

Player Tendencies Under Opponent Pressure & its Relation to Goal Scoring

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Chelsea FCW named WSL champions 2019–20 season

FA 2019–20 Season Board Decision

COVID-19 pandemic: season ends after matchday
17 out of 22

Chelsea had one less point (39) than Man City (40)
in the league table at the time of season
cancellation

The outcome of the season would be decided
under a points-per-game system

3 points per win, 1 point per draw



How did Chelsea win the title having played 1 fewer matches?



Look into:

Do Chelsea players tend to pass or carry when under pressure?

Do attacking players make creative passes into the box?

Which players are outperforming and underperforming in terms of expected goals?



Gini Analysis

0.24	Pass under pressure
0.32	Carry under pressure
0.27	Pass not under pressure
0.31	Carry not under pressure

Chelsea Midfielders Gini Values

0.54	Pass under pressure
0.51	Carry under pressure
0.57	Pass not under pressure
0.57	Carry not under pressure

Chelsea Forwards Gini Values

0.39

Pass under pressure

0.29

Carry under pressure

0.31

Pass not under pressure

0.31

Carry not under pressure

League Average Defenders Gini Values

	Chelsea	League Average
Pass under pressure	0.24	0.30
Carry under pressure	0.32	0.33
Pass not under pressure	0.27	0.33
Carry not under pressure	0.31	0.39

League Average Midfielders Gini Values

	Chelsea	League Average
Pass under pressure	0.54	0.41
Carry under pressure	0.51	0.38
Pass not under pressure	0.57	0.43
Carry not under pressure	0.57	0.45

League Average Forwards Gini Values

	Chelsea	League Average
Pass under pressure	0.39	0.43
Carry under pressure	0.29	0.47
Pass not under pressure	0.31	0.45
Carry not under pressure	0.31	0.45



