

Performance Analysis - Match Round 5 Quarter-finalists

The following report uses data from the pool phase and makes comparisons only between the eight teams who have made it through to the quarter-finals.

Argentina

- Los Pumas top this group of eight teams in terms of territory split (56%) and ruck speed (3.37s) but sit bottom in a number of areas.
- Areas - they played the least amount tight (0-2m) from the ruck (8%) and in wide areas 30m+ (6%) so predominantly through the middle.
- Attacking - they were number 2 for defenders beaten (32.5) but 6th for metres made (481.3) and 7th for offloads (7.0). They sit 5th for gain line success (51%) and 8th out of 8 for collision dominance (38%).
- Errors – they conceded the third-highest number of turnovers (15.0) of the quarter-finalists.
- Breakdown – having the fastest average ruck speed of these eight teams (3.37 seconds) and the most rucks under 2s (37%) has not translated into many attacking opportunities.
They won the fewest turnovers per game (3.8), 1.5 lower than the next lowest. The average of the other teams is 6.6.
- Red zone – they had the fewest red-zone entries of this group per game (9.0), averaging the lowest time there (04:27) but their efficiency is third best (3.14). Overall, though, with fewer chances they have scored the second-fewest points from red zone entries (28.0).
- Scrum - worst scrum success of these teams (80%). South Africa are on 81% with no others below 90%. Lineout third best (89%).
- Kicking - joint fewest kicks in play with South Africa (20.3) and 6th for possession kicked away (49%) – fewer than half of their possessions led to a kick.
- Territory - their leading stat joint with Fiji (56%), 3rd highest possession split also (56%).
- Defence – rank 6 for most tackles in this group (95.5) but 2 for dominant tackles (10.0), a very high ratio. Second worst tackle success (85%), only Fiji lower.
- Discipline – rank 7 in this group for penalties conceded to this point (11.0) with the most conceded in attack (5.3).
- Individual player stats:
 - Juan Cruz Mallia is their most potent ball carrier (35) with the most metres (309).
 - Emiliano Boffelli leads the line break stats with 4 but Mateo Carreras has beaten the most defenders (17), followed by prop Thomas Gallo (16)
 - Marcos Kremer has made the most tackles (44) and the joint-most dominant tackles (5) with Mateo Carreras. Pablo Matera is the best on the floor, winning 3 turnovers.

England

- Sticking with their pre-determined style. The most kicks in play (33.8) with the highest percent of their possession kicked away (68%). The next highest is 63% and the average for the other seven teams is 54% so significantly different.
- This gives them a reasonable amount of territory (54% is third most) but also have a really high amount of possession time despite kicking it away so much - 17:54 is second for actual time and 58% split also second. Likely achieving this because teams having to kick back to them so much. However, they are then not doing enough with the ball in hand in attack.
- Second fewest carries (108.8) for the second fewest metres made (461.3), sixth for defenders beaten (22.5) and the fewest offloads of these teams (5.8).
- Even relative to their total carries they're not getting much, being sixth for both collision success (39%) and gainline success (51%).
- Ruck speed is second slowest (4.75s) and they have the second fewest rucks under 2s (25%), both only better than Wales.
- Red-zone efficiency not paying off either. Despite the fourth most entries (12.8), England have the second lowest time spent there (04:45), third fewest phases played (24.8) and only Fiji have a lower return per entry (2.48).
- England might point out that by kicking the ball away, you reduce your risk of errors and they are doing that pretty well, while not being the best. They have the third fewest turnovers conceded (12.8) and the second highest positive outcomes of their possessions (74%).
- Their scrum success is second best (95%), winning the most scrums per game (8.3) but lineout success a little way off, winning the second fewest per game (11.0) but also with the third lowest success (88%), joint fewest lineouts stolen with Argentina (0.8).
- England are fourth for tackle success (87%) but made the fewest dominant tackles (7.5). The average for the other seven teams is 10.3.
- In addition, they have won the second fewest turnovers (5.3).
- Discipline just on the wrong side of average - fifth for penalties conceded (10.0).
- Clear lack of intent to play and to play wide with only 50% of their rucks more than 10m away from the previous, which is the lowest of these quarter-finalists.
- Individual player stats:
 - Ben Earl their best ball carrier by some way (37), 9 ahead of the next most, also made the second most metres of any England player (244), Marcus Smith just 1m ahead.
 - Henry Arundell made the most linebreaks (6) overall but all from one game.
 - Marcus Smith and Ollie Lawrence beat the most defenders (12).
 - Ben Earl back at the top for tackles made (44), 13 more than the next most, and of those 2 were dominant which is joint second place with many others but 4 behind Elliot Daly in first place with 6.
- No England player has made more than 1 breakdown turnover.

