

2024 K LEAGUE TECHNICAL REPORT

It was a memorable season that saw steady growth of the league with three million in paid attendance surpassed for the second season in a row. FC Seoul's half-million home attendance and Suwon Bluewings' passionate away support creating a new phenomenon, are great examples of K League's potential.

The battles for positions in the table were the most intense ever. Ulsan HD showed their credentials by overcoming a mid-season crisis and clinched their third-straight K League 1 title, while FC Anyang produced drama of their own by being crowned the champions of K League 2 to seal a long-awaited promotion to K League 1.

Some teams deserve attention as being dark horses. Gangwon FC and Gimcheon Sangmu joined the title race from the start of the season, surpassing expectations, which bodes well for next season. In K League 2, Chungnam Asan achieved an incredible feat by securing the runner-up spot, punching above their weight throughout the campaign.

In the same way that we have more fans coming to watch the games, the ways in which games are analyzed and broken down are becoming more scientific. In order to underpin this change, we have published the K League 2024 Technical Report which has compiled all match performance data, tactics, and strategies from the 2024 season.

We put together our analyses to look back on what have been the key features in various areas. We have also put video clips in at appropriate places to help you understand them better

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all people in K League from players and coaching staff to team officials for their efforts and commitment to be able to finish the 2024 season in style. I also would like to extend my thanks to fans for their continued support and unwavering love for K League.

I hope this report will help K League become a more scientific and a more interesting league with your continued support and interest moving forward. Best Regards,



President Kwon Oh-gap Korea Professional Football League

CONTENTS

	finition of Terminology for BEPRO11 DATA	02
TS	G 2024 K League TSG(Technical Study Group)	03
01	2024 K LEAGUE OVERVIEW	04
	THE STORY OF K LEAGUE 1 2024	06
	INTERVIEW Kim Pangon: Manager of Ulsan(K1 Champion)	18
	INTERVIEW Ryu Byeoghoon : Manager of Anyang(K2 Champion)	20
	TEAM OF THE YEAR	22
02	TALKING POINTS	28
	TOPIC 1 Position Change of Full-backs	30
	TOPIC 2 Growth Following Managerial Changes	31
	TOPIC 3 Varying Uses of a Back Three and Back Four	32
03	ANALYSIS	34
	GOAL SCORING	36
	SET PLAYS	40
	COUNTERATTACK	44
	PRESSING	48
	BUILD UP	52
	GOALKEEPING	56
04	TEAM PROFILES	58
	K League 1	60
	K League 2	72

Definition of Terminology for BEPRO11 DATA



- xG(eXpected Goals) | the possibility that a specific shot made can lead to a goal. This is determined by several variables like a location of shot from and an angle of shot made at, and where the connected pass was from.
- xGOT (eXpected Goals on Target) | Value refers to the probability that a shot on target leads to a goal. It is determined by the xG value and the goalmouth location of the shot, and only shots on target are included during the calculation process.
- * xT (eXpected Threat) | refers to the ability to deliver the ball to an area with a high probability of a goal being scored. The ball can be delivered in three ways: pass, dribble, and carry, and the field is divided into zones (21x18), giving each zone a scoring chance, and the area where the ball is delivered is subtracted from the area where the ball is delivered.
- Shot on Target | any shot attempt that; 1) scores a goal. 2) would have been a goal had it not been saved by the goalkeeper.
- Control Under Pressure | An action from a player to keep possession of the ball and get out of pressure from an opponent player.
- Sequence | A series of actions from taking the ball to losing the ball. It

- initiates from the possession of the ball and ends with losing the ball to a defending team, shooting, or the ball out of play.
- Shoot Sequence | A sequence that ends with a shoot.
- Goal Sequence | A sequence that ends with a goal.
- Key pass | Any final pass or cross that leads to a shot (excluding goals). If that final pass or cross leads to a goal, it is not only a key pass but also an assist.
- Final Third Pass | A pass started in the final third area of the pitch when divided into three equal spaces.
- Middle Third Pass | A pass started in the middle third area of the three equal spaces.
- Defensive Third Pass | A pass started in the defensive third area of the pitch. This is usually within your own half.
- Long Pass: a pass equals to or is longer than 30 metre.
- Medium Pass | A pass is longer than 15 metre and shorter than 30 metre.
 Short Pass: A pass equals to or is shorter than 15 metre.
- Forward Pass | A pass that travels forward within 60°.
- Sideway Pass | A pass that travels towards both sides within 120°.

- Back Pass | A pass that travels back toward their own goal within 60°.
- PPDA (Passes Per Defensive Action)
 | An indicator to measure the intensity
 of high pressure. This is calculated
 by a number of passes made by an
 attacking team divided by defensive
 actions within 60 % of the opponent's
 half from the goal line.
- Aerial duel | Two players challenge each other in the air to win the ball.
 Ground Duels : Two players challenge each other on the ground to win the neutral ball
- Tackles | A defensive action to dispossess an opponent by tackle and make them lose possession of the ball.
- Interceptions | When the opposing team tries to play the ball between their teammates but is intervened by one of your players and your team regains possession.
- **Blocks** | A defensive action to block passes, crosses, and shots and make the opponent lose possession of the ball.
- Clearances | A defensive action in which the player kicks or heads the ball away or out of play with no intention of finding a teammate.

2024 K League TSG(Technical Study Group)

Chief of K League TSG | KIM HO-YOUNG

Video Analyst | PARK JUN-WAN

LEE KYU-JUN	Manager of Jangan Univ. Member of KFA Technical Committee Manager of Janghoon U18
JUNG KYOUNG-GU	Professor, Dept of Sports Coaching, Jeonju Univ Technical Director of Korea Futsal League KFA Coaching Instructor
KIM DAE-HWAN	KFA full-time coach GK Coach of Korea U20 Team GK Coach of Suwon Samsung
BAEK YOUNG-CHUL	KFA Coaching Instructor Coach for Seoul E-Land Manager of Daegu FC U18
LEE JEONG-SOO	Assistant Manager of Suwon FC Coach for Ho Chi Minh City FC Coach for Dongguk Univ.

LEE PYUNG-JAE	Manager of Jeonnam Dragons U18 Scout for Jeonnam Dragons
CHOI MUN-SIK	Manager of Daejeon Citizen Coach for Korea U23 Team Manager of Kelantan FC
CHOI SEUNG-BUM	KFA Coaching Instructor Member of KFA TSG Member of AFC TSG
HYUN YOUNG-MIN	Manager of Ulsan HD U18 K League Commentator
JUNG JO-GOOK	Assistant Manager of Jeju Utd Coach for Korea National Team

02



March-April

Extraordinary Gimcheon, well-drilled Pohang



Key Gimcheon statistics (R1-9)

11.1xG compared to 14 goals scored

Most final third breakthroughs with 53

Top scorer in March, Kim Hyeon-ug



Key Pohang statistics (R1-9)

8.8xG compared to 13 goals scored

9 of 13 goals scored came after 70th minute

Fewest goals conceded

By the end of March and April, Gimcheon and Pohang had defied all expectations and found themselves at the top of K League 1.

First, Gimcheon, despite it being their first season back after promotion, showed remarkable performances. The tactical acumen of manager Chung Jung-yong, along with the creative play of key attacking midfield players such as Kim Dae-won, Kang Hyun-muk, and Kim Hyun-ug, stood out. Gimcheon exceeded expectations by scoring 14 goals, far surpassing their expected goals of 11.1xG thanks to clinical finishing. The players who had been working together for over a year to secure promotion, played a decisive role. Notably, "Sergeant Kim Hyun-ug" scored four goals in four matches in March, showcasing the quality of a seasoned leader.

The team that stood out alongside Gimcheon was Pohang. Under the guidance of new manager Park Tae-ha, Pohang recorded five wins, three draws, and one loss in their nine matches during March and April. Pohang found stability through an organised defence utilizing a defensive 4-4-2 formation. Offensively, they mainly employed a 3-2-4-1 formation, which allowed them to target and exploit pockets of space effectively.

With these patterns of play in both defence and attack, Pohang picked up wins against Gwangju, Suwon FC, and FC Seoul. These early results were crucial in building momentum for the season.

Pohang's finishing ability was just as impressive as Gimcheon's. They scored 13 goals during this period, which was about four more than their expected goals (8.8 xG), displaying how effective they were in attack. Moreover, their focus and tenacity shone through, as the majority of their goals were scored late in matches. Out of the 13 goals scored in the first two months, a remarkable nine were netted after the 70th minute. Pohang's signature "steel mentality" of never giving up truly came to the forefront.



Pohang Steelers, who earned many points through goals scored after the 70th minute in the early part of the season.



May

Gangwon's mystical run, Ulsan's mighty power

pectedly, Gangwon joined them as a contender.



Key Gangwon statistics (R10-15)

Middle third pass success rate of 84.4% (11th) to 89.4% (2nd)

Hwang Mun-ki xT (expected threat) 4.8 (Team's highest)

Most goals conceded by R15 In May, several teams emerged to shake up the race for the top spots. It was natural for defending champions Ulsan to be involved, but unex-

Gangwon completely shed its underdog image. While the 2023 season saw them face the crisis of participating in the K League Promotion-Relegation playoffs, the 2024 season marked a dramatic turnaround as they stormed into the upper echelons of K League 1. Gangwon's weapon was a modified 3-2-4-1 attacking formation, which pushed Hwang Mun-ki forward on the right flank.

Adding to this, Lee Sang-heon and Yang Min-hyeok successfully infiltrated the opposition's pockets of space regularly, and Lee Gi-hyuk made an impressive transformation into a centre back, solidifying the defence. Manager Yoon Jung-hwan's optimized tactics and the remarkable performances of Hwang Mun-ki, Lee Sang-heon, Yang Min-hyeok, and Lee Gi-hyuk all aligned perfectly for Gangwon.

The statistics also reflected their progress. Compared to the 2023 season, Gangwon improved their pass success rate in the attacking and midfield areas. However, one concern emerged around this time: the 17 goals conceded in the league so far had become a source of concern for them.



Gangwon FC used a 3-2-4-1 attacking shape throughout the season to exploit the opposition's pockets of space.



Key Ulsan statistics (R10-15)

11 goals (2nd)

1,564 forward passes (1st)

818 attacking third passes (1st) The 'Kings of K League,' Ulsan, climbed up to second place during this period. Despite playing an exhausting seven matches in May alone due to their participation in the AFC Champions League, they still managed to secure 11 points (3 wins, 2 draws, 2 losses). Their ability to withstand such a grueling schedule showcased why Ulsan are Ulsan. The benefits of their 'double squad' setup became evident early in the season. Ulsan possessed top-tier resources across all positions in K League 1, enabling them to maintain their strength while juggling both K League 1 and ACL. Even the departure of Lee Dong-gyeong, who had the most goal contributions, due to his military service, did not shake the team. Kim Min-woo, Lee Gyu-sung, Ko Seung-beom, Kang Yun-gu, Darijan Bojanic, and Matheus Sales were rotated seamlessly to diversify the attacking and midfield lines. The absence of Seol Young-woo, who required shoulder surgery, was effectively filled by Yun II-lok and Choi Kang-min.







Fear comes over a collapsing Jeonbuk and Daejeon

Key Jeonbuk statistics (R16-20)

12 goals conceded (1st)

Allowed 70 shots (2nd)

PPDA of 16.5 (11th)

In June, as the season approached its midway point, the psychological pressure on two corporate-backed teams reached its peak.

First, Jeonbuk found themselves repeating the pattern of 2023. Just as they parted ways with Kim Sang-sik mid-season the year before, Jeonbuk bid farewell to Dan Petrescu. The one stepping in as the firefighter for the troubled team was coach Kim Do-heon. However, the situation did not turn around easily.

Under Kim Do-heon, Jeonbuk found it difficult to pick up points. Their record for June stood at two draws and three losses from five matches. The most pressing issue was their defence. Jeonbuk conceded 12 goals in those five matches. They experimented with different centre back pairings centered around Lee Jae-ik and even tested a back-three lineup of Lee Jae-ik, Koo Ja-ryong, and Kim Tae-hwan, but they struggled to find any semblance of stability.

The severity of their troubles became glaringly evident in the final match of June against FC Seoul, where Jeonbuk collapsed, conceding five goals. It was then that Jeonbuk began to fully grasp the gravity of their situation.



Key Daejeon statistics (R16-20)

Team xT 0.59 (12th)

385 attacking third passes (11th)

4 goals scored (12th)

Daejeon's situation mirrored that of Jeonbuk. Daejeon chose Hwang Sun-hong as their new head coach. However, even after Hwang Sunhong's arrival, the situation did not improve straightaway.

There were some tweaks, such as the introduction of a 3-4-3 formation, and the utilisation of quick attackers like Kim Seung-dae, Yoon Do-young, and Kim In-gyun to directly target the opponent's defence. Having fewer men in midfield was compensated by defensive-minded and high-work-rate midfielders like Ju Se-jong, Lee Soon-min, and Lim Deok-geun. However, the improvement in attack was not forthcoming. In June, Daejeon recorded an xT (expected threat) value of 0.59, reflecting their struggles to break into their opponent's half. They also ranked 11th in the league for attempted passes in the final third. Daejeon's concerns only grew.



Daejeon Hana Citizen focused on penetrating the opposition's half through the use of fast wingers.



July-August

Key Suwon FC statistics (R21-28)

3,668 final third passes (1st)

120 shots (2nd)

18 goals (1st)

Suwon FC & FC Seoul putting pressure on the front runners

Around this time, new teams aiming for the upper ranks also emerged, such as Suwon FC under coach Kim Eun-jung and FC Seoul under coach Kim Gi-dong.

Kim Eun-jung, the head coach of Suwon FC, was in his first year as a professional manager in 2024. However, there was no sign of him being a beginner. Although the team struggled briefly at the start of the season, they improved greatly as spring and summer passed. In particular, in April, Suwon FC recorded an impressive three wins, three draws, and one loss in seven K League 1 matches, maintaining consistency until August. From March to August, Suwon FC accumulated an average of 6.7 points per month. As a result, by August, they were within reach of the top spots. Suwon FC narrowed the points gap with Gangwon to just three points and climbed to third place.

The strength of Kim Eun-jung and his team was their balance. In each position-forward, midfield, and defence-veterans like Ji Dong-won, Yoon Bit-garam, and Kwon Kyung-won played pivotal roles. Kim Eunjung's tactical flexibility also played a part. Suwon FC pursued simple passing play with a 4-1-4-1 formation, but when necessary, they transformed into a 3-4-3 shape, creating confusion for their opponents.



Key FC Seoul statistics (R21-28)

11.9 PPDA (4th)

Team xT 1.68 (1st)

95 interceptions

Although it was a slow start, FC Seoul made progress in 2024. The biggest change heading into the 2024 season was the acquisition of bigname coach Kim Gi-dong. Additionally, former England international Jesse Lingard donned the Seoul shirt. Despite these incomings, the first few months were not easy. Both Coach Kim and Lingard were unable to bring about the expected changes immediately. By the end of Round 11, Seoul had only accumulated 15 points. However, the newly revamped Seoul team remained determined and progressed steadily, finding consistency with their 4-4-2 formation and finally starting to gain momentum. In June, they picked up speed. Seoul defeated Suwon FC, Gangwon, and Jeonbuk in succession, quickly climbing into the top six. By the time July and August came around, they even achieved a five-match winning streak, restoring their image as a traditional powerhouse. During this period, defender Choi Jun transformed into a midfielder, adding another interesting dimension to the team.



FC Seoul exploited the opposition's pockets of space by using a two-striker formation similar to the false nine system.

September-October



Key Jeju statistics (R29-35)

9 goals (2nd)

Possession time per sequence of 9.03 seconds (12th)

3.32 passes per sequence of possession (12th)



Key Gwangju statistics (R29-35)

7.1 PPDA (1st)

Possession time per sequence of 13.45 seconds (1st)

Forward speed per sequence of 7.82km/h (12th)

Jeju chose pragmatism, Gwangju maintained consistency

Jeju United and Gwangju FC had little connection with the top end of the table throughout the season.

Jeju had a very average season in 2024. In metrics such as pass count per sequence, possession duration, and forward speed, they mostly stayed around the league's average. This means they lacked distinctive characteristics. In September and October, it became even simpler. The possession time per sequence was only 9.03 seconds, and the pass count dropped to 3.32 passes. All indicators were similar to the teams at the bottom of the league. However, despite the unimpressive statistics, they managed to secure results. With five wins and two losses in seven games, Jeju quickly distanced themselves from the relegation zone. Coach Kim Hak-bum's decision to prioritize survival and play pragmatic football, while putting aside attacking flair and excitement, proved to be the right call. There is nothing more important than avoiding relegation from K League 1.

Gwangju also struggled in the final stages of the season. In the seven games played in September and October, they only managed two wins, one draw, and four losses. However, Gwangju's situation was different due to their participation in the AFC Champions League Elite (ACLE). Given this, staying in K League 1 can be considered a significant achievement. Despite the demanding schedule, Gwangju maintained their team identity. They boasted an intense pressing rate of 7.1 and never backed down when facing strong teams like Pohang, Gimcheon, and Seoul. In fact, in the match against Seoul, they recorded a pressing rate of 5.7 and secured a 3-1 victory. In attack, the team stayed true to their identity under coach Lee Jung-hyo. With an average possession time per sequence of 13.45 seconds and a forward speed of 7.82 km/h, Gwangju were the team that held the ball the longest in K League 1. As always, Gwangju was a team that took the initiative and looked for gaps to exploit in their opponents.



Gwangju's intense high pressing, recording a 5.7 PPDA against FC Seoul in Round 33.





November



Key Incheon statistics (R36-38)

51 shots (1st)

19 shots on target (1st)

99 aerial duels won (1st)



Key Daegu statistics (R36-38)

Average number of turnovers per game: 67.3 (5th)

Possession time per sequence of 3.14 seconds (11th)

11.7 PPDA (12th)

Incheon's shocking fall, Daegu grasping the last opportunity

In K League 1, one team is always relegated, a harsh and unforgiving reality. In the 2024 season, it was Incheon who dealt with that cruel reality. While Jeonbuk and Daegu were given a chance through the K League Promotion-Relegation Playoffs.

Incheon endured a heartbreaking season. Although they sensed the crisis and made the bold decision to change managers, it ultimately did not work out. The departure of coach Jo Sung-hwan, who had led Incheon through a real golden spell, added to the disappointment. Even after the appointment of coach Choi Younggeun, Incheon continued to struggle. The decisive blow came in Round 36 against Jeonbuk. Incheon, desperate for three points to avoid direct relegation, ultimately failed to take decisive action. The fear that defeat would be the end paralyzed Incheon. Although they did produce the league's top scorer in Stefan Mugoša, the fall of Incheon left a lasting shock on K League 1. The image of Incheon always managing to survive made this relegation even more impactful.

Daegu managed to survive, avoiding direct relegation and eventually securing a place in the top flight for next season through the Promotion-Relegation Playoffs, where they defeated Chungnam Asan. Like Incheon, Daegu also underwent a managerial change during the season. After Choi Won-kwon left, Park Chang-hyun was appointed as the new head coach. Under Park, Daegu did not abandon their traditional style of play, which relied on star players like Edgar and Cesinha, and continued to play their trademark direct style of football. While it was a familiar approach, Daegu's play was somewhat monotonous and lacked creativity. However, they managed to survive by relying on the individual brilliance of Cesinha and Edgar. Especially Cesinha, who once again played the role of Daegu's 'king,' was instrumental in saving the team in the final stages of the season. Without his efforts, Daegu might have found it incredibly difficult to survive.



Daegu FC relied on a deep defensive and counterattacking strategy throughout the season.



The Success Formula for the K League 1 Champion Ulsan HD under King Pan-gon wielding an Attacking Shield

Ulsan HD manager Kim Pan-gon pulled off a difficult task by bringing the Horangi back to the top of the mountain following the aftermath of former manager Hong Myung-bo's departure in the middle of the season. It was the image of a resolute king who, somehow, managed to defend a throne under threat. Kim Pangon wasn't afforded too much time. Nevertheless, he successfully introduced a more intense style of football. Coach Kim was asked to provide a detailed account of his strategy.



It must have been a difficult task for you, bringing silverware to the club after being appointed in the middle of the season.

"When I first arrived at Ulsan, there were aspects where the players weren't too stable both environmentally and mentally. I had to minimise risks and improve the team's focus. During tough times in the season, there were moments when some strategies didn't have their desired effect. Honestly, leaving everything else aside, Ulsan are a club that naturally comes with a lot of pressure. Experiencing it firsthand, I realised it's no small challenge (laughs)."

Nevertheless, you brought the silverware to the club. What would be the reason for this turnaround if you were asked to choose one?

"First of all, the championship experience of the Ulsan players and the strong squad assembled by the previous manager were key driving forces. I also believe the 'changes' during the season had an impact. After taking over, I spent a lot of time thinking about our approach to the game - whether to stick to the existing framework or incorporate the game model I envisioned. In the end, I decided to start by making adjustments to the defence. It wasn't perfect, but the new game model seemed to click well in a short period of time."

Then can you talk us through how you changed things defensively?

"Ulsan was already a proactive team before I arrived, and I tried hard to make the most of that aspect. However, I aimed to eliminate the looseness in defence and create a more compact formation. I designed a clear starting point for our defensive efforts, focusing on pressing high to force errors from the opposition, even if it meant taking some risks at the back. The K League tends to be somewhat passive when it comes to aggressive defending. Teams often abandon high pressing and start defending from a mid-block. I believe that for fans to truly enjoy an exciting match, more aggressive defence is essential. I think Ulsan's football has somewhat alleviated any fan boredom."

According to K League TSG data, Ulsan came on top in the pressing intensity index in K League. What does this record mean for Ulsan then?

"It's important. I always discuss these metrics with the players - how high Ulsan's pressing intensity was and how our metrics would compare to the big clubs in the English Premier League. Next year, our pressing intensity needs to be even higher."

Even though you're the champions of the K League, do you still feel the need to increase the intensity of the pressing?

"Yes. That's the direction I'm aiming for. Maintaining the intensity of the press requires both individual fitness and team discipline. Mentally, we need to overpower the opposition as well. I want to make Ulsan even more intense."

What's remarkable is that while employing an aggressive defensive strategy, Ulsan conceded the fewest goals in K League 1.

"Since I took over, the team started conceding fewer goals. Minimizing goals conceded is

always a priority I emphasise. In 2024, Ulsan proved that even with an aggressive defensive approach, the team was conceding too many. I believe this can serve as valuable material for coaches who are studying the game. Taking risks in defence doesn't necessarily lead to conceding goals. Conversely, playing overly cautiously doesn't mean you'll concede less. The key lies in how thoroughly you prepare and plan for each situation and each block."

On the other hand, the team's scoring wasn't particularly dominant for a title-winning side.

"We should have scored more goals. To be honest, there were definitely more chances created. However, there were recurring frustrations in finishing. I don't see this purely as an individual issue. This seems to be a task Ulsan needs to address moving forward. Improving our finishing ability will likely require the addition of new players."

According to the league's TSG data, Ulsan ranked among the top in most metrics, but their cross success rate was fairly average. What does this figure indicate?

"This is something we can reflect on. It's true that Ulsan need more purposeful crosses. We need to be clearer about where the ball should be sent and where the receiving player should run. This has always been one of our areas for improvement. Constant thought is required about which spots to target, at what angles to deliver crosses, and how many of our players should be positioned in the crossing area."