Player Analysis

Gini Index for Actions Under/No Pressure by Player

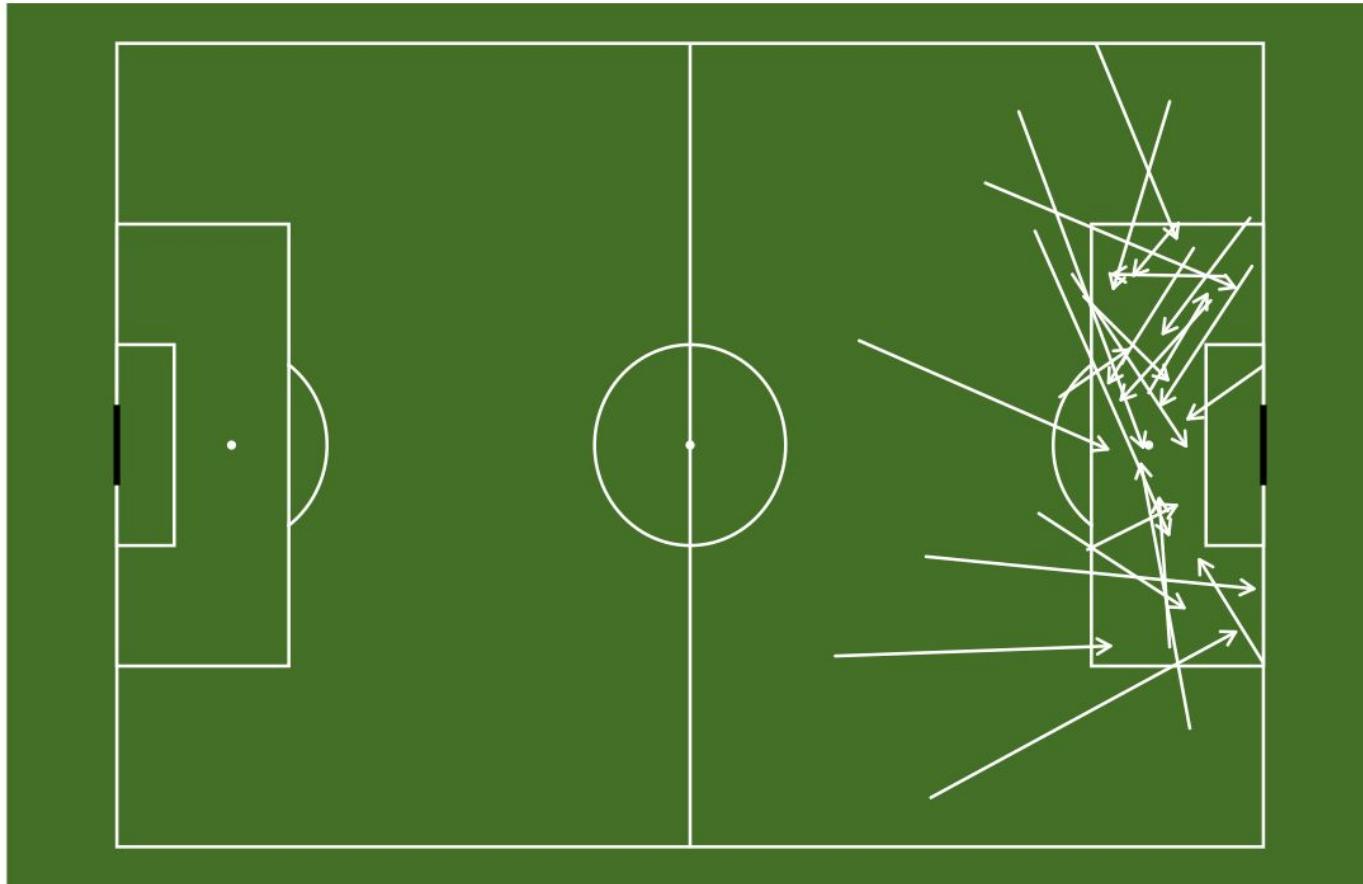


Bethany England (Forward) Gini Values

0.32	Pass under pressure
0.27	Carry under pressure
0.13	Pass not under pressure
0.17	Carry not under pressure

Bethany England, Completed Box Passes

WSL, 2019-20



Bethany England

Goals 14 – Assists 4

Thrives in no pressure scenarios → effective playmaker and goal contributor in controlled situations

Balanced tendencies without pressure also create goal scoring opportunities for her teammates as seen in her passes into the box

