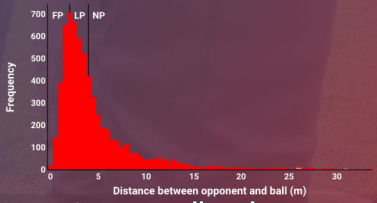
Pass performance under pressure

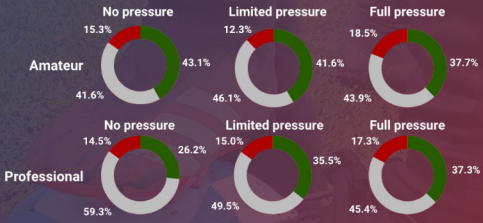
FORWARD FOOTBALL

Pass Pressure Levels (PPL): datamodel calculates 'pressure' per pass

The PPL data model has calculated the most common levels of 'pressure' based on 6900 passes. Here "pressure" is defined as "the distance from the nearest opponent to the ball on a pass". The pressure levels concern the distances 0-2 mtr, 2-4 mtr and 4 mtr>. We therefore know the pressure level of each pass.



The influence of 'pressure' on pass direction

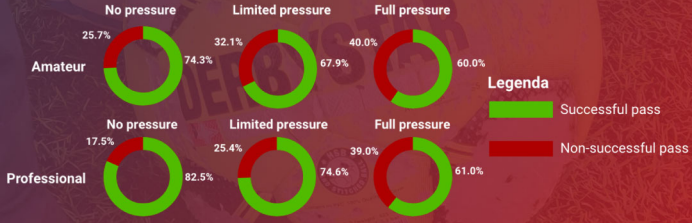


In the above pie charts we can see that amateurs play forward more often than youth players in the Pro academies, within this research.

In fact, with passes without pressure, Pro players choose a sideways or backward pass in more than 75% of the cases.
Do the Pro academies train players to play 'safely' above all?

We also see that as the pressure increases, the differences in the decisions of amateur and Pro players regarding pass direction, almost disappear.
For example, both groups of players opt for a forward pass in about 37% of the passes under high pressure.
It is striking that Pro players more often pass forward as the pressure increases and this percentage among amateur players decreases as the pressure increases.

The influence of 'pressure' on pass success



The pie charts show that the Pro players under lower pressure levels are more successful in the number of passes that arrive than the amateur players.
This may have to do with the fact that Pro players make safer choices, under these pressure levels.

Under the highest pressure, there are close differences between amateurs and Pro players when it comes to passing success.