



Global Football Excellence Index to Evaluate Footballers' Performance in the Ballon d'Or and International Awards Competitions

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Abstract. This paper presents the Global Football Excellence Index (GFEI), an innovative framework for assessing the performance of footballers in the competition for the Ballon d'Or and other international awards, based on quantitative performance indicators.
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1 Introduction

The allocation of the Ballon d'Or and other international awards has been the subject of controversy due to the subjectivity of current evaluation methods. This study proposes the Global Football Excellence Index (GFEI), a framework based on quantitative indicators to provide a more objective and fairer assessment.

2 Global Football Excellence Index

The Global Football Excellence Index (GFEI) uses a series of quantitative indicators to measure the performance of football players:

- International and Domestic Competition Achievements: Points awarded for winning or placing highly in competitions such as the Champions League, domestic leagues, World Cup, and Copa America/Eurocup.
- Individual Achievements: Points awarded for MVP awards and top scorers in different competitions.
- Game Impact: Points accumulated for goals, assists and defensive contributions.

The Global Football Excellence Index (GFEI) is a quantitative evaluation system designed to measure the overall performance of football players by considering both their individual achievements and their contribution in major competitions. The indicators used in this framework are as follows: 1.- Achievements in International and National Competitions, 2.- Individual Achievements.

Table 1. Global Football Excellence Index.

1.- Achievements in International and National Competitions	
Champions League	-Winner: 50 points -Runner-up: 30 points -Semi-finalist: 20 points
National League	-Winner in one of the top five leagues in Europe (Premier League, La Liga, Serie A, Bundesliga, Ligue): 40 points. -Second place in the same leagues: 25 points -Winner in other leagues: 30 points -Second place in other leagues: 20 points
World Cup	-Winner: 100 points

	-Second place: 70 points -Semi-finalist: 50 points
America's Cup / Euro Cup	-Winner: 60 points -Second place: 40 points -Semi-finalist: 30 points
2.- Individual Achievements	
Competition MVP	-Champions League MVP: 30 points -National League MVP: 20 points -World Cup MVP: 50 points -Copa America / Euro Cup MVP: 30 points
Top Scorer	-Champions League Top Scorer: 25 points -National League Top Scorer: 20 points -World Cup top scorer: 40 points -Copa America / Euro Cup top scorer: 25 points
Impact on the Game	-Goals: 1 point per goal in domestic competitions, 2 points per goal in international competitions. -Assists: 0.5 points per assist in domestic competitions, 1 point per assist in international competitions.

Unlike traditional methods that often rely on the subjective perception of journalists and coaches, the GFEI uses quantitative data to evaluate performance. Previous methods have been criticised for their lack of transparency and for favouring popular players or successful teams without a thorough analysis of their individual contribution. In contrast, the GFEI assigns specific points for measurable achievements, providing an objective and reproducible assessment. This allows for a direct comparison between players from different leagues and competitions, something that perception-based methods cannot achieve with the same accuracy.

Despite its advantages, the GFEI has limitations that must be acknowledged. The main limitation is the reliance on statistical data, which may not fully capture a player's intangible impact on the team, such as leadership or morale. In addition, the allocation of points may be subject to debate, as different people may value certain achievements differently. Finally, the framework may need periodic adjustments to stay relevant with the evolution of the game and competitions, and to integrate new types of data and performance metrics.

3 Conclusions

The GFEI can be a valuable tool for journalists, coaches and sports organisations by providing an objective basis for the evaluation of players. This framework could be used in decision making for award allocation, as well as to identify areas of improvement for individual players. In addition, its quantitative and transparent approach can increase the credibility of awards and reduce the controversies associated with subjective evaluations.

Future research could focus on refining the GFEI, incorporating new performance indicators and adjusting the weighting of points assigned to different achievements. It would also be useful to conduct longitudinal studies to assess the effectiveness of the GFEI over time and in different competitive contexts. In addition, methods could be explored to integrate qualitative assessments of players' impact, providing an even more complete picture of their performance and contribution to the team.

In conclusions, the Global Football Excellence Index offers a more comprehensive view of the performance of football players. Compared to previous methods, it provides a more balanced assessment that could reduce controversy in the allocation of awards. In addition, this framework can be a valuable tool for the fair evaluation of the Ballon d'Or and other international awards. Future research can expand this model by including more indicators and assessing its applicability in different sporting

contexts. The Global Football Excellence Index is an innovative approach that can improve the evaluation of footballers for international awards by providing a more balanced and fair assessment.

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