

M atch Report

venue **BARCLAYS Premiership**

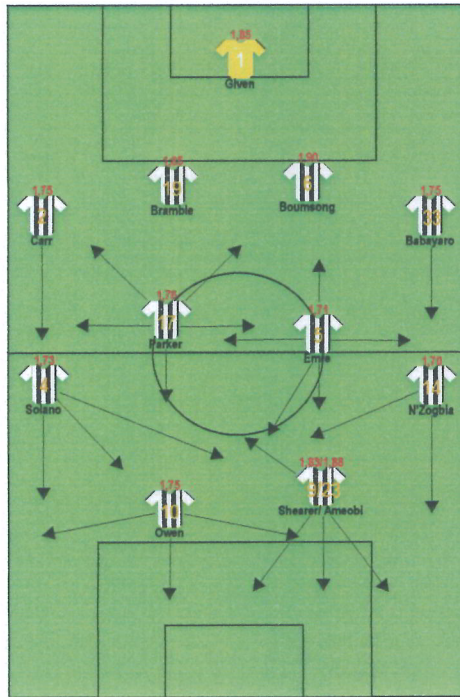
date **19 - 11 - 2005**

game **Chelsea FC vs Newcastle Utd**

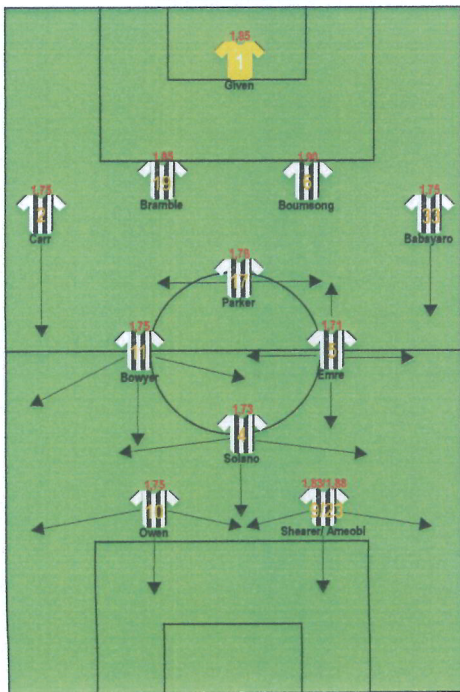
season 2005 / 2006



System of play used



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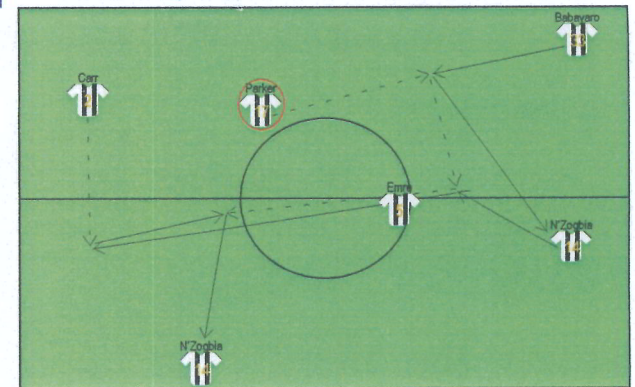
Offensive Organization

