

## ZİRAAT TÜRKİYE KUPASI "VAR" KARARINA GENEL BAKIŞ

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#### ÖZET

Amaç: Çalışmanın amacı Türkiye Ziraat Kupası maçlarında uygulanan "VAR" sisteminin değerlendirilmesidir. Video Yardımcı Hakem (VAR), video gösterim odasındaki görüntüleri inceleyen, maçın hakemi ile bilgi paylasımında bulunan aktif veya eski hakemdir. Maç hakeminin karar vermekte zorlandığı veya maç devam ederken pozisyonların gözden kaçırıldığı anda aktif olarak devreye giren VAR sisteminin ülkemizde ki resmi lig ve kupa futbol maçlarında uygulanmasıyla birlikte kararların daha doğru verilmesi sağlandı. Maç sonrası hakemlere yapılan yersiz eleştiriler VAR sistemiyle birlikte azaltıldı. 90 dakikalık, yoğunluğun yüksek olduğu bir macta, taraftarların tribünleri doldurduğu baskılı bir ortamda hakemlerin macın her anını görebilmesi mümkün değil, dolayısıyla hakemin göremediği veya tam olarak cözemediği pozisyonların incelenmesinde ve daha doğru kararlar verilmesinde VAR sisteminin faydalı olacağı görülmektedir. Materyal & Metot: Bu çalışmada gerçekleşen Ziraat Türkiye Kupası'nda oynanan 16 turdan oluşan maçların çeyrek final, yarı final ve final maçı dahil olmak üzere toplam 29 karşılaşmanın VAR sistemiyle hakem ilişkileri incelenmiştir. Bulgular: Araştırmada toplam 48 VAR uygulamasına başvurulan pozisyonların belirlenerek daha doğru kararlar alınmasın sağlandığı belirlendi. Sonuç: Futbolda müsabaka esnasında yaşanan belirsizliklerin giderilmesi adına VAR sisteminin hakemi destekleyen önemli bir uygulama olduğu görülmüştür. Futbol içinde var olan tüm bileşenleri bu tür uygulamanın ortaya konulan sonuçlarıyla objektif olarak bilgilendirilebilir ve bu sayede hakemler ve hakem kararları üzerinde oluşabilecek önyargılı düşünceler ve olumsuz kanaatlerin önüne geçilebilir. Öneriler: Son dönemlerde maçların iddia bahislerine dahil edilmesiyle birlikte sporda ve sporun en popüler branşı olan futbolda şikenin varlığına dair haberler gün geçtikçe yoğunluk kazanmaktadır ancak daha adil bir oyun anlamında ve daha doğru kararların alınabilmesi için şike vb. durumların ortadan kaldırılmasına ve Türk futbolunun dünyadaki güvenilirliğinin artırılmasına katkı sağlayacağını düşündüğümüz VAR sisteminin maçlarda uygulanmasının yararlılıklarına inanıyoruz.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Futbol, Hakem, Karar, Maç, VAR

# CUP OF ZİRAAT TÜRKİYE "VAR" OVERVIEW OF THE DECISION

#### ABSTRACT

Purpose: The aim of the study is to evaluate the "VAR" system implemented in the Turkish Ziraat Cup matches. Video Assistant Referee (VAR) is an active or former referee who examines the footage in the video review room and shares information with the match referee. With the implementation of the VAR system in our country's official league and cup football matches, which actively intervenes when the match referee struggles to make a decision or misses positions while the match is ongoing, decisions have been made more accurately. Unjustified criticisms of referees after the match have decreased with the VAR system. In a 90-minute match with high intensity, it is impossible for referees to see every moment of the game in a pressurized environment where fans fill the stands. Therefore, it is seen that the VAR system would be beneficial in reviewing positions that the referee could not see or fully resolve and in making more accurate decisions. Material & Method: In this study, the relationships between referees and the VAR system in a total of 29 matches, including quarter-finals, semi-finals, and the final match, from the 16 rounds of the Ziraat Türkiye Kupası were examined. Findings: In the study, it was determined that a total of 48 positions were identified where VAR was applied, leading to more accurate decisions. Conclusion: It has been observed that the VAR system is an important application supporting the referee in eliminating uncertainties that occur during football matches. All components within football can be objectively informed about the results of such applications, and thus, biased thoughts and negative opinions that may arise regarding referees and referee decisions can be prevented. Suggestions: Recently, with the inclusion of matches in betting pools, news about the existence of match-fixing in sports, particularly in football, the most popular branch of sports, has been increasing day by day. However, we believe in the usefulness of implementing the VAR system in matches, as it would contribute to eliminating match-fixing and similar situations, and enhancing the reliability of Turkish football in the world, thereby ensuring a fairer game and more accurate decisions. Keywords: Football, Referee, Decision, Match, VAR

#### **INTRODUCTION**

In football, VAR means video assistant referee. A video assistant referee is a referee appointed to help the referee correct an obvious mistake (or a serious overlooked incident) affecting the course of the match by relaying information from the footage.

