ANALYSIS OF TURKEY NATIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM'S PERFORMANCE
DURING FIFA WORLD CUPS AND UEFA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

A THESIS SUBMITTED TO
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
OF
MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

BY

ÖMÜR SERDAL ALTUNSÖZ

IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR
THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORTS

APRIL 2015

Approval of the Graduate School of Social Sciences

_____

Prof. Dr. Meliha Altunışık
Director

I certify that this thesis satisfies all the requirements as a thesis for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

_____

Prof. Dr. Settar Koçak
Head of Department

This is to certify that we have read this thesis and that in our opinion it is fully adequate, in scope and quality, as a thesis for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

_____

Prof. Dr. Settar Koçak
Supervisor

Examining Committee Members

Prof. Dr. Ömer Geban	(METU, ELE)	_____
Prof. Dr. Settar Koçak	(METU, PES)	_____
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Sadettin Kirazcı	(METU, PES)	_____
Assist. Prof. Dr. Sürat Müniroğlu	(AU, PES)	_____
Assist. Prof. Dr. Ünal Karlı	(BAIBU, PES)	_____

I hereby declare that all information in this document has been obtained and presented in accordance with academic rules and ethical conduct. I also declare that, as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced all material and results that are not original to this work.

Name, Last name : Ömür Serdal Altunsöz
Signature   :

ABSTRACT

ANALYSIS OF TURKEY NATIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM'S PERFORMANCE DURING FIFA WORLD CUPS AND UEFA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Altunsöz, Ömür Serdal

Ph.D., Department of Physical Education and Sports

Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Settar Koçak

April 2015, 147 pages

The purpose of this study was three fold: a) examining the technical and fitness parameters of Turkey National Football Team during the FIFA World Cup 2014 qualifying round for "friendly-official matches" and "matches of earning point(s) and lost", b) analyzing the performance of Turkey National Team in the last seven championships, and c) analyzing the perspectives of National Football Team's coaches on Turkey National Team in the last seven football championships. For the first purpose, the Turkey National Team's technical and fitness parameters were observed via Amisco Pro® tracking system. For the second purpose, a database was established for the last seven championships to analyze the performance of Turkey National Team. For the third purpose, 7 coaches working at the Turkish Football Federation were participated in the study. Semi-structured interviews were conducted to analyze football coaches' perspectives on the National Football Team.

Results showed that the National Team had more total forward pass in friendly matches, more final third entries in official matches, had more ball possession than the opponent in all of friendly-official matches, and for the matches of earning point(s) and lost. In terms of fitness parameters, the Team had less sprint distance and high intensity distance with ball in the lost matches. It was also found that football players' experience level, technical staff experience, points and scoring minutes of Turkey National Team were different in the championships. In order to enhance Turkey National Team performance, player development system, coach

education and strong infrastructure opportunities should be developed according to the Turkey National Team Coaches.

ÖZ

TÜRKİYE A MİLLİ FUTBOL TAKIMI'NIN FİFA DÜNYA KUPALARI VE UEFA AVRUPA ŞAMPİYONLARINDAKİ PERFORMANSININ ANALİZİ

Altunsöz, Ömür Serdal

Doktora, Beden Eğitimi ve Spor Bölümü

Danışman: Prof. Dr. Settar Koçak

Nisan 2015, 147 sayfa

Bu çalışmanın üç amacı bulunmaktadır. Bu amaçlar a) Türkiye A Milli Futbol Takımı'nın 2014 FIFA Dünya Kupası elemelerinde oynadığı "resmi-hazırlık" ve "puan aldığı-alamadığı" maçlardaki teknik ve fitness parametrelerinin analizidir, b) Türkiye A Milli Futbol Takımı'nın son yedi şampiyonadaki performansının incelenmesidir, ve c) Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nda görev yapan teknik direktörlerin Türkiye A Milli Futbol Takımı'nın son yedi şampiyonadaki performansı hakkında bakış açılarının değerlendirilmesidir.

Çalışmanın ilk amacı için, Türkiye A Milli Futbol Takımı'nın teknik ve fitness parametreleri, spor performans programı Amisco Pro® ile analiz edilmiştir. İkinci amaç için, Türkiye A Milli Futbol Takımı'nın son yedi şampiyonadaki peformansı bir veri tabanı oluşturularak incelenmiştir. Üçüncü amaç için, Türkiye Futbol Federesyonu'nda görev alan yedi antrenör'ün yarı yapılandırılmış görüşme tekniği ile A Milli Takım'ın son yedi şampiyonadaki performansı değerlendirilmiştir.

Teknik analizlerin sonucuna göre, Milli Takım 2014 FIFA Dünya Kupası elemelerinde oynadığı hazırlık maçlarında ileri pas sayısı ve resmi maçlarında 3. bölgeye giriş sayısı daha fazladır. Buna ek olarak, A Milli Takım'ın tüm "resmi-hazırlık" ve "puan aldığı-alamadığı" maçlarda rakiplere oranla top hakimiyeti daha fazladır. Milli takımın fitness parametrelerine bakıldığı zaman, kaybedilen maçlarda Milli Takım'ın daha az sprint mesafesi ve yüksek şiddette koşu mesafesine sahip olduğu görülmektedir. Son yedi şampiyonanın veri tabanı incelendiği zaman, Milli Takımın oyuncu ve teknik ekibinin, alınan puanların ve gol atılan dakikaların farklı olduğu ortaya çıkmıştır. Bu çalışmada yer alan Milli Takım antrenörlerine göre;

Türkiye A Milli Futbol Takımı'nın performansının artırılması için oyuncu gelişimi, antrenör eğitimi, ve alt yapıların iyileştirilmesi gibi konulara önem verilmesi ortaya çıkmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Türkiye Futbol A Milli Takımı, Performans Analizi, Amisco Prozon®, FIFA Fünya Kupası ve UEFA Avrupa Şampiyonası

To Irmak and Öykü

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank those who made this dissertation possible. I would not achieve my goals without them.

To My Advisor- I would like to express the deepest appreciation to my advisor, Prof. Dr. Settar Koçak, who supported me during this process. Without your guidance, support, encouragement and persistent help this dissertation would not have been possible.

To My Dissertation Committee Members: Prof. Dr. Ömer Geban, Associate Prof. Dr. Sadettin Kirazcı, Assistant Prof. Dr. Sürat Müniroğlu and Assistant Prof. Dr.Ünal Karlı. I would like to thank you for your valuable suggestions in my research.

To Dr. Yeşim Çapa Aydın- Thank you for your contributions to my research. Your expertise in the statistics helped me to organize my data.

To My Friends- I would like to thank my friends "Ahmet Yapar, Tolga Tek, Erhan Devrilmez and Gaye Erkmen" for their help and encouragement during the data analysis and writing process.

To the Turkey National Football Team Coaches- Thank you for helping me to conduct my research.

To My Parents- Thank you for encouraging me with your best wishes. Without your support, I could not be successful.

To Irmak and Öykü- Thank you for your love, support and encouragement.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURES

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Football is a popular sport all over the world and it has a long history (www.fifa.com). It became an official sport branch in 1863 in which the first football association was founded in England. Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) was found in 1904 to create football as an official sport branch with rules and regulations. Football was loved by many people and quickly became popular in the world. Football rules such as corner-kicks (1872), offside rule (1863), goal kicks (1869), and goal keepers' rules (1912) were organized and shaped in the following years. Football rules always needed some modifications to meet the current trends in football. For instance, around 1930s, football rules were changed and necessary modifications were made for football laws. Around 1990s, the idea of attacking football became popular and offside rule became harder. During the same years, back passes rules were changed for goalkeepers who should not touch the ball for back passes. Currently, football had essential seventeen rules.

Football had a long history for our country as well. Based on Turkish Football Federation database (www.tff.org), English people established the first football club called Smyrna in Thessaloniki during Ottoman Empire time. After that, football was seen in İzmir and İstanbul neighborhoods. The first football match was played in 1897 and the first Turkish football club was Black Stockings. Generally, English and Rum people in İstanbul contributed the football popularity in Turkey. Kadıköy Sports Club known the first official football club in İstanbul was established by English and Rum people.

Actually, football became very popular and became as a sport branch in Turkey around between the years of 1908 and 1923. In 1923, the first Turkish football federation was found as "Futbol Heyet-i Müttehidesi". Then the application to FIFA was completed and the federation became 23. member of FIFA. As a FIFA member, the first official match of Turkey was played with Romania. The first

football championship was organized in 1936 in Ankara, Turkey. In 1952, the first professional football league was created in Ankara, İzmir and İstanbul. The first national league was organized in 1959 via football clubs from these three cities. In addition, Turkey National Football Team joined the first qualification of 1954 World Cup finals in which some Turkish football players were recognized by foreign football clubs. In 1962, Turkey became a member of Union of European Football Association (UEFA). These critical movements contributed the Turkish Football and Turkish football still continuously develops. However, Turkey National Football Team has not been defined as successful in the big championships such as FIFA World Cup or UEFA European Championships recently, which is a major concern in Turkish football.

Recent performance of Turkey National team has affected the FIFA rank of Turkey. The rank of the countries is determined by the FIFA ranking system showing the position of the countries in terms of success in football. Successful countries generally placed in the highest rank based on the results of the national football teams in the last four years. While national football teams for the countries of Brazil, France, Germany, Spain, Argentina, and Netherlands are generally placed in the top of FIFA ranking system, Turkey National football team (Men) was 52. in the list in 2015. Turkey has been also defined in the worst mover list.

This may be explained by a variety of factors. Based on the speech of Turkey football director and head coach of Turkey National Football Team at the international coach development seminar (Terim, 2015), 265 billion of people officially play football and 5 billion of people work in football area as referee and workers in the offices in the world. However, in Turkey, there is an unclear numbers about that, but, 273000 players with football license seem to play football officially. This is a limited number for football player pool to recruit high number and high quality players for all age groups such as U13, 14, 15….A2 and A team, while Germany has seven million football players with official license.

Terim (2015) also indicated that the number of players in the young age groups (U-13, U14) is higher than the players in the upper groups (A, A2, A21) in the world; however, this situation is vice versa for Turkey. Another problem in Turkey emphasized by Terim (2015) is that high number of professional football teams (127). However, in 2014 -2015 football season, limited number of football

clubs in Turkey met the criteria of UEFA club license, which showing the low quality of football clubs in Turkey. Furthermore, the following problems were identified among Turkish football, a) players' sprint distance, the number of sprint distance, and speed are lower than the other players in France, England, Spain, and Germany, b) physical education curriculum problems such as lack of time or facility problems exist in Turkey, c) while five years old children begin to play football in Europe, children at 10 years old begin to play football in Turkey, d) while football season is composed of 10 weeks in Turkey, our opponents organize 40 week football season for their players, e) while player development is the most important thing in European countries, winning is the first place for the clubs in Turkey, and f) there is no systematic education for football players in Turkey.

In addition to these problems in Turkish football, it should be considered that football is influenced by a variety of factors in which players' performance may be in the top of the list. Players' performance is influenced by team strategy, physical abilities, technical and tactical skills, psychological mood, players in opponent team, social and environmental factors (Dawson, Dobson, & Gerrard, 2000; Sullivan et al., 2014). In addition, players' fitness level directly influences demands of football match (Reilly, 2005). Reilly (2005) illustrated the relationship between players' fitness level and football match (Figure 1.1).
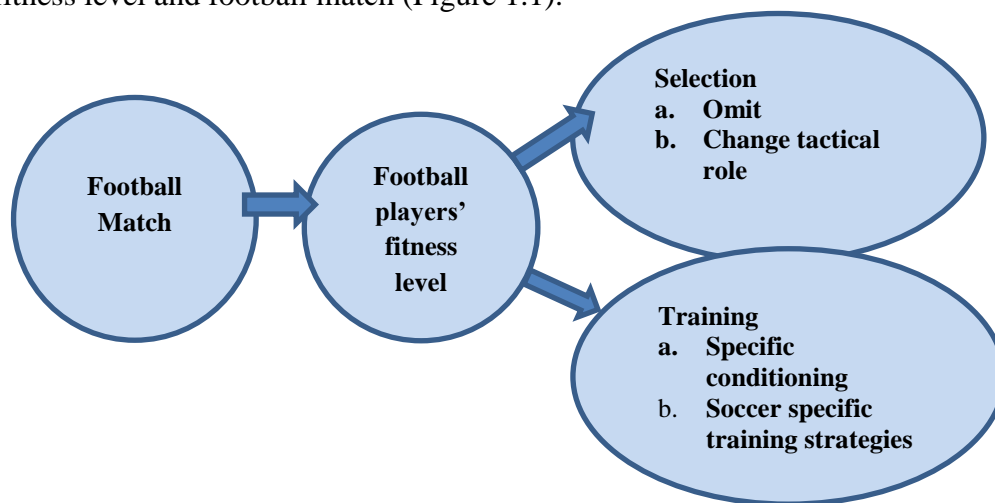
Figure 1.1 The Relationship Between Fitness of Players and Football Match*
*Adapted from Reilly (2005). An ergonomics model of the soccer training process. Journal of Sports Sciences, 23, 561–572.

All these factors should be analyzed to be successful in football and to check the football strategies among the teams.

3

Performance analysis system is seen the most used strategy to analyze players' and teams' performance in order to be successful. In parallel with that, recently, computerized video tracking systems for match analysis have been used in sports arena to examine the teams' performance, their players and opponents (Lacome, Piscione, Hager & Bourdin, 2014). Carling and his colleagues (2005) emphasized that almost thirty software programs from different companies and countries are available for match analysis. For instance, Darttrainer, Amisco Prozone, Track performance or Master Coach are software for football analysis. The information gathered from these systems (software) is useful to understand the teams' weakness, strengths, technical and tactical decisions (Carling, Williams, & Reilly, 2005). In addition, sports players' physical conditioning has been analyzed via these systems (Carling, 2013). These systems may be used for pre-match, in match and post-match analysis (Carling et al., 2005).

For this study, post analysis data from Amisco Prozon® was used for examining the Turkey National Team Football performance in the FIFA World Cups and UEFA European Championships. These championships play an essential role for countries rank in FIFA and UEFA list to show the success of national teams in the world. Considering the rank of Turkey National Team in the lists, it is important to examine the National team' performance and to analyze the reasons of having inconsistent results in the last seven championships. This study would explain the needs of a strong football ecole and model for Turkey.

1.2 Rationale of the Study

There are many factors affecting the football teams' performance during the high level of competitions. These factors are social and environmental factors, teams' technical and tactical strategies, physical qualities of players, psychological situations of players, current status of players, and opponents' strategies etc. (Dawson, Dobson, & Gerrard, 2000; Sullivan et al., 2014). Researchers focus on these factors to increase football teams' performance and to understand the reasons of being successful or not. It should be also mentioned that researchers mostly deal with football teams in FIFA World Cup Championships or UEFA European Championships. However limited research is available on Turkey National Football Team. For this reason, this study will contribute the literature on Turkey National

Football Team performance and deeply analyze the team performance during 2014 qualifying round via Amisco Prozon® performance analysis system. This system is an objective method and would provide deep information about the team' real performance. In addition, it is the first time to use Amisco Prozon analysis system for analyzing Turkey National Football team performance.

Another important part of this study is to examine the Turkey National Football Team' performance in the last seven UEFA European Championships and FIFA World cup through establishing database for the Championships. This database included players' information, match results, goal scoring minutes, and details information about the points etc. There is no such database available in Turkish football literature. With this knowledge, comparisons among the performances of National football team during the competitions would be possible. In addition, this study would help to understand the perspectives of Turkey National Football Team coaches about the team in terms of strengths, weakness or the reasons of having successful or unsuccessful results in the tournaments, which would help to see the link between team' performance and coaches' analysis on the team.

Additionally, it seems that Turkish Football does not have any football ecole, which influences the National team performance in negative ways. This study may provide essential keys to create a football ecole which appropriate for Turkish culture and it may meet needs of Turkish football players. It is clear that this football ecole should cover tactical approaches such as match planning and match strategy.

1.3 Purposes and Research Questions of the Study

Purpose 1

The purpose of this study was to examine the technical and fitness parameters of Turkey National Football Team during the FIFA World Cup 2014 qualifying round for "friendly and official matches" and " matches of earning point(s) and lost". The following research questions (q1, q2, q3, q4) were analyzed for this purpose.

Research Question 1

What are the technical parameters of Turkey National Football Team during official and friendly matches in FIFA World-Cup 2014 qualifying round in terms of

- possession? (%)

- passes? (% and # of passes)

- forward passes? (% and # of passes)

- attacking entries? (# of attacking entries)

Research Question 2

What are the technical parameters of Turkey National Football Team for the matches of earning point(s) and lost during FIFA World Cup 2014 qualifying round in terms of

- possession? (%)

- passes? (% and # of passes)

- forward passes? (% and # of passes)

- attacking entries? (# of attacking entries)

Research Question 3

What are the fitness parameters of Turkey National Football Team during official and friendly matches in World-Cup 2014 qualifying round in terms of

- team physical stats? (# and meter of distance)

- in possession physical stats? (# and meter of distance)

- out of possession physical stats? (# and meter of distance)

-playing positions of players? (# and meter of distance)

Research Question 4

What are the fitness parameters of Turkey National Football Team for the matches of earning point(s) and lost during FIFA World Cup 2014 qualifying round in terms of

- team physical stats? (# and meter of distance)

- in possession physical stats? (# and meter of distance)

- out of possession physical stats? (# and meter of distance)

-playing positions of players? (# and meter of distance)

6

Purpose 2

The second purpose of this study was to analyze the performance of Turkey National Football Team in the last seven championships (FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships). The following research question (q5) was analyzed for this purpose:

Research Question 5

What is the Turkey National Football Team's performance during qualifying rounds and tournaments in the last seven football championships in terms of

-players' experience level? (# of caps & years)

-technical staff experience? (# of years)

-goal scoring minutes? (# of minutes)

-points? (# of points)

Purpose 3

The third purpose of this study was to analyze the perspectives of National Football Team's coaches on Turkey National Football Team in the last seven football championships (FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships). The following research question (q6) was analyzed for this purpose.

Research Question 6

What are the perspectives of Turkey National Football Team's coaches on the performance of Turkey National Football Team in the last seven Championships in terms of

-strengths of the team?

-weakness of the team?

-reasons of inconsistent results?

-things to do for being successful?

1.4 Delimitations of the Study

1. Turkey National Football Team' performance during World-Cup 2014 qualifying round was included for this study.

2. Amisco-Pro sports performance analysis program was used to investigate Turkey National Football Team' performance during World-Cup 2014 qualifying round.

3. Possession, passes, forward passes and attacking entries were included for analyzing technical performance of Turkey National Football Team.

4. Team physical stats, possession physical stats and out of possession physical stats were included for analyzing fitness parameters of Turkey National Football Team and their players.

5. Friendly matches played during World-Cup 2014 elimination period were also examined for Turkey National Football Team' performance.

6. The database was established for the last seven championships (FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships).

7. Turkey National Football Teams' coaches were included in the study.

1.5 Limitations of the Study

1. Turkey National Football Team' technical and fitness analysis for each match were conducted by Amisco-Pro professional staff.

2. Data was not available for all away matches.

3. Turkey National Football Team' performance was investigated in home matches (e.g. in Turkey).

4. Data collected for creating FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships database was limited.

5. Team rosters in Turkey National Football Team, opponent teams and match strategies were not the same for all home matches.

6. The database was only established for the last seven championships (FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships).

7. Not all Turkey National Football Team' coaches were interviewed for understanding the perspectives of them on Turkey National Football Team performance in the last seven championships.

1.6 Assumptions

1. Amisco Prozon® sports performance analysis program was collected all necessary and correct information for each match.

2. All players in Turkey National Football Team were motivated and gave their best effort for both friendly and official matches.

3. All information which was gathered for FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships Database was correct information.

4. Turkey National Football Team' coaches and assistant coaches shared their perspectives truly.

1.7 Definition and Abbreviation of Terms

The following are definitions of terms that were operationally defined throughout this study.

Amisco Prozon®: Football match performance analysis program

Assistant Coach: The person helps the coach for communication between the players and the coach, planning and applying the training program, deciding the match strategies and etc.

Caps: It refers to the number of playing in the National team at international level.

Coach: This term is used for technical director of the team. The person is responsible for everything related to football team and staff. For instance, the responsibilities are a) planning the training program, b) deciding team roaster, match strategies, and their formation, c) dealing with media, d) transfer issues, e) organizations of staff (medical & physical staff), and g) communication between players and sporting director.

Fitness parameters: Fitness parameters are team physical stats (total distance, sprint distance and high intensity distance), in possession physical stats, and out of possession physical stats.

Football: It is a match in which two teams consisting of 11 players each (one player as goalkeeper) compete in a football pitch for 90 minutes. Players do not touch the ball with their hands or arms, but, goal keepers are allowed to use their hands and arms to control the ball in the penalty area only. The main purpose of the match is to make score by kicking the ball with feet to the opponents' goal.

Football Ecole: It covers tactical approaches such as match planning and match strategy.

Goal Against: It refers to opponents' goals against Turkey National Team

Goal For: It refers to Turkey National Team's scoring goals against opponents

Play offs: Elimination matches play between the football teams at the second rank at the qualifying rounds in order to participate in the tournament.

Technical parameters: Technical parameters includes are possession, passes, forward passes, and attacking entries in football match.

Qualifying round: The football matches occur before the tournaments in order to determine National Teams who are eligible to participate in the tournaments.

AFC: Asia Football Confederation

CAF: Confederation of African Football

CONCACAF: Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football

CONMEBOL: South American Football Confederation

FIFA: Federation International Football Association

OFC: Oceania Football Confederation

TFF: Turkish Football Federation

UEFA: Union of European Football Associations

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter provides information about Amisco-Prozone® tracking system for football (i.e. match-analyses system) and FIFA World Cup, UEFA European Championships, and related research on Amisco Prozone tracking system and championships. In the last part of this chapter, a general summary was provided.

For literature review of this study, a variety of EBSCHost Databases (i.e. Academic Search Complete, Education Source, Education Research Complete, ERIC, Medline, Professional Development Collection, Psychology and Behavior Sciences Collection, and SPORTDiscus) and Science Direct Databases were searched with the following keywords: Turkey National Football Team, Turkish Football, FIFA World Cup, EUFA European Championships, Amisco, Prozon, Football analysis, Football match analysis and their combinations. The studies were included in this study, if the studies were published in a refereed journal, unpublished dissertations or conference papers and studies were related to the research questions of this study.

2.1 Amisco Prozone Tracking System

Amisco Prozone has become the most popular system to analyze football teams' performances with different aspects. Performance analysis, athlete monitoring, performance lab and player recruitment are the main goals of Prozone tracking system. More than 300 football clubs, organizations and federations have joined this system all over the world.

Prozone tracking system for football was designed in 1995 and has been used for many years from a variety of sports clubs and federations. A brief history of tracking system is presented in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 History of Amisco Prozon® Tracking System*

Year	Information
1995	Optical player tracking system was created by Antoine David and he established Amisco in France
1998	Prozone was established in UK
1999	Manchester United Football Team was registered to use Prozone.
2000	England National Football Team was registered to use Prozone
2001	A TV Canal (Canal+) was registered become a customer for Amisco
2002	Referee analysis system was created in Prozone partners. The first telecommunication customer (Orange) was registered for Amisco
2003	England Rugby team used Prozone and won the World Cup
2004	Saint-Etienne football club got Amisco.
2005	The French Rugby Federation became a customer for Amisco
2006	Real Madrid Football Team became a customer for Amisco.
2007	German Master Coach Int. GmbH and top Bundesliga clubs became partners with Amisco
2008	US Football became a partner with Prozone
2009	A Prozone office was opened in Chicago.
2010	A league-wide deal with the Polish Ekstraklasa was registered via Prozone. FC Barcelona football team was registered to use Prozone. Portuguese Liga 1 and the South African national team became partners with Amisco
2011	Prozone and Amisco companies joined together (new name called Prozone)
2012	A Prozone office was opened in China. Prozone works the football clubs in Premier League and Championships.
2013	Prozone started to work with a TV canal in China as for TV/Broadcast service
2014	Prozone started to work as an Official Data Provider to the NRL.

*Adapted from http://www.prozonesports.com/about/

Prozone offers a variety of products for football and rugby clubs based on their needs. These products are listed in Prozone website as follows (http://www.prozonesports.com/subsector/football/#765): "Prozone3/Amisco Pro, Matchviewer/Videopro, Trend, Player profile, Team Profile, realview, Matchlens, Performance Lab, Live Monitor, Panoramic Video and Prozone3 referee". These products provide objective and full data on team performance, opponents' performance, players' performance and other football components such as referee

information etc. It is valid and reliable system (Zubillaga, 2006), for this reason, many researchers have preferred to use this tracking system. Valter, Adam, Barry, and Marco (2006) validated the Prozone analysis system as well. In their study, Prozone system was validated for displacement velocities to analyze the movements of football players during the football match.

A variety of studies using Prozone system focuses on football players' performances, match situations, or physical and technical parameters of the football teams. For example, Di Salvo, Baron, Tschan, Montero, Bachl, and Pigozzi (2007) investigated elite football players' match performance using a match analysis system. In this study, 300 football players were examined based on whole match activity (positional differences), distances covered, first and second half variations, and time spent in various intensities during twenty Spanish Premier League and ten Champions League matches. Atletic Mode Amisco Pro® was used to analyze the players' performance. Findings indicated that a) central midfielder and external midfielder had greater distance, b) central defenders had short distance in different intensities, c) external midfielders had long distance with the ball, d) players, especially midfielders, had long distance in the second half at the low intensities, e) players spent almost 18 minutes for high intensity activities, f) external midfielders and defenders generally engaged in high intensity activities. Researchers suggested that these results may be used for planning the training programs for the players in different playing positions.

Dellal, Wong, Moalla, and Chamari (2010) also examined the football players' physical and technical performance based on the playing position. For this purpose, 3540 professional players the French First League were observed by using Amisco Pro® system (Nice, France). Physical parameters were total distance, high intensity distance (with or without ball), ground and heading duels. The technical parameters were completed passes, duration of ball possession and ball touches. In this study, 5938 observations on players were made. The results showed that a) the total distance covered was found between 10425.9 m and 12029.5m, b) 74.3sec was determined for duration of individual ball possession, c) number of ball touches was around 2 ball for players, d) % completed passes was between 63 and 78, e) midfield players had the highest total distance, f) forward players had the highest distance at the high intensities (sprinting) and they lost majority of their duels, g) mid-fielders

13

were good at successful passing (75% to78%). These findings had major implications on planning the football training programs. In this regard, researchers emphasized that these findings should be combined with the tactical decisions of trainers.

Amisco analysis systems have been also preferred for comparing with physical capacity of the football players and their match performance. Bradley et al. (2013) examined the match performance and physical capacity of players in English Premier League, Championships and League 1. Total 771 players (190 from Premier League, 155 from Championships and 366 from League 1) were observed by a computer tracking system (Prozone Sports ltd®) to compare their performance in different positions: central defenders, fullbacks, central midfielders, wide fielders and attackers. Match running performance and technical events such as number of passes or dribbles etc. were gathered in the study. Physical capacity of players was tested by Yo Yo intermittent endurance test (level 2). The researchers found that League 1 players had more total distance than the players in Championships and Premier League. Players in Premier League had less jogging, sprinting or running. But, these players had high number of passes and touches. In addition, findings indicated that Yo Yo performance test scores were similar for players in Premier League, Championships and League 1. Technical characteristics of players might be related to their physical capacities, but, more research is needed to understand the relationships among players' match performance, their technical and physical capacities.

Zubillaga and his colleagues (2013) determined the effects of ball position on women football players' playing area. Four women football matches at the 1st Division of Spanish league were targeted to observe players movements via Amisco Pro® tracking system. 2765 players' movements were gathered and analyzed based on players' positions: outfield players, the distance between the goalkeepers and defenders, the distance between block players and the goal lines. Findings indicated that players situated in a wider position while the ball in the center area. While the ball was around the defense areas, block players tended to situate together. The space length was found short in the central areas and the scoring zone. Width positions became more in building up play area. Overall, these findings indicated that players 'positions were different based on the position of the ball and playing area. Playing

spaces were found as essential variables in training sessions such as small sided matches.

Another study was conducted by Castellano, Alvarez-Pastor and Bradley (2014) to evaluate the research studies using computerized tracking systems (Amisco® or Prozone®). This study was a literature review. In this review study, a variety of databases were screened via different key words in order to find related literature on physical performance of elite football players. Thirty eight studies were analyzed based on the sample size, players' positions, variables, and practical considerations for future research. The findings showed that computerized tracking systems provided detailed information about the technical and tactical parameters of the team or players. However, there were some limitations about the studies. Only one study analyzed the validity of the tracking system and few studies determined the reliability of the tracking system. Furthermore, studies did not provide players' characteristics in detailed. For example, physical parameters or metabolic variables were not being included in the studies, which prevented to understand the interactions among physical, technical and tactical parameters of football players. Studies also did not consider the opponent team players' physical status while investigating the football players' physical performance. This interaction might be an essential topic for future research. Team formation, playing styles, players' positions, players' behaviors and other related variables should be taken into consideration while interpreting the information gathered from the computerized tracking systems.

Lago-Ballesteros, Lago-Penas and Rey (2012) examined the impact of playing tactics and situational variables on score-box possession for an elite level Spanish football team. For this study, football teams' 908 team possessions from twelve matches in 2009-2012 seasons were analyzed by using Amisco® Pro tracking system. A variety of variables (12 variables) such as pass number, match location or defensive pressure were analyzed for three major things: score box possession, no progression and progression. Results indicated that 33.4% of possessions were successful for score-box possessions, 52.5% of possessions were in progression and 14.1% of the possessions were unsuccessful (failed-no progression). In addition, team possession type, direct attacks and counterattacks were found as essential elements for score-box possessions. "Team possession in the middle zones and playing against less than six defending players" were found effective for the football

team. It was also found that while the football team was drawing or winning, the rate of success in producing the score-box possessions declined. As a conclusion, this study showed how football teams produce score box possessions for their success and computerized tracking system may provide this information to the teams.

Frencken, De Poel, Visscher and Lemmink (2012) investigated the variability of inter-team distances during matches situations at professional level football. For that purpose, twenty-five football players' positions (242 matches periods & 51 dead balls) during UEFA Champions League were observed with AMISCO Pro multiple-camera system. Longitudinal and lateral inter-team distances were examined in the first and second half of the matches. Findings indicated that while longitudinal inter team distance was mainly associated with defenders (going up and down) after long pass, lateral inter team distance was associated with defenders during sideway passes. Moreover, greatest variability of inter team distance was found in the situations of collective defense movements and restructure of the team in dead balls. Researchers concluded that these match situations might be useful to understand the attacking team play characteristics and find the ways to score goals. Additionally, it is important to know that match dynamics to explore different tactics in football matches.

UEFA Champions League was also analyzed by Amisco system for 2005 and 2006 years. Zubillaga, Gorospe, Mendo, and Villasenor (2007) investigated the final game between FC Barcelona and Arsenal FC in the Champions League in order to make comparisons with seasonal games performance of football teams. During the final game, Arsenal had 188 passes on the 1st half and Barcelona had 342 passes on the 1st half. Barcelona had more completed passes. In terms of physical data of the teams, the teams had similar total distance for the 1st and 2nd half of the game. The researchers concluded that the teams' performance was similar to seasonal performance level of the team. This study was beneficial to show how Amisco analysis system may be used for arranging comparison studies in football literature. In addition, it shows the strong football teams' performance and gives the idea for technical and tactical strategies to be successful for the competitions.

