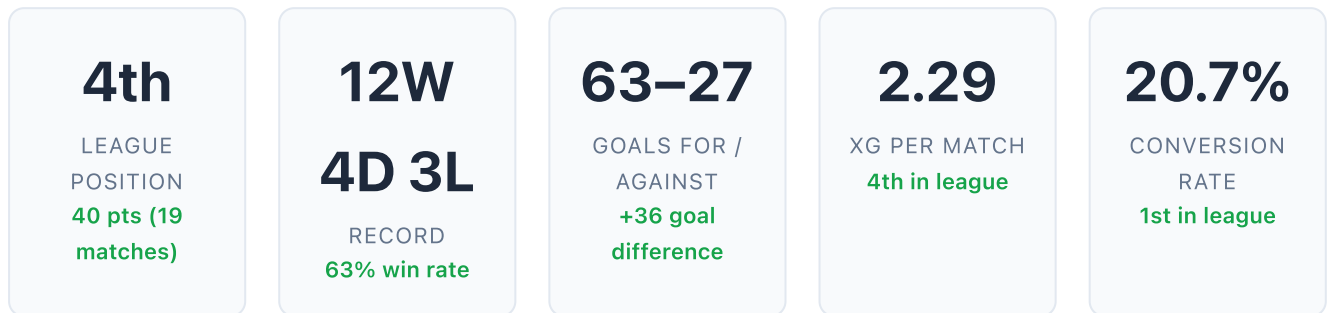


Omonoia U16 — The Goals Will Dry Up

Cyprus U16 League Division 1 | Season 2025/2026 19 rounds played | Event data available for 14 matches



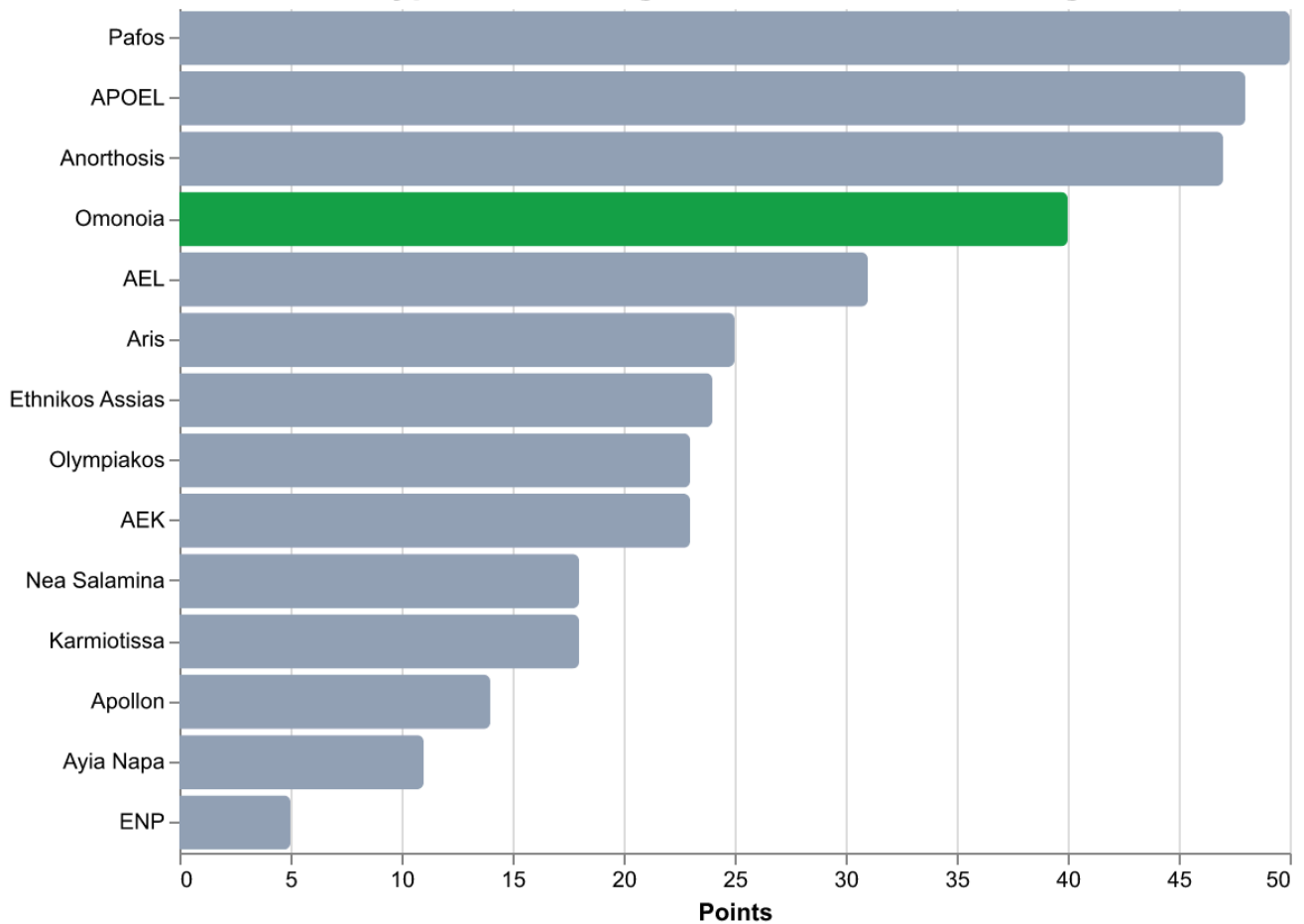
Sixty-three goals scored. The highest total in a fourteen-team division, ahead of Pafos (62) and APOEL (62). Omonoia U16 are the most prolific team in the Cyprus U16 League — and the data suggests this is a problem rather than a strength.