- * Team organized in 4x4x2 or 4x4x2 diamond shape. Inconsistent displays but getting back to good results. Motivation + great spirit. **Very attack minded and aggressive, always forward thinking play and keeping the rythm high.** The build-up and passage through phases is always fast and objective with explosive possession on moments or playing directly in depth for Owen. **Incredible 4th phase efficiency and tremendous fire power with 2 of the best strikers in the world (crosses!!!).**
- * Short build-up has 1st pass to central defenders. **They are extremely vulnerable in 1st phase under pressure and Bounsong commits silly mistakes by trying 1st station passes to Parker and Emre.** Long build-up is a major threat. **Given puts the ball precisely on Shearer's head. Objective is always the flick-on onto Owen's movement behind (already on the run when ball is in the air).** 2nd balls are also very aggressive with Emre and Parker reacting quickly and organizing straight away.
- * From 2nd to 3rd phase their build-up has also a pattern. Normally it involves a mixture of a direct approach, with short possession football. The full-backs like to combine with the wingers in order to progress with the ball. **If space is tight Owen will do shuffle movements to the wing (normally right side) to receive.** Other pattern is when Emre and Parker come short to receive the ball and immediately release the strikers in depth **(both with great vision- important to anticipate depth).**
- * Because of the nature of the system one of the central midfielders is involved in central penetration runs. Normally is Emre- important to be aware our right side.
- * Solano rarely opens wide on the right. **He prefers to act as the 3rd midfielder between the lines and just behind the strikers.** He arrives with a deadly timing behind the opponents defensive midfielder (difficult to control) and from there releases the strikers with dangerous penetrating passes between our positions. When he is unable to do that, because defence is tight, **he will release Carr who arrives from behind to cross (important our winger awareness as full-back is inside).**
- * **On the other side N'Zogbia is a pure winger.** Gives width, receives the ball when opened and from there attacks our full-back 1vs1 **(incredible pace).** Dominates all kind of typical winger behaviour, and has great awareness to do inside diagonals everytime Shearer drops into midfield. Has timing to arrive 2nd post to finish.
- * **Always expect two-strikers combinations between Shearer and Owen.** A lot of across the face runs and a lot of decoy runs all with speed and aggressiveness.
- * **Apart of the moments where Owen shuffles to the wings, Shearer always plays behind in order to feed the ball to him.** They dominate this routine so it's important for us to have mechanisms of defence (full-backs closing well inside) to the 2nd ball played from Shearer (can be with the head or by holding defender, turning and making the pass). **Owen's movement is unpredictable as it can be in front or behind the last defender.** Important to anticipate but with certainty in decision.
- * **Every cross is a dangerous situation,** that's why it's important that opponent avoids them or restrains them in any situation. The normal movement is to attack the cross diagonally. Owen fakes back post but arrives 1st post (goals vs Blackburn and West Br_om). Shearer likes to attack penalty spot (uses his body and his power to free himself from opp)

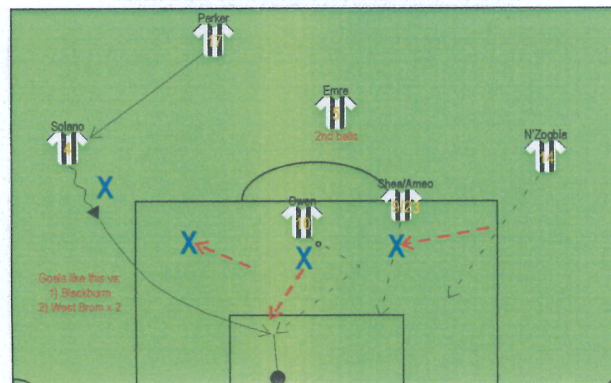
Offensive Transition - after winning possession of the ball

- * **Quick and aggressive change of attitude.** Owen's movement in depth is the main threat. **From their defensive third, they can track his run and immediately free him in the space behind us.** When aggressive transitions are not possible, possession will be initiated, with Parker and Emre the references for game organization.
- * **Incredible team dynamics. Move up quickly in support.** Particularly the full-backs who come from behind, giving width and from there can hit quality crosses to box.
- * Inside their defensive third they commit mistakes and accuse tremendously the pressure from the opponent- ideal moment to kill their momentum and exploit it.
- * **Transitions from the Gk.** Immediate long pass in depth or counter attacking throw to the winger or full-back just outside the box. Important to block or anticipate

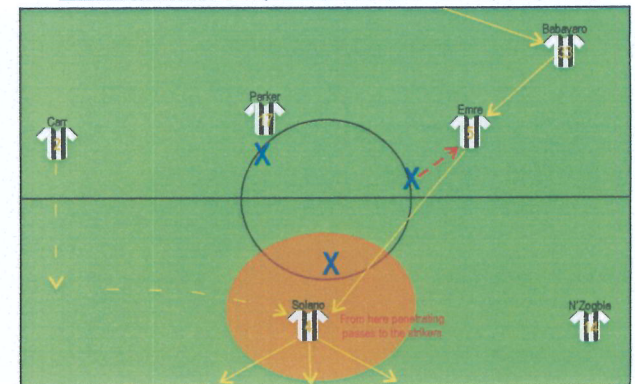
Parker's mobility to support- receives and organizes side to side or deep