Football match performance analysis has been also used for determining gender differences in football. A recent study by Bradley, Dellal, Mohr, Castellano, and Wilkie (2014) investigated gender differences in football match performance

during UEFA Champions League. One hundred thirteen players (54 male and 59 female) were observed by Amisco Pro multiple-camera system for their a) total and between half match running performance, b) discrete periods of match running performance, c) technical events and d) positional differences. The findings indicated that male players had more total distance and total distance at higher speed thresholds than female players during a match. Male football players also performed better than female players in terms of the total distances covered at selected periods of the first and the second period of the match. In addition, no gender differences were observed in terms of technical events of the match (e.g. ball possession etc.) and running performance for central defenders and attackers. However, gender differences were found for total distance in central midfielders and full-backs (at higher speed thresholds) in favor of male players. Overall, these findings may be applied for gender specific training in football.

Another popular system to analyze the football matches is Global Positioning System (GPS). This system has been used in football to analyze players' positions and their activity profiles during match situations. Gps provides accurate, reliable and real time analysis. However, this system is categorized as sensitive and expensive system. Research findings using GPS to analyze teams or players was provided at below.

Randers and his colleagues (2010) compared four different football analysis programs in their research. A time motion analysis system, Amisco® Pro multiple-camera system and two global positioning systems (GPS 1 and GPS 2) were used to evaluate their efficiency (i.e. tracking the players and changing situations) for football match analysis. For this purpose, 20 football players from the Spanish second and third divisions were included in the study and a football match was organized to observe. During the match, players' total distance covered at different intensities was recorded by those four systems. Time-motion system reported distance covered as 2.65km, Amisco® system reported distance covered as 1.61km, GPS 1 reported distance covered as 2.03 km and GPS 2 reported distance covered as 1.66 km for running at high intensity. The results demonstrated that all systems were effective to determine performance decrements, however, large differences among the system based on the distance covered of players.

In another study conducted by Dellal et al. (2012) technical and physical demands of different sides matches were investigated based on playing position in football. 4 min small sided matches were compared with 11 a side matches. Forty football players were engaged in three different small sided matches and their physiological responses (e.g. heart rate), physical and technical performance observed. Global positioning system was used for data collection. Results showed that football players in small sided matches had more sprinting and high intensity running. However, the rate of successful passes in all playing positions during small sided matches was low. In addition heart rate of players was high in defensive midfielders, wide midfielders and forwards during small sided matches. It can be concluded that coaches should understand the different demands of small sided matches during training sessions.

Another study was conducted to describe the association between physical capacity and match performance in professional level Australian football (Mooney et al., 2011). In this study, Global Positioning System (GPS) was chosen to examine a) the association between physical capacity of players and their performance, and b) players' positions and experience of playing at the beginning of the football season. Forty six football players at elite level wore GPS in this study. Results indicated that physical capacity of players (Yo Yo test) was associated with the number of ball disposals. In addition, playing experience affect the association between high intensity per minute and number of ball disposals. Experienced players were found as successful to read the play and took the appropriate positions to get the ball.

Akenhead, Hayes, Thompson and French (2013) determined the players' distances at different acceleration and deceleration in English Premier League football matches. Thirty six football players were observed with non-differential global positioning system. Match data was analyzed for 15 min periods. Distances covered at different acceleration and deceleration were found as 424 m at low acceleration, 242 m at moderate acceleration, 178 m at high acceleration, 365 m at low deceleration, 210 m at moderate deceleration and 162 m at high deceleration. Findings indicated that time dependent reductions may show detailed information about fatigue during professional football matches.

Wehbe, Hartwig and Duncan (2014) examined the Australian national league players via GPS. For this study, nine professional male football players participated

during 8 preseason matches. Total 95 files were examined. Findings indicated that total distance, average speed, high-intensity running (HIR) distance, and very high-intensity running distance declined through the second half of the matches. It was revealed that midfielders had more total distance (11.69%) and more speed when compared to defense players. It was also found that defenders had low match load in the matches. Findings indicated that players had different physical demands and performance based on their players' positions.

Generally, the studies mentioned below are recent studies which show a variety of systems has become popular to analyze the different dimensions or situations of football matches in all over the world. However, limited research is available in Turkey National Football Team in the current literature. Turkish research about National Football team was related to players' injuries, nutrition profile or physiological profile. For this reason, those studies were not included in the literature review.

2.2 FIFA WORLD CUP

2.2.1 Basic Information on FIFA World Cup

The Federation Internationale de Football Association, FIFA, established in 1904 and located in Zurich (www. fifa.com). General aims of this association are to a) develop football match in the world, b) prepare international competitions and c) contribute society and environment by football (www.fifa.com). FIFA is composed of two hundred nine member associations and more than three hundred employs from different countries.

FIFA organizes different tournaments such as FIFA Men's World Cup, FIFA Women's World Cup, FIFA Confederations Cup, and FIFA U-20, U-17 World Cup for Men and Women, FIFA Futsal World Cup, FIFA Beach Football World Cup. FIFA World Cup for men may be categorized as the most popular tournament in the World.

It has been organized every four years since 1930 by FIFA. Total 20 World Cup tournaments were organized in the past. Eight national football teams, Brazil (5), Italy (4), Germany (4), Argentina (2), Uruguay (2), England (1), France (1), and Spain (1) won these tournaments. The tournament is an international competition in which FIFA members of national football teams (men) participated. National teams

are from Asia Football Confederation (AFC), Confederation of African Football (CAF), Oceania Football Confederation (OFC), Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF) refers to South American Football Confederation (CONMEBOL) and Union of European Football Associations (UEFA).

The tournament is composed of two main phases: qualification phase and tournament phase. Qualification phase takes place around one and half years and its aim is to identify the football teams for the tournament. Host country' team directly participates in the tournament. Total thirty two national football teams participated in the tournament. Previously defined sixteen national teams match each other and to win the tournament, which is called as Round of sixteen based on the FIFA regulations (www.fifa.com). At the end of round of sixteen, the winners of eight football national teams become qualify for the quarter-finals. Then, the four national football teams (winners of quarter-finals) become qualify for semi-finals. The winners of the semi-final teams play the final match and the winner of the final match win the FIFA World Cup. Research findings on FIFA World Cup were provided in the following section.

2.2.2 Research on FIFA World Cup

FIFA World Cup matches in different years have been analyzed by many researchers. Generally, goal analysis or pass analysis in the tournaments, specific National team's performance, players' capacities and activity profiles have been investigated. For example; Brown, Raalte, Brewer, Winter, Cornelius and Andersen (2002) investigated the World Cup Football Home Advantage between 1987 and 1998. Thirty two football teams were analyzed to examine the effects of environmental factors such as facilities, match schedule or traveling distance on the match performance. FIFA data bases were analyzed to gather necessary data on familiarity with the playing facilities, match importance and travel. Results indicated that football teams generally won the match at their home and lost more matches for away matches. It was also found no relationships between match importance and home matches or neutral sides. However, it was found that away teams tend to lose the matches and had less chance to win the championships. In addition, travel was determined as an essential factor in the championships. Traveling for long distances

affects negatively teams' performances in this study (small effect). Overall, this study indicates that home matches have some advantages for the football teams in the championships.

Balyan and Vural (2003) examined the World Cup, European Championships and UEFA Cups in 2002 with a computer program called as Liverpool Poly Technic analysis program. The researchers analyzed the team performances based on goal numbers, pass numbers, attacking areas, shoot techniques, and pass numbers before scoring goals, goal times and scoring areas. Findings revealed that a) winner teams had more passes in the central area, b) loser teams had more passes, c) while the number of passes increases, the chance of scoring goals decreases, d) loser teams had more shoot numbers than the winners, e) 70% of scoring goals occurred between 30 and 60 minutes of the matches, and, f) 60% of goals was scored with instep pass.

A similar study was conducted by Arıkan, Balyan, Vuran and Tunçer (2009) who analyze the technical and tactical parameters of football teams such as Germany or France during 2006 FIFA World Cup. Football national teams of France, Italy, Portugal and Germany were observed and analyzed by MUNA analysis program by the researchers. The analysis revealed that loser teams had higher number of passes, goal positions and corner kicks than the winners had. The analysis also indicated that the last passes were more successful among the winners.

Jankovic, Leontijevic, Jelusic and Pasic (2010) also examined the Serbian Football team' passes during qualifying for the World Cup 2010. Ten football matches in group 7 of qualifying for the World Cup 2010 and passes of each player in the matches were analyzed by using Amisco Pro® system. Specifically, total number of passes and efficient passes, percentage of efficiency of passing match, forward passes, and pass structure of the players were analyzed. Researchers found that Serbian National Football Team had around 366.9 passes in ten matches, 78.9% of efficiency of passing match, and 148.6 forward passes. The football team had better scores on the number of passes and efficiency of passes when compared to its opponents. It is also found that defensive players had more passes than other players. Side and central defensive players had more scores on pass efficiency than attack players. These findings showed that the importance of situational trainings were necessary for player preparation.

İmamoğlu, Çebi and Kılcıgil (2007) examined the goals of 2006 FIFA World Cup based on the technical and tactical criteria. Researchers analyzed 64 matches (32 teams) by a video recording system and a hand rotation system. Position of players, scoring minutes, number of passes before scoring, goal keepers' body positions during the scoring and number of goals for each country were used for study parameters. Total 147 goals were determined during 2006 FIFA World Cup. Average number of goals per match was 3 for quarter, semi and final matches. Before scoring, players generally performed one pass (% 42.5). In addition, players generally performed short passes (%61.7). While percentile of left side passes before scoring was 40, percentile of right side passes was 25.8. The percentile of short distance goals was 80.4%. Players generally scored during the last 15 minutes (%29.25). The findings also showed while the number of passes among the players increased the chance of the scoring decreased. The number of the goals in the 2006 World Cup was low compared with the previous World Cups. The researchers claimed that the reasons of low number of goals in this World Cup might be listed as the new ball type and the defensive play strategies among the teams.

Njororai (2013) also examined the goals in the FIFA World Cup of 2010. In this World Cup, 32 football teams participated in the tournament and total 145 goals were scored by the teams during the tournaments. Goals were examined based on the rate of the scoring, nature of the scoring, timing, and distance from goal (FIFA Official web site was used to collect the data). Results showed that a) 2.27 goal was the average per match, b) open play caused the goals in the matches (110 goals), c) 108 goals were scored by shots, d) 35 goals were scored between 76 and 90 minutes, and e) 79 goals were scored in penalty area. Researches emphasized that coaches should pay attention to these findings and they may consider their tactics on scoring goals and physical performance of players.

Similar study by Leite (2013) examined the goals and critical periods of the matches during FIFA World Cup between 1930 and 2010. Total 2208 goals analyzed in first (951 goals) and second half (1202) of the football matches. Data was gathered from the official web page of FIFA (www.fifa.com). Results showed that 54 % of the goals were scored in the second half of the matches and the high rate of scoring was seen in the last 15 minutes of the matches because of the decline in physical performance, fatigue and disorganization of the team. Findings of this study showed

that players should maintain their physical performance until end of the match. Coaches should use these findings in their technical and tactical strategies.

Goal analysis of FIFA World Cup was also done by Sajadi and Rahnama (2007) for 2006. The researchers analyzed the all games in FIFA World 2006 through watching all games via TV and Video. The findings indicated that a) players generally use penalty area to make score, b) 11% of shot was done per game, c) Total 143 goals were scored in 64 football matches, and d) direct and short passes seemed the most effective ways to make score. Coaches may develop training strategies to use penalty area for scoring goals. The same study was performed by Acar and his colleagues (2007) through using MUNA analysis software program. Similar findings were found and it was concluded that the results obtained in these two studies were similar to other World Cup tournaments.

Yiannis (2014) analyzed the goals of 2014 World Cup Football tournament. All football matches in the World Cup 2014 were examined by using FIFA database. It was found that total 171 goals were scored and the majority of the goals were achieved by players' shot in which the inner part of foot was mostly used. Another finding showed that penalty box of the pitch was the most used area to make score and %75 of the National teams won the matches if they made the first goal. It was suggested that coaches may focus on scoring the first goal during the tournaments and powerful offensive strategies may make a difference to win the matches.

Goal analyzes was also done by Shahram, Milad and Mohammad (2014) for FIFA World Cup 2010. All football matches were observed in order to examine time factor on the scoring minutes. Consistent findings with the previous research on goals scoring minutes in the World Cups were found. The main findings were listed as a) majority of the goals scored at the second half of the matches, and b) the teams scoring the first goal had high potential to win the matches. Coaches should consider the time factor on scoring goals and they may change their tactics based on the time of scoring goals.

Another study related to World Cup examined the collective performance of Spanish National Team in 2010 by Erdil, Bozkurt, İşleğen, and Ölcücü (2013). Spanish team performance was analyzed for key performance indicators with MUNA match analyze program. Key performance indicators were listed as starting points of attacks, tackling, losing balls, entering the attacking third and penalty area, number

of passes and shots etc. in this study. Findings showed that Spanish National team had distinct characteristics from other teams. For instance, the team generally situated in the central area during attacking starts, the team had perfect organization in the central area, the team performed more shots from the penalty area than the other teams, and the had more free-kicks, corner kicks and touches. These distinct characteristics contributed to win the World Cup 2010 for Spanish National Football Team.

Italy National Football Team was the winner of World Cup 2006. Balyan and his colleagues (2007) examined the technical parameters of the team. MUNA software program was preferred to use to analyze the passes, possessions, shoots and crosses. The results showed that a) Italy was good at short passes b) the team had consistent technical scores in the football matches of World Cup and c) the team had strong defense strategies. Those characteristics should be taken into consideration by other National teams for their preparation in the big championships.

Technical and tactical characteristics of National football teams have been also investigated in FIFA World Cup tournaments. Chmura et al. (2014) examined the football players' endurance capacity, covered distance, possessions of ball and completed passes in 2014 FIFA World Cup. Thirty two national football teams in the finals were examined for this purpose via a motion analysis program. It was found that Australia National football team had the longest distance completed by football players, however, Australia was not successful in knockout stage of tournament. In the tournament, Germany and USA had players with high endurance capacity of the teams, Spain National Team used short passes for positional attacks, Uruguay, USA and Costa Rika National teams' counter attacks were effective, and Italy, Germany, Spain and France National Teams were successful for passes. Researchers concluded that football analysis programs could provide essential cues for endurance capacity, covered distance, possessions of ball and completed passes in order to find efficient technical and tactical skills for National Teams.

Clemente (2012) conducted a similar study to analyze the successful National football teams in the FIFA World Cup 2010. FIFA web site was utilized to analyze offensive and defensive characteristics of 32 National teams in group stage, round of 16, quarter finals, semifinals and finals. Based on the matches analysis, attacking teams were successful. Generally, teams preferred to do attack actions at the right

sides. Additionally, successful teams had more goals per match. Inside penalty area was the most used area for scoring goals and completed short passes were performed for successful teams.

With parallel with the previous study, successful teams for qualifying round in FIFA World Cup 2010 were evaluated based on their defensive and offensive performance by Delgado-Bordonau, Domenech-Monforte, Guzman, and Mendez-Villanueva (2013). Fifty four group and knock out football matches were investigated and National teams were categorized as successful and unsuccessful. Analysis showed that successful teams had more goals per match, effective offensive strategies, fewer shots against (defense), less shot off goal against (defense), and more shots (offense). Not interestingly, teams did not maintain their defensive actions in knock out period. "Shots on goal" (offense) was found as a key factor to be successful in the World Cup.

For the same FIFA World Cup (2010), technical analysis of football players were examined by Clemente, Couceiro, Martins, Ivanova & Mendes (2013). Players' data were gathered through FIFA World Cup official webpage and analyzed based on distance covered and activity structures for players' positions. Researchers found that midfielders had the longest distance covered and defenders in the center had the lowest distance covered. Players were also found that they had different intensity levels in the different parts of the match, which showed that players had different demands in the matches based on their playing positions. Researchers mainly concluded that technical factors, tactical factors (i.e. tactical positions), performance variables and, training strategies were factors influencing teams' performance.

In another study, influences of situational variables on the physical characteristics (distance covered) of National Teams in FIFA World Cup 2010 were examined (Casamichana & Castellano, 2014). Basically, continent, FIFA rankings of the teams, competition type, and match results were determined as the main variables in the study. FIFA official website was analyzed for having the information about the variables among the National Teams. Findings of the study showed that a) the competition type of the matches (qualifying rounds or the main tournament) did not influence the physical performance of the teams, b) winners or losers had more distance covered scores and c) European teams had more distance covered scores.

Oh Sang Duk and his colleagues examined the Korea Republic Football National Team with regard to physical capacities such as endurance and speed (2011). The Castrol performance Index was selected to compare the Korean republic Football to make comparisons with four best teams in the tournament. The findings showed that the Korean Football National Team players had high level of endurance capacity because of covering long distance. In addition, the National team players had the highest running speed when compared to other four teams. However, the team had the average score of running speed. Although the Korean National Team had high level of endurance capacity or players had the highest speed scores, the team was not so successful. Other related parameters should be investigated to understand the influences of National Team performance.

A recent study examining FIFA World Cup 2014 was conducted by Liu, Gomez, Lago-Penas, & Sampaio (2015). The researchers investigated 24 football matches to find out any relationships between match statistics and match results. In 2014 FIFA World Cup, 64 football games were observed via a website organized by OPTA Sportsdata Company. A variety of variables were selected for goal scoring, passing and organizing and defending situations. The findings indicated that the quality of shots, shots from inside area of pitch and counter attacks played an essential role for winning in the World Cups. Furthermore, proactive attacking techniques were strongly suggested to win the matches by the researchers.

2.3 UEFA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

2.3.1 Basic Information on UEFA European Championship

The Union of European Football Associations, UEFA, is an association for Europe National Football team (www.uefa.com). It is established in 1954 and located in Switzerland. Its aims are to a) develop European football and b) support football in terms of all components such as fair play, peace, equal opportunities for all. This association has fifty four nation association members from Europe and organizes competitions and tournaments such as UEFA European Championships for men and women, UEFA Champions League UEFA Europe League, UEFA Super Cup, UEFA European Championships (U21, U19, U17) for men and women, Regions' Cup, and Futsal EURO.

UEFA European Championships is the most important and popular football tournament in the Europe. This tournament has been organized every four years since 1960. Total fourteen tournaments were organized in the past. Nine national football teams, Germany (3), Spain (3), France (2), Soviet Union (1), Italy (1), Czechoslovakia (1), Netherlands (1), Denmark (1), and Greece (1) won these tournaments.

The tournament is composed of two phases: qualifying round and tournament phase. Qualifying phase generally takes place around 1 and half years. Fifty three national football teams join the qualifying round to participate in the tournament. Host country directly participates in the tournament. These 53 national football teams are drawn into different groups (5 or 6 teams in the groups). At the end of qualifying round, total 23 national football teams joined the tournament. 24 teams (including the host country) perform group matches and 16 teams attend round of 16. At the end of round of sixteen, the winners of eight football national teams become qualify for the quarter-finals. Then, the four national football teams (winners of quarter-finals) become qualify for semi-finals. The winners of the semi-final teams play the final match and the winner of the final match win the FIFA World Cup.

2.3.2 Research on UEFA European Championship

Limited research is available for UEFA European Championships. The studies found in the literature were summarized in the following paragraphs.

Mitrotasios and Armatas (2014) investigated the goal scoring forms in 2012 European Football Championship. During European Football Championships, total 76 goals in 31 matches were analyzed via the SportScout performance analysis program. It was found that almost 58% of the goals were completed the second half of the matches and especially in the minutes of 75-90. The first goal in the matches was found as an essential thing for the result of the match. The goals were generally performed in players' open play (around 73%) and after set play (corner kick or free kick). The findings also showed that most of the goals were completed in the penalty area of football pitch and half of the goals were completed with no defensive play occurring. Researcher emphasized that this data was useful to prepare technical and tactical strategies for coaches and assistant coaches. The coaches may design their training sessions based on the actual situations of the matches.

A similar study conducting by Nijororai (2014) examined the time periods of goals in the European and South American Football Leagues, FIFA and UEFA Championships Tournaments. In this study, data was gathered from the websites of http://www.footballstats.com and www.fifa.com to identify the current trends of the goals in the tournaments and the selected leagues. Basically, the goals were analyzed based on 15 time intervals. Findings indicated that goals were generally performed in the minutes of 75-90. An essential implication of this finding was that coaches should train their players in terms of their fitness level and psychological states. Because, players needed to control these variables until the end of the match. Coaches should develop strong strategies during the match, especially, for the last 15 minutes.

An interesting study was conducted by Buraczewski, Cicirko, Gawlik (2013) who examined football players' offensive actions in selected matches during Euro 2008 (UEFA European Championships). Mainly, the researchers analyzed tactical and technical performances of football players in different teams (winners and losers) in the tournament. Observations on DVDs were made for 166 players from 11 countries such as Turkey, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Italy, France, Holland, Sweden, Greece, Spain, Germany and Portugal. Offensive movements (i.e. attempt goals or pass the ball). Observations revealed while winner football teams were effective in offense actions, in goal attempts, in pass situations, and 1-1 attacks, loser football teams were only effective in hard passing positions.

A recent study examined the performance consistency of National teams which played at the quarter final period of UEFA European 2012 (Shafizadeh, Taylor, & Penas, 2013). The Sports Performer Analysis program was selected to analyze the variables of goals, offensive and defensive indicators among the eight National Teams. The teams were Greece, Portugal, Italy, Germany, England, Spain, France and the Czech Republic. Their thirty eight matches analyzed by the researchers. It was revealed that Spain, the winner of the tournament, had consistent performance on goals, offensive and defensive strategies. Italy National Football Team was also consistent for defensive strategies of the team in the matches. These findings show that consistent goal related and offensive strategies are critical for high performance in the tournaments. Consistent tactics should be followed by the

28

coaches and effective strategies should be produced by the high performance coaches.

2.4 General Summary

Success is the main goal for Football. National football teams and football teams in different countries work hard to be successful. For this reason, technological advances such as Amisco Prozon or GPS systems have been used to increase teams' performances. Considering many factors influencing performance of players and teams, a variety of analysis have been done for examine technical and tactical situations of the teams to change training programs or teams' strategies. Recent studies (mentioned above) shows important findings related to successful National Football teams in the Championships, technical and tactical characteristics of football players. General findings of the studies might be summarized as below;

- home matches have some advantages for the football teams in the championships,
- winner teams have more passes in the central area,
- loser teams have more passes in the matches,
- while the number of passes increases, the chance of scoring goals decreases,
- loser teams have more shoot numbers than the winners,
- scoring goals occur between 30 and 60 minutes of the matches,
- 60% of goals are scored with instep pass,
- the last passes are more successful among the winners,
- defensive players have more passes than other players,
- the number of passes among the players increases the chance of the scoring decreases,
- high rate of scoring is seen in the last 15 minutes of the matches, because of the decline in physical performance, fatigue and disorganization of the team,
- inside penalty area is the most used area for scoring goals and completed short passes are performed for successful teams,

- successful teams a) generally situates well in the central area during attacking starts, b) have perfect organization in the central area, c) perform more shots from the penalty area, d) have more free-kicks, corner kicks and touches,

- The goals are generally performed in players' open play and after set play (corner kick or free kick),

- successful football teams are effective in offense actions, in goal attempts, in pass situations, and one to one attacks,

- loser football teams are only effective in hard passing positions,

- tracking systems for football matches are helpful to show match dynamics to explore different tactics in football matches.

CHAPTER III

METHODS

The purpose of this study was three fold: a) examining the technical and fitness parameters of Turkey National Football Team during the FIFA World Cup 2014 qualifying round for "friendly and official matches" and " matches of earning point(s) and lost", b) analyzing the performance of Turkey National Football Team in the last seven championships (FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships), and c) analyzing the perspectives of National Football Team's coaches on Turkey National Football Team in the last seven football championships (FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships).

For the different purposes of this study, both qualitative (for coaches' perspectives) and quantitative (for analysis of championships and World Cup 2014 qualifying round) research methodologies were utilized.

3.1 Procedures for Purpose 1

The first purpose of this study was to examine the technical and fitness parameters of Turkey National Football Team during the FIFA World Cup 2014 qualifying round for "friendly and official matches" and " matches of earning point(s) and lost". Friendly matches were performed with Australia, Denmark, Czech Republic, Latvia and Slovenia. Official matches were performed with Estonia, Romania and Hungary. Matches of earning points were Turkey-Estonia (3-0), Turkey-Denmark (1-1), Turkey-Hungary (1-1), and Turkey-Letonia (3-3). Lost matches were Australia-Turkey (2-0), Turkey-Romania (0-1), Turkey-Czech Republic (0-2), and Turkey-Slovenia (0-2).

World-Cup 2014 qualifying round was observed via a sports performance analysis system called Amisco Pro® multi camera tracking system. This tracking system was powered by Prozone company. The technology used for analysis is an industry-leading technology. Within this system, cameras (maximum 8 cameras) are

set up at the stadium and data is obtained for whole pitch coverage and the highest quality footage. In the football matches, a variety of data appear, for this reason, the data has been monitored and checked by the experts in the Prozon Company. Data quality control is also checked by the Prozon Company before submitting the match data. Then, data is transferred for tangible insights which provide technical, tactical and physical data during football matches.

A technical report for a football match organized by Amisco Pro® includes player list in the football team, players' played minutes and starting formations of the teams at the first and second half. Then match overview is provided in the report. Match overview includes technical statistics of the teams, passing analysis, passing grid, team pass maps (home & away), shots assists and crosses (home & away), team shape maps (home & away), team shape maps for in and out of possession and goal keeper analysis (home & away).

A fitness report for a football match organized by Amisco Pro® includes players' list, their played minutes, starting formations of the teams and physical statistics. Then, physical statistics of the teams, physical data for in and out of possessions, total distance of the players (home & away), distance in high intensity, sprint distance and maps for players' physical data (individually),

For this study, Turkey National Football Team performance was evaluated based on the technical and fitness parameters. In addition, fitness parameters of football players for different playing positions were analyzed. Technical parameters were possession, passes, forward passes, and attacking entries. Fitness parameters were team physical status, in possession physical stats and out of possession physical stats. Details on the parameters (definitions and explanations) were explained in the following section.

A. Technical Parameters

Technical parameters are possession, passes, forward passes, and attacking entries.

1. Possession

a. % Possession: It is identified by the team in possession of the ball at any period of the match. It is calculated at every half-second period until the next half-second period.

2. *Passes*

It is any shot by a team player to play the ball to a player in the same team.

    a. Total Pass Number: It includes total number of any shot by a team player to play the ball to a player in the same team.

    b. Completed Passes: It includes total number of success shot by a team player to play the ball to a player in the same team.

    c. % Completed Passes: It includes the ratio of total passes number to completed passes.

3. *Forward passes*

The direction of a pass is identified by the coordinates of the pass situation, and the coordinates of the next situation based on sections of 120^0 through the forwards (see figure 3.1).
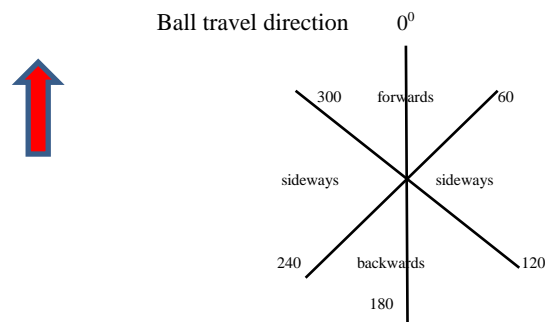
Figure 3.1 Directions for Ball Travel

    a. Total Forward Passes: It includes total number of any shot by a team player to play the ball to a player in the same team and the coordinates of the next shot based on sections of 120^0 through the forwards.

    b. Forward Passes Completed: It is defined as total number of successful shot by a same team player to play the ball to a player in the same team and the organizes of the next shot based on sections of 120^0 through the forwards.

    c. % of Passes that were Forward: It includes the ratio of total passes number to total forward passes.

4. Attacking Entries

      a. Final 1/3 Entries: It includes that Y event happens in the opposition's final third area; X event happened in the football team's own or middle third area (see Figure 3.2).

      b. Penalty Area Entries: It includes that a recent event happens in the opposition's penalty area, and where the past event happened in the team's own or middle third area.

Attack direction

Figure 3.2 content:

Defensive Third Area   Middle Third Area   Final Third Area

X → Y

X → Y

X → Y

Y — Penalty area

X
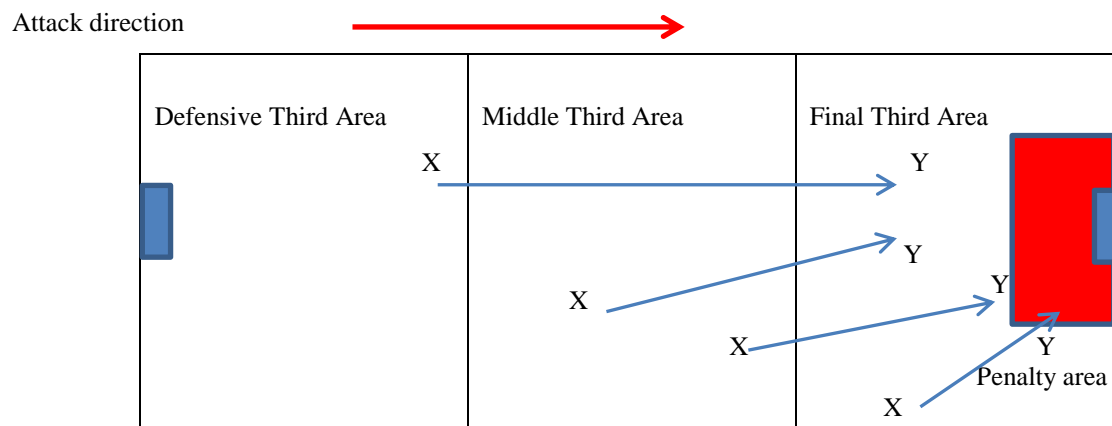
Figure 3.2 Attacking Entries Illustration

B. *Fitness Parameters*

    Fitness parameters are team physical stats, in possession physical stats, and out of possession physical stats.

1. *Team physical stats* (0.5 sec time frame is used for measuring distance covered)

    a. Total distance: It is total of all half second distance covered

    b. Sprint distance / numbers: It includes total of all half second distance covered over +24 km/h speed, and the total sprint numbers.

    c. High speed distance / numbers: It is total of all half second distance covered around the 21 km/h and 24 km/h speed, and the total number of high speed runs

    d. High intensity distance / numbers: It is total of all half second distance covered over +21 km/h speed, and the number of high intensity run

e. Avg. Time between high intensity runs: It is average time between the two high intensity runs over +21 km/h speed.

2. *In possession physical stats*

   It is calculated for the 21 -24 km/h and +24km/h speed thresholds with ball situations.

   a. Total distance

   b. Sprint distance

   c. High intensity distance

3. *Out of possession physical stats*

   It is calculated for the 21 -24 km/h and + 24km/h speed thresholds without ball situations.

   a. Total distance

   b. Sprint distance

   c. High intensity distance

3.2 Data Analysis for Purpose 1

Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (IBM SPSS) version 22 was performed for descriptive statistics such as frequencies and means.