The headline numbers obscure a fragile reality. Across 14 analysed matches, the team scored 50 goals from an expected goals total of just 32.04, a 56% overperformance that ranks as the most extreme in the competition. Two players — Alkis Anagiotos and Demetris Sozou — account for 31 of those 50 goals and nearly all of the overperformance. The goals have started to dry up in the second half of the season, and unless the underlying chance creation improves, the team's current position is more precarious than the table suggests.

This report examines the mechanics behind Omonoia's prolific output, identifies the structural risks, and offers concrete recommendations for building a more sustainable attacking model.

1. Season Overview

Cyprus U16 League Division 1 — Standings



Omonoia U16 sit **4th of 14 teams** with 40 points from 19 matches — a record of 12W 4D 3L. They trail the top three by a significant margin: Pafos (50 pts), APOEL (48 pts), and Anorthosis (47 pts, unbeaten). A ten-point gap to third-placed Anorthosis means the podium is effectively out of reach; the task now is to consolidate fourth and close the gap for next season.

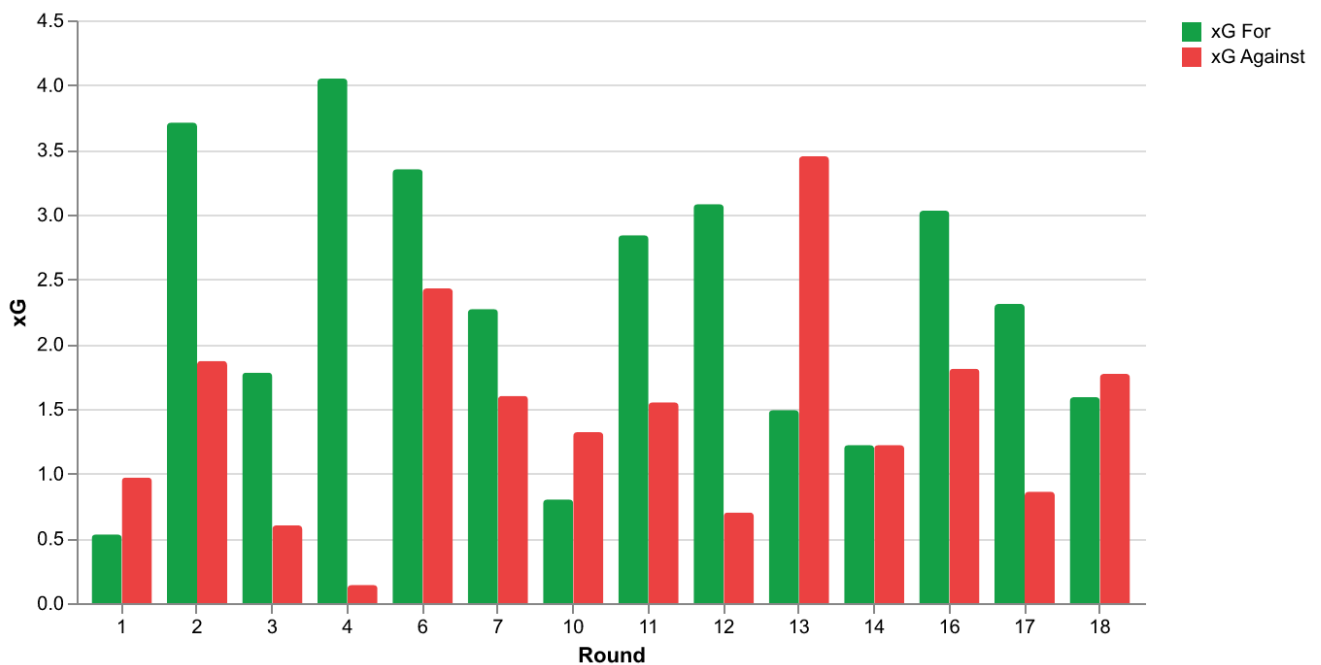
The team's goal difference of +36 matches Anorthosis, but the composition is markedly different. Omonoia's +36 is built on the league's best attack (63 goals scored) paired with a mid-table defence (27 conceded). Anorthosis achieves the same differential with 60 scored and just 24 conceded, never having lost a match. This distinction — prolific but porous versus disciplined and resilient — is the central tension in Omonoia's season.

Match-by-Match Results

Rd	Match	GF	GA	xG	xGA	Result
1	vs APOEL (A)	1	1	0.53	0.97	D
2	vs Nea Salamina (H)	7	3	3.71	1.87	W
3	vs AEK (A)	3	0	1.78	0.60	W
4	vs Ayia Napa (H)	8	0	4.05	0.14	W
6	vs Olympiakos (H)	6	2	3.35	2.43	W

7	vs Apollon (A)	4	0	2.27	1.60	W
10	vs Anorthosis (H)	2	2	0.80	1.32	D
11	vs Ethnikos (A)	4	1	2.84	1.55	W
12	vs Karmiotissa (A)	5	1	3.08	0.70	W
13	vs Pafos (H)	0	3	1.49	3.45	L
14	vs APOEL (H)	0	1	1.22	1.22	L
16	vs AEK (H)	2	2	3.03	1.81	D
17	vs Ayia Napa (A)	5	2	2.31	0.86	W
18	vs AEL (H)	3	1	1.59	1.77	W