Relies on balanced passing and carrying to build play and possession



Guro Reiten (Midfielder) Gini Values

0.24

Pass under pressure

0.17

Carry under pressure

0.18

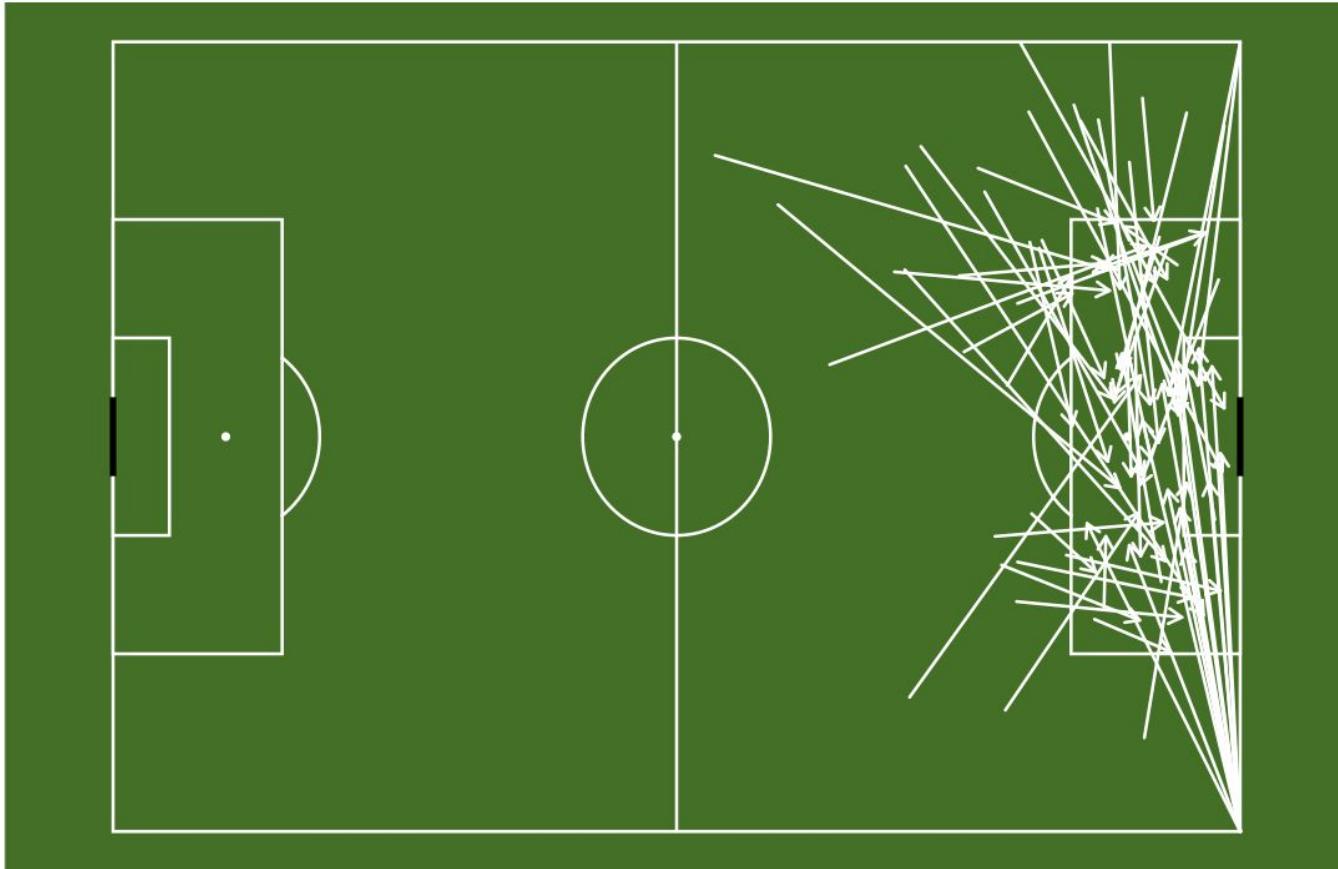
Pass not under pressure

0.23

Carry not under pressure

Guro Reiten, Completed Box Passes

WSL, 2019-20



Guro Reiten

Goals 5 – Assists 7

Ability to handle pressure effectively & balanced tendencies → key creator in regular play

Consistency that supports goal scoring through assists and pre-assist actions in tight situations

Displays composure in both unpressured and pressured scenarios → versatile and reliable in varied game conditions