Owen attacking crosses (fakes movement away and hides behind defender and then shows up to finish 1st post)



Solano's inside behaviour- provokes between the lines (deadly vision)



Defensive Organization

* Team organized in a medium block. Medium defensive organization mainly due to the input they put on attack which leaves them exposed or with great unbalance in numerical term- when they lose the ball there are a lot of players out of position (centrally or to the sides). Team that mixes aggressiveness with passiveness depending on opponent. It looks sometimes that they want to give the initiative to the opp. so that he feels the game is controlled and then suddenly they totally change their behaviour and want (and can) to kill the opp. straight away

* We can be highly successful in our long build-up as long as we do it through the flanks or if centrally, shorter than the central defenders zone and ending up where Parker and Emre are. This kind of situation allows us to win 1st ball in the air and to create danger with flicks.

* Midfield pressure depends on system used. If they play classic 4x4x2, their behaviour has two different moments: 1) in 1st and 2nd phase if the opponent play balls into their midfielders facing their own goal they pressure very hard and try to force mistakes. 2) when oppo. is facing the play (normally already in 3rd phase) they won't pressure and will just keep block compactness, shuffling from side to side and waiting for a mistake. If they play 4x4x2 diamond shape, their behaviour will be much more aggressive, space in the center will be highly condensed and playing to the midfielders involves a high risk of losing possession (on the other hand our full-backs will enjoy more freedom).

* Defence is highly inconsistent both due to individual mistakes (Boumsong mainly- exploit) or due to line uncoordination. They mix zonal with man marking and Boumsong as instructions to follow deep the opponents striker. Because of that he's rarely in a position to cover Babayaro which in consequence result in further weakness on the left side. With Babayaro it's important to make full use of pace, rhythm and explosive changes of direction as he is slow to react. 1vs1 easy.

* Given is highly inconsistent as well. 2nd balls from crosses or from shots are frequent so it's important that the opponent's striker follows through and believes.

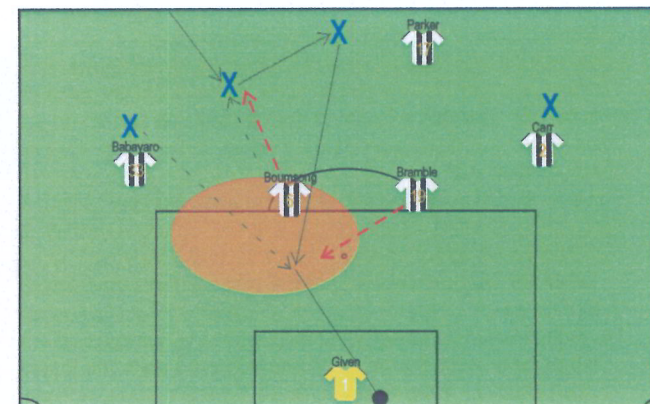
Defensive transition - after losing the possession of the ball

* Medium change of attitude, but team is very broken, particularly on the right side where they have two players unable to recover quickly their position (Carr and Solano). This makes Parker the only possible block to stop our transition but spaces are too big for him alone to control- he can kill them with quick transitions.

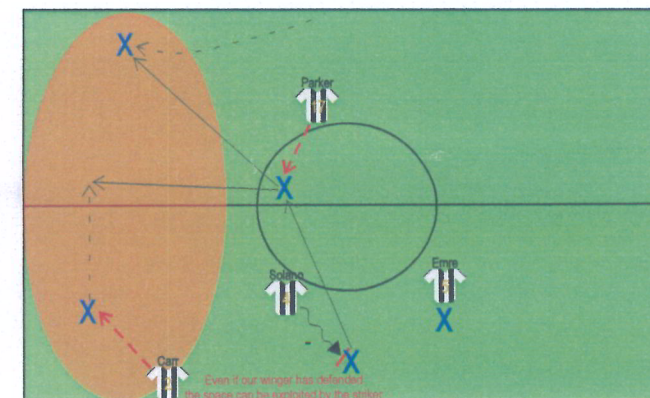
* On the left N'Zogbia has excellent defensive transition and recovers quickly or closes in midfield- this accentuates the importance to kill them on their right side.