The league's TSG also provided individual data, highlighting Ulsan's goalkeeper and 2024 K League 1 MVP, Jo Hyeon-woo. His stats were truly outstanding compared to other goalkeepers.

"Untouchable! Jo Hyeon-woo is absolutely indispensable. His constant saves provide a sense of stability to the team. Every match comes with its risks, and the outcome often hinges on whether you score or make a crucial save. In Ulsan's case, Jo Hyeon-woo is the one making those saves. He was a huge factor in us having a low number of goals conceded, and a reliable driving force in our champion-ship run. Honestly, this level of performance is just everyday for Jo Hyeon-woo—it's nothing out of the ordinary for him."

It's an era where it's even more important to help players understand the manager's game model.

"Most coaches likely envision very good football in their minds. The key, however, is execution. A coach's ideas must be expressed through the team's performances. To achieve this, a clear game model needs to be presented first. Then, detailed plans tailored to the opponent must be created and communicated to the players. After presenting these plans, constant practice is necessary, followed by immediate feedback. This is how Ulsan prepare for matches. Throughout this process, we strive to maximize the players' understanding through effective communication."

What makes a great manager?

"Good question... (laughs). Tactical trends tend to come full circle. It's important to quickly grasp these trends and adapt to them. At the same time, managing the players' physical condition is crucial, and this extends beyond fitness to the overall management of the squad. These days, it seems like coaches are too easily labelled as excellent based on just a glimpse of their style. Personally, I think that's a bit of a risky notion. A truly great coach should establish a clear football philosophy based on a well-defined game model, translate that philosophy onto the pitch, and be dynamic enough to bring the players together. You need to achieve all of this to be considered great."

If there's a unique strength of manager Kim Pan-gon, what would it be?

"My strength... is that it's not anything particularly special. Instead, I'm able to demonstrate the essential qualities of a coach across all areas. Rather than excelling in one aspect, I maintain a sense of stability in every part of my coaching. There are a few more things I can mention. Having managed a national team for such a long time, I'm quite accustomed to quickly communicating and embedding a game model with players. I'm also confident in my ability to unite the team and motivate the players."

I imagine the stress must have been immense during the final stages of K League 1 title race. If you have a mental management secret, what is it?

"During the final stages of the K League 1 title

race, I felt something I hadn't experienced in my 26 years of coaching. When the pressure hits, managing it becomes crucial. Personally, I meditate and reflect to clear my mind. Over the years, I've faced a lot of pressure in football. and what I've learned from experience is to accept the situation. Let go of past results and focus on preparing for today and tomorrow. I try to keep my mind positive and clear. I tell the players the same. Even if we win, we mustn't get complacent. We can't stay stuck in the victory; we have to leave it behind. We must begin preparing again today. I say this to myself, and to everyone: we can't always guarantee a win, but we can maximise our chances before the match. After that, whatever happens, we must accept it."

Which is more important for a coach: player management or tactics?

"I don't think you can separate them. Both tactical ability and player management are essential. First and foremost, as a coach, you need to demonstrate your tactical expertise so that the players follow your direction. At the same time, you must instill in the players the understanding that the coaching staff is there to help them. I'd say both are equally important. A coach needs to possess both tactical acumen and the ability to manage the players. Only then can you truly say a coach has the necessary capabilities."

Ulsan faces another set of challenges in 2025. What kind of team would you like it to he?

"First of all, a drastic change in the squad won't be easy, as there are existing contracts in place. However, we will still be looking for new players. I want dynamic characters-players who bring both passion and technical skill. We need to bring in the best players in the country. Being Ulsan, we'll strive to recruit the finest talent. Tactically, as I mentioned earlier, I want to implement an even more aggressive defensive style. We're aiming to control and dominate the game even more. I'm determined to solidify that identity. With good players, we will strive to play the most proactive and attacking football possible. Ulsan in 2025 will be a team that embodies that approach even more. I'll work to make that happen."

01 2024 K LEAGUE OVERVIEW



Hearing from Anyang's leader: The Driving Force Behind the 'Purple Finale'

Head coach Ryu Byeong-hoon and FC Anyang claimed the 2024 K League 2 championship. It wasn't a dominant run. The team faced multiple crises that threatened to derail their season but pressed forward with determination and never faltered. We spoke directly to the team's manager to uncover the driving force behind their triumphant purple finale.

Unlike previous years, Anyang leaned more towards a back four than a back three this

"Anyang had been using a back three for about seven years. But with a back three, the midfield often gets bypassed. There's a lot of direct play. When you rely heavily on direct play. the chances of losing possession increase, which in turn takes it out of the players physically. Simply put, it makes it hard to manage the game in a stable manner. It also led to frequent situations where we had to rely on individual quality. When things worked well, we scored, but when they didn't, it really didn't go our way."

switching to a back four?

"Switching to a back four brought defensive challenges. We overcame this by increasing the number of midfielders and ensuring lots of movement. As the stats show, our scoring ability declined compared to previous years. However, we achieved defensive stability even while transitioning to a back four. Additionally. our build-up play through the centre improved. In hindsight, I believe the decision to switch to a back four brought positive changes overall."

Even with well-crafted tactics, they're meaningless if players don't embrace them. How do you communicate your ideas to the players?

"I'd say I'm a bit relentless. I show things repeatedly-once isn't enough. We hold meetings, face challenges, and go through the cycle over and over again. Since this was the season we switched to a back four, the challenges were even greater than usual. Whenever difficulties arose, we'd have conversations. We kept trying and retrying changes while maintaining constant communication until my thoughts, the players' feedback, and the coaching staff's input all aligned. As the head coach. my perspective naturally carried more weight, but I'd say I incorporated at least 30% of what the players and coaching staff suggested."

How did you resolve differences in opinion?

"In the end, I have to make quick decisions. The coach's judgment is what moves things forward. During my long coaching career, I've accumulated a vast amount of data. I've What changes did Anyang experience after watched an incredible number of matches and even kept a personal 'failure notebook' to record past games. When opinions differ and it's hard to reach a conclusion, I often base my decisions on this database of past experiences."

> This year's K League 2 has often been described as "hell."

"That expression isn't wrong, but I'd prefer to say it's become 'highly competitive.' The quality of all the players has improved. In the past, you could often see one or two players in each team who were below the overall standard. Now, you don't see that anymore. As the history of K League 2 grows, more veterans who used to play in K League 1 have moved down to the second division. During this process, existing K League 2 players have learned from them. I believe K League 2 has become stronger by absorbing the strengths of players who

came from K League 1."

One of the defining features of Anyang this season was that goals came from multiple routes rather than relying on a single star scorer. Why was that?

"It stemmed from our squad composition. During preparations for this season, I had to make a choice: should we focus on finding a reliable goal scorer, or should we look for several players who could contribute to the team? I chose the latter. If our sole goal had been winning the championship, we might have gone for a proven goal scorer. But honestly. last winter, our target was just to qualify for the playoffs. We weren't in a position to spend a lot of money. Instead, we brought in players with high work rates, which allowed us to score through multiple routes."

Anyang's tactics in 2024 seemed to place importance on creating a man advantage over the opponent.

"That's right. If we focus too heavily on direct play, performances can be inconsistent. As I mentioned earlier, sometimes it works, and sometimes it doesn't. By increasing the numbers in midfield and using one-touch passes, we can move forward more effectively. That's why we focused on having an extra man centrally during our winter training camp. We generally played with four, but sometimes we even experimented with a diamond formation, using five in the middle."

How did the tactics impact player fatigue?

"When we were attacking, it was fine. In fact, fatigue was more noticeable when defending. When we lost possession, it was crucial to immediately pressure the opponent and force them backwards. So, we established our own defensive principles. We set guidelines for how to adjust our defensive shape when the opponent has the ball out wide, what to do if that shape is wrong, and the sequence for the first and second press, as well as strategies for fouling and pushing the opponent out to the sides. We created a defensive methodology and order to follow."

I'd like to ask how much tactical preparation you made before the season started

"It's entirely my own approach. In K League 2, I think you can go about 10 games with one tactic. But after that, opponents start to figure you out. So, you need to prepare several options. During winter training, if one tactic worked well, we would move on to another. But that also led to some confusion-players' minds got cluttered. I even had to apologize to them (laughs). Despite that, I firmly believed that there must always be a Plan B. As a novice manager, I made mistakes, but I was convinced that multiple strategies were necessary. So, whenever I had the chance during the season to tweak things, I made small adjustments to our formation. I remember those changes led to about four additional wins."

Who was the player who acted as a bridge be- out." tween the coach and the players?

"That would definitely be Lee Chang-yong. He was exceptional in that role. After our coaching staff meetings, Chang-yong would talk to the other players. They might find it hard to speak directly to me, but they'd feel comfortable talking to him. Then, Chang-yong and I would have a meeting where we'd exchange those conversations "

According to the K League TSG data, Anyang had a surprisingly high turnover rate despite being the champions. That seems like an unusual stat for a winning team, doesn't it?

"I think that's true. We tend to favor one-touch play, which leads to more mistakes. When it works, it's great, but when it doesn't, there's a price to pay. That's why the turnover numbers are higher than expected. However, we're guick to

win the ball back even after losing possession. We press aggressively to regain possession. So, while the turnover rate might seem high on the surface, we can't overlook the fact that we recover the ball quickly afterward. Ultimately, our approach of having a man advantage in midfield is not just for easier attacking; it's also key to achieving our defensive objectives."

According to the TSG database, Anyang ranked low in terms of possession.

"Possession isn't important to us. We prevent unnecessary sideways and backward passes from the back. If we just pass the ball around at the back, we could increase our possession percentage—maybe even up to 70%. But that's not the way we play. We focus on moving the ball forward quickly. It's not about 'kick-andrush' football, but rather one-touch passing to keep moving forward. What matters more than possession is progression. Matheus Oliveira was a big help in this, contributing significantly to our quick build-up play"

Who would you say was the tactical 'key man' for Anyang in the 2024 season?

"That would definitely be Kim Jung-hyun. His movement help cover space and make it feel as though we're playing with a back three. He's excellent at one-touch passes, as well as diagonal passes, and he's very good at threading the ball into tight spaces. He played a crucial role both offensively and defensively through-

I imagine the unseen bond between players is also important for achieving great tactical

"Our team is really tight-knit. The players have been together for a long time, and even when things go wrong, there's never anyone blaming others. It's always about saying, 'Let's try feedback, and I'd take in what I needed to from again,' and encouraging each other. I'm not sure, but I imagine that teams that aren't doing well tend to have some resentment among the players. We don't have that, and that's made us

How do you manage stress?

"I tend to recover mentally pretty quickly. Sometimes I unwind with a drink, but most of the time, I bounce back quickly. In fact, watching new football games helps me relieve stress. Preparing for the next match clears my

mind and helps me focus."

Kim Dong-jin seemed to leave a strong impression. How does a playful character like him impact the team?

"I'm really grateful for Dong-jin. No matter what instructions I give, he never gets frustrated. He always takes it in a positive way. In fact, if a veteran player like Dong-iin didn't set that example, it could affect the rest of the team. Dong-iin is always positive, and his bright energy helped lift our spirits and remove any

If you had to pinpoint just one factor behind Anyang's triumph this season, what would it be? "I'd say the role of the players who didn't get

much playing time. Let's say we have 30 players. There'd be 10 players who regularly start, 10 alternate between the starting lineup and the bench, and the remaining 10 mainly stay on the bench. The ones who don't play are the most important. If those players start harbouring dissatisfaction, it can be a disaster, but when they believe in the team's cause, the organization becomes stronger. Some might call them shining supporting actors, but I believe that Anyang's success was possible because of the 'main actors' on the bench. I made sure to express my gratitude and appreciation to those players who didn't get much playing

Tactics vs. Man management?

"For K League 2, I'd say it's 50:50. In top-tier leagues with exceptional players, tactics would likely be more important, but in our case, communication with the players is just as crucial as tactics. The key is how you manage to nurture and motivate the players, keeping them

Can you give us any hints about what can be expected from Anyang in the 2025 K League 1

"We'll be upgrading what we did in 2024. There won't be dramatic changes in the squad. Around 20 players will remain. It's difficult to bring in better players due to our budget. We're not a team that can rely solely on individual quality; we have to compete as a team. We'll adjust the intensity of our pressing and fight a little higher up the field, making sure we're well-prepared to avoid getting overwhelmed."

01 2024 K LEAGUE OVERVIEW 21 K LEAGUE 1

Jo Hyeon-woo



We are currently witnessing the best goalkeeper in K League history. Ulsan's Jo Hyeon-woo was named the 2024 K League 1 Most Valuable Player (MVP). Jo became the second goalkeeper in history to receive this honour, following Lee Woon-jae of Suwon Samsung. However, in terms of records, Jo has already far surpassed Lee. Including this season, Jo has been selected as the K League 1 Best XI goalkeeper for eight consecutive years. In the 2024 season, Jo Hyeon-woo's stats were truly incredible. He ranked top in clean sheets, punches, goal kick success, passing, and passing accuracy among all goalkeepers. Jo has declared that he aims to win the MVP in 2025 as well. Given his current exceptional form, it's not an impossible goal.

K LEAGUE

B E S T 11



Jo Hyeon-woo 182 successful goal kicks

He continues to evolve. Making crucial saves in difficult situations now seems natural, and in the 2024 season, even his footwork improved, proudly ranking first in goal kick success. The philosophy of Ulsan, which encourages moving the ball forward quickly, has had a positive impact on Jo Hyeon-woo's development.



Lee Myung-jae
44 success crosses

When it comes to 'left foot accuracy,' that's Lee Myung-jae. Over the course of the 2024 season, he successfully delivered an impressive 44 crosses. This is precisely why he was called up to the South Korean national team in 2024. He has truly risen to become the best leftback in Korea.



Kim Kee-hee
Physical duel 60.5% success

Ulsan's model of on-the-pitch leadership. Kim Kee-hee moved intelligently, yet when necessary, he did not hesitate to fight. In moments when physicality was required, he threw himself into challenges without hesitation. He performed the role of key centre back for the championship-winning club.



Park Seung-wook 885 forward passes

A central defender who helped his teammates move forward. With his forward passes, he became the starting point for Gimcheon's build-up play. Park Seung-wook had a stunning 2024, even earning a spot on the national team. Given his current form, he seems highly likely to become the top centre back in K Leaque 1 in 2025.



Hwang Mun-ki 2 goals, 7 assists

He recorded the most goal contributions among all defenders in K League 1 and his numbers were on par with those of a winger. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that Hwang Munki completed Gangwon's modified back three formation. His forward runs made him an almost unstoppable force.



Anderson Oliveira xT 7.8

Seven goals and 13 assists for a total of 20 goal contributions, the most in K League 1. It was only natural that his expected threat (xT) ranked first. Whenever Anderson got on the ball, there was always a sense that something was about to happen, and that feeling persisted throughout the season.



Ko Seung-beom

11km run per match on average

At Ulsan, a team with a high-intensity style of play, Ko Seung-beom's role was irreplaceable. Running everywhere, Ko diligently filled the gaps that appeared between his teammates and embodied the high-intensity style of football.



Oberdan 1,536 middle third passes

The conductor of "Steel Taka." The number of passes attempted by Oberdan in the middle third was 1,536, ranking him first by a wide margin. It's safe to say that the ball mostly went through Oberdan in 2024. He even topped the charts in passing accuracy with an impressive 94.2%.



Yang Min-hyeok 1,100 sprints

A master of rapid acceleration, Yang Min-hyeok got faster and faster, leaving opposing defences in a state of confusion. As a result, he completed 1,100 sprints during the 2024 season, ranking first in K League 1. There's a reason Tottenham Hotspur have signed Yang Min-hyeok.



Lee Dong-gyeong
3.8 goals more than xG

He spent the first half of the 2024 season with Ulsan and the second half with Gimcheon. Throughout, he continued to produce goals and assists. It's safe to say that Lee Dong-gyeong's form returned to its best in the 2024 season. He was undoubtedly one of the standout forwards in K League 1.



Lee Sang-heon 13 goals, 6 assists

While Yang Min-hyeok and Hwang Munki produced great performances, it was Lee Sang-heon who truly served as the leader of Gangwon's attack. He had the best season of his career, producing an impressive 19 combined goals and assists, elevating himself to the top of K League 1's statistical charts. With his remarkable performances, expectations for Lee Sang-heon in 2025 are even higher.

22



There was no doubt about the MVP. Matheus Oliveira received unanimous support from coaches, captains, and the media alike. In the 2024 season, he not only claimed the K League 2 MVP but also won the Top Assists award and was included in the Best XI. As an attacking midfielder with free movement, Matheus was instrumental in Anyang's promotion. His simple yet deadly passes and lightning-fast ability to exploit spaces were unmatched. Forever etched in Anyang's history, Matheus has vowed to make history in K League 1 in 2025.

K LEAGUE

BEST



Kim Da-sol 12 clean sheets

Anyang conceded only 36 goals in 36 matches, and a huge part of that defensive stability was due to goalkeeper Kim Da-sol. In the 35 games he played, Kim achieved 12 clean sheets. His steadiness in goal became a crucial foundation for Anyang's successful promotion campaign, providing the team with the reliability they needed at the back.



Kim Dong-jin 5 goals, 3 assists

Kim Dong-jin showcased his qualities as an attacking full-back, relentlessly supporting the attack while charging up and down the flank. His contributions went beyond just numbers; his consistently positive mindset had a significant impact on Anyang, uplifting the team's spirit and overall performance levels.



Osmar Ibanez 7 goals

Class is eternal. Osmar, who almost parted ways with K League, became a solid wall for Seoul E-Land but defence wasn't all he brought to the table. Osmar stood out with seven goals, showcasing a particularly strong presence during set pieces. He reminded many of a Sergio Ramos-like figure, combining defensive solidity with the ability to make an impact in attack.



Lee Chang-yong 91.4% passing accuracy

FC Anyang's on-pitch leader. He played a pivotal role in maintaining defensive stability. His impressive 91.4% pass success rate signifies how smoothly Anyang could play out from the back whenever he had possession. As the team's mental pillar, his influence on the squad was also significant, providing both leadership and composure at the



Lee Tae-hee 837 forward passes

Anyang had excellent full-backs on both sides, and on the right side, Lee Tae-hee really stood out. Unlike Kim Dong-iin, who advanced forward in a more aggressive manner, Lee Tae-hee patrolled the field with a more balanced approach, playing a key role in organizing the team's defence. Among all K League 2 right-backs, no one made more forward passes than Lee Tae-hee, highlighting his crucial role in both defensive stability and attacking support.



Luis Mina 797 sprints

Gimpo's style of play was perfectly reflected in Luis Mina's statistics. The team often sat back, waiting for the right moment, and when the chance appeared. they surged forward. In those moments. Luis was always the leader of the charge. His sprint count, which ranked second in the league, was no coincidence. His relentless energy and timing made him a key player in executing Gimpo's counterattacking style, constantly pushing the team forward whenever the opportunity arose.



Valdivia 224 crosses

Valdivia was exceptional once again in 2024. With 12 goals and six assists, he ranked among the top in the league for combined goal contributions. Additionally, he led the league in crosses, showing what he contributed on the wings. Valdivia was always the alpha and omega of Jeonnam's attack, consistently creating chances and providing key moments throughout the season. His versatility and creativity in the offensive third made him a vital asset.



Kim Jung-hyun 45 tackles in the defensive third

Anyang pursued dynamic football throughout the year, which often left spaces in midfield. It was Kim Junghyun who filled those gaps. With his relentless movement, Kim blocked counterattacks and stopped the opposition's advances. He led K League 2 midfielders in tackles made in the defensive third, showcasing his defensive prowess and playing a key role in stabilizing the team's defensive structure. His ability to disrupt the opposition's flow was a significant factor in Anyang's success.



Juninho Rocha 12 goals, 8 assists

When it comes to the impact on his team, Juninho was undoubtedly one of the best K League 2. Not only did he score goals, but he also elevated the performance of his teammates, contributing to their overall success. Juninho's presence was a key factor in Chungnam Asan's surprising second-place finish. His ability to create chances, score, and enhance the attacking output of the entire team made him a standout player.



Matheus Oliveira 66 key passes

With 66 killer passes. Matheus unleashed a wave of purple magic every time he struck the ball. His role as leading assist maker was a result of his abundance of decisive passes. By the end of the 2024 season, no one in the league had more key passes than Matheus, His vision, precision, and ability to create opportunities for his teammates made him the most influential playmaker in K League 2.



