

GOALKEEPER ANALYSIS OF THE 2016 CHL FINAL MEN

Roman Filz

Austrian Handball Federation

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Directory

Directory.....	2
Abbreviations	2
Summary	3
Keywords	3
Introduction	3
Background	3
Idea.....	4
The Way to the Final Four.....	4
Semifinals	4
Game Basics.....	5
Squads.....	5
Goalkeepers.....	7
Method	7
Scene by scene KSK GKs.....	11
Scene by scene VES GKs.....	16
Conclusion	22
Phases	22
References	23

Abbreviations

BIH	Bosnia and Herzegovina	LB	left back
BP	back player	LW	left wing
BT	breakthrough	MA	Mirko Alilovic
CB	center back	MS	Marin Sego
ChL	Champions League	POL	Poland
CRO	Croatia	PV	pivot
EHF	European Handball Federation	RB	right back
ESP	Spain	RM	Roland Mikler
FB	fastbreak	SLO	Slovenia
FT	freethrow	SRB	Serbia
GER	Germany	SS	Slawomir Szmal
GK	goalkeeper	SWE	Sweden
i.e.	id est	TH	team handball
ISL	Iceland	TTO	team timeout
KSK	KS Vive Tauron Kielce	VES	MVM Veszprem

Summary

After pointing out the complex background of this thesis in the introduction, the author tries to give insight in the idea behind this theme. As the focus on the described game goes into detail, the requirements for the reader are given with a short look on the journey of both teams, how they got to the Final Four, followed by a short insight into both semifinals and the game basics. Then both squads are listed with a short chapter about all goalkeepers participating in this game. Before going into detail with a scene by scene analysis in the main part the method is explained. Afterwards there is a scene by scene analysis of the goalkeepers from KS Vive Tauron Kielce including some remarks in the end followed by a scene by scene analysis of the goalkeepers from MVM Veszprem, also with some final remarks. In the end there is a conclusion with a brief analysis on the coaches' decisions and their individual backgrounds followed by a more detailed analysis of the phases, as certain scoring streaks and saving streaks could be observed.

Keywords

Handball, analysis, goalkeeper, EHF Champions League Final 2016 Men, scene by scene

Introduction

Background

There was a time in my coaching career – especially between 1998 and 2006 – when I was focusing a lot on group dynamics. Not only on a theoretical level. I had already been involved in full time teaching and part time coaching and taken part in a number of T-group seminars in different contexts and in different countries after I had been introduced to this field at university. From each seminar I gained some very interesting insights into a topic which, from my point of view, is very important in coaching team handball (TH). In these kind of seminars education scientists (as myself), teachers (as myself), consultants (mainly from the private sector), psychologists, psychotherapists and professionals from other job sectors meet for a week to gain valuable knowledge about themselves, others or groups in different settings.

Without going too much in detail, it is certain that these group processes can lead to conflicts. I had been involved in some of the conflicts earlier in one of these seminars and in one group session there was time to analyze one process, where my conflict behaviour and the conflict behaviour of other group members were thematised by the group. In the end it turned out to be quite easy for me, as one Swiss psychotherapist in his 60s summarized. He concluded with a smile, *“That’s clear. You have to have a conflict behaviour like this: Because you are a goalkeeper (GK).”* He must have been sure, because he also played TH for some years in Switzerland. He knew the group dynamics of TH.

Of course the group had an easy laugh in that very moment, but the truth is that GKs can sometimes be special people. They are individuals in a team sport like all the other players, but it is a fact that the number of GKs in a team is always smaller than the number of field players. This leads to a situation in which the GKs will always be a minority – a bit like lefthanded players, but this is another story.

This is why I want to point out the special position but also the special role of the GKs, not only on the court and in the training process, but also in the social dynamics of a team. Probably this special role is fascinating for some young people accompanied by the challenge of making impossible things possible.

At least for me this was one of the reasons why I always wanted to be a GK. I believe that it was my motivation and fascination for goalkeeping, which brought me to the Junior World Championships in 1993 in Egypt with the Austrian youngsters. Now as a coach with 20+ years of experience I still like to focus on goalkeeping in different contexts, as it is “my” position on court.

After a brief summary of my background, I want to make it clear that I always try to demonstrate respect for both the GKs and the field players. So especially in this thesis all of them who will be mentioned are among the best in the world. I write that because I would never consider criticising or writing without due respect in a gung ho manner.

To the goalies: Thanks for showing us such nice saves!

Idea

When I entered the EHF Open Master Coach Course in January 2016, I was allowed to choose a theme for my thesis. So I took a look at the themes of other courses, and tripped over Michael Niederwieser’s – one of the best Italian goalkeepers ever – thesis about the Champions League Final 2015 between the two German teams from THW Kiel and SG Flensburg – Handewitt (cf. Niederwieser, 2014).

I thought it would be interesting to write about the final of 2016, not knowing that the game dynamics would be so crucial. Then after the overtime and the shootout, I had become even more fascinated and I definitely wanted a closer inspection: into the game, its dynamics and especially into the GKs involved.

The Way to the Final Four

Both teams – i. e. KS Vive Tauron Kielce (KSK) from Poland (POL) and MVM Versprem (VES) - from Hungary (HUN) had experienced tough journeys. These two teams did not compete in the EHF Champions League against each other in the 2015/16 season. Both teams finished their group easily at the second position. Then they made it into the last 16 best European teams and both played against teams from the former USSR: KSK won against HC Motor Zaporozhye (Ukraine) with a total score of 70 - 52. VES eliminated HC Meshkov Brest (Belarus) with a total score of 65 - 58. In the quarter finals KSK played SG Flensburg – Handewitt (GER). After two very tight games they qualified for the Final Four with a total score of 57 - 56. Nearly the same happened to VES, when they played Vardar Skopje (Republic of Macedonia). In these two games the total score was 59 - 56 for the Hungarian team (cf. EUROHANDBALL website, “2015/16 VELUX EHF Champions League GROUP PHASE”, 2016, Ibid., “2015/16 VELUX EHF Champions League LAST 16”, 2016, Ibid., “2015/16 VELUX EHF Champions League QUARTER FINAL”, 2016).