Sam Kerr (Forward) Gini Values

0.29 Pass under pressure

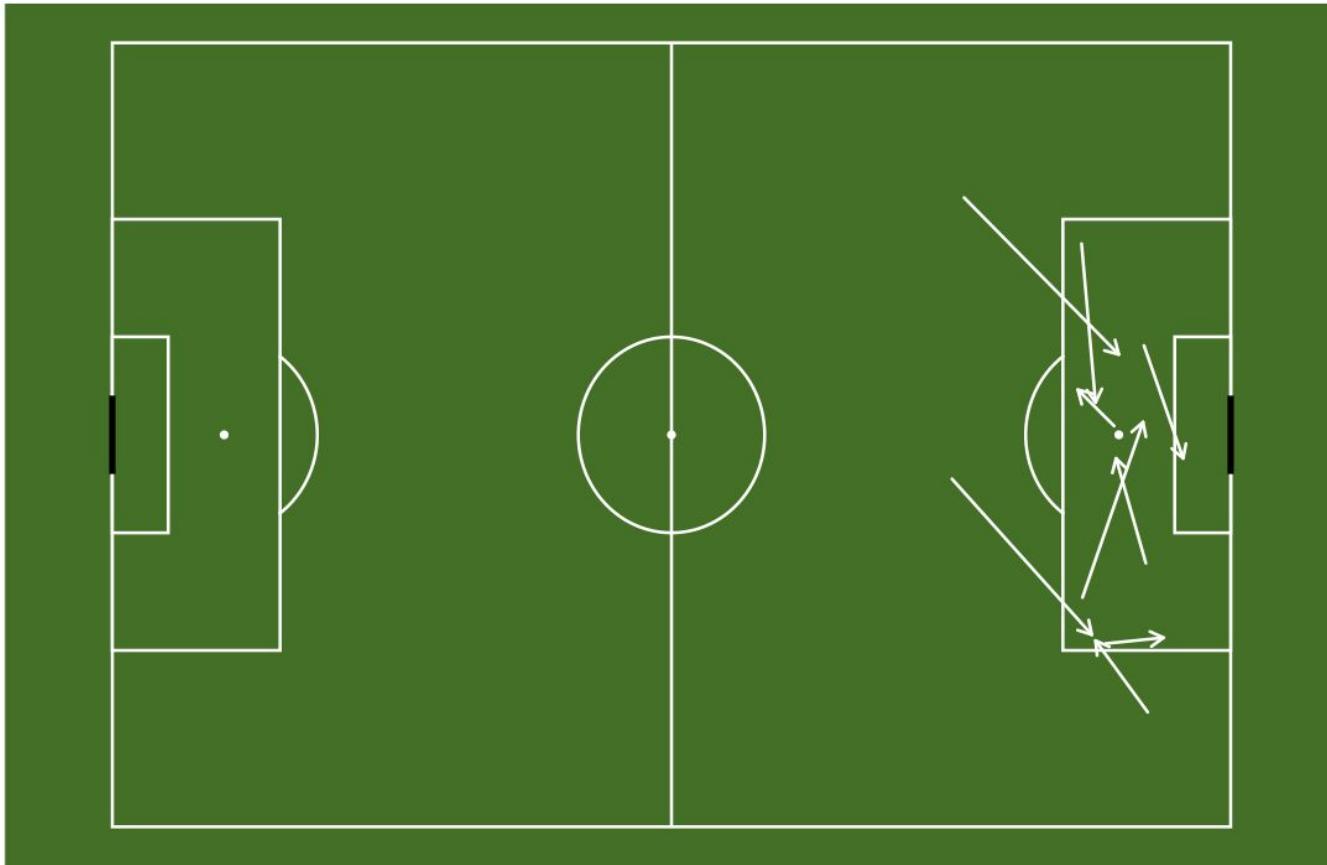
0.17 Carry under pressure

0.09 Pass not under pressure

0.17 Carry not under pressure

Sam Kerr, Completed Box Passes

WSL, 2019-20



Sam Kerr

Goals 1 – Assists 1

Composure & versatility under pressure

Consistent & balanced play style across both pressure & no pressure situations
→ pivotal figure in transitions and goal scoring opportunities

Ability to navigate pressure effectively
→ allows her to capitalize on defensive disorganization