Bruno Mota 16 goals

Bruno Mota was truly lethal in 2024 Despite playing for one of the smaller clubs, Cheonan City, Mota showcased his individual brilliance. Mota was adept in both aerial and ground duels and his ability to link up with teammates was also impressive, contributing not only through his individual skill but also as part of the team's overall attacking play. His performances proved that even at a smaller club, a standout player could make a massive difference on the pitch

Result

K LEAGUE 1

Award Club Name		5: 10
Managers Captains Journalists Managers Captai	ns Journalists	— Final Score
Ulsan K.Pangon 2 3 14 5.00 7.50	4.83	17.33
Manager Gangwon Y.Jonghwan 7 7 89 17.50 17.50	30.69	65.69
of the Season Gimcheon C.Jungyong 3 2 13 7.50 5.00	4.48	16.98
Total 12 12 116 30 30	40	100.00
SuwonFC Anderson 3 4 8 7.50 10.00	2.76	20.26
MVP Gangwon Y.Minhyuk 1 1 33 2.50 2.50	11.38	16.38
of the Season Ulsan J.Hyunwoo 8 7 75 20.00 17.50	25.86	63.36
Total 12 12 116 30 30	40	100.00
Gangwon Y.Minhyuk 11 10 115 27.50 25.00	39.66	92.16
Young Player Daegu H.Jaewon 1 1 0 2.50 2.50	0.00	5.00
of the Season Pohang H.Yunsang 0 1 1 0.00 2.50	0.34	2.84
Total 12 12 116 30 30	40	100.00
Jeonbuk K.Joonhong 2 1 2 5.00 2.50	0.69	8.19
Best GK Daejeon L.Changgeun 1 1 9 2.50 2.50	3.10	8.10
Ulsan J.Hyunwoo 9 10 105 22.50 25.00	36.21	83.71
Total 12 12 116 30 30	40	100.00
Pohang Wanderson 5 3 36 12.50 7.50	12.41	32.41
Best DF Gangwon L.Gihyuk 1 4 27 2.50 10.00	9.31	21.81
(Left back) Ulsan L.Myungjae 6 5 53 15.00 12.50	18.28	45.78
Total 12 12 116 30 30	40	100.00
Gangwon Tuci 4 2 48 5.00 2.50	8.28	15.78
Ulsan K.Keehee 3 7 51 3.75 8.75	8.79	21.29
Best DF K.Youngbin 4 5 18 5.00 6.25	3.10	14.35
Gimcheon P.Seungwook 9 4 45 11.25 5.00 (Centre back)	7.76	24.01
Seoul Yazan 3 5 62 3.75 6.25	10.69	20.69
Pohang J.Mingwang 1 1 8 1.25 1.25	1.38	3.88
Total 24 24 232 30 30	40	100.00
Seoul C.Jun 0 0 3 0.00 0.00	1.03	1.03
Best DF Gangwon H.Munki 10 11 109 25.00 27.50	37.59	90.09
(Right back) Daegu H.Jaewon 2 1 4 5.00 2.50	1.38	8.88
Total 12 12 116 30 30	40	100.00
Ulsan Ludwigson 0 2 30 0.00 5.00	10.34	15.34
Best MF SuwonFC Anderson 11 8 79 27.50 20.00	27.24	74.74
(Left midfielder) Pohang H.Yunsang 1 2 7 2.50 5.00	2.41	9.91
Total 12 12 116 30 30	40	100.00
Ulsan K.Seungbeom 6 8 86 7.50 10.00		32.33
Gimcheon K.Bongsoo 3 1 28 3.75 1.25	4.83	9.83
Best MF Daegu Cesinha 2 4 57 2.50 5.00	9.83	17.33
(Centre midfielder)	4.83	19.83
Jeju Italo 0 2 5 0.00 2.50	0.86	3.36
Gwangju J.Hoyeon 6 4 28 7.50 5.00	4.83	17.33
Total 24 24 232 30 30	40	100.00
Gangwon Y.Minhyuk 7 10 106 17.50 25.00		79.05
Best MF SuwonFC J.Seungwon 3 0 5 7.50 0.00	1.72	9.22
(Right midfielder) Pohang J.Jaehee 2 2 5 5.00 5.00	1.72	11.72
	40	100.00
Total 12 12 116 30 30		14.18
Total 12 12 116 30 30 Seoul Lingard 4 1 46 5.00 1.25	7.93	
Total 12 12 116 30 30 Seoul Lingard 4 1 46 5.00 1.25 Incheon Mugosa 3 4 42 3.75 5.00	7.24	15.99
Total 12 12 116 30 30 Seoul Lingard 4 1 46 5.00 1.25 Incheon Mugosa 3 4 42 3.75 5.00 Gimcheon L.Dongkyeong 8 6 43 10.00 7.50	7.24 7.4 1	
Total 12 12 116 30 30 Seoul Lingard 4 1 46 5.00 1.25 Incheon Mugosa 3 4 42 3.75 5.00 Gimcheon L.Dongkyeong 8 6 43 10.00 7.50 Best FW Gangwon L.Sangheon 3 6 57 3.75 7.50	7.24 7.41 9.83	15.99
Total 12 12 116 30 30 Seoul Lingard 4 1 46 5.00 1.25 Incheon Mugosa 3 4 42 3.75 5.00 Gimcheon L.Dongkyeong 8 6 43 10.00 7.50 Best FW Gangwon L.Sangheon 3 6 57 3.75 7.50 Seoul Iljutcenko 1 4 32 1.25 5.00	7.24 7.41 9.83 5.52	15.99 24.91 21.08 11.77
Total 12 12 116 30 30 Seoul Lingard 4 1 46 5.00 1.25 Incheon Mugosa 3 4 42 3.75 5.00 Gimcheon L.Dongkyeong 8 6 43 10.00 7.50 Best FW Gangwon L.Sangheon 3 6 57 3.75 7.50	7.24 7.41 9.83	15.99 24.91 21.08

K LEAGUE 2

			Votes			Weighted So	core		
Award	Club	Name	Managers	Captains	Journalists	Managers	Captains	Journalists	– Final Score
	Seoul E	K.Dokyun	1	2	3	2.31	4.62	1.21	8.14
Manager	Chungnam Asan	K.Hyunseog	3	1	9	6.92	2.31	3.64	12.87
of the Season	Anyang	R.Byeonghoon	9	10	87	20.77	23.08	35.15	79.00
		Total	13	13	99	30	30	40	100.00
	Anyang	Matheus	12	8	82	27.69	18.46	33.13	79.29
MVP	Cheonan	Mota	1	2	9	2.31	4.62	3.64	10.56
of the Season	Chungnam Asan	Junior	0	3	8	0.00	6.92	3.23	10.16
		Total	13	13	99	30	30	40	100.00
	Seoul E	S.Jaemin	4	3	37	9.23	6.92	18.27	34.43
Young Player	Jeonnam	Y.Jeaseok	5	5	22	11.54	11.54	10.86	33.94
of the Season	Anyang	C.Hyunwoo	4	5	22	9.23	11.54	10.86	31.63
	_	Total	13	13	81	30	30	40	100.00
	Anyang	K.Dasol	10	7	69	23.08	16.15	27.88	67.11
Best GK	Gimpo	S.Jeonghyeon	1	4	13	2.31	9.23	5.25	16.79
Dest on	Chungnam Asan	S.Songhoon	2	2	17	4.62	4.62	6.87	16.10
		Total	13	13	99	30	30	40	100.00
	Anyang	K.Dongjin	8	10	71	18.46	23.08	28.69	70.23
Best DF	Chungnam Asan	K.Junhyuk	1	1	3	2.31	2.31	1.21	5.83
(Left back)	Seoul E	P.Minseo	4	2	25	9.23	4.62	10.10	23.95
	_	Total	13	13	99	30	30	40	100.00
	Seoul E	Osmar	4	8	71	4.62	9.23	14.34	28.19
	Chungnam Asan	L.Eunbeom	7	1	8	8.08	1.15	1.62	10.85
Best DF	Anyang	L.Changyong	4	8	74	4.62	9.23	14.95	28.80
(Centre back)	Busan	L.Hando	7	6	20	8.08	6.92	4.04	19.04
(Suwon	C.Yunseong	0	_1	6	0.00	1.15	1.21	2.37
	Chungnam Asan	H.Kiwook	4	2	19	4.62	2.31	3.84	10.76
		Total	26	26	198	30	30	40	100.00
	Chungbuk Cheongju		3	1	12	6.92	2.31	4.85	14.08
Best DF	Anyang	L.Taehui	7	9	67	16.15	20.77	27.07	63.99
(Right back)	Chungnam Asan	L.Hakmin	3	3	20	6.92	6.92	8.08	21.93
	ol A	Total	13	13	99	30	30	40	100.00
D	Chungnam Asan	G.Mingeu	1	0	6	2.31	0.00	2.42	4.73
Best MF	Seoul E	Bruno Silva	0	3	42	0.00	7.50	16.97	24.47
(Left midfielder)	Gimpo	Luis	12	9	51	27.69	22.50	20.61	70.80
	A	Total	13	12	99	30	30	40	100.00
	Anyang	K.Junghyun K.Jongsuk	6	7	64	6.92 2.31	8.08	12.93	27.93
	Chungnam Asan		4	<u>2</u> 4	11 30	4.62	2.31 4.62	2.22 6.06	6.84 15.29
Best MF	Busan	Lamas Valdivia	9	8	71	10.38	9.23	14.34	33.96
(Centre midfielder)	Jeonnam Busan		4	3	17	4.62	3.46	3.43	11.51
		L.Minhyeok H.Wonjin	1	2	5	1.15	_		4.47
	Suwon	Total	26	26	198	30	2.31 30	1.01 40	100.00
	Bucheon	Bassani	6	1	30	13.85	2.31	12.12	28.28
Best MF	Seoul E	B.Gyungjun	1	3	 15	2.31	6.92	6.06	15.29
(Right midfielder)	Chungnam Asan	Junior	6	9	54	13.85	20.77	21.82	56.43
(Right infulleluer)	Shungham Asan	Total	13	13	99	30	30	40	100.00
	Jeonnam	K.Jongmin	4	1	22	4.62	1.15	4.44	10.21
	Anyang	Matheus	6	11	92	6.92	12.69	18.59	38.20
	Cheonan	Mota	12	9	71	13.85	10.38	14.34	38.57
Best FW	Suwon	Mulic	0	0	6	0.00	0.00	1.21	1.21
Dest I W	Gyeongnam	Arabuli	0	1	2	0.00	1.15	0.40	1.56
	Seongnam	Ruiz	4	4	 5	4.62	4.62	1.01	10.24
	ocongnam	Total	26	26	 198	30	30	40	100.00
		- otal	20		170	-00		TO	100.00

26 01 2024 K LEAGUE OVERVIEW 27

02

TALKING POINTS







Topic 1

Position Change of Full-backs

The 2024 season marked an exciting shift, with teams maximising tactical diversity, and two teams stood out in particular: FC Seoul and Gangwon FC. Choi Jun of Seoul and Lee You-hyun of Gangwon, who were originally playing as full backs, switched to midfield positions during the season. This positional change became a key element of each team's tactics and played a significant role in their success, with both teams reaching Final A.

Choi Jun was initially recognised for his attacking overlaps and crossing ability as Seoul's right full back. However, due to continuous injuries among midfielders, manager Kim Gi-dong decided to position Choi Jun in midfield. Choi demonstrated an impressive work rate, ranking fourth in the league for the most distance covered. He effectively disrupted the opposition's attacking flow by covering a wide area in midfield. Drawing on his experience as a full back, he also showcased defensive skills, such as covering space on the flanks and making tackles. As a result, Seoul's midfield became notably more defensively stable. Furthermore, Choi Jun contributed to the build-up play, helping the team break through the opposition's press. With Choi as a pivotal support player, Seoul gradually began to control games. Choi Jun's statistics, ranking third in the league's xT, is proof of his direct contribution to the team's offensive development.

Lee You-hyun of Gangwon, like Choi Jun,

was originally a full back. However, he transformed into a midfielder in the middle part of the season. This change was Gangwon's response to injuries to Kim Yi-seok and Kim Dae-woo, as well as the departure of Han Kook-young. Yet, Lee You-hyun proved that his transformation was not just a stopgap measure. From July onwards, he took charge of Gangwon's midfield alongside Kim Gang-guk and showcased his defensive strengths by disrupting the opposition's passing flow, and effectively acted as a bridge between defence and attack. Moreover, by utilising his full back instincts, he displayed an impressive ability to cover space, adding flexibility to Gangwon's tactics. As time passed and Gangwon's midfield found more balance, Lee You-hyun returned to his full back role. Throughout the season, he demonstrated his versatility, playing a pivotal role in rescuing the team during critical moments. Gangwon ultimately decided to sign Lee You-hyun on a permanent basis, a well-deserved decision given his impact.

The cases of Choi Jun and Lee You-hyun clearly demonstrate the impact of versatile players in K League 1 and how their multi-functional abilities influence their teams. Interestingly, the full back position, which was once seen as a position for centre backs with weak defensive skills or wingers lacking attacking power, has now gained a completely new stature. In modern football, full backs are no longer just players who defend the flanks. They have evolved into a position that plays crucial roles in midfield, thanks to their intelligent game management skills. The impressive performances of Choi Jun and Lee Youhyun have expanded the tactical diversity of their teams and offered limitless potential to other K League full backs.



Topic 2

Growth Following Managerial Changes

feat. Ulsan & Daejeon

Ulsan HD and Daejeon Hana Citizen underwent significant transformations during the season following managerial changes, each displaying tactical progress in their own unique way.

Ulsan, under former manager Hong Myungbo, achieved the remarkable feat of winning the K League 1 title for two consecutive years, thanks to stable team management and excellent man management. However, there was criticism regarding the team's lack of tactical diversity and flexibility. Since taking charge, new manager Kim Pan-gon has driven the team's growth by enhancing tactical details on both offensive and defensive fronts. Kim has intensified the high pressing and instilled quicker transitions in attack, significantly altering the tempo of Ulsan's matches.

Under Kim Pan-gon's leadership, Ulsan introduced a new tactical approach that utilised wingers to funnel the opposition's build-up play into the centre. This was followed by midfielders employing manto-man marking to isolate opposing attackers. While the data reflected only minor changes, there was a clear qualitative improvement in performances. Player roles were more distinctly defined, leading to enhanced organisational movement. As a result, Ulsan were more cohesive and robust. Daejeon made a managerial change early in the season due to poor results. Following this, the team adopted a new tactical approach that showcased a more balanced style of play. A key element of their resurgence in the latter half of the season was the use of a false-nine system centred around Masatoshi Ishida. He did not remain fixed in the forward line but instead moved fluidly between the front and midfield, taking on various roles. His movement disrupted the opposition's defensive line and helped give Daejeon a man advantage in midfield.

Daejeon's attacking options adapted to the Japanese's positioning, with the likes of Kim Jun-beom and Choi Geon-joo and their wingers making penetrating runs into central areas or playing wide when needed, which caused significant confusion for opposing defences. The tactical versatility also neutralised man-marking strategies and contributed to improved possession in midfield. Masatoshi consistently demonstrated an ability to retain possession under pressure through short passes and dribbling, making him a pivotal figure in Daejeon's attack. His role as the linchpin of the team's offensive strategy elevated the overall tactical coherence of the side.

In Daejeon's midfield, the solid displays of Lee Soon-min and Victor Bobsin stood out. The duo excelled at disrupting the opposition's attacks through intense pressing and man-to-man marking. During transitions to attack, they contributed significantly by delivering quick and precise passes, facilitating the team's counterattacks.

In July, Daejeon struggled with a poor run of form, recording two draws and three losses in five matches. However, they successfully turned things around in August, securing seven points from three games. A win and a draw against title contenders Gimcheon and Suwon FC boosted the team's confidence, while a crucial victory in the six-pointer against relegation rival Incheon became a turning point. Daejeon went on to remain unbeaten in Final B and ultimately achieved their goal of securing

0 02 TALKING POINTS

survival.

Following the managerial change, Daejeon demonstrated improved organisational solidity. In particular, during the second half of the campaign, they established themselves as a team that was difficult to beat. Daejeon's performances served as a strong indication that the team has the potential to maintain long-term competitiveness.

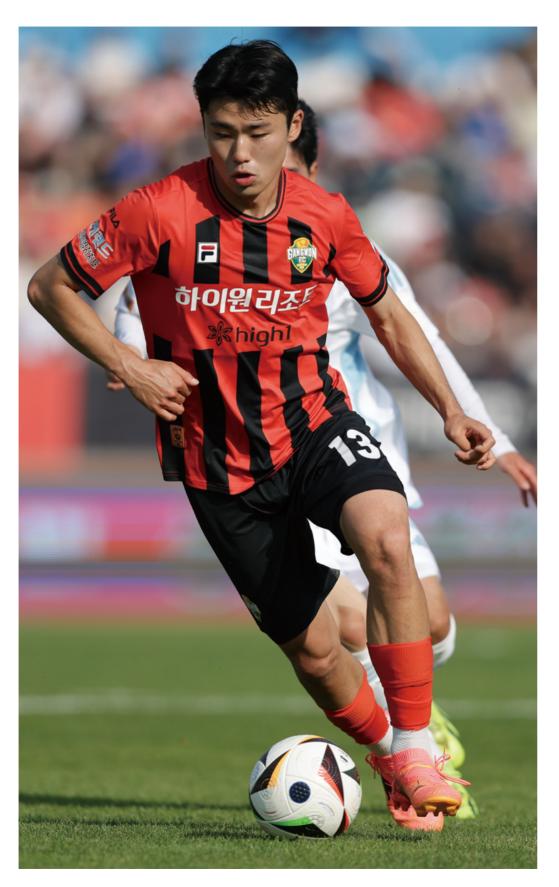
The transformations of Ulsan and Daejeon are noteworthy as they symbolise the tactical diversity and developmental potential of the K League as a whole. Ulsan, as a championship-winning team, showcased a leading football philosophy, while Daejeon, as challengers, crafted a unique identity of their own.



Varying Uses of a Back Three and Back Four

in Attack and Defence

The 2024 season highlighted each team's distinctive approaches and operational strategies, with a constant interplay between back-three and back-four systems. A back three emphasised building a stable defensive structure and providing wide coverage to effectively neutralise opposition attacks. Meanwhile, a back four demonstrates.



strated a more aggressive approach, characterised by quick coverage of space and flexible tactical adjustments, allowing for a more attack-oriented style of play.

Teams that adopted a back-three formation included Incheon, Daegu, and Daejeon. These teams utilised wingbacks to join the defence, creating a back five. This setup has the advantage of having more defenders, effectively controlling the depth and width that the opposition's attack often seeks. For example, in the match against Gwangju, Incheon's centre back trio of Kim Geon-hee, Matej Jonjić, and Kim Dongmin, along with wingbacks Jung Dongvoon and Hong Si-hoo, executed pressing. covering, and balancing duties to block the opposition's attacks. In their match against Gimcheon, Incheon responded to the opponent's focus on the flanks and half-spaces by applying the concepts of 'approach' and 'sliding' in their defence, demonstrating their defensive stability. Similarly, both Daegu and Daejeon maximized the strengths of their back-three systems by effectively suppressing the opposition's transition passes.

On the other hand, teams that employed a back four sought unconventional approaches to overcome the limitations of having fewer defenders. Pohang, for example, complemented the back four by covering space through midfield connections. Midfielders like Oberdan and Kim Jongwoo, known for their high work rates, often flooded areas of space, demonstrating this approach. Pohang also maintained their defensive shape, anticipating transition passes and incorporating movement to maintain the team's balance. Gimcheon also effectively responded to the opposition's focus on width by utilising midfielder Seo Min-woo. Seoul, on the other hand, used full back Choi Jun in midfield, allowing them to shift into a back five when needed, showcasing a unique sliding de

fensive technique.

There were also notable characteristics in terms of attack. Pohang and Gangwon are prime examples of this. Both teams used a 4-4-2 as their base, but in attack, they employed a modified back three. This variation reflects modern football trends, providing both stability in build-up play and flexibility in attack when entering the opponent's half.

In attack, Pohang pushed left back Wanderson forward and utilised the remaining back four in a back three, creating a 3-2-4-1 shape. This allowed them to gain a numerical advantage during build-up play, effectively escaping the opposition's press. Notably, their use of pattern play through the half-spaces and down the flanks was particularly impressive. Pohang maximised their attacking balance and efficiency with these patterns. Additionally, one of the two forwards would often drop into midfield, blending into the second line of attack. This added variety to their passing options, and there was a consistent intent to exploit pockets of space between the opposition's midfield and defensive lines.

Gangwon also formed a modified backthree system using their full backs in a similar manner. The starting point was the advance of right-back Hwang Mun-ki. Following this, the precise passing and tempo control from the back three, including left centre back Lee Gi-hyeok, guided the team's build-up play. Gangwon focused on having a man advantage when transitioning from defence to midfield. They then slowed the tempo, allowing their attacking players to get in dangerous positions. From there, they created opportunities by exploiting pockets of space and half-spaces, often targeting attacking players like Lee Sangheon and Yang Min-hyeok.

Both teams shared a common emphasis on the positioning of their attackers and link-up play to cause chaos in the opposition's defence. When necessary, they also employed long passes and crosses, creating simple yet effective attacking options.

The 2024 K League season was not just about the choice between a back three and back four, but about reinterpreting both tactics to suit each team's identity and the specific context of the match. The strategies employed by each team went beyond the binary concepts of 'defence' and 'attack,' reflecting the essence of modern football, where formations are constantly reshaped depending on the situation. The numbers symbolised the creative solutions each team had found to navigate the challenges of the game.

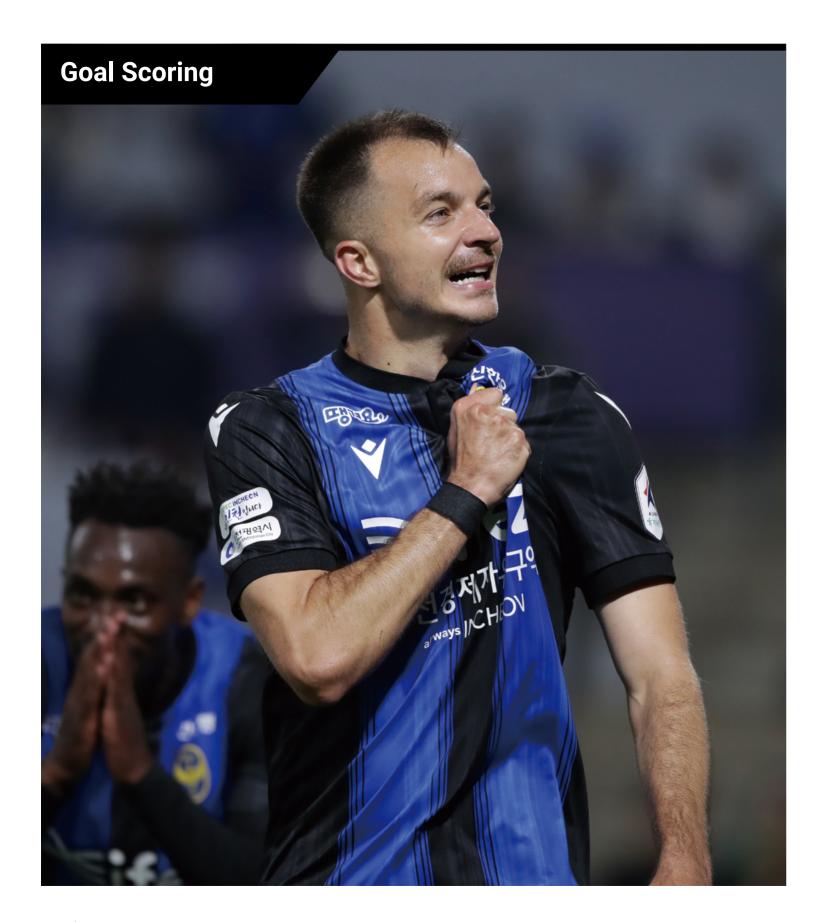


32 02 TALKING POINTS

03

ANALYSIS





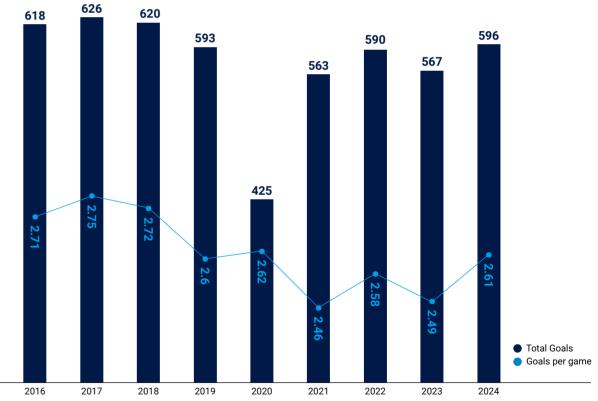
The low-scoring trend that had persisted over the past three years came to an end. In the 2024 K League 1 season, a total of 596 goals were scored, marking the highest number since 2018 when 620 goals were scored. For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, the average goals per match surpassed 2.6.

An interesting data point has emerged as well. Over the past three years, there has been a noticeable gap between the expected goals (xG) and actual goals scored (total goals minus penalty goals) in K League 1. The table below illustrates the difference between actual goals and expected goals from 2021 to 2024. In 2021, it was evident that actual goals scored were significantly lower than expected goals (xG). This suggests that around 15 shots that should have resulted

in goals failed to find the back of the net. A similar trend continued in 2022 and 2023, with actual goals remaining lower than expected goals. However, in 2024, the data shifted dramatically. The gap between expected goals and actual goals reversed completely, with the difference between actual goals and expected goals reaching a staggering +44.1. Compared to 2023, this represented an increase of approximately 48 goals. What could be the reason behind such a sharp rise in these figures?

The first reason for this shift could be the transformation of the K League into a competition that embraces both tactical and technical growth, focusing on more precise attacking play. As the league progresses, accurate passing has become more of a necessity. How-

37



Goal-scoring Trends from 2016 to 2024

	xG	Actual Goals	Actual Goals - xG
2021	556.8	542	-14.8
2022	585.3	577	-8.3
2023	553.9	550	-3.9
2024	532.9	577	+44.1

ever, simply looking at pass success rates does not fully capture the level of precision involved. So, let's look more closely at related data to better understand the nuances of this development.

A key statistic to note is the increase in successful forward passes in central and attacking areas. This figure has risen by around 3-4% each year. The rise in pass success rates in midfield and the attacking third not only reflects improvements in technical skills but also signals a shift in the way games are managed, indicating a change in tactical trends. This evolution highlights a greater emphasis on more direct and incisive passing, which is increasingly shaping the style of

play in the K League.