Semifinals

I want to briefly answer the question about what happened in the previous games of both finalists.

In the first semifinal KSK won against Paris Saint Germain Handball (France) with 28 - 26. In this game Thierry Omeyer (Paris, 36% saved overall). He made 15 saves from 46 shots and slightly outdid Slawomir Szmal (SS) (33%, 13/39). The other GKs from KSK – Krzysztof Markowski and Marin Sego (MS) – did not get any playing time at all.

In the second semifinal VES beat THW Kiel 31 - 28. In this game Niklas Landin saved 33% for Kiel. Roland Mikler (36%, 8/22) and Mirko Alilovic (18%, 3/17) combined for eleven saves for VES.

Apart from these numbers it turned out that SS got 100% playing time for KSK. On the other side Roland Mikler (RM) and Mirko Alilovic (MA) shared their playing time for VES. KSK decided to nominate three GKs for the match, VES nominated two. The same nominations followed the next day in the final (cf. Ibid., “2015/16 VELUX EHF Champions League FINAL FOUR”, 2016).

Game Basics

On the 29th of May 2016 the Champions League Final took place at the Lanxess – Arena in Cologne, GER with the throw off between KSK and VES at 18:00. The arena was sold out with 19.250 spectators. The officials were the referees Oscar Lopez and Angel Ramirez (both ESP) and the EHF – delegates were Rui Coelho (Portugal) and Dragan Anchevski (Republic of Macedonia).

It ended 39 - 38 for KSK, 35 - 35 after the overtime, 29 - 29 after 60 minutes and 13 - 17 after the first half of the regular time.

The highest lead for VES was nine goals, the last nine goal lead in the game was in the 45th minute with 28 - 19. Until then VES were always leading, but in the last quarter of an hour of the regular time, KSK started a big comeback, which ended in a draw with the final whistle of the regular time.

The highest lead for KSK was 1 goal. It only occurred once in the game, in particular in the overtime in the 68th minute, when they were leading for the first time ever (!) with 35 - 34, with about 80 seconds still to go.

Before they made the first equalizer in the regular time in the 54th minute after the above mentioned pursuit race (cf. Ibid., “2015/16 Men’s EHF Champions League MATCH DETAILS”, 2016).

Squads

Both teams brought high quality squads to the Final Four. A lot of international players were competing against each other. In table 1a you can find the roster with every nominated player (number in the game at first, then the name, nation in brackets, GKs bold) and the goals made in the final from KSK, in table 1b there is the roster of VES, also followed by the number of goals they made after the players’ names. In both tables you have the four team officials listed after the players followed by the time, when the coaches decided to take their Team Time Outs (TTO).

Table 1a: Team roster KSK (Ibid., 2016)

KS Vive Tauron Kielce	goals made
1 SZMAL Slawomir (POL)	0
5 JURECKI Michal (POL)	3
6 TKACZYK Grzegorz (POL)	0
9 REICHMANN Tobias (GER)	9
10 CHRAPKOWSKI Piotr (POL)	0
11 KUS Mateusz (POL)	0
12 MARKOWSKI Krzysztof (POL)	0
13 AGUINAGALDE AKIZU Julen (ESP)	5
14 BIELECKI Karol (POL)	7
15 JACHLEWSKI Mateusz (POL)	2

16 SEGO Marin (CRO)	0
17 STRLEK Manuel (CRO)	4
19 LIJEWSKI Krzysztof (POL)	5
22 PACZKOWSKI Pawel (POL)	0
23 ZORMAN Uros (SLO)	4
27 CUPIC Ivan (CRO)	0
A STRZABALA Tomasz	
B DUJSHEBAEV Talant	
C MGLOSIEK Tomasz	
D DZIWON Robert	
TTO 1: 17:49 2: 38:27 3: 59:50	

Table 1b: Team roster VES (Ibid., 2016)

MVM Veszprem	
3 GULYAS Peter (HUN)	0
4 IVANCSIK Gergö (HUN)	1
5 SCHUCH Istvan Timuzsin (HUN)	0
13 ILIC Momir (that time SRB)	7
14 PALMARSSON Aron (ISL)	6
16 MIKLER Roland (HUN)	0
18 NILSSON Andreas (SWE)	6
19 NAGY Laszlo (HUN)	5
23 UGALDE GARCIA Cristian (ESP)	7
24 MARGUC Gasper (SLO)	1
25 RODRIGUEZ VAQUERO Jose Maria (ESP)	0
30 TERZIC Mirsad (BIH)	0
32 ALILOVIC Mirko (CRO)	0
33 SULIC Renato (CRO)	0
66 LEKAI Mate (HUN)	3
91 SLISKOVIC Ivan (CRO)	2
A SABATE CAVIEDES Xavier	
B MOYA Josep Espar	
C MAHUNKA Zsolt	
D VEGH Jozsef	
TTO 1: 29:35 2: 50:46 3: 59:24	

As can be seen in the list above 15 out of these 32 players from both squads are from other countries. Most of the players came with international experience. So concerning the choice of the field players it could have been a tough decision for the coaches how to arrange the playing time for each individual player.

Generally I was surprised by two decisions of the coaching staffs. One of them came from KSK and one from VES.