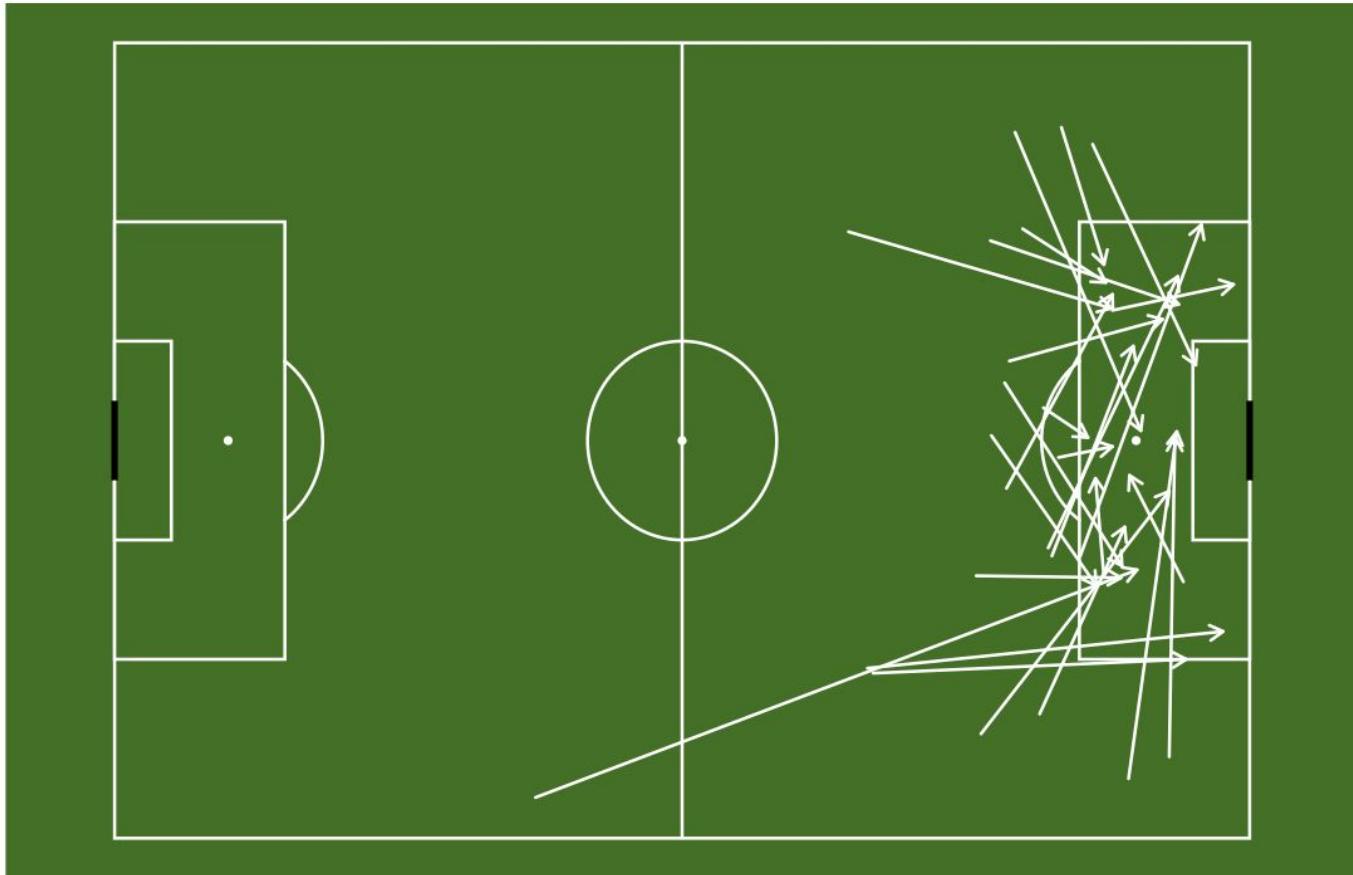
Excels on build up play towards the goal



So-Yun Ji (Midfielder) Gini Values

0.25	Pass under pressure
0.27	Carry under pressure
0.19	Pass not under pressure
0.21	Carry not under pressure

So-Yun Ji, Completed Box Passes
WSL, 2019-20



So-Yun Ji

Goals 6 - Assists 2



Composed & calculated play style under pressure

High ability to adapt to opposition intensity

Low Gini coeffs for pass and carry → takes advantage of no pressure situations & involves multiple teammates while advancing play effectively