An increase in the success rate of forward passes enhances the efficiency of counterattacks and space utilisation. It also provides a foundation to produce more goals during the attacking build-up. Specifically, improvements in the success rate of forward passes directly impact the ability to effectively evade the opposition's pressing and target key areas such as half-spaces, thus facilitating more potent and organised offensive play.

For this reason, one of the key drivers behind 2024 being recorded as the year with the most goals since 2019 can be attributed to the increase in the success



In the 2024 K League season, teams managed to generate a high number of goals with a relatively low xG value, producing more than 44 goals above the expected goals.

	Success rate of forward passes in middle third	Success rate of forward passes in final third
2022	68.5%	61.4%
2023	71.0%	65.6%
2024	74.1%	70.0%

rate of forward passes. A higher success rate in forward passes provides attackers with more precise opportunities, particularly enabling them to exploit chances to efficiently target the goal in a short space of time.

As we look at the increase in decisive moments, we can feel that the K League has transformed into a more intricate battleground. The frequent creation of chances naturally leads to an increase in goals.

The second reason can be attributed to the change in formation trends, which are fundamental to football's structure.

In the change in defensive formations between the 2023 and 2024 seasons, meaningful trends can be observed. In 2024, the number of teams using a back three as their defensive base dropped by half compared to 2023. In 2023, of the six teams employing a back three, only Incheon was not placed in Final B.

The underperformance of teams using a back three in 2023 can be seen as a factor that contributed to the increase in the use of a back four in the 2024 season.

A back three essentially transitions into a back five when defending. This structure offers distinct advantages. By adding an extra defender, a back five expands the coverage of space in the defensive third. The line, composed of two wingbacks and three centre backs, allows for tighter defensive spacing, making it difficult for the opposition to exploit space either centrally or on the flanks. In particular, when the opponent is set up with players in wide positions when attacking, the wingbacks can keep an eye on the opposing wingers while still having the man advantage in the centre

Additionally, a back five suppresses the opposition's use of half-spaces while maintaining the vertical depth of the defensive block. The three central defenders

20	23	2024		
Team	Formation	Team	Formation	
Ulsan	4-2-3-1	Ulsan	4-2-3-1	
Pohang	4-2-3-1	Gangwon	4-2-3-1	
Gwangju	4-4-2	Gimcheon	4-3-3	
Jeonbuk	4-2-3-1	Seoul	4-4-2	
Incheon	3-4-3	Pohang	4-2-3-1	
Seoul	4-1-4-1	Suwon FC	4-1-4-1	
Daegu	3-5-2	Jeju	4-4-2	
Daejeon	3-4-3	Daejeon	3-5-2	
Jeju	3-4-3	Gwangju	4-4-2	
Gangwon	3-4-3	Gwangju	4-2-3-1	
Suwon FC	4-2-3-1	Daegu	3-4-3	
Suwon	3-4-3	Incheon	3-4-3	

coordinate the defensive line, while the two wingbacks take on the opposing full backs and wingers. Meanwhile, the midfielder positioned in the centre presses from the front and fills any gaps in the defensive structure. Thanks to close interaction between teammates, the defensive organisation remains cohesive. For the opposition, creating goal-scoring opportunities becomes increasingly difficult.

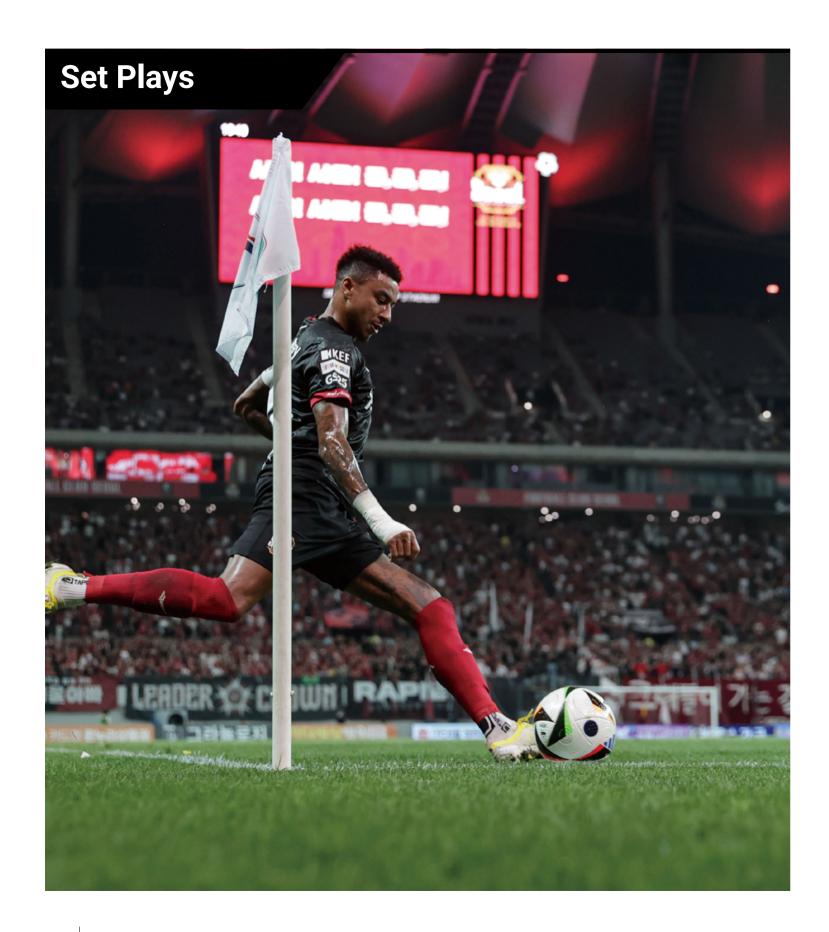
Despite the advantages of a back three (or back five) outlined earlier, the 2024 season saw an increasing trend of teams moving away from it. The back four system clearly became the dominant formation. Unlike the back three, which focuses its weight on the defensive line, a back four, with a forward-focused structure, makes it easier to create goal-scoring opportunities. Of course, a back four has its weaknesses. Since its defensive focus is shifted forward, it may be more

effective at reducing the number of times the opposition enters the defensive third. However, once the opponent successfully breaks through and creates scoring chances, the likelihood of defending those opportunities is lower compared to a back three. This theory is also supported by data. While the xG figures for the 2024 season decreased compared to the previous year, the conversion of those expected goals into actual goals did not drop as much.

In summary, the 2024 season saw many K League 1 clubs adopting a more attacking style of play. These individual choices collectively contributed to an overall increase in the league's goal-scoring ability. Furthermore, the rise in sequences where teams applied a strong press beyond the halfway line to win the ball and launch quick counterattacks can also be linked to the league's increased goal tally.



03 ANALYSIS



In the 2024 K League 1 season, a total of 146 goals were scored from set-pieces. This was three more than the previous season and the highest number of set-piece goals in the last three years.

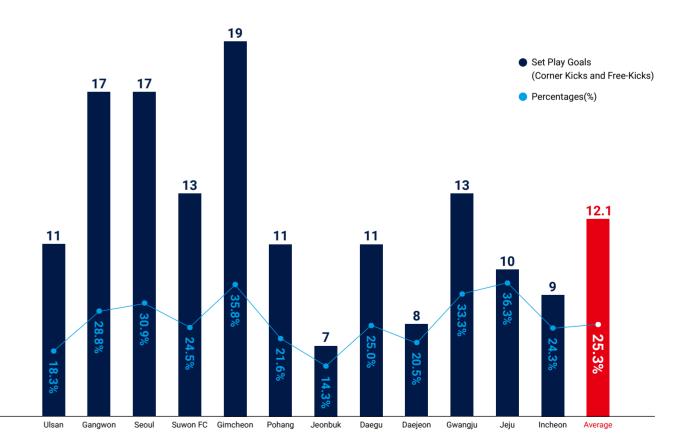
The team that made the most effective use of set-pieces this year is Gimcheon. Out of a total of 53 goals, they scored an impressive 19 from set-pieces, accounting for more than a third of their total goals. Notably, 12 of these goals came from free-kicks. This is not just a matter of numbers; it represents a synergy of Gimcheon's excellent organisation and precise de-

Firstly, Gimcheon made use of kickers who consistently delivered dangerous balls during set-piece situations. Due to the club's tendency to attract players with individual skill, the team has a lot of set-piece specialists. Players like Lee Dong-gyeong and Kim Dae-won are known for their accurate deliveries. Depending on the situation, they either opted for direct shots or crosses, and the quality of the delivery created scoring

Gimcheon's free-kick goals came from various types, though they weren't overly creative, relying on a few repeated patterns. Within those patterns, however, they included enough options to confuse the opposition. Not only did they attempt direct shots, but also quick-restart passing plays and crosses, all executed using an array of different timing, which disrupted the focus of the opposing defence.

In fact, among the various types of free-kick goals, some came from direct shots, headers that connected with crosses, long-range goals following second-ball recoveries, and even own goals, showcasing a wide range of scoring methods.

Pohang found it difficult to defend set-pieces. Of their 49 goals conceded, 20 were from set-piece situations to be the most vulnerable team in K League 1 from set-pieces in the 2024 season. Pohang tended



K League 1 2024 Set Play Goals

03 ANALYSIS

to adopt a man-to-man marking system, but there seemed to be a lack of awareness among individual players in marking their opponents. Especially when the opposition used creative movement to unsettle Pohang's defensive shape, there were frequent instances where Pohang players lost their men or positioned themselves poorly. This allowed the opposition to exploit key moments and find space in dangerous situations.

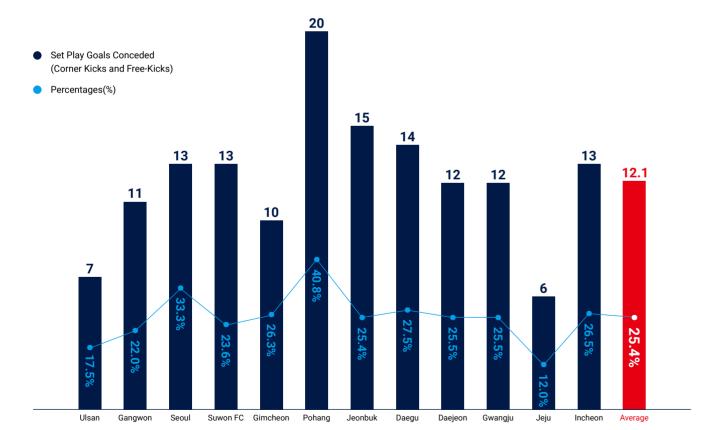
There was also evidence of them losing the second-balls. When the opposition targeted second-balls from set-pieces, Pohang's man-marking, as mentioned earlier, became disorganised, allowing opponents to



Gimcheon's free-kicks produced the most goals from set-pieces



Pohang have the potential to significantly reduce goals conceded if they can improve their concentration when defending set-pieces



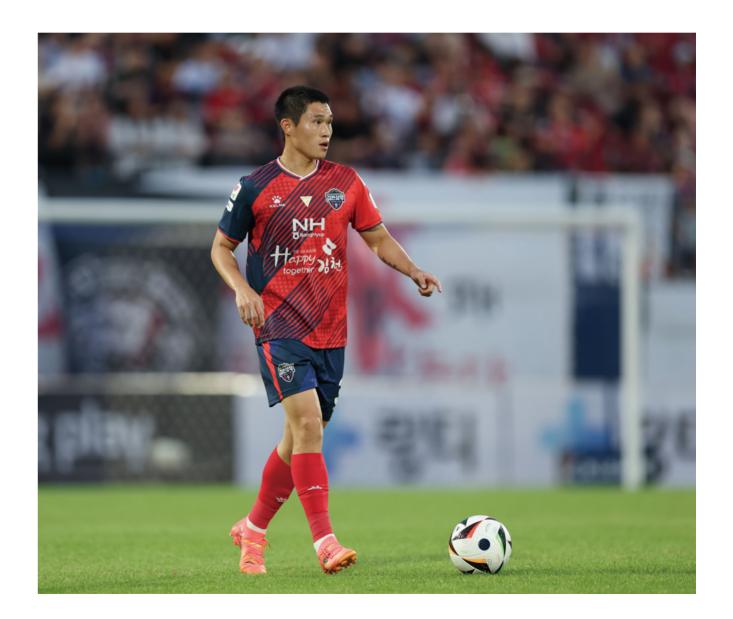
K League 1 2024 Set Play Goals Conceded

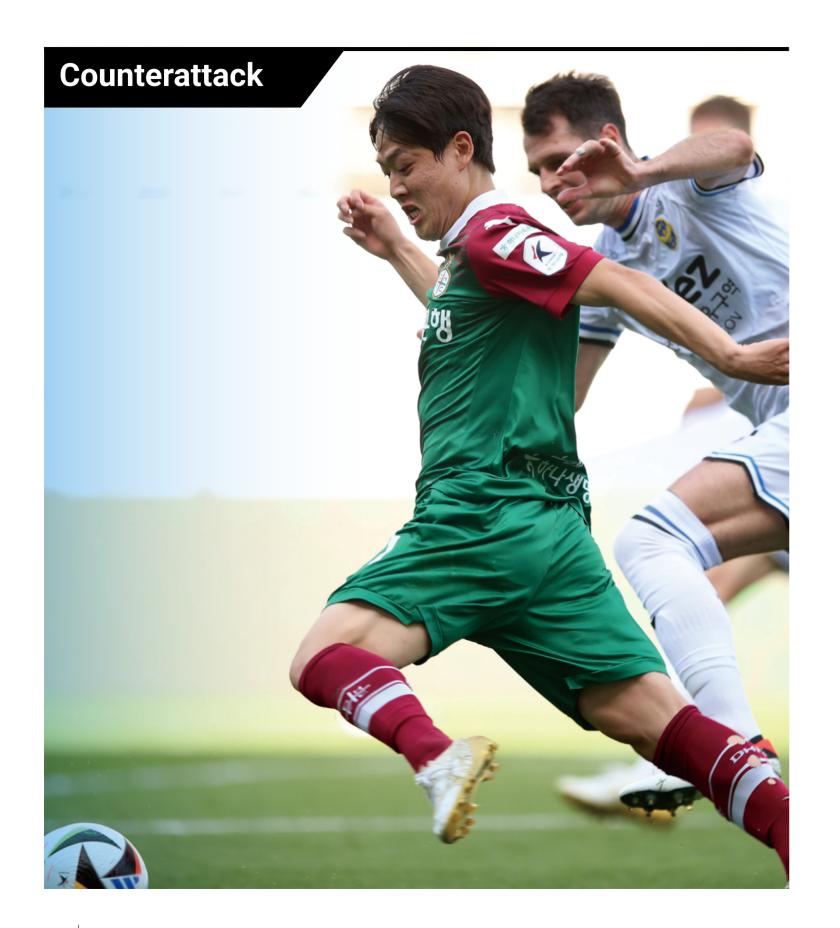
collect the ball unopposed. In chaotic situations, a lack of defensive concentration became Pohang's Achilles' heel.

In the future, Pohang will need to implement a more detailed system to ensure that players can closely track the players they're supposed to be marking. Without focus and proactive engagement during second-ball situations, it's highly likely that Pohang's conceding patterns will persist. The conceding rate of 40.8% from set-pieces suggests that this is not merely a series of individual mistakes, but a structural issue that requires improvement. Pohang, who were top of the league in the early stage of the season, lost

momentum due to the number of goals they conceded from set-pieces.

However, there were plenty of positives. Set-piece situations only account for a small fraction of total match time. In contrast, addressing defensive issues during open play requires considerable time and effort. Pohang have one of the lowest goal-conceding rates from open play compared to any other team. In other words, if they can maintain their current strengths and improve their ability to defend set-pieces, there is a strong possibility that Pohang's overall conceding rate will decrease significantly next season.





3.9 3.7 3.6 3.5 4.3
3.6
3.5
4.3
4.3
4.1
4.5
4.4
4.6
4.8
4.6
4.1
3.8
3.3

Average direct speed and number of passes per sequence

The K League is showing a general trend of decreasing emphasis on counterattacks. The average number of passes per sequence has increased by about 0.3 compared to last year, while direct speed has slowed down by over 3 km/h. When comparing this data to 2022, the trend becomes even more noticeable. Between 2022 and 2024, direct speed has decreased by about 4 km/h, and the average number of passes has increased by 0.8.

The 2024 season demonstrates that the K League is

gradually shifting its focus towards attacking transitions within the four phases of football: organised attack, attack-to-defence transitions, organised defence, and defence-to-attack transitions. The increase in attacking transitions suggests that teams are focusing more on structured attacks rather than relying on counterattacks.

Of course, there are still several clubs that remain focused on counterattacks, with Daejeon, Daegu, and Incheon being prominent examples.

45

COUNTERATTACK

Team	Average GK-to-Defensive Line Distance	Average Height of Defensive Line
Daejeon	27.7m	38.3m
Pohang	27.2m	37.0m
Daegu	26.7m	36.3m
Jeonbuk	24.8m	36.2m
Incheon	24.4m	36.1m
Jeju	24.5m	35.8m
Suwon FC	25.0m	35.3m
Ulsan	25.2m	35.0m
Gimcheon	25.2m	34.6m
Seoul	25.5m	34.1m
Gangwon	23.4m	33.4m
Gwangju	22.7m	32.8m
Average	25.2m	35.4m

Daejeon

The data clearly shows that Daejeon's team was built for counterattacks. Their direct speed per sequence was 10.5 km/h, the second-fastest among all 12 K League 1 clubs. At the same time, their average number of passes was just 3.7, among the fewest. These figures reflect Daejeon's intent to reach the opposition's half as quickly as possible with the fewest passes.



Daejeon's counterattacks exploited the space in behind with their quick attackers. Daejeon had players perfectly suited for counterattacks. Kim In-gyun and Kim Seung-dae both reached top speeds of around 34 km/h, while Leandro surpassed 36 km/h. Considering their acceleration, there was no defender in K League who could easily stop them. In fact, the players mentioned individually recorded between 24 and 28 sprints. They were a nightmare for defenders.

To exploit space behind during counterattacks, it's crucial to drop the defensive line as low as possible and draw the opponents forward, both in attack and defence. Daejeon formed the lowest final defensive line in the K League, at just 32.8 meters. This deep defensive line is clear evidence of Daejeon's focus on counterattacks.

Daegu

Daegu is another team that cannot be overlooked when discussing counterattacks. With a direct speed of 10.3 km/h, the third-fastest in the league, and the fewest average passes (3.5), Daegu's data requires a deeper analysis. Rather than relying solely on long balls, Daegu sought to combine speed and stability through their build-up play.

Daegu's counterattacks involved quickly connecting the midfield and wide areas after regaining posses-



Daegu quickly advanced into the opposition's half by utilising short, fast passes. sion, launching attacks before the opposition had time to reorganise. The player in possession utilised short, accurate passes to bring others into play, or advanced directly at the right moment to maintain their attacking flow.

In this process, Cesinha became the link, amplifying the threat with his creative passing and dribbling. Daegu maximised their transition speeds by mixing short passes, while maintaining a high direct speed. Cesinha's ball control played a key role too in increasing the team's transition speed and he was always the foundation of Daegu's counterattacks.

Daegu's counterattacks, led by Cesinha, were not solely dependent on speed. They involved multiple players, exploiting space in several different areas. This is why Daegu's efficient counterattacks had the sustainability to be effective throughout the season.

Incheon

Incheon's counterattacks were somewhat different from those of Daejeon and Daegu. The data itself reflects this. Incheon's direct speed and average passes per sequence were exactly the same as the league average.

Over the past three years, Incheon maintained a competitive edge by playing typical counterattacking football with a faster direct speed and fewer passes per sequence than the league average. However, in the 2024 season, they failed to deviate from the average in any category.

The arrival of a new head coach and the subsequent change in playing style also contributed to their in-

ability to break away from the league averages. Quick counterattacks after breaking the press had been Incheon's trademark. However, in 2024, rather than focusing on speed and efficiency, they attempted more possession-based build-up play from the back. This shift led to slower transitions, which ultimately dulled the sharpness of their counterattacks.

With their counterattack data staying at league-average levels, Incheon lost their identity. The numbers they posted don't just reflect a failure in changing styles; they starkly highlight the significant risks associated with losing a team's unique character.



Incheon, once known for their typical counterattacking football, found themselves in a transitional phase between playing styles.

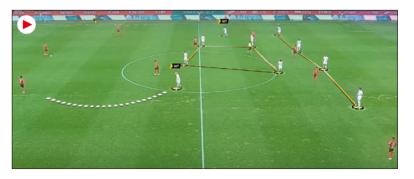


The traditional method of applying a high press involved using one or two forwards to pressure the opposition centre backs when they had possession, forcing the play out wide and isolating the opponent. This was a simple yet effective strategy, restricting the opposition's build-up play to the flanks. However, in 2024, several clubs introduced more sophisticated and creative approaches to pressing high up the pitch, showcasing new possibilities.

When Ulsan HD changed their manager, the team's playing style also transformed. They reinterpreted the high press through a central approach, opting for a strategy that applied man-to-man marking pressure on opposing midfielders. This approach differed in

that it funnelled the opposition's build-up play through the centre rather than the flanks. Ulsan didn't just limit the passing options for the opposition's backline but also set traps to force midfielders to operate in tight spaces. These pressing situations compelled the opponents to take risks. As a result, Ulsan frequently regained possession in advanced central areas, maximising opportunities for counterattacks. This innovative approach stemmed from Ulsan's commitment to an intense high press combined with man-toman marking. Successfully implementing such tactics demands midfielders with exceptional stamina, the ability to maintain optimal spacing, and precise timing in applying pressure.

Team	Avg. PPDA	Avg. no. of shots allowed
Ulsan	10.1	11.4
Gimcheon	10.4	10.2
Gwangju	10.6	10.5
Seoul	11.0	10.7
Jeju	11.7	12.9
Daejeon	12.0	13.1
Pohang	12.1	12.1
Jeonbuk	12.4	12.7
Suwon FC	12.7	10.7
Daegu	13.2	12.7
Gangwon	13.3	9.8
Incheon	14.7	11.5
Average	12.0	11.5



 $When facing \ specific \ formations, \ Ulsan's \ pressing \ style \ guided \ the \ opposition \ towards \ the \ centre.$

Gwangju FC implemented their high press based on a 4-3-3 formation, maximising speed and intensity. From the moment the opposition gained possession, Gwangju applied rapid, direct pressure to disrupt opposition passing, effectively cutting down decision-making time. They also targeted the initial build-up phase between the centre backs and goalkeeper, aiming to destabilise the opposition. This approach involved reading the opponent's passing intentions and pre-emptively disrupting their play.

Gangwon FC showcased a more calculated approach to pressing. Operating in a 4-4-2 formation, they prioritised closely observing the movements of opposing midfielders and the passing direction of the centre backs over rushing forward recklessly. Their focus was on intercepting passing lanes. The two forwards

positioned at the front blocked the passing channels between the opposition's centre backs and midfielders. This structured pressing was supported by close coordination with the midfielders. By creating an environment that limited the opponent's passing options, Gangwon pressured the opposition centre backs and midfielders into making errors, which often led to counterattacks. Though Gangwon's pressing style might appear passive on the surface, as reflected in their league ranking of 11th for the PPDA index, they consistently intercepted passes in advanced positions.

