

# Special aspects of transferring the ball by Leicester City players in the matches of the 2015–2016 Premier League season

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**Purpose:** to reveal quantitative and qualitative indicators of transferring the ball by Leicester City players in the matches of the 2015–2016 Premier League season.

**Material & Methods:** analysis of scientific and methodological literature, registration of technical and tactical actions (transfer of the ball), methods of mathematical statistics. It carried out a study of competitive activity command "Leicester City" – the champion of Premier League season 2015–2016.

**Results:** quantitative and qualitative indicators of transferring the ball by Leicester City players in the matches of the 2015–2016 Premier League season are presented.

**Conclusion:** as a result of the research of the Leicester City team transferring the ball in games that ended in victory, draw and defeat of significant differences were not revealed. Differences in some quantitative and qualitative indicators of transferring the ball in home and away games, in games of the first and second round of the championship.

**Keywords:** transferring the ball, defense zone, middle zone, attack zone, transfers to a short distance, transfers to a long distance.

## Introduction

The solution of the problem of increasing the effectiveness of attacking actions in football primarily involves studying the features of building a game in attack by the leading teams of the world [1; 3; 4; 10].

Analysis of the attacking actions of teams of different qualifications is devoted to the study of many domestic [1; 2; 4; 7; 8; 11] and foreign [12; 13; 14–16] specialists.

The research of quantitative and qualitative indicators of transferring the ball in the games of teams of different qualifications is devoted to the work of many specialists [2; 4–7; 9].

According to many experts, passing the ball is the main means of playing the game for the world's leading teams. Their approximate contribution to the amount of the TTA is 56–60%. Marriage in the performance of short and medium forward transferring should not be more than 20%, back and across – 10%; when performing long transferring, the marriage must not exceed 30–45%.

## The purpose of the research

To reveal quantitative and qualitative indicators of transferring the ball by Leicester City players in the matches of the 2015–2016 Premier League season.

## Material and Methods of the research

A study was carried out of the competitive activities of the Leicester City team – the champion of England 2015–2016. Methods of research: analysis of scientific and methodo-

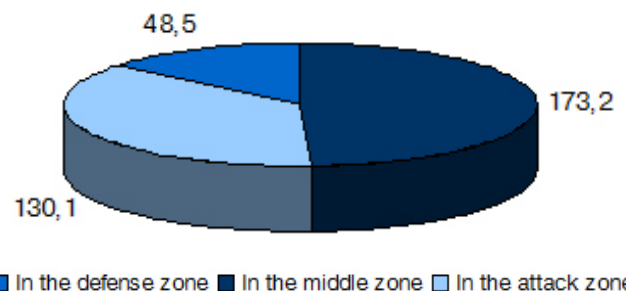
logical literature, registration of technical and tactical actions (transfer of the ball), methods of mathematical statistics.

## Results of the research and their discussion

Table 1 presents quantitative and qualitative indicators of the ball transfer performed in different zones of the football field by the players of the Leicester City team.

As a result of the study it was found that the players of the team on average for the game made  $351,8 \pm 10,9$  transfers of the ball with efficiency  $69,5 \pm 1,0\%$ .

In the defense zone,  $13,7 \pm 1,0\%$  of all ball transfers with efficiency  $87,1 \pm 1,2\%$ . In the middle zone, the players scored an average of  $48,9 \pm 0,9\%$  of all ball transfers with an efficiency coefficient  $73,2 \pm 1,1\%$ . In the attack zone,  $37,4 \pm 0,9\%$  of all ball transfers were performed with efficiency  $58,0 \pm 1,3\%$  (Fig. 1, 2).



**Fig. 1.** The ratio of the ball transfer in different zones of the football field of team Leicester City in the games of the champion of England 2015–2016

Table 1

Indicators of the ball transfer in different zones of the football field of the Leicester City team in the games of the championship of England 2015–2016

