



THE SOFTWARE IN ACTION

What is the system which provides the Argentinian technical staff and the squad with information about themselves and about their opponents?

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PARIS (from our correspondent) – The Argentinian team is finally using video analysis for the games, a tool which Marcelo Loffreda uses on a daily basis and which is mainly responsible for the current situation in which are Los Pumas.



On this laptop, analysts are working on the Scottish team's strengths.

Through the Gamebreaker software, from the SportsCode family of products, Les Cusworth and Nicolas Basdedios Molina analyzed the last 10 games played by Scotland and today they will show the team a video displaying the defects and power of Los Pumas' next opponents. This help is vital for Loffreda and Daniel Baetti to design the strategy, the organization and most appropriate defense according to the opposite team' characteristics.

“Scotland plays with a strategy very similar to the Argentinian’s. They have a very powerful pack, an excellent line-out with a 95% of success rate and a solid scrum. They are organized and they are the team that improved the most during the World cup”, says Cusworth in a short analysis of the Europeans.

Recourse to technology is fundamental to high level and elite sport. The software used by Los Pumas enables to give anything one would be looking for. For instance, each time Ireland attacked Los Pumas through the blind area or details about balls caught.

“It is essential to count on these systems, because if you don’t, you give your opponents the advantage. England and France are using it quite a lot and in Soccer the Argentinian Football Association (AFA) and the Paraguay’s team use it as well” says Basdedios Molina. He also prepares and provides the team’s players with reports about each player’s movements. “Agustin Pichot, Felipe Contepomi, Juan Martin Hernandez and Juan Fernandez Lobbe are the most persistent and meticulous when analyzing performances”.

Basdedios Molina is also in charge of making “motivational videos”, as they call them within the team. “They are series of images summarizing the work done during the week. It is not about getting tears but to highlight the way to follow to reach the objectives. Images are sometimes accompanied with music when coaches wish to. Before the game against France, the team listened to the band Pier and before the game against Ireland, to Los Redonditos de Ricota” says the analyst, a quiet worker who goes unnoticed, just as Cusworth, but who is of great importance for Los Pumas’ tactics.

By the way, over the last few weeks, the situation is somewhat irregular. The day after each game, the organization has to hand in a DVD with the images of the game to the technical staff of each team. Argentina had lodge a complaint as they hadn’t receive the DVD from the organization after the game against France. They finally received the DVDs yesterday at the Argentinian’s bunker. Anyway, the quite video collaborators managed to provide the technical staff with the information they needed.