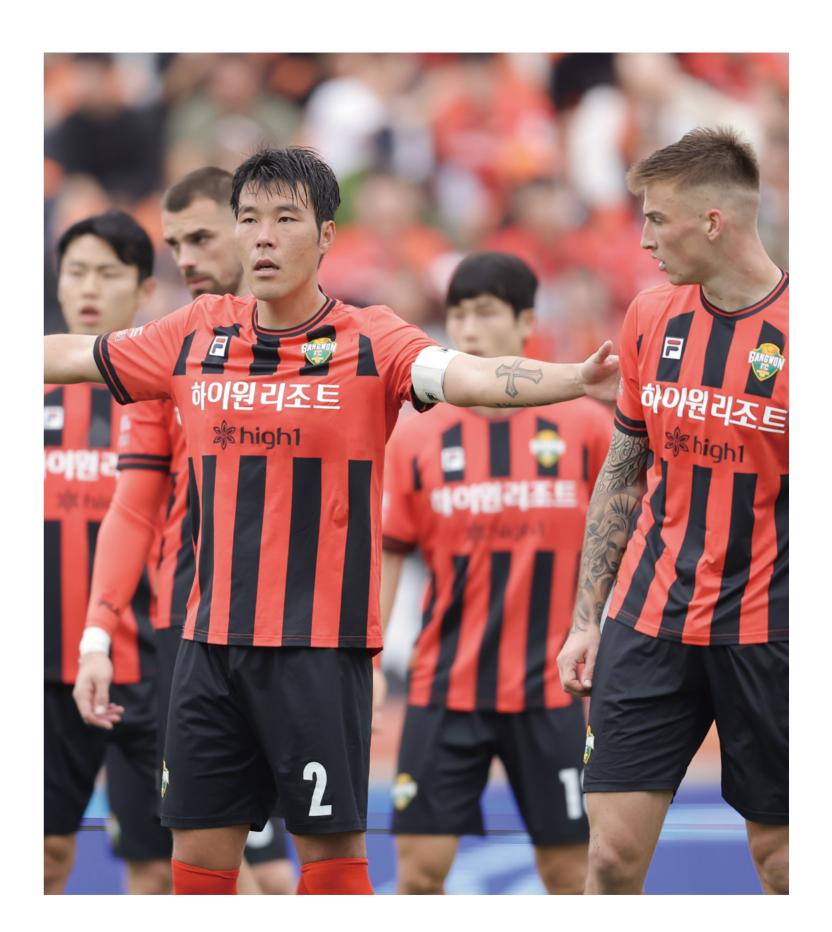
In K League, tactical approaches to high pressing have developed in various ways, depending on each team's philosophy and game management strategy.

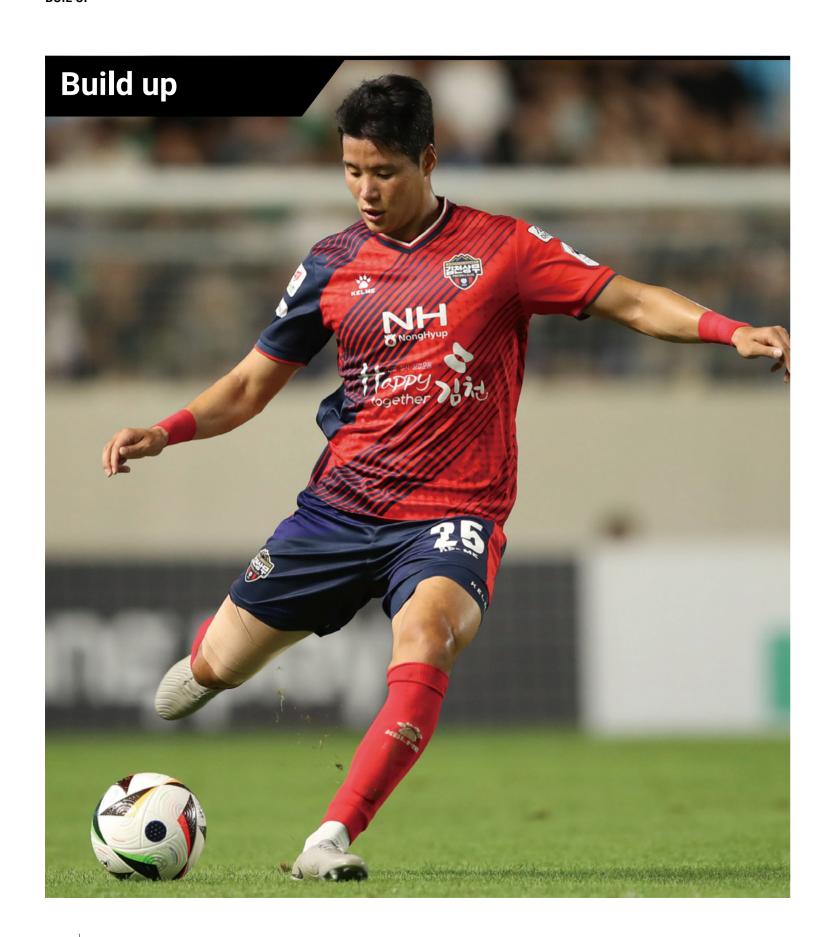


Gwangju's direct pressing robbed the opposition of decision-making time.



Gangwon set traps and wait for the opposition to step in.





Final A and Final B

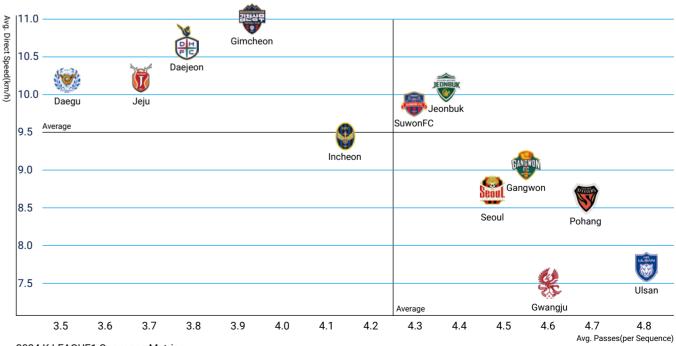
In the 2024 K League season, teams in Final A such as Ulsan, Pohang, Seoul, and Gangwon, and teams in Final B like Daegu, Daejeon, and Jeju adopted contrasting tactical approaches. Their choices significantly impacted the league standings.

Teams in Final A generally recorded a high number of passes and a slower direct speed, indicating a preference for a possession-based and gradual build-up play. They organised their attacks through precise passing to break down opposing defences while aiming to minimise risk. Although a slower direct speed allowed opponents time to organise their defence, it was a deliberate approach to steadily create space. By maintaining stable and structured play, these teams achieved consistent results.

In contrast, teams in Final B disrupted their opponents

with rapid direct speed and fewer passes. Teams like Daegu, Daejeon, and Jeju utilised speed-driven counterattacks to launch their offensives. They excelled by attempting to score with just a few passes after regaining possession, capitalising on quick transitions before the opposition could organise themselves defensively. However, they faced challenges in maintaining a consistently high level of attacking play.

These tactical characteristics were reflected in the league standings. Final A teams maintained their positions at the top through their stable and organised approach, effectively breaking through opposing defences. Meanwhile, Final B teams managed to secure points with quick transitions and direct play. However, their lack of consistent attacking prowess ultimately meant they finished in the bottom half of the table.



2024 K LEAGUE1 Sequence Metrics

03 ANALYSIS

Gimcheon Sangmu

Then, why did Gimcheon, who finished third in the league, record similar statistical indicators to Final B teams? One reason can be found in their squad composition and tactical choices. Gimcheon pursued a style that maximised direct speed through quick play and minimal passing. This approach is rooted in the unique nature of the club, which is composed of players serving their military duties.

Gimcheon, bound by the conditions of player enlistment and discharge, faces inevitable large-scale squad changes each year. This makes it challenging to maintain cohesion and proficiency. Considering these practical constraints, the team gravitates toward



Gimcheon's buildup play focused on exploiting opponents' pockets of space with precise timing. simple and effective play rather than intricate buildup. From the perspective of maximising the potential of the squad within a short timeframe, straightforward tactics prove to be more efficient.

Gimcheon is a relatively young and energetic team, which significantly influences their tactical choices. Analysis of the average age of players who appeared in 18 or more K League 1 matches shows that Gimcheon had the youngest squad in the league, averaging just 24.9 years. They also recorded a PPDA (Passes Per Defensive Action) of 10.4, the second-most intense pressing rate after Ulsan. Leveraging the stamina of their young players, Gimcheon employed a high press to regain possession in advanced areas and swiftly transitioned into attack. This high-energy approach defined their tactical mechanism.

As a result, Gimcheon exhibited faster direct speed and fewer passes, leading to data similar to that of Final B teams. The underlying reason lies in the unique circumstances the team faces.

Gwangju FC

In 2024, Gwangju showed that they had something of a unique team identity. The team recorded the highest average number of passes per sequence (4.6) and the longest possession time (14.5 seconds), while also demonstrating the slowest direct speed (7.3 km/h), establishing a distinctive approach. These statistics suggest that Gwangju's strategy went beyond mere possession, actively using the ball to draw out and invite pressure from the opposition.

Gwangju used precise ball distribution and passing



Gwangju's buildup structure, which is actively engaged in what is known as 'position play', confuses the play to draw opponents forward, effectively neutralising the press. They then advanced by exploiting the space created behind the press. This sequence highlights Gwangju's team philosophy of creating space through a slow-tempo, intricate build-up, and then swiftly exploiting the areas that were opened up. Their high pass frequency and possession not only ensured stable game management but also demonstrated Gwangju's strategic mindset of pressing opponents' weaknesses beyond simply maintaining control.

In the 2024 season, Gwangju presented a significant challenge to many teams through their playing style. They showcased creative football by cleverly exploiting the traps set by teams that pressed. Gwangju's game model, going beyond the accumulation of meaningful data, symbolised the club's philosophy.

Highest Expected Threat (xT): Anderson Oliveira

Anderson	WF/AM	7.7
		7.7
Wanderson	WB	5.4
Choi Jun	FB	5.1
Hwang Mun-ki	WB	4.8
Lee Yong	FB	4.8
Cesinha	WF/AM	4.7
Jeong Ho-yeon	FB	4.6
Lee Myung-jae	FB	4.3
Hwang Jae-won	WB	4.3
Shin Kwang-hoon	WB	4.2

Eight of the top ten players in the xT rankings are full-backs or wingbacks. However, what sets Anderson apart is that he topped the list despite playing as a winger and attacking midfielder. His contributions weren't confined to specific areas; what makes him exceptional is his role in orchestrating the whole build-up in attack.

Usually, fullbacks and wingbacks accumulate xT values by passing and moving forward under pressure after opponents have forced the ball out wide. In contrast, Anderson executed passes and build-up play in highly threatening areas near the opponent's box.



Anderson became one of the best attacking players this season, recording the highest number of goal involvements. His progressive play far exceeded that of traditional fullbacks, usually ranking high in the xT indicator. One of the K League's standout wingbacks, Wanderson, ranked second with an xT value of 5.4. However, Anderson outperformed Wanderson by a significant margin, recording a value of 2.3 points higher. Considering that the figures below Wanderson are relatively marginal, Anderson's exceptional xT value stands out even more prominently.

Anderson was not confined to the role of a traditional winger but led the team's attacks from various positions. He roamed across the pitch, operating on the left, right, and through the centre. In doing so, he orchestrated the team's attack with forward dribbles and passes. His finishing was equally impressive. Notably, when focusing on the attacking build-up process, Anderson excelled at moving the ball from low-xT areas to high-xT areas, showcasing truly outstanding ability in this regard.



Goalkeeping data for this season reveals a perplexing metric: the story of 'xGOT - actual goals conceded.' This metric reflects how well a goalkeeper saves shots on target. If a goalkeeper records a higher xGOT than the actual goals conceded, it indicates above-average performances. For example, if the xGOT is 10 but the actual goals conceded are seven, it suggests the goalkeeper 'saved' three goals.

An intriguing point emerged when K League 1 teams were ranked based on this metric. Four of the top six teams in this regard were from Final B, while four of the bottom five teams were from Final A. This demonstrates that a goalkeeper's performance does not necessarily align with the team's results. Therefore, it is essential to examine how factors such as defensive structure, tactical approach, and the specific roles assigned to goalkeepers influence the goalkeepers' performance data from multiple angles.

The reason why the Final B teams recorded relatively high xGOT-goals conceded values is likely due to the fact that they conceded more dangerous shots and this is because Final B teams are more likely to have weaker defensive structures. Despite this, their goal-keepers showcased remarkable saves. In contrast, many Final A teams ranked lower in xGOT values.

Team	xGOT	xGOT - conceded
Daejeon	54.8	7.8
Daegu	53.7	2.7
Gimcheon	40.0	2.0
Jeju	51.9	1.9
Seoul	40.9	1.9
Incheon	49.9	0.9
Gwangju	45.5	-1.5
Ulsan	36.3	-3.7
Suwon FC	51.3	-3.7
Jeonbuk	52.9	-6.1
Pohang	41.9	-7.1
Gangwon	43.1	-10.1



This season saw an unusually high number of top-class goalkeeper performances, yet these cannot directly be reflected in the team's overall results.

While these teams maintained solid defensive structures and conceded fewer shots, it is likely that the opposition's shots were more dangerous, or they may have lacked crucial saves at decisive moments.

The changing role of goalkeepers is also a key point of analysis. In the past, goalkeepers were solely tasked with shot-stopping, but nowadays, they are increasingly required to participate in build-up play and get involved with some actions outside the box, effectively fulfilling the role of a 'sweeper-keeper.' This means their contributions are becoming more important not only in defence but also in attacking situations. The shift in goalkeeper trends is noticeable not only internationally but also in the K League. Even if a particular goalkeeper doesn't record high xGOT-goals conceded figures, it's important to consider whether they made significant contributions in stabilising the team's build-up or controlling the defensive line.

The 2024 season could mark the year where we highlight the correlation between goalkeeper performance and team defensive styles. The fact that teams with a high value of xGOT-goals conceded did not necessarily finish high in the standings prompts a closer look at how the defensive system, including the goalkeeper, contributed to the team's overall performance. There were also instances where number one goalkeepers were changed during the season. Therefore, rather than focusing solely on the performance of individual goalkeepers, it is important to analyse how the overall defensive structure influenced the goalkeepers' effectiveness.

The 2024 season marked a pivotal point for K League clubs to start exploring how they could evolve their defensive organisation and goalkeeper management strategies. Final A teams improved their defensive efficiency by implementing a cohesive defensive system, including high pressing, which helped lower their xGOT. In contrast, Final B teams struggled to maintain competitiveness, relying heavily on their goalkeeper's shot-stopping ability in more challenging situations. An examination of goalkeeper-related data can directly inform how teams will refine their overall defensive systems and goalkeeper strategies for the upcoming season.

Evaluating goalkeepers solely based on goals conceded has its limitations.

03 ANALYSIS









Crowned K League 1 champions for the third consecutive year. It was a tumultuous season, but the team's long-established spirit held everything together. They were the most 'champi-

Manager Kim Pangon				
Date of Birth 1969. 05. 01.				
Manager Records	W	D	L	
2024	9	3	1	
K League	19	10	17	





SQUAD					
Positio	on Player	Арр	Min	GC	CS
GK	HYEONWOO	36	3,818	40	14
Positio	on Player	Арр	Min	G	Α
DF	MINWOO	5	272	0	0
	KEEHEE	22	2,116	0	0
	YOUNGGWON	21	1,964	2	0
	JUHWAN	2	118	0	0
	YOUNGWOO	9	793	0	1
	SANGMIN	9	628	0	0
	MYUNGJAE	28	2,724	0	3
	JONGEUN	24	1,986	0	0
	SIYOUNG	18	765	1	0
	KANGMIN	21	782	1	0
	JAESEOCK	2	51	0	0
	SEOKHO	18	1,373	0	0
MF	YUNGU	20	964	2	1
	SEUNGBEOM	28	2,414	4	3
	MINWOO	19	1,033	2	2
	MINJUN	6	256	1	0
	MINHYEOK	14	714	0	0
	WONSANG	22	1,813	7	5
	DUJAE	12	596	0	0
	ILLOK	26	1,783	2	3
	GYUSUNG	7	431	2	0
	DONGKYEONG	29	1,709	5	3
	LUDWIGSON	26	1,660	4	2
	MATHEUS	5	371	0	0
	BOJANIC	26	2,226	0	1
	ARDABIDZE	25	1,566	0	1
	ATARU	8	611	7	5
	KELVIN	1	28	0	0
	JAEUK	23	1,091	0	4
	CHUNGYONG	8	457	0	0
	WOOYOUNG	10	472	_1_	0
FW	JIHYUN	10	494	1	0
	CHUYOUNG	10	577	3	0
	MARTIN ADAM	2	44	1	1
	YAGO	12	687	4	1
	MINKYU	33	2,549	10	4

29.7 71(6th) 0

	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
MINKYU	10	32	12.1
LUDWIGSON	7	16	4.6
DONGKYEONG	7	14	2.6
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
LUDWIGSON	5	20	76
DONGKYEONG	5	14	29

Possessio	n			
	[5	54.29	(2nd)	
			()	

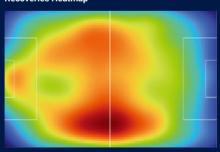
Attacking third	Middle third	Defensive thir
	56.3%	
2nd	2nd	1st

Passes	
552 1st	

tance	Pass Direction	
9%	Forward	38%
36%	Back	23%
55%	Sideway	38%

86.6%

Recoveries Heatmap



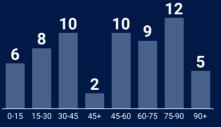
Total Distance 116.7_{km} Last Defender-Top Forward 34.2_m 3rd

Sprints 188.9 10th

10(16%) 8 (31%) (13%) 11(18%) Outside PA **9**(15%)

	PK	OWI	goals	IOLAI	
3(5%)		2	(3%)	62	
хG		xGOT	xG concede	d xGOT conceded	
	50.4	62.0	41.0	36.4	
	1st	1st	7th	12th	

Goals scored by minutes



Shoot sequence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs to total sequences
380 5th	3.9 3rd	8.2 _{5th}

1. Remarkable variety of scoring routes, with 17 different players finding the net

- 2. Maximised the use of central forwards during build-up
- 3. Ko Seung-beom covered an impressive 13 km in his final month's workload, demonstrating relentless movement
- 4. Applied pressure to the opposition with a 4-2-2-2 defensive structure

GANGWON FC

KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video >





A season of turnaround. A club that had to go through the K League Promotion-Relegation Playoffs in 2023 finished second in 2024. The leadership of head coach Yoon Jung-hwan, along with the performances of players like Yang Min-hyeok, Lee Sang-heon, and Hwang Mun-ki, came together in perfect harmony.

Manager Yoon Jonghwan					
Date of Birth 1973. 02. 16.					
Manager Records	W	D	L		
2024	19	7	12		
K League	51	44	41		





Position	Player	Арр	Min	GC	CS
GK	CHUNGHYO	9	917	19	1
	GWANGYEON	28	2,821	37	6
Position	Player	Арр	Min	G	Α
DF	TUCI	32	2,965	1	2
	YOUNGBIN	25	2,346	1	0
	WOOSEOK	4	143	0	1
	JUNSEOK	22	1,351	1	0
	MINHA	20	359	0	0
	INS00	28	1,822	2	4
	SUKYOUNG	17	1,533	2	2
	YOUHYEON	25	1,967	0	1
	JISOL	6	325	0	0
	HYUNTAE	3	41	0	0
MF	JIHOON	1	52	0	0
	KANGGUK	32	2,120	0	1
	DAEW00	14	952	1	2
	DONGHYUN	12	937	0	0
	YISEOK	18	1,277	2	2
	GIHYUK	35	3,209	0	4
	SANGHEON	37	2,813	13	6
	KAMIYA	10	302	0	0
	KOOKYOUNG	6	325	0	0
	MUNKI	36	3,523	2	7
FW	GABRIEL	13	585	0	0
	GALEG0	4	151	0	0
	GYEONGMIN	11	407	2	0
	HYEONGJIN	2	44	0	0
	KYOUNGBAE	1	12	0	0
	YAG0	18	1,671	9	1
	MINHYUK	38	3,306	12	6
	WELINTON	3	253	0	0
	HANMIN	14	530	3	1
	JINHYUK	27	1,235	2	1
	JUNSEO	6	152	1	0
	SEONGMIN	1	4	Ó	Ō
	KOVACEVIC	15	1,111	4	Ō
	HADZIC	3	60	Ó	Ō
	HENRY	10	445	ĭ	Ö
		_		1-	

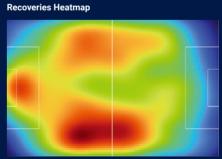
24.5

	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
SANGHEON	13	27	10.7
MINHYUK	12	27	6.5
YAG0	9	16	5.5
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
MUNKI	7	20	119
MINHYUK	6	31	66
	_		

Possession 49.8%(7th)



Pass Distance		Pass Direction	
Long	11%	Forward	39%
Medium	39%	Back	24%
Short	50%	Sideway	37%





2nd

3rd



PK	Own	goals	Total
2(3%)	3	(5%)	62
xG	xGOT	xG conceded	xGOT conceded
46.3	54.5	40.9	43.3
3rd	2nd	8th	8th





- 1. Built a 3-2-4-1 shape when attacking
- 2. Secured routes to goal with triangle passing and one-
- 3. Yang Min-hyeok, the standout performer of the 2024 K League 1 season
- 4. Maintained a 4-4-2 shape when defending



KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video >



They broke the formula that a military team struggles in K League 1. Under the guidance of head coach Chung Jung-yong, these young soldiers achieved the best-ever season for a K League military team. Their pressing intensity was the second-strongest in the league.