This system, which has been officially used since 2018, has become standard in many organizations. Although football ceases to be the cultural game of a certain region in the rapidly developing and globalizing world, it has gained people's passion for sports in a short time. Football is watched and practiced by children, youth, and adults all over the world (Şanlı, Mil, Güçlü, & Arıkan, 2015).

Football, which was introduced in our country towards the end of the 19th century by non-Muslim minorities, later became widespread with the interest of Turks and became a popular sport among young people. The start of football in our country on 24 September 1951 under the leadership of Ulvi Yenal, the President of the Turkish Football Federation, led to the transition to professionalism in football (Afacan, Gümüşdağ Çobanoğlu & Bal, 2014).

Cup football matches are to be played in various leagues in added time, and one of which is the Türkiye Cup with the current name.

The name of the Turkish Cup, which started in the 1962-1963 season and whose first champion was Galatasaray, was changed to the Federation Cup in the 1980-1981 season. However, as of the 1992-1993 season, it was renamed as the Turkey Cup, and between the 2005-06 and 2008-09 seasons, it was renamed as the Fortis Turkey Cup with the sponsorship of Fortis Bank, and with the 2009-10 season, it was renamed as the Ziraat Turkey Cup with the sponsorship of Ziraat Bank. In the organisation held under the names of Turkish Cup and Federation Cup, Galatasaray has won the cup 18 times, Beşiktaş 11 times, Trabzonspor 9 times and Fenerbahçe 7 times. Altay, Ankaragücü, Gençlerbirliği, Göztepe and Kocaelispor won the cup twice each, while Kayserispor, Bursaspor, Eskişehirspor, Sakaryaspor, Konyaspor, Akhisarspor and Demir Grup Sivasspor won the cup once each (TFF,2020).

Referees have a great responsibility to play and manage football matches within a certain rule. The role of the referee is of utmost importance in ensuring that a football match is enjoyable, exciting, within the principles of Fair Play, with plenty of goals, or that it is played in an irregular, eventful and quarrelsome atmosphere (Orta et al., 2012).

The referees receive training and improve themselves in many areas such as knowledge of the rules, dialogue with people, managerial qualities, effective use of body language, good management of crisis and fighting situations, as well as physical performances required to successfully manage the matches (Kayışoğlu, Günay, & Kara, 2010).

The high performance of football referees in a competition emerges with the sum of the performance of the referees. Therefore, group cohesiveness and self-efficacy are considered to be important in refereeing (Ceylan et al., 2020)..

There are various reasons why football referees make the wrong decision. When we look at some of these lands, There may be factors such as lack of refereeing knowledge, poor position during the match, being away from the area where the position is taking place, being tired, weather conditions, spectators' pressure, misinterpretation of the position, and not following the changing rules (Orta, et al. 2012).

Referees have to use technology from time to time in order to minimize the risk of making mistakes during the match.

With the frequent changes in football game rules, the increase of the decisions made by the referees in the implementation of these changing rules, the high economic value of football in the globalizing world, and the desire of football matches to be more reliable and transparent, it is revealed that the referees will support the referee in this difficult task by using technological devices. Although FIFA did not want technology to be used effectively in football at first, it has concluded that technology should be in place to manage the matches more successfully and provide unity in practice. Football referees for the first time 2000 - 2001 season in Türkiye with the mandate given in the first league match referee's flag of assistant referee signals for all communication be done in a shorter period is provided. It has been particularly useful for referees to make decisions in offside situations. With the belief that it will make a great contribution to the control of the football game played, the "Wireless Communication System" was introduced to the game rules guide by the international football association in 2004 as well. The goal-line technology tested in 2012 was used in the 2014 Brazilian World Cup and was added to the game rules book. On September 1, 2016, FIFA was allowed to use a video system for the first time to watch the repetition of the controversial moments in the France and Italy match. This system has a revolutionary value in football and was put into practice at the Russia World Cup in 2018 (Demir, 2019).

