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Comparative analysis of Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel messi 100 Goals in Uefa Club Competitions

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to analyse Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi 100 goals in the UEFA club competitions. Ronaldo's 100 goals in 143 appearances for Manchester United fc and Real Madrid fc and Messi's 100 goals in 122 appearances for fc Barcelona were delimited for this research. The following findings showed that: (1) Cristiano Ronaldo's scoring rate was 0.70 goals per game while Lionel Messi's was 0.82 goals per game. (2) Ronaldo scored 69 goals from his right foot while Messi scored 14 goals. Ronaldo scored 15 goals from his left foot whereas Messi scored 82 goals. Ronaldo scored 16 goals with his head whereas Messi scored 4 goals by his head. (3) Different types of goals Ronaldo and Messi scored among their 100 goals were, Ronaldo's 77 goals in open play and whereas Messi's were 86. Ronaldo converted 12 free kicks while Messi's was 5. Ronaldo scored 11 penalties but Messi scored only 9 goals. (4) Ronaldo scored 27 goals inside the penalty area (inside goal area) while Messi scored 18 goals. Ronaldo scored 55 inside penalty area (outside goal area) whereas Messi 67 goals. The remaining Ronaldo's 18 goals were from outside penalty area out of which 12 were free kicks however Messi's is 15 out of which 5 were free kicks. Conclusion: (1) Lionel Messi have higher scoring rate than Cristiano Ronaldo in 100 goals in UEFA club completion. (2) Ronaldo used his right foot as dominant foot for scoring whereas Messi used his left foot for the same. In header goals Ronaldo has more advantage than Lionel Messi due to height factor. (3) Both the players have scored more goals in open play than free kicks and penalties but Messi have more goal scored in the open play than Ronaldo. (4) Both the players have scored more goals inside penalty area than outside for scoring. Ronaldo has more goals inside penalty area (inside goal area) whereas Messi has more goals inside penalty area (outside goal area). In terms of scoring outside penalty area both the players were almost the same.

Keywords: UEFA club, goal, open play, free kick, penalty, inside/outside penalty area.

Introduction

Football is one of the most famous and most played games around the world. The football game consists of various skills like dribbling, heading, ball control, receiving, volleying, shooting, trapping, strategies, tactics, etc. which enhance players' performance in the game. Proper execution of those skills successfully enhances the overall performance of the players as well as team. Goal scoring is one of the most significant parts of the football game without which winner of the match could not be determined. "If Lionel Messi is the best on the planet, Cristiano Ronaldo is the best in the universe", says Jose Mourinho, the then coach of Real Madrid fc.

Cristiano Ronaldo is a professional football player from Portugal who is currently playing as striker for the Spanish club Real Madrid fc as well as for his national team Portugal. He has achieved four times FIFA Ballon d'Or award and is also the first player to win four European Golden Shoes. Ronaldo has scored more than 600 senior career goals for his club and country. After playing 143 games in UEFA Club competitions, Cristiano Ronaldo succeeded to become the first player to score 100 goals. His 100th goal was scored against Bayern Munich fc on April 12, 2017, the first leg of the quarterfinal of Champions League where he scored twice. It took over 11 years, since his first goal on August 9, 2005, against Debrecen fc, for Ronaldo to achieve this feat.

Lionel Messi is a professional football player from Argentina who is currently playing as a striker for the Spanish club FC Barcelona as well as for the Argentina national team. He is the only player in football history to have conquered five times FIFA Ballon d'Or award and a

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record-tying four European Golden Shoes. Messi holds the record for most official goals scored in La Liga and has scored over 600 senior career goals for his country and the club. Messi succeeded in becoming the second player to score 100 goals in UEFA Club Competitions after scoring against Olympiakos fc on October 18, 2017 in his 122 appearances for FC Barcelona. It took over 11 years, since his first goal on November 2, 2005, against Panathinaikos fc.

Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi are considered at present as one of the best footballers in the world as well as one of the greatest players of all time. Both the players possess completely different qualities from each other in term of physique, skills, psychological aspects, playing styles, etc. Ronaldo has tall figure whereas Messi is shorter in height. Cristiano is a fast striker who used to score by both feet with mesmerising footwork as well as his head. Ronaldo's free kick swerve with pace and power is a great asset for his team. However Messi has a lower center of gravity than most of the players, which allows him to change direction quickly and avoid tackles. He is predominantly a left-footed and uses short bursts of acceleration on the field. Messi plays free attack and playmaking role and his balancing while running with the ball at high pace is incredible; his speed, dribbling, vision, passing ability and finishing are outstanding.

Objectives: The aim of this research is the analysis of 100 goals between Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi in the UEFA Club Competitions.

Methodology: In the present study, two of the greatest footballers in the modern era have been chosen as the subject i.e. Cristiano Ronaldo and Lionel Messi. Cristiano Ronaldo's 100 goals in 143 appearances with 16 goals for Manchester United fc and 84 for Real Madrid fc and Lionel Messi's 100 goals in 122 appearances for FC Barcelona in UEFA club is taken for the current research. The data was collected through journals, newspaper, video clips, open access sources etc. The video clips were collected from the YouTube official channel of UEFA.tv. In this study, the researcher analyses how they have scored, different types of goals and from where they scored.

Result & Discussion

Table 1: Analysis of Scoring Rate of Ronaldo & Messi 100 Goals

Group	Scoring rate		
CR07	0.70 goals per game	100 goals	143 appearance
LEO	0.82 goals per game	100 goals	122 appearance

Table 2: Goal Analysis of Ronaldo & Messi 100 goals in UEFA club competition

Players	Goal Scored			Types of Goals			From Where Scored the Goals		
	Right Foot	Left Foot	Header	Open Play	Free Kicks	Penalties	Inside Penalty (Goal) Area	Inside Penalty (outside Goal) Area	Outside Penalty Area
CR07	69	15	16	77	12	11	27	55	18
LEO	14	82	4	86	5	9	18	67	15
Total	100			100			100		

Details discussion of table 1 and 2 were discuss below with graphs illustration:

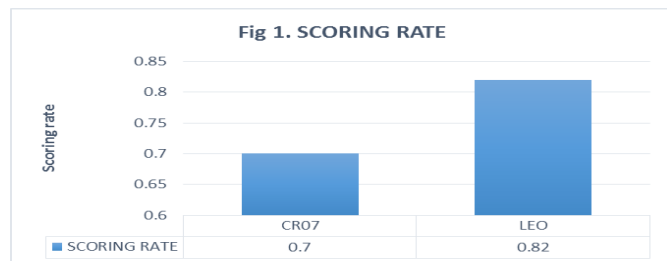


Fig 1: Scoring rate of Ronaldo & Messi 100 goals

The above figure 1 shows that Cristiano Ronaldo's scoring rate was 0.70 goals per game while Lionel Messi's scoring rate was 0.82 goals per game.

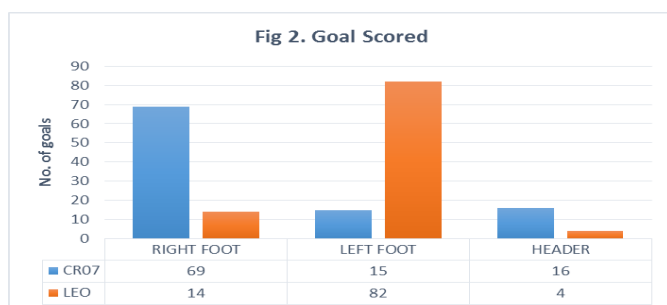


Fig 2: Analysis of how Ronaldo & Messi Scored 100 Goals

Above figure 2 shows that among the 100 goals scored in UEFA club competitions, Ronaldo scored 69 goals from his right foot while Messi scored 14 goals. Ronaldo scored 15 goals from his left foot whereas Messi scored 82 goals and Ronaldo 16 goals were with his head whereas Messi 4 goals were from header.