* The defence can be positioned too up in the field. There are spaces behind them that can be used in our offensive transitions. They can try off-sides but always believe in bad timing and bad judgement from both central defenders.

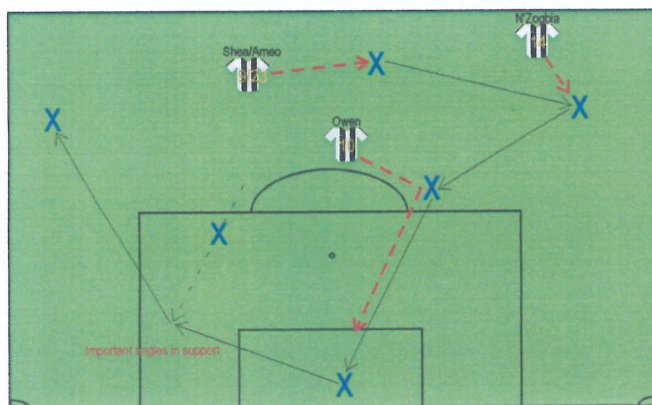
Boumsong deep into midfield with opponents striker- exposes depth



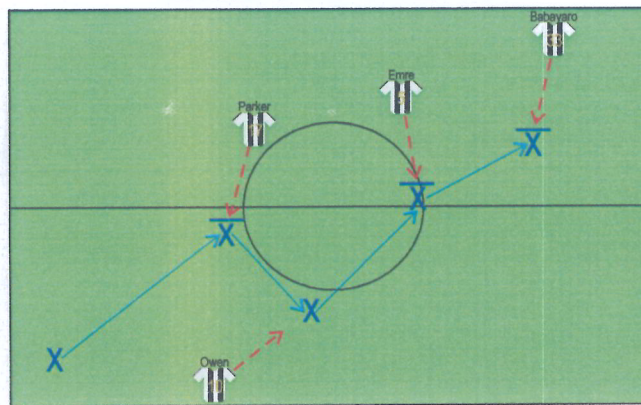
Double exposure on the right side in transition- Solano is inside and Carr is deep



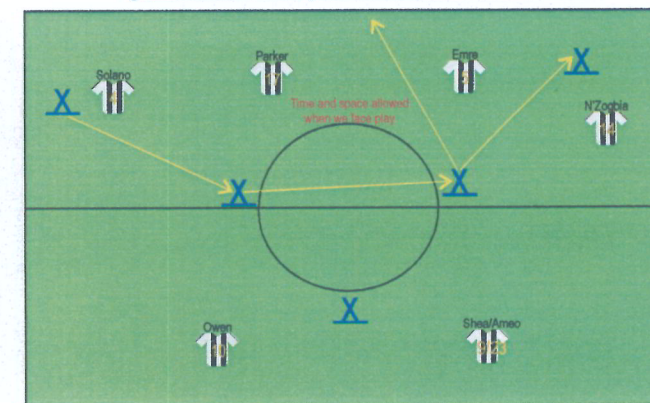
With Owen- danger on the back passes to the GK (chases and pressures)



Two behaviours in midfield: orientated pressure when opponent receives ball facing own goal



Two behaviours in midfield: when opponent faces play they give the initiative and just want to keep block compactness