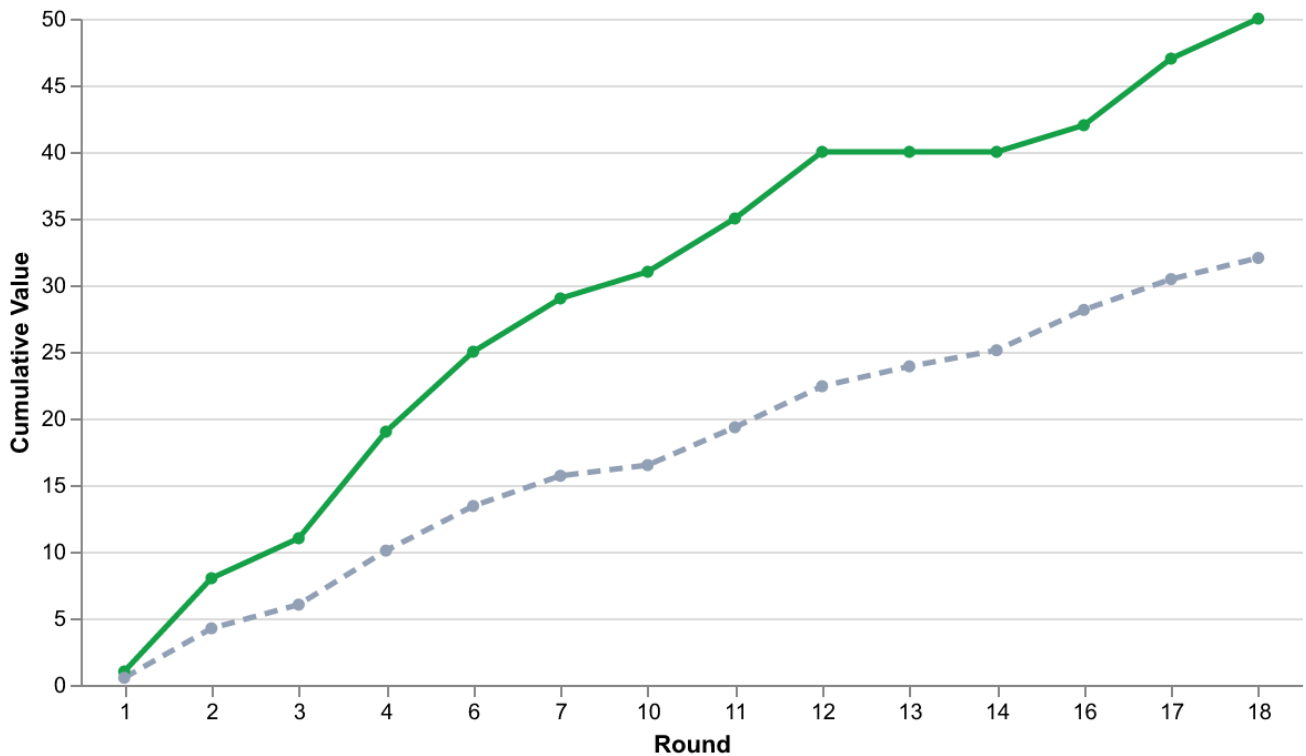
Omonoia U16 — xG Per Match



Several patterns emerge from the match data. First, the team has never lost to a bottom-half opponent in the analysed matches, with dominant scorelines of 7-3, 8-0, 4-0, 4-1, 5-1, and 5-2. Second, all three losses came against the top three: Pafos (0-3), APOEL (0-1), and a draw with Anorthosis (2-2). Third, the xG balance tells a more nuanced story than the scoreline — the team frequently outscored its xG by significant margins, while opponents sometimes matched or exceeded Omonoia's xG without the scoreline reflecting it.