3.3 Procedures for Purpose 2

The second purpose of this study was to analyze the performance of Turkey National Football Team in the last seven championships (FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships). A database was established for the last seven football championships including UEFA Europe Championships and FIFA World Cup. This database was used to analyze the Turkey National Football Team' performance in the qualifying rounds and tournaments in the championships to examine the reasons of successful and getting unstable results. In order to establish a database, FIFA World Cup for the years of 2002, 2006, 2010, 2014 and UEFA Europe Championships for the years of 2004, 2006, 2008 and 2012 were examined.

General information on the championships, qualifying rounds, tournaments, Turkey National Football Team players and technical staff (coaches and assistant coaches) was obtained from the variety of sources such as scientific databases

(EBSCOHost and ScienceDirect Databases), archives of newspapers, and official webpages of FIFA, UEFA and TFF.

3.4 Data Analysis for Purpose 2

Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (IBM SPSS) version 22 was performed for descriptive statistics such as frequencies and means.

An independent researcher working as a match and performance analyst from the Turkey National Football Team also checked (peer check) the information of the database to confirm the correct data included in the database.

3.5 Procedures for Purpose 3

The third purpose of this study was to analyze the perspectives of National Football Team's coaches on Turkey National Football Team in the last seven football championships (FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships).

3.5.1 Participants

Four coaches and three assistant coaches (n=7) out of thirteen working at the National Football Team level in the Turkish Football Federation were participated in the study. The coaches were selected purposefully (purposive sampling). It was believed that the coaches had experience and knowledge about the Turkey National Football Team including players and they could provide deep inside about the team in terms of strength, weakness and team' general characteristics and qualities. They were ideal to evaluate the Turkey National Football Team' performance in the Championships. Demographic information of the coaches was provided in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1. General Characteristics of Coaches (n=7)

Demographic information	Mean	Range
Age	49	31- 64
Years of experience in Turkey National Football Teams*	6	2 - 14
Years of experience as a football player	15	13-21

*Note: It includes experience in all levels of Turkey National Football Team (National Team & U21, U19, U18, U17…)

3.5.2 Interview Procedures

Semi-structured interviews were conducted to deeply analyze football coaches' perspectives on Turkey National Football Team. Specifically, coaches' perspectives on strength and weakness of the team, reasons of inconsistent results in the big championships such as FIFA World Cup or UEFA European Championships, things to do for being successful and new trends in Turkish football in terms of foreign players' regulations were gathered. Based on that, semi-structured open-ended questions were prepared with the main researcher and two experts from physical education and sports area. The main interview questions were as follows;

1. How did you evaluate the Turkey National Football Team performance in the last seven championships (FIFA World Cup or UEFA European Championships)?
2. What are the strengths and weakness of Turkey National Football Team?
3. Turkey National Football Team was successful in 2002 World Championships (completed in the third rank) and 2008 European Championships. However, we were not successful in the other tournaments. What do you think about the reasons of instability of the team?
4. What the team needs to do to be successful in the qualifying round? Why the team was not successful in the qualifying rounds?
5. There is a new regulation on the foreign players How does this new regulation effect the future of Turkey National Football Team?
6. Would you like to add anything else about the Turkey National Football Team?

Before conducting interviews, Middle East Technical University Human Subjects Ethics Committee approved the study in 2015. Then, the interviews schedule was arranged with the participants. Interviews were conducted in a quiet office at the Turkish Football Federation building. All interviews were recorded via audiotape recorder with the permission of participants. Each interview was arranged for individual basis. The interviews generally took place 15 to 20 minutes. At the beginning of the interviews, the purpose of the study was explained to the coaches

and explained that all data only used for the research purposes. In addition, it was informed that pseudonym was used to report the results. In the first part of the interview, demographic information about the coaches was obtained. For instance, their age, football career as a player, and experiences on Turkey National Football Team were asked to describe their profile. Then, the interview questions were asked to describe their profile. If necessary, further explanations or probing questions were provided during the interviews.

3.6 Data Analysis for Purpose 3

Qualitative analysis method was used in this part of study. Main researcher followed the six phases of the data analysis (Creswell, 2009);

1. Data collection (conducting interviews) and data administration
2. Organizing and arranging data (transcribing the data)
3. Coding process and examining data (understanding and exploring the data)
4. Revealing categories, themes or main concepts from the texts (with an independent researcher)
5. Connecting and linking the data (linking the categories, themes or concepts)
6. Interpretation of the data and providing significant points and meanings (based on the related literature)

After this process, member check and peer review check were performed for trustworthiness. Data was checked with the coaches for explanations and contradictions to make sure that the data analysis reflected their opinions and ideas (member check). Feedback was also taken from the coaches for the interpretation of the data and themes. In addition, an independent researcher from the physical education and sports area was checked the codes and themes for the data analysis (peer review check).

CHAPTER IV

RESULTS

The results section was divided into three sections based on the main purposes of the study. In the first section, data on Turkey National Football Team' technical and fitness parameters during World-Cup 2014 qualifying round for "official matches and friendly matches" and "matches of earning point(s) and lost" was provided. In the second section, the performance of Turkey National Football Team in the last seven championships (FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships) was analyzed. In the last section, Turkey National Football Team' coaches interview results were provided.

4.1 Analysis of Turkey National Team' Performance during 2014 World Cup Qualifying Round

Technical parameters of Turkey National Football Team and its opponents during 2014 World Cup qualifying round were gathered via Amisco Prozon® tracking system. Technical parameters of Turkey Nation team during friendly-official matches and matches of earning point(s) and lost are given in Table 4.1

Table 4.1 Technical Parameters of Turkey and Its Opponents

Technical parameters Means	Matches during World Cup 2014 Qualifying Round							
	Friendly		Official		Lost		Earning Point(s)	
	Opponents	Turkey	Opponents	Turkey	Opponents	Turkey	Opponents	Turkey
Possession								
% Possession	43.4	56.6	36.33	63.67	42	58	39.5	60.5
Passes								
Total Pass Number	382.2	529	265.33	545.00	353.75	513	323	557
Completed Passes	301.4	448.8	185.00	453.33	267.75	421.25	247.75	479.75
% Completed Passes	76	84.2	68.67	83.00	75.25	82	71.25	85.5
Forward Passes								
Total Forward Passes	133.4	157.8	115.33	175.00	133.5	160.5	119.75	168
Forward Passes Completed	80.8	109.6	77.33	85.33	78.75	80.75	80.25	120.25
% Of Passes That Were Forward	59.2	68.8	57.67	67.33	58.75	65.75	58.5	70.75
Attacking Entries								
Final 1/3 Entries	36.4	57.2	27.67	74.33	37.25	56.75	29	70.5
Penalty Area Entries	8.2	16.2	7.33	18.00	8	13.25	7.75	20.5

Fitness parameters of Turkey Nation Football Team during friendly-official matches and for the matches of earning point(s) and lost are given in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2 Fitness Parameters of Turkey and Its Opponents

	Matches during World Cup 2014 Qualifying Round							
Fitness parameters Means	Friendly		Official		Lost		Earning Point(s)	
	Opponents	Turkey	Opponents	Turkey	Opponents	Turkey	Opponents	Turkey
Team Physical Stats								
Total Distance	118746	109313	115435	115878	120232	110762	114776	112787
Sprint Distance	2488	2483	1964	2303	2603	2632	1979	2199
Sprint Distance numbers	111.8	114.6	84	110	114	119	89	106
High Speed Distance	2982	2932	2728	2885	3081	2945	2692	2884
High Speed Distance Numbers	216	204	182.33	207	220	208	186	202
High Intensity Distance	5470	5416	4693	5189	5685	5578	4672	5084
High Intensity Distance Numbers	327	318	267.00	318	335	328	275	309
Avg. Time between High Intensity runs	2.772	2.762	3.69	3.18	2.82	2.79	3.41	3.05
In Possession Physical Stats								
Total Distance with ball	38797	45165	29697	49735	36821	45633	33949	48125
Sprint Distance with ball	1428	1148	988	972	1497	1066	1028	1098
High Intensity Distance (with ball)	2837.4	2390	2026	2332	2905	2328	2161	2408
Out of Possession Physical Stats								
Total distance without ball	50806	38680	52729	31988	51638	37421	51416	34921
Sprint distance without ball	1063	1400	841	1195	1059	1575	900	1072
High intensity distance without ball	2598.6	2732	2332	2542	2633	2799	2363	2523

Fitness parameters of players based on playing positions for official and friendly matches are given in Table 4.3.

Fitness parameters of players based on playing positions for matches of earning point(s) and lost are given in Table 4.4.

Table 4.3 Fitness Parameters of Players Based on Playing Positions For Official and Friendly Matches

Fitness parameters	Goal Keepers		Defense		Backs		Midfielders		Wings		Forwards	
	Friendly	Official	Friendly	Official	Friendly	Official	Friendly	Official	Friendly	Official	Friendly	Official
Total distance 1st half	2601.20	2582.33	5236.60	5059.83	5696.84	5861.67	5945.37	5821.78	5641.50	5555.33	5552.10	5509.00
Total distance 2nd half	2520.20	2461.67	5096.20	4975.33	5631.00	5692.83	5830.10	5621.47	5718.50	5465.92	5418.15	5313.46
Total distance 1st 2nd half	5121.40	5044.00	10332.80	10035.17	11327.90	11554.50	11775.47	11443.25	11360.00	11021.26	10970.25	10822.46
High intensity distance 1st half	3.40	9.33	209.10	223.67	345.20	346.00	201.37	184.72	283.00	362.17	344.90	294.67
High intensity number 1st half	0.20	0.67	12.40	12.83	19.40	20.83	12.90	12.33	17.10	20.33	21.50	18.67
High intensity distance 2nd half	0.00	4.67	246.50	203.83	366.00	338.50	295.52	171.76	327.42	263.98	355.23	247.56
High intensity number 2nd half	0.00	0.33	13.90	13.67	20.80	19.83	17.41	11.02	19.77	17.73	20.03	14.07
High intensity distance 1st 2nd half	3.40	14.00	355.60	427.5	711.20	684.50	496.89	356.48	610.42	626.15	700.13	542.23
High intensity number 1st 2nd half	0.20	1.00	26.30	26.50	40.20	40.67	30.31	23.36	36.87	38.06	41.53	32.73
Sprint distance 1st half	0.00	0.00	95.50	135.00	170.00	165.50	65.70	53.94	117.10	168.00	145.38	161.33
Sprint number 1st half	0.00	0.00	4.60	5.83	7.80	7.33	3.80	3.05	5.50	8.00	7.30	8.33
Sprint distance 2nd half	0.00	0.00	134.00	84.00	166.40	151.17	117.70	51.90	162.07	102.48	196.13	138.51
Sprint number 2nd half	0.00	0.00	5.80	4.50	7.50	6.33	5.21	2.41	7.57	5.87	7.93	6.55
Sprint distance 1st 2nd half	0.00	0.00	229.50	219.00	336.40	316.67	183.40	105.85	279.17	270.48	312.43	299.84
Sprint number 1st 2nd half	0.00	0.00	10.40	10.33	15.30	13.67	9.01	5.46	13.07	13.87	15.23	14.89
Time between two high intensity	0.00	0.00	3.10	3.52	3.76	5.96	3.20	3.77	2.24	2.23	2.04	2,48
Percentile distance sprint	0.00	0.00	2.25	2.17	3.04	2.73	1.71	0.94	2.73	3.00	3.38	3,23

Table 4.4 Fitness Parameters of Players Based on Playing Positions For the Matches of Earning Point(S) and Lost

Fitness parameters	Goal Keepers		Defense		Backs		Midfielders		Wings		Forwards	
	Earn P.	Lost	Earn P.	Lost	Earn P.	Lost	Earn P.	Lost	Earn P.	Lost	Earn P.	Lost
Total distance 1st half	2667.50	2520.75	5094.88	5245.75	5748.00	5769.30	5952.13	5845.92	5614.00	5604.38	5507.50	5564.38
Total distance 2nd half	2521.00	2475.50	5051.13	5050.63	5612.50	5695.88	5780.58	5723.15	5705.05	5542.52	5319.40	5438.38
Total distance 1st 2nd half	5188.50	4996.25	10146.00	10296.38	11360.50	11465.25	11732.70	11569.07	11319.05	11146.90	10826.90	11002.76
High intensity distance 1st half	2.25	9.00	188.75	240.38	327.63	363.38	213.25	177.00	313.63	311.75	372.75	279.38
High intensity number 1st half	0.25	0.50	11.25	13.88	18.50	21.38	13.88	11.50	18.25	18.38	22.63	18.25
High intensity distance 2nd half	0.00	3.50	222.75	238.25	307.13	404.25	200.88	297.34	274.68	332.58	284.35	345.36
High intensity number 2nd half	0.00	0.25	13.88	13.75	18.50	22.38	12.33	17.70	18.11	19.90	16.19	19.41
High intensity distance 1st 2nd half	2.25	12.50	411.5	478.63	634.76	767.63	414.13	474.34	587.31	644.33	657.10	624.74
High intensity number 1st 2nd half	0.25	0.75	25.13	27.63	37.00	43.75	26.21	29.20	36.36	38.28	38.81	37.66
Sprint distance 1st half	0.00	0.00	90.88	129.75	153.50	183.13	62.79	59.79	145.88	126.50	171.67	137.63
Sprint number 1st half	0.00	0.00	4.38	5.75	6.38	8.88	3.50	3.54	7.25	5.63	8.75	6.63
Sprint distance 2nd half	0.00	0.00	111.13	119.38	127.25	194.13	74.32	111.73	119.01	160.44	155.78	193.27
Sprint number 2nd half	0.00	0.00	5.50	5.13	6.00	8.13	3.55	4.77	6.37	7.49	6.86	7.97
Sprint distance 1st 2nd half	0.00	0.00	202.00	249.13	280.75	377.25	137.11	171.53	264.89	286.94	284.53	330.90
Sprint number 1st 2nd half	0.00	0.00	9.88	10.88	12.38	17.00	7.05	8.31	13.62	13.12	15.61	14.60
Time between two high intensity	0.00	0.00	1.85	2.03	4.7	4.47	3.63	3.20	2.22	5.35	2.11	2.30
Percentile distance sprint	0.00	0.00	1.99	2.45	2.47	3.38	1.29	1.56	2.82	2.84	3.42	3.24

4.2 Analysis of Turkey National Team Performance in The Last Seven Championships

A database of Championships was established for two main championships: FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships. First, FIFA World Cup database was provided for the years of 2002, 2006, 2010 and 2014. Second, UEFA Europe Championships database was examined for the years of 2004, 2008 and 2012. UEFA Europe Championships 2016 qualifying round still continue and will be completed in October 2015, for this reason, this data was not included in this study.

4.2.1 FIFA WORLD CUP

4.2.1.1 2002

FIFA World Cup was hosted by Korea and Japan in 2002. Thirty two National teams participated in the qualifying round from five continentals. Final match was played between Germany and Brazil. Brazil was the winner of the cup. Turkey passed the qualifying round and completed the tournament in the third rank. Details about the tournament can be found in Table 4.5.

Table 4.5 2002 FIFA World Cup General Information

Host Country	Korea & Japan					
Countries participating in the Championships	AFC	CAF	OFC	CONCACAF	CONMEBOL	UEFA
	China PR Japan Saudi Arabia South Korea	Cameroon Nigeria Senegal South Africa Tunisia	-	Costa Rica Mexico United States	Argentina Brazil Ecuador Paraguay Uruguay	Belgium Croatia Denmark England France Germany Republic of Ireland Italy Poland Portugal Russia Slovenia Spain Sweden Turkey
# of football teams from continentals	4	5	0	3	5	15
Final Match	Germany				Brazil	
Champion	Brazil					
The rank of Turkey National Football Team	3. Rank					

Note: AFC refers to Asia Football Confederation, CAF refers to Confederation of African Football, OFC refers to Oceania Football Confederation, CONCACAF refers to Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football, CONMEBOL refers to South American Football Confederation, UEFA refers to Union of European Football Associations.

During FIFA World Cup 2002 of qualifying round, Technical director Şenol Güneş and his assistants were the technical staff and they had more than 18 years' experience as a football player in football. Details about Turkey technical staff can be found in Table 4.6.

Table 4.6 Technical Staff Information for FIFA World Cup 2002

General Information	Coach	Assistant	Assistant
Coach and Assistant Coaches	Şenol Güneş	Ünal Karaman	Mehmet Kulaksizoğlu
Age average of Technical Staff	50	34	47
Year of the professional career	14	0	12
# of tournaments or Championships in their career*	4	0	0
Football history as football players (in years)	18	19	20
Working at other National Football Teams	0	0	0

*Turkey Cup (1995), Super Cup (1995), Premiership Cup (1994, 1996)

As seen in Table 4.7, 15 National teams from European participated in FIFA World Cup 2002 qualifying round. Turkey National team was in the number 2 pot based on the FIFA rank. Turkish team gathered 13 points during away matches and 8 points at home matches. In terms of goals scoring minutes, Turkish team scored more goals in the fifth 15 minutes of match periods (61-75 min). Total 18 goals scored by National team. In addition, the rank of Turkish Team at the end of the qualifying round was 2. point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end were 5 and average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end were -7.

Mean age of players were 26 years. Mean of players' caps at qualifying round was 26.1. Players were mostly from Galatasaray. It should be noted that other players were in the national team from the football clubs of Fenerbahçe, Inter Milan, Adanaspor, Gaziantepspor, Trabzonspor, Real Sociedad, Beşiktaş, Gençlerbirliği, Leicester City Sc, Aston Villa, Bursaspor, Glascow Rangers, and Vfl Bochum 1848. Players' information is given in Table 4.8.

Information for the tournament and players is given in Tables 4.9 and 4.10.

Table 4.7 2002 FIFA World Cup Qualifying Round Information

General Information										
The number of teams from Europe					15					
The number of pots					4					
Pot of Turkey National Football Team (based on FIFA Rank)					2					
Group number and the number of teams in the group				4				6		
Opponents in the Qualifying Round	TUR-MDA	SWE-TUR	AZE-TUR	TUR-SVK	MKD-TUR	TUR-AZE	TUR-MKD	SVK-TUR	TUR-SWE	MDA-TUR
Match results in the Qualifying Round	2-0	1-1	0-1	1-1	1-2	3-0	3-3	0-1	1-2	0-3
The rank of Turkey National Football Team at the end of the Qualifying Round					2					
Point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end					5					
Average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end					-7					
Points gathered at home					8					
Points gathered away					13					

Goal Scoring Minutes	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	Total
Total number of goals and their minutes	2	1	4	3	5	3	18
Total number of goals against and their minutes	1	2	0	0	3	2	8
Goals scoring at home and their m.	1	1	3	3	2	0	10
Goals against at home and their minutes	1	1	0	0	2	2	6
Goals scoring away and their minutes	1	0	1	0	3	3	8
Goals against away and their minutes	0	1	0	0	1	0	2

Note: TUR refers to Turkey, MDA refers to Moldova, AZE refers to Azerbaijan , SVK refers to Slovakia, SWE refers to Sweden, MKD refers to Macedonia

Table 4.8 2002 FIFA World Cup Players' Information

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age average of players	Players caps at the qualifying round	Other caps of the players (U-21, U-20 etc.)	Professional careers of the players
Rüştü Reçber (Fenerbahçe)	Fenerbahçe	3	22	7	27	47	12	9
Ümit Davala (Galatasaray)	Galatasaray	10			27	44	7	6
Ogün Temizkanoğlu (Fenerbahçe)	Inter Milan	1			31	69	5	11
Fatih Akyel (Galatasaray)	Adanaspor	1			23	71	18	5
Emre Belözoğlu (Galatasaray)	Gaziantepspor	2			20	2	73	5
Bülent Korkmaz (Galatasaray)	Trabzonspor	1			32	63	4	12
Okan Buruk (Galatasaray)	Real Sociedad	2			27	17	47	7
Suat Kaya (Galatasaray)	Beşiktaş	3			21	12	0	10
Hakan Şükür (Inter Milan)	Gençlerbirliği	1			29	58	44	10
Cenk İşler (Adanaspor A.Ş.)	Leicester City Sc	1			26	0	0	7
Hakan Ünsal (Galatasaray)	Aston Villa	1			27	28	13	7
Abdullah Ercan (Fenerbahçe)	Bursaspor	1			29	57	33	8
Tayfun Korkut (Real Sociedad)	Glascow Rangers	1			26	32	3	7
Ergün Penbe (Galatasaray)	Vfl Bochum 1848	1			28	10	15	10
Tayfur Havutcu (Beşiktaş)		29			30	29	0	10
Ümit Karan (Gençlerbirliği)					24	7	0	5
Nihat Kahveci (Beşiktaş)					21	0	26	2
Arif Erdem (Real Sociedad)					28	65	25	9

Table 4.8 2002 FIFA World Cup Players' Information Continued

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age average of players	Players caps at qualifying round	Other caps of the players	Professional careers of the players
Mustafa Kemal İzzet (Leicester City Sc)					26	4	0	6
Hasan Gökhan Şaş (Galatasaray)					24	4	11	5
Fehmi Alpay Özalan (Aston Villa)					27	49	24	8
Hasan Özer (Gaziantepspor)					26	2	12	5
Ümit Özat (Bursaspor)					24	0	26	8
Tugay Kerimoğlu (G.Rangers)					30	62	41	8
Oktay Derelioğlu (Trabzonspor)					25	19	64	10
Yildiray Baştürk (Vfl Bochum 1848)					22	2	54	6
Emre Aşik (Galatasaray)					27	14	20	4
Mehmet Polat (Gaziantepspor)					22	3	2	8
İlhan Mansiz (Beşiktaş)					25	0	0	4
				Mean	26	26.10	20.31	5.72

Table 4.9 2002 FIFA World Cup Tournament Information

Basic Information							
# of football teams from Europe				15			
# of pots				4			
Pot of Turkey National Football Team (based on FIFA Rank)				2			
Group number and the number of teams in the group				3		4	
Level of the matches	Group	Group	Group	Round 16	Quarter fi.	Semi fi.	Third pl.
Opponents in the tournament	BRA-TUR	CRC_TUR	TUR-CHN	JPN-TUR	SEN_TUR	BRA-TUR	KOR-TUR
Match Results	2-1	1-1	3-0	0-1	0-1	1-0	2-3
The rank of Turkey National Football Team at the end of the Qualifying Round				3			
The rank of Turkey National Football Team at the end of the Tournament				4			

Note: TUR refers to Turkey, BRA refers to Brazil, CRC refers to Costa Rika, CHN refers to China, JPN refers to Japan, SEN refers to Senegal, and KOR refers to South Korea

Table 4.10 2002 FIFA World Cup Tournament Players' Information

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age average of players	Players caps at the Qualifying Round	Other caps of players	Professional careers of the players
Rüştü Reçber (Fenerbahçe)	Fenerbahçe	1	13	8	27	47	12	9
Ümit Davala (Milan Ac)	Galatasaray	8			27	44	7	6
Fatih Akyel (Galatasaray)	Inter Milan	1			23	71	18	5
Emre Belözoğlu (Galatasaray)	Gaziantepspor	1			20	2	73	5
Bülent Korkmaz (Galatasaray)	2 Real Sociedad	2			32	63	4	12
Okan Buruk (Galatasaray)	Beşiktaş	2			27	17	47	7
Hakan Şükür (Inter Milan)	Leicester City Sc	1			29	58	44	10
Hakan Ünsal (Galatasaray)	Aston Villa	1			27	28	13	7
Ergün Penbe (Galatasaray)	Bursaspor	1			28	10	15	10
Tayfur Havutcu (Beşiktaş)	Glascow Rangers	1			30	29	0	10
Nihat Kahveci (Real Sociedad)	Vfl Bochum 1848	1			21	0	26	2
Arif Erdem (Real Sociedad)	Milan	1			28	65	25	9
Mustafa Kemal İzzet (Leicester City Sc)					26	4	0	6
Hasan Gökhan Şaş (Galatasaray)					24	4	11	5
Fehmi Alpay Özalan (Aston Villa)					27	49	24	8
Ümit Özat (Bursaspor)					24	0	26	8
Tugay Kerimoğlu (G.Rangers)					30	62	41	8
Yildiray Baştürk (Vfl Bochum 1848)					22	2	54	6
Emre Aşik (Galatasaray)					27	14	20	4
İlhan Mansiz (Beşiktaş)					25	0	0	4
Ömer Çatkiç (Gaziantep)					30	49	3	9
				Mean	26.38	29.43	22.05	7.14

4.2.1.2. 2006

FIFA World Cup was hosted by Germany in 2006. Italy was the winner of the cup. Turkey National Football team did not pass the qualifying round. Details about the FIFA World Cup 2006 can be found in Tables 4.11, 4.12, and 4.13.

Table 4.11 2006 FIFA World Cup Information

Host Country				Germany		
Countries participating in the Championships	AFC (5)	CAF (5)	OFC (0)	CONCACAF (3)	CONMEBOL (4)	UEFA (14)
	Australia Iran Japan Korea	Angola Ghana I.Coast Togo Tunisia		C.Rica Mexico U.States T.Tobago	Argentina Brazil Ecuador Paraguay	Croatia C.Republic England France Germany Italy Netherlands Poland Portugal Serbia and Montenegro Spain Sweden Switzerland Ukraine
# of football teams from continentals	5	5	0	4	5	15
Final Match		Italy			France	
Champion				Italy		
The rank of Turkey National Football Team			Do not participate in the tournament			

Note: AFC refers to Asia Football Confederation, CAF refers to Confederation of African Football, OFC refers to Oceania Football Confederation, CONCACAF refers to Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football, CONMEBOL refers to South American Football Confederation, UEFA refers to Union of European Football Associations.

Table 4.12 Technical Staff Information for FIFA World Cup 2006

General Information	Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach
Coach and Assistant Coaches	Ersun Yenal	Mesut Bakkal	Özcan Bizati	Metin Bayindir
Age average of Technical Staff	45	42	38	47
Year of the professional career	10	10	5	7
# of tournaments or Championships in their career	0	0	0	0
Football history as football players (in years)	10	13	10	10
Working at other National Football Teams	No	No	No	No

During the qualifying round of 2006, technical staff was changed and information about the new technical staff can be found in Table 4.13.

Table 4.13 Technical Staff (New) Information for FIFA World Cup 2006

General Information	Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach
Coach and Assistant Coaches	Fatih Terim	Müfit Erkasap	Oğuz Çetin	Eser Özaltindere
Age average of Technical Staff	53	49	43	52
Year of the professional career	19	11	6	11
# of tournaments or Championships in their career*	12	-	-	-
Football history as football players (in years)	16	NA	19	20
Working at other National Football Teams	Yes	No	No	No

*European Football Championships participation (1996), Mediterranean Games Championships (1993, Final-1991), UEFA Cup (2000), Super League (1997, 1998, 1999, 2000), Turkey Cup (1999, 2000), Super Cup (1996, 1997)

In 2006, 15 National teams from Europe were participated in the qualifying round. Turkey National team was in the number of 1 pot based on FIFA rank. Opponents of Turkey National team were Georgia, Albania, Ukraine, Denmark and Kazakhstan. Turkey National team gathered 9 points at home matches and 14 points at away matches. During the all matches, high number of goals were scored (7 goals) in the last 15 minutes. Details can be found in Table 4.14.

Qualifying round players in Turkey National team were gathered from 13 different teams: Fenerbahçe, Beşiktaş, Galatasaray, Trabzon, Gençlerbirliği, Inter Milan, Real Sociedad, Anderlecht, Schalke, Shakhtar, Herta Berlin, Kaiserslautern and Fc Koln. Age mean of players was 28.28 and they were experienced football players. Mean of players' caps at qualifying round was 32. 48. Players' information for 2006 is provided in Table 4.15.

Table. 4.14 2006 FIFA World Cup Qualifying Round Information

General Information												
The number of teams from Europe					15							
The number of pots					7							
Pot of Turkish Team (based on FIFA Rank)					1							
Group number and the number of teams in the group				2					7			
Opponents in the Qualifying Round	TUR-GEO	GRE-TUR	TUR-KAZ	DEN-TUR	TUR-UKR	TUR-ALB	GEO-TUR	TUR-GRE	KAZ-TUR	TUR-DEN	UKR-TUR	ALB-TUR
Match results in the Qualifying Round	1-1	0-0	4-0	1-1	0-3	2-0	2-5	0-0	0-6	2-2	0-1	0-1
The rank of Turkish Team at the end of the qualifying round					2							
Point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end					2							
Average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end					3 ±							
Points gathered at home					9							
Points gathered away					14							

Goal Scoring Minutes	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	Total
Total number of goals and their minutes	4	3	2	5	2	7	23
Total number of goals against and their minutes	2	2	2	0	0	3	9
Goals scoring at home and their minutes	2	1	0	3	0	3	9
Goals against at home and their minutes	1	1	1	0	0	3	6
Goals scoring away and their minutes	2	2	2	2	2	4	14
Goals against away and their minutes	1	1	1	0	0	0	3

Notes: TUR refers to Turkey, GEO refers to Georgia, GRE refers to Greece, KAZ refers to Kazakhstan, DEN refers to Denmark, UKR refers to Ukraine, ALB refers to Albania

54

Table. 4.15 2006 FIFA World Cup Qualifying Round Players' Information

General Information

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age average of players	Players caps at qualifying round	Other caps of players (U-21 etc.)	Professional careers of the players
Rüştü Reçber (Fenerbahçe)	Fenerbahçe	8	21	8	33	101	12	18
Serkan Balci (Fenerbahçe)	Beşiktaş	4			23	14	27	6
Deniz Bariş (Fenerbahçe)	Galatasaray	5			29	20	0	7
İbrahim Toraman (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)	Trabzon	3			25	16	18	8
Emre Belözoğlu (Inter Milan)	Gençlerbirliği	1			26	56	73	11
Ümit Özat (Fenerbahçe)	Inter Milan	1			30	35	12	11
Okan Buruk (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)	Real Sociedad	1			33	58	47	13
Tuncay Şanli (Fenerbahçe)	Anderlecht	1			24	34	33	6
Hakan Şükür (Galatasaray)	Schalke	1			35	99	44	19
Fatih Tekke (Trabzonspor)	Shakhtar	1			33	8	49	11
Hasan Gökhan Şaş (Galatasaray)	Herta Berlin	1			30	40	11	11
Volkan Demirel (Fenerbahçe)	Kaiserslautern	1			25	9	24	6
Gökdeniz Karadeniz (Trabzonspor)	Fc Koln	1			26	17	56	8
Hüseyin Çimşir (Trabzonspor)					27	1	29	9
Nihat Kahveci (Real Sociedad)					29	59	26	8
Niyazi Serhat Akin (Anderlecht)					25	10	30	7
Servet Çetin (Fenerbahçe)					25	8	22	7
Hamit Altintop (Schalke)					24	6	20	6
Tolga Seyhan (Schaktar)					29	7	6	11
Necati Ateş (Galatasaray)					26	5	26	7

Table. 4.15 2006 FIFA World Cup Qualifying Round Players' Information Continued

Yildiray Baştürk (Herta Berlin)	28	38	54	10
Mustafa Koray Avci (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)	28	6	13	9
Bülent Korkmaz (Galatasaray)	38	111	4	21
Ayhan Akman (Galatasaray)	29	24	47	11
Halil Altintop (Kaiserslautern)	24	0	15	6
Ömer Çatkiç (Gençlerbirliği)	32	59	3	13
Fehmi Alpay Özalan (Fc Koln)	33	87	24	15
Selçuk Şahin (Fenerbahçe)	25	8	27	7
Tümer Metin (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)	32	6	2	13
Mean	28.48	32.48	26.00	10.17

4.2.1.3. **2010**

FIFA World Cup was hosted by South Africa in 2010. Thirty two National teams participated in the qualifying round from six continentals. Final match was played between Holland and Spain. Spain was the winner of the cup. Turkey National Football team did not pass the qualifying round. Details about the tournament can be found in Table 4.16.