Manager Chung Jungyong				
Date of Birth 1969.04.01.				
Manager Records	W	D	L	
2024	18	9	11	
K League	63	45	56	







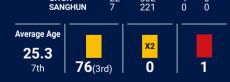
Kim Gi-dong's version of Seoul grew stronger as the season progressed. While there were some ups and downs in the early part of the season, they got on track and became a formidable force. The fact

that their pass count ranked third in the league is also noteworthy.						
Manager Kim Gidong						
Date of Birth 1972. 01. 12.						
Manager Records	W	D				
2024	16	10	12			
K League	89	60	60			





Position	Player	App	Min	GC	CS
GK	HYEONMU	4	352	7	7
	DONGHEON	17	1,694	19	6
	JOONHONG	17	1,659	12	15
	MYEONGJE	_1	101	3	0
Position	Player	App	Min	G	Α
DF	KANGSAN	11	882	0	0
	MINDUK	20	1,177	0	0
	JAEW00	5	452	0	0
	TAEHYUN	13	1,077	2	0
	DAEWON	14	839	0	1
	MINGYU	15	1,385	0	1
	SOOIL	26	2,052	0	1
	SEUNGWOOK	32	3,032	0	2
	CHANYONG	13	1,156	0	0
	INPY0	4	123	0	1
	JONGGYU	9	521	0	0
	JINYONG	10	232	0	0
	JINWOO	2	33	0	0
	HYUNTAEK	12	597	0	0
MF	HYUNMUK	15	1,212	2	1
	DONGHYUN MINJUN	13 12	808 459	0 1	1
	BONGSOO	38	459 3,768	0	1
	JUNHO	38	3,768 49	0	0
	JINGYU	ა 15	1.398	0	2
	HYEONUG	14	943	5	1
	SEONGUNG	11	588	ა 1	Ó
	MINWOO	25	2,007	3	0
	DUJAE	12	1,083	1	Õ
	DONGKYEONG	18	1,391	5	1
	SANGMIN	3	70	ŏ	i
	SEUNGWON	8	480	ĭ	ò
FW	BONCHEOL	3	117	<u></u>	<u></u>
	KYUNGJUN	5	236	ō	
	DAEWON	28	1,779	5	2 8
	SEUNGSUB	12	587	2	1
	CHAN	3	51	0	0
	JAEHYEON	25	1,515	4	3
	SANGHYEOK	17	1,090	4	0
	KIJONG	1_	28	0	0
	KANGHYUN	27	1,328	6	1
	DONGJUN	8	342	1	0



	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
KANGHYUN	6	14	7.0
DAEWON	5	14	4.5
DONGKYEONG	5	22	5.6
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
DAEWON	Assists 8	Key Passes 47	Crosses 116
DAEWON JAEHYEON			



Attacking tillu	Milaule tilla	Defensive un
52.0 _{4th}	50.9%	46.4s
Passes		Pass Accuracy
475		85.0%

7 (1)		011	
Pass Distance		Pass Direction	
Long	11%	Forward	42%
Medium	35%	Back	22%
Short	54%	Sideway	36%



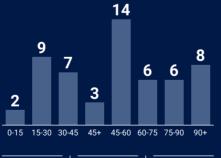
PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forw
10.5	32.9 _m
2nd	6th
Total Distance	Sprints
11E 0	200 4

1st

Go	als			
		11(20%)		
	4 (7%)	13(24%)	9 (16%)	
		Outside PA 10(18%)		

PK		Own goals		Total	
6(11%)		2(4%)		55	
хG		xGOT xG conce		ded	xGOT conceded
49.8	5	52.2	39.2	2	40.0
2nd		3rd	10th		11th

Goals scored by minutes



Shoot equence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SS: total sequen	
434	3.2	9.2,	
1st	7th	1st	

- 1. Actively exploited pockets of space when attacking
- $2. \, \mbox{Positioned}$ up to seven players in the opposition box to demonstrate offensive intent
- 3. Formed a 4-4-2 shape in defence, pushing the opposition towards the flanks
- 4. Revealed vulnerabilities in defensive transitions following turnovers

Position Player Min GC CS App 12 7 16 6 11 3 3 0 13 HYEONMU 1.313 1,634 819 JONGBUM CHULWON SUNGMIN 104 Min G A **Position Player** 3,192 2,493 2,359 471 SANGW00 WANKYU JUSUNG JINYA SEONGHOON 1,141 306 1,208 840 902 3,495 SULAKA YAZAN JONGGYU TAESEOK JUN 241 HYUNS00

FC SEOUL



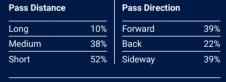
N	SEONGJIN	22	1,002	2	1
	JUHYEOK	10	388	1	1
	GYEONGMIN	2	65	0	0
	SINJIN	9	254	1	0
	LUCAS	12	983	2	0
	LINGARD	26	2,182	6	3
	DONGJIN	16	698	1	2
	SEUNGBEOM	7	246	1	0
	WILLYAN	24	1,035	5	0
	ILJUTCENKO	36	2,753	14	5
	SANGHYUB	30	1,398	3	4
	YOUNGWOOK	29	1,943	4	4
	RONALDO	8	121	2	1

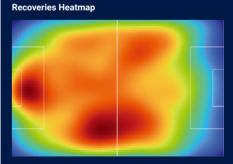
Average Age			
05.5		X2	
25.7	_		
5th	84 (1st)	0	1

	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
ILJUTCENKO	14	30	11.2
LUCAS	6	21	5.2
WILLYAN	5	8	2.8
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
SUNGYUENG	Assists 5	Key Passes 18	Crosses 101
SUNGYUENG ILJUTCENKO			

Possession 51.4%(4th)

Attacking third Middle		e third	Defensive third
51.4 _{5th}	52	.1 _%	48.6 _{7th}
Passes		Pass Accuracy	
514		84.6%	
3rd			9th
Pass Distance		Pass Di	rection





PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forward
11.1	30.0₅
4th	10th
Total Distance	Sprints
115.2 _{km}	202.5

8th



PK 2(4%)		goals (0%)	Total 55	
xG	xGOT	xG conceded	xGOT conceded	
44.4	50.8	38.9	40.9	
7th	4th	11th	10th	

Goals scored by minutes



-15 15-30 30-	45 45+ 45-60 60	9-75 75-90 90+
Shoot equence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs to total sequences
365	3.5	8.0%
6th	4th	4th

- 1. Jesse Lingard showcased sharpness on set pieces
- 2. Midfielders adjusted their balance based on team-
- 3. Started in a 4-4-2 shape defensively, transitioning into an asymmetric 4-3-3 by pressing from the wings
- 4. Vulnerable when man-to-man marking fails in midfield



KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video >





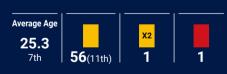
Young manager Kim Eun-jung and his passionate players left their mark. Their possession in the attacking area, ranking third in the league, is particularly impressive. It clearly shows how

Manager Kim Eunjung					
Date of Birth 1979. 04. 08.					
W	D	L			
15	8	15			
15	8	15			
	04. 08. W 15	04. 08. W D 15 8			





Position Player Min GC CS App 299 8 DONGGEON 3,414 JOONSOO 34 45 4 Min G **Position Player** YOUNHO 133 KYUNGWON 752 JUYEOP 2,307 2,934 TAEHAN CHEOLWOO ARHAN YONG 2,849 HYUNYONG 463 YEONGWOO 1,397 JACKSON 1,613 159 1,959 DONGHO KYUBAEK SANGYOON KYUNGHO 703 706 BITGARAM 3,102 2,572 3,161 JAEWON SEUNGWON 116 112 JOONHYEON TRINDADE KYOWON 379 SOONMIN MINSUNG ANDERSON 3,386 175 185 BYONGJUN **GWANGHYEOK** SEUNGWOO 1,172 JOONSUK 300 346 440 SEUNGBAE JAEMIN DONGWON 2,049 JUNGWOO 667



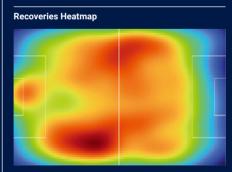
JOSE

	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
SEUNGWON	11	23	6.1
SEUNGWOO	10	23	7.7
ANDERSON	7	25	8.8
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
ANDERSON	13	62	116
SEUNGWON	6	30	109
JAEWON	4	12	14



32. I %	4 / . 9th	/ %	4 / . / 9th
Passes		Pa	ss Accuracy
495 5th		8	2.9 _{12th}

Pass Distance		Pass Direction	
Long	12%	Forward	41%
Medium	36%	Back	23%
Short	52%	Sideway	36%



PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forv
12.8	31.3 _m
Total Distance	Sprints
113.3 _{km}	192.6

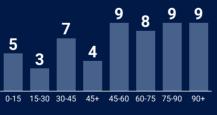
11th

Goa	ls	



PK	Own	goals	Total
3(6%)	1	(2%)	54
хG	xGOT	xG conceded	xGOT conceded
45.4	49.6	44.7	51.5
5th	6th	6th	5th

Goals scored by minutes



Shoot quence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs total sequence
415	3.5	9.2
2nd	5th	2nd

vard

7th

- 1. 'Assist King' Anderson Oliveira recorded a hugely im-
- 2. Utilised the goalkeeper during build-up to secure a numerical advantage
- 3. Typically employed a 5-2-3 formation in defence
- 4. Relentlessly pressed opposing attackers using a back

POHANG STEELERS



Position Player

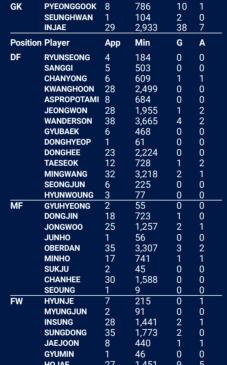
Displayed a distinctive style of football. With the highest pass success rate in the league and the second-most passes, Pohang maintained their unique Steelers' way. The development of young players like Lee Ho-jae and Hong Yoon-sang was also notable

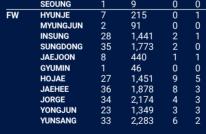
Manager Park Taeha	ı			
Date of Birth 1968. 05. 29.				
Manager Records	W	D	L	
2024	14	11	13	
K League	14	11	13	

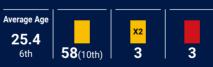




Min GC CS App Possession 786 104 2,933 10 1 2 0 38 7





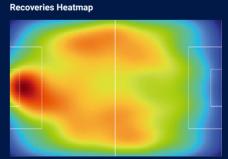


	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
HOJAE	9	21	6.9
JAEHEE	8	15	3.8
YUNSANG	6	17	8.2
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
HOJAE	5	13	14
	J	13	17
JAEHEE	3	25	98

53.3%(3rd)



Pass Distance		Pass Direction	1
Long	11%	Forward	40%
Medium	36%	Back	23%
Short	53%	Sideway	37%





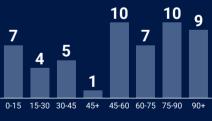
5th





PK		Own	goals		Total
5 (9%)		2	(4%)		53
хG	-	xGOT	xG conce	ded	xGOT conceded
45.3	5	50.1	40.2	2	41.9
6th		5th	9th		9th

Goals scored by minutes



15 15-50 50-	43 43 1 43-00 00	1-73 73-90 90 1
Shoot juence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs to total sequences
356	4.0	7.9%
10th	2nd	10th

- 1. Adopted a 3-2-5 formation, pushing Wanderson forward
- 2. Showcased destructive attacking power through the duo of Lee Ho-jae and Jeong Jae-hee
- 3. Maintained a 4-4-2 formation during defensive phases
- 4. Attempted to regain possession by applying counter-pressing during defensive transitions

65







First season under manager Kim Hak-bum. They tended to lose possession. One strength, however, was their consistency-they maintained a similar level of performance throughout the entire season without significant dips.

Manager Kim Hakbu	ım		
Date of Birth 1960. (03. 01.		
Manager Records	W	D	L
2024	15	4	19
K League	133	88	105





Position	Player	App	Min	GC	cs
GK	DONGJUN	31	3,157	43	9
	CHANGI	_7	694	11	2
Position	Player	Арр	Min	G	Α
DF	TAEHWAN	32	2,490	2	1
	JUHUN	27	2,597	1	0
	TAEHYUN	33	3,244	4	0
	JEWOON	16	1,530	0	0
	JUYONG	16	1,373	1	0
	CHANGWOO	24	1,996	1	0
	CHAIMIN	18	1,636	0	0
	SUNGJIN	9	174	0	0
	WOON	23	2,252	0	1
	INJUNG	2	40	0	0
	JAESEOCK	8	169	0	0
	JUNHO	17	637	_1_	0
MF	JACHEOL	3	83	0	0
	GEONWOONG	18	1,271	0	0
	JAEMIN	6	96	0	0
	JUNGMIN	20	1,136	0	0
	TAEHEE	8	505	0	3
	ITALO	37	3,206	3	1
	YOUNGJUN	12	811	0	0
	KAINA JONGMU	18	1,036	1 2	0 1
	REIS	31 28	1,491 1.867	4	2
FW	GALEGO	<u>∠8</u> 16	954	_ 4	-
FVV	SEUNGSUB	10 8	95 4 386	0	0
	JUKONG	9	483	3	1
	JUSEUNG	1	35	0	0
	JUYEONG	6	178	0	0
	SEUNGHEON	5	247	0	1
	JINSU	38	2,614	3	3
	HONGGYU	11	438	2	0
	YURI	28	2,190	7	2
	JAEMIN	3	73	ó	0
	SANGUK	1	48	Ô	0
	SUNGWOOK	16	784	2	Õ
	TALES	8	318	0	Õ







	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
YURI	7	30	11.5
REIS	4	18	5.3
TAEHYUN	4	6	3.2
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
JINSU	3	41	77
TAEHEE	3	11	21
REIS	2	27	102



Attacking third	Middle third	Defensive this
46.8%	45.6%	47.0
10th	10th	11th

Passes
446 10th

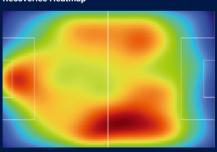
85.7% **Pass Direction**

Pass Accuracy

Pass Distance 12% 34% 54% Short

Forward 44% Back 21% Sideway 35%

Recoveries Heatmap



PPDA				
11.7 5th				

Total Distance 115.6_{km} Last Defender-Top Forward 30.2_m

Sprints 208.3 3rd

Goals 4(11%) 4 (21%) 7(18%) (11%) Outside PA **9**(24%)

	PK	, ,		wn goals		lotal	
6(16%)			0(0%)			38	
	хG	xGOT		xG conce	ded	xGOT conced	eı
	42.9	45.9		51.	5	51.9	
	9th	7th		2nd		4th	

Goals scored by minutes



0-13 13-30 30-	43 43 1 43-00 00	J-73 73-90 90 1
Shoot sequence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs total sequence
383	2.8	8.0%
4th	11th	9th

- 1. Utilised a 3-2-5 shape when attacking
- 2. Threatened the opposition with swift combinations during attacking transitions
- 3. Developed attacks through fluid and coordinated move-
- 4. Structured a 4-4-2 mid-block in defensive phases

DAEJEON HANA CITIZEN

KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video >





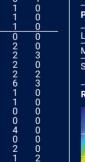
After the arrival of manager Hwang Sun-hong in the middle of the season, they managed a dramatic turnaround in the final stages, finishing the season in eighth place. Due to the desper-

Manager Hwang Sunhong				
Date of Birth 1968. 07. 14.				
Manager Records	W	D	L	
2024	9	7	6	
K League	179	112	122	





Positio	on Player	App	Min	GC	CS
GK	JUNSEO	3	300	5	0
	CHANGGEUN	35	3,537	42	9
Positio	on Player	Арр	Min	G	Α
DF	YUNSUNG	19	1,560	0	0
	MOONHWAN	15	1,374	0	1
	MINWOO	10	449	Ö	0
	JAEW00	5	393	1	1
	HYUNW00	26	2,479	1	1
	DONGGEON	3	153	0	0
	JUNSEO	1	35	0	0
	JINSUNG	11	706	0	0
	SEOJOON	11	695	0	1
	AARON	19	1,552	0	0
	ANTON	26	2,246	2	1 1
	JAESUK	21	1,243	0	
	SANGMIN	10	789	0	0
	JUNGTAEK	29	2,427	0	1
	YOOSEOK	3	158	0	0
	KANGMIN	3 5	237	1	0
	JUNGUN	6	452	0	0
MF	JUNBEOM	18	1,324	4	3 1
	HANSE0	10	422	0	
	HYEONUG	13	672	1	0
	BOBSIN	13	1,237	0	1 3
	DOYOUNG	19	909	1	3
	DONGWON	11	429	0	0
	SOONMIN	26	2,151	0	0
	JUNGYU	8 5	642	1	0
	HYUNSIK	5	388	0	1
	DUCKELIN	22	1 21/	1	n





SEJONG KELVIN

GUTKOVSKIS SEUNGDAE

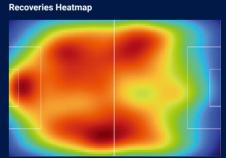
SUNWOO MLAPA WOOBIN

	Guais	Shots on rarget	ΛŪ
MASA	6	15	5.8
JUNBEOM	4	10	2.0
MLAPA	4	10	3.1
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
MASA	3	11	14
SEUNGDAE	3	23	39
DOYOUNG	3	12	33





Pass Distance		Pass Direction	
Long	13%	Forward	41%
Medium	36%	Back	23%
Short	51%	Sideway	36%



PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forward
12.1	35.8
6th	1st
Total Distance	Sprints
115.2km	189.9

7th





PK		Own goals		Total		
3(7%)		4	(9%)		43	
xG :		xGOT	xG conceded		xGOT conceded	
	35.3	38.8		50.	1	54.7
	12th		11th	3rd		1st

Goals scored by minutes



Shoot uence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs to total sequences
285	2.9	6.3%
12th	10th	12th

- 1. Formed a modified 4-1-4-1 by dropping the striker into midfield when attacking
- 2. Disappointed with frequent passes to isolated areas
- 3. Employed man-to-man marking to force the opposition
- 4. Quickly organised their defensive structure upon losing







'Jung-hyo Ball' maintained its identity in 2024. Gwangju ranked first in possession, but 11th in pass success rate. Gwangju was a team that held onto the ball as much as possible, making brave passes, whether they were successful or not.

Manager Lee Junghyo						
Date of Birth 1975. 07. 23.						
Manager Records	W	D	L			
2024	14	5	19			
K League	55	27	34			





Position Player App Min GC CS 45 8 4 0 36 3.631 KYEONGMIN JUN. 206 **Position Player** Min GYEONGJAE 594 206 3,400 **SEUNGWOO** 929 1,900 HANGIL JUNS00 173 BRUNO 2,109 1,224 1,192 MINGI SANGGI EUDDEUM 299 927 SUNGGWON POPOVIC 1,470 1,832 TAEJUN HANBIN 1,307 JISUNG HUSEONG 435 554 KANGHYUN HIGYUN HOYEON 3,531 KYOUNGROK GABRIEL 2,189 YUNHO **HYEONSEOK** 1,531 BEKA 268 454 VICTOR CHANGMOO 990 490 1,764 ASANI HYEOKJU **GUNHEE** 275 303 115 2,282 **JIYONG** JIHUN SEUNGUN



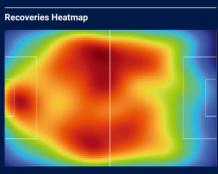
	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
GABRIEL	7	19	6.2
GUNHEE	5	16	6.5
HIGYUN	5	14	4.5
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
GABRIEL	5	14	94
HOYEON	5	31	58
HYEONSEOK	3	18	92



Pass Distance

Long

Short



9%

41%

50%

Pass Direction

38%

24%

38%

Forward

Sideway

Back

PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forwa
10.6	29.1
3rd	12th
Total Distance	Sprints
118.6 _{km}	187.2

11th

1st

Goals 9(21%) 3 6 (14%) (7%) 8(19%) Outside PA 8(19%)

PK		Own	goals	Total		
5(12%)		3(7%)		42		
xG :		xGOT	xG conce	ded	xGOT conceded	
	43.2	39.9		38.0		45.1
	8th		9th	12th		7th

Goals scored by minutes



Shoot	Average no, of	A ratio of SS	
quence (SS)	passes per SS	total sequen	
363 7th	4.1 1st	8.2 _{6th}	

1. Formed a 4-1-4-1 shape when attacking, featuring forward movements and passes from the centre backs 2. Maintained a central focus even during counterattacks 3. Used the same 4-1-4-1 formation in defence as in attack 4. Emphasised immediate counter-pressing during defensive transitions to regain possession

JEONBUK HYUNDAI





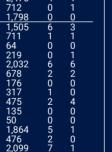
Had their worst season ever. A mid-season managerial change, but remained near the bottom for the rest of the season. While they avoided relegation by the skin of their teeth through the Promotion-Relegaoffs. Jeonbuk will need to rediscover their identity.

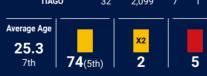
Manager Kim Doheon							
Date of Birth 1982. 0							
Manager Records	W	D	L				
2024	9	7	10				
K League	14	9	11				





Position	Player	App	Min	GC	CS	6
GK	JEONGHOON	6	609	12	0	
	JOONHONG	15	1,522	16	15	
	MINKI	17	1,753	31	2	
Position	Player	Арр	Min	G	Α	
DF	JARYONG	13	1,044	0	0	
	JINSU	20	1,813	0	3	
	TAEHYUN	13	1,301	0	0	
	TAEHWAN	19	1,810	1	2	
	HAJUN	4	49	0	0	
	JINSEOB	27	2,528	0	0	
	CHANGWOO	12 25	503	0	1 3	
	HYUNBEOM	25	1,929	2 0	3	
	JEWOON	4	284	0	0	
	JAEIK	17	1,524	1	0	
	WOOJAE	11	440	0	0	
	TAEWOOK	14	1,125	0	1	Ι.
	SIWOO	3 5	124	0	0	
	CHULSOON	5	255	0	0	'
	PETRASEK	1	101	0	0	
	JEONGHO	19	1,695	0	0	
MF	CHANGHOON	8	250	2	1	
	JINGYU	14	1,101	4	0	
	SEONGUNG	7	426	0	0	
	BOATENG	21	1,335	0	0	
	ANDRIGO	15	997	3	2 0	
	JEH0	5	193	0	0	
	SOOBIN	23	1,911	0	1 1 1	
	YEONGJAE	34	2,475	4	1	
	KYOWON	15	712	0	1	
	KOOKYOUNG	20	1,798	0	0	1
FW	SEONMIN	29	1,505 711	6	3	F
	JAEYONG	15	711	1	3 1 0	Γ.
	JUYEONG	3	64	0	0	ĮΙ
	VINICIUS	4	219	0	1 6	L
	MINKYU	28	2,032	6	6	<u>'</u>
	LIEDMANIDES	1/	679	2	2	Γ,





HERNANDES KYUDONG DONGJUN

BYEONGGWAN JINWOO

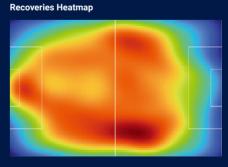
JUNHO JIHOON

	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
TIAGO	7	18	7.5
SEONMIN	6	15	5.4
MINKYU	6	10	5.0
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
MINKYU	Assists 6	Key Passes 31	Crosses 46
MINKYU SEUNGWOO			

48.7%(8th)



Pass Distance		Pass Direction	
Long	11%	Forward	40%
Medium	36%	Back	22%
Short	53%	Sideway	38%



PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forward
12.4	32.4 _m
8th	7th
Total Distance	Sprints
112.8 _{km}	191.3

12th



PK	Own	goals	Total
4(8%)	0	(0%)	49
xG	xGOT	xG conceded	xGOT conceded
46.1	37.1	51.9	53.3
4th	12th	1st	3rd

Goals scored by minutes



15 15-30 30-	45 45+ 45-60 60	I-75 75-90 90 +
Shoot quence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs to total sequences
357	3.2	8.0 _%
9111	oui	7111

- 1. Pushed the right back forward to form a 3-2-5 shape when attacking
- 2. Switched the ball to destabilise the opposition and attempted to exploit the flanks
- 3. Applied strong pressure when pressing high
- 4. The dishonour of most goals conceded in the league, highlighting an unstable defence







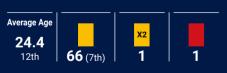
They stuck to their usual approach, but the 2024 season proved to be a tough one. Nonetheless, their counterattacks, led by Cesinha, remained sharp. Ranking second in pass success rate is proof that their attack was consistently strong.