With the use of the VAR system in football matches, it is aimed to reduce the mistakes made before to the minimum level. When we examine the referee mistakes that have been noted in history, we are faced with errors that change the fate of the teams.

In the World Cup, which was held in Mexico in 1986, Argentine footballer Diego Maradona outscored his team with a goal he scored with his left hand in a competitive quarter-final match. And after the match, he replied to the journalists who asked their thoughts on this goal, it was God's hand. In the World Cup South Korea - Spain match held in South Korea in 2002, the

Spanish team did not score two clear goals, and the Spanish players suffered from the wrong offside flag. Spain is eliminated from the tournament (BBC,2018).

A revolutionary new era has begun with the addition of the VAR system to world football rules. Thus, with the warning of the VAR referee, the referee will be able to re-examine the positions that the referee missed.

For the first time, the VAR system was tested in a friendly match played between Italy and France on September 1, 2016. Italian footballers objected to the referee for a penalty, claiming that the French defender LayvinKurzawa handled the ball inside the penalty area. The Dutch referee of the match, BjörnKuipers, then stopped the game and watched the repetition of the position from the video on the field side and decided that there was no penalty (Goal, 2018).

In our country's Super League, the VAR system was first activated in the MKE Ankaragücü - Galatasaray competition, which is the opening match of the 2018 - 2019 season. The referee of the competition, Ümit Öztürk, evaluated the ball sent by MKE Ankaragücü player Mustafa El Kabir to the net in the 36th minute as offside with the warning of VAR and did not consider the goal valid (Fanatic, 2018).

When we look at the definition and functioning of the VAR system

Video Assistant Referee (VAR); It can be defined as an active or former referee appointed to assist the referee by providing information from video camera footage to correct a clear error (or an important incident that the referee cannot currently see) in a football match that affects the course of the match. There is an assistant called AVAR to assist the VAR referee to operate in the VAR application easily. While the Var referee examines and controls the match, AVAR watches the live broadcast and notes the developments. The room where VAR and AVAR can view, control and examine the match images independently from the broadcaster is called the video operating room (VOR). Only the referee of the match starts and stops the VAR review. The final decision in the match is left to the referee (TFF,2020).

#### The accuracy of 4 decisions can be examined with the VAR system;

**Goals**; To communicate whether there was any offense or error prior to the goal that could void the goal. The VAR informs the referee of the match in cases of offside position, offside position of the goal, offense by the attacking team, and the ball out of play before the goal.

**Penalty / Not Penalty decisions;** Informing the referee if there was a clear error in a penalty that the referee gave or did not give, wrongly awarded penalty decisions, not awarded penalty decisions, free kick to the attacking team and doubt as to whether the offense occurred inside or outside the penalty area? The VAR is also responsible for informing the referee of the match

in cases such as a violation by the attacking team during the formation phase of the penalty incident, or the ball out of play before the penalty incident.

**Carding to the wrong player;** During the match, the VAR informs the referee if the referee shows a card (yellow or red card) from the offending team to the wrong player or the player to be penalized.

**Direct red cards (excluding 2nd Claims);** To report whether there was a clear error in the red card decision given or not, The referee suspects that a possible sending-off offense has been missed or not clearly seen by the referees, the VAR has seen an undetected sending-off offense, The referee sends off or hopes for denying a player a clear chance of scoring the case where he considers he committed an offense punishable by a yellow card for stopping a promising attack. In these four cases, the VAR advises the referee of the match.

If the game is stopped due to the functioning of the Var system, if the referee delays the start of the game and the reason is that the VAR checks are carried out, the referee must point with his hand to indicate that he is waiting for the end of the control from the present room, so that the players, technical team and spectators know that VAR checks have been carried out. The referee can make his decision according to the information from the VAR, or he can examine the video images on the monitor (video images in the inspection area) and then make a decision (TFF,2019).

There are systems for the first time the 2018 - 2019 season, Ziraat Türkiye Cup along with increased usage has also take place. This study our 2019 - 2020 season of Ziraat officials in Türkiye Cup referees have to examine situations in which they apply.

#### **MATERYAL & METOT**

#### Purpose of the study

The aim of the study is to evaluate the "VAR" system applied in Turkish Ziraat Cup matches. The Video Assistant Referee (VAR) is an active or former referee who examines the footage in the video display room, who shares information with the referee of the match in a position or positions in which the match referee has difficulty deciding or when the match is overlooked while the match is ongoing.

