

Palo Alto Game

Here's the first half of the analysis based solely on general and first-half vs second-half performance:

Statistically, we dominated the game in terms of creating goal-scoring opportunities and successfully executing plays (although we had less free kicks and were nearly relatively close for the pure possession metric).

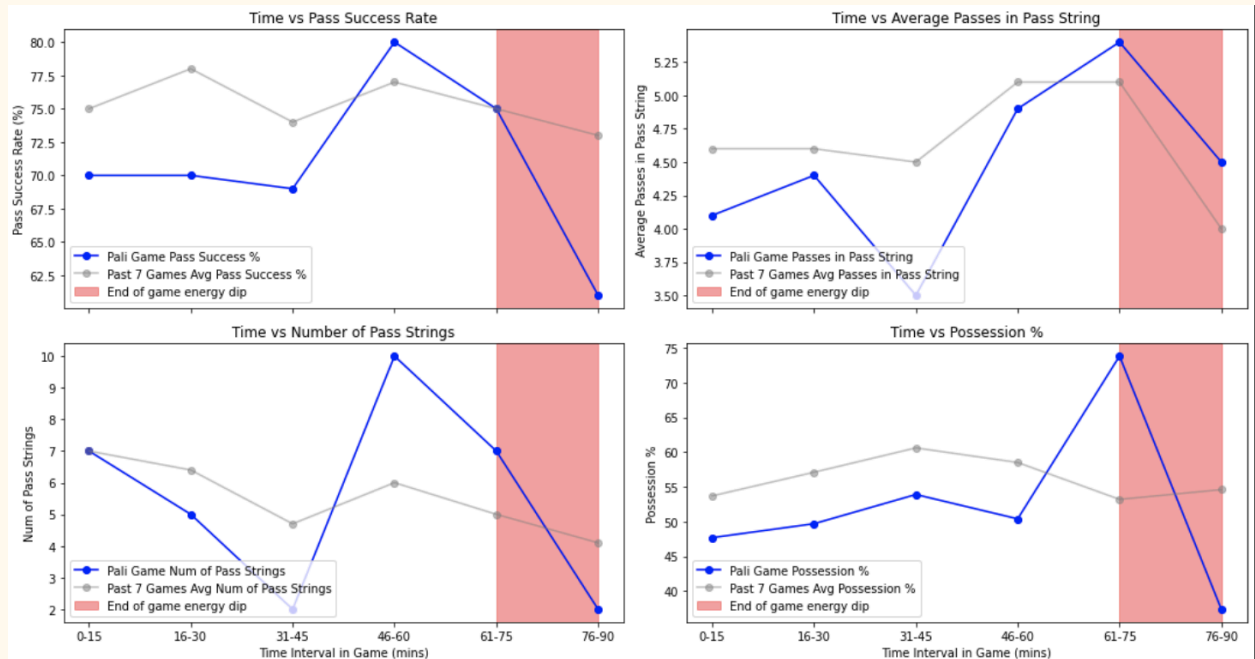
	MVHS	PAHS
Possession %	52.8%	47.2%
Attacking Transitions	64	43
Goals	1	0
Shots	13	2
Crosses	10	0
Corners	3	1
Free Kicks	7	18
Passes	332	246
Successful Passes	240	148
Pass Success Rate	72%	60%

Broken down by first and second half, we performed better in the second half, with our possession metrics being generally higher. On average, **we increased in mid-control, performed similarly in the defense, and appeared to struggle some up top.** That being said, the increase in pass attempts in the attacking half does imply that **this was in part because we became more aggressive and took more chances in the second half (although the decrease in efficiency may reflect player fatigue).**

The below table includes some of these statistics with the half with the greater percentage highlighted in green (note that I didn't highlight any of the pass attempts because they are not significant as success metrics on their own but rather serve as information about sample size for the pass success rate).

Statistic	1st Half	2nd Half
Total Pass Strings	14	19
Average Pass String	4.1	5.1
Attacking Half: Pass Attempts	18	36
Attacking Half: Pass Success %	78%	67%
Mid-Half: Pass Attempts	82	113
Mid-Half: Pass Success %	66%	76%
Def-Half: Pass Attempts	50	33
Def-Half: Pass Success %	74%	76%

As expected (because Pali is one of the tougher opponents), most of our statistics are lower. The **end-of-game energy dip remains prominent**, corroborating the previous implication of player fatigue in the second half. Nonetheless, there appears to be a **spike in the level of play from the 46-75 minutes**, which is really interesting because we're outperforming our previous averages against, for the most part, easier teams. The data doesn't tell the full story, but the change could be reflective of strategy adjustments on our / the other team's side, second half motivation, etc -- you'd probably be able to judge better based on what you observed in the game.



However, if compared to the Los Altos game, we performed better than before (with the exception of of possession percentage in the last 15 minutes - which again most likely reflects us just taking more aggressive, risky approach that is more prone to possession loss).

