



FIFA Club World Cup Japan 2012

Match for the 5th Place

(KOR) Ulsan Hyundai		2:3		Sanfrecce Hiroshima (JPN)
12 December 2012, 16:30 JST – Toyota Stadium, Toyota, Japan				

Match Officials	Name	Origin	Mark ¹	Mark ²	Difficulty ³
Referee	Nawaf SHUKRALLAH	BHR	8.5	---	Normal
Assistant Referee 1	Yaser TULEFAT	BHR	8,7	---	Challenging
Assistant Referee 2	Ebrahim SALEH	BHR	8,8	---	Challenging
Fourth Official	Peter O'LEARY	NZL	8,1	---	Normal
Reserve AR	Mark RULE	NZL			
Blog-Referee Observer ⁴	Chefren	ITA			

¹ Final mark according to evaluation scale! (Expected level for fourth official is 8.0!)

² Mark if the final mark had not been influenced by a crucial mistake (only in case of a crucial mistake, to be held empty if no crucial mistake occurred).

³ Difficulty has to be integrated into the final mark. Levels of difficulty are: "normal", "challenging" and "very challenging".

⁴ Blog-Referee Observer =Inofficial referee observer appointed by our blogs' community

Evaluation scale	Description of the Marks
9.0 – 10.0	Excellent.
8.5 – 8.9	Very good. Important decision(s) correctly taken.
8.3 – 8.4	Good. Expected level.
8.2	Satisfactory with small areas for improvement.
8.0 – 8.1	Satisfactory with important areas for improvement.
7.9	One clear and important mistake, otherwise 8.3 or above.
7.8	One clear and important mistake, otherwise 8.0 – 8.2.
7.5 – 7.7	Below expectation, poor control, significant point(s) for improvement.
7.0 – 7.4	Disappointing. Below expectation with one and clear important mistakes or a performance with two or more clear and important mistakes.
6.0 – 6.9	Unacceptable.

Description of the match:

The fifth-place final in this FIFA CWC 2012. The match was played between the teams defeated in the quarterfinal matches: Ulsan Hyundai from Korea Republic and Sanfrecce Hiroshima from Japan. Toyota Stadium, with a capacity of 45000, presented an attendance of 17581, therefore it was almost empty. Weather conditions were good, sunny day and no problems for the pitch. No pressure for the referee, also considering the low importance of the match, so he was able to work in the best possible way. The first match in this competition for Nawaf Shukrallah from Bahrain.



Referee

<p>I. Knowledge, Application and Interpretation of the Laws of the Game, Disciplinary Control and Technical Management of the game with special reference to the situations and the minutes when they occurred. (Crucial decisions, if available, have to be explicitly mentioned in the grid and highlighted).</p>	
<p>Comments: Shukralla adapted his style to the match. He had an easy approach in first half, also thank to the fairness of the players. When he noticed that the game was going to live a more intensive moment, he immediately used the cards, showing also his authority. A quite easy first half with one correct card given (reckless tackle) and overall a good foul detection. There is something more to say about the second half, which was more intensive and with some interesting situations, especially in the last minutes. The referee had not problems to handle the match under his control. The only remarkable situation is a small riot happened in the 90' minute, after a whistled foul. Shukralla was able to calm down the situation, showing the correct cards to the players which were responsible for that situation. The other cards given in second half were for clear and irregular actions. The only doubtful situation of the whole match could be the episode happened in the 82', when Sanfrecce's keeper was fouled unintentionally by an opponent, which tried to make a late attempt to hit the ball. In y opinion, here a YC would have been appropriate. Prboably, the only mistake of the match by the referee.</p>	
Minute	Description of the situation
4'	Good advantage given to Ulsan.
18'	Correct free kick whistled for a foul by Mzumoto (Sanfrecce) near the penalty area and very good interaction with players, explaining the reasons of the decision.
29'	Ho (Ulsan) commits a blatant foul. Referee tries to wait for a possible advantage, then he whistles. Correct decision. The game until now is very fair and cards are not still needed.
34'	The number of fouls is increasing in this part of the game. Referee shows the first YC of the match to Ho (Ulsan) which commits his third foul in a short time. Reckless tackle, also for this reason correct and appropriate decision.
66'	Seok Ho (Sanfrecce) is correctly booked by the referee for a dangerous tackle on the opponent.
82'	Rafinha (Ulsan) tries to hit the ball when already caught by keeper. He unintentionally kicks the hands of the opponent. No whistle by the referee, he considered it as a regular action. Game is resumed after 4 minutes due to the injury of the keeper
88'	Shiotani (Sanfrecce) is correctly booked for a blatant pulling the shirt of the opponent.
90'	After a whistled foul, a small riot happens. Referee is immediately on the middle to calm down the situation, which returns normal. Rafinha (Ulsan) and Shusaku (Sanfrecce) are booked.
90'	Correct decision to add 4 minutes as injury time, due to situation happened in 82'.
90'+4	Good advantage given to Sanfrecce on a counterattack.