Indicators	All games (n=38)	Home Games (n=19)	Outgoing games (n=19)	First round (n=19)	Second round (n=19)	Victory (n=23)	Draws and defeats (n=15)
All transfers	351,8±10,9	369,8±15,7	333,8±14,5	329,2±12,7	374,5±16,5	354,9±12,8	347,1±20,1
Accuracy, %	69,5±1,0	71,7±1,4	67,3±1,4	68,3±1,5	70,7±1,4	69,9±1,2	68,9±1,8
Transfers in the defense zone	48,5±2,7	51,1±4,4	46,0±3,2	42,8±2,9	54,2±4,3	49,5±3,8	47,0±3,9
Specific weight, %	13,7±0,5	13,6±0,8	13,8±0,7	13,0±0,7	14,4±0,8	13,7±0,7	13,7±0,9
Accuracy, %	87,1±1,2	88,5±1,5	85,8±1,8	88,6±1,3	85,7±1,9	87,0±1,3	87,4±2,4
Transfers in the middle zone	173,2±6,8	188,2±9,1	158,3±9,1	162,2±9,2	184,3±9,6	173,7±7,6	172,5±13,1
Specific weight, %	48,9±0,9	50,7±1,0	47,1±1,3	48,8±1,4	49,0±1,1	48,8±0,9	49,1±1,7
Accuracy, %	73,2±1,1	74,6±1,6	71,8±1,5	72,0±1,8	74,4±1,3	73,9±1,2	72,1±2,2
Transfers in the attack zone	130,1±4,0	130,6±5,5	129,5±6,0	124,1±4,7	136,0±6,3	131,7±4,9	127,5±7,1
Specific weight, %	37,4±0,9	35,6±1,1	39,1±1,2	38,1±1,3	36,6±1,2	37,5±1,1	37,2±1,4
Accuracy, %	58,0±1,3	61,0±1,8	55,1±1,6	56,5±1,8	59,5±1,9	58,2±1,6	57,7±2,2

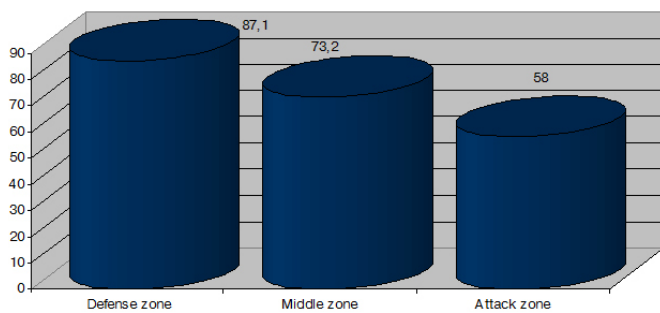


Fig. 2. Indicators of the effectiveness of ball transfers in different zones of the football field of the Leicester City team in the games of the championship of England 2015–2016

As a result of a comparative analysis of quantitative and qualitative indicators of the ball transfers in different zones of the Leicester City team field it was found that in home games the performance of the ball transfers was significantly higher ( $t=2,22$ ;  $p<0,05$ ), number of ball transfers in the middle zone ( $t=2,32$ ,  $p<0,05$ ), the effectiveness of ball transfers in the attack zone ( $t=2,45$ ;  $p<0,05$ ).

Comparative analysis of ball transfer command Leicester City shows that the total number of ball transfer was significantly greater in the first round of the Premier League ( $t=2,18$ ;  $p<0,05$ ), and the effectiveness of the ball transfer was significantly higher in the second round ( $t=2,20$ ;  $p<0,05$ ).

In turn, a comparative analysis of the indicators of the ball transfer in different zones of the football field of the Leicester City team in games that ended in victory, draw and defeat did not reveal significantly significant differences in the investigated parameters ( $p>0,05$ ).

Table 2 shows the performance of the ball transfer in different direction of the “Leicester City” team in the games of the championship of England 2015–2016.

So, as a result of the study it was found that the players of the Leicester City team on average played for the game performed 216,8±5,7 forward ball transfer, 81,4±3,8 – back and 53,6±2,1 – across the field (Fig. 3).

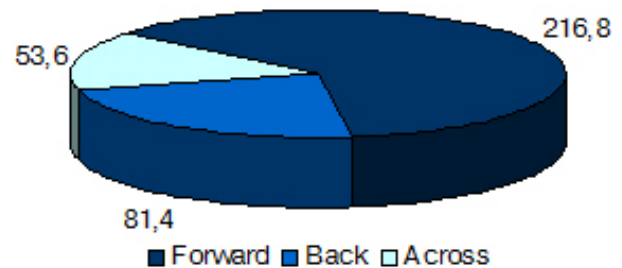


Fig. 3. The ratio of ball transfer in different direction, the team Leicester City in the games of the championship of England 2015–2016

As a result of the analysis of the effectiveness of the performance of ball transfers in different direction, it was found that the players of the Leicester City team handed the ball transfer forward with efficiency 59,2±1,2%, back – 94,7±0,4%, across the field – 75,2±1,1% (Fig. 4).

As a result of a comparative analysis of quantitative and qualitative indicators of the transfer of the ball to the team Leicester City it was found that in home games were significantly higher rates of effectiveness of the forward ball transfer ( $t=2,08$ ;  $p<0,05$ ), specific weight of back ball transfer ( $t=2,24$ ;  $p<0,05$ ), effectiveness of the back ball transfer ( $t=2,82$ ;  $p<0,01$ ).