The KSK coach Talant Dujshabaev started with Ivan Cupic instead of Tobias Reichmann on the right wing (RW) position. It is without question that both are among the best players in the world on that position, but in the European Championship 2016 in POL Tobias Reichmann contributed 46 goals in the whole tournament with a lot of penalties for the Germans. I think his performance had not only been a key factor for GER to win the title there, but it also brought him the second place in the scoring list just two goals behind the Spaniard Valero Rivera Folch, also a winger and penalty specialist by the way. In the end it turned out that Tobias Reichmann got much more playing time in the final (than Ivan Cupic), being the best scorer for his time with nine goals.

The second tough decision came from VES. Christian Zeitz (GER) was left out of the squad entirely and he did not even make it onto the bench for both games: the semifinal and the final. In the past when the transfer of Christian Zeitz (from THW Kiel to VES) was made official, I was curious to see how the playing time would be split up between Zeitz and Laszlo Nagy on the right back (RB) position as they both are completely different player types for that position. But Zeitz was left out for these key games at the Final Four tournament.

Another detail which can be read in the two tables before is that the GKs did not score a single goal. In some leagues or tournaments GKs score quite often as bringing an additional field player instead of the goalkeeper is frequently used by many coaches. Some of these coaches use it in special situations; some use it even more often as an everyday strategy. This was also the case in this game, but there were only two empty net goal situations in this game: one for VES, which ended in an easy goal by the right back (RB) Laszlo Nagy after winning the ball in defence in the overtime. Then there was Tobias Reichmann from KSK who shot from the own 9m line in the 49th minute. These were the only attempts of scoring into the empty goal overall.

Goalkeepers

In table 2 all the five goalkeepers of the Champions League Final are listed starting with the three GKs from KSK and the two from VES.

Table 2: Goalkeepers from the final game 2015/16 (Ibid., using the search function 2016)

Name	Nationality	Birthday	Height (m)
1 Slawomir Szmal (KSK)	POL	02/10/78	1,90
12 Krzysztof Markowski (KSK)	POL	05/08/97	1,85
16 Marin Sego (KSK)	CRO	02/08/85	1,94
16 Roland Mikler (VES)	HUN	20/09/84	1,90
32 Mirko Alilovic (VES)	CRO	15/09/85	2,00

With the search function you can find many more details about the players' international club careers on the EUROHANDBALL website.

Method

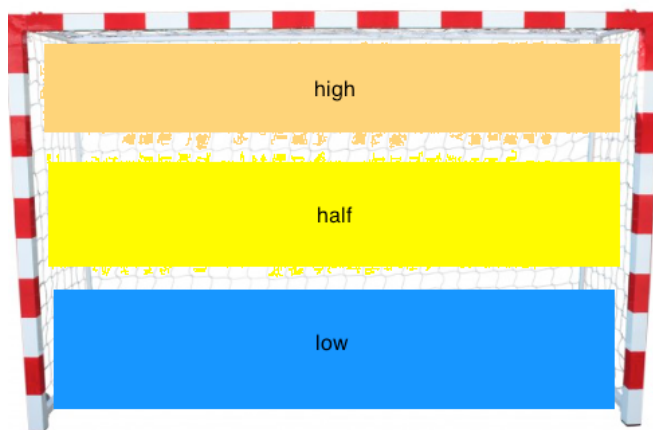
For the analysis I used the broadcast from www.ehf.tv and the online analysis from the EUROHANDBALL website, especially the online stats (cf. Ibid., "2015/16 Men's EHF Champions League MATCH DETAILS", 2016).

I divided the statistics into two parts: one about the GKs of KSK and one about the GKs of VES.

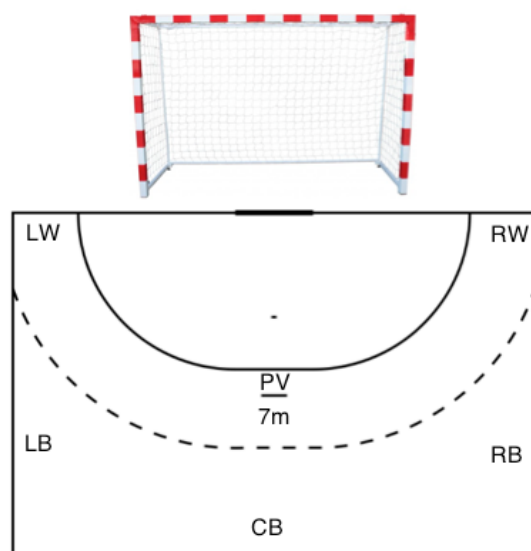
Every line is built up as follows: it starts with the monogram of the GK and point of time in minutes and seconds when the shot took place in the game. Then comes the kind of action, as every shot in the game is described: goal (G), save (S) and missed (M) are the three most common kinds of shooting actions. Shots on the post or on the bar are also described as missed shots. 7G and 7S are used for the penalties. No penalty was noted as 7M in this game. Then the number of the offensive player of the other team is listed, and in the end there is a comment about the shot. There were two empty net goal situations (EG) – one for KSK and one for VES - in these cases EG is written instead of the goalkeeper's monogram. Blocked shots by the field players and turnovers are not listed here. GK changes are listed in *Italic letters* below the comments.

In the comments every shot is described from the point of view of the author who always tries to give precise information. In the following pictures the most frequent words are visualised: i. e. high, half, low, short and long. The background is taken from the WIKIMEDIA website (2016) and the handball goal is taken from the CONTINENTAL SPORTS website (2016).