Set plays - for

- * Probable kick-off combination. Ball played long to strikers or wingers.
- * Lateral free-kicks can be taken outswinging or inswinging by Emre, N'Zogbia and Solano. All with precision on the cross. Normally 4 players attack the ball diagonally + one late run from one of the 2 players that stay outside the box. **Most dangerous movements from Owen + Shearer** Quality in 2nd balls outside the box- immediate shots- blocks important.
- * A lot of options in frontal free-kicks (and also combinations attention). Indirect free-kicks with touch to Shearer's explosive shots (precision). Emre can curl round wall to furtherst away post from Gk and on the left side Solano can do the same. **Attention Owen smelling 2nd balls.**
- * Corner kicks are taken by Emre, Solano or N'Zogbia. **Not only diagonal runs, a lot of players spinning to arrive in 2nd post (Bramble mainly).** Owen troubles the keeper but can also anticipate on 1st post. **Shearer always a threat. Attention to combinations with Carr. He stays defending but if opponent sleeps he will show-up short and cross 1st time-surprise.**
- * Long throw-ins are the most dangerous with Carr looking for Shearer in the box who finishes it direct or flicks it onto Owen. Danger on 2nd balls.

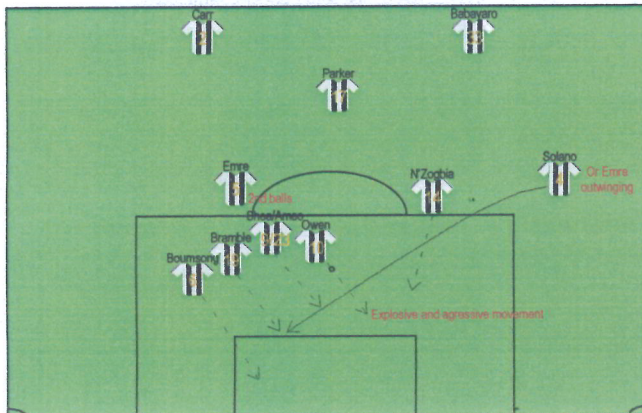
Set plays - against

- * In lateral free-kicks they put 2 players in the wall (don't jump), they put N'Zogbia in the space, they don't leave no up front but have ability to kill in transition. All the other players mark their opponent man-to-man.
- * In frontal free-kicks they put 5 men in the wall (don't jump). They put a player free outside the box to avoid any free kick combination. Don't leave no one up front. All the other players mark man to man.
- * In corner-kicks they put Carr in one post and Solano on the other. They put N'Zogbia in the space between the 6 yard box and the 1st post. They put Owen and Emre outside the box. Transitions will be through them- important to control movement when ball is lost- pace for counter attacks
- * If Shearer is the man staying in the space. **Exploit one less tall marker.**
- We can have great advantage to kill them in set-plays.**
- * Given inconsistent in crosses. Uses punches to clear crosses.

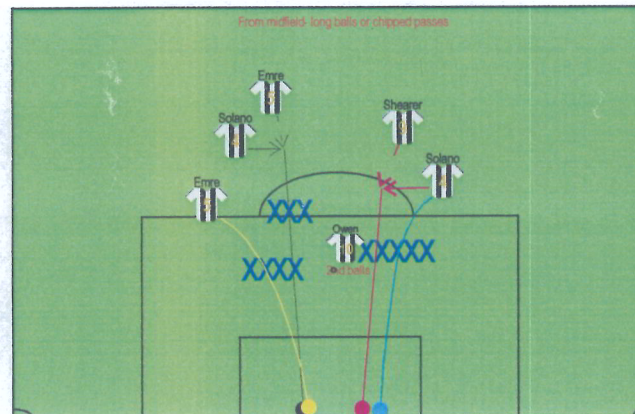
Other observations

- * Luque out at the moment, but recovery still possible (bench probable).
- * **Team going through an excellent moment. Motivated and finally finding its balance. Important to keep focus as they will keep high intensity.**
- * Very quick and alert team to react to offensive 2nd balls- after winning it they have solutions and excellent transitions in depth directed at Owen.
- * **Very poor defensive transition after set plays for.** They leave players in the back to have numerical superiority, but have great difficulty to lead with an **opponent with pace or an opponent asking the ball in the space behind. This is even more evident on Babayaro's side- possible to kill.**
- * Substitutions don't implicate a change of system of play. But 4x4x2 (diamond shape) can always be an option. Players in the bench have a lot of technical quality and can change the game. Dyer and Bowyer are dynamic and always assume roles that make full use of their mobility. Ameobi is always a threat in the air and in set-plays + Luque's pace.
- * **Owen chases all lost balls and back-passes to Gk (great danger).**