Table 4.16 2010 FIFA World Cup Information

Host Country	South Africa					
Countries participating in Championships	AFC	CAF	OFC	CONCACAF	CONMEBOL	UEFA
	Australia Japan S.Korea Korea R.	Algeria Cameroon I.Cost Ghana Nigeria S.Africa	N.Zealand	Honduras Mexico U.States	Argentina Brazil Chile Paraguay Uruguay	Denmark England France Germany Greece Italy Netherlands Portugal Serbia Slovakia Slovenia Spain Switzerland
# of teams from continentals	4	6	1	3	5	13
Final Match	Holland				Spain	
Champion	Spain					
The rank of Turkish Team	Do not participate in the Tournament					

Note: AFC refers to Asia Football Confederation, CAF refers to Confederation of African Football , OFC refers to Oceania Football Confederation , CONCACAF refers to Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football, CONMEBOL refers to South American Football Confederation, UEFA refers to Union of European Football Associations

During FIFA World Cup 2010 qualifying round, Fatih Terim was the technical director of the team. His assistants were Müfit Erkasap, Oğuz Çetin, Metin Tekin and Eser Özaltındere. They were also football players in the past. Details about Turkish technical staff can be found in Table 4.17

Table. 4.17 Technical Staff Information for FIFA World Cup 2010

General Information	Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach
Coach and Assistant Coaches	Fatih Terim	Müfit Erkasap	Oğuz Çetin	Metin Tekin	Eser Özaltindere
Age average of Technical Staff	57	53	47	46	56
Year of the professional career	19	11	6	11	11
# of tournaments or Championships in their career*	12	0	0	0	0
Football history as football players (in years)	10	13	19	15	20
Working at other National Football Teams	Yes	No	No	No	No

Note: European Football Championships participation (1996, 2000), European Football Championships, 3rd, (2008), Mediterranean Games Championships (1993, 1991), UEFA Cup (2000), Super League (1997, 1998, 1999, 2000), Turkey Cup (1999, 2000), Super Cup (1996, 1997)

As seen in Table 4.18, 13 National teams from European participated in FIFA World Cup 2010 qualifying round. Turkey National team was in the number 2 pot based on FIFA rank in that year. Turkish team gathered 5 points during away matches and 10 points at home matches. In terms of goals scoring minutes, Turkish team scored more goals in the second and fifth 15 minutes of match periods (16-30 and 61-75 min). Total 13 goals scored by National team. ın addition, the rank of Turkish Team at the end of the qualifying round was 3. Point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end were 15 and average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end were 20 and less.

Mean age of players were 27.39 years. Mean of players' caps at qualifying round was 22.36. Players were mostly from Fenerbahçe, Galatasaray and Beşiktaş. It should be noted that one player was in the national team from the football clubs of Denizli, Kayseri, Bursaspor, Ankaragücü, Real Betis, Middlesbrough, Fc Sochaux, Schalke, Getafe, Dortmund, Villarreal and Bayern Munchen. Players' information is given in Table 4.19.

Table. 4.18 2010 FIFA World Cup Qualifying Round Information

General Information										
The number of teams from Europe	13									
The number of pots	6									
Pot of Turkish Team (based on FIFA Rank)	2									
Group number and the number of teams in the group	5						6			
Opponents in the Qualifying Round	ARM-TUR	TUR-BEL	TUR-BIH	EST-TUR	ESP-TUR	TUR-ESP	TUR-EST	BIH-TUR	BEL-TUR	TUR-ARM
Match results in the Qualifying Round	0-2	1-1	2-1	0-0	1-0	1-2	4-2	1-1	2-0	2-0
The rank of Turkish Team at the end of the Qualifying Round	3									
Point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end	15									
Average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end	20 and less									
Points gathered at home	10									
Points gathered away	5									
Goal Scoring Minutes	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	Total			
Total number of goals and their minutes	1	4	1	1	5	1	13			
Total number of goals against and their minutes	2	2	1	2	1	2	10			
Goals scoring at home and their minutes	0	4	1	1	4	0	10			
Goals against at home and their minutes	1	1	1	1	1	1	6			
Goals scoring away and their minutes	1	0	0	0	1	1	3			
Goals against away and their minutes	1	1	0	1	0	1	4			

Note: TUR refers to Turkey, ARM refers to Armenia, BEL refers to Belgium, EST refers to Estonia, ESP refers to Spain, BIH refers to Bosnia

4.19 2010 FIFA World Cup Qualifying Round Players' Information

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age of players	Players caps at Qualifying Round	Other caps of players	Professional careers of the players
Volkan Demirel (Fenerbahçe)	Fenerbahçe	7	25	8	29	45	24	10
Servet Çetin (Galatasaray A.Ş.)	Galatasaray	7			29	42	22	10
Hakan Kadir Balta (Galatasaray A.Ş.)	Beşiktaş	4			27	14	0	8
Gökhan Zan (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)	Trabzon	2			29	30	9	11
Emre Belözoğlu (Fenerbahçe)	Denizli	1			30	67	73	15
Gökhan Gönül (Fenerbahçe)	Kayseri	1			25	5	0	8
Semih Şentürk (Fenerbahçe)	Bursaspor	2			27	12	87	11
Arda Turan (Galatasaray A.Ş.)	Ankaragücü	1			23	23	80	8
Mehmet Aurelio (Real Betis)	Real Betis	1			33	25	0	17
Tuncay Şanli (Middlesbrough)	Middlesbrough	1			28	73	33	9
Mevlüt Erdinç (Fc Sochaux)	Fc Sochaux	1			23	9	17	5
Mehmet Topal (Galatasaray A.Ş.)	Schalke	1			24	11	15	8
Gökhan Ünal (Trabzonspor A.Ş.)	Getafe	1			28	16	23	10
Kazim Kazim (Fenerbahçe)	Dortmund	1			24	10	6	6
Ayhan Akman (Galatasaray A.Ş.)	Villarreal	1			33	27	47	15
Halil Altintop (Schalke 04)	Bayern Munchen	1			28	29	15	10
İbrahim Kaş (Getafe)					24	5	13	5
Çağlar Birinci (Denizlispor)					25	0	1	6
Mehmet Topuz (Kayserispor)					27	19	22	10
Sabri Sarioğlu (Galatasaray)					26	20	110	9

4.19 2010 FIFA World Cup Qualifying Round Players' Information Continued

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age of players	Players caps at Qualifying Round	Other caps of players	Professional careers of the players
Batuhan Karadeniz (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)					19	0	58	4
Nuri Şahin (Dortmund)					22	14	40	5
Yusuf Şimşek (Bursaspor)					35	1	1	15
Uğur Boral (Fenerbahçe)					28	19	5	9
Emre Aşik (Galatasaray)					37	50	20	18
Nihat Kahveci (Villareal)					31	77	26	10
İbrahim Üzülmez (Beşiktaş)					36	35	0	17
Hamit Altintop (Bayern Munchen)					28	53	20	10
Sercan Yildirim (Bursaspor)					20	0	60	5
Önder Turaci (Fenerbahçe)					29	3	0	12
Ceyhun Gülselam (Trabzonspor)					23	4	15	5
İsmail Köybaşi (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)					21	0	9	2
Ceyhun Eriş (Ankaragücü)					33	0	12	15
				Mean	27.39	22.36	26.15	9.64

4.2.1.4. **2014**

FIFA World Cup was hosted by Brazil in 2014. Thirty two National teams participated in the qualifying round from five continentals. Final match was played between Germany and Argentina. Germany was the winner of the cup. Turkey National Football team did not pass the qualifying round, for this reason; it did not participate in the tournament. Details about the tournament can be found in Table 4.20.

Table 4.20 2014 FIFA World Cup Information

Host Country	Brazil					
Countries	AFC	CAF	OFC	CONCACAF	CONMEBOL	UEFA
participating in Championships	Australia Iran Japan S.Korea	Algeria Cameroon Ghana I.Coast Nigeria		Costa Rica Honduras Mexico United States	Argentina Brazil Chile Colombia Ecuador Uruguay	Belgium Bosnia Croatia England France Germany Greece Italy Netherlands Portugal Russia Spain Switzerland
# of teams from continentals	4	5	0	4	6	13
Final Match	Germany			Argentina		
Champion	Germany					
The rank of Turkish Team	not participate in the Tournament					

Note: AFC refers to Asia Football Confederation, CAF refers to Confederation of African Football , OFC refers to Oceania Football Confederation , CONCACAF refers to Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football, CONMEBOL refers to South American Football Confederation, UEFA refers to Union of European Football Associations

During qualifying round of FIFA World Cup 2014, Abdullah Avcı was the technical director of the team. His assistants were Okan Buruk, Tayfun Korkut, and Haluk Güngör. They were also football players in the past. Details about Turkish technical staff can be found in Table 4.21.

Table. 4.21 Technical Staff Information for FIFA World Cup 2014

General Information	Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach
Coach and Assistant Coaches	Abdullah Avcı	Okan Buruk	Tayfun Korkut	Haluk Güngör
Age average of Technical Staff	51	41	40	44
Year of the professional career	14	0	0	3
# of tournaments or Championships in their career*	3	0	0	0
Football history as football players (in years)	12	19	12	18
Working at other National Football Teams	Yes	No	No	No

Note: U17 National Team European Championship (2004), Ziraat Turkish Cup Final (2011), Bank Asya 1. League Championship (2008)

As seen in Table 4.22, 13 National teams from European participated in FIFA World Cup 2014 qualifying round. Turkey National team was in the number 2 pot based on FIFA rank. Turkish team gathered 9 points during away matches and 7 points at home matches. In terms of goals scoring minutes, Turkish team scored more goals between in the third and fifth 15 minutes of match periods (30-45 and 61-75 min). Total 16 goals scored by National team. In addition, the rank of Turkish Team at the end of the qualifying round was 4. Point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end were 12 and average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end were 22 and less.

Mean age of players were 26.75 years. Mean of players' caps at qualifying round was 20.45. Players were mostly from Fenerbahçe and Galatasaray. It should be noted that other players were the football clubs of Trabzon, Beşiktaş, Eskişehir, Gaziantep, Herta Berlin, Atletic Madrid, Bater Leverkusen, Greuther, Furth, Dortmund, Werder Bremen, Rennes, Rubin Kazan, Cardiff City and Karlsruher. Players' information for 2014 is given in Table 4.23.

Table. 4.22 2014 FIFA World Cup Qualifying Round Information

General Information									
The number of teams from Europe					13				
The number of pots					6				
Pot of Turkish Team (based on FIFA Rank)					2				
Group number and the number of teams in the group				4				6	
Opponents in the Qualifying Round	NED-TUR	TUR-EST	TUR-ROU	HUN-TUR	AND-TUR	TUR-HUN	TUR-AND	ROU-TUR	EST-TUR	TUR-NED
Match results in the Qualifying Round	0-2	1-1	2-1	0-0	1-0	1-2	4-2	1-1	2-0	2-0
The rank of Turkish Team at the end of the Qualifying Round					4					
Point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end					12					
Average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end					22 and less					
Points gathered at home					7					
Points gathered away					9					

Goal Scoring Minutes	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	Total
Total number of goals and their minutes	0	3	5	1	4	3	16
Total number of goals against and their minutes	1	1	2	3	1	1	9
Goals scoring at home and their minutes	0	0	3	0	4	2	9
Goals against at home and their minutes	1	0	1	1	1	0	4
Goals scoring away and their minutes	0	3	2	1	0	1	7
Goals against away and their minutes	0	1	1	2	0	1	5

Note: TUR refers to Turkey, NED refers to Netherlands, EST refers to Estonia, ROU refers to Romania, HUN refers to Hungary, AND refers to Andorra

Table 4.23 2014 FIFA World Cup Qualifying Round Players' Information

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age of players	Players caps at qualifying round	Other caps of players	Professional careers of the players
Tolga Zengin	Trabzon	3	21	10	31	25	69	12
Hasan Ali Kaldırım	Fenerbahçe	8			25	6	17	6
Semih Kaya	Galatasaray	7			23	6	53	8
Emre Belözoğlu	Beşiktaş	1			34	92	73	19
Hamit Altıntop	Eskişehir	1			32	78	20	14
Umut Bulut	Gaziantep	1			31	17	32	10
Tunay Torun	Herta Berlin	1			24	7	49	6
Arda Turan	Atletico Madrid	1			27	58	80	12
Mehmet Topal	Bayer Leverkusen	1			28	33	15	12
Ömer Toprak	Greuther Furth	1			25	9	0	6
Sercan Sararer	Dortmund	1			25	5	0	8
Bekir İrtegün	Werder Bremen	1			30	12	53	10
Gökhan Gönül	Rennes	1			29	30	0	9
Selçuk İnan	Rubin Kazan	1			29	24	79	11
Nuri Şahin	Cardiff City	1			26	33	40	9
Burak Yılmaz	Karlsruher	1			29	23	58	10
Mehmet Ekici					24	9	0	7
Mevlüt Erdinç					27	19	17	9
Caner Erkin					26	25	45	7
Gökhan Töre					22	13	39	3

Table 4.23 2014 FIFA World Cup Qualifying Round Players' Information Continued

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age of players	Players caps at qualifying round	Other caps of players	Professional careers of the players
Volkan Demirel					33	76	24	12
Emre Çolak					23	0	103	7
Egemen Korkmaz					32	13	15	13
Aydın Yılmaz					26	1	70	9
Onur Recep Kıvrak					26	10	56	7
Olcay Şahan					27	1	1	8
Kerim Koyunlu					21	0	12	3
Alper Potuk					23	5	22	3
Hakan Çalhanoğlu					20	0	41	3
Olcan Adın					29	1	51	9
Cenk Tosun					23	3	11	5
				Mean	26.77	20.45	36.94	8.61

4.2.2. UEFA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

4.2.2.1. 2004

UEFA European Championships was hosted by Portugal in 2004. Seventeen National teams participated in the tournament from four pots. Final match was played between Portugal and Greece. Greece was the winner of the cup. Turkey National Football team did not pass the qualifying round, for this reason; it did not participate in the tournament. Details about the tournament can be found in Table 4.24.

Table 4.24 2004 UEFA European Championships Information

Host Country	Portugal			
Countries participating in Championships	Pot 1	Pot 2	Pot 3	Pot 4
	Portugal	England	Croatia	Bulgaria
	France	Germany	Denmark	Greece
	Czech Republic	Italy	Holland	Letonya
	Sweden	Spain	Russia	Switzerland
Final Match	Portugal		Greece	
Champion	Greece			
The rank of Turkish Team	not participate in the tournament			

During qualifying round of UEFA European Championships 2004, Şenol Güneş was the technical director of the team. His assistants were Ünal Karaman and Mehmet Kulaksızoğlu. They were also football players in the past. Details about Turkish technical staff can be found in Table 4.25.

Table 4.25 Technical Staff Information for UEFA European Championships 2004

General Information	Coach	Assistant	Assistant
Coach and Assistant Coaches	Şenol Güneş	Ünal Karaman	Mehmet Kulaksizoğlu
Age average of Technical Staff	52	36	49
Year of the professional career	16	2	14
# of tournaments or Championships in their career*	5*	1**	1**
Football history as football players (in years)	18	19	20
Working at other National Football Teams	0	0	0

* Turkey Cup (1995), Super Cup (1995), Premiership Cup (1994, 1996, 2002), FIFA World Cup 3rd Rank

Table 4.26 shows the qualifying round information for EURO 2004. X national teams from European participated in the tournament. Turkey National team was in the number 2 pot based on FIFA rank. Turkish team gathered 9 points during away matches and 10 points at home matches. In terms of goals scoring minutes, Turkish team scored more goals between in the third and fifth 15 minutes of match periods (30-45 and 61-75 min). Total 17 goals scored by National team. In addition, the rank of Turkish Team at the end of the qualifying round was 2. Point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end were 1 and average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end were 3.

Mean age of players were 28.45 years. Mean of players' caps at qualifying round was 31.83. Players were mostly from Galatasaray (10 players). It should be noted that other players were the football clubs of Fenerbahçe, Beşiktaş, Trabzonspor Gençlerbirliği, Bursaspor, Gaziantepspor, Inter Milan, Blackburn Rovers, Bayer Leverkusen, Real Sociedad and Aston Villar. Players' information can be found in Table 4.27.

Table 4.26 2004 UEFA European Championship Qualifying Round Information

General Information										
The number of teams from Europe					50					
The number of pots					4					
Pot of Turkey National Football Team (based on FIFA Rank)					2					
Group number and the number of teams in the group				7				5		
Opponents in the Qualifying Round	TUR-SVK	MKD-TUR	TUR-LIE	ENG-TUR	SVK-TUR	TUR-MKD	LIE-TUR	TUR-ENG	TUR-SVK	MKD-TUR
Match results in the Qualifying Round	3 - 0	1 - 2	5 - 0	2 - 0	0 - 1	3 - 2	0 - 3	0 - 0	3 - 0	1 - 2
The rank of Turkey National Football Team at the end of the Qualifying Round					2					
Point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end					1					
Average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end					+3					
Points gathered at home					10					
Points gathered away					9					
Goal Scoring Minutes	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	Total			
Total number of goals and their minutes	5	3	2	4	1	2	17			
Total number of goals against and their minutes	2	2	0	0	0	2	6			
Goals scoring at home and their min	3	2	1	2	1	2	11			
Goals against at home and their minutes	0	2	0	0	0	0	2			
Goals scoring away and their minutes	2	1	1	2	0	0	6			
Goals against away and their minutes	2	0	0	0	0	2	4			

Note: TUR refers to Turkey, SVK refers to Slovenia, MKD refers to Macedonia, LIE refers to Liechtenstein, ENG refers to England

Table. 4.27 2004 UEFA European Championships Player Information

General Information

Players in the first 18 For 10 Matches	Players' Teams	# of Players from the Teams	# of Players From Turkey	# Of Players From Abroad	Age Average Of Players	Players Caps At qualifying round	Other Caps Of Players	Professional Careers Of The Players
Rüştü Reçber (Fenerbahçe)	Fenerbahçe	4	22	7	31	76	12	13
Emre Belözoğlu (Inter Milan)	Galatasaray	10			24	93	72	7
Bülent Korkmaz (Galatasaray)	Beşiktaş A.Ş	4			36	84	4	11
Fatih Akyel (Fenerbahçe)	Trabzonspor	1			27	48	13	7
Fehmi Alpay Özalan (Aston Vılla)	Gençlerbirliği	1			28	68	20	11
Arif Erdem (Galatasaray)	Bursaspor	1			29	61	10	11
Okan Buruk (Inter Mılan)	Gaziantepspor	1			28	38	47	9
Tugay Kerimoğlu (Blackburn Rovers)	Inter Mılan	2			34	79	31	12
Niyazi Serhat Akın (Fenerbahçe)	Blackburn Rovers	2			23	1	30	2
Yıldıray Baştürk (Bayer Leverkusen)	Bayer Leverkusen	1			26	21	49	8
Hakan Ünsal (Galatasaray)	Real Socıedad	1			31	43	7	9
Ömer Çatkıç (Gaziantepspor)	Aston Villa	1			30	32	3	8
Ümit Karan (Galatasaray)					28	8	0	5
Emre Aşık (Galatasaray)					31	28	19	10
Nihat Kahveci (Real Socıedad)					25	23	26	4
Cihan Haspolatlı (Galatasaray)					24	1	21	3
Ümit Davala (Galatasaray)					31	33	7	8
Ergün Penbe (Galatasaray)					32	35	10	11
İlhan Mansız (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)					29	14	0	7
Hasan Gökhan Şaş (Galatasaray)					28	6	11	7

70

Table. 4.27 2004 UEFA European Championships Player Information Continued

Deniz Barış (Gençlerbirliği)		27	0	0	1
Hakan Şükür (Blackburn Rovers)		33	83	35	12
Gökdeniz Karadeniz (Trabzonspor)		24	0	56	4
İbrahim Üzülmez (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)		30	2	0	8
Volkan Arslan (Galatasaray)		26	1	13	2
Okan Yılmaz (Bursaspor)		26	0	4	6
Tuncay Şanlı (Fenerbahçe)		22	1	33	3
Tümer Metin (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)		30	1	2	8
Ali Rıza Sergen Yalçın (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)		32	43	11	11
	Mean	28.45	31.83	18.83	7.52

4.2.2.2 2008

UEFA European Championships was hosted by Australia and Switzerland in Portugal in 2008. Sixteen National football teams participated in the tournament from four pots. Final match was played between Germany and Spain. Spain was the winner of the cup. Turkey National Football team passed the qualifying round and completed the tournament in the third rank. Necessary information about the tournament can be found in Table 4.28.

Table 4.28 2008 UEFA European Championships Information

Host Country		Switzerland & Austria		
Countries participating in the Championships	1st Pot	2nd Pot	3rd Pot	4th Pot
	Switzerland	Croatia	Romania	Poland
	Austria	Italy	Germany	France
	Greece	Czech Rep.	Portugal	Turkey
	Netherlands	Sweden	Spain	Russia
Final Match		Germany		Spain
Champion		Spain		
The rank of Turkey National Football Team		3. Rank		

During qualifying round of UEFA European Championships 2008, Fatih Terim was the technical director of the team. His assistants were Müfit Erkasap, Oğuz Çetin, Metin Tekin and Eser Özaltındere. They were also football players in the past. Details about Turkish technical staff can be found in Table 4.29

Table 4.29 Technical Staff Information for 2008 UEFA European Championships

General Information	Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach
Coach and Assistant Coaches	Fatih Terim	Müfit Erkasap	Oğuz Çetin	Metin Tekin	Eser Özaltindere
Age average of Technical Staff	55	51	45	44	52
Year of the professional career	21	13	8	10	13
# of tournaments or Championships in their career*	12	0	0	0	0
Football history as football players (in years)	10	13	19	15	20
Working at other National Football Teams	Yes	No	No	No	No

Note: European Football Championships participation (1996, 2000), European Football Championships, 3rd, (2008), Mediterranean Games Championships (1993, 1991), UEFA Cup (2000), Super League (1997, 1998, 1999, 2000), Turkey Cup (1999, 2000), Super Cup (1996, 1997)

Table 4.30 shows the qualifying round information for UEFA European Championships 2008. 16 national teams from European participated in the tournament. Turkey National team was in the number 2 pot based on FIFA rank. Turkish team gathered 11 points during away matches and 13 points at home matches. In terms of goals scoring minutes, Turkish team scored more goals between in the fifth 15 minutes of match periods (61-75 min). Total 25 goals scored by National team. In addition, the rank of Turkish Team at the end of the qualifying round was 2. Point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end was -4 and average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end was 2.

Mean age of players were 26.07 years. Mean of players' caps at qualifying round was 23.5. Players were mostly from Fenerbahçe (8 players), Galatasaray (8 players) and Beşiktaş (6 players). Other players were the other football clubs: Kayserispor, Zenit, Herta Berlin, Schalke 04, Villarreal, Trabzonspor, B.Dortmund, Sivasspor, Antalyaspor, Denizlispor, Blackburn Rovers, Newcastle United Fc, and Gaziantepspor. Players' information can be found in Table 4.31. Information for the tournament and players is given in Tables 4.32 and 4.33.

Table 4.30 2008 UEFA European Championship Qualifying Round Information

General Information											
The number of teams from Europe					50						
The number of pots					4						
Pot of Turkey National Football Team (based on FIFA Rank)					2						
Group number and the number of teams in the group				7					5		
Opponents in the Qualifying Round	TUR-MLT	HUN-TUR	TUR-MDA	GRE-TUR	TUR-NOR	BIH-TUR	MLT-TUR	TUR-HUN	MDA-TUR	TUR-GRE	NOR-TUR	TUR-BIH
Match results in the Qualifying Round	2-0	0-1	5-0	1-4	2-2	3-2	2-2	3-0	1-1	0-1	1-2	1-0
The rank of Turkey National Football Team at the end of the Qualifying Round					2.							
Point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end					-4							
Average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end					+2							
Points gathered at home					13							
Points gathered away					11							

Goal Scoring Minutes	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	Total
Total number of goals and their minutes	1	1	7	3	8	5	25
Total number of goals against and their minutes	3	1	3	1	0	0	11
Goals scoring at home and their min	0	0	4	1	5	3	13
Goals against at home and their minutes	0	0	2	0	0	1	3
Goals scoring away and their minutes	1	1	3	2	3	2	12
Goals against away and their minutes	3	1	1	1	0	2	8

Note: TUR refers to Turkey, MLT refers to Malta, HUN refers to Hungary, MDA refers to Moldova, GRE refers to Greece, NOR refers to Norway, BIH refers to Bosnia and Herzegovina

74

Table 4.31 2008 UEFA European Championship Players' Information

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age average of players	Players caps at the qualifying round	Other caps of the players	Professional careers of the players
Rüştü Reçber (Fenerbahçe)	Fenerbahçe	8	32	8	33	121	12	15
Mehmet Topuz (Kayserispor)	Kayserispor	2			23	9	22	6
Can Arat (Fenerbahçe)	Beşiktaş	6			22	8	23	4
Gökhan Zan (Beşiktaş)	Zenit	1			25	8	9	7
Mehmet Aurelıo (Fenerbahçe)	Herta Berlin	1			29	1	0	11
Fatih Tekke (Zenit)	Galatasaray	8			29	26	49	11
Yıldıray Baştürk (Hertha Berlin)	Schalke 04	2			28	48	54	10
Tümer Metin (Fenerbahçe)	Vıllarreal	1			32	13	2	11
Ergün Penbe (Galatasaray)	Trabzonspor	2			34	59	15	16
Hakan Şükür (Galatasaray)	B.Dortmund	1			35	106	44	16
Hamit Altıntop (Schalke 04)	Sivasspor	3			24	27	20	6
Nihat Kahveci (Villarreal)	Antalyaspor	1			27	62	26	8
Arda Turan (Galatasaray)	Denizlispor	1			19	1	80	4
Hüseyin Çimşir (Trabzonspor)	Blackburn Rovers	1			27	22	29	9
Nuri Şahin (B.Dortmund)	Newcastle United Fc	1			18	9	29	1
Tuncay Şanlı (Fenerbahçe)	Gaziantepspor	1			24	39	33	6
İbrahim Toraman (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)					25	38	18	8
Volkan Demirel (Fenerbahçe)					25	28	24	6

Table 4.31 2008 UEFA European Championship Players' Information Continued

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age average of players	Players caps at qualifying round	Other caps of the players	Professional careers of the players
Gökdeniz Karadeniz (Trabzonspor)					26	35	56	8
İbrahim Üzülmez (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)					32	23	0	13
Sabri Sarıoğlu (Galatasaray)					22	0	111	5
Ümit Karan (Galatasaray)					30	10	0	9
Gökhan Ünal (Kayserispor)					24	7	23	6
Tugay Kerimoğlu (Blackburn Rovers)					36	95	41	16
Volkan Yaman (Antalyaspor A.Ş.)					24	6	0	7
Emre Aşık (Galatasaray)					33	34	20	14
Mehmet Yıldız (Sivasspor)					25	0	0	6
Emre Belözoğlu (Newcastle Unıted)					26	50	73	11
Hakan Arıkan (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)					24	1	1	4
Bekir İrtegün (Gaziantepspor)					22	0	53	5
Gökhan Gönül (Fenerbahçe)					21	0	0	4
Hakan Kadir Balta (Galatasaray)					23	1	0	3
Semih Şentürk (Fenerbahçe)					23	0	87	7
Sedat Bayrak (Sivasspor)					25	0	2	6
Halil Altıntop (Schalke 04)					24	18	15	6
Serdar Özkan (Beşiktaş A.Ş)					19	0	63	4
Ayhan Akman (Galatasaray)					29	16	47	11
Servet Çetin(Sivasspor)					25	19	22	7
Yusuf Şimşek (Denizlispor)					31	0	1	11
İbrahim Kaş (Beşiktaş A.Ş)					20	0	13	1
				Mean	26.07	23.5	27.92	7.97

Table 4.32 2008 UEFA European Tournament Information

Basic Information					
# of football teams from Europe			16		
# of pots			4		
Pot of Turkey National Football Team (based on FIFA Rank)			4		
Group number and the number of teams in the group			1		4
Level of the matches	Group	Group	Group	Quarter Final	Semi Final
Opponents in the tournament	POR-TUR	SWE-TUR	TUR-CZE	CRO-TUR	GER-TUR
Match Results	2-0	1-2	3-2	2-4 pen.	3-2
The rank of Turkey National Football Team at the end of the Qualifying Round			2		
The rank of Turkey National Football Team at the end of the Tournament			3		

Note: TUR refers to Turkey, POR refers to Portugal, SWE refers to Sweden, CZE refers to Czech Republic, CRO refers to Crotia, GER refers to Germany

Table 4.33 2008 UEFA European Championship Tournament Players' Information

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age average of players	Players caps at the Qualifying Round	Other caps of players	Professional careers of the players
Volkan Demirel (Fenerbahçe)	Fenerbahçe	5	16	7	27	41	24	8
Servet Çetin (Galatasaray A.Ş.)	Galatasaray	8			27	36	22	9
Hakan Kadir Balta (Galatasaray A.Ş.)	Beşiktaş A.Ş	2			25	9	0	5
Gökhan Zan (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)	Newcastle Utd	1			27	23	9	9
Emre Belözoğlu (Newcastle Unıted)	Villareal	1			28	62	73	13
Mehmet Aurelıo (Fenerbahçe)	Middlesbrough	1			31	20	0	13
Nihat Kahveci (Villarreal)	Fc Sochaux	1			29	74	26	10
Tuncay Şanlı (Middlesbrough)	Bayern Munıh	1			26	59	33	8
Kazım Kazım (Fenerbahçe)	Trabzonspor	1			22	4	6	4
Mevlüt Erdinç (Fc Sochaux)	Rubın Kazan	1			21	4	17	3
Hamit Altıntop (Bayern Munih)	Larissa	1			26	45	20	8
Rüştü Reçber (Beşiktaş A.Ş.)					35	135	12	17
Tolga Zengin (Trabzonspor A.Ş.)					25	6	69	6
Mehmet Topal (Galatasaray A.Ş.)					22	5	15	6
Semih Şentürk (Fenerbahçe)					25	5	87	9
Gökdeniz Karadeniz (Rubin Kazan)					28	55	56	10
Tümer Metin (Larissa)					34	27	2	13
Fehmi Emre Güngör (Galatasaray A.Ş.)					24	3	52	7
Arda Turan (Galatasaray A.Ş.)					21	19	80	6
Emre Aşık (Galatasaray A.Ş.)					35	45	20	16
Uğur Boral (Fenerbahçe)					28	13	5	7
Ayhan Akman (Galatasaray A.Ş.)					31	21	47	13
Sabri Sarıoğlu (Galatasaray A.Ş.)					24	15	111	7
				Mean	27.00	31.57	34.17	9.00

4.2.2.3. 2012

UEFA European Championships was hosted by Poland and Ukraine in 2012. Sixteen National football teams participated in the tournament from four pots. Final match was played between Italy and Spain. Spain was the winner of the cup. Turkey National Football team did not pass the qualifying round. Necessary information about the tournament can be found in Table 4.34

Table 4.34 2012 UEFA European Championship Information

Host Country		Poland & Ukraine		
Countries participating in the Championships	1st Pot	2nd Pot	3rd Pot	4th Pot
	Spain	Germany	Croatia	Denmark
	Netherlands	Italy	Greece	France
	Poland	England	Portugal	Czech Rep.
	Ukraine	Russia	Sweden	Ireland
Final Match		Italy		Spain
Champion		Spain		
The rank of Turkey National Football Team		-		

During qualifying round of UEFA European Championships 2012, Guus Hiddink was the technical director of the team. His assistants were Oğuz Çetin, Engin İpekoğlu, and Fuat Usta. They were also football players in the past. Details about Turkish technical staff can be found in Table 4.35.