#### **Universe and Sample**

In this study, the relationships between referees and the VAR system in a total of 29 matches, including quarter-finals, semi-finals, and the final match, from the 16 rounds of the Ziraat Türkiye Kupası were examined.

### **Collection of data**

The positions were reviewed again after the matches were watched on live broadcast and then the match footage was presented to the internet by the broadcaster. The actual VAR positions were noted using the pen and paper method.

## Limitations

The inability to access the full video footage of matches, except for the positions referred to VAR.

A commission was formed to examine the VAR positions, and the decisions' correctness was interpreted and discussed. A football coach, a football coach, a soccer referee and two match analysts were present at the commission.

# FINDINGS

A total of 48 VAR reviews covering different situations were seen in the Ziraat Türkiye Cup matches

	Frequency (f)	Frequency Percentage (%)
Pre-goal offense - error	33	68.75
Penalty / No penalty	12	25.0
Direct red cards	3	6.25
Carding the wrong player	0	0
Total	48	100

Tablo 1. Disturbation of the Referee to Apply to the VAR System

Table 1 shows disturbation of the referee to apply to the var system

Tablo 2. Distribution of Referees Referring to VAR System in 15-min time intervals

Time period	Frequency (f)	Frequency Percentage (%)
0-15	6	12.5
16-30	7	14.5
31-45	7	14.5
46-60	5	10.4
61-75	10	20.8
76-90	13	27
Total	48	100

If we divide the match time in the table 2, into 6 segments of 15 minutes each, we can see the frequency values of the referee's use of VAR in each segment. In the last few minutes of the match, we can interpret the referee's use of VAR in the way that there is a tendency for the referee to make more accurate decisions with increasing experience.

Tablo 3. The distribution of referees' decision-making using the VAR system and monitoring

	Frequency (f)	Frequency Percentage (%)
The number of matches they decided by watching the position on the monitor	8	16.6
The referee made the decision based on VAR	40	83.3
Total	48	100

Table 3 shows, The distribution of referees' decision-making using the VAR system and monitoring

Date	Teams	VAR Acti	ve VAR'	Decision
14.01.2020	Sivasspor-Malatyaspor	21.04 Valid	1.0	VAR offside control, GOAL
15.01.2020	Alanyaspor-Kasımpaşa	45.04 Valid	2.30	VAR offside control, GOAL
16.01.2020	Antalyaspor-Göztepe	17.48 Valid	1.0	VAR offside control, GOAL
22.01.2020	Kasımpaşa-Alanyaspor	95.32 Valid	2.05	VAR offside control, GOAL
22.01.2020	BJK-Erzurumspor	00.30 Valid	1.0	VAR offside control, GOAL
22.01.2020	BJK-Erzurumspor	63.34 Valid	1.13	VAR offside control, GOAL
04.01.2020	Trabzonspor-Erzurumspor	42.17 Valid	1.11	VAR offside control, GOAL
04.01.2020	Trabzonspor-Erzurumspor	65.50 Valid	1.35	VAR offside control, GOAL
05.01.2020	Kırklarelispor-FB	42.33 Valid	1.26	VAR offside control, GOAL

Tablo 4. Referee Contacted VAR for Offside Control and Goal Scored Valid

10.01.2020	GS-Alanyaspor	84.27 Valid	2.06	VAR offside control, GOAL
29.01.2020	Trabzonspor-Alanyaspor	24.20 Valid	1.46	VAR offside control, GOAL

In Table 4, the referee did not score the goal because he was offside and the linesman raised the offside flag. The referee contacts the VAR without restarting the match and ensures that the VAR checks the correctness of his decision, thus avoiding any objections and unwarranted criticism from the players, technical team, and football stakeholders.

