in the thesis properly and authors tries to connect his results to the existing academic literature.

### **Manuscript form**

The thesis is well structured and formatted (Filipe uses a standardized Latex template). The language used is easy to understand. The thesis could be improved by rewriting some parts and by inclusion of more graphics. Such remark does not mean, that there is something wrong.

### **Summary and suggested questions for the discussion during the defense**

Filip worked on his thesis independently and managed clean and collect the data nicely. As a sportsman, I also like that he chose the topic by himself which is close to him (unfortunately, there not better data available on athletics). From the advisor's perspective, I am glad that Filip was open to my suggestions and at the same time was able to find suitable methods for the analysis by himself.

Regarding the points awarded, I would I deducted some points for the methods as I would appreciate more graphical work with the data. The manuscript could be able to „sell“ the results much more, since I believe they are quite interesting.

*I do not have a specific question for the defense, but I would suggest that Filip would comment about what was the most surprising results of his analysis to him and what are the implications in the field of economics.*

*The results of the Urkund analysis do not indicate significant text similarity with other available sources.*

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*In my view, the thesis fulfills the requirements for a bachelor thesis at IES, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University, I recommend it for the defense and suggest a grade A.*

## **SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED** (for details, see below):

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<i>Contribution (max. 30 points)</i>	30
<i>Methods (max. 30 points)</i>	28
<i>Literature (max. 20 points)</i>	20
<i>Manuscript Form (max. 20 points)</i>	16
<b>TOTAL POINTS (max. 100 points)</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>GRADE (A – B – C – D – E – F)</b>	<b>A</b>

**NAME OF THE REFEREE: Petr Polák**

**DATE OF EVALUATION: 10. 1. 2022**

*Digitally signed (10. 1. 2022)*  
*Petr Polák*

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**Referee Signature**

**EXPLANATION OF CATEGORIES AND SCALE:**

**CONTRIBUTION:** *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

**METHODS:** *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

**LITERATURE REVIEW:** *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

**MANUSCRIPT FORM:** *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

**Overall grading:**

TOTAL	GRADE
91 – 100	A
81 - 90	B
71 - 80	C
61 – 70	D
51 – 60	E
0 – 50	F