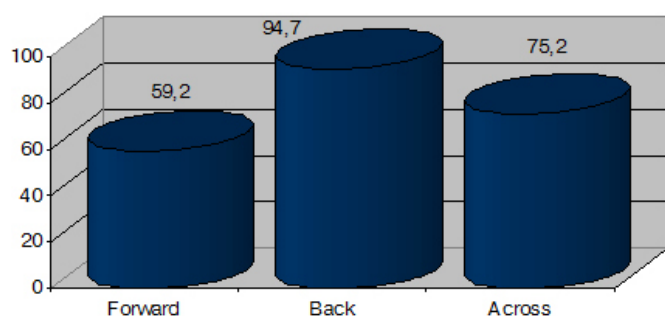
Comparative analysis of the indicators of the ball transfer of this team indicates that in the second round of the championship of England were significantly higher indicators of the number of forward ball transfers ( $t=2,41$ ;  $p<0,05$ ) and the effectiveness of ball transfers across the field ( $t=2,19$ ;  $p<0,05$ ).

In turn, a comparative analysis of the transfer of the ball, different in direction, the Leicester City team in games that ended in victory, draw and defeat, did not reveal significantly differences in the parameters studied ( $p>0,05$ ).

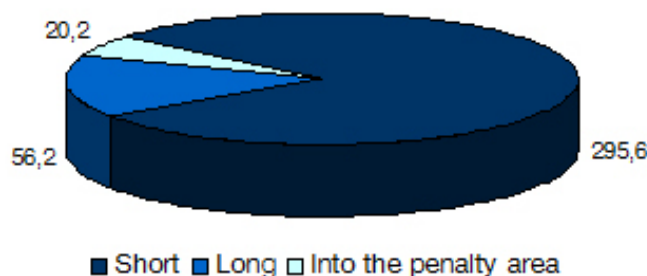
Table 3 shows the ball transfer in different distance, the team Leicester City in the games of the championship of England 2015–2016.

**Table 2**  
Indicators of the ball transfer in the different direction of the Leicester City team in the games of the championship of England 2015–2016

Indicators	All games (n=38)	Home Games (n=19)	Outgoing games (n=19)	First round (n=19)	Second round (n=19)	Victory (n=23)	Draws and defeats (n=15)
All transfers	351,8±10,9	369,8±15,7	333,8±14,5	329,2±12,7	374,5±16,5	354,9±12,8	347,1±20,1
Accuracy, %	69,5±1,0	71,7±1,4	67,3±1,4	68,3±1,5	70,7±1,4	69,9±1,2	68,9±1,8
Forward ball transfer	216,8±5,7	225,5±8,6	208,0±7,1	203,8±6,3	229,7±8,7	219,9±6,5	211,9±10,6
Specific weight, %	62,1±0,6	61,3±0,7	62,8±0,9	62,3±0,8	61,8±0,8	62,4±0,7	61,5±0,9
Accuracy, %	59,2±1,2	61,7±1,7	56,7±1,7	57,9±1,6	60,5±1,8	59,8±1,5	58,3±2,1
Back ball transfer	81,4±3,8	88,6±5,3	74,2±5,1	74,3±4,4	88,6±5,9	81,4±4,3	81,4±7,3
Specific weight, %	22,7±0,5	23,7±0,6	21,8±0,6	22,3±0,7	23,2±0,6	22,6±0,5	22,9±0,9
Accuracy, %	94,7±0,4	95,8±0,5	93,6±0,6	95,0±0,6	94,4±0,6	95,1±0,5	94,1±0,7
Across ball transfer	53,6±2,1	55,6±3,0	51,6±3,1	51,1±3,0	56,2±3,0	53,6±2,8	53,7±3,4
Specific weight, %	15,2±0,4	15,0±0,5	15,4±0,5	15,4±0,5	15,0±0,5	15,0±0,5	15,5±0,6
Accuracy, %	75,2±1,1	75,3±1,6	75,0±1,5	72,9±1,8	77,4±1,0	75,3±1,4	75,0±1,8



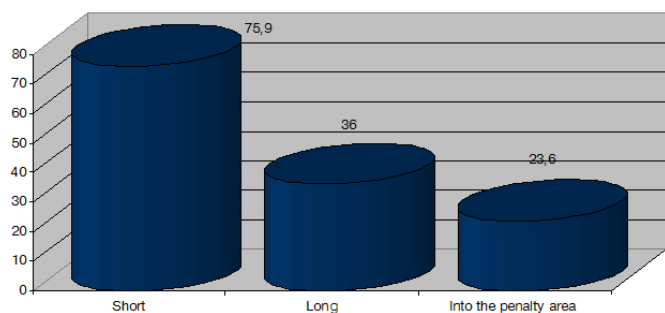
**Fig. 4.** Indicators of the effectiveness of the ball transfer in different direction, the team Leicester City in the games of the championship of England 2015–2016



**Fig. 5.** Ratio of the ball transfers in different distance, the team Leicester City in the games of the championship of England 2015–2016

So, as a result of the study it was found that the players of team Leicester City per game performed 295,6±10,6 short transfer of the ball, 56,2±1,2 – long transfer of the ball 20,2±1,2 – transfer the ball into the penalty area of the opposing team (Fig. 5).