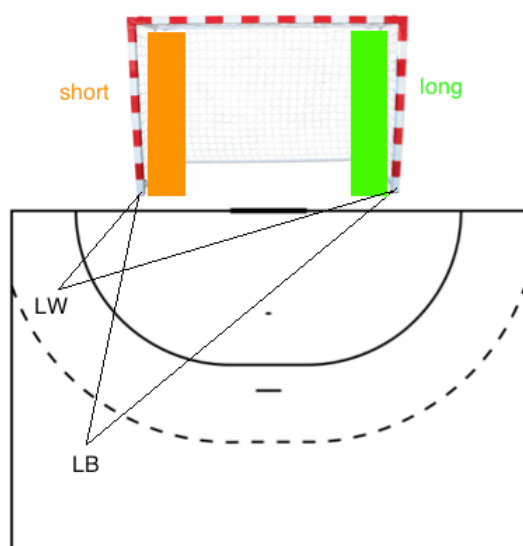
Picture 1: The three heights in TH



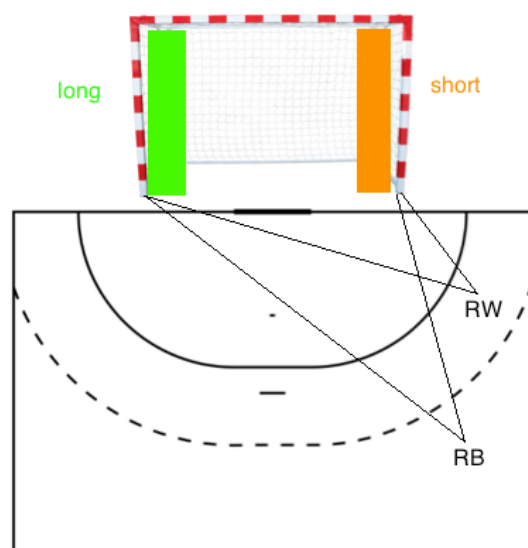
Picture 2: The offence positions in TH



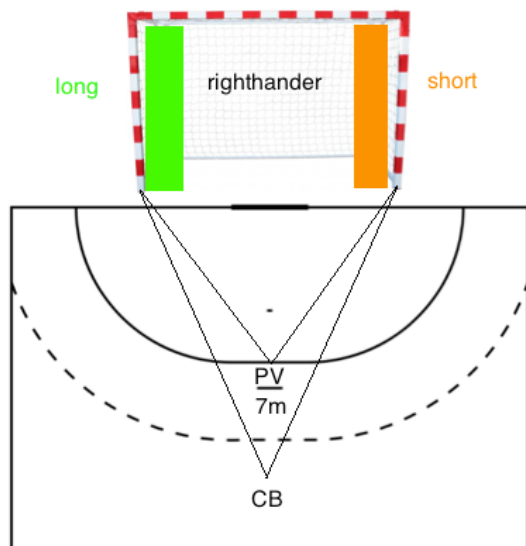
Picture 3: Short and long from the left side



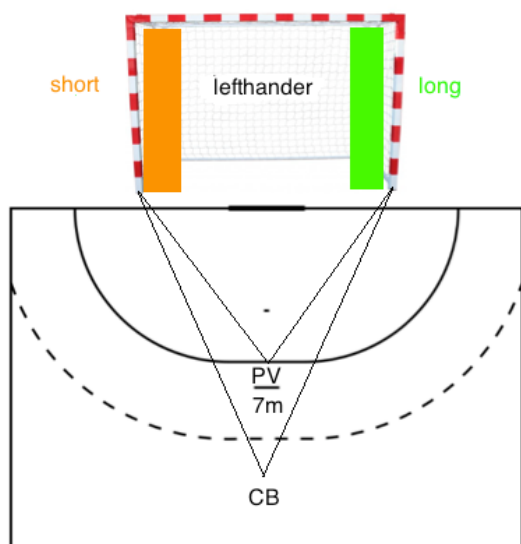
Picture 4: short and long from the right side



Picture 5: Short and long for a righthander from the central positions



Picture 6: Short and long for a lefthander from the central positions



Scene by scene KSK GKs

VES shot 57 times overall in this game. There were 38 goals, 15 shots were saved by the KSK GKs and 4 shots were missed. From the three GKs only two played: Slawomir Szmaj (SS) and Marin Sego (MS).

Table 3a: Scene by scene statistics KSK GKs

KSK GK	Time	Action	VES player	Comment
First half				
SS	01:02	G	18	The player was completely free at the pivot (PV) position after a pass from the BC player and had a long time to prepare the shot. He scored long high after having turned around.
SS	02:40	G	14	The CB had a good timing for his jumper against the defence trying to block. He scored long low.
SS	04:02	G	14	The GK did not get any help from the defence when he received a shot long low from the CB position
SS	05:41	S	14	There was a slight foul contact from the defence disturbing the jump shot of the BP which was long low.
SS	06:23	G	13	The LB came over the CB position into the middle and found space for a jumper short low.
SS	07:28	S	13	The same player tried a similar jumper from the RB position also short low, but this time the GK saved it.
SS	10:21	G	24	The RW player on the PV position was completely free at the PV position in the middle after a transition. He scored long low after having turned around.
SS	11:38	G	13	The shot came from the LB position with a jumper short high.
SS	12:39	G	19	The player came from the RB position with a jumper short high from about 10m. <i>Now Talant Dujšebaev changed the GK.</i>
MS	13:34	G	23	The LW made a transition on the central PV position, where he was completely free. He had time enough to prepare a nutmeg (<i>between the legs of the GK</i>) shot after having turned around.
MS	15:55	G	19	The player made nearly the same move as the one approximately three minutes earlier, shooting short low. This time the defence acted in numerical inferiority. <i>Now Talant Dujšebaev changed the GK again.</i>
SS	16:55	G	66	The defence was still outnumbered and the attacking player found a space in the middle and made a BT and shot short low. <i>And again Talant Dujšebaev changed the GK.</i>