Fiji

- Two pretty blunt performances for their last two games but still some great attacking output:
 - most carries (139.5)
 - second most offloads (11.3)
 - third most metres made (570.5)
 - surprisingly, not that many line breaks (seventh with only 5 per game).

- Relative to their carries, Fiji are still doing well with the second best collision dominance (45%) and they are fourth for gainline success (52%), which becomes harder to maintain the more carries you have.
- They had the joint-most turnovers conceded with South Africa (17.0 per game), putting their positive outcomes in sixth place at just 64%.
- Fiji are not breaking teams down with repeated quick ball, just sixth for average ruck speed (4.08s) and rucks under 2s (27%).
- They have not managed to convert much in the red zone despite the pressure they create there. They are ranked sixth for entries (9.3) yet they spend the second most time there (05:33) behind New Zealand and play the most phases (40.3) but then can't convert to points. They have the worst efficiency of the quarter-finalists (1.66 points per entry) - the average of the others is 3.14.
- They have scored the joint-most points from the boot outside the 22 (6.0) with France.
- Won the second most scrums per game (6.3) and most lineouts (13.8) but their success rates from these aren't great. Ranked fifth for scrum success (92%), and their 81% lineout success is the worst of the eight teams.
- Joint highest territory shared in games (56%) and work with the highest possession time of these teams (18:21). Most of that being ball in hand supported by how little they kick their possession away, at 48% the second least.
- Fiji had to make the second fewest tackles per game (95.3) but missed the most (23.5) for the worst tackle success (80%). Just sixth for dominant tackles (9.3).
- They won the most turnovers, though (8.0) with a high proportion coming from breakdown turnovers specifically, second most just behind Ireland (4.5).
- Good discipline, with second fewest penalties conceded (8.8), only France conceding fewer.
- Widest play of the eight teams, 59% wider than 10 metres from the previous breakdown.
- Individual player stats:
 - Viliame Mata the highest ball carrier (44)
 - Ilaisa Droasese made the most metres (355)
 - two players on only 3 linebreaks each at the top, Vinaya Habosi and Selestino Ravutaumada
 - Josua Tuisova leading the way for defenders beaten (13)
 - Levani Botia made the most tackles (32), the most dominant (6) and won the joint-most breakdown turnovers (3) along with Josua Tuisova.

France

- Happy to play without the ball and happy to kick it away, France have the lowest possession time of the quarter-finalists (14:50) and second lowest split (52%). Kicking the ball away the third most (30.3).
- Have the fifth most carries as a result (119.0) but keep the ball alive better than anyone else, most offloads (11.8) and still the second most linebreaks (10.5).
- France are not breaking teams down with multiple carries over the gainline and quick rucks. They are seventh for gainline success (51%) and fifth out of eight for ruck speed (4.07s). They do, however, have the highest collision dominance relative to their carries (48%) showing how physical they can be in the contact when they play.
- Very few errors to go along with that, second lowest turnovers conceded (12.5) and the third best positive outcomes of their possession (74%).
- They are very efficient in the red zone in terms of time spent there:

- they get into the opposition 22 the third most (13.8) times per game
- they require the fewest phases in there to score (23.8)
- they are sixth for time spent (04:46) and whilst their points per entry is fourth, it's still very high with 3.07 and shows how they score quickly usually off the back of linebreaks without slowing down and needing multiple phases in the red zone.
- France have the third best scrum success (94%) and second best lineout success (91%) providing a great platform to launch from.
- They have the second best tackle success of the last-eight teams (87%) with the third most dominant tackles (9.8).
- They've made the fewest passes of these eight teams (128.0) yet the third most try assist passes, highlighting again, they don't need to play multiple phases with lots of passes, but are incisive straight away.
- Fewest penalties conceded overall (8.0), very good both sides of the ball with the fewest conceded in defence (4.8) and the third fewest in attack (3.3).
- Not playing quite as wide as we might think of a French side, being third out of eight in going wider than 10m (55%) from the previous breakdown.
- Individual player stats:
 - Gregory Alldritt and Thomas Ramos joint top carriers (34)
 - Damian Penaud just 1 carry behind but made the most metres (355), 115 more than the next most. He's also made the most linebreaks (11) and beaten the most defenders (21), the next most here is 7
 - Francois Cros topping the tackle stats for France (40) making the joint most dominant tackles with a number of others (4).
 - Jonathan Danty their best turnover player on the floor with 3.