Analysis of performance indicators for the implementation of ball transfers, different in distance, indicates that the players of the Leicester City team short transfers of the ball performed with efficiency 75,9±1,0%, long transfer of the ball – 36,0±1,4%, transfer the ball into the penalty area of the opposing team – 23,6±2,0% (Fig. 6).



**Fig. 6.** Indicators of the effectiveness of the ball transfers in different distance, the team Leicester City in the games of the championship of England 2015–2016

As a result of a comparative analysis of quantitative and qualitative indicators of the Leicester City team ball transfers, it was found that in home games there were significantly higher specific weight of short ball transfers and significantly lower specific weight of long ball transfers ( $t=2,80$ ;  $p<0,01$ ).

In addition, it was found that in the second round of the championship of England were significantly higher quantitative indicators of short ball transfers ( $t=2,12$ ;  $p<0,05$ ).

A comparative analysis of the indicators of the ball transfers in different distance, the Leicester City team in games that ended in victory, draw and defeat did not reveal any significant differences in the examined indicators ( $p>0,05$ ).

## Conclusions

1. Football players of the team, Leicester City on average for the game made 351,8±10.9 ball transfers with efficiency 69,5±1,0%.
2. Most of the ball transfers by the players of the Leicester City team was carried out in the middle zone of the football field – 48,9±0,9%. In the attack zone, 37,4±0,9% of all ball transfers were performed. In the defense zone, 13,7±1,0% of all ball transfers were performed.
3. Players of this team on average played 62,1±0,6% of the

Table 3

Indicators of the ball transfer in different distance, the team Leicester City in the games of the championship of England 2015–2016

Indicators	All games (n=38)	Home Games (n=19)	Outgoing games (n=19)	First round (n=19)	Second round (n=19)	Victory (n=23)	Draws and defeats (n=15)
All transfers	351,8±10,9	369,8±15,7	333,8±14,5	329,2±12,7	374,5±16,5	354,9±12,8	347,1±20,1
Accuracy, %	69,5±1,0	71,7±1,4	67,3±1,4	68,3±1,5	70,7±1,4	69,9±1,2	68,9±1,8
Short transfer of the ball	295,6±10,6	315,2±14,7	276,0±14,3	274,1±12,6	317,1±15,9	298,6±12,4	290,9±19,5
Specific weight, %	83,5±0,5	84,9±0,6	82,1±0,8	82,8±0,8	84,2±0,7	83,7±0,7	83,2±0,9
Accuracy, %	75,9±1,0	77,0±1,7	74,7±1,0	74,7±1,7	77,1±1,0	75,7±1,4	76,1±1,5
Long transfer of the ball	56,2±1,2	54,6±1,7	57,8±1,6	55,1±1,5	57,4±1,8	56,3±1,6	56,1±1,7
Specific weight, %	16,5±0,5	15,1±0,6	17,9±0,8	17,2±0,8	15,8±0,7	16,3±0,7	16,8±0,9
Accuracy, %	36,0±1,4	38,4±1,7	33,7±2,1	34,7±1,6	37,4±2,3	37,5±1,9	33,7±2,0
Transfer the ball into the penalty area	20,2±1,2	21,5±2,0	18,8±1,5	19,9±1,6	20,5±2,0	20,0±1,2	20,5±2,6
Specific weight, %	5,8±0,3	5,8±0,5	5,7±0,4	6,1±0,5	5,4±0,4	5,7±0,3	5,9±0,6
Accuracy, %	23,6±2,0	20,6±2,6	26,6±3,0	21,6±2,7	25,6±3,0	23,8±2,1	23,3±4,0

ball transfers forward, 22,7±0,5% – back and 15,2±0,4% – across the field.

4. In the games, the teams 83,5 ± 0,5% of all ball transfers were short and 16,5±0,5 – long.

5. As a result of a comparative analysis of the Leicester City

team ball transfers in games that ended in victory, draw and defeat, no significant differences were revealed ( $p>0,05$ ).

**Prospects for further research.** Further research will be devoted to studying the features of the competitive activities of the Leicester City team in the English Championship 2016–2017.

**Conflict of interests.** The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests.

**Financing sources.** This article didn't get the financial support from the state, public or commercial organization.

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Received: 25.04.2017.

Published: 30.06.2017.

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