Manager Park Changhyun						
Date of Birth 1966. 0	06. 08.					
Manager Records	W	D	L			
2024	9	9	14			
K League	16	17	20			





App Min GC CS **Position Player** SEUNGHOON 2,661 38 4 1,163 14 3 Min G A MYEONGSEOK 33 865 KANGSAN JINHYUK 3,073 HYEONJUN **JAEHYEON** 677 JINYOUNG 2,244 134 WONWOO 2,133 1 504 CAIO 2,567 CHUL JAEWON 3.071 JUNGHYEON SAEJIN 2,221 1,251 BOBSIN 15 SEUNGMIN YOSHINO 30 2,470 YONGRAE 429 CHANDONG 273 **JAEHYEON** 2,260 286 YOUNGJUN BARCELOS 879 SEMIN 224 YONGHUI 25 1 331 CESINHA 2,666 CHANGMIN 296 **EDGAR** 30 1,381 ITALO 482 YOUNGJUN **JAESANG** 18 1,005

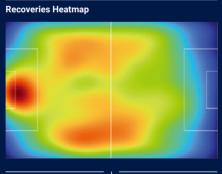


1,080

CHIIN

	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
CESINHA	11	36	10.8
EDGAR	5	17	5.7
YOSHINO	5	9	1.8
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
CESINHA	8	48	194
YOSHINO	3	15	10
CHIIN	3	6	30





13%

34%

53%

Forward

Back

Sideway

45%

21%

34%

Long

Short

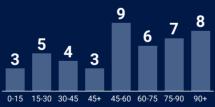
PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forwa
13.2	33.4 _m
10th	5th
Total Distance	Sprints
113.4 _{km}	198.3

Goals 5(11%) 12

2 (27%) (4%) 12(27%) Outside PA 10(22%)

PK	Owii	goals	IOLAI
3(7%)	1	(2%)	45
xG	xGOT	xG conceded	xGOT conceded
42.3	38.8	49.0	53.6
10th	10th	4th	2nd

Goals scored by minutes



					_	_
0-15 15	5-30 30	-45 45+	45-60	60-75	75-90	90+
Shoo			ige no, o		ratio of otal seq	
39	\sim	_	2.8		8.4	
3rd			12th	- 1	3rd	1

- 1. Fully utilised the target man in attacking situations
- 2. Cesinha was the team's linchpin in attack
- 3. Known for quick counters when regaining possession
- 4. Defended in a 5-4-1 shape

INCHEON UNITED

KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video > 0





DOHYEOK

SEHOON

JIHWAN

JINHO

MPOKU

BOSUB

MYUNGJOO

SEONGMIN

MUGOSA

SEUNGHO

MINGYU

SIWOO

JONGUK

GFRS0

Average Age 26.5

MUGOSA

DOHYEOK

GERSO

GERSO

WOOJIN

BOSUB

EONHAK

SEONGHOON

51(12th)

Assists

HYUNSEO

2,171

1.504

1,465

1,542

2,269

164

1,266

1,145

3,122

1,557

215

2,104

136

373

Goals Shots on Target

37

23

Key Passes

33

28

15 1

хG

13.8

2.3

Crosses

78

100

64

23

18

28

27

They ultimately could not find the answer. Although Stefan Mugoša battled hard and won the Golden Boot, the team's performance meant relegation. Ranking 12th in pressing intensity indicates that Incheon did not function as they should have.

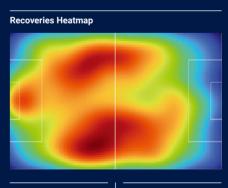
Manager Choi Youngkeun						
Date of Birth 1972. 07. 16.						
Manager Records W D L						
4	2	7				
4	2	7				





UAD					AVERAGES		
ition Player	Арр	Min	GC	cs	Possession		
SEONGJUN	11	1,022	16	1			
BUMS00	28	2,826	33	10			
ition Player	Арр	Min	G	Α			
HANJIN	7	647	0	0			
GEONHUI	28	2,127	0	1		47 60	
DONGMIN	22	1,474	1	0		47.6 %	th)
YEONSOO	16	1,440	0	1			
JUNYUB	14	968	0	0			
DELBRIDGE	16	1,234	1	0			
GYUNGHYUN	17	1,127	0	0			
BANSUK	16	1,321	0	0			
JONJIC	29	2,727	1	0	│		. ——
DONGYOON	33	2,710	0	1	Attacking third	Middle third	Defensive
WOOJIN	26	1,715	0	4	40 5	40 6	40
SILIOO	24	1 552	1	1	1 /1X 5. I	186.	





PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forward
14.7	35.5₅
12th	2nd
Total Distance	Sprints
116.1 _{km}	178.4

12th

4th

Goals	



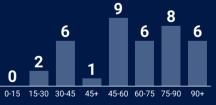
PK	Own	goals	Total
4(11%)	2	(5%)	38
xG	xGOT	xG conceded	xGOT conceded
41.5	42.7	47.4	49.9
11th	8th	5th	6th

Goals scored by minutes

40%

22%

38%



Shoot uence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs to total sequences
344	3.2	7.3%
11th	9th	11th

- 1. Repeated isolation in attack
- 2. Stefan Mugoša, who scored 15 goals, became the first player from a relegated team to win the K League 1 Golden Boot
- 3. Introduced various defensive shapes, including 5-3-2, 5-4-1, and 4-4-2
- 4. Had the lowest pressing intensity (PPDA) in K League 1

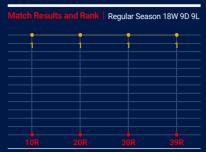






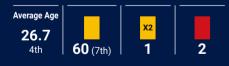
K League 2 Champions. Although they ranked low in both possession and pass success rates, their results were top-notch. This was due to their choice of a one-touch approach rather than focusing on hall possession. The outcome was a resounding success

Manager Ryu Byeon	ghoon		
Date of Birth 1976. 0	7. 03.		
Manager Records	W	D	L
2024	18	9	9
K League	18	9	9





Position Player Min GC CS App 35 3,529 DASOL 158 SUNGDONG G A **Position Player** DONGJIN 2,970 MINHO 1,778 YOUNGCHAN 23 NULAH 763 YONGJIK 2,571 JONGHYEON JUNYOUNG CHANGYONG 25 2,378 TAFHFF 3,101 SEUNGKYUM 359 BOMIN HYUNWOO JUNGHYUN 2,736 3,169 MATHEUS SEONGWOO 506 248 YACHIDA MINSOO 105 72 1,675 SEUNGMIN GYUHYEON 542 302 CHANGBEOM WOON 1,321 409 NICOLAS DANRLEI 1,478 **JEONGHUN** 128 YONGWOO 2,187 YAGO 898 **JEONGWAN** DONGHYUN 146 **JAEYONG** 108 HYUNWOO 1,138 755 SEONGBEOM

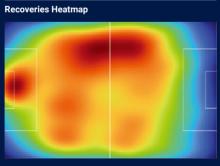


EUIGWON

	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
MATHEUS	7	39	4.5
YAGO	6	18	5.2
DONGJIN	5	15	3.4
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
MATHEUS	11	66	182
YAGO	6	39	80

AVERAGES			
Possession			
	16.6	%(12	2th)
Attacking third	Middle	e third	Defensive third
49.1 ₈		.1 _%	45.5 _{12th}
Passes		Pa	ass Accuracy
446		{	32.9%

9tn		IUth	
Pass Distance		Pass Direction	
Long	13%	Forward	45%
Medium	35%	Back	21%
Short	53%	Sideway	34%



PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forw
12.0	33.1
10th	6th
Total Distance	Sprints
105.9 _{km}	199.2

10th

Goals 11(22%) 9 (12%) (18%) 14(27%) Outside PA $9_{(18\%)}$

PK		Own	goals		Total
0(0%)		2	(4%)		51
хG	=	xGOT	xG conce	ded	xGOT conceded
40.2	4	15.0	35.9	9	36.4
9th		6th	13th		13th

Goals scored by minutes



Shoot	Average no, of	A ratio of SS
quence (SS)	passes per SS	total sequen
365 4th	3.1 3rd	8.1 ₉

- 1. Implemented a 4-2-3-1 formation in attack
- 2. Upon regaining possession, quick transitions from attacking players to launch counterattacks
- 3. Defended with a 4-4-2 formation
- 4. Started defending with intense pressure from the front

CHUNGNAM ASAN FC

KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video >





A club that surprised everyone. Their relentless focus on attacking the flanks, based on a back three, shook up K League 2. They ranked third in the league for time spent on the ball in

Manager Kim Hyuns	eog		
Date of Birth 1967. (05. 05.		
Manager Records	W	D	L
2024	18	9	11
K League	18	9	11





Positio	n Player	App	Min	GC	CS
GK	HANKEUN	6	579	7	1
	SONGHOON	30	3,006	32	10
	YEONGCHANG	1	98	5	0
Positio	n Player	Арр	Min	G	A
DF	JUNHYUK	32	3,005	3	6
	SUAN	5	94	0	0
	JUSUNG	13	896	2	1
	BYUNGHYUN	12	1,013	0	1
	JONGMIN	24	949	0	1
	SOOYONG	3	188	0	0
	EUNBUM	31	2,937	1	1
	HAKMIN	28	1,982	4	0
	JOONYOUNG	15	675	0	0
	YEHOON	1	30	0	0
	HEEWON	34	3,271	0	0
MF	SEUNGHO	31	2,846	1	6
	JONGKOOK	1	24	0	0
	JONGSUK	31	2,625	6	2
	SEJIK	16	877	0	2
	MAHO	19	1,102	3	0
	SEJUN	11	520	1	1
	CHIWON	24	1,244	2	0
	KIWOOK	33	3,240	2	1
FW	MINGEU	35	2,069	8	5
	NUNES	4	190	0	0
	DENISSON	15	647	6	0
	DAEHOON	22	1,144	5	5
	SEUNGMIN	12	835	0	1
	ANDERSON	5	175	0	0

Average Age			
26.2		X2	
7th	58 (9th)	2	4
		_	

212 147

2,931

847

0 1

DONGGYU

GEONWOO

JUNIOR

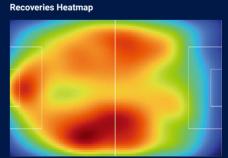
JOSE

	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
JUNIOR	12	32	14.6
MINGEU	8	18	7.1
JONGSUK	6	19	4.8
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
JUNIOR	Assists 8	Key Passes 29	Crosses 99
JUNIOR JUNHYUK			

Possession 50.9%(6th)

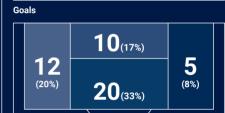


Pass Distance		Pass Direction	1
Long	13%	Forward	43%
Medium	37%	Back	22%
Short	49%	Sideway	35%



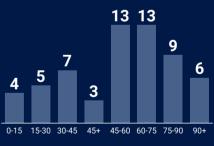


4th





Goals scored by minutes



13 13 30 30	43 431 43 00 00	773 7330 301
Shoot juence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs to total sequences
360	3.2	8.0%
5th	2nd	5th

- 1. Introduced a modified back four during the attacking
- 2. Developed attacks through active positional changes 3. Frequently used a 5-2-3 formation when defending
- 4. Minimised the spacing between players when adopting a 5-4-1 shape







Under manager Kim Do-kyun, they played with a clear direction. They ranked first in attacking area possession and second in pass success rate. Their pressing intensity also ranked fourth in the league, demonstrating strong performance across most metrics.

Manager Kim Dokyu	n		
Date of Birth 1977. (01. 13.		
Manager Records	W	D	L
2024	17	8	14
K League	70	39	74
K League	70	39	74





Position	Player	App	Min	GC	cs
GK	JUNGIN	27	2,718	28	10
	BOSANG	7	723	12	1
	KIHYUN	2	202	5	0
Position	Player	Арр	Min	G	Α
DF	MINKYU	35	3,061	0	0
	OHKYU	32	2,602	0	0
	MINSEO	33	3,096	5	7
	SEGYE	5	243	0	0
	INPY0	3	244	0	1
	INJAE	18	1,480	1	0
	DONGJAE	10	520	1	0
	SEUNGHYEON	26	1,908	1	3
	KWANGHOON	9	558	0	0
	TAEHYEON	6	175	0	0
MF	YOUNGWOOK	17	880	0	0
	CHANGHWAN	30	1,837	0	1
	JIUNG	11	931	0	1
	JAEMIN	29	2,754	2	1
	OSMAR	28	2,663	7	0
	SANGMIN	1	26	0	0
	JAEYONG	10	501	0	0
	YOUNGKWANG	8	195	0	0
	KAZUKI	19	1,361	1	3
	PETER	10	569	0	2
FW	MOOYUL	9	354	1	0
	GYEOL	12	383	1	1
	SINJIN	11	591	1	0
	MONTANO	13	557	3	1
	JEONGIN	13	680	1	0
	GYUNGJUN	36	2,070	10	6
	BRUNO SILVA	24	1,891	11	6
	DONGRYUL	27	1,223	4	1
	JOONSUK	17	889	2	0
	IKOBA	17	1,085	6	2
	SEOKHOON	1	15	0	0
	JAEMIN	18	959	3	0





	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
BRUNO SILVA	11	26	9.8
GYUNGJUN	10	17	7.8
OSMAR	7	19	4.4
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
MINSEO	7	42	206
BRUNO SILVA	6	24	106
GYUNGJUN	6	24	79

Possession 51.6%(5th)

l	Attacking third	Middle third	Defensive thir
	56.0%	53.8%	47.7
l	1st	3rd	10th
ı	Barrara		

Passes	
497 4th	

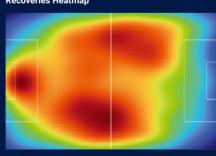
Pass Distance

Short

	Į ZIIU	
_	Pass Direction	
%	Forward	41%
%	Back	21%

85.8%

Recoveries Heatmap



54% Sideway

PPDA
10.7

107.5_{km}

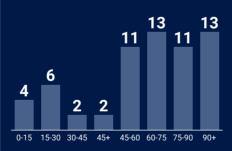
Last Defender-Top Forward 31.3_m 11th

Sprints 207.5 1st

Goals 12(19%) 12 (15%) (19%) 13(21%) Outside PA **12**(19%)

PK		Own goals		Total			
3(5%)		1(2%)			62		
	хG	-	GOT	xG conce	ded	xGOT concede	
	53.5	5	3.2	39.5		39.0	
	1st	3rd		10th		10th	

Goals scored by minutes



Average no, of passes per SS

Shoot sequence (SS)	
409	

A ratio of SSs to total sequences
9.0%
2nd

- 1. Utilised a 4-2-3-1 formation when attacking
- 2. Bruno Silva was the team's driving force in attack
- 3. Most threatening attacking pattern came from crosses
- 4. Adopted a 4-2-3-1 formation when defending as well

JEONNAM DRAGONS

KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video >





Showcased tight and organised play. The distance between the deepest defence and the furthest forward attack ranked second in the league, showing that the whole team moved as one. Valdívia was the standout player for Jeonnam in 2024.

D	
ח	1
U	L
11	11
28	35





osition	Player	Арр	Min	GC	cs	Possession
iK	WONWOO SUNGBIN	18 1	1,821 103	25 2	7 0	
	BONGJIN	17	1,733	23	4	
osition	Player	Арр	Min	G	Α	
F	TAEWON	19	1,441	0	0	
	DONGWOOK	20	1,547	1	2	
	YESUNG	32	2,940	0	3	
	YONGHWAN	22	1,930	0	1	
	JONGPIL	20	1,141	0	0	
	JOOHEON	11	759	0	0	
	ILS00	7	457	0	0	
	ALIKULOV	8	615	0	1	
	SEUNGWON	13	578	0	0	1
	JIHA	7	619	0	0	
	JINHONG	1	26	0	0	40. 11. 01.1
	KYUHYUK	10	505	0	0	Attacking third
	SUNHYUCK	2	118	0	0	
	SEOKHYEON	24	1,495	_1_	0	52.0%
ΛF	TAEYONG	31	1,747	3	5	6th
	YUHEI	11	876	0	0	OUI I
	JAESEOK	13	770	3	0	I —
	SEOKHYUN	16	736	0	0	Passes
	HOOKWON	6	207	0	0	460
	YUSANG	1	37	1	0	462
	JAEHUN	13	444	0	2	_
	JIHUN	32	2,811	3	1	7th
w	GEONOH	18 18	1,736 901	<u>1</u>	1 1	<u> </u>

	HOOKWON	6	207	0	0	
	YUSANG	1	37	1	0	
	JAEHUN	13	444	0	2	
	JIHUN	32	2,811	3	1	
	WONCHEOL	18	1,736	1	1	L
FW	GEONOH	18	901	0	1	
	JONGMIN	23	1,772	12	4	
	GUNWOO	19	1,206	1	3 5	
	MONTANO	17	790	3	5	
	VALDIVIA	33	2,919	12	5	
	BRUNO	8	332	1	0	
	GUNHO	1	28	0	0	
	SUNGYOON	2	55	0	0	
	CHANGHOON	6	350	0	1	
	CHANWOOL	19	1,034	2	4	
	SEONGJIN	10	418	2	0	
	SANGHUN	1	104	0	0	
	DLLANA	15	0.45	6	1	

Average Age			
26.9		X2	
2nd	58 (9th)	2	2

28 2,053 9 0

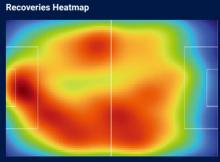
	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
VALDIVIA	12	29	9.4
JONGMIN	12	19	8.6
NAM	9	23	5.6
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
MONTANO	5	13	28
	э	13	20
VALDIVIA	4	36	224

53.6%(2nd)



83.5%

Pass Distance		Pass Direction	
Long	14%	Forward	44%
Medium	35%	Back	23%
Short	52%	Sideway	33%

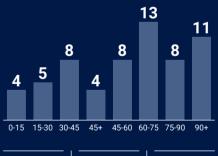


PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forward
11.8	35.9
9th	2nd
Total Distance	Sprints
106.3 _{km}	180.3



					. —	
PK		Own	goals		Total	
	6(10%)		0	(0%)		61
	хG		xGOT	xG conce	ded	xGOT conceded
	43.5	4	18.0	47.	7	49.2
	6th		5th	3rd		4th

Goals scored by minutes



Shoot uence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs to total sequences
334	3.0	7.2%
8th	8th	9th

- 1. Utilised a 4-1-4-1 formation when attacking
- 2. Attempted to advance by focusing on competing for aerial duels and second balls
- 3. Eurloge Placca stood out in the opposition's half
- 4. Set up in a 5-4-1 formation when defending







Ranked first in both the number of passes and pass completion rate, while also achieving the third-highest possession in the league. It was a clear reflection of the style of football coach Jo Sung-hwan aimed to implement. Expectations have been raised even higher for 2025.

Manager Jo Sunghwan							
Date of Birth 1970. 10. 16.							
Manager Records	W	D	L				
2024	9	4	4				
K League	120	94	107				





Position	Player	Арр	Min	GC	cs
GK	SANGMIN	30	2,980	38	7
	SEUNGKYU	1	15	0	0
	BYEONGGEUN	2	202	5	0
Position	Player	App	Min	G	Α
DF	RYUNSEONG	10	923	0	3
	SEJIN	12	451	0	0
	ALIKULOV	4	120	0	0
	TAERANG	2	64	0	0
	JUNG	2	90	0	1
	HANDO	34	3,422	2	0
	HYUNGYOU	3	181	0	0
	WIJAE	11	1,048	1	0
	JUNHO	18	844	0	0
MF	JIHOON	17	1,485	0	1
	HEESEUNG	18	1,498	1	0
	HOYEUNG	25	2,271	1	0
	HWI	14	783	3	0
	YUHEI	14	988	1	1
	DONGSU	30	2,631	5	0
	SEUNGGI	10	370	0	1
	MINHYEOK	36	3,172	5	3
	JIHYEON	27	1,542	1	0
	FESSIN	34	2,864	11	5
	SEUNGCHAN	18	484	0	0
FW	SEUNGJO	3	36	0	0
	SEONGYUN	22	1,432	1	4
	DOHYUN	14	365	0	0
	CHAN	3	253	3	0
	LAMAS	36	3,516	9	9
	LOPES	14	1,138	0	2
	BYONGJUN	12	432	0	1
	MLAPA	13	800	4	1
	DONGHOON	7	128	0	0
	SANGJUN	28	907	2	0
	JUNHO	15	877	3	1
	GEON III	10	1 20/	1	Λ





	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
FESSIN	11	24	8.5
LAMAS	9	35	9.1
MINHYEOK	5	10	2.2
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
LAMAS	9	61	127
FESSIN	5	47	28

AVERAGES		
Possession		
	53.4% ₍₃	rd)
Attacking third	Middle third	Defensive thir
51.7%	54.7 _%	55.2

1st		1st	
Pass Distance		Pass Direction	1
Long	10%	Forward	42%
Medium	33%	Back	22%
Object		0:4	0.00

522

25 2.