Ireland

- Dropped away from many of their remarkable tournament-leading figures after their first two games, with attacking stats now:
 - third most carries (128.8), linebreaks (9.3), defenders beaten (27.5) and gainline success (56%)
 - second most metres made (584.3) but not offloading as much as others, only fifth (9.0).
- Collision success also in fifth (39%) but, interestingly, they have had the most negative collisions (8.0) so can perhaps be stopped and hit back more than others.
- Not a huge number of possessions: sixth of the eight quarter-finalists (45.3) and with the third most turnovers (12.8) makes their positive outcomes middle of the pack, sitting at fifth (72%).
- Ruck speed slowed from their incredible opening round, now third fastest (3.47s) and third for rucks under 2s (32%).
- Ireland are getting into the right areas better than anyone else, with most entries (15.3) and even the highest ratio of their possessions ending up in the opposition 22 (33%). However, their efficiency could be better – they're fifth best (2.94). It is harder to maintain that higher efficiency, the more entries you have but even still, they've scored the second most points from entries (46.8) so efficiency is not as important when you have so many chances.
- Set-piece is not what you'd expect from Ireland or what they might need if they progress in the tournament. They are ranked sixth of the last-eight teams for scrum success (90%), seventh for lineout success (81%) averaging 3 lineouts lost per game.
- Not a huge amount of kicks in play compared to some others (23.3, ranked fifth).



- Tackle success a little wanting (86% in fifth) but can't argue with how much they restrict their opposition.
- The most turnovers won at breakdowns helps that (5.3).
- Ireland have conceded the third fewest penalties of the quarter-finalists (9.3).
- Playing width right in the middle for all distances, happy to attack into multiple areas without a discernible style or being overly reliant on a certain attacking width.
- Individual player stats:
 - Bundee Aki is Ireland's top carrier by some way (61), 19 more than the next most. Also made the most metres (567), the most linebreaks (9), the most offloads (5) and the most defenders beaten (23).
 - Caelan Doris made the most tackles (48), 9 more than the next most, with 3 dominant tackles - only Peter O'Mahony and James Ryan made more with 4, but then Doris also won 4 breakdown steals, double anyone else for Ireland.

New Zealand

- Shot to the top of a huge number of stats with their game vs Italy and stayed there, having added to them in their game against Uruguay.
- All Blacks made the most carries (134.8) for the most metres (752.5) and most linebreaks (16.0), some 5.5 better than the next best in Ireland. Most defenders beaten as well (39.0).
- Fourth for offloads (9.3), made some mistakes as seen in being fifth for turnovers lost (14.0).
- Third best collision dominance as a percentage (43%) which equals the second most actual dominant collisions (36.0). Had the best gainline success with their carries (66%), and also the most at an average of 88.8 per game.
- New Zealand had fastest overall ruck speed (3.43s) and the second most under 2s (33%) creating so much disorganisation in defences to make those metres and find the holes for linebreaks.
- Arguably the best in the red zone across the board:
 - second most entries (14.8)
 - best efficiency for points earned there (3.88)
 - and ultimately scoring the most points from those entries (61.5), nearly 15 points more than next best Ireland and the average of the rest 34.0 points per game.
 - spend the most time in the opposition 22 too (05:44).
- Scrum success is fourth best (92%) but they have the best lineout success of any team (98%) losing just 1 so far.
- The highest possession split enjoyed by these teams (60%).
- Just fourth for possession kicked away (55%), keeping it hand a little more with their attacking prowess.
- Had to make the fewest tackles to this point of any of these teams (89.3), missed the fewest too (13.3) for a success of 87% (third).
- Most passes (190.5) per game leading to the most linebreak passes (9.0) and try assist passes (7.5).
- Not had many opportunities to turn the ball over so just fifth here (6.3).
- All Blacks have conceded the second most penalties in attack (5.0), but have to bear in mind they have had so much ball in attack.
- The highest percent of plays more than 30m away from their previous ruck (14%).
- Individual player stats:
 - Leicester Fainga'anuku made the most carries for New Zealand (38) and defenders beaten (18)

- Beauden Barrett made the most metres (396)
- Will Jordan made the most linebreaks (9) and Ardie Savea the most offloads (6), spreading the workload
- Dalton Papali'i and Sam Whitelock shared the most tackles made with 26, Will Jordan made the most dominant tackles (4).