<p>II. Tactical approach and its Degree of Consistency, Personality, Match Control and Management of the Teams and Players with special reference to the situations and the minutes when they occurred.</p>
<p>Comments: Shukralla had a very good tactical approach because he was able to read the progress of the game. He showed an excellent use of the advantage. The match control was overall ok, until the last minutes it was an easy work, then he had to calm down a small riot. He did it well. Furthermore, he showed his skill to communicate with players, explaining always his decisions and talking to the players. Clear gestures and awareness of the game in progress.</p>

Inofficial Referee Observer's Report

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Positive Points	1.	Very good use of the advantage.
	2.	Awareness and anticipation of the action.
	3.	Interaction with players.
	4.	Clear gestures.
	5.	Calm and self-confident.
Points to improve	---	Merely based on this match, I can't find anything in which he has to improve.

Minute	Description of the situation
4', 29', 90'+4	Good advantage situations
18'	Whistled foul and clear explanation to the players, about his decision.
90'	Good management of the riot.

III. Physical Shape, Stamina, Positioning, Movement as well as Mental Awareness, if needed, with reference to the minutes when they occurred, always in case of a "-".

Physical Condition (very good, good, average, poor): GOOD

Further Aspects: Good fitness and running, excellent positioning at set pieces, and a great awareness of anticipating the action.

+	Expected	-	
	X		Always close to play, follows play at all times with a flexible diagonal system and impedes interference with play
X			Efficient positioning (at set pieces e.g.) and movement to be ready to take a (crucial) decision (specially in the box; be able to enter the box in some cases when it is necessary)
X			Shows awareness and is able to anticipate the action

Minute	Description of the situation
Set pieces, all match long	Very attentive, taking also particular positions with his head, in order to evaluate in the best possible way the situations.

IV. Teamwork (co-operation with (A)ARs and fourth official with reference, if needed, to special situations and the minutes when they occurred)

Comments:
The teamwork was very good. Assistants had a lot of work to do, helping him to take the correct decisions about offside situations. The fourth official cooperated in an appropriate manner, too.

V. If needed: General comments or advices for improvement; explanation of the chosen mark; further matters (can be let empty).

Comments:
He got 8,5 as mark, not just for the cards given and the decisions that he was able to take during the match, but rather thank to his mental awareness and tactical approach, which in my opinion was really good, in a anyway easy match, without difficult situations. In my opinion, he can be listed as candidate for the final match on the next 16 December, since all the Asian teams are now out from the tournament.



Assistant Referee 1

Assistant referee's performance (please mention some important decisions either by integrating them into a coherent comment or mentioning them in the grid below; mandatory if a "-" (negative point) is selected)

Relevant Aspects:

+	Expected	-	
	X		Correct offside decisions by means of a good application of the "wait and see"-technique
	X		Good positioning and movement
	X		Mental alertness and reaction to incidents in his area of vicinity
X			Reasonable degree of co-operation with referee (not flagging too much/too little; being able to support referee in crucial decisions)
	X		Efficient control at set pieces

Comments:
The first assistant had important work to face. He helped the referee taking always the correct decision. Match was CHALLENGING for him: at least 5 remarkable situations to evaluate.

Minute	Description of the situation
13'	Blatant offside by Seulki (Ulsan), well evaluated.
17'	Good evaluation of the situation prior to the own goal by Sanfrecce, no offside.
64'	Yojiro (Sanfrecce) is evaluated in a offside position directly on a long pass by his keeper. The decision is correct.
72'	Good evaluation of the situation prior to the 1-3 scored by Sanfrecce.
76'	Ishikawa (Sanfrecce) is flagged offside: correct decision.

Assistant Referee 2

Assistant referee's performance (please mention some important decisions either by integrating them into a coherent comment or mentioning them in the grid below; mandatory if a "-" (negative point) is selected)

Relevant Aspects:

+	Expected	-	
	X		Correct offside decisions by means of a good application of the "wait and see"-technique
	X		Good positioning and movement
	X		Mental alertness and reaction to incidents in his area of vicinity
	X		Reasonable degree of co-operation with referee (not flagging too much/too little; being able to support referee in crucial decisions)
	X		Efficient control at set pieces



Comments:

The second assistant was for sure the busiest man of the whole referee's team. He had to face several situations, which were important for the outcome of the game. The match can be judged as CHALLENGING also for him, a bit more than his colleague, but not still VERY CHALLENGING. The first situation, listed in the 22' minute, is just a remark. When the TV wasn't able to help us in the evaluation, I gave trust to him.

Minute	Description of the situation
22'	Might have raised the flag for a possible active position of a Sanfrecce player, following the shot of a teammate on a corner nick action, by the way the ball was out of the goal so maybe for this reason he let the game flow. The player in offside was obstructing keeper's view. This is just a remark, I of course don't consider this situation as mistake.
26'	Koji (Sanfrecce) is ruled offside. No replay from tv, so we have to trust the assistant. The feeling is that the decision was correct.
35'	Good evaluation of the situation prior to the 1-1, all the positions were onside.
59'	Shinwook (Ulsan) is flagged offside on a long ball: correct decision.
60'	Kauhno (Usan) is flagged offside on a long ball: no replay from tv but the decision seems correct.
63'	Shinwook (Ulsan) is flagged offside on a long ball: no replay but the decision should be correct.

Fourth Official

Fourth official's performance (reference to technical management like substitutions or signalling of additional time, dealing with benches in case of conflicts)

Comments:

Peter O'Leary is an experienced FIFA referee with many important tournaments in his experience, and therefore he was able to recognize when players tried to waste time, leaving the pitch too slowly prior to the substitution. He immediately gave verbal warning for this reason, well done. All the other work was done in an appropriate manner.