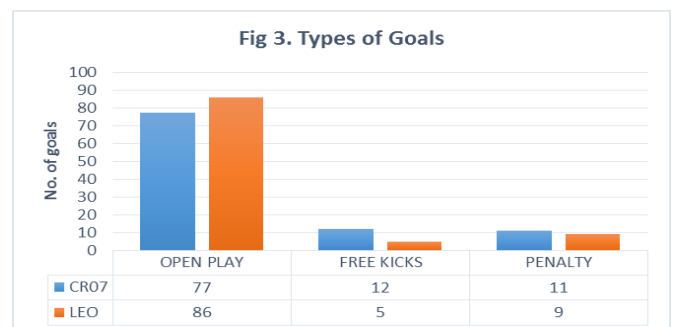


Fig 3: Analysis of types of Goals of Ronaldo & Messi 100 Goals

Above figure 3 shows the different types of goals Ronaldo and Messi scored among their 100 goals. Ronaldo's 77 goals were in open play and whereas Messi's were 86 goals. Ronaldo scored 12 free kicks goals while Messi's were 5 goals. Ronaldo scored 11 penalty goals and Messi scored 9 penalty goals.

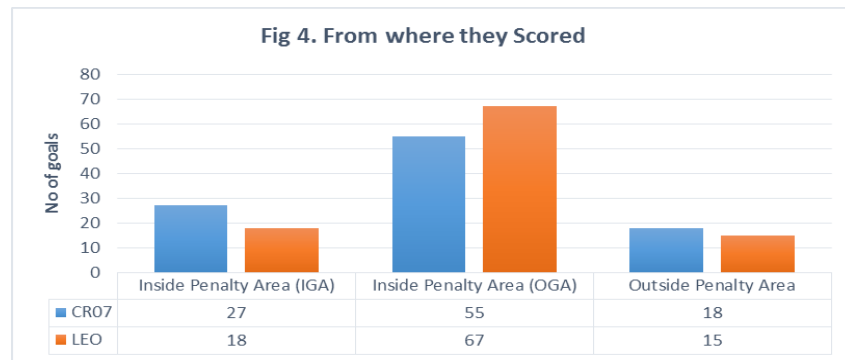


Fig 4: Analysis of Ronaldo & Messi 100 Goals from where they have scored

Figure 4 shows Ronaldo and Messi 100 goals: Ronaldo scored 27 goals inside penalty area (inside goal area) while Messi scored 18 goals inside penalty area (inside goal area). Ronaldo scored 55 goals inside penalty area (outside goal area) whereas Messi scored 67 inside penalty area (outside goal area). The remaining Ronaldo's 18 goals were from outside penalty area, out of which 12 were free kicks on the other hand Messi scored 15 goals out of which 5 were through free kick.

Conclusion

From the above figure 1, 2, 3 and 4 following conclusion were drawn:

1. Figure 1: Lionel Messi have higher scoring rate than Cristiano Ronaldo in 100 goals in UEFA club competition.
2. Figure 2: Among the 100 goals in UEFA club competitions, Ronaldo used his right foot as dominant and scoring foot whereas Messi used left foot as dominant and scoring foot. Ronaldo has a greater advantage than Lionel Messi in terms of scoring through heading due to his height.
3. Figure 3: Both the players have scored more goals in open play than free kicks and penalties but Messi have scored more goals in the open play than Ronaldo. Ronaldo have more goals scored from free kick and penalty as compared to Messi.
4. Figure 4: Both the players have scored more goals inside penalty area than outside in scoring. Ronaldo has more goals inside penalty area (inside goal area) whereas Messi has more goals inside penalty area (outside goal area). In terms of scoring outside penalty area both the players were almost the same.

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10. <http://www.uefa.com/uefachampionsleague/news/newsid=2406572.html>
11. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z31n56M5HXU>
12. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KRRXjUuq_Vk
13. In addition to four FIFA Ballons d'Or, Messi received France Football's Ballon d'Or and FIFA's World Player of the Year award prior to their fusion; both organisations credit him with five (FIFA) Ballons d'Or.
14. A record he shares with Cristiano Ronaldo.
15. Since surpassed by Cristiano Ronaldo, Messi is the second-highest goal scorer in the European Cup/Champions League as of November 2017.
16. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_VWtZ5oxlI
17. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4o3uyITsX_0