South Africa

- Not quite the dominance we might have expected from South Africa; indeed, the Boks are last of these eight teams in some important categories:
 - fewest carries per game (108.3) and then bottom half in terms of output for almost everything
 - second best gainline success as a percentage of their carries (56%)
 - fifth most metres (544.8) and defenders beaten (23.3)
 - sixth for linebreaks (6.3) and offloads (8.5)
 - seventh for collision dominance both as a percentage of their total (38%) and actual dominant carries (25.8) which might not be what we'd have expected
 - conceding joint-most turnovers with Fiji (17.0) meaning they have the worst positive outcomes of any team (60%) – meaning 4 out of 10 possessions end in error
 - fourth for ruck speed a slight positive (3.65s) and fourth most rucks under 2s (32%), not using that quite enough to get the attacking output they'd want.
- Similar level of numbers in the red zone, bottom half for everything:
 - fifth for entries (11.0)
 - sixth for efficiency (2.76)
 - also not scoring points from outside the 22 from the boot, so can't build up their scores, just 1.5 points per game.
- Set-piece follows the same theme. Their scrums had the second worst success rate (81%) and they were fifth for lineout success (89%), but the Boks have won the most lineout steals though (2.3).
- They have the lowest percent of their possession kicked (46%) and second fewest actual kicks in play (20.3). Boks are second worst for territory split (50%) and possession time (15:42).
- They have made the second highest number of tackles made so far (124.3) and have made the most dominant tackles (14.8), 4.8 more than the next most in Argentina, the average of the rest being 9.2.
- Second most turnovers won at the breakdown showing their pressure here (4.5).
- Fewest penalties conceded in attack as they have so little (2.5) but then the second most in defence (6.8).
- Individual player stats:
 - Damian Willemse made the most carries (29) for the most metres (295).
 - four players made 3 linebreaks each and then Grant Williams beaten the most defenders (12)
 - Siya Kolisi made the most tackles (30) with 4 dominant, second only to Eben Etzebeth (7).
 - Deon Fourie and Kwagga Smith the best on the floor with 4 breakdown steals won each.

Wales

- Many of their stats are at the lower end of the quarter-finalists:
 - sixth for carries (110.0)
 - last for metres made (450.5) and defenders beaten (20.3)
 - second fewest linebreaks (5.0).
 - slowest average ruck speed by some way (5.11s), the average of the rest 3.83s and then only 12% of their rucks under 2s
 - despite being slow in the rucks they also have the lowest ruck retention (92%) - typically might see that more with teams trying to play fast and risking losing some.
- Struggling then to get much momentum going forward and highlighted with the lowest gainline success (51%) and actual carries over the gainline (56.5).
- They are making quite a lot of offloads from their limited possession, third in that regard (10.3) and then also not turning the ball over much at all, fewest conceded (11.5) for the best positive outcomes of their possessions (76%).
- Huge element for them in their success so far has been their conversion in the red zone, just sixth for entries (9.3), seventh for phases played there (24.0) but scoring so quickly and so well, with second best efficiency (3.72).
- Wales have the best scrum success of anyone, lost just 1 scrum (98%). Lineout fourth best (89%) and they have stolen the second most lineouts too (2.0).
- Kicking the ball away the second most behind England, 30.8 kicks in play and 63% possession kicked away, which means they have the lowest possession split typically (49%) but also the lowest territory split (47%). Kicking the ball away has actually invited pressure onto their defence in their own half.
- Wales have made the most tackles of the quarter-finalists to this point (166.8), 42 more per game than the next most and nearly 60 more than the average of the rest. Have managed the best tackle success despite having so many to make (88%), which is incredibly impressive. However, they rank second worst for dominant tackles (9.0), perhaps being quite passive and making sure don't miss any.
- This leads on to not being to affect their opposition breakdown – they have the joint fewest breakdown turnovers won with Argentina (2.3).
- The highest percent of phases played within 2m of the previous ruck (most likely pick and go's), 15% and then the second fewest wider than 30m (6%), expect them to play tight.
- Individual player stats:
 - Taulupe Faletua the highest ball carrier (40)
 - Louis Rees-Zammit has made the most metres (325), the most defenders beaten (12) and then the joint most linebreaks (4) with George North
 - Will Rowlands made the most tackles so far (49), 3 dominant joint most with a number of other players.

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