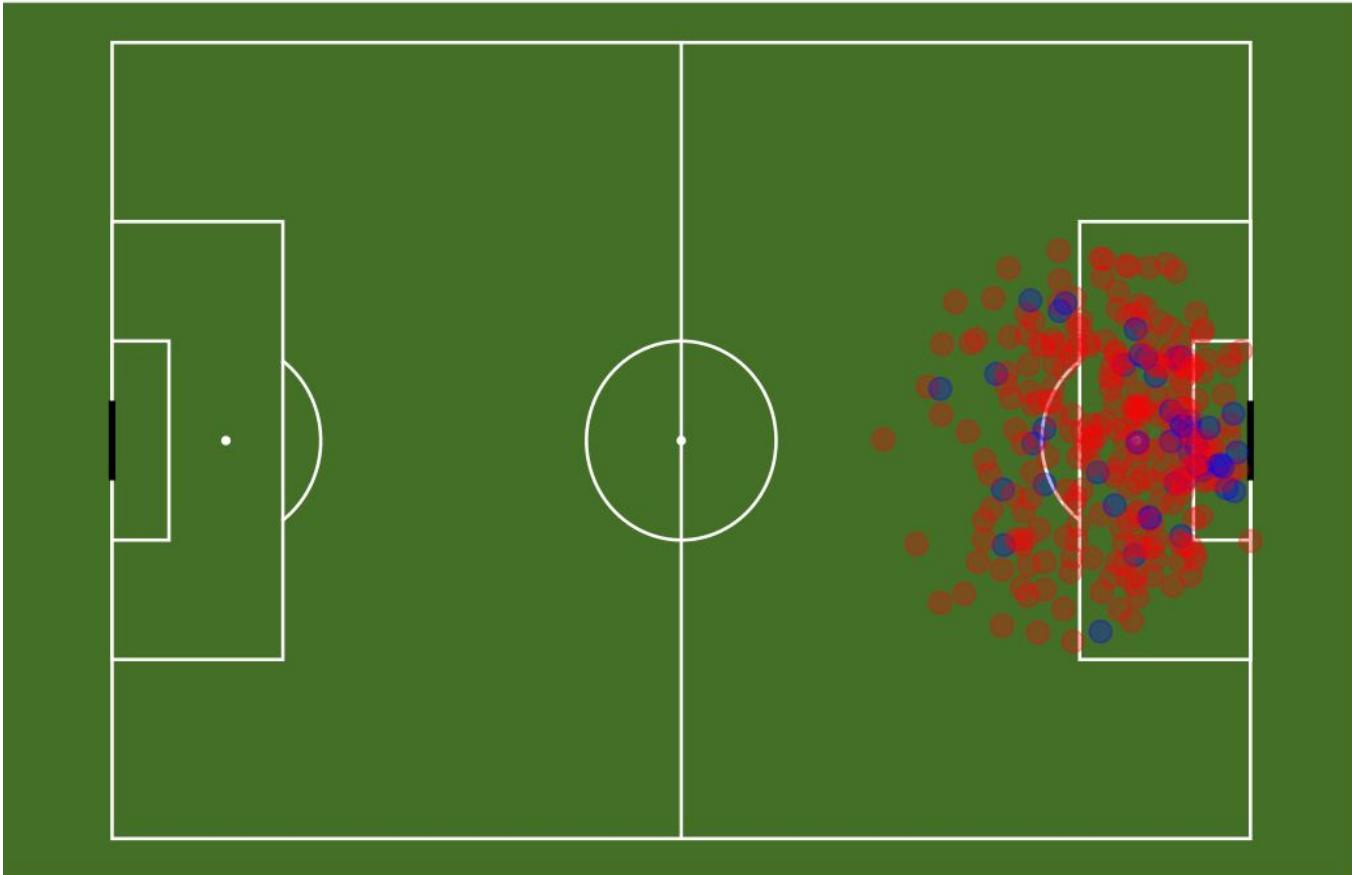
Not relying on specific zones → encourages adaptability and creativity in creating goal scoring opportunities