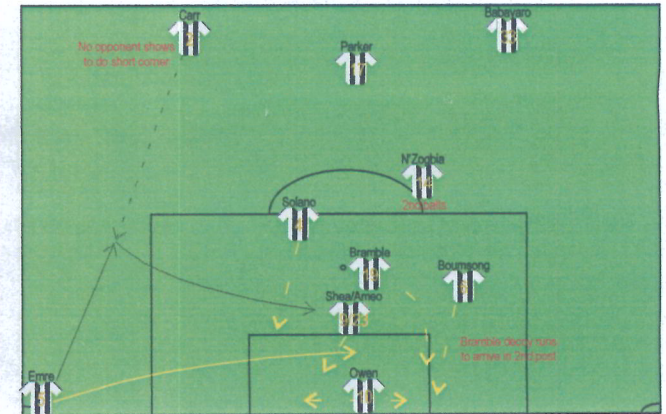
Set plays - free kicks from the sides



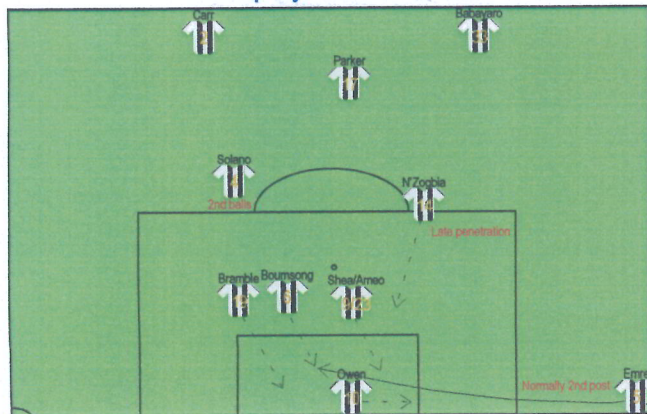
Set plays - free kicks outside area



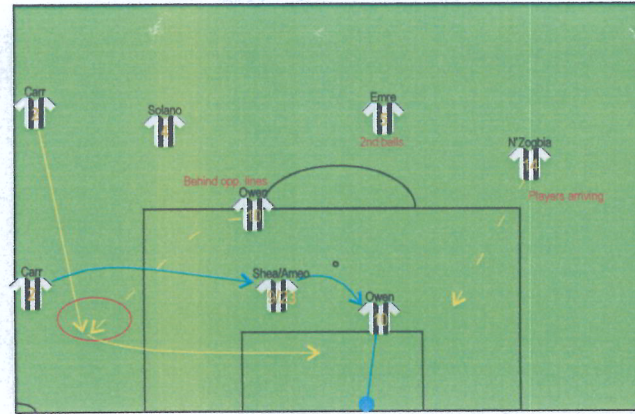
Set plays - corners kicks



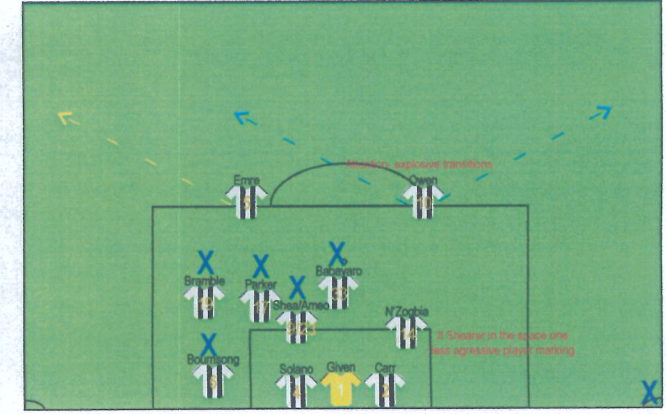
Set plays - corner kicks



Set plays - throw-ins

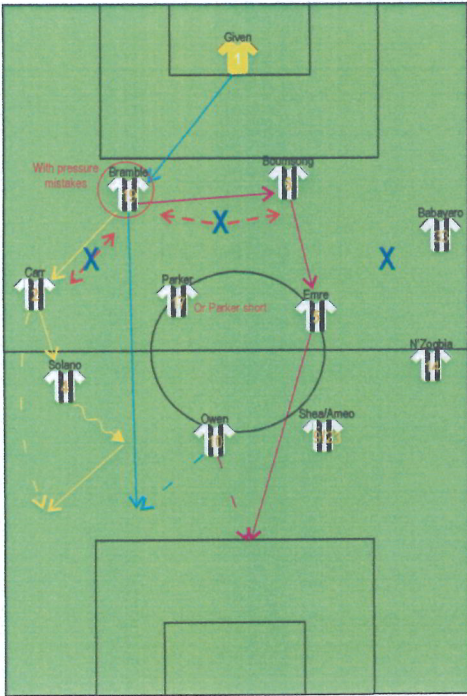


Set plays - defensive corner