Date	Teams	VAR Activ	ve VAR'	Decision
14.01.2020	Başakşehir-Kırklarelispor	68.15	1.27 VAR	coffside control, GOAL Canceled
23.01.2020	Malatyaspor-Sivasspor	13.26 Canceled	0.33	VAR offside control, GOAL
23.01.2020	Malatyaspor-Sivasspor	73.44 Canceled	0.50	VAR offside control, GOAL
04.02.2020	Trabzonspor-Erzurumspor	48.40 Canceled	1.17	VAR offside control, GOAL
05.02.2020	Alanyaspor-GS	93.19 Canceled	0.41	VAR offside control, GOAL
05.02.2020	Kırklarelispor-FB	09.37 Canceled	0.56	VAR offside control, GOAL
12.02.2020	GS-Alanyaspor	31.48 Canceled	1.05	VAR offside control, GOAL
03.03.2020	Trabzon-FB	50.10 Canceled	0.54	VAR offside control, GOAL
29.07.2020	Trabzonspor-Alanyaspor	95.15 Canceled	0.25	VAR offside control, GOAL

 Tablo 5. Offside - Judge Raises Flag, Goal Canceled

InTable 5, The referee did not award a goal because the goal scorer was offside and the assistant referee had raised the flag for offside. The referee contacts the VAR without restarting the match and ensures that the VAR checks the correctness of his decision, thus avoiding any objections and unwarranted criticism from the players, technical team, and football stakeholders.

Date	Teams	VAR Active	VAR' Decision
14.01.2020	Sivasspor-Malatyaspor	16.32	02.04
14.01.2020	Kayserispor-FB	33.23	01.22
14.01.2020	Başakşehir-Kırklarelispor	94.10	01.41
21.01.2020	Kırklarelispor-Başakşehir	64.10	01.38
05.01.2020	Kırklarelispor-FB	64.19	01.15

**Table 6.** Offside - The referee awarded the goal and the assistant referee did not raise the flag for offside

Looking at the positions in the specified minutes of the matches in Table 6, the referee scored the goal because the offside situations prior to the goal were not deemed to be offside by the referee and assistant referee. The referee of the match cancels the goal if it is established that the offside situation has been resolved after the VAR has warned the referee. In this way, the error that could have changed the outcome of the match is rectified.

**Table 7.** Not Offside - The referee did not award the goal, the assistant referee raised the flag for offside

Date	Teams	VAR Active	VAR'	Decision
14.01.2020	Başakşehir-Kırklarelispor	95	01.15	Goal
22.01.2020	Kasımpaşa-Alanyaspor	86	02.15	Goal

Looking at the positions in Table 7, if the assistant referee had raised the flag for offside the referee would not have given the goal. With the VAR warning, it is assumed that there is no offside and that the goal has been scored. With the assistance of the VAR system, the goal is valid and takes its rightful place.

 Table 8. Offside - Referee Scored Goal - Auxiliary Flag Raised - Goal Canceled

Date	Teams	VAR Active	VAR'	Decision
14.01.2020	Başakşehir-Kırklareli	80.50	01.14	VAR canceled

In table 8, the date, team and minute of the matches recorded as a goal despite the offside flag being raised by the assistant referee. However, the goal is cancelled because it was offside with the VAR warning.

Date	Teams	VAR Active	VAR' Decision
15.01.2020	Rizespor-GS	92.15-"93.50"	2.11
14.01.2020	Malatyaspor-Sivasspor	19.27	0.40
14.01.2020	Kırklarelispor-FB	87.57	0.38
05.01.2020	Alanyaspor-Antalyaspor	80.50-"81.58"	2.22

 Table 9. Pre-Goal Foul Status

When we look at Table 9, the goal is canceled because there is a foul situation before the goal is scored. There is a violation as he leaves the defender ineffective by committing a foul, and the referee of the match cancels the goal with the warning of the VAR.

Date	Teams	VAR Active	VAR'	Decision
14.01.2020	Sivasspor-Malatyaspor	24.03 penalty	2.09	VAR offside control, No
15.01.2020	Alanyaspor-Kasımpaşa	25.23 Penalty	0.55	VAR offside control, No
16.01.2020	Antalyaspor-Göztepe	41.07 Penalty	1.50	VAR offside control, No
22.01.2020	Kasımpaşa-Alanyaspor	22.14 Penalty	2.50	VAR offside control, No
23.01.2020	Denizli-Trabzon	50.34 Penalty	0.14	VAR offside control, No
23.01.2020	Denizli-Trabzonspor	101.25 Penalty	1.44	VAR offside control, No
23.01.2020	GS-Rizespor	15.25 Penalty	0.47	VAR offside control, No
23.01.2020	Gs-Rizespor	57.30 Penalty	1.11	VAR offside control, No
23.01.2020	Sivas-Antalya	68.50 Penalty	1.0	VAR offside control, No
13.02.2020	Antalya- Alanya	68.50 Penalty	1.30	VAR offside control, No
16.06.2020	FB-Trabzon	46.30 Penalty	0.18	VAR offside control, No

 Table 10. Penalty or Not Penalty

16.06.2020	FB-Trabzonspor	64.04	1.26	VAR offside control, No
		Penalty		

In Table 10, penalty or not penalty decision.