Table 4.35 Technical Staff Information for UEFA European Championships 2012

General Information	Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach	Assistant Coach
Coach and Assistant Coaches	Guss Hiddink	Oğuz Çetin	Engin İpekoğlu	Fuat Usta
Age average of Technical Staff	66	49	51	40
Year of the professional career	30	12	6	0
# of tournaments or Championships in their career*	15	19	18	17
Football history as football players (in years)	0	0	0	0
Working at other National Football Teams	-	-	-	-

Table 4.36 shows the qualifying round information for UEFA European 2012.16 national teams from European participated in the tournament. Turkey National team was in the number 2 pot based on FIFA rank. Turkish team gathered 5 points during away matches and 12 points at home matches. In terms of goals scoring minutes, Turkish team scored more goals between in the last 15 minutes of match periods (75 – 90 min). Total 13 goals scored by National team. In addition, the rank of Turkish Team at the end of the qualifying round was 2. Point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end was -13 and average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end was 24.

Mean age of players were 26.91 years. Mean of players' caps at qualifying round was 24.85. Players were mostly from Fenerbahçe (10 players), Galatasaray (10 players) and Beşiktaş (4 players). Other players were the other football clubs: Trabzonspor, Bursaspor, S.Liege, Bolton, A.Madrid, B.Dortmund, W.Bremen, Hamburg, and B.Leverkusen. Players' information can be found in Table 4.37.

Table 4.36 2012 UEFA European Championship Qualifying Round Information

General Information									
The number of teams from Europe					50				
The number of pots					4				
Pot of Turkey National Football Team (based on FIFA Rank)					2				
Group number and the number of teams in the group				7				5	
Opponents in the Qualifying Round	KAZ-TUR	TUR-BEL	GER-TUR	AZE-TUR	TUR-AUS	BEL-TUR	TUR-KAZ	AUS-TUR	TUR-GER	TUR-AZE
Match results in the Qualifying Round	0-3	3-2	3-0	1-0	2-0	1-1	2-1	0-0	1-3	1-0
The rank of Turkey National Football Team at the end of the Qualifying Round					2				
Point differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end					-13				
Average differences between the leader team and Turkish Team at the end					-24				
Points gathered at home					12				
Points gathered away					5				

Goal Scoring Minutes	0-15	16-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	Total
Total number of goals and their minutes	0	4	1	2	1	5	13
Total number of goals against and their minutes	1	1	3	1	2	3	11
Goals scoring at home and their min	0	1	1	2	1	5	10
Goals against at home and their minutes	0	0	1	1	1	1	4
Goals scoring away and their minutes	0	3	0	0	0	1	4
Goals against away and their minutes	1	1	2	0	1	2	7

Note: TUR refers to Turkey, BEL refers to Belgium, KAZ refers to Kazakhstan, GER refers to Germany, AZE refers to Azerbaijan, AUS refers to Australia

81

Table 4.37 2012 UEFA European Championship Players' Information

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age average of players	Players caps at the qualifying round	Other caps of the players	Professional careers of the players
Onur Recep Kıvrak	Fenerbahçe	10	27	7	24	5	58	8
Servet Çetin	Galatasaray	10			31	56	22	13
Hakan Kadir Balta	Beşiktaş A.Ş	4			29	28	0	7
Emre Belözoğlu	Trabzonspor	2			32	69	73	17
Hamit Altıntop	Bursaspor	1			28	42	20	10
Nihat Kahveci	S.Liege	1			31	76	26	12
Tuncay Şanlı	Bolton	1			28	62	33	10
Arda Turan	A.Madrid	1			23	41	80	8
Mehmet Aurelıo	B.Dortmund	1			33	34	0	15
Ömer Erdoğan	W.Bremen	1			35	0	1	14
Sabri Sarıoğlu	Hamburg	1			26	35	111	9
Sinan Bolat	B.Leverkusen	1			24	5	6	7
Selçuk İnan					27	6	79	12
Sercan Yıldırım					22	8	56	7
İsmail Köybaşı					23	8	9	4
Kazım Kazım					26	28	6	8
İbrahim Toraman					29	45	18	12
Halil Altıntop					28	45	15	10

82

Table 4.37 2012 UEFA European Championship Players' Information Continued

Players in the first 18 for 10 matches	Players' teams	# of Players from the teams	# of Players from Turkey	# of players from abroad	Age average of players	Players caps at qualifying round	Other caps of the players	Professional careers of the players
Semih Şentürk					27	23	87	11
Özer Hurmacı					26	0	23	7
Selçuk Şahin					31	19	27	13
Volkan Demirel					29	64	24	10
Nuri Şahin					22	31	29	5
Serdar Kesimal					23	2	18	4
Mehmet Ekici					22	2	0	5
Gökhan Zan					29	42	9	11
Mehmet Topal					26	18	15	10
Mehmet Topuz					27	20	22	10
Egemen Korkmaz					30	0	15	12
Gökhan Töre					20	0	39	1
Umut Bulut					29	4	32	11
Burak Yılmaz					27	9	58	10
Ömer Toprak					23	0	0	4
				Mean	26.91	24.85	29.74	9.26

4.3 Perspectives of The Turkey National Football Team Coaches

Content analysis of interview questions revealed Turkey National Football Team coaches' perspectives on Turkey National Team. They shared their perspectives on the strengths and weakness of the team, reasons for inconsistent results in the last seven championships and things to do for being successful. These points were the main themes of the interview analysis based on the third purpose of the study. Participants' quotes were provided in the following parts to show the best representation of the participants' responses. In addition, Table 4.39 shows the themes and frequencies of the participants' responses.

Table 4.38 The Number of Responses among The National Team Coaches' Perspectives.

Strengths	Weaknesses	Reasons For Inconsistent Results	Things To Do For Being Successful
Players	*Players*	*Players*	*Players*
High Quality Players (1)	Not Professionalism (7)	Low Motivation (3)	High Number of Quality Players (2)
Team Spirit (2)	Low Number of Quality Players (7)	Money + Club Success (7)	Player Education (2)
Nationalism (2)	Low Quality of Young Generation (2)	Low Quality Players (3)	Transfer to Other Leagues At International Level (2)
High Motivation & Concentration When Having Last Chance (4)	Not Educated (No Football Knowledge Nutrition…) (5)	Perceptions About Opponents (4)	Family Education (2)
	No Mesomorph Body Type (3)	Fear and Low Level of Confidence (4)	Psychological Support (1)
Technical Staff	No Communication Among Players (1)	*Football Clubs*	*Technical Staff*
Experienced (4)	Selfish Players (1)	Club Success (1)	Coach Education (3)
Confident (2)		Administration Problems (6)	Not Quick Turn Overs (5)
	Technical Staff		
Football Club Success (4)	National Team Technical Staff	Focusing on Winning Not Player Development (3)	Communication Among The National Team Coaches (1)
	✓ Instability & Turn Overs (2)	Transfer Politics (1)	
	Technical Staff in Turkey		
	✓ Not Educated (6)		
	✓ Not Well Structured Trainer Edu. Sys. (2)		*Federation & Government*
	Education System	Low number of spectator (2)	Football Federation Election System (1)
	No Football Ecole, Plan or Model (7)		New Education & Football Ecole (Model & Philosophy) (3)
	School Curriculum (5)		Control Mechanisms For Infrastructure of The Clubs (3)
			UEFA Criteria (1)
	Infrastructure		*Football Clubs*
	Low Quality & Number of Football Facilities (7)		Player Development (3)
	Media & Public Opinion		Competitive Environment (3)
	Creating A Chaotic Atmosphere (4)		

4.3.1 Strength of Teams

Interviews of coaches revealed two main sub-themes for strengths of teams: players and technical staff. Coaches noted that the generation in 2002 was very successful and the players were acting together. Their congruity was very good. Coach D stated that

"*Because the team in the tournament in 2002 consists of really very good players and has the chance of coexisting....and this automatically brought the success to us* ''

Another strength mentioned by the coaches was that the players had strong nationalistic feelings if the team was successful in the matches. On the contrary, some coaches mentioned that the players did not care of National team because their football clubs' success was the most important thing for them to earn more money. This situation was given in the theme of reasons of inconsistent results. Another strength was that the football players could compete with challenging situations and would get motivated if the results of football match directly influenced the passing the stage.

According to the coaches, Turkey national team was governed by experienced and confident technical directors and assistant coaches. This was one of the strengths of the team.

4.3.2 Weakness of Team

The coaches shared their perspectives on weakness of team. Sub-themes in weakness of team were a) player, b) technical staff, c) education system, d) infrastructure, and e) media.

Player

Seven coaches emphasized that the football players played an essential role for National team' success. However, they stated that young generation had problems in professionalism. For example, they were not ready to play at the beginning of the Turkish league, which directly influenced National football team performance. Coach A stated that

'' *..in our days, the players get fit after 7-8 weeks and this shows us how wrong our player profile is. There is no such thing as passive wiretapping anymore in our days...consequently, although all the scientific sources verified it even while*

having holiday in summer time, unfortunately, we cannot realize this situation in our country. Just because our player has still some sort of understanding, the player takes the holiday right after end of the season. The player who wants to improve himself has to be planned even while resting and sleeping.

Another Coach (B) mentioned that

''..the results in the beginning of the season are generally unsuccessful and poor but I don't know actually how we can organize it. Why are we getting off on the wrong foot? Again same things like basic training that the player gets and system don't prepare the player, unfortunately. There is definitely no professionalism..''

Coach C said that that players earned more money in their young ages and it caused many problems. For example, players were being self-centered. Coach C stated that

".... we are becoming egocentric more and more and there is selfishness. We all are selfish now; it has been so day by day. I don't why, but it is no good, actually...''

The coaches also noted that limited number of high quality players is available in the leagues. There were no alternative players for the football players because of not having good young generation in football. A similar situation was valid for Turkish leagues according to Coach E. The coaches also stated that players were not well educated and they did not aware of football knowledge. In parallel with that, the players did not know about the role of nutrition for their football life. For this reason, one of the coaches mentioned that the football players in Turkey did not have mesomorph body type. He said that "...our football players are short and their body structure is small".

Interestingly, Coach D mentioned that new generation spent too much time for technology and the players did not communicate with each other, which may cause some problems in the team. Specifically Coach D noted that

"... internet started to take place much in our life. when you enter the players' room, one is on Instagram and the other one is on Facebook. They don't communicate with each other. The tribulation for new generation is that when they go to dinner, all is concerning with telephone in their hands..."

Technical Staff

The coaches in this study pointed out two aspects of technical staff in football. One was about all technical staff in Turkey and the second one was about technical staff in Turkey National Team. In terms of that, Turkish coaches, trainers or staff, they stated that coaches in Turkey were not well educated (of course, there

were many exceptions). Trainer education system was not well-structured. Therefore, the football coaches did not educate their players. In addition, they mentioned that the technical staff did not have enough time to apply their policies or strategies in their football clubs. If the football team lost one or two matches consecutively, administration of football team would tend to change the technical staff suddenly. For example, Coach F pointed out that

"I believe that the technical staff and administrative unit of youth setup and 60-70 percent of coaches shouldn't certainly be changed even if club chairman changes but there are such reality in Turkey…. because everyone brings his own man, change happens...''

With respect to technical staff in National team, they faced with similar problems. Although experienced technical directors or assistant coaches were in charge of managing the Turkey National Football Team, the technical staff was changed frequently because of inconsistent results in the last seven championships. Coach D indicated that

"……3 chairman and 3 coaches changed in federation in 5 years, in case you are bringing a man to change that…. the man is designing his project, you fire the man after 3 matches, starting over everything. You fire another one after 6 months, it is just not cricket. You will stand behind the coach. If the contract is 5 years, you will stand behind him during 5 years....''

Education System

Education system was determined by one of the problems in Turkish football based on coachers' perspective. The coaches highlighted that there was no football ecole, model or systematic football education in Turkey, which influences National team performance directly. Coach G stated that there should be a football plan for the next 30 or 40 years. Coach D said that

….'' we present the opportunity of playing football to our children after ten years old whereas it is being started after 5 years old in the world. There are 5 years differences between us. Whichever you do sport, it is clearly seen that at least 10000 working hours is necessary to be perfect and we cannot deny it. Then so, we don't approach the subject scientifically. In addition, on the ground that we don't present essential needs such as facility to do scientific research and necessary opportunities for our children, it is very normal for us to be below of the world level...''

Coach A also emphasized that children in the current education system did not have enough time to participate in sports activities. He specifically mentioned that

''' .....our school system is not convenient to train elite athlete. Because the children are in school from morning to night. The child has to be successful in his lesson.so and so when will the train? There is not lighting system; furthermore there is not field to train. The child must train until night, he will eat and rest before doing homework, and can you train an unrested student? It is not possible, you try to train the badly-nourished and exhausted child and so the children experience serious disablement in the coming years...''*

Another coach (C) said that

''...I will talk about youth setup.... when the children grow up, they grow up without getting the knowledge of position and match, they grow up without learning position knowledge with reference to position. When you look at the matches, goals that we concede, we concede goals because of amateurish mistakes, we always lose matches on the ground that we miss small details. I think the reason of difference between us is due to position knowledge. While we can lose against the weakest team of group, we can defeat the most powerful team of group.....''

Infrastructure

Infrastructure problems were stated by all the coaches during the interviews. A common view of the coaches was that physical status of football facilities were in a bad situation. They also highlighted that club administrators or professionals in football did not pay attention to infrastructure. The coaches mainly focused that they football facilities were not enough in order to educate children with regard to football. Specifically, Coach A noted that

''.... the child is going to astro pitch or sport schools only for 1 hour in a day and he can do it 1 or 2 times per week. Was it so in past? We used to play football in alleyways from morning to night. but European turned the trick, they establish neighborhood fields, a number of fields are side by side, they give the right of playing football to children whenever they want....''

Similar problem was emphasized by Coach B;

''....there was a football field in front of our neighborhood, we used to play football the whole day, after playing, there was a grocery shop under plane tree, we used to drink cola there, the loser team used to buy the cola, but we cannot see these two situation anymore. We used to socialize while playing football. First, big plazas are built up to the fields, the number of fields that the children play football decreased, people prefer going to AVM...''

Media

Media was seen as an external factor influencing Turkey National team in a negative way by the coaches. Coach C mentioned that people working media tried to create a chaos atmosphere, for this reason, National team players lost their concentration. In addition, the players became irritated and they tended to lose their confidence before the challenging matches in the championships. Coach C pointed out that

''...*also, media should be helpful and postpone the subjects after match even if it is important. I don't believe that national team doesn't feel free much more... I don't think that national team, technical staff and players don't rest at ease much more...I don't believe that they don't happily prepare themselves for the match, I think, they are always discomfortable, we fail due to all these reasons...*''

4.3.3 Reasons of Inconsistent Results

The coachers shared their perspectives on inconsistent results of Turkey National Teams. Players were seen as the biggest problem for having inconsistent results according to coaches. They mentioned that the players did not care the National Team; money was the important thing for their motivation. For this reason, their club's success was important than the success of National Team. Coach C pointed that the players were not motivated for National team. In addition, they could not maintain technical and tactical principles in the football matches based on the coaches. Coach A emphasized that

''....*all the national teams have an understanding: national team that acts with regard to result and this understanding is same in every age category. There is a national team that loses discipline quickly, there is a national team that doesn't obey the match and tactical discipline until 90+...*''

Another Coach (F) stated that "...*They are acting with regard to the result of the match, they don't obey the match and tactical discipline...*''

In addition, the coaches believed that the players had fear of not involving in the tournaments, which caused stress on them. On the other hand, some coaches highlighted that the players did not put their best effort in the matches until the last minute of the final stages. Coach E mentioned that Turkey National Team had problems in defense positions and he believed that limited number of high quality defense players existed in the team.

Coach G also stated that technical directors of National team should not change the players frequently; there should be constant players for line-up in order to play together more, which could provide the success in the matches.

Coaches also clearly mentioned the role of other National teams for having inconsistent results. They believed that *"we always overrate the opponent, also sometimes we look down on the opponent.'* 'Furthermore, Coach D mentioned that there was no easy team anymore and noted that "*... every team deciphered the system and minded his own business.*" Similarly, Coach G noted that

''*...all the national teams know very well how to play in at a level of national team and the power difference between weak and powerful teams is disappearing every passing day. You should take every team seriously and have to defense very well and attack fast and very well anymore. Even the weakest team is ideally doing the principles of defense...*''

A different perspective was revealed for having inconsistent results of National team during the interviews. Coach F believed that Turkey National team' opponents in FIFA World Cup 2002 were from Asian and European and they were weak opponents. Therefore, the Turkey National team completed the tournament in the third rank. He emphasized that Turkey National team was weak and an ecole that is appropriate for Turkish culture and football should be developed.

4.3.4 Suggestions for Being Successful

Coaches had clear solutions for being successful as Turkey National Football Team. They had specific suggestions with regard to players, technical staff, football federation & government, and football clubs (sub-themes).

Players

One of the coaches stated that limited number of the players was available for the team, therefore, young generations should be raised and young players may be solutions for success. In addition, Coach E stated that consistent players should play together in National team and he said that

''*....I think, a national team consisting of the players that are regularly playing together bring success to us better rather than a national team consisting of physically fit players because continuity is essential for national teams. I believe that the more we change the current squad, the more we fail. Like football clubs, the national teams should be patient to improve the players, there should be a regular squad of the national team and at most, one or two changes can be...*"

The coachers listed other suggestions with regard to players: a) well educated players were necessary with regard to technical and tactical disciplines, b) players should play at the international level to gain more experiences, c) professional players were necessary, d) families should be educated for sports culture, so that, they may educate their children in an appropriate way, e) players should be supported by psychologist and players should do strong defense and counter attack.

Technical Staff

It should be mentioned that all the coaches clearly described the technical staff problem in the team. If National team began to lose points in the tournaments, technical staff had been changed. Coach A stated that

‘’*....if we want a consistent squad in national team, then, our technical team should also be consistent, I can't say anything about the coach of national team A, I would wish that he could work during long years....and I think, coach of Turkey national team should be a Turk, this is my personal opinion. but, as I said before, the coaches of U-21 national team and young national team have to work long time in a coordinated manner with national team A*’’

Another Coach (G) pointed out the same thing *mentioning "The coach of young national team shouldn't change and should take in charge during long years, besides, the coach of national team shouldn't change frequently."*

The coaches believed that there should be enough time to apply the strategies or try the systems in Turkish football. However, they stated that administrators or sports authorities were not patient and they immediately wanted to see any success in Turkey National team. Coach C noted that

‘’ *the coaches are stood behind, we shouldn't hope to be a fast changeover, Germany and Belgium began to reap the fruits of changeover after 10 years, we can't be patient 10 months, this is the biggest problem, we are hasty, not patient, we have some projects, but time to apply them is not given*’’

Another view of the Coach C was that technical director of National team should contact with the other National team directors such as U 21, U 20 etc. This may strengthen the link among all levels of National team.

Football Federation & Government

From the coaches' comments, football federation was seen as a key foundation for Turkey National team. The coaches believed that federation should be free to move and football clubs should not influence the federation system. One of the coach (A) mentioned that time schedule of international tournaments should take in consideration while the football season planning were arranging for the Turkish leagues.

One of the Coaches (D) mentioned the UEFA criteria for infrastructure and facilities. However, he claimed that those criteria were not followed by Turkey. He suggested applying the UEFA criteria or standards for infrastructure, which helped to develop Turkish football.

In addition, the coaches perceived the government as a decision maker place and education system in general and in football may be changed to raise healthy and well educated children. A new ecole, culturally relevant, suggested by all coaches should be developed for to support infrastructure of the clubs.

Football Clubs

The coaches pointed the role of football clubs in Turkish football. Some coaches claimed that *" The clubs should invest in Turkish players and rent the players who cannot play regularly in order to make them gain experience, playing regularly is essential for the player, the player who is not playing regularly regresses.''* Another suggestion was that the clubs should focus on player development in young age groups and winning should be the second part of the football matches. Coach B noted that "football *clubs should create a competitive environment, that's why the football player develop better.''*

CHAPTER V

DISCUSSION

Discussion chapter was divided into three sections: Turkey National Football Team' technical and fitness parameters during World-Cup 2014 qualifying round for "official matches and friendly matches" and "matches of earning point(s) and lost", Turkey National Team performance in the last seven championships and Turkey National Football Team coaches' perspectives.

5.1 Turkey National Football Team' Performance During World-Cup 2014 Qualifying Round

Both technical and fitness parameters (Amisco Prozon® data) of Turkey National team and its opponents during 2014 FIFA World Cup qualifying round matches and four friendly matches played by the National Football Team during this period were examined for this study. Firstly, technical and fitness parameters of Turkey and its opponents were examined. It was calculated the average values of "friendly and official matches" and "matches of earning point(s) and lost". Secondly, fitness values of the National Team players were examined in relation to their playing positions. Similarly, these were evaluated by calculating the average values of "friendly and official matches" and "match of earning point(s) and lost". It should be noted that although research questions did not include any comparisons for opponents, opponent' data was also provided in this section in order to better understand the performance of the Turkey National Team.

5.1.1 Technical Analysis For Friendly and Official Matches

It was found similar values for possession and passes in the technical analysis of friendly and official matches played by the Turkey National Team, except for forward passes' subtitle of 'total forward pass' and attacking entries' subtitle of 'final 1/3 entries'.

94

When the Turkey National Team's possession rate was examined, one of the technical parameters, it was not found any differences in matches of earning point(s) and lost. The Turkey National Team had 13% more ball possession than their opponents in friendly matches. Total number of passes was 382 for opponents, with regard to the possession rate, whereas it was 529 for the Turkey National Team. This difference increased in official matches, where the Turkey National Team possessed the ball 28% more often than the opponent and played twice the number of passes their opponent did. In the World Cup 2014, the Spanish and Italian National Teams were eliminated at the knockout stage and both National Teams had high numbers of total passes (1,854 and 2,071) and high percentage of completed passes) (85.22% & 82.23%) (Chmura et al., 2014) as the Turkey National Team had similar scores at the qualifying round of World Cup 2014. In contrast these results in UEFA European Championships 2012, Spain and Italy played the final game. It may be that after tiki-taka playing style became popular all around the World, new strategies or techniques were revealed in order to beat tiki-taka strategy in the FIFA World Cup 2014. This showed that football tactical strategy has been changing very rapidly. For this reason, it would be necessary to change playing styles or strategies in different tournaments, because, successful indicators have been changing between the tournaments.

Although, Turkey National Team had more possessed the ball, it was not successful in the championships. It was an unclear situation, because Moura, Martins and Cunha (2014) in their study found that football teams' shots, shots on goal, ball possession for playing time and ball possession percentiles played a critical role to identify winners from loser teams or drawing situations. Winner teams seemed to have high number of shots and long playing time for possessions. The researchers emphasized that these elements should be focused in training and competition periods. A similar finding in 1990 and 1994 FIFA World Cups was found by Hughes and Franks (2005). Winner teams had more shots per possession in longer time and more shots to goal possession than the losers did. The research findings from the FIFA World Cup 2014 supported that the National Football teams were in an advanced situation if the teams had longer ball possession (Chmura, 2014). However, longer ball possession time may not influence the match result (Chmura, 2014).

Considering the 'total forward pass' parameter, the Turkey National Team averagely played twenty four more forward passes in friendly matches. For friendly

matches, there were new players, new strategies, and unlimited substitutions and they were played in environments with less physical and mental pressure, total number of forward passes might be increased in friendly matches compared to the official matches. Seventeen more 'final third entries' were made in official matches. It might be possible that possession strategy was abandoned during the late period of the match in order to score and win point(s). A new tactical approach might have been taken encouraging players to play long passes from first zone to the final 1/3 area instead of organizing the attack. However, the most effective strategy for attacking might be that ball should be kept closely on the pitch, passes should be performed without stopping, and scoring opportunities should be continuously searching with keeping the ball wisely (Liu, Gomez, Lago-Peñas & Sampaio, 2015). Turkey National team may try this attacking strategy to be successful in the football matches.

5.1.2 Technical Analysis For the Matches of Earning Point(s) and Lost

For matches of earning point(s) and lost, the Turkey National Team was the superior side again in terms of pass rate and pass number when compared to opponents. However, it was observed in these 8 matches analyzed, successful results couldn't be secured despite more ball possession than the opponent. Similarly, Balyan and Vural (2003) indicated in their study that goal scoring chances decreased as pass number increased. In this study, it was found that the losing teams played more passes than their opponents. A similar conclusion was found in the study conducted by Arikan et al. (2009), confirming that the losing teams played more passes. In order to reveal the reasons of these results, it is better to examine other technical parameters such as 'completed passes', 'forward passes and completed forward passes, 'final 1/3 entries' or 'penalty area entries'.

In addition, it was found that the Turkey National Team had high number of completed forward passes stood out for the matches of earning point(s) matches. The number of completed forward passes played by the opponents was 80, whereas the Turkey National Team increased this number to 120. This increment in number of passes might have had a positive effect on winning points. With the new developments in football approach, defending has become as important as attacking. When a football team loses possession, all the players get behind the ball immediately and defend with high concentration and motivation. This defending

method forces the other team to play more passes in their own field. When the possession is won, goal scoring chances can be increased by playing forward passes before the opponent team gets their defensive position. It maybe suggested that the Turkey National team use defensive tactics in the scoring area to decrease the length between players in defense and to increase player density (Castellano & Alvarez, 2013). This defensive strategy might produce less open space for opponents and more defensive press that causing problems in team possession of opponents (Lago-Ballesteros et al., 2012). This situation might be also useful to recover balls for creating better counter-attack organizations (Gómez, Gómez-Lopez, Lago, & Sampaio, 2012).

5.1.3 General Summary for Technical Analysis of the Turkey National Football Team

Technical analyses of the Turkey National team showed that the National team had more ball possession than the opponent in all of friendly matches, official matches, and for the matches of earning point(s) and lost, which means that National Team use the same strategy in every match. It is known that the match score can change the strategy during the match. Applying the same strategy against every team for every score, i.e. possession match, might not prove success. In FIFA World Cup 2014, National Teams of Uruguay, Costa Rica and USA used different strategies resulted in less covered distance for ball possession (below 30%) and counter attacks strategies of these teams were very effective at the knockout stage with the comparison of positional attacks in spite of having less soccer skills than the players in the Spain National Team (Chmura et al., 2014). Generally, a more direct approach with good defending is better when playing against stronger sides, whereas a possession strategy is more suitable when playing against weaker teams. For this reason, developing different strategies for each match by evaluating general conditions correctly may bring success for the team. A playing strategy should be planned prior to the match by analyzing the matches that the opponent played before. This strategy should be determined by taking such factors into consideration as strengths and weaknesses of the opponent, how many points are aimed and where the match is played (home or away). In addition to that, Collet (2013) highlighted that

possession time and passing are critical variables for team success. During training sessions, these factors should be analyzed with players and coaches.

In order to reach more meaningful conclusions for the Turkey National Team and future studies, technical parameters should be examined more closely. For example, how fast the ball is played between players is very important, as well as possession and forward passes. If the ball is played slowly during passes, the opponent can maintain their defensive position more easily. However if the passes are played more quickly, then the opponent team's defensive abilities will suffer. Therefore, the number of goal scoring chances may be increased by disrupting the opponent's defensive balance. Also the time period a player possesses the ball, how many times and where in the field he touches the ball should be studied in technical analysis, as it can increase the speed of both the ball and the match.

5.1.4 Fitness Analysis of Team Physical Stats for "Friendly and Official Matches" and Matches of "Earning Point(s) and Lost"

In football, there should be a balance between technical and tactical skills in order to maintain physical condition through the football matches (Duk et al., 2008). Therefore, beside the evaluation of technical parameters of Turkey National team during the qualifying round 2014 FIFA World Cup, fitness parameters of the team were also examined.

It is known that strategies of football teams are influenced by the stage of competition and teams' goals. For this reason, teams' strategies affect the kinematic issues of the team (Clemente, Couceiro, Martins, Ivanova & Mendes, 2013). The Turkey National Team fitness parameters may be affected by the kinematic situations and teams' strategies in the tournament. In terms of 'total distance', while the opponents ran an average of 118.746 meters, the National Team ran 109.313 meters in friendly matches. In official matches, this number exceeded 115.000 meters and reached the same level as the opponent's. In the lost matches, the difference between the Turkey National Team and the opponents was found 10000 meters less in terms of total distance. This difference was 2000 meters in the matches of earning point(s). It seems that Turkey National team runs less. In the FIFA World Cup 2010 (South Africa), Australia National Football team had 121.51 km of the longest total distance in a football match (Chmura et al., 2012). USA National football team had 113.94

km total distance and Germany National team had 113.77 km total distance in the World Cup 2014, which showing that these teams had players with strong endurance capacity (Chmura et al., 2014).

Looking at these values, it might be said that the National Team should reach a total running distance as their opponents to win points. However, in relation to football, 90% of running is aerobic, while 10% is anaerobic. This 10% may determine the score in football. In other words, sprint type activities are seen to be an essential factor of performance, but, only they contribute a small part to the overall activity in the tournaments accounting for 10% of the total distance covered (Carling, Bloomfield, Nelsen, & Reilly, 2008). Therefore, in addition to total running distance, other parameters such as the distance run over 24 km/h (sprint distance) and distance run between 21-24 km/h (high speed distance) should be taken into consideration.

While there is no difference with the opponents in sprint distances in friendly matches, in official matches the National Team ran 400 meters more than their opponents. It is observed that in the matches of earning point(s), sprint distance was 200 meters more than the opponents, whereas there was no difference in the matches of lost. Similarly, in terms of high speed distances, no difference was observed in friendly matches and official matches, however in the matches of lost, we ran less than the opponent, and more in the matches of earning points.

In light of this evidence, it might be stated that the Turkey National Team may be able to win points when the team have better high intensity running distances than their opponents. In order to increase the National Team Players' high intensity running distance, new methods might be developed for using the kinematic analysis with tactical information in training periods and for improving the high quality strategies (Clemente et al., 2012).

5.1.5 Fitness Analysis of in Possession Physical Stats For "Friendly and Official Matches" and "Matches of Earning Point(s) and Lost"

In terms of 'total distance with the ball', the average numbers of friendly matches and matches of lost were found to be very close (45 thousand meters). There was only a slight difference between official matches and the matches of earning points (48 thousand and 49 thousand respectively). In addition to this, no difference was found in terms of 'high intensity distance with ball' and 'sprint distance with

ball' in any of the matches. The reason may be, as stated above, using the same tactical strategy, and same players that might be suitable for the specific strategy.

