

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN WINNING, DRAWING AND LOSING TEAMS IN 2010 WORLD CUP

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Keywords: football, performance indicators, winners, losers.

Introduction

Performance indicators have been suggested as useful for coaches and analysts can compare the expected performance^{2,3}, with other teams, or predict future performance¹. The aim of the present study is to identify the performance indicators that allow us to differentiate between winning and losing teams in group stages and 2nd stage in 2010 FIFA World Cup.

Methods

The collected data from all matches (64) were provided by FIFA (www.fifa.com). The drawing games in 2nd stage have not been included in the analysis because of small sample (n = 2 matches).

Results & Discussion

Table 1 shows the difference between winning, drawing and losing games. Of the 25 team performance indicators studied, only

11 showed significant differences in the teams that participated in the Group Stage, and 6 in 2nd Stage.

Conclusion

This study increases the knowledge about match analysis in soccer and allows applications ideas to connect research with training.

References

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Table 1. Performance indicators that discriminate between winning (1), drawing (2) and losing (3) teams in South Africa'10. Significance level was set at $p < 0.05$. ^a is 1>3; ^b is 1>2; ^c is 3>2; ^d is 3>1.

	Group Stage			Stage 2	
	3 (n=34)	2 (n=28)	1 (n=34)	3 (n=14)	1 (n=14)
Goals for	0.3 ±0.5	0.7 ±0.7	2.0 ±1.2 ^a	0.7 ±0.7	2.3 ±1.1 ^a
Goals against	2.2 ±1.2 ^{cd}	0.7 ±0.7	0.3 ±0.5	2.3 ±1.1	0.7 ±0.7 ^a
Total shots	12.4 ±4.8	12.1 ±5.4	16.3 ±6.1 ^{ab}	14.0 ±4.4	15.3 ±2.8
Shots on target	3.6 ±1.9	3.9 ±2.2	7.2 ±3.1 ^{ab}	5.0 ±1.9	6.7 ±1.4 ^a
Total shots against	16.3 ±6.1 ^{cd}	12.1 ±5.4	12.4 ±4.8	15.3 ±2.9	14.0 ±4.4
Shots on target against	7.2 ±3.1 ^{cd}	3.9 ±2.2	3.6 ±1.9	6.7 ±1.4 ^d	5.0 ±1.9
(%) Ball possession	47.7 ±6.6	49.7 ±5.3	52.2 ±6.5 ^a	47.9 ±4.3	52.1 ±4.3 ^a
Red cards	0.3 ±0.5 ^{cd}	0.1 ±0.3	0.02 ±0.2	0.2 ±0.4	0.0 ±0.0
Red cars against team	0.03 ±0.2	0.1 ±0.3	0.3 ±0.5 ^{ab}	0.0 ±0.0	0.2 ±0.4
Passes	460 ±97	480 ±95	526 ±114 ^a	517 ±79	577 ±123
Completed passes	325 ±94	342 ±99	389 ±113 ^a	356 ±70	412 ±121
Completed crosses	3.5 ±2.1	3.8 ±2.8	5.0 ±3.6	2.5 ±1.6	4.1 ±2.4 ^a