Table 11. Refeere Red Card Decision

Date	Teams	VAR Active	VAR'	Decision
16.01.2020	Antalya-Göztepe	78.30 red	01.58	Yellow card to
16.01.2020	Trabzon-Denizli	14.06 cancelled	02.18	Red card

In Table 11. The referee changed his decision after the VAR warning.

Date	Teams	VAR Active	VAR'	Decision
22.01.2020	BJK-Erzurumspor	37.10 goal	01.28	Canceled the
04.03.2020	Antalya-Alanyaspor	62.14	0.54	Red card

In Table 12, the VAR warns the referee of the match in cases that the referee overlooks, and the referee of the match monitors the offense and makes the correct decision. When the Antalyaspor player approaches his own penalty area, he throws the ball in front of the Antalyaspor player with his hand in the direction of the crown, the referee warns the referees who cannot see this position and the referee goes to the monitor at the edge of the pitch and watches the incident and shows the Alanyaspor player a red card. In this way, he gets the punishment he deserves for the offense.

#### **DISCUSSION And CONCLUSION**

In the qualitative study that Engin conducted with referees in 2019, he summarised the referees' views as follows. The VAR system will help eliminate subjective perspectives and make cleaner decisions. Video technology is important for more accurate and objective decisions. One of the most important examples of the digitalization of sport is the VAR system used at the 2018 World Cup. The VAR system is important in detecting misleading referees with itsslow-motion technology (Engin & Çelik, 2019). The study also argues that the VAR system should be more objective. Therefore, the VAR application will help the referee examine the position from different angles and different image speeds and make the right decision.

According to the results of Aslan's research in 2018, the referees were correct in 80.4%, 76.45% and 72.7% of the decisions they made during low, medium and high-intensity training. When the decisions made by the referees during high-intensity training and the decisions they made during low-intensity training were examined, it was found that the performance of their decisions decreased by 7.7% (Aslan, Saygın, & Ceylan, 2018). With the participation of the VAR system in football matches, he will be able to make more correct decisions by applying the VAR application when he misses or is out of position in high-tempo football matches.

It can be said that although the VAR system faced some reactions when it was first used, it contributed to the accuracy and reliability of the decisions made in the competition and the tournament or league was shaped in line with the results that the teams deserved (Başkaya & Metin, 2023).

The introduction of the VAR system has further increased transparency. Unnecessary discussions at the end of the game have been cut down a little with the use of VAR. As it is difficult for the referee to see all the fields where the game is being played at the same time, the VAR system has been presented to the referee as an aid. In fact, our research has helped many referees in Ziraat Turkey Cup matches to analyse controversial positions during the match. The referees in the match both listened to VAR and made the best decision by watching it in person on the sideline monitor. Thanks to VAR, the number of incorrect decisions was reduced to a minimum and VAR did not allow any unfair incidents that could have changed the outcome of the match.

It has been concluded that the VAR system has important contributions to football in 'ensuring justice', but in some cases it 'reduces the pleasure of watching, interrupts the excitement, reduces the time the ball stays in play and reduces the motivation of the players', and that all the elements have information about the VAR system, which the spectators have a positive opinion in terms of its continuity. It has been understood that the VAR system has very important contributions to fair play, so it has been concluded that it should continue to be developed and improved (Öküzoğlu & Akyüz, 2022).

It has been observed that the VAR system is an important application supporting the referee in eliminating uncertainties that occur during football matches. All components within football can be objectively informed about the results of such applications, and thus, biased thoughts and negative opinions that may arise regarding referees and referee decisions can be prevented.

In addition, all components of the football community can be informed through such studies that the VAR system is an important application that supports the referee in order to eliminate the uncertainties experienced during the competition in football, and in this way, prejudiced thoughts and negative opinions that may occur on referees and referee decisions can be prevented.

Recently, with the inclusion of matches in betting pools, news about the existence of matchfixing in sports, particularly in football, the most popular branch of sports, has been increasing day by day. However, we believe in the usefulness of implementing the VAR system in matches, as it would contribute to eliminating match-fixing and similar situations, and enhancing the reliability of Turkish football in the world, thereby ensuring a fairer game and more accurate decisions.

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