

## **Abstract**

**Title:** Analysis of standard kick-off situations in soccer goalkeepers at different ages

**Objectives:** The aim of this bachelor thesis is to analyse the standard goal kick situation and compare their frequency and successness between different categories

**Methods:** The scientific method of indirect observation through video recording was used to carry out this work. Based on the observation of the matches of three different teams in different clubs and age categories, an analysis of the success rate of setting up an attack during a kick from goal was carried out.

**Results:** We tracked the frequency and successness rate of standard kick-off situations and compared three categories – U18, U19 and men. The results were surprising, as the youth categories exceeded expectations in establishing an attack on a kick from goal compared to the world-class A- team. For U18 and U19, we found that central defenders were more likely to be in the penalty area (U18: 88 %, U19: 91 %) than out of the penalty area when taking a kick from goal. In contrast, for the senior team, FC Sevilla had 71 % of central defenders positioned outside the penalty area. The positioning of the opponent's attackers showed that the defenders - the opponent's attackers - were outside the zones designated for setting up (65%), while the youth categories were more often in these zones. Three defenders (the opponent's striker and two wingers) were most often (36 %) in these zones. Short passes to players inside the penalty area were predominant when the kick was taken from goal. The U19s played 74 % of

the time to players inside the penalty area, while FC Sevilla only played 35 % of the time. Sevilla played the remaining 65 % of the time with long passes to central midfielders or strikers. The analysis showed that teams preferred to move the play quickly into the opponent's half of the pitch. For two of the three teams, after the first pass, they tried to get the ball out of their third of the field, even at the cost of losing the ball. For the U19s, in 58 % of the cases, possession was maintained after half-time, with players changing the centre of gravity and then advancing towards the opposition goal. FC Sevilla tried to stay as little as possible near their penalty area and in 90 % of situations, played a long pass to players in the opponents' defensive line, where they tried to keep the ball, which was not always successful.

**Keywords:** football, analysis, setting up attack, goal kick, defenders