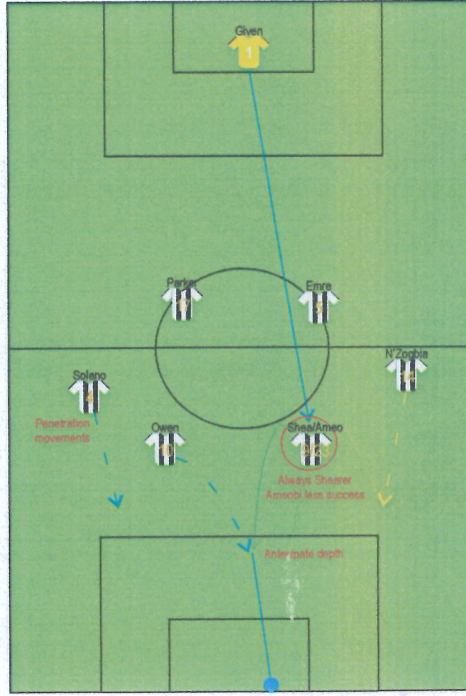


PATTERN PLAY AND OFFENSIVE COMBINATIONS

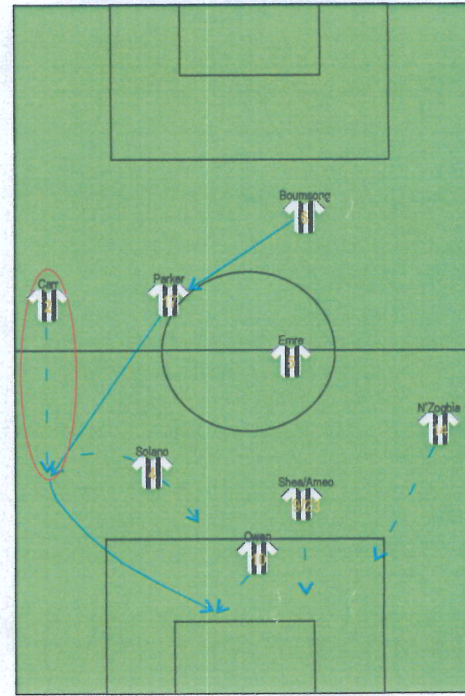
Short build-up from the goalkeeper



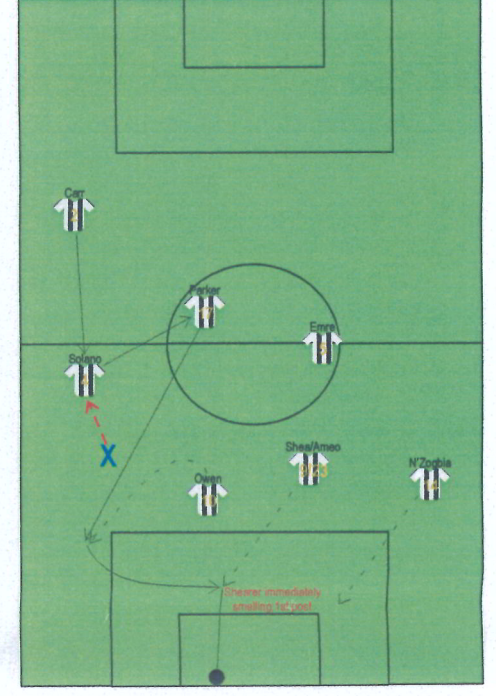
Long build-up from the goalkeeper



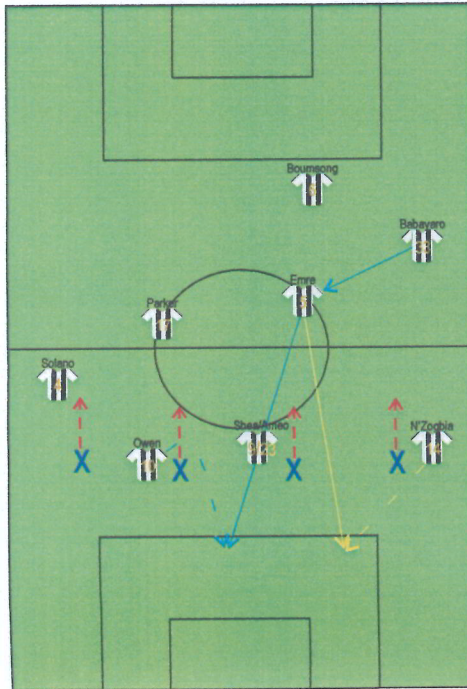
Dynamics of right side with Solano clearing space for Carr's penetration (early crosses-awareness)