It was stated that the Turkey National Team had more ball possession in these 8 matches. Naturally, the total distance with the ball was found to be higher than the opponent's in every situation. It should be mentioned that the percentage of the distance covered in ball possession is critical for professional level football (Chmura et al., 2014). However, in the World Cup 2014, Spain National team used positional attacks with high number of short passes and kept the possession with running the longest distance during ball possession, however, the team were not successful at the qualifying round of FIFA World Cup 2014 (Chmura et al., 2014). This results showing that other factors affecting National teams' performance should be deeply analyzed.

In football, players' ability to maintain the ball with high intensity running in all situations plays a critical role (Carling, 2010). For this reason, high intensity running has the most impact in football. But the findings of this study showed that the opponents were mostly superior in terms of sprint distance and high intensity distance with the ball, especially in the matches of lost. For increasing team' high intensity running with ball, aerobic training courses such as obstacle courses with ball might be arranged to reach the demands of football game (Carling, 2010).

5.1.6 Fitness Analysis of Out of Possession Physical Stats For "Friendly and Official Matches" and Matches of "Matches of Earning Point(s) and Lost"

Total distance, sprint distance and high intensity distance without ball average values of the National Team supported the results above. In friendly matches, official matches and matches of earning point(s) or lost, the opponents ran an average of 50 km, whereas the National Team only 35 to 38 km in terms of total distance without the ball. One possible explanation of this situation may be that National team had strong opponents. Sarmento et al. (2014) in their literature review revealed that when football teams had strong opponents, they had more passes, less covered distance, and less ball possession time.

However, despite this huge difference in total distance without ball, sprint distance, high intensity distance without ball evaluations showed that the National Team ran in faster tempo than their opponents in all matches except those the

matches of earning point. This difference reached 500 meters in the matches of lost. It can also be conceived that due to opponents' fast movement with the ball, the National Team may run in faster tempo without the ball.

5.1.7 General Fitness Analysis For Turkey National Football Team

Distance covered in a game rely on a variety of factors such as tactical decisions, players' formation, motivation of team, game result and ability of opponents (Duk et al., 2008). Therefore, there is such difference in total running distance in friendly matches may not be explained only by physical readiness; it can also be caused by mental readiness, because the difference in total running distance is about the same in friendly matches as it is in the situations of lost.

It should be stated that there is a significant difference of 8 to 10 thousand meters of average total running distance between Turkey Spor Toto Super League and other European Leagues based on Amisco and Prozone results. This difference between the leagues is found to be close to the one between the National Team and its opponents. Consequently, the level of physical difficulty of the leagues might have affected the National Team's success.

The National Team reached a total running distance of 115.000 meters in official matches and 112.000 in the matches of earning point(s), both of which above the 108.000 league average. According to FIFA National Teams match calendar, 2 matches can be played in 4 or 5 days. This, in turn, may affect the National Team players negatively, who are already physically inferior to their opponents, in terms of physical and mental readiness for the second match. Dupont and his colleagues (2010) supported this view emphasizing that physical performance of players may reduce because of involving in two football matches in a 96 hour period, especially, players may have less high-intensity distance, total distance covered, sprints, and sprint distance in the second football match. For this deterioration, one possible suggestion maybe cold-water immersion technique (Vaile, Halson, Gill, & Dawson, 2008). This technique is helpful to reduce the physiological and functional problems related with muscle soreness or edema and to support dynamic power and recovery of isometric force (Vaile et a., 2008). This may increase football players' physical performance.

Another possible solution for this problem (low physical performance of Turkish players) might be that latest technological advances maybe used to receive and store the physical parameters of players in each match in the league for determining strong players. While selecting players who can compete in international level for National team, these performance data from technological advances might be used to build a team that is physically more capable. In addition, another solution to improve the quality of Turkey Spor Toto Super League, more Turkish football players should be sent to elite European leagues in order to increase the physical performance of Turkey National Team players. New foreign rule, to be implemented for the first time next season, is specifically designed to improve the quality of the Turkish league. The aim is to create a competitive environment by bringing in more capable foreign players, which will encourage Turkish players to improve themselves more. If this can be achieved, the number of Turkish players in the league may decrease, but more Turkish players will be able to play at international level. These players will also be able to be transferred to European leagues.

In terms of running distances with and without ball, it might be said that the National Team moved slowly when the team had the ball, allowing the opponent to run in a slower tempo while defending. As a result, it might be said that in order to be successful or win points, high intensity distance with the ball should be increased by appropriate drills in training. One study conducted by Duk and his colleagues (2008) supported this view that information about running speed and distance covered in the big championships provide useful information for planning the strategies in training of professional football teams.

The team system of the Turkey National Team can be changed based on the physical conditions of the players. By this way, the team may preserve their physical capacity till to the end of the match. Bangsbo (2014) emphasized that the playing strategies of 4-4-2, 4-3-3 and 4-5-1 are not different in total distance covered or high-intensity running, however, football players in a 4-5-1 playing formation may perform low high intensity running when the team is in possession and more high intensity running when their team is in possession. For this reason, Turkey National team formation maybe follow 4-5-1 playing formation for away games as a defensive strategy and other offensive formations may be preferred for home games.

5.1.8 Fitness Analysis of Players' Positions Stats For "Friendly and Official Matches" and "Matches of Earning Point(s) and Lost"

For this study, fitness parameters were analyzed for players' playing positions in both friendly and official matches, and matches of earning point(s) and lost. The findings indicated that goalkeepers had virtually no sprint and high intensity distance, therefore it might be suggested that high intensity running shouldn't be included in goalkeeping trainings.

It was also found no difference observed between the total distances of defensive players in friendly and official matches. However for the matches of lost, they ran averagely 1000 meters more than the winning teams. There might be two possible reasons for that. Firstly, the opponent's attacking players might be more active, and secondly the Turkey National Team might take more risks, attacking with more players tactically. Attacking with more players means that defensive players have to cover more distance as team defense suffers. The findings showed no differences in the sprint distance and high intensity distance of defensive players in friendly and official matches, while they covered more distance in the matches of lost for the reasons stated above. Similar findings found for lateral defender football players who were found to sprint and run more, which might be related to role of defenders defensive and attacking stages of the matches (Di Salvo et al., 2010).

Central defender players are found to cover the least distance (Reilly, Drust, & Clarke, 2008). In the World Cup 2010, it was found that central defender players (not goalkeepers) had less covered distance than other players (Clemente, Couceiro, Martins, Ivanova & Mendes, 2013). These findings also supported by Bloomfield, Polman and O'Donoghue (2007) showing that central defender players use less time in medium or high level of intensity activities. Players in defense uses more time for skip, jog, or shuffle movements and use less time for sprint or run when compared with other players (Bloomfield et al., 2007). The defenders in Turkey National team had similar scores for total running distance with the results of other studies. However, high intensity and sprint running distance scores of defenders were different than the other studies. Midfielders had the lowest scores in the Turkey National team. It can be concluded that Midfielders selected for the Turkey National team had low physical capacity to compete at international level.

For side backs, there wasn't any difference observed in the total distance scores. Their sprint distance and high intensity distances were found to be similar to defensive players. In terms of high intensity distance and sprint distance, highest running distance was reached again in the matches of lost. These distances were found to be higher than defensive players, although they played in the same area. The reason might be that side backs had attacking responsibilities as well as defensive responsibilities. It might be concluded that they had more intensive running distances as they had to use the entire field in their respective corridors.

Another finding revealed no differences in the total distances of midfield players. Despite the lack of difference, players playing in this position covered the most distance compared to others. It was found that they covered less high intensity distance in friendly and official matches compared with other positions. Similar results were found for sprint distance as well. While there wasn't much difference between the matches of earning point(s) and lost, both sprint distance and high intensity distance were higher in the matches of earning point(s) and lost. This might be caused by the extra effort in order to change the score. Trying to score requires more physical performance than maintaining it.

In one study, it is reported that midfield players had the highest distances (Reilly et al., 2008). Mohr, Krustrup, and Bangsbo (2003) also indicated that midfield players and forwards were found to cover more total distance than the defenders. Mid-fielders were run more because of constituting a link between defenders and offensive players (Bloomfield, Polman & O'Donoghue, 2007). In the World Cup 2014, mid-fielders had the greatest when compared to forward players and the defensive players (Chmura et al., 2014). Those findings show that midfielders should have strong endurance capacities. However, the midfielders in the Turkey National Football Team had similar scores when compared to back or wing players. in "the friendly and official matches" and "earning point(s) and lost" matches.

Analyzing the total distance parameter for wingers, it was not observed any difference. High intensity distance and sprint distance parameters were found to be very close to one another in friendly and official matches and for the situations of earning point(s) and lost. When compared to other positions, it was found that wingers, side backs and forwards covered more distance in fast tempo. Accordingly,

trainings may be planned in a way that they meet the physical requirements of the positions mentioned above.

Examining the fitness values of forward players, it was found that the total distances were very similar. High intensity distance and sprint distance were significantly higher in friendly matches compared to official matches. This result might have been caused by the extra efforts of newly included players to show themselves, as well as the unlimited substitution permitted in non-competitive matches. High intensity distance and sprint distance were found to be less in earning point(s) and lost matches. The greatest responsibility belongs to forward players in lost games, as they are expected to score and win points. Therefore it might be mentioned that they put in more effort in lost matches.

In Turkey National football Team, forward players had more total running distance than the defense players in both "Friendly and Official Matches" and matches of "Earning Point(s) and Lost". These findings were not congruent with the findings of FIFA World Cup 2010 indicating that forward players had less distance in defensive variables (Clemente, Couceiro, Martins, Ivanova & Mendes (2013).

Players' position data in Turkey National Football Team shows that football players covered different distances depending on the tactical positions of the players and the match results (Di Salvo et al., 2009). It is obvious that these different findings were related to the training position of the football players and the specific role of the players at their playing positions (Bangsbo, 2014).

5.1.9 General Fitness Analysis of Players' Positions Stats

In general, the Turkey National team had high running intensity and sprint distance in the lost matches. This may show that Turkey National team players made great effort not to lose the matches. Duk and his colleagues (2008) supported this view indicating that the distance covered may rely on the match result.

Thus, a recent study on football players' physical profile showed that training programs should be individualized as the distances covered at different speeds vary according to playing position (Carling, Bloomfield, Nelsen, & Reilly, 2008; Stølen, Chamari, Castagna & Wisløff, 2005). For different playing positions, fitness training for with ball and without the ball should be adapted due to the specific requirements of different playing positions (Carling, 2010).

5.2. Turkey National Team Performance In The Last Seven Championships

Turkey National Football Team's performance was analyzed in the last seven championships (FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships). Turkey National team had only two successes in the last seven championships: 3. rank of 2002 FIFA World Cup and 3. rank of 2008 UEFA European Championships. National Team was not successful in the qualifying rounds of five championships, thus, it did not participate in other five tournaments.

Details of these two successful championships should be described in order to understand the possible reasons for success of the Turkey National Team. In 2002 World Cup qualifying round, National teams from Europe were separated into five pots. Turkey's draw pot was the second. This showed that there was only one team above Turkey based on FIFA ranking system. In the World Cup qualifying round, a National team that came in the first place in the group matches was entitled to join the tournament directly while the second best could play qualification matches. Therefore, being in the second pot might be considered as an advantage for Turkey National Team (Bootsma & Bhulai, 2015).

In the big Championships, in matches playing with opponents, the possibility of being at the 1st or 2nd place in the group increases when a national football team win the matches playing at home and draws in away matches. Considering the group matches, 13 points won in away matches and 8 points won at home led us to come in 2nd in the group. National Team competed with the Austria National Team for elimination round and, Turkey National Team was entitled to join 2002 World Cup tournament, at knock-out stage. One possible reason of winning the knock-out stage might play the second leg at home. Second leg home advantage was investigated by Page and Page (2007). Researchers revealed that second home leg made a difference to win for football teams during knock-out rounds.

In group matches, the Turkey National team was only beaten once and won points in the nine matches. In terms of goals conceded and scored, the Turkey National team conceded only two goals in away matches but 6 goals at home matches. It can be commented that at home, the National team maybe more focused on winning by playing offensive football. Away matches are more controlled with specific focus on not conceding any goals hence on defense. It is also known that home matches provide some advantage for football teams (Pollard & Gomez, 2014).

However, with the offensive football at home, the Turkey National team won 8 points while it won 13 points in away matches. These results showed that home matches were not advantage for the Turkey National Football team. For this reason, securing the defense and not conceding any goals may be a better strategy in matches played at home to win for the National Football Team. It should be also highlighted that some studies revealed that National Football Teams capacities are essential to win the matches rather than having home advantage (Pollard, 2006; Pollard, 2008). Saavedra, Gutierrez, Marques, Torres and Romero (2013) also emphasized that strong teams used home advantage in a better way. Having better technical and tactical skills, Turkey National Team may gain more points at home matches.

In addition, goals scored minutes among the Turkey National team were analyzed for 2002 qualifying round. Goals scored by minutes indicated that the Turkey National team scored and conceded more goals in the second half. These findings were congruent with the study of Leite (2013) analyzing of world cups goals. The researcher found that the teams generally scored goals at the second half of the matches. However, matches played at home, the Turkey National Football Team scored the same quantity of goals in first and second halves while it conceded one goal and scored six in away matches. It was obvious that opponents probably thought to turn the score to their advantage by making tactical changes and substitute players during their home matches. This means that they did abandon the defense security and took more risks. Consequently, in away matches, the Turkey National Team had better defense than the opponents and found more chances of scoring goals in the second halves when the opponent took more risk, which might bring the success for the Turkey National Football Team. Similar findings found by Almeida, Ferreira and Volossovitch (2014) revealing that successful football teams prefer to use proactive defensive tactics in order to gain the ball and make scoring goals. In addition, Filho and his colleagues (2013) indicated that strong defensive strategies play a critical role for being successful in the World Cup matches.

During the 2002 FIFA World Cup tournament, the Turkey National Team collected 4 points in the group and it was able to be in the first 16 teams by goal difference and the team completed the tournament in the third place. It was speculated that the Turkey National Team did not play with strong European and South American teams, for this reason, it got this successful results. However, its

National Team's opponents eliminated the European and South American teams to move up. Experienced young football players and technical staff of the Turkey National Team might be the reason for showing better performance than the opponents. Using appropriate technical and tactical strategies might be another reason to complete the tournament at the third place.

While analyzing 2008 European Championship qualifying round, there were seven pots. Turkey's draw pot was the second. Turkey won 13 points at home and 11 in away matches. It ranked in the second place within the group but with the changing regulation, it directly joined the competition without playing qualification matches. It scored a total of 25 goals and conceded 11 goals in the qualifying round. Goal statistics showed that the Turkey National team was in better physical condition than the opponents with having played offensive football both at home and away matches. as well as scored 13 goals in the last 30 minutes without conceding. These results might be explained that physical and psychological capacities of the Turkish players maybe better than the opponents. Previous research showed that almost half of the matches or majority of the goals were generally were scored during the second half in FIFA World Cups and goal scoring was mostly observed in the last 15 minutes of the matches due to the decline in physical performance, tiredness and disorganization of the team (Leite, 2013; Njorari, 2013). In order to prevent physical performance at the second half, the match strategies and tactics can be changed (Drubscky, 2003). In addition, having high aerobic capacity may reduce the players' performance decrease at the last part of the matches (Reilly, 2003).

In 2008 European Championship, the teams were distributed into groups based on alphabetical order for the first time. Therefore, Turkey National Football Team was in the last group. Having won six points in the group matches, it was qualified for quarterfinals. National Team played with Croatia in qualifying match in which Turkey won on penalties. It played semifinals match and ranked in the third place.

Examining the successful qualifying round matches of FIFA 2002 and UEFA European Championships 2008, it was noticed that the statistics regarding the players' age, caps of players and other caps of players, and their experience levels as a football player were similar. In addition, accomplishments and experience level of the technical staff seemed to be similar in both tournaments. In 2002 and 2008

qualifying rounds matches, the Turkey National team won points in 9 matches and missed only one match. For both qualifying rounds, results of the matches for the Turkey National Team also looked alike.

These findings showed that in order to achieve in qualifying round matches and to participate in the championships, a) Turkey National team players should play more international matches in their young ages b) experienced technical directors and his colleagues should be employed, c) the team should be allowed to lose only one match and should win points in other matches, and d) the difference between the goals scored and conceded should be two-fold or more.

On the other hand, Turkey National Team could not be qualified for the rest of the 5 championships. Database revealed that there was no difference in terms of football players' professional background and their caps in these five qualifying rounds. It was also found that mean age of players were around 26 in 2002 FIFA World Cup and UEFA European Championships 2008, while the mean age of the players in 2004 and 2006 championships increased to 28.5 years-old. The players became older and their caps exceeded 30 matches. Table 5.1 shows the detailed for players' experience level in the last seven championships.

Table 5.1. Differences among the Championships

	FIFA 2002*	FIFA 2006	FIFA 2010	FIFA 2014	UEFA 2004	**UEFA 2008***	UEFA 2012
Players' Experience Level							
Age	**26**	28.48	27.39	26.77	28.45	**26**	26.91
Caps	**26.1**	32.48	22.36	20.45	31.83	**23.5**	24.85
Professional Career	**5.72**	10.17	9.64	8.61	7.52	**7.97**	9.26
Players' Experience Level (at tournament phase)							
Age	**26.38**					**27**	
Caps	**29.43**					**31.57**	
Professional Career	**7.14**					**9**	
Technical Staff Exp. Level							
Tec. Director Experience	**14**	10	19	14	16	**21**	30
Experience of Ast. Coach	**6**	7.3	9.7	1	8	**11**	6
Goal							
Goal For	**18**	23	13	16	17	**25**	13
Goal Against	**8**	9	10	9	6	**11**	11
Points							
Homes	**8**	9	10	7	10	**13**	12
Away	**13**	14	5	9	9	**11**	5
Qualifying Round Results							
Group Ranks	**2**	2	3	4	2	**2**	2
Play-off	**pass**	failed	-	-	failed	**Directly goes to tournament**	failed

Note: *Turkey National Team completed these tournaments in the third rank.

In 2010-2014 FIFA World Cup, and 2012 UEFA European Championships, the mean age of the players was 26-27 years old, but this time, players' caps was low. These results indicated that the team may not be successful when the players' caps were   high, and the team was old, or when players' caps were low and the team was young. However, the Turkey National Team in 2002 and 2008 tournament, the mean age of the team was 26-27 years old while the mean of caps was 30 and more, which shows that young age and experience level of players may contribute the success in the tournaments. The reason of not being able to join the tournaments after successful tournaments can be keeping going with the same and old players. According to these results, it can be thought that a successful squad of the National Team should be refreshed with young players. The young players can be got experience by choosing them up the successful squad. In this way, young and cross-country experienced players may be adapted to the team instead of old players and so National Team A can have a continuous success. For the young players, In order to be able to join National Team A, it is necessary to make auditions properly in U-14 team, which is first age category in national team categories and to keep the chosen squad without minimum loss up to National Team A. Now , there are 2 players from U-15 team in U-21 national team. Thus, checking audition criteria and being arranged on the basis of science can decrease the loss. Especially,   physical, physiological factors and psychological factors should be taken into consideration while selecting high quality players (Williams & Franks, 1998). By investing on the chosen players, enabling the players to take a good substructure education and enabling them to promote to top national teams, they can be an alternative for the national team.

At the same time, it is not adequate just to modify the audition criteria. The reasons of not being able to promote the players to top national teams should be defined and it is necessary to find a solution for this situation. The number of the young and cross country experienced players that will play for the national team can augment. Otherwise, investments on young players by the national team can go for nothing just like today.

When examined the last seven championships, six football coaches and their teams were assigned in the national team. Their coaching careers range from 10 to 30. The national teams of a coach who has 14 years experienced in 2002 and of a

coach who has 21 years experienced in 2008 gained the right of the join tournaments. The coaching careers whose the coaches couldn't show success to join tournaments as many as the coaches who could join the tournament. When looked to assistant coaches' coaching careers, it is seen that hardly any of assistant coaches has a top-end career in 2014. It is detected that assistant coaches' career In the other six tournaments is close to each other. In addition to that successful technical staff and their teams in 2002 and 2008 tournaments were employed in the next tournaments but the team wasn't successful. A foreign coach with 30 years brilliant career led the team but he failed as well. As the success depends on many factors, a more detailed investigation must be carried out for coaches other than their careers. Coach-athlete interaction, coaching methods, coach motivation, coach education, coach perceptions and coach self-efficacy should be also investigated (Casidy, Jones, & Potrac, 2004; Nash, 2003).

In 2008, 2006, 2004 and 2002 tournaments, Turkey National Team completed the qualifying round as in the second rank in which the team deserved to participate in the play offs. In these years, Turkey National Team had 2.5 or three times more scoring goals for when compared to goal against and the team gathered more than 19 points (19 to 24 points). For 2010 and 2014 tournaments, the National Team performance was below these statistics. For 2012 tournament, although the team had almost equal number of goals for and goals against, the team was able to complete the qualifying round in the second rank with 17 points (see Table 5.1). The team was eliminated in the play offs 3. According to these statistics in 2012, when examined the last seven tournaments, this is Turkey National Team's the most unproductive period in terms of scoring and conceding goal. Although, the national team achieved to be second in the qualifying round matches and gained the right of playing play-off matches. When considered these results, in order to qualify out of the group, more important other factors than scoring goals and conceding goals can be possible. Proper strategies and tactics designated in accordance with the place where the matches are played ''home and away", rival's power and needed points can make possible to make the play-offs. Research supports this comment that effective evaluations about these factors could influence football team performance in the tournaments (Taylor, Mellalieu, James & Shearer, 2008) Therefore, despite these

statistics in 2012, it can be said that the foreign coach with 30 years experienced succeeds in both general strategy and the strategy and tactics in the matches by analyzing the conditions

5.3. Perspectives of Turkey National Football Team Coaches

Based on Turkey National Football Team coaches' perspectives on the strengths and weakness of the team, reasons for inconsistent results in the last seven championships and things to do for being successful, it was revealed that player issues, education system, technical staff or coach development (i.e. education etc.) , infrastructure, media, football clubs, Turkish Football Federation and Turkish Government were seen critical elements for strong and successful Turkey National team and Turkish football. Basically, coaches emphasized that there should be a culturally relevant football ecole for our country.

Specifically, coaches emphasized the important role of players and technical staff for the Turkey National Team's success. According to coaches, there are strong players in the team; however, it is not enough to be successful. Players' technical, tactical, physical and psychological characteristics should be good enough. Coaches generally focused on the psychological strengths of the players and players have the strong national feelings and feels strong emotion during the championships. However, the list for weakness of the Turkey National team has different elements.

According to the National Team coaches, the players' weaknesses were collected under seven subheadings. These were "not professionalism, low quality players, low quality young generation, not players, weak players (no mesomorph body type), less communication among players and selfish players". In addition, technical staff problems, player's education system, school curriculum, infrastructure problems and media were seen as the problems in player development.

Depending upon these reasons, it is necessary to establish academies to professional team's substructures in order to train stronger athletes in terms of more professionalism, technic, tactic, physic and psychology. For this, it requires subvention with the sizable investments. Primarily, it should be made strategic plans to provide sufficiency of the facility and the quality and standard of the education. This is because, when the facilities of the academies are examined, only 10% are well-conditioned but not perfect according to the European criteria, the rest 90% is

idle and needy to improve (Terim, 2015). It should be provided that technical and the other staff who is assigned in these academies should be trained. After all these, it should be ensured that the academies must be checked every year for the control and improving.

Germany is the perfect example for football academies. After the unsuccessful results in UEFA European Championships 2000, German Football Federation (DFB, 2011) decided to establish football academies in order to train the young players. While establishing these academies, they imitated the academies of Ajax from Holland and Clairfontaine from France, which are best substructures of the world. DFB utters that they are the best now. With the subvention, investment in academies every year, the quality of trainer education, solving the problem of the establishing facility, changing of the school education, founding football schools, and club-school collaboration are the main reasons of the success.

Geography of Germany has acreage as large as Turkey has. The only concern of German Football Federation is failing to notice the talented players. While the region number of Turkish Football Federation is 14, 365 regions have been set up in Germany. The audition has been made in the level of 10-12 years old in these regions and mixed teams have been constituted. These mixed teams have been given the standard football education by calling them to the AFF regions. By directing these young players to the clubs that are near to their regions and suitable for their level, they have created the opportunity of observing the players' development. Therefore, more players can be reached by increasing the number of the regions in Turkey.

As a result of this structuring, while the number of the players playing in Bundesliga was 107 in 2001, 275 of the 525 players are German players now. While there was no player under 28 years old in German National Team in 2001, 7 players who is under 23 are found now. As a result, the German National Team reaped the fruit of the structuring by winning 2014 World Cup.

It should be also highlighted that it is not enough to establish only academy and to provide training for football to the players. Both curriculum and class hours in the school education system should be changed. In the education system in Turkey, the players are in the schools from the morning to the afternoon. Therefore, the players are forced to make a choice either school education or football. It should be supplied that the academies and the school should work collaboratively. Hence, the

113

class hours should be decreased and the school should continue until noon. One other solution might be establishing schools giving both school and football education. The suitable class hours and football education with curriculum should be supplied in these schools

Besides, it is really essential to educate the families in order to direct the players properly by providing club-family cooperation in academies. Interplay between coaches and the parents' eases parent peers' social adaptation to football academy culture. Parents who have skilled child experience an advanced position and tremendous liability to palliate his improvement (Clarke & Harwood, 2014). As a result, it is not sufficient to found academies for the players' development; in addition, it is a must to establish an appropriate environment. Williams and Reilly (2000) claims that the term "improvement of capability" in football means providing opportunity for the comers to transform their ability to the perfection with the help of a suitable training setting. In parallel with that, Trikalis, Papanikolaou, and Trikali (2014)'s research done for the Greek Academies showed that a) football shareholder should indigenize a new administration philosophy, and b) collaborating with academic institutes should be provided and scholarly procedure of education should be performed.

Coaches also indicated that one reason of the regression of the Turkish Football in recent years is disappearance of the street football due to filling of the lands in street alley. While the age to start playing football in Europe is 5, this age in Turkey is 10 because of the evanescence of the street football. As a solution, German Football Federation (2001) build about 1000 small football fields in every year not to disappear the street football by. In addition, England is one the countries that solve this problem in the same way (http://www.thefa.com/).

In the part of the strengths and weakness, after the players are discussed, technical staff is seen as the second factor affecting the performance of the Turkey National Football team. Specifically, National Team coaches and the education of the trainer were seen the biggest problems in Turkey. Based on the coaches in this study, Turkey National team' coaches were labeled as experienced and confident. However, the coaches stated that required time, consideration and opportunity are not given to the Turkey National Team Coaches to perform their short and long term plans.

Moreover, they stated that the media leading to chaos continually has an effect on this situation.

As a result of this repressive and chaotic atmosphere created by the media, both the technical staff and executives were not able to assure stability. While 7 coaches have headed to Turkey National Team since 2004, there is only one name who worked as assistant manager between 2004 and 2006 and as the football coach between 2006 and 2015 in the head of German National Football Team, winner of 2014 World Cup. Meanwhile, 7 presidents have been assigned in Turkish Football Federation (TFF); only two presidents have been assigned in DFB. While the president of Spanish Football Federation has been serving as the president since 1988, only two football coaches have worked in the Spanish National Team since 2004. These two teams have won the last 4 world cups and UEFA European Championship. Starting from this point, as the coaches refer in their perspectives, in order to negotiate, adequate time should be given to the National Team's technical staff and it is really necessary to show patient to them.

The coaches in this study also emphasized the importance of education of the trainers. In the improvement of the coaches, the key factor is defined as the efficiency of trainer education program (Gilbert & Trudel, 1999). However, according to the coaches' perspectives in this study, the trainers who are assigned in the substructures cannot make a contribution to the development of the players because of being insufficient of the coaching education. As a reason of this situation, both the technical and executive staffs often change and so they have difficulty in forming and developing an education standard. All the football coaches accepted that they did not redound any theory or any practical coaching (Nash, 2003). In addition, the recent curriculum of the courses in parallel with the developing football doesn't meet the trainers' needs in real life. This ineffectualness in representing real-life coaching situation inclusive of the courses doesn't provide a complete reliance in their work to handle with the requirements of coaching when they return to their coaching atmosphere (Nash, 2003).

On the other hand, being successful of almost all the trainee coaches who are attending to coaching education doesn't overlap with the trainers' being insufficient that the coaches have specified in their evaluation. It can be two reasons of it: either almost whole the trainers go far in courses they have taken or the competence of the

trainers cannot be assessed properly in the end of the courses. With this approach, almost all the trainers' being successful in the course can negatively affect the expectation of the trainers. This may cause them evaluate the courses as a time that they have to spend just to participate and get their certificate. In the consequence of this research, trainee coaches evaluating American and Scotch trainer education have stated that trainee coaches focus their attention to what of coaching instead of how of coaching due to the coaching rewards (Nash, 2003). As a conclusion, checking through how many the trainers apply their education in the clubs they worked in will also make contribution to the development of the trainers.

While the trainers who educate the players that are going to be play in Turkey National Team in the future are being disciplining, being more hard and applicable of the proficiency criteria should be provided. In order to meet the developing and changing football needs, extending the time of the courses, transforming the curriculum and the training methods seem to be necessary. Campbell has collected the curriculum of the trainer course under three main titles. Most of the coaching education includes three certain views; sport-specific knowledge, core or generic knowledge and practical coaching service (Campbell, 1993). Furthermore, German Football Federation's pro-license education consists of 8 different steps in their education system. Germany Football Federation increased the time of the education especially in pro-license courses from 6 months to 11 months by making reforms in 2005. In England, professional level of coaches should participate in in-service training for each year (Holt, 2002). However, in Turkey, professional levels of coaches should attend the national seminars every two years and international seminars every three years.

Cushion, Armour, and Jones (2003) also paid attention to the role of coach education and professional development of coaches. The researchers highlighted that coach education should include both practical part and theoretical part in which experienced coaches should be integrated in to the education system. Knowledge in football coaching has been changed very quickly; thus, coaches should always renew their knowledge and skills, develop critical thinking abilities, communication and create opportunities to adapt the new systems in football (Bloom, Schinke, & Salmela, 1997).

For the reasons of inconsistent results, Turkey National Team coaches stated that Turkish football is retrograding day by day and the reason of the bad results is the players and football clubs. On the ground that the players make a lot of money in their clubs, the success of the national team is posterior to the club's success. Therefore, national matches that the players play in a low motivated and show poor performance are watched. In addition, it is mentioned that the players don't feel confident and they overrate the rivals and fear of them. According to the coaches in this study, putting the success of the clubs ahead arising from regime of the football clubs, following an earning footballer-oriented strategy rather than growing football players due to the public opinion pressure and in parallel with this situation, being made costly transfers are the reasons of this failure.

In order to be successful, Turkey National Football Coaches emphasized that a) the number of high quality of players should be increased by giving importance to the developments and training of the players, b) a challenging atmosphere should be created for players to provide transfer opportunity to the top or high class leagues, c) coach education system should be re-organized and it should meet the current requirement of football, d) Football Federation and Government should make sanction power over the football clubs increased by modifying the electoral system of the football federation and inspect the football clubs according to the UEFA criteria and d) football clubs should establish academies in order to grow young players in all professional clubs, improve the plant capability by investing in substructure more than now and enable the coaches to work through long ages by providing salary promotion.