Recoveries Heatmap

PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forwa
10.8 5th	33.8 _m
Total Distance	Sprints
107.9 _{km}	185.6

2nd

10(18%) 8 (11%) (15%) 14(25%)

Outside PA 10(18%)

PK		Own goals			Total
6(11%)		1	(2%)		55
хG	:	xGOT	xG conce	ded	xGOT concede
50.4	5	7.3	42.	1	46.8
3rd		1st	8th		6th

Goals scored by minutes



Shoot equence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs total sequenc
408	3.8	8.9%
3rd	1st	3rd

- 1. Used a 3-4-3 formation when attacking
- 2. Attacking spearhead was the Fessin and Bruno Lamas
- 3. Preferred a 5-4-1 structure when defending
- 4. Waited before applying the press when the ball arrived in

SUWON SAMSUNG

KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video >





Underwent a managerial change mid-season, with coach Byun Sunghwan taking the helm and implementing a clear football identity. This approach brought impressive results: first in possession, second in

<u> </u>	<u> </u>		•		
Manager Byun Sunghwan					
Date of Birth 1979. 12. 22.					
Manager Records	W	D	L		
2024	9	10	3		
K League	9	10	3		





JOOCHAN JIHO HYUN SEUNGWAN MAILAT

SEUNGSOO SUKYONG

Average Age

24.6

MULIC

HYUN

JIHO

HYUN

SUKYONG

Position	Player	Арр	Min	GC	cs	Possession
GK	JIMIN	9	851	11	0	1 0000001011
	HYUNGMO	28	2,765	23	8	
	SUNGHOON	1	52	1	0	
Position	Player	Арр	Min	G	Α	
DF	JONGHYUN	1	97	0	0	
	SANGGI	1	7	Ô	Ö	
	DAEWON	7	642	0	0	
	SEOJOON	16	694	1	2	
	DONGGYU	16	1,297	0	0	
	HOJUN	3	123	0	0	
	GEONHEE	1	10	0	0	
	KIJE	21	1,951	2	0	
	SANGMIN	16	1,081	1	2	
	SIYOUNG	31	3,120	1	1	
	SEOKHWAN	16	1,230	0	0	
	HOIK	13	883	0	0	
	YUNSEONG	26	2,368	2	0	Attacking third
	JIMOOK	1	63	0	0	Attacking tiliru
	HOGANG	21	2,042	2	0	EE 2
	INTAEK	3	110	0	0	55.3%
MF	HYUNMUK	11	692	0	0	2nd
	BOKYUNG	14	686	1	0	Ziid
	SANGJUN	27	1,444	2	1	1
	JUNJAE	3	60	0	0	Passes
	SANGHYEOK	3	82	0	0	400
	JEH0	17	930	0	0	499
	JAEUK	4	294	0	0	
	JONGSUNG	21	1,319	1	3	3rd
	SUNGGEUN	2	76	0	0	
	KAZUKI	11	805	0	2	
	TOUNGARA	16	1,088	0	0	Pass Distance
	PETER	14	898	1	3	

1,888 620 1,161 32 609 1,972 589 1,175 803 958 1,016

Goals Shots on Target

Assists

15

Key Passes

22

19

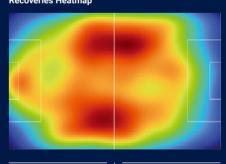
10.2

2.0

Crosses

39

Short	50
Recoveries He	eatmap



39%

54.8%(1st)

58.0% 51.0%

Pass Direction

Back Sideway

Pass Accuracy

85.8%

41%

21%

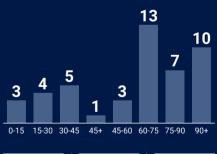
38%

PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forward
9.8	32.8 _m
2nd	8th
Total Distance	Sprints
108.3 _{km}	196.0



PK 1 (2%)		goals (4%)	Total 46
хG	xGOT	xG conceded	xGOT conceded
51.0	53.2	36.4	36.9
2nd	4th	12th	12th

Goals scored by minutes



) 15-30 30-	45 45 1 45-60 60	I-75 75-90 90 +
Shoot lence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs t total sequence
40	3.0	9.5%
1st	7th	1st

- 1. Favoured a 4-1-4-1 shape when attacking
- 2. Utilised quick switching to exploit space out wide
- 3. Adopted a 4-4-2 formation when defending

4. Suwon's 4-4-2 focused on passivity and stability.







Manager Ko Jeong-woon's football was purpose-driven. Despite ranking last for possession, pressing intensity, total passes, and pass success rate, they finished in midtable. Counterattacks led by Luis Mina were sharp and effective

	<u> </u>			
Manager Ko Jeongwoon				
Date of Birth 1966. C	6. 27.			
Manager Records	W	D	L	
2024	14	12	10	
K League	53	44	54	





App Min GC CS **Position Player** 34 12 7 0 JEONGHYEON 33 3,309 305 Min G A **Position Player** App 1,518 MINHO 22 613 1,010 187 SUNGJU WONGUN **JONGMIN** CHAEWOON 1,263 3,369 HYUNHUN KYUNGROK 1,227 1,807 JAEMIN YONGHYEOK 981 527 JONGHYUN HWANHEE DOHOON 894 382 793 KANGMIN HANCHEOL 1,579 CHAPMAN SUNHO 327 SEUNGBI 712 767 **JOONHYUNG** BOMIN 2,658 795 627 1,747 JAEMIN KANGYEON JUNWOO YUNHO 3,192 JAEHUN DONGHO 204 KYUNGJUN 449 30 3,093 1,696 HEESEONG LUIS BRUNO HYEONGYU 430 HYEONIL 445 171 2,798 JAEMIN 0

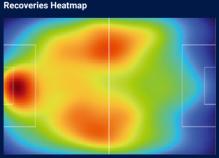


PLLANA

	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
LUIS	15	37	12.7
PLLANA	9	35	6.3
BRUNO	3	16	6.2
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
PLLANA	5	49	171
LUIS	3	32	73
	Ŭ	~-	

Possession			
	10.3	3% (13	Bth)
Attacking third 41.9%	37	e third	Defensive third 40.7%
Passes 356 13th			76.5%

Pass Distance		Pass Direction	
Long	18%	Forward	48%
Medium	33%	Back	20%
Short	48%	Sideway	33%



PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forw
13.7	31.5 _m
Total Distance	Sprints
106.4 _{km}	192.7

Goals 11(26%) 5 (12%) (16%) 10(23%) Outside PA **7**(16%)

	PK		Own goals			Total
2(5%)		(2%)		43		
	хG	=	xGOT	xG conce	ded	xGOT conceded
	40.5	4	3.7	43.	5	45.9
	8th		8th	5th		7th

Goals scored by minutes



- 1. Adopted a 3-4-3 formation when attacking
- 2. Actively contested aerial duels and second balls using foreign players
- 3. Foreign players were also sharp during counterattacks 4. Maintained a 5-3-2 shape when defending

BUCHEON FC 1995

KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video >



The distance between the defence and the attack was the shortest in the league. This is evidence of how tightly knit the players were, moving as one. Rodrigo Bassani played a key role throughout the season with 11 goals and provided seven assists

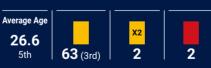
	<u> </u>		
Manager Lee Young	min		
Date of Birth 1973. 1	12. 20.		
Manager Records	W	D	L
2024	12	13	11
K League	80	65	77





Position	n Player	App	Min	GC	CS
GK	HYEONYEOP	3	305	4	1
	HYUNGGEUN	33	3,335	41	13
Position	Player	Арр	Min	G	Α
DF	GYUMIN	1	101	0	0
	SUNHO	30	2,039	1	1
	NILSON JUNIOR	22	2,013	1	0
	HYUNGJIN	23	1,288	1	0
	MYUNGGWAN	21	2,108	0	1
	SEUNGHYEON	12	571	0	0
	SANGHYEOK	19	1,517	0	0
	PUNGYEON	1	82	0	0
	INKYU	20	1,822	0	0
	HEEWOONG	8	490	1	1
	SUNGWOOK	21	2,055	0	1
MF	DONGHYUN	14	581	1	1
	HYUNBIN	28	1,915	2	2
	JINKYU	3	121	0	0
	JEONGBIN	18	636	4	2
	JAEYONG	16	772	2	0
	HOJIN	27	1,757	0	0
	JAEYOUNG	10	866	1	0
	KAZU	33	3,123	0	1
FW	GYUMIN	10	226	0	0
	LUPETA	31	2,380	7	2
	BASSANI	35	3,062	11	7

1	HOMIN	15	359	2	0
	JAEJOON	8	343	1	0
,	JAEWOON	5	172	0	0
	UIHYUNG	19	820	2	2
:	SEONGS00	5	171	1	0
١	BYEONCHAN	31	2,492	3	4
,	JIHO	29	1,599	2	2
,	JAEHWAN	12	543	0	1
	_,	<u> </u>		—	

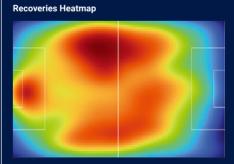


	Goals	Snots on Target	XG
BASSANI	11	36	9.7
LUPETA	7	27	10.0
JEONGBIN	4	10	3.9
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
BASSANI	Assists 6	Key Passes 22	Crosses 135
BASSANI BYEONCHAN			

Possession Goals 47.5%(11th) (0%)



Pass Distance		Pass Direction	
Long	12%	Forward	43%
Medium	31%	Back	21%
Short	57%	Sideway	36%



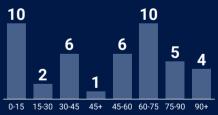
PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forward
11.7	
11./	36.4₅
7th	1st
Total Distance	Sprints
	1
102 7 _m	195.5

13th



_					
	PK	Owr	goals	Total	
	2(5%)	1	(2%)	44	
_	хG	xGOT	xG conce	ded xGOT conce	ded
	42.4	41.8	42.3	38.8	3
	7th	10th	7th	11th	

Goals scored by minutes



Shoot sequence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs to total sequences
338	3.1	7.7%
7th	6th	6th

- 1. Built a 3-4-3 formation when attacking
- 2. Rodrigo Bassani showcased his abilities in the oppo-
- 3. Quick counterattacks after defending were a key attacking route
- 4. Preferred a 5-2-3 formation when defending



CHEONAN CITY FC

KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video >





Manager Kim Tae-wan created a distinct style of football. They surrendered possession and minimised passing, yet still displayed ample power. They produced the K League 2 top scorer,

Diano Mota.			
Manager Kim Taewa	n		
Date of Birth 1971. (06. 01.		
Manager Records	W	D	L
2024	11	10	15
K League	89	70	109





Position	Player	App	Min	GC	cs
GK	JEONGMOOK	11	1,129	16	2
	JUWON	12	1,219	17	3
	JONGHYEON	_14	1,350	24	1
Position	Player	Арр	Min	G	Α
DF	YOUNGHUN	20	2,017	0	0
	DAEYOUNG	20	1,683	0	2
	YOUNDO	3	71	0	0
	SANGHOON	16	936	0	0
	GEONHO	17	726	2	3
	JOONKANG	15	1,028	0	2
	WONHO	5	275	0	0
	YONSEOK	15	1,095	0	1
	HYUNGYO	8	637	0	0
	YONGHYEON	7	688	0	1
	WOONGHEE	32	3,236	1	1
	JAEWON	15	921	0	0
ИF	SEOJIN	7	638	0	1
	SUNGJ00	16	1,088	0	0
	SUNGJOON	26	1,637	2	3
	JUNJAE	12	505	0	2
	DOHYEOP	7	376	0	0
	HYUNGMIN	28	2,149	0	1
	YONGHO	6	269	0	0
	JAESEOK	16	997	3	1
	KWANGJIN	22	1,701	2	2
	POONGBEOM	9	501	0	0
	BAEKGYU	3	248	0	2
	SEONGJAI	24	1,789	2	0
	SANGHEON	11	395	0	0
	TOUNGARA	13	1,302	4	3
	JAEHUN	_7	308	0	1
FW	DAEJUNG	5	177	0	0
	RYUNDO	13	460	1	1
	MOTA	35	3,140	16	5
	CHANGYO	4	124	0	0
	HANGYEOL	10	684	0	1
	ERIKYS	5	314	1	1
	JIHOON	14	1,111	3	į
	SUKHWA	24	1,598	0	1
	PAULINHO	18	1,498	9	1
	SEUNGWOO	9	406	0	0







	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
МОТА	16	42	11.3
PAULINHO	9	19	5.0
TOUNGARA	4	17	4.3
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
MOTA	4	12	13
SUNGJOON	4	20	64



Attacking third	Middle third	Defensive thir
42.6%	48.2%	50.8
12th	10th	8th

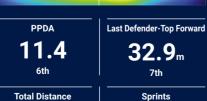
Passes	
436 12th	

82.2%

44% 20% 36%

Pass Distance		Pass Direction
Long	13%	Forward
Medium	37%	Back
Short	50%	Sideway

Recoveries Heatmap



104

7th
Sprints
197.5
6th

Goals 9(19%) 4 (15%) (8%) 20(42%) Outside PA **5**(10%)

PK		Own	goals		iotai	
1 (2%)		2	(4%)		48	
xG	xG0)T	xG conce	ded	xGOT concede	d
37.7	44	.1	52.	9	58.2	
10th	7t	h	1st		1st	

Goals scored by minutes



Shoot	Average no, of	A ratio of SS
quence (SS)	passes per SS	total sequen
301 11th	3.1	6.3

- 1. Used a 4-3-3 formation when attacking
- 2. Focused on counterattacks after regaining possession 3. Formed a 4-2-3-1 shape when defending, responding
- with coordinated man-to-man marking
- 4. Frequent turnovers occurred during attacks

CHUNGBUK CHEONGJU FC

KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video >



Experienced the pain of losing manager Choi Yun-gyum mid-season. However, Chungbuk Cheongju still left a clear mark by ranking first in pressing intensity. But compared to last season, their defence was less solid.

u(Interim M	anager)	
2. 03.		
W	D	L
1	1	3
2	3	5
	1 (Interim M 2. 03. W 1 2	2. 03. W D 1 1 1 2 3





Position	Player	App	Min	GC	CS
GK	WONWOO	8	815	8	7
	DAEHAN	22	2,241	29	6
	JINWOOK	6	606	5	3
Position	Player	Арр	Min	G	Α
DF	KUHYUNJUN	29	2,237	2	1
	MYUNGSUN	35	3,363	3	7
	MINSIK	10	631	0	1
	JIHOON	23	1,519	0	1
	VENICIO	31	2,572	1	0
	KANGHAN	17	1,266	3	0
	MINHYUNG	28	1,454	1	0
	HANSAIM	30	2,256	0	0
	HYEONBYUNG	20	1,232	0	1
	SEOKHYUN	16	1,284	0	1
MF	SEONMIN	31	3,007	1	3
	YOUNGWHAN	15	795	1	1
	JEONGHYEON	17	1,271	2	0
	SANGYUN	10	268	0	0
	MIYUKI	3	163	0	0
	JIHOON	23	1,252	0	0
	HYEOKJIN	29	2,174	0	3
	JUNHYEOK	7	411	0	0
	SUNGMIN	5	184	0	0
	WONJIN	18	1,744	3	1
FW	MINSEUNG	6	167	0	0
	BYUNGOH	14	1,080	3	1
	SADAM	6	316	0	0
	ODUWA	10	487	2	0
	MINHO	29	1,648	5	0



10 14 15

564

733

1,056

2

SUNGHO

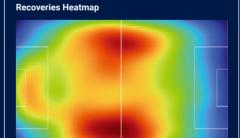
SANGUK TALES

	Goals	Snots on Target	XG
MINHO	5	15	6.0
WONJIN	3	10	1.1
MYUNGSUN	3	9	2.7
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
MYUNGSUN	7	19	76
SEONMIN	3	20	11

nesession 51.8%(4th) Attacking third



Pass Distance		Pass Direction	1
Long	12%	Forward	43%
Medium	30%	Back	23%
Short	58%	Sideway	34%

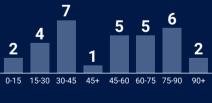






PK		Own goals		Total	
1 (3%)		0(2%)			32
хG	_ _	xGOT	xG conce	led	xGOT concede
35.4	. 2	29.5	40.2	2	42.2
12th		13th	9th		9th

Goals scored by minutes



Shoot quence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs to total sequences
326	2.8	7.3 _{8th}
9111	1101	0111

- 1. Preferred a 3-4-3 formation when attacking
- Utilised possession-based play with short passes, but lacked effectiveness.
- 3. Adopted a 5-4-1 shape when defending
- 4. Midfield applied man-to-man marking



KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video >







A season with a managerial change from Lim Kwan-sik to Lee Kwan-woo. They ranked second in total passes, but there are plenty of areas to improve to generate meaningful

Manager Lee Kwanwoo						
Date of Birth 1978. 02. 25.						
Manager Records	W	D	L			
2024	3	5	4			
K League	3	5	4			



	Formation 3-4-3
	17 9 19 BEOMSU DOYUN JUNBAE
	33 23 7 14 TACK JI HAN JAE KYUN SEUNG SOL SUNG
	20 10 5 JEUNG YOUNG TAE HO NAM GYU
1	1 SEUNGBIN

Position	Player	Арр	Min	GC	cs
GK	SEUNGBIN	12	1,155	18	2
	JUNHEE	21	2,068	24	4
	HYENSUNG	5	417	6	0
Position	Player	Арр	Min	G	Α
DF	TAEGYU	27	2,330	0	0
	KIHWAN	7	250	0	0
	DAEKYUNG	17	828	0	0
	MINSUNG	6	291	0	0
	YOUNGNAM	30	2,933	2	0
	EUNGYEOL	2	31	0	0
	JAESUNG	32	2,998	2	0
	JEUNGHO	29	2,688	0	0
	TACKKYUN	27	1,953	0	4
	YUSEOP	22	1,759	1	2
	YONGHEE	17	945	0	0
	RAEWOO	5	94	0	0
MF	JINHYUN	26	1,270	3	1
	KYUNGHO	18	1,754	3	0
	JUNBAE	24	1,139	4	1
	JAEHEE	9	490	0	1
	TAEWOONG	7	187	0	0
	SEYEONG	23	1,321	3	0
	JISEUNG	32	2,724	2	2
	JIHOON	9	357	0	0
	HANSOL	34	3,192	3	2
	SOOIL	21	533	1	0
	JOONMO	16	502	0	0
	DOYUN	33	1,703	5	2
	BEOMSU	27	2,351	2	3
	WOOBIN	9	681	1	0
	JEEHAN	4	100	0	1
FW	GYUBIN	6	319	1	0
	JUNHEE	6	171	0	2
	VOLINICITIES	0	420	0	0



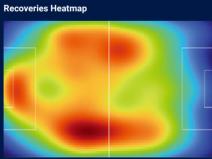
47

JAEHOON

	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
DOYUN	5	18	4.5
JUNBAE	4	5	2.6
HANSOL	3	18	3.2
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
TACKKYUN	4	15	45
BEOMSU	3	24	62



Pass Distance		Pass Direction	
Long	12%	Forward	41%
Medium	34%	Back	22%
Short	55%	Sideway	37%



	1
PPDA	Last Defender-Top For
12.9	29.5
11th	13th
Total Distance	Sprints

201.9

105.2_{km}

Goals 6(17%) 3 (11%) (9%) 13(37%) Outside PA **6**(17%)

PK		Own goals		Total		
1 (3%)		2(6%)		35		
	хG		xGOT	xG conce	ded	xGOT conceded
	30.9	3	86.1	42.6	5	51.1
	13th		12th	6th		3rd

Goals scored by minutes



- 1. Used a 3-4-3 formation when attacking
- 2. Crossing from the wings was the primary attacking route
- 3. Counterattacks were the most effective in terms of effi-
- 4. Responded with a 5-2-3 or 5-4-1 shape when defending

GYEONGNAM FC

415 2,241 50 2,678 1,707 337 1,165



MINHYEOK SIHEON

TAEYUN

MINSEO SARAIVA

JAEWON

ARABULI HELIO

KIJONG

WALES JOONHA JUTAE

JONGEON CHOONGGEUN SANGJUN HYANGGI FONSECA

53 (12th)

Assists

Goals Shots o

Key P

Average Age

25.9

ARABULI

KIJONG

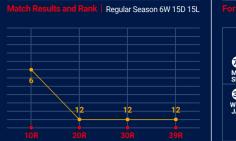
WALES

WONJAE

DONGHYUN MUSELIANI

A team that ultimately couldn't find an identity. The distance between the defence and the attack ranked 12th in the league. This means their formation allowed opponents to

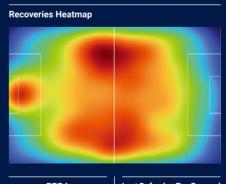
Manager Kwon Wookyung(Interim Manager)						
Date of Birth 1981. 05. 30.						
Manager Records	W	D	L			
2024	1	5	2			
K League 1 5 2						





JAD					AVERAGES
ion Player	Арр	Min	GC	cs	Possession
DONGMIN MINJUN	17 20	1,687 1,919	37 25	2	
ion Player	Арр	Min	G	Α	
JINRAE	14	1,325	0	2	
HYEONGJIN	31	2,962	2	0	
WONJAE	29	1,875	0	3	FO 00/
JAEHWAN	21	1,729	0	0	50.2%(9th)
JOOSEONG	32	2,464	2	0	
KWANGSEON	2	90	0	0	
MINGI	16	1,075	2	0	
JUNJAE	26	1,662	1	0	
CHANOUK	15	1,059	1	0	
HYUNUK	1	12	0	0	
YONGSU	11	878	Ō	0	
JINW00	2	57	0	0	1 —— , —— , ——
LIVOUNCWON	11	EOO	4	0	Associate added Baldulla street Baldunate





n Target	хG	PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forward
1	9.1	10.6	30.9
3	4.5		3U.9m
)	3.1	3rd	12th
asses	Crosses	Total Distance	Sprints
)	36	1	·
7	83	104.6km	204.5
n	110	101	



PK	Own	goals	Total
5(11%)	0	(0%)	45
хG	xGOT	xG conceded	xGOT conceded
47.0	43.1	46.7	53.2
5th	9th	4th	2rd

Goals scored by minutes



15 15-50 50-	43 43 1 43-00 00	1-73 73-90 90 1
Shoot juence (SS)	Average no, of passes per SS	A ratio of SSs to total sequences
344	2.5	7 %
6th	12th	7th

- 1. Used a 3-4-3 formation when attacking
- 2. Impressive counterattacks during attacking transitions
- 3. Scored multiple times through crosses from the wings 4. Used a 5-4-1 formation when defending

SEONGNAM FC

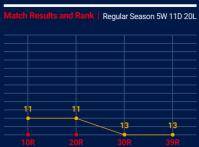
KEY FEATURES Scan to watch video >





A historically poor season. While Leonardo Ruiz, Lee Jung-min, and Park Ji-won showed flashes of brilliance, the team's overall cohesion and organisation were virtually nonexistent. A determined and

Manager Jeon Kyungjun					
Date of Birth 1973. 09. 10.					
Manager Records	W	D	L		
2024	0	3	6		
K League	32	40	32		

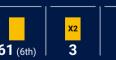


Format	tion 4	-4-2	
	9 RUIZ	90 JUNGMI	N
JI WON	JUN YEONG	13 BON CHEOL	JAE WON
14) HUN MIN	SEUNG YONG	66 Joo WON	2 KWANG
	(a) .su	

Positi	on Player	App	Min	GC	CS
GK	SANGHUN	13	1,311	19	1
	PILSU	23	2,325	47	1
Positi	on Player	Арр	Min	G	Α
DF	EUIBIN	13	1,034	0	0
	GUNIL	14	845	0	0
	JOOWON	30	2,971	1	0
	HUNMIN	18	1,035	1	0
	KWANGIL	26	2,096	0	1
	SIH00	13	733	1	0
	SUN	5	449	0	0
	YOUNGSUN	13	928	0	0
	HYOJUN	9	666	1	1
	SEUNGYONG	25	2,279	0	3
	SUNGWOOK	10	590	0	0
	JUNYEONG	11	699	0	0
MF	KWANWOO	11	467	1	0
	JUNSUN	12	958	0	1
	ALIBAEV	17	1,476	0	1
	TAEYANG	18	1,123	0	0
	JAEHYEOK	12	993	0	0
	YOUNGGI	8	454	1	0
	WONJIN	22	1,780	0	2
	SUKJONG	20	1,121	0	0
FW	GABRIEL	6	412	0	1
	BONCHEOL	11	623	1	1
	JEONGHWAN	23	1,163	2	2
	JIWON	33	1,833	4	2
	JAEWON	27	1,720	2	5
	JEONGHYEOP	22	1,201	0	0
	JUNSANG	22	1,162	1	1
	JUNGMIN	14	933	4	0
	SEONGS00	3	87	0	0
	11	0	107	0	_



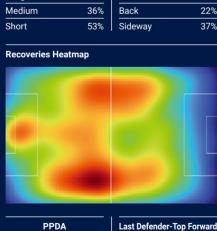
CORREIA



563 829 2,894

	Goals	Shots on Target	хG
RUIZ	12	31	14.1
JIWON	4	12	5.1
JUNGMIN	4	6	1.6
	Assists	Key Passes	Crosses
JAEWON	5	16	106
SEUNGYONG	3	9	58
RUIZ	2	16	17





PPDA	Last Defender-Top Forw
13.0	33.1
12th	5th
Total Distance	Sprints
106.4 _{km}	189.3

Goals 9(26%) 2 5 (6%) (15%) 9(26%) Outside PA **6**(18%) PK 3(9%) 34 хG xG conceded xG0T conceded xGOT 48.2 38.3 48.3 36.9 5th 11th 2nd Goals scored by minutes



- 1. Used a 4-4-2 formation when attacking
- 2. Crossing from the wings was the primary attacking
- 3. Adopted a 4-4-2 shape when defending
- 4. Frequently allowed crosses from the wings



2024 K LEAGUE **TECHNICAL REPORT**

Publication | Korea Professional Football League Analysis and Planning | K League TSG Statistics | Bepro11

Design and Production | Graphic Ratio Interview and Proofreading | Nam-ki Jo(journalist)

Translation | Muyeol Jung and Paul Neat

Photography | FAphotos

Place of Publication | Gyeonghui-gil 46, Jongno-gu, Seoul KFA B/D 5th FL. Date of Publication | 31th Dec 2024

> Copyright © 2024 Korea Professional Football League All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reprinted or reproduced or utilised in any form or by an electronic, mechanical, or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, without prior permission in writing from the Korea Professional Football League.