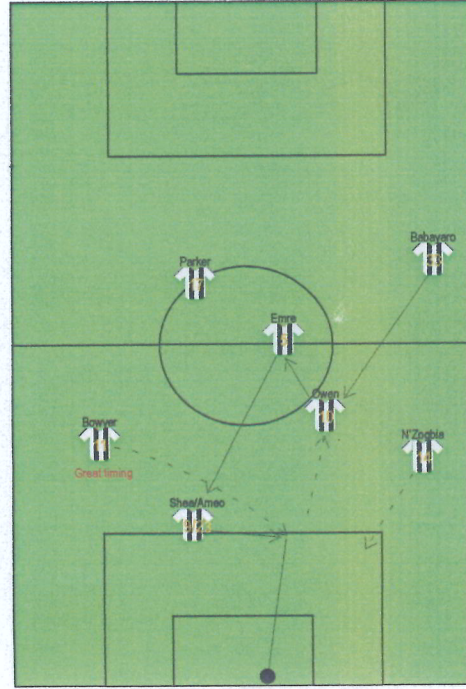
If Carr and Solano keep position Owen shuffles to receive



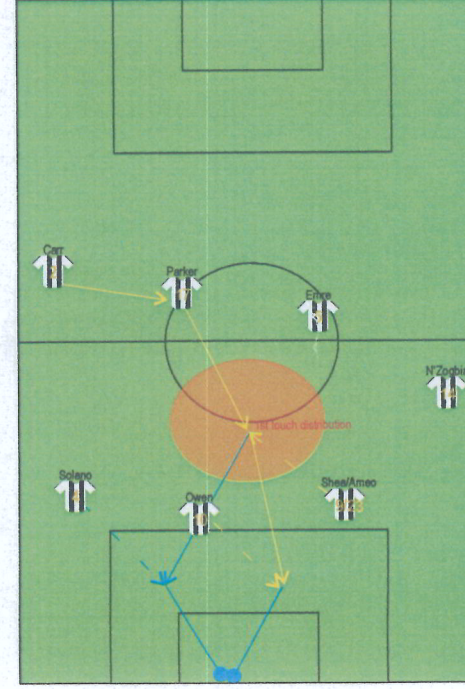
When Emre with the ball- attention! Vision to see depth



Bowyer different than Solano- big inside diagonal (vs Wigan)



Feeding Shearer (normally between the lines) after that quality lay-offs



Two striker combinations Shearer and Owen