Expected Goals



Chelsea FCW Shots

WSL, 2019-20

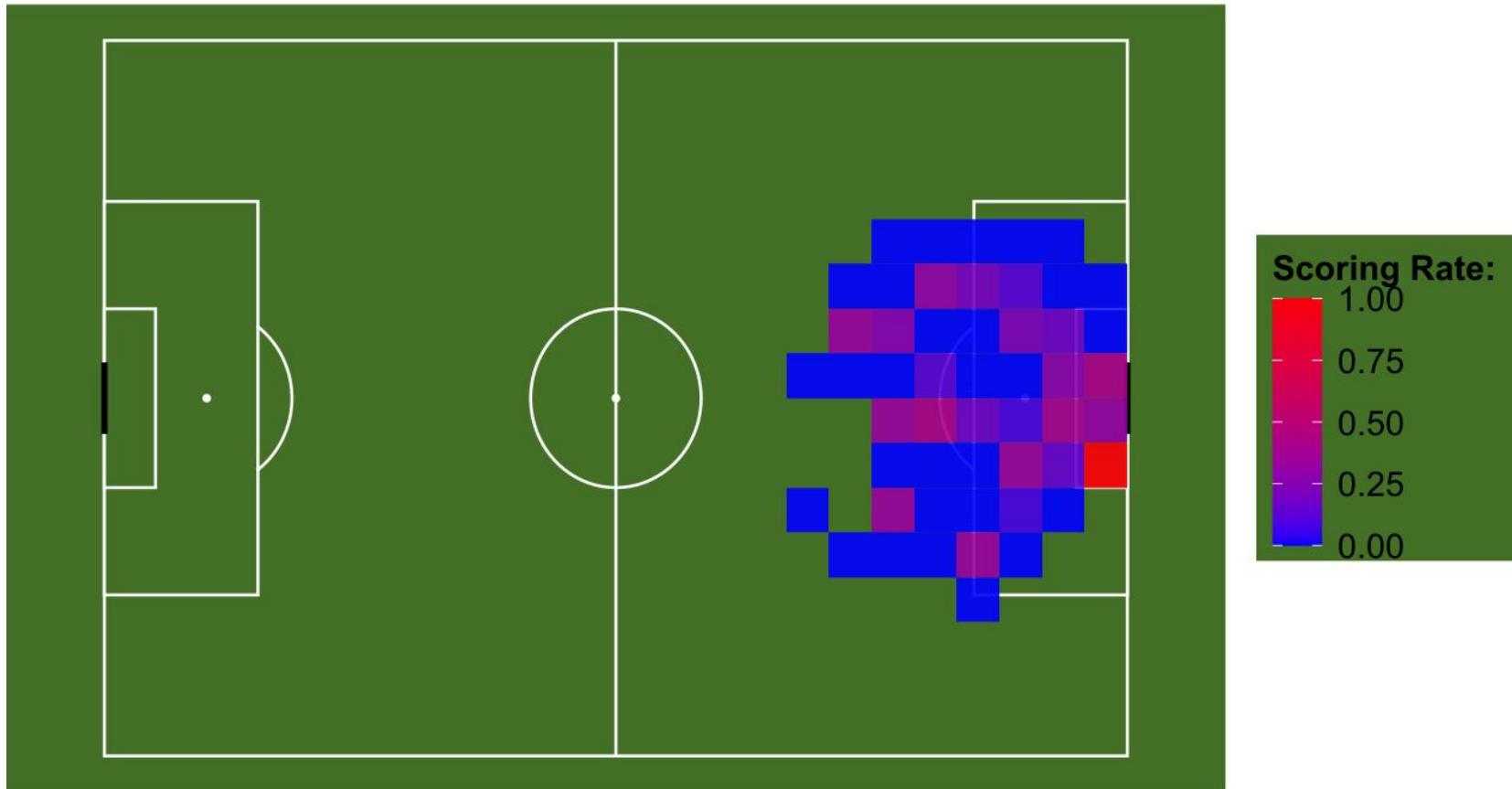


Shot Result:

- Miss
- Goal

Chelsea FCW Scoring Rate by Pitch Area

WSL, 2019-20



xG Outperformers

Player	Shots	Goals	xG	xG goal differential
So-Yun Ji	40	6	2.14	-3.86
Guro Reiten	29	5	3.04	-1.96
Sophie Ingle	16	4	2.40	-1.60
Maren Mjelde	13	4	2.49	-1.51
Drew Spence	17	3	1.95	-1.05

xG Underperformers

Player	Shots	Goals	xG	xG goal differential
Sam Kerr	13	1	3.17	2.17
Ramona Bachmann	15	1	2.20	1.20
Magdalena Eriksson	16	1	2.10	1.10
Fran Kirby	10	0	0.80	0.80
Erin Cuthbert	23	2	2.71	0.71

Contributors

Important Players:

Although Beth England was not a top 5 xG outperformer, she had 73 shots and 14 goals with xG value of around 13

Beth strengths lie in exploiting space and controlling play in calmer situations

Guro Reiten's consistency under pressure might make her slightly more dependable in high-stakes moments



What set Chelsea apart from others?



Ability to pass and carry reliably under pressure

Greater creativity in the midfield

Consistency in defensive passing/carrying



Creation of chances in the box through passes & set pieces

More than half the team outperformed on xG

Thank You!