In addition to those suggestion, Kanter (2012)' list showing ten essential reasons for winners maintain winning (aside from skill) includes good mood state, attractive situation, learning from their mistakes, freedom to focus, optimistic culture of mutual respect, solid support system, positive media, invitation to the best parties, self-identification, and continuity. Basically, Kanter (2012) emphasized that winners in professional level sports had always had good feelings about their performance, they get strong appreciation from other, they are open to understand their weakness, they have good focus and less distractions during their performance, they respect other people in their team and do not blame others for unsuccessful results, they have specific goals to improve their capabilities and always plan for future, they have

117

positive media support, turn overs for team' technical staff and players do not occur frequently and continuity brings success for everyone. These factors should be taken into consideration for Turkish football.

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This study has important recommendations for future research, coaches, football players and professionals in the field.

6.1 Recommendations for Future Research

1. Fitness interventions as training programs in football should be arranged for future research to analyze the effectiveness of the interventions on physical and technical parameters of players.
2. Comparison studies might be another strategy to find out the differences among successful National teams in the championships and Turkey National Team.
3. Football ecole in different countries (e.g. Brazil, Italy etc.) including education systems, training programs, regulations in football, player recruitment etc. should be analyzed to understand the reasons of being successful.
4. Perceptions of active football players on Turkey National Football Team should be determined to understand their perspectives and reveal their solutions to be successful in the competitions.
5. Media effect on the matches and players might be analyzed deeply.
6. Home and away matches differences might be analyzed in order to identify the internal and external influences on National Team performance.

6.2. Recommendations For Coaches, Players and Professionals

1. It is value to integrate the technical and physical data of football teams into training programs in order to test the usefulness of the data gathered from video tracking systems.
2. Specific training programs including technical and tactical aspects for players based on their playing positions should be created.

3. Football players might be regularly observed during the football season to obtain information on their performance, which may be useful data for National team.

4. Goals scoring minutes indicate that fitness level of players is crucial to control the match. Players' fitness level should be in a good position.

5. The number of football players in a high quality should be increased for all levels of football such as U 21, U 10, and U 16 etc. For that, the number quality football schools for different age groups should be increased.

6. All factors affecting match performance in football should be considered and holistic approaches should be used to train the National team.

7. Professional development programs should be arranged for both football coaches and players.

8. Football strategies should be produced based on our culture, which brings to have culturally relevant football ecole for our country.

9. Football standards in football education, player development and coach development etc. should be developed for Turkey.

REFERENCES

Acar, M. F., Yapıcıoğlu, B., Arıkan, N., Yalçın, S., Ateş, N., & Ergun, M (2007). Analysis of goals scored in 2006 World Cup. *Journal of Sports Science and Medicine, (6)10, 3.*

Akenhead, R., Hayes, P. R., Thompson, K. G., & French, D. (2013). Diminutions of acceleration and deceleration output during professional football match play. *Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport*, *16*(6), 556-561.

Almeida, C. H., Ferreira, A. P., & Volossovitch, A. (2014). Effects of Match Location, Match Status and Quality of Opposition on Regaining Possession in UEFA Champions League. *Journal of Human Kinetics*, *41*(1), 203-214.

Arıkan, N., Balyan, M., Vural, F., & Tunçer, Y. (January, 2009). 2006 Dünya FIFA kupasında yarı final ve final oynayan futbol milli takımlarının bazı teknik ve taktik verilerinin analizi, presented at *III. Football and Science Conference*, Antalya.

Balyan, M., Vural, F., Çatıkkaş, F., Yücel, T., Afacan, s., Atik, E., Acar, F. M. (2007). Technical analysis of 2006 World Cup soccer champion Italy. *Journal of Sports Science and Medicine, (6)10, 4.*

Balyan, M & Vural, F. (2003). 2002 Dünya kupası, şampiyonlar ligi ve UEFA kupası final maçlarının bilgisayar yardımı ile analizi. *Performans Dergisi,9,* 3-4.

Bangsbo, J. (2014). Physiological Demands Of Football. *Sports Science*, *27*(125), 1-6.

Bloom, G.A., Schinke, R.J. & Salmela, J.H. (1997). The development of communication skills by elite basketball coaches. Coaching & Sport Science Journal, 2(3), 3-10.

Bloomfield, J., Polman, R., & O'Donoghue, P. (2007). Physical demands of different positions in FA Premier League soccer. *Journal of sports science & medicine*, *6*(1), 63.

Bootsma, T., & Bhulai, S. (2015). Leverage position on the FIFA Ranking. Retreved from http://www.few.vu.nl/en/Images/werkstuk-bootsma_tcm39-426557.pdf.

Bradley, P. S., Carling, C., Diaz, A. G., Hood, P., Barnes, C., Ade, J., ... & Mohr, M. (2013). Match performance and physical capacity of players in the top three competitive standards of English professional soccer. *Human Movement Science*, *32*(4), 808-821.

Bradley, P. S., Dellal, A., Mohr, M., Castellano, J., & Wilkie, A. (2014). Gender differences in match performance characteristics of soccer players competing in the UEFA Champions League. *Human Movement Science*, *33*, 159-171.

Brown Jr, T. D., Van Raalte, J. L., Brewer, B. W., Winter, C. R., Cornelius, A. E., & Andersen, M. B. (2002). World Cup Soccer home advantage. *Journal of Sport Behavior*, *25*(2), 134-144.

Buraczewski, T., Cicirko, L., & Gawlik, D. (2013). Differentiated analysis of offensive actions by football players in selected matches from the EURO 2008. *Polish Journal of Sport and Tourism*, *20*(3), 188-193.

Campbell, S. (1993). Coaching education around the world. *Sport Science Review*, *2*(2), 62-74.

Carling, C. (2010). Analysis of physical activity profiles when running with the ball in a professional soccer team. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, *28*(3), 319-326.

Carling, C. (2013). Interpreting physical performance in professional soccer match-play: should we be more pragmatic in our approach?. *Sports Medicine*,*43*(8), 655-663.

Carling, C., Bloomfield, J., Nelsen, L., & Reilly, T. (2008). The role of motion analysis in elite soccer. *Sports Medicine*, *38*(10), 839-862.

Carling, C., Williams, M. A. & Reilly, T. (2005). *Handbook of Soccer Match Analysis: A Systematic Approach to Improving Perfromance*. Routledge.

Casamichana, D., & Castellano, J. (2014). Situational variables and distance covered during the fifa wold cup south afrıca 2010. *Revısta Internacıonal De Medıcına Y Cıencıas De La Actıvıdad Fısıca Y Del Deporte*, *14*(56), 603-617.

Cassidy, T., Jones, R., & Potrac, P. (2004). Understanding sports coaching: The social, cultural and pedagogical foundations of sports practice. London: Routledge.

Castellano, J., Alvarez-Pastor, D., & Bradley, P. S. (2014). Evaluation of research using computerised tracking systems (amisco® and prozone®) to analyse physical performance in elite soccer: a systematic review. *Sports Medicine*, *44*(5), 701-712.

Castellano, J., & Álvarez, D. (2013). Uso defensivo del espacio de interacción en fútbol.(Defensive use of the interaction space in soccer). *RICYDE. Revista Internacional de Ciencias del Deporte*, *9*(32), 126-136.

Chmura, P., Golıńskı, D., Andrzejewskı, M., Mroczek, D., Kawczyńskı, A., Rokıta, A., & Chmura, J. (2014). Endurance capacity and selected technical-tactical skills of soccer players participating in the group stage of the 2014 FIFA World Cup. *Trends in Sport Sciences*, *3*(21).

Chmura, J., Duk, O. S., Min, K. S., Chmura, P., Kawczyński, A., Mroczek, D., & Zdolności wytrzymałościowe piłkarzy–uczestników, S. W. (2012). Mistrzostw Świata w Piłce Nożnej w 2010 roku (Endurance capacity of football players participating in the 2010 World Cup). *Sport Wyczynowy*, *2*, 48-57.

Clarke, N. J., & Harwood, C. G. (2014). Parenting experiences in elite youth football: A phenomenological study. *Psychology of Sport and Exercise,* 15(5), 528-537.

Clemente, F. M. (2012). Study of successful teams on fifa world cup 2010 through notational analysis. *Pamukkale Journal of Sport Sciences*, *3*(3), 90-103.

Clemente, F. M., Couceiro, M. S., Martins, L., Manuel, F., Ivanova, M. O., & Mendes, R. (2013). Activity profiles of soccer players during the 2010 world cup. *Journal of Human Kinetics*, *38*, 201-211.

Collet, C. (2013). The possession game? A comparative analysis of ball retention and team success in European and international football, 2007–2010. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, *31*(2), 123-136.

Creswell, J. W. (2009) Research design : qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches (3rd ed.) London: Sage Publications.

Cushion, C. J., Armour, K. M., & Jones, R. L. (2003). Coach education and continuing professional development: Experience and learning to coach. *Quest*,*55*(3), 215-230.

Dawson, P., Dobson, S., & Gerrard, B. (2000). Estimating coaching efficiency in professional team sports: Evidence from English association football. *Scottish Journal of Political Economy*, *47*(4), 399-421.

Dellal, A., Owen, A., Wong, D. P., Krustrup, P., Van Exsel, M., & Mallo, J. (2012). Technical and physical demands of small vs. large sided games in relation to playing position in elite soccer. *Human Movement Science*, *31*(4), 957-969.

Dellal, A., Wong, D. P., Moalla, W., & Chamari, K. (2010). Physical and technical activity of soccer players in the French First League-with special reference to their playing position: original research article. *International SportMed Journal*, *11*(2), 278-290.

Delgado Bordonau, J. L., Domenech Monforte, C., Guzmán Luján, J. F., & Méndez Villanueva, A. (2013). Offensive and defensive team performance: relation to successful and unsuccessful participation in the 2010 Soccer World Cup. *Journal of Human Sport and Exercise, 8*(4), 894-904.

Di Salvo, V., Baron, R., Gonzalez-Haro, C., Gormasz, C., Pigozzi, F., & Bachl, N. (2010). Sprinting analysis of elite soccer players during European Champions League and UEFA Cup matches. *Journal of Sports Sciences*,*28*(14), 1489-1494.

Di Salvo, V., Baron, R., Tschan, H., Montero, F. J., Bachl, N., & Pigozzi, F. (2007). Performance characteristics according to playing position in elite soccer. *International Journal of Sports Medicine*, *28*(3), 222.

Di Salvo, V., Gregson, W., Atkinson, G., Tordoff, P., & Drust, B. (2009). Analysis of high intensity activity in Premier League soccer. *International Journal of Sports Medicine*, (30), 205-12.

Drubscky, R. (2003). *O universo tático do futebol: escola brasileira.* Belo Horizonte: Health.

Duk, O., Min, K., Kawczyński, A., Chmura, P., Mroczek, D., & Chmura, J. (2011). Endurance and Speed Capacity of the Korea Republic Football National Team During the World Cup of 2010. *Journal of Human Kinetics*, *30*, 115-121.

Dupont, G., Nedelec, M., McCall, A., McCormack, D., Berthoin, S., & Wisløff, U. (2010). Effect of 2 soccer matches in a week on physical performance and injury rate. *The American Journal of Sports Medicine*, *38*(9), 1752-1758.

Erdil, G., Bozkurt, S., İşleğen, Ç., & Ölçücü, B. (2013). 2010 Futbol Dünya Kupasinda İspanya Takiminin Kollektif Performansinin Maçlarin Kazanilmasinda Etkisi. *Spor ve Performans Araştırmaları Dergisi*, *4*(2).

Filho, E., Basevitch, I., Yang, Y., & Tenenbaum, G. (2013). Is the best defense a good offense? Comparing the Brazilian and Italian soccer styles. *Kinesiology*, 45, 213-221.

Frencken, W., Poel, H. D., Visscher, C., & Lemmink, K. (2012). Variability of inter-team distances associated with match events in elite-standard soccer. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, *30*(12), 1207-1213.

Gilbert, W., & Trudel, P. (1999). An evaluation strategy for coach education programs. *Journal of Sport Behavior*, *22*(2), 234-250.

Gómez, M. A., Gómez-Lopez, M., Lago, C., & Sampaio, J. (2012). Effects of game location and final outcome on game-related statistics in each zone of the pitch in professional football. *European Journal of Sport Science*, *12*(5), 393-398.

Holt, N. L. (2002). A comparison of the soccer talent development systems in England and Canada. *European Physical Education Review*, *8*(3), 270-285.

Hughes, M., & Franks, I. (2005). Analysis of passing sequences, shots and goals in soccer. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, *23*(5), 509-514.

İmamoglu, O., Cebi, M., & Kilcıgil, E. (2007). Analysis of goals at 2006 FIFA World Cup according to tehnical and tactical criterias. *SPORMETRE Beden Eğitimi ve Spor Bilimleri Dergisi*, *5*(4), 157-165.

Jankovic, A., Leontijevic, B., Pasic, M., & Jelusic, V. (2010). Influence of certain tactical attacking patterns on the result achieved by the teams participants of the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa. *Physical Culture*,*65*(1), 34-45.

Kanter (2011). Ten reasons winners keep winning, aside from skill. Retrieved from https://hbr.org/2012/08/ten-reasons-winners-keep-winni/.

Lacome, M., Piscione, J., Hager, J. P., & Bourdin, M. (2014). A new approach to quantifying physical demand in rugby union. *Journal of Sports Sciences*,*32*(3), 290-300.

Lago-Ballesteros, J., Lago-Peñas, C., & Rey, E. (2012). The effect of playing tactics and situational variables on achieving score-box possessions in a professional soccer team. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, *30*(14), 1455-1461.

Leite, W. S. (2013). Euro 2012: analysis and evaluation of goals scored. *International Journal of Sports Science*, *3*(4), 102-106.

Liu, H., Gomez, M. Á., Lago-Peñas, C., & Sampaio, J. (2015). Match statistics related to winning in the group stage of 2014 Brazil FIFA World Cup. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, (ahead-of-print), 1-9.

Mitrotasios, M. & Armatas, V. (January, 2014). Analysis of Goal Scoring Patterns in the 2012 European Football Championship. *The Sport.* Retrieved from http://www.thesportjournal. org.

Mohr, M., Krustrup, P., & Bangsbo, J. (2003). Match performance of high-standard soccer players with special reference to development of fatigue. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, *21*(7), 519-528.

Mooney, M., O'Brien, B., Cormack, S., Coutts, A., Berry, J., & Young, W. (2011). The relationship between physical capacity and match performance in elite

Australian football: a mediation approach. *Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport*, *14*(5), 447-452.

Moura, F. A., Martins, L. E. B., & Cunha, S. A. (2014). Analysis of football game-related statistics using multivariate techniques. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, *32*(20), 1881-1887., DOI: 10.1080/02640414.2013.853130.

Nash, C. (2003). Coaching Effectiveness and Coach Education Programmes: Perceptions of Scottish and US Coaches1 International Sports Studies, vol. 25, no. 2, 2003 21-31.

Njororai, W. S. S. (2013). Analysis of goals scored in the 2010 World Cup soccer tournament held in South Africa. *Journal of Physical Education and Sport*, *13*(1), 6.

Njororai, W. S. S. (2014). Timing of Goals Scored in Selected European and South American Soccer Leagues, FIFA and UEFA Tournaments and the Critical Phases of a Match. *International Journal of Sports Science,* 4(6A): 56-64.

Page, L., & Page, K. (2007). The second leg home advantage: Evidence from European football cup competitions. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, *25*(14), 1547-1556.

Pollard, R. (2006). Home Advantage in Soccer: Variations in its Magnitude and a Literature Review of the Inter-related Factors Associated with its Existence. *Journal of Sport Behavior*, *29*(2).

Pollard, R. (2008). Home advantage in football: A current review of an unsolved puzzle. *The Open Sports Sciences Journal*, *1*(1), 12-14.

Pollard, R., & Gómez, M. A. (2014). Comparison of home advantage in men's and women's football leagues in Europe. *European Journal of Sport Science*, *14*(sup1), S77-S83.

Randers, M. B., Mujika, I., Hewitt, A., Santisteban, J., Bischoff, R., Solano, R., ... & Mohr, M. (2010). Application of four different football match analysis systems: A comparative study. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, *28*(2), 171-182.

Reilly, T. (2003). *Aspectos Fisiológicos del Fútbol*. Madri: PubliCE.

Reilly, T. (2005). An ergonomics model of the soccer training process. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, *23*, 561–572.

Reilly, T., Drust, B., & Clarke, N. (2008). Muscle fatigue during football match-play. *Sports Medicine*, *38*(5), 357-367.

Sajadi, N., & Rahnama, N. (2007). Analysis of goals in 2006 FIFA World Cup. *Journal of Sports Science and Medicine*, *6*(Suppl 10), 3.

Sarmento, H., Marcelino, R., Anguera, M. T., CampaniÇo, J., Matos, N., & LeitÃo, J. C. (2014). Match analysis in football: a systematic review. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, *32*(20), 1831-1843.

Saavedra García, M., Gutiérrez Aguilar, Ó., Marques, P. S., Torres Tobío, G., & Romero, J. J. F. (2013). Calculating home advantage in the first decade of the 21th century UEFA soccer leagues. *Journal of Human Kinetics*, *38*, 141-150.

Shafizadeh, M., Taylor, M., & Peñas, C. L. (2013). Performance consistency of international soccer teams in Euro 2012: A time series analysis. *Journal of Human Kinetics*, *38*, 213-226.

Shahram, S., Milad, D., & Mohammad, A. (2014). Analyzing Factor of Time of Scoring Goal in Success of Football (Case Study: South Africa World Cup 2010). *Choregia*, *10*(2).

Stølen, T., Chamari, K., Castagna, C., & Wisløff, U. (2005). Physiology of soccer. *Sports Medicine*, *35*(6), 501-536.

Sullivan, C., Bilsborough, J. C., Cianciosi, M., Hocking, J., Cordy, J. T., & Coutts, A. J. (2014). Factors affecting match performance in professional Australian football. *International Journal of Sports Physiology and Performance*, *9*(3), 561-566.

Taylor, J. B., Mellalieu, S. D., James, N., & Shearer, D. A. (2008). The influence of match location, quality of opposition, and match status on technical performance in professional association football. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, 26(9), 885-895.

Terim, F. (2015). Futbolumuz ve geceleceği. Retrieved from http://www.tff.org/Resources/TFF/Auto/168e261e039741d4943e755f928406d3.pdf.

Trikalis, C., Papanikolaou, Z., & Trikali, S. (2014). Developing Youth Football Academies in Greece: Managing Issues and Challenges. *International Journal of Sport Management, Recreation and Tourism,* 14, 1-20.

Wehbe, G. M., Hartwig, T. B., & Duncan, C. S. (2014). Movement analysis of Australian national league soccer players using global positioning system technology. *The Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research*, *28*(3), 834-842.

Williams, A. M. & Franks, A. (1998). Talent identification in soccer. *Sports, Exercise and Injury*, 4, 159-165.

Williams, A. M. & Reilly, T. (2000). Talent Identification and Development in Soccer. *Journal of Sports Sciences*, 18, 657–66.

Vaile, J., Halson, S., Gill, N., & Dawson, B. (2008). Effect of hydrotherapy on the signs and symptoms of delayed onset muscle soreness. *European journal of Applied Physiology*, *102*(4), 447-455.

Valter, D. S., Adam, C., Barry, M., & Marco, C. (2006). Validation of Prozone®: A new video-based performance analysis system. *International Journal of Performance Analysis in Sport*, *6*(1), 108-119.

Yiannis, M. (2014). Analysis of goals scored in the 2014 World Cup soccer tournament held in Brazil. *International Journal of Sport Studies,* 4 (9), 1017-1026.

Zubillaga, A. (2006). La actividad del jugador de fútbol en alta competición: análisis de variabilidad. Thesis Doctoral: Universidad de Malaga.

Zubillaga, A., Gabbett, T. J., Fradua, L., Ruiz-Ruiz, C., Caro, Ó., & Ervilla, R. (2013). Influence of ball position on playing space in Spanish elite women's football match-play. *International Journal of Sports Science and Coaching*, *8*(4), 713-722.

Zubillaga, A., Gorospe, G., Mendo, A. H., & VIillasenor, A. (2007). Match analysis of 2005-06 champions league final with Amisco system. *Journal of Sports Science and Medicine*, *6*(10).

APPENDIX A. TÜRKÇE ÖZET

TÜRKİYE A MİLLİ FUTBOL TAKIMI'NIN FİFA DÜNYA KUPALARI VE UEFA AVRUPA ŞAMPİYONLARINDAKİ PERFORMANSININ ANALİZİ

Giriş

Büyük şampiyonalarda futbol takımlarının performanslarını etkileyen bir çok faktör bulunmaktadır. Bu faktörler sosyal, çevresel veya psikolojik faktörler olarak sıralanabilir. Özellikle, takımların teknik ve taktik stratejileri, futbolcuların kalitesi veya karşı takımın oyun stratejileri bir futbol takımının performansını etkilemektedir. Genellikle bu alandaki araştırmacılar bu faktörler üzerinde çalışarak futbol takımlarının neden başarılı veya başarısız olduklarını incelemektedirler. FIFA Dünya Kupası veya UEFA Avrupa Şampiyonalarına katılan futbol takımlarının performansları ve bu performansı etkileyebilecek olası faktörler alan yazında bir çok defa incelenmiştir. Ancak, Türkiye A Milli Futbol Takımı'nın FIFA World Cup veya UEFA Avrupa Şampiyonalarındaki performansını inceleyen veya Milli Takım'ın genel durumunu ortaya koyan çalışmalar hiç yok veya yok denecek kadar azdır. Buna ek olarak, Türkiye Milli Takımı 2015 yılı FIFA sıralamasına göre 52. sırada yer almaktadır. Ülkelerin Milli Futbol takımları başarı durumlarına göre bu sırada yer almaktadırlar ve Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı son şampiyonalara katılamadığı ve eleme maçlarında başarısız olduğu için sıralamada gerilerde bulunmaktadır. Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın şampiyonalardaki genel performansının incelenmesi, güçlü ve zayıf yanlarının ortaya konulması Milli Takımın genel olarak değerlendirilmesine ve sorunlar için çözüm yolları bulunmasına yardımcı olacaktır. Bu bilgiler ışığında; bu çalışmanın üç genel amacı bulunmaktadır. Birinci amaç, Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın 2014 FIFA Dünya Kupası elemelerinde oynadığı resmi-hazırlık ve puan aldığı-alamadığı maçlardaki teknik ve fitness parametrelerinin incelenmesidir. Çalışmanın ikinci amacı Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın son yedi şampiyonadaki (FIFA Dünya Kupası ve UEFA Avrupa Şampiyonaları) performansının bir veri

tabanı oluşturularak incelenmesidir. Çalışmanın üçüncü amaç ise Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nda görev yapan teknik direktörlerin Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın son yedi şampiyonadaki performansı hakkındaki görüşlerinin incelenmesidir.

Bu çalışma alan yazına yaptığı katkılardan dolayı önem taşımaktadır. İlk kez Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın performansı Amisco Pro® programı kulanılarak değerlendirilmiştir. Bu program verdiği geçerli ve güvenilir bilgiler sayesinde kısa zamanda profesyonel takımların sıklıkla kullandığı bir analiz programı haline gelmiştir. Buna ek olarak Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın şampiyonalardaki durumunu gösteren bir veri tabanı bulunmamaktadır. Oluşturulan veri tabanı sayesinde Türkiye Milli Takımı'nın son yedi şampiyonadaki teknik ekibinin ve futbolcularının bilgileri (tecrübeleri, yaş ortalamaları vs), gol atılan dakikalar, puan farkları, ve maç sonuçları gibi bilgiler organize edilmiştir.

Method

Çalışmanın ilk amacı için Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın teknik ve fitness parametreleri spor performans analiz programı Amisco Pro® ile analiz edilmiştir. Teknik parametreler topa hakim olma, pas, ileri pas ve atak girişimleridir. Fitness parametreleri ise takımın fiziksel istatistikleri (toplam mesafe, sprint mesafesi, yüksek şiddetteki mesafe), top hakimiyetindeki fiziksel istatistikler (toplam mesafe, sprint mesafesi, yüksek şiddetteki mesafe), topsuz fiziksel istatistiklerdir (toplam mesafe, sprint mesafesi, yüksek şiddetteki mesafe). Amisco Pro®spor performans sistemi gelişmiş bir teknolojidir ve maximum 8 kamera futbol stadyumuna yerleştirilmektedir. Bu kameralar sayesinde futbol takımlarının performansı kaydedilmekte ve maç verisi kontrol edildikten sonra analiz edilerek futbol takımlarının istekleri doğrultusunda veriler paylaşılmaktadır. Bu çalışmada Türk Milli Takımı'nın 2014 FIFA Dünya Kupası elemeleri sırasında oynadığı hazırlık ve resmi maçlar, ayrıca puan aldığı veya alamadığı maçlar Amisco Pro® programı kullanılarak incelenmiştir. Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı hazırlık maçlarını Avusturya, Danimarka, Çek Cumhuriyeti, Litvanya ve Slovenya ile yapmıştır. Resmi maçlar ise Estonya, Romanya ve Macaristan ile oynanmıştır. Türk Milli Takımı'nın puan kazandığı maçlar şöyledir: Türkiye - Estonya (3-0), Türkiye – Danimarka (1-1), Türkiye – Macaristan (1-1), ve Türkiye – Letonya (3-3). Puan alınamayan maçlar Avusturya – Türkiye (2-0), Türkiye – Romanya (0-1), Türkiye – Çek Cumhuriyeti

(0-2), ve Türkiye – Slovenya (0-2) maçlarıdır. Amisco Pro® analiz programından elde edilen verilerin ortalamaları ve sıklık dereceleri IBM SPSS 22 istatistik programı kullanılarak analiz edilmiştir.

Çalışmanın ikinci amacı için Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın son yedi şampiyonadaki (2002, 2006, 2010 ve 2014 FIFA Dünya Kupası ve 2004, 2006, 2008, 2012 UEFA Avrupa Şampiyonaları) peformansını değerlendirmek için bir veri tabanı oluşturulmuştur. Bu veri tabanı bilimsel veri tabanları (EBSCOHost ve ScienceDirect), o yıllara ait gazetelerin arşivleri ve FIFA, UEFA ve Türkiye Futbol Federasyonu resmi web siteleri kullanılarak oluşturulmuştur. Bu çalışma için oluşturulan veri tabanında; turnuvaların ve eleme döneminin genel bilgileri, Türk Milli Takımı'nın oyuncu ve teknik ekibinin genel bilgileri bulunmaktadır. Oluşturulan veri tabanındaki bilgiler bağımsız bir araştırmacı tarafından da incelenerek doğruluğu sağlanmıştır. IBM SPSS 22 istatistik program ile veri tabanındaki verilere analiz edilmiştir.

Çalışmanın üçüncü amacı Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nda görev alan onüç Teknik Direktör'ün yedisi çalışmaya gönüllü olarak katılmışlardır. Teknik Direktörlerin yaş ortalaması 49 ve Türkiye Milli Takımlarında ortalama görev alma süreleri 6 yıldır (2-14 yıl arası). Teknik Direktörler ile yapılan görüşmelerde Teknik Direktörlerin Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın son yedi şampiyondaki performansı hakkında görüşleri alınmıştır. Genel olarak Türk Milli Takımı'nı son yedi şampiyonada nasıl değerlendirdikleri, takımın güçlü ve zayıf yanları, Milli Takımın istikrarsız gidişatının nedenleri ve başarılı olmak için yapılması gerekenler gibi konular üzerine sorular sorulmuştur. Görüşmeler yapılmadan önce Orta Doğu Teknik Üniversitesi İnsan Araştırmaları Etik Kurulundan gerekli onay alınmış ve Teknik Direktörler gönüllü katılım formunu doldurmuşlardır. Yarı yapılandırılmış görüşme tekniği uygulanmış ve tüm görüşmeler katılımcıların onayı ile ses kayıt cihazına kaydedilmiştir. Görüşmeler sakin bir ofiste yapılmış ve ortalama 15-20 dakika sürmüştür. Veri analizi nicel araştırma yöntemleri kullanılarak yapılmıştır.

Sonuç ve Tartışma

2014 FIFA Dünya Kupası Elemelerinde Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın Analizi

Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın oynadığı hazırlık ve resmi maçların teknik analizlerine göre, toplam ileri pas ve 3. bölgeye giriş dışındaki parametrelerde

birbirine çok yakın değerler çıkmıştır. Toplam ileri pasa bakıldığında hazırlık maçlarında ortalama 24 pas fazla yapılmıştır. Hazırlık maçlarında her iki takım içinde yeni oyuncular, yeni stratejiler ve sınırsız değişiklik hakkı olduğu için ve fiziksel ve zihinsel olarak daha az baskı ortamında oynandığı için; resmi maçlara oranla ileriye (öne) doğru pas sayısı hazırlık maçlarında artmış olabilir. 3. bölgeye giriş sayısı resmi maçlarda 17 kez daha fazla yapılmıştır. Resmi maçlarda oyunun son bölümünde puan alabilmek ve gol atabilmek için topa sahip olma için oyundan vazgeçilmiş olabilir. Ayrıca, yeni bir taktik anlayışa geçilmiş ve 3. bölgeye uzun toplar atılmış olabilir.

Milli Takım'ın teknik parametrelerinden topa sahip olma incelendiğinde hazırlık - resmi, puan alınan - alınmayan maçlarda önemli bir fark görülmemiştir. Türkiye Milli Takımı'nın hazırlık maçlarına bakıldığında rakiplerden % 13'e yakın daha fazla topla oynama oranı yüksek çıkmıştır. Toplam pas sayılarına bakıldığında ise, topla oynama oranına bağlı olarak bu rakamında rakiplerde 382 iken Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nda 529 olduğu görülmüştür. Resmi maçlara bakıldığında rakiplerle olan fark artmıştır. Topla oynama oranı %28'e çıkarken pas sayısı rakip takımlardan iki kat daha fazladır. Türkiye Milli Takımın puan alınan ve alınamayan maçlardaki pas yüzdesi ve pas sayısına bakıldığında yine rakip takımlara üstünlük sağlamıştır. Rakiplere karşı daha fazla topa sahip olup ancak analizi yapılan bu 8 maçta başarılı sonuçlar alınamadığı görülmüştür.

Puan alınan maçlarda ise, Milli Takım'ın ileri doğru başarılı pas sayısında yüksek bir fark göze çarpmıştır. Rakip takımların öne doğru başarılı pas sayısı 80 iken Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın ileri doğru yapılan başarılı pas sayısı 120'dir. Pas sayısındaki bu fark puan kazanılmasında olumlu bir etki sağlamış olabilir. Gelişen futbol anlayışında hücum yapmak kadar savunma yapmakta önem kazanmıştır. Top rakibe geçtiği anda topu kaybeden takımın bütün oyuncuları topun arkasına geçerek yüksek konsantrasyon ve motivasyonla savunma yapmaktadır. Bu durum rakip takımı tehlikeli bölgenin uzağında daha fazla pas yapmaya zorlamaktadır. Top kazanıldıktan sonra rakip takım savunma pozisyonuna geçmeden ileri doğru pas yaparak, gol pozisyonuna girme şansını arttırılabilir.