KSK GK	Time	Action	VES player	Comment
MS	18:40	G	66	The attacking player now acted at the LW position, but he came from the LB position and moved outside. The defence player (Tobias Reichmann) tried to cover the long side, but he avoided body contact, possibly to avoid causing a penalty. The attacking player shooting on the short side low. The GK should have been at the post earlier, then it would have been easier to save the shot.
MS	20:51	S	19	The player went in by a BT between 1 and 2, but the GK jumped out nicely in offensive style and made a good save. Probably the player wanted to score short high.
MS	20:53	G	66	Then the same player caught the offensive rebound, the shooter from the situation before still inside the D, so the player judged the situation nicely and made a difficult jump shot around the defence player long low.
MS	22:11	S	19	The player chose a similar position as he did earlier with a jump shot from the RB position, but this time the GK read the shot and was in position, as the BP shot short low again.
MS	23:16	G	13	The player came from the LB position with a jumper inside after a feint outside from about 8,5m. He shot long low but the block from the defence player inside did not help.
MS	24:28	S	13	The player tried a similar shot from a similar position, but now the GK remembered the shot which was also long low, but a little more inside from the post as the one before, and he saved the ball.
MS	25:10	G	4	The LW got a nice pass from the LB who was passing down the line and shot long half from a very good angle.
MS	26:47	G	18	The PV player got a nice pass from the BP and he had both the space and time to prepare a good shot from the left PV position. He scored long low after having turned around.
MS	28:08	G	19	The team prepared a nice timing for the shooter who came inside for a jumper from the RB position, he had much space and made a good timing against the defence with a shot long half.
MS	29:52	G	14	The player made a ground shot from the RB position as a righthander. He found some small space between two defence players and shot into the middle of the goal low at the nutmeg position.

KSK GK	Time	Action	VES player	Comment
Second half				
SS	30:29	M	14	The player made an outside move on the LB position and hit the post (long high) after the BT.
SS	30:48	G	18	A FB was finished at the central PV position after a nice assist from the RB. He scored short half.
SS	32:13	S	24	The player wanted to finish a FB, but the GK made a nice offensive move. The player shot long half from the central position.
SS	33:39	G	14	He went outside again at the LB position, this time with a dribble – maybe he was afraid of a travelling call by the referee - and finished a BT between 1 and 2 with a shot long low.
SS	34:18	G	14	The player scored with a ground shot short short low at the LB position.
SS	36:59	G	18	The PV player finished long half from the right PV position after a no look pass from the RB.
SS	38:01	G	18	Again the PV scored after an indirect pass from the LB, this time having not so much time because of the defence trying to tackle him. He shot short low.
SS	38:21	G	23	After a rebound the defence got the ball and there was a FB situation with a quick pass when the player shot short low under the left leg of the GK from the central PV position.
SS	39:15	G	91	The player finished a FB over a defence player who already made it back to the defence position. He waited for quite a long time in the air and shot long low.
SS	41:35	7G	13	The player shot the penalty short low, after Aaron Palmarsson could not be stopped without a 7m foul.
SS	42:34	G	23	The player finished a FB short half from the central PV position after a jumper high in the air.
SS	44:36	G	23	Again after a transition from the LW the player scored from the right PV position short low.
SS	45:36	G	18	The player got an indirect pass in the centre PV position. Then he shot low at the middle of the goal.
SS	47:01	M	24	After a transition the RW got a pass in the centre PV position and shot on the short post.
SS	48:24	S	19	He made a groundshot from the CB position long low, but the GK saved it.
SS	50:03	S	13	He attempted a jumper from the RB position long low, but the GK saved it.
SS	51:24	M	91	The player attempted a jumper from the RB position and missed the goal long half.

KSK GK	Time	Action	VES player	Comment
SS	52:07	S	66	He wanted to attempt a smart quick jumper around the defence player from the CB position long half, but the shot was not precise enough and landed in the middle of the goal, easy to save for the GK.
SS	52:48	S	4	The player had a really nice angle from the LW position and wanted to shoot long half, but the GK saved it.
SS	56:50	M	19	The player attempted a jump shot from the RB position but the shot was not precise enough and landed in the middle of the goal. An easy save for the GK.
SS	58:02	G	13	The player scored with a jumper from the LB position short high.
First half overtime				
SS	61:13	S	14	The player attempted a groundshot from the CB position long half and the GK saved it.
SS	61:24	G	23	The player caught the offensive rebound from the earlier attempted groundshot at the LW position, made body contact with the defence player but scored long half.
SS	62:08	G	23	The same player got a quick nice pass from the GK (after having saved a lob), made one dribble and shot a goal long half after jumping inside from the central PV position.
SS	63:31	G	19	The player went inside from the RB position with a feint and scored short low with a jumper. It was close to the CB position.
SS	64:54	G	13	The player also came inside but from the LB position. He got a well timed pass from the RB and scored short low with a jumper after one step.
Second half overtime				
SS	65:22	S	13	The player attempted a jumper from the CB position but in the middle of the goal, not precise enough.
SS	65:41	7S	13	The player shot short high, but the GK was already in position.
EG	66:17	G	19	The player received the ball in the defence and had an easy job to do from the middle line, because the goal was empty.
SS	69:55	G	23	The RB made a diagonal pass in numerical superiority and the LW had a lot of space, a very good angle and also the time to take three steps. He shot long half achieving the equalizer, which resulted in the shoot-out.