İleriki çalışmalarda daha anlamlı sonuçlara varabilmek için teknik parametrelerin daha detaylı incelenmesi gereklidir. Örneğin, topa sahip olmanın ve öne doğru pasın dışında, pas yapılırken topun ne kadar hızlı bir şekilde oyuncular

arasında dolaştırıldığı da çok önemlidir. Eğer pas yaparken topun hızı düşük ise rakip takım savunma pozisyonunu daha kolay koruyabilir. Ancak pas yaparken topun hızı arttığında rakip takımın savunma pozisyonun alması zorlaşacaktır. Böylelikle savunma dengesi kurulmadan pozisyon üretebilme şansı artabilir. Ayrıca bir oyuncuda topun kalma süresi, topa kaç kere dokunduğu ve bunu sahanın hangi bölgesinde yaptığı teknik analizde araştırılması gereken topun ve oyunun hızını arttıracak ölçütler olabilir.

Ayrıca müsabakadan önce rakibin daha önce oynadığı maçların analizi yapılarak bir oyun stratejisi planlanmalıdır. Bu strateji rakibin güçlü ve zayıf yönlerini, o maçtan alınmak istenen puanı, maçın iç sahada veya deplasmanda olması gibi durumlar göz önüne alınarak hesaplanmalıdır. Bir diğer taraftan, skor maç içindeki stratejileri her an değiştirebilir. Her takıma karşı ve her skorda aynı strateji ile oynamak; yani topa sahip olarak strateji planlamak doğru olmayabilir. Genel olarak güçlü takımlara karşı iyi savunma yaparak daha direk bir oyun planlaması doğruyken, daha zayıf takımlara karşı top hâkimiyeti üstünlüğü olacağı için buna yönelik çalışmalar yapılabilir. Teknik analizlerde çıkan sonuçlara bakıldığında hazırlık, resmi, puan alınan ve alınamayan maçların tamamında rakibe karşı topa daha fazla sahip olarak oynadığımız ortaya çıkmıştır. Buda her maçta aynı stratejiyle oynadığımızı göstermektedir. Genel şartlar doğru değerlendirilip her maça uygun farklı stratejilerin geliştirilmesi başarıyı arttırabilir.

Fiziksel parametrelere bakıldığında hazırlık maçlarında toplam mesafede rakip takımlar 118746 metre ortalama koşarken, Türkiye Milli Takımı'nın koşu mesafesinin 109313 metre olduğu görülmüştür. Resmi maçlara bakıldığında bu rakam 115000 metreyi geçmiş ve rakiplerle aynı seviyeye ulaşmıştır. Puan alınmayan maçlardaki toplam koşu mesafelerine bakıldığında rakiplerle olan fark 10000 metre daha az olduğu saptanmıştır. Puan alınan maçlardaki fark sadece 2000 metre olduğu ölçülmüştür. Bu değerlere bakıldığında Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın puan alabilmesi için en az rakipleri kadar toplam koşu mesafesini yakalaması gerektiği söylenebilir. Ancak futbol, ağırlıklı olarak %90'ı aerobik iken anaerobik bölümü %10 dur. Futbolda skoru belirleyecek olan hareketler bu %10'luk bölümdür. Bu yüzden toplam koşu mesafesi kadar 24 km'nin üstünde kat ettiği mesafe (sprint mesafesi) ve 21 km ile 24 km arasında aldığı (yüksek hızda aldığı mesafe) mesafeleri de göz önünde bulundurmak gerekmektedir. 24 km'nin üstünde kat edilen mesafede

hazırlık maçlarında rakiplerle fark yokken, resmi maçlarda Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın koşu mesafesi yaklaşık 400 metre daha fazladır. Puan alınan maçlarda 24 km'nin üstünde rakiplerden 200 metre daha fazla koşu mesafesi var iken bu rakam puan alınamayan maçlarda eşittir. Yine 21 km ile 24 km hız arasında hazırlık ve resmi maçlarda bir fark görünmez iken puan kaybettiğimiz maçlarda rakiplere oranla daha az, puan kazandığımız maçlarda ise rakipten daha yüksek mesafe koşulduğu görülmüştür. Buradan yola çıkarak Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın yüksek yoğunluktaki koşu mesafeleri rakiplerine göre daha iyi olduğunda puan kazandığı belirlenmiştir.

Hazırlık maçlarında toplam koşu mesafelerinde bu kadar farkın olması sadece fiziksel olarak hazır olma durumu ile açıklanamıyabilir. Bunun psikolojik olarak hazır olma durumundan kaynaklı olduğu da düşünülebilir. Çünkü resmi oynanan maçlarda daha yüksek tempoda oynaya bilen ve en az rakipler kadar koşabilen bir Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı görülmüştür. Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın puan kazanamadığı maçlardaki mesafe, hazırlık maçlarında rakiplerle olan toplam koşu mesafesi farkına yakındır. Türkiye SporToto Süper ligi Avrupa ligleri ile karşılaştırıldığında toplam koşu mesafesi olarak lig ortalamaları arasında 8 ila 10 bin metre arasında düşüktür. Ligler arasındaki bu fark Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı ve rakipler arasındaki toplam koşu mesafesi farkına yakın olduğu görülmüştür. Sonuç olarak, liglerin fiziksel olarak zorluk derecesi Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın başarısını etkilemiş olabilir.

Buna ek olarak, FIFA'nın Milli Takımlar maç takvimine göre, Milli Takımlar 4 veya 5 gün içerisinde 2 maç oynayabilir. Bu da rakiplerden fiziksel olarak geride olan Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı oyuncularının ilk maçtan sonra; ikinci maç için fiziksel ve zihinsel olarak hazır olma durumlarını negatif etkileyebilir. Bu probleme çözüm olarak, gelişen teknoloji ile beraber liglerde oynanan bütün maçların fiziksel parametre sonuçları kaydedilebilir ve ligde oynayan bütün oyuncuların tüm sezon boyunca fiziksel değerleri ortaya çıkarılabilir. Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı oyuncu seçimlerinde bu verileri kullanarak uluslararası düzeyde mücadele edebilecek oyuncuları seçebilir ve fiziksel olarak daha güçlü bir takım kurulabilir.

Başka bir çözüm yolu ise, Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'ndaki oyuncuların fiziksel performanslarını yükseltebilmek için Türkiye SporToto Süper Liginin kalitesini arttırmak veya daha üst seviyedeki Avrupa liglerine daha fazla oyuncu

göndermek olabilir. 2015 – 2016 sezonunda ilk defa uygulanacak yeni yabancı kuralı; Türk Liginin kalitesini arttırabilmek için yapılan bir uygulamadır. Amaçlanan hedef, yüksek kalitede yabancı oyuncuların ligde yer almasını sağlamakla beraber bir rekabet ortamı oluşturularak Türk oyuncularının daha fazla kendini geliştirmesini sağlamaktır.

Bu çalışmada Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nda oynayan futbolcuların oynama pozisyonuna göre fitness parametreleri hazırlık – resmi ve puan alınan – alınmayan maçlar için analiz edilmiştir. Kalecilerin fitness parametre sonuçlarına bakıldığında sprint ve yüksek şiddette katedilen mesafe parametreleri yok denecek kadar azdır. Buna dayanarak kaleciler için yapılan antrenmanlarda yüksek şiddette koşuların yapılmaması önerilebilir.

Defans oyuncuların hazırlık ve resmi maçlardaki toplam mesafelerine bakıldığında bir fark görülmemiştir. Ancak puan kaybedilen maçlarda neredeyse ortalama bin metre daha fazla koştuklar görülmüştür. Bunun iki nedeni olabilir. Birincisi rakip takımların hücum oyuncularının daha hareketli olmaları veya maç sonucuna bağlı olarak Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın kazanmak için risk alarak hücuma daha fazla oyuncu ile gitmesinden kaynaklanmış olabilir. Daha fazla oyuncu ile hücum yapıldığında, takım halinde savunma yapmak zorlaşır ve defans oyuncuları daha fazla mesafe kat etmiş olabilir. Defans oyuncularının sprint mesafesi ve yüksek şiddetteki mesafelerine bakıldığında yukardaki nedenlere bağlı olarak hazırlık ve resmi maçlarda fark yokken, puan alınamayan maçta yine daha fazla mesafe kat ettikleri görülmektedir.

Bek oyuncuların toplam mesafelerine bakıldığında bir fark görülmemiştir. Sprint mesafesi ve yüksek şiddette katedilen mesafelerin analizi yapıldığında defans oyuncularındaki benzer sonuçlar bek oyuncularında da görülmektedir. Sprint mesafesi ve yüksek şiddette katedilen mesafeler incelendiğinde yine puan alınmayan maçlarda en yüksek koşu mesafesine ulaşılmıştır. Bu sonuçlar aynı bölgede olmalarına rağmen defans oyuncularından daha fazla olduğu görülmüştür. Bunun nedeni bek oyuncularının savunma sorumlulukları olduğu gibi hücumda da sorumlulukları olduğu içindir. Kendi kulvarlarında sahanın tamamını kullanmak zorunda oldukları için defans oyuncularından daha fazla yüksek şiddette koşu mesafelerine sahip oldukları söylenebilir.

Ortasaha oyuncularına bakıldığında toplam mesafeleri arasında bir fark saptanmamıştır. Ancak çok büyük farklar olmamasına rağmen bu mevkii diğer mevkilere göre en çok mesafe kat eden bölgedir. Hazırlık ve resmi maçlardaki yüksek şiddette katedilen mesafelerine bakıldığında resmi maçlarda daha az mesafe kat ettikleri ölçülmüştür. Aynı sonuçlar sprint mesafesinde de bulunmuştur. Puan alınan ve alınamayan maçlar karşılaştırıldığında ise orta saha oyuncularının fazla fark olmamakla beraber puan kaybedilen maçlarda sprint mesafesi ve yüksek şiddette katettikleri mesafeler daha fazladır. Bu farklılık maçlardaki skoru değiştirmek için daha fazla çaba göstermekten kaynaklanmış olabilir. Skor yapmaya çalışmak, skoru korumaktan daha fazla fiziksel performans gerektirdiği için bu sonuçlara ulaşılmış olabilir.

Kanat oyuncuların toplam kat ettikleri mesafelerine bakıldığında bir fark bulunamamıştır. Sprint mesafesi ve yüksek şiddette katettikleri mesafeler hazırlık, resmi ve puan alınan alınmayan maçlarda birbirine çok yakın çıkmıştır. Diğer mevkilere bakıldığında kanat oyuncularının beklerin ve forvet oyuncularının yüksek tempoda daha fazla mesafe kat ettikleri görülmektedir. Buna bağlı olarak yapılan antrenmanlar bu analizde çıkan sonuçlar doğrultusunda mevkilerin fiziksel ihtiyaçlarını karşılayacak şekilde planlanması gerektiğini göstermektedir.

Forvet oyuncularının fitness değerleri incelendiğinde toplam mesafeleri tüm maçlarda benzerdir. Ancak, sprint mesafesi ve yüksek şiddette katettikleri mesafeler hazırlık maçlarında fazladır. Bu sonuç, hazırlık maçlarında oynayan oyuncuların kadroya yeni girmiş olması ve kendilerini ispat etme çabalarından kaynaklanacağı gibi hazırlık maçlarında çok sayıda oyuncunun oyuna dâhil olması bu sonucu doğurmuş olabilir. Puan alınan maçlarda sprint mesafesi ve yüksek şiddette katettikleri mesafeler daha azdır. Puan alınmayan maçlarda forvet oyuncuları skoru değiştirmek için daha fazla çaba göstermiş olabilirler ve bu farklılık ortaya çıkmış olabilir.

Bu sonuçlara bakıldığında futbolcuların oyun pozisyonlarına göre farklı fitness parametrelerine sahip olduğu görülmektedir. Her oyun pozisyonu için farklı antrenman programlarının uygulanması bu futbolcuların fitness parametrelerini geliştirmesine yardımcı olabilir.

Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın Son Yedi Şampiyonadaki Durumu

2002 FIFA Dünya Kupası Eleme turuna Avrupa'dan katılan mili takımlar beş torbaya ayrılmıştır. Türkiye kuralara ikinci torbadan katılmıştır. Buda FIFA sıralamasına göre grupta Türkiye'nin üstünde sadece bir takım olduğunu göstermektedir. Grup maçlarında birinci olan takım turnuvaya direk katılırken 2. olan takım eleme maçı oynayacağı için 2. torbadan eleme grubuna katılmak bir avantaj olarak kabul edilebilir. Rakiplerle oynanan maçlarda içerde kazanılıp deplasmanda berabere kalındığında; takımların grupta 1. veya 2. olma olasılığı yükselmektedir. Grup maçlarına bakıldığında Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı, deplasmanda kazandığı 13 puan ve içerde kazandığı 8 puan ile eleme grubunu ikinci olarak bitirmiştir. Avusturya ile içerde ve dışarda yaptığı eleme maçlarının sonucuna göre 2002 FIFA Dünya Kupasına katılmaya hak kazanmıştır. Türkiye Milli Takımı grup maçlarında sadece bir maçta yenilgi almış olup diğer dokuz maçta puan almayı başarmıştır. Atılan ve yenilen gollere bakıldığında deplasmanda sadece iki gol yerken içerde 6 gol yenmiştir. Türkiye Milli Takımı içerde oynanan maçlarda hücum futbolu oynayarak daha fazla kazanmaya odaklanmış olabilir. Milli Takımın deplasmanda daha kontrollü, gol yememeye odaklı savunma ağırlıklı bir taktikle oynadığı düşünülebilir. Ancak içerde hücum futbolu oynayarak kazanılan 8 puan varken deplasmanda 13 puan kazanılmıştır. Buda içerde oynana maçlarda, önce savunma güvenliğini sağlamak ve gol yememek daha doğru bir strateji olabilir. Atılan gollerin dakikaya göre dağılımına bakıldığında toplamda ikinci yarıda daha fazla gol atılmış ve yenilmiştir. Ancak Milli Takım'ın evinde oynadığı maçlarda ilk ve ikinci yarıda atılan gol sayısı aynıyken, deplasmanda ikinci yarıda bir gol yemiş ve altı gol atmıştır. Deplasmanda oynanan maçlarda rakipler her geçen dakika hem taktiksel hem de oyuncu değişiklikleri yaparak skoru kendi lehlerine çevirmek için çaba sarfettikleri söylenebilir. Dolayısıyla savunma güvenliğini bırakarak daha fazla risk aldıkları düşünülebilir. Sonuç olarak Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı deplasmanda oynanan maçlarda rakiplerine karşı iyi savunma yaparak ikinci yarılarda rakibin risk almasından yararlanarak daha fazla gol bulduğu söylenebilir.

2002 eleme turunda oynayan oyuncuların analizi yapıldığında yirmi dokuz oyuncunun kadroda yer aldığı görülmüştür. Bunların 22'si yurt içinde ve 7 tanesi yurt dışında oyanayan futbolculardır. Futbolcuların yaş ortalamalarının 26, millik ortalamalarının 26, diğer milli takımlarda oynama ortalamalarının 20 ve profesyonel

kariyerlerinin 5.7 sene olduğu görülmüştür. Bu oyuncuların 20 tanesi 2002 FIFA Dünya Kupasında yer almıştur. Bu oyuncuların on ikisi Türkiye'den sekizi ise yurt dışından Milli Takım'a katılmışlardır. Eleme turunda görev alan 29 oyuncudan daha tecrübeli olanlarının FIFA Dünya Kupasına seçildiği ortalamalarda görülmüştür.

Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı, 2002 FIFA Dünya Kupasında grupta 4 puan toplayarak averajla ilk on altı takım arasına girmiştir. Oynanan elemeli maçlarda başarılı olarak Dünya üçüncüsü olmuştur. Fakat oynanan maçlarda güçlü Avrupa ülkelerine ve Güney Amerika ülkeleriyle karşılaşmadığı görülse de rakipleri olan takımlar bahsedilen Avrupa ve Güney Amerika ülkelerini eleyerek rakip olmuşlardır. Tecrübeli bir teknik direktörün yanında iki antrenörden birisi ilk defa antrenörlük yaparken, diğeri on iki senelik profesyonel takımlarda antrenörlük yapmıştır.

2008 UEFA Avrupa Şampiyonası eleme turunda yedi torba bulunmaktadır. Türkiye 2. torbada yer almıştır. Türkiye içerde 13, deplasmanda 11 olmak üzere toplam 24 puan toplamıştır. Yine grubu ikinci bitirmiş ama değişen kurallarla beraber eleme maçları oynamadan, şampiyonaya direk katılma hakkı kazanmıştır. Eleme maçlarında toplamda 25 gol atmış ve 11 gol yemiştir. Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın gol istatistiklerine bakıldığında içerde ve dışarda hücum futbolu oynayan, özellikle son 30 dakikada 13 gol atmış ve hiç gol yememiş olması, rakiplerinden fiziksel olarak daha iyi durumda olduğunu göstermektedir.

2008 UEFA Avrupa Şampiyonasında ilk defa takımlar kura için torbalara alfabetik sıraya göre ayrılmıştır. Bundan dolayı Türkiye Mili Takımı son torbada yer almıştır. Grupta oynadığı maçlarda altı puan toplayarak çeyrek finale çıkmaya hak kazanmıştır. Çeyrek finalde Hırvatistanı' penaltılarla eleyerek yarı finale kalmış ve üçüncü olmuştur.

Başarılı olunan 2002 ve 2008 eleme maçlarında Türkiye Milli Takımı oyuncularının yaşları, millikleri, diğer milli takımlardaki deneyimleri ve profesyonel kariyerlerinin birbirine çok yakın olduğu görülmeketdir. Aynı şekilde oluşturulan teknik kadroların başarıları ve deneyimleri de birbirine yakındır. 2002 FIFA Dünya Kupası ve 2008 UEFA Avrupa Şampiyonaları eleme maçlarında Türkiye Milli Takımı 9 maçta puan almış ve sadece bir maçta puan alamamıştır. Bu yönden de sonuçlar iki turnuvada benzerlik göstermektedir. Atılan yenilen gol farklarının hepsi yüzde olarak hesaplandığında ilginç bir şekilde neredeyse aynı rakamlara ulaşılmaktadır.

Bundan çıkarılacak sonuç, Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nın eleme maçlarında başarılı olarak şampiyonalara katılması için deneyimli bir Türk Teknik direktör ve ekibinin bir araya getirilmesi, en fazla bir maçta yenilerek kalan diğer maçlarda puan alınması, atılan ve yenilen goller arasında iki kat ve daha fazla fark olması gerektiği görülmektedir.

2002 yılından 2014 yılına kadar olan sürede katılamadığımız turnuvalara bakıldığında, oyuncuların profesyonel geçmişleri ve diğer milli takımlardaki millilik sayıları ortalamalarında önemli bir fark yokken, 2004 ve 2006 yıllarındaki futbolcu kadrolarının 28,5 yaş ortalamasına çıktığı, ilk 11de oynayan oyuncuların yaşının ilerlediği, millik ortalamalarına bakıldığında ise otuzun üstünde olduğu görülmüştür. 2010-12 ve 2014 yıllarında yaş ortalamaları 26-27 iken efer futbolcuların millik ortalamalarının düşük olduğu belirlenmiştir. Bu sonuçlara bakıldığında, Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'ndaki futbolcuların millilikleri yüksek ve daha yaşlı olduğunda, ya da milliği düşük ve daha genç olduğunda turnuvalara katılamadığı görülmüştür. Şampiyonalardaki Türkiye Milli takımı'nın hem yaş ortalamaları 26-27, millik ortalamaları ise 30 ve üstündedir.

2002 FIFA Dünya Kupası ve 2008 UEFA Avrupa Şampiyonalarında başarı kazanan teknik adamlar ve ekipleri ile bir sonraki turnuvalarda başarılı olamamışlardır. Kariyerli bir yabancı teknik direktörde Milli Takımda görev almış ancak oda başarılı olamamıştır. Başarılı olmak birçok faktöre bağlı olduğu için sadece hocaların kariyerlerinin yanı sıra farklı faktölerinde incelenmesi gerekmektedir.

2002 FIFA Dünya Kupası'nda bu yana atılan, yenilen goller ve puanlara incelendiğinde, Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı 2004 ve 2006 yıllarında başarılı olunan yıllardaki ortalamaları yakalayarak gruptan 2. olarak çıkmayı başarmış ancak eleme maçlarını geçememiştir. 2010 -2012 ve 2014 yıllarında alınan puanların, atılan ve yenilen gol ortalamalarının ise çok düşük olduğu belirlenmiştir. Bu sonuçlara rağmen 2012 FIFA Dünya Kupası eleme maçlarında gruptan 2. olarak çıkarak eleme maçı oynamaya hak kazanmış ancak Milli Takım elenmiştir.

Türkiye Milli Takımlar Teknik Direktörleri'nin Görüşleri

Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı'nda çalışan Teknik Direktörler ile yapılan görüşmelerden çıkan sonuçlara göre Milli Takımın zayıf yönleri güçlü yönlerine

oranla daha fazladır. Teknik direktörlere göre Milli Futbolcular güçlü milli duygular ile hareket edebilen, zor durumlarda birbirleriyle kenetlenen bir yapıya sahipler. Ancak bu başarıyı getirmiyor. Milli Takım Teknik Direktörlerine göre; Milli Takımda yer alan futbolcular profesyönel değiller, düşük kalite futbolcu profiline sahipler ve eğitimsizler. Bu çıkan sonuçlar futbolcuların teknik, taktik, fiziksel ve psikolojik olarak eğitimlerinin yeterli olmadığını ortaya koymaktadır. Buna ek olarak oyuncuların zayıf yönlerinin başlıca nedenleri şu şekilde sıralanmıştır: sürekli değişen bir teknik ekibin olması, oyuncu eğitim sisteminin olmaması, okul müfredatı sorunları, alt yapı yetersizliği ve medyanın baskısı.

Bu nedenlere bağlı olarak daha profesyonel, teknik, taktik, fiziksel ve psikolojik olarak daha güçlü sporcular (futbolcular) yetiştirebilmesi için profesyonel takımların alt yapılarına akademiler kurulması gereklidir. Bunun için çok büyük yatırımlarla beraber devlet desteği alınması gerekmektedir. Öncelikle akademilerde eğitim kalitesi, standardı ve tesis yeterliliğini sağlamak için stratejik bir plan yapılmalıdır. Türkiye'deki akademilerin tesisleri incelendiğinde sadece %10'u iyi durumdadır, ve kalan %90'ı atıl ve geliştirilmeye muhtaç durumdadır. Sonra bu akademilerde görev alacak teknik ekip ve diğer teknik elemanların eğitilmesi sağlanmalıdır. Bunlar yapıldıktan sonra akademilerin kontrolü ve geliştirilmesi için her sene denetlenmesi sağlanmalıdır.

Sadece akademileri kurmak ve oyunculara futbol eğitimi vermek yeterli değildir. Okul eğitim sisteminde hem müfredatta hem de ders saatlerinde değişiklik yapılması gerekmektedir. Türkiye'deki okul eğitim sisteminde sabahtan öğleden sonraya kadar oyuncular okulda kalıyorlar. Bundan dolayı, oyuncular ya okul eğitimini ya da futbolu seçmek zorunda bırakılıyor. Bunların değişerek akademilerin ve okulun birarada işbirliği içerisinde çalışması sağlanmalıdır. Bunun için ders saatlerinin azaltılması okulun öğlene kadar olması gerekmektedir. Diğer bir çözüm ise hem okul eğitiminin hemde futbol eğitiminin verildiği okullar kurmaktır. Bu okullarda sporculara uygun ders saatleri ve müfredatla beraber futbol eğitimlerini almaları sağlanabilir. Ayrıca akademilerde kulüp aile işbirliği sağlanarak sporcuların doğru yönlendirilmesi için ailelerin eğitilmesi gerekmektedir.

Çalışmaya katılan Teknik Direktörlerin üzerinde durduğu bir diğer konu ise antrenör eğitiminin önemidir. Teknik Direktörler alt yapılarda görev yapan antrenörlerin, verilen antrenör eğitiminin yetersiz olmasından dolayı, oyuncuların

gelişimine katkıda bulunamadıklarını düşünmektedirler. Bunun nedeni, Türkiye Futbol Federasyonu'ndaki kadroların hem teknik ekip hem de idari ekip olarak çok sık değişmesinden kaynaklı olarak eğitim standartlarının oluşturulması ve geliştirilmesinde sıkıntı yaşanması olduğu düşünülebilir. Aynı zamanda, antrenör eğitim kursları müfredatlarının gelişen futbolla beraber değiştirilmemesi, ve gerçek hayattaki antrenör ihtiyaçlarına cevap veremiyor olmasından kaynaklı olabilir. Gelecekte Türkiye Milli Takımların da oynayacak futbolcuların teslim edileceği antrenörler yetiştirilirken, yeterlilik kriterlerinin daha keskin olması ve uygulanması sağlanmalıdır. Gelişen ve değişen futbol ihtiyaçlarını karşılayabilmek için kursların süresinin uzatılması, müfredatın ve eğitim yöntemlerinin değiştirilmesi gerekebilir

Öneriler

Bu çalışmada çıkan sonuçlara göre; gelecek çalışmalar için şu öneriler verilmiştir: 1) futbol antrenman programlarının içinde farklı fitness programları uygulanarak futbolcuların fiziksel özelliklerinin geliştirilmesi sağlanabilir, 2) karşılaştırmalı çalışmalar yapılarak Türkiye Milli Futbol Takımı ve başarı ülkelerin Milli Takımları arasındaki farklar ortaya konulabilir, 3) Brezilya, İtalye ve Almaya gibi başarı futbol ekollerine sahip ülkelerin eğitim sistemleri, antrenman programaları, futbolcu gelişim programları incelenerek başarılı olma nedenleri araştırılabilir, 4) sadece teknik direktörlerin değil, Türk Milli Takımı'nda aktif olarak oynayan futbolcularında görüşleri alınarak, başarılı olmak için çözüm yolları bulunabilir, 5) medyanın ve kamu oyunun Milli Takım üzerindeki etkisi araştırılabilir, 6) ev sahibi olunan ve deplasmanda oynan maçlardaki Milli Takım'ın performansı karşılaştırabilir. Çalışmadan çıkan sonuçlara göre; teknik direktörler, oyuncular ve alanda görev alan profesyöneller içinde şu öneriler yapılmıştır: 1) antrenman programları uygulanırken, futbol takımlarının teknik ve fitness verileri incelenmeli ve eldeki verilere göre antrenman programları hazırlanmalıdır, 2) futbol oyuncularının oynadığı pozisyona göre özel antrenman programları hazırlanmalı ve uygulanmalıdır, 3) futbol oyuncularının tüm sezon boyunca performansları incelenmeli ve Türkiye Milli Takımına oyuncu seçilirken bu veriler göz önünde bulundurulmalıdır, 4) milli maçlardaki gol atılma dakikaları genelde maçın sonuna doğru olduğu için futbolcuların fitness seviyelerini maçın sonuna kadar korumaları gerekmektedir, 5) milli takımın farklı kademelerindeki (U 21, U 16, U 14 gibi)

oyuncu sayıları ve oyuncu kalitesi artırılmalıdır. Böyle A Milli Takıma oyuncu seçmek için büyük bir havuz oluşturulabilir, 6) teknik direktörlerin ve futbolcuların katılabileceği mesleki gelişim program sayısı artırılmalıdır, 7) Türk kültürüne uygun bir futbol ekolünün oluşturulması gerekmektedir, ve 8) futbol eğitimi, oyuncu gelişimi, antrenör eğitimi için belli standardlar oluşturulması ve uygulanması gerekmektedir.

APPENDIX B. GÖNÜLLÜ KATILIM FORMU

Bu çalışma, Beden Eğitimi Bölümü Doktora Öğrencisi Ömür Serdal Altunsöz'ün Doktora tezi kapsamında olan bir çalışmadır. Çalışmanın amacı, Türkiye Futbol Milli Takımın'ın Dünya Kupası ve Avrupa Şampiyonalarındaki performansının değerlendirilmesidir. Çalışmaya katılım tamimiyle gönüllülük temelinde olmalıdır. Çalışma süresince, sizden kimlik belirleyici hiçbir bilgi istenmemektedir. Cevaplarınız tamimiyle gizli tutulacak ve sadece araştırmacılar tarafından değerlendirilecektir; elde edilecek bilgiler bilimsel yayımlarda kullanılacaktır.

Çalışma sırasında yarı yapılandırılmış görüşme yöntemi kullanılacak ve sizlere görüşme soruları sorulacaktır. Bu sorular genel olarak kişisel rahatsızlık verecek herhangi bir ayrıntı içermemektedir. Ancak, katılım sırasında sorulardan ya da herhangi başka bir nedenden ötürü kendinizi rahatsız hissederseniz çalışmayı yarıda bırakıp çıkmakta serbestsiniz. Böyle bir durumda çalışmada sorumlu kişiye, çalışmadan ayrılmak istediğinizi söylemek yeterli olacaktır. Çalışmanın veri toplama aşamasının sonunda, bu çalışmayla ilgili sorularınız cevaplanacaktır. Bu çalışmaya katıldığınız için şimdiden teşekkür ederiz. Çalışma hakkında daha fazla bilgi almak için ODTÜ Beden Eğitimi ve Spor Bölümü Başkanı prof. Dr. Settar Koçak'tan (Tel: 0312 210 40 16 E-posta: settar@metu.edu.tr) ya da çalışmayı gerçekleştiren Ömür Serdal Altunsöz ile (e-posta: omuraltunsoz@tff.org) ile iletişim kurabilirsiniz.

Bu çalışmaya tamamen gönüllü olarak katılıyorum ve istediğim zaman yarıda kesip çıkabileceğimi biliyorum. Verdiğim bilgilerin bilimsel amaçlı yayımlarda kullanılmasını kabul ediyorum. (Formu doldurup imzaladıktan sonra uygulayıcıya geri veriniz).

İsim Soyad   Tarih   İmza
       ----/----/-----

APPENDIX C. CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Surname, Name:	Altunsöz, Ömür Serdal
Nationality:	Turkish (TC)
Date and Place of Birth:	24 May1976, Ankara
Marital Status:	Married
email:	omurserdalaltunsoz@yahoo.com

EDUCATION

Degree	Institution	Year of Graduation
MS	METU Physical Education and Sports Department	2007
BS	METU Physical Education and Sports Department	2002
High School	Cumhuriyet Lisesi, Ankara	1993

WORK EXPERIENCE

Year	Place	Enrollment
2010-Present	Turkish Football Federation	Physical Performance Coach
2002-2010	Professional Turkish Leagues	Match Analyst
2002-2005	Ministry of National Education	Physical Education Teacher
1999-2002	Football Schools & Amateur Teams	Football Coach

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

English

APPENDIX D. TEZ FOTOKOPİSİ İZİN FORMU

ENSTİTÜ

Fen Bilimleri Enstitüsü ☐

Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü ☒

Uygulamalı Matematik Enstitüsü ☐

Enformatik Enstitüsü ☐

Deniz Bilimleri Enstitüsü ☐

YAZARIN

Soyadı : Altunsöz
Adı   : Ömür Serdal
Bölümü : Beden Eğitimi ve Spor Bölümü

TEZİN ADI : Analysis of Turkey National Football Team's Performance During Fifa World Cups and Uefa European Championships

TEZİN TÜRÜ : Yüksek Lisans ☐   Doktora ☒

1. Tezimin tamamından kaynak gösterilmek şartıyla fotokopi alınabilir. ☒

2. Tezimin içindekiler sayfası, özet, indeks sayfalarından ve/veya bir bölümünden kaynak gösterilmek şartıyla fotokopi alınabilir. ☒

3. Tezimden bir bir (1) yıl süreyle fotokopi alınamaz. ☐