KSK GK	Time	Action	VES player	Comment
7m shootout				
SS	70:00	G	13	The player made a shooting feint and shot short low.
MS	70:00	S	24	The player made a shooting feint and shot long half, but the GK blocked with a leg.
MS	70:00	G	91	The player made a shooting feint and shot short low. The GK was very offensive standing exactly behind the 4m mark.
SS	70:00	S	30	The player made a shooting feint and shot short half, but the GK blocked with a leg.
MS	70:00	G	14	The player made a shooting feint and scored long low under the leg of the GK.

SS started for KSK but in the twelfth minute their headcoach Talant Dujšebaev brought MS in. MS got two goals in a row, and then the team was outnumbered because of a two minutes suspension. So Talant Dujšebaev decided to use an additional field player, but in the defence they brought SS back in. This was in the sixteenth minute. Then the two minute suspension for the field player was over in the seventeenth minute and they brought MS back in until the first half was over. Maybe they did not want to play with MS having to change quickly with the extra field player? I made similar observations with the Serbian National Team during the European Championship 2016 in Poland, when I had the impression that the coach did not want to change Darko Stanic with the extra field player. So the other GK had to move in during that period.

I know at least one European National coach who told me that he can change just one of his goalkeepers with the extra field player. The other GK would have problems because of a lack of running skills. When he told me first, I thought it was a joke, but it was not.

In the second half SS started again. There was a situation with a score of 28 - 19 for VES in the 46th minute. I think only a few people thought that KSK could come back at that very moment.

If you take a look at the scenes in the end of the second half, you see that there is a very important period after 45:36 and before 58:02. In this time not a single goal was scored by VES, combining for nine bad shots: three missed shots (out of four overall) and four GK saves. This was in my opinion the key period in this game and SS displayed really powerful body language in these minutes.

In the end VES had ball possession with only about 20 seconds to play, and they were leading with one goal. Then a shot was blocked by the defence and Krzysztof Lijewski from KSK scored a goal, so they went into overtime.

While VES changed the GKs in the end of the second half, KSK still played with SS in the regular time. He also played in the overtime, while MS was sitting on the bench.

In the 7m shootout SS started and got a goal from Momir Ilic. Then Talant Dujšebaev changed and MS saved against Gasper Marguc. Then MS got a goal from Ivan Sliscovic. Then Szmajc came back in and saved a penalty from Mirsad Terzic. In the end MS got a goal from Aaron Palmarsson.

Reflecting the decision during the penalty shootout, I could easily understand why SS started between the posts, when Momir Ilic took the first shot. But then the GKs changed two times. I think that the VES players were surprised with the changes of the GKs. Both GKs saved one

7m right after being brought in. I think it proved once more that you need two GKs in TH, because you have more options.

In this table there are the all the shots against the KSK GKs divided into the four different match periods, i. e. first half, second half, overtime and 7m shootout.

*Table 3b: Summarized shots against the KSK GKs; * from the 34 field goals overall there was one empty net goal (EG), which must be seperated from the classical goals against the GKs.*

KSK GKs	G	7G	S	7S	M	Total
First half	17	0	5	0	0	22
Second half	11	1	5	0	4	21
Overtime	6	0	2	1	0	9
7m Shootout	0	3	0	2	0	5
Total	34*	4	12	3	4	57

Scene by scene VES GKs

KSK shot 58 times overall in this game. There were 39 goals, 13 shots were saved by the VES GKs and 6 shots were missed. Again also the shots on the posts and bars were counted as missed. Both GKs played: Mirko Alilovic (MA) and Roland Mikler (RM).

Table 4a: Scene by scene statistics VES GKs

VES GK	Time	Action	KSK Player	Comment
First half				
RM	05:07	S	27	The RW player got a nice indirect pass from the CB and took a shot short half from a good angle. The GK saved it.
RM	05:53	G	19	The lefthander went one on one in the middle and shot long low.
RM	08:51	S	14	The player attempted a long low jumper from the LB position and the GK saved it.
RM	09:01	G	14	Then followed quite a similar shot from a similar position, he was marking the long low spot again, but now with an indirect shot, and he scored a goal.
RM	10:49	G	19	The RB won the mismatch with the outside defence player, and made a BT, took a shot from the RW really and then made a headlayer over the GK.
RM	12:13	G	23	The CB found a space between 1 and 2 at the left side where he could make a BT. He scored a goal half short.
RM	13:19	M	13	It was the first attempt at goal from the PV. The defence had been very successful at marking him until that moment. The problem was, that he did not have much time to take the shot from the left PV position, so he wanted to take an indirect shot short, but he missed the goal.

VES GK	Time	Action	KSK Player	Comment
RM	14:20	7G	9	The player waited a bit and shot short low, after the penalty was drawn by Michal Jurecki who was stopped in a BT situation at the left.
RM	15:38	G	9	The player finished a FB with a spinshot short from the middle waiting for quite a long time during his jump.
RM	16:34	G	19	The player managed to break free nicely, and he could finish after a pass from the LB at the center PV position.
RM	19:27	7S	9	The player shot long high, and the GK saved it after Uros Zorman could only be stopped with a 7m defensive foul.
RM	20:11	G	17	The player finished a FB on the LW position with a shot short low.
RM	21:45	G	23	The player made a BT finishing nicely again between 1 and 2 at the left side this time with a successful nutmeg shot. There was body contact with a defence player and the attacker had to be treated by the physiotherapist.
RM	22:41	G	13	The player finished at the right PV position after a well timed pass from the RB. He shot long low.
RM	24:02	G	13	On the very same position the player got a pass from the RB, this time an indirect one, and again he shot long low.
RM	24:41	G	9	After a nice pass (again from the RB), the RW had a lot of space in his position and shot a goal long high after getting a pas down the line.
RM	27:22	S	19	After making three assists in a row the player attempted a jumper from the RB position. It was from about 7m where he found some space between two defence players, but the GK saved it on the long side high.
MA	29:01	7G	14	<i>The coach changed the GK.</i> The penalty was shot long above the right arm of the GK.
Second half				
RM	30:36	M	5	The player took a groundshot from the CB position at the FB, but hit the post at the bar short.
RM	32:41	G	14	The player shot from the LB position with a jumper into the central position low, ending in a nutmeg for the GK.
RM	34:11	S	9	The player received the ball at the RW position after a diagonal pass from the CB and shot long high from an average angle, the GK made a courageous save. The GK's arms were in a very good position from a technical point of view.

VES GK	Time	Action	KSK Player	Comment
RM	34:35	G	17	Again a diagonal pass came from the CB but this time to the LW. As in the situation earlier the KSK offence was outnumbered, but the coach decided to put in an additional field player in offence instead of the GK. This player was the additional field player, the LW position was on benchside. After the shot (short low from a good angle) the player had to change quickly, but the GK did not manage the quick pass for the fast throw off.
RM	36:31	S	14	The player took a shot because of the time trouble situation. After a FT at the CB position there was just one pass from the PV and the shooter took an indirect groundshot short from 9m touched the floor about 2,5m in front of the goal and could easily be caught by the GK with both hands.
RM	37:30	G	23	After a one on one situation from the RB position inside to the CB position the righthanded player found little space for shooting long low even if there was body contact with the defence player.
RM	38:15	M	14	After a feint the player attempted a jumper from 10m at the CB position, but he just hit the post short. After the shot they lost the rebound and got a FB goal.
RM	39:44	M	13	The PV player got the ball at the right PV position but he did not manage to turn around with the chest facing the goal properly. In this situation he could only use the left hand, missed the goal on the long side and claimed a foul afterwards in the direction of the referees.
RM	40:57	G	14	After a double pass with the PV the player took a jumpshot from the LB position and shot short low.
RM	41:58	M	23	The player got the pass at the PV position in the center and shot at the short post half.
RM	43:04	G	9	The RW got the ball after a diagonal pass from the CB, had a good angle and scored with a spin shot short.
RM	44:06	G	9	The player finished a FB with a jumper and took a lot of time in the air before finishing. He threw short half.

VES GK	Time	Action	KSK Player	Comment
RM	45:03	M	5	The player took a shot from the RB position after a lateral movement from the CB position. He shot over the goal with a jumper, I think he wanted to shoot short high.
RM	46:32	G	15	The LW took a shot from a good position short low. The only problem in this scene was that there was a defence and an offence player inside the D during the shot. They disturbed the action, but the referee decided on advantage.
RM	47:39	G	9	Again the player got a nice pass to finish from the RW position with a spin shot short from a good angle. The shooter was touched by the defence player at the upper leg, had to be treated by the physiotherapist and the defence player got a two minutes suspension.
RM	48:49	G	9	Again they played – in numerical superiority now – for the RW who finished from a good angle this time short again, but low without a spinshot.
EG	49:36	G	9	The player won the ball in defence in the area of 9m and scored into the empty goal, as the VES coach decided to bring in an additional field player instead of the GK for a six on six play in offence.
RM	50:38	G	13	The PV got a good pass from a BP, turned around quickly at the central PV position and shot long low with an indirect shot.
RM	51:37	G	5	After several tries before, the player made his first goal of the match after a dribbling feint continued by a BT, and he shot short low from the left PV position.
MA	53:02	G	14	<i>VES had changed the GK before</i> and the player made a BT from the LB to shoot long half from 6m.
MA	54:04	G	23	After a really explosive one on one move at the LB position the player scored short half after a dribbling right before the move. He started slowly with the dribble, but out of a sudden he “exploded”. The shot took place nearly at the same position as a minute earlier.
MA	55:31	S	13	After getting a really clever pass from the BP the PV shot short low from the left PV position, and the GK was in position with his right leg.

VES GK	Time	Action	KSK Player	Comment
MA	55:46	S	14	The player shot from the LB position, but the GK was in position. The shot was not precise enough and landed in the middle of the goal. But KSK stayed with the ball as the RW won the offensive rebound.
MA	56:01	7G	14	The player made a shooting feint and scored long high.
MA	57:23	7S	14	The same player went for the penalty again, but this time without a shooting feint. He immediately shot short half and the GK made a save.
MA	58:45	7S	17	The player made a shooting feint and wanted to score with a nutmeg shot, but the GK saved it.
MA	59:57	G	19	After a crossing from the CB player the shooter moved inside from the RB position and shot long high to score for the late euqualizer.
First half overtime				
MA	60:33	G	15	The player got a diagonal pass at the LW position jumped in from an average angle and scored long high.
MA	61:58	S	19	After a very good one on one move the RB had a lot of space and time in the center 6m position and he wanted to perform a lob which was caught by the very observant GK. Immediately after the save the GK initiated the FB with a well executed long pass.
MA	62:59	G	5	The player scored with a BT on the LB position. He jumped from about 6m and shot long low with an indirect shot.
MA	64:12	G	5	The player shot from the CB position after a one on one fight. The GK almost saved the ball which went short half. The ball bounced into the goal from his hands.
MA	65:00	S	10	There was a fast throw off with only one second left and the player made a ground shot from the middle line which was caught easily by the GK.
Second half overtime				
MA	65:27	G	17	The player got a nice FB pass and finished with a jumper from the central position shooting short high.
MA	67:19	G	19	The player made a similar one on one move as in the first half of the overtime. He came from the RB position inside and found a lot of space at the central position. But this time he did not perform a lob but a shot long low.

VES GK	Time	Action	KSK Player	Comment
MA	68:39	G	13	The PV scored from the left PV position short half after a nice pass from the BP.
7m shootout				
MA	70:00	7S	27	The player (who is the GK's teammate in the Croatian national team) made a shooting feint and shot short high. The GK saved it.
MA	70:00	7G	17	The player (also the GK's teammate in the Croatian national team) made a shooting feint and scored under the left leg of the GK at the nutmeg position.
MA	70:00	7G	14	The player made a shooting feint and scored long high. Just in the same duel at the end of the regular time the GK had been successful.
RM	70:00	7G	9	The player did not perform a shooting feint and scored long half. In the regular time the GK was successful, which was probably the reason why the GK was changed in against this shooter.
MA	70:00	7G	13	<i>The GK was changed again</i> and the player made a shooting feint and scored long half. Then the game was over.

In the first half RM played, only being substituted by MA for one 7m in the end. Then the coach decided to change the GKs: in the 51st minute he brought MA in, and he managed some nice saves including two penalties: one against Karol Bilecki and one against Manuel Strlek. In the shootout MA started in the goal and made a save against his teammate from the Croatian National Team Ivan Cupic. From then on all the players from VES made goals: Manuel Strlek and Karol Bielecki were successful against MA, then RM came in for a penalty against Tobias Reichmann, but he could not save it. For the last penalty MA came back in, but Julen Aguinagalde Akizu scored the last deciding goal in the end, and it was all over.

In this table there are the all the shots against the VES GKs divided into the four different match periods, i. e. first half, second half, overtime and 7m shootout.

*Table 4b: Summarized shots against the VES GKs; * from the 32 field goals overall there was one empty net goal (EG), which must be seperated from the classical goals against the GKs.*

VES GKs	G	7G	S	7S	M	Total
First half	11	2	3	1	1	18
Second half	15	1	4	2	5	27
Overtime	6	0	2	0	0	8
7m Shootout	0	4	0	1	0	5
Total	32*	7	9	4	6	58

Conclusion

So both teams took nearly the same number of shots in this game: VES took 57 shots and KSK took 58. The only difference was the distribution in the regular playing time. While the offence of VES nearly stayed on the same shooting level – 22 shots in the first half and 21 in the second – KSK shot significantly more often in the second half. 27 shots in the second half is a third more than in the first half, where they had 18 attempts at goal.

In my statistics I always do not count the missed shots, so overall the GKS from VES saved 13/52, 7m rate overall 4/11 and 7m shootout rate 1/5.

The GKs from KSK saved 15/53 overall, 7m rate overall 3/7 and 7m shootout rate in the end 2/5.

Phases

There were five key phases in the game for the GKs. There were some saving phases and some scoring phases in the game.

For the KSK GKs there were three important phases in the regular playing time:

- Between the 11th and the 21st minute the VES offence players contributed a 7 goal scoring streak: For more than 10 minutes no ball was saved. In this period they changed the GKs.
- Between the 33rd and the 45th minute the VES offence players even scored 10 goals in a row when the KSK GKs did not manage a single save during a period of almost 12 minutes.
- But then SS had 11 very strong minutes between the 47th and 58th minute, when he saved 4 shots en suite and did not get a single goal in that period. This was also a key factor for KSK; to catch up the nine goal deficit. In this period 3 missed shots (beside the goal or on the post) were contributed by the VES offence.

For the VES GKs there were only two important phases in the regular playing time:

- There was a shorter period between the 9th and the 16th minute. In these 7+ minutes there was no saved ball for RM and he conceded 6 goals in a row.
- The second important period was the crucial time between the 37th and the 54th minute. In these 16+ minutes there was also no single save from the GKs. They also brought in MA instead of RM in the end of this phase, as they let in 12 goals in a row. Additionally it must be mentioned that there were 4 missed shots from the KSK offence in this very period.

Whenever there is a longer scoring streak for the opponent team, both coaches reacted. KSK changed the GK for the first time in the 12th minute, after SS got two goals from the backcourt. It was a constant coming and going in the KSK squad in the next minutes, because of the numerical inferiority. In this particular period he also changed the GK as mentioned before. But one thing was for sure: the KSK coach reacted.

VES waited (or even hesitated) longer and changed in the 51st minute only after they had conceded 9 goals in a row. As mentioned before in this period RM did not save a single ball (since the 37th minute), but 4 shots were missed. When they brought in MA instead of RM, there was no sudden success on the GK position, but in the last 5 minutes he made 4 saves including 2 penalties, which kept VES in the game. Otherwise they would not have reached the overtime.

Concerning the overtime both teams had one thing in common: no GK changes. On both sides the GK who finished the game also played for the full overtime.

Looking back on the whole game process, I think that the points of time for a GK change also reflected both coaches' personalities.

- Xavier Sabate Caviedes (VES): calm, introverted, not loud during TTO.
- Talant Dujshebaev (KSK): agile, intensive footwork at the sideline, extroverted, sometimes very loud during TTO.

Personally I would have brought Mirko Alilovic earlier into the game, but in the end I want to point out for the coaches that, no matter which type of coach you are, a substitution can always help your team.

I do not only think about the goalkeepers, but also about the field players. In this competition (ChL) 16 players are allowed to play per team, so I would distribute playing time among as many players as possible because of the increased game speed.

This (the high speed) is also the reason for my final thought in this thesis: You need more people in the coaching staff. In my opinion the game is much too fast for a single person who is responsible for every decision. A goalkeeper coach on the bench could help.

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