2. The Overperformance Problem — 50 Goals from 32 xG

Omonoia U16 — Cumulative Goals vs xG

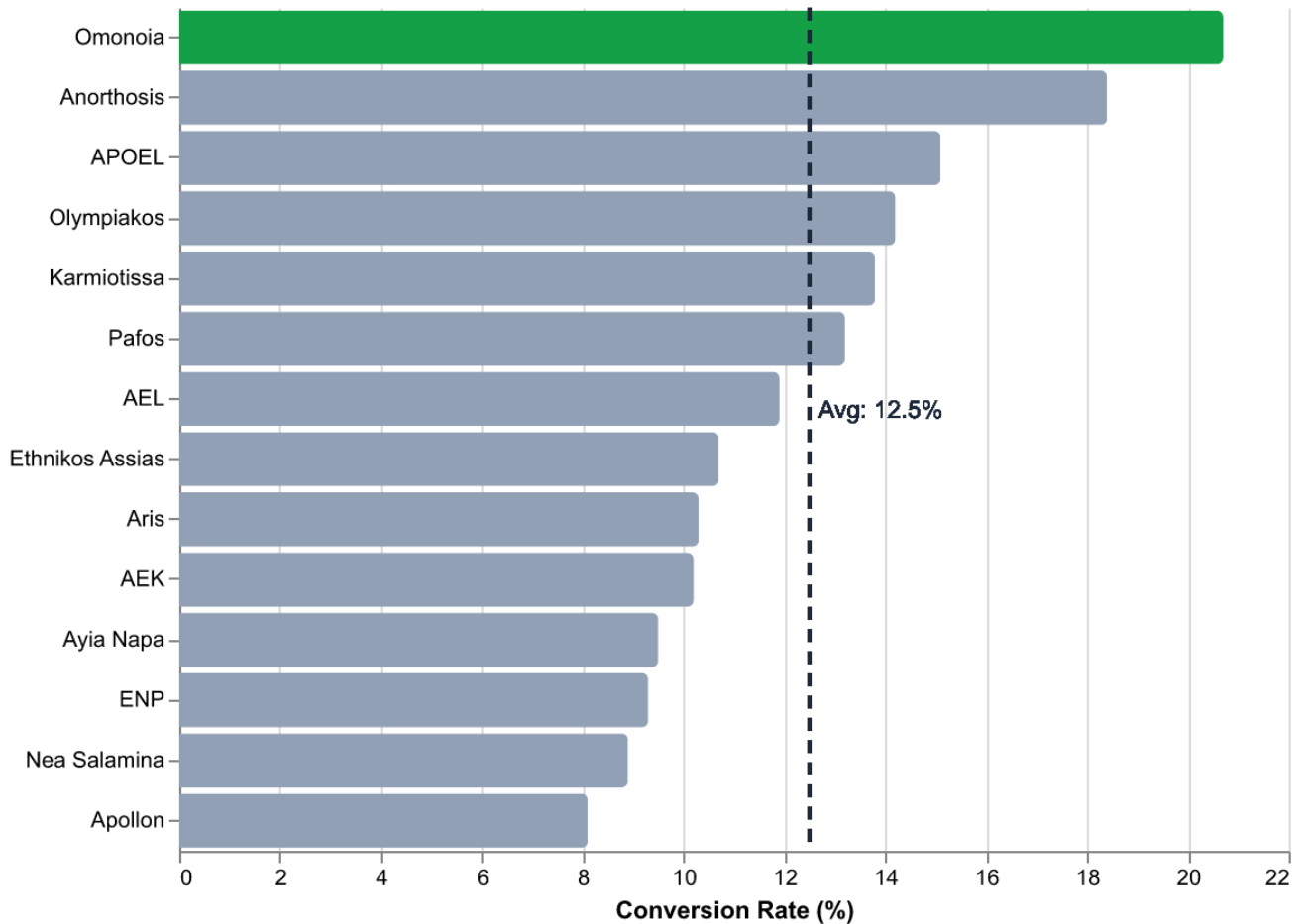


This is the most important chart in the report. The green line (actual goals) pulls steadily away from the grey dashed line (expected goals) across the season, widening to a gap of **17.96 goals** — the largest xG overperformance in the Cyprus U16 League.

50 goals scored from 32.04 xG across 14 analysed matches. That is a 56% overperformance — the team scores roughly 3 goals for every 2 it should score based on chance quality. No team in the league comes close to this level of overperformance. While clinical finishing is a genuine skill, particularly at youth level, the magnitude of this gap is historically unsustainable.

The Numbers Behind the Overperformance

Shot Conversion Rate — All Teams



Omonoia's shot conversion rate of **20.7%** leads the league by a wide margin. The next-best is Anorthosis at 18.4%, followed by APOEL at 15.1%. The league average sits around 12.5%. To convert one in five shots into goals at youth level — where goalkeeping and defensive positioning are still developing — is remarkable, but the question is whether this reflects genuine superiority in finishing or an unsustainable hot streak.

The evidence points towards the latter. The team's shot profile is good but not exceptional: 64.9% of shots are close-range (3rd in the league), with a shots-on-target rate of 47.5% (1st). The quality of chances, as measured by xG per shot, is middle-of-the-pack. What separates Omonoia is not that they create better chances, but that they finish ordinary chances at an extraordinary rate.

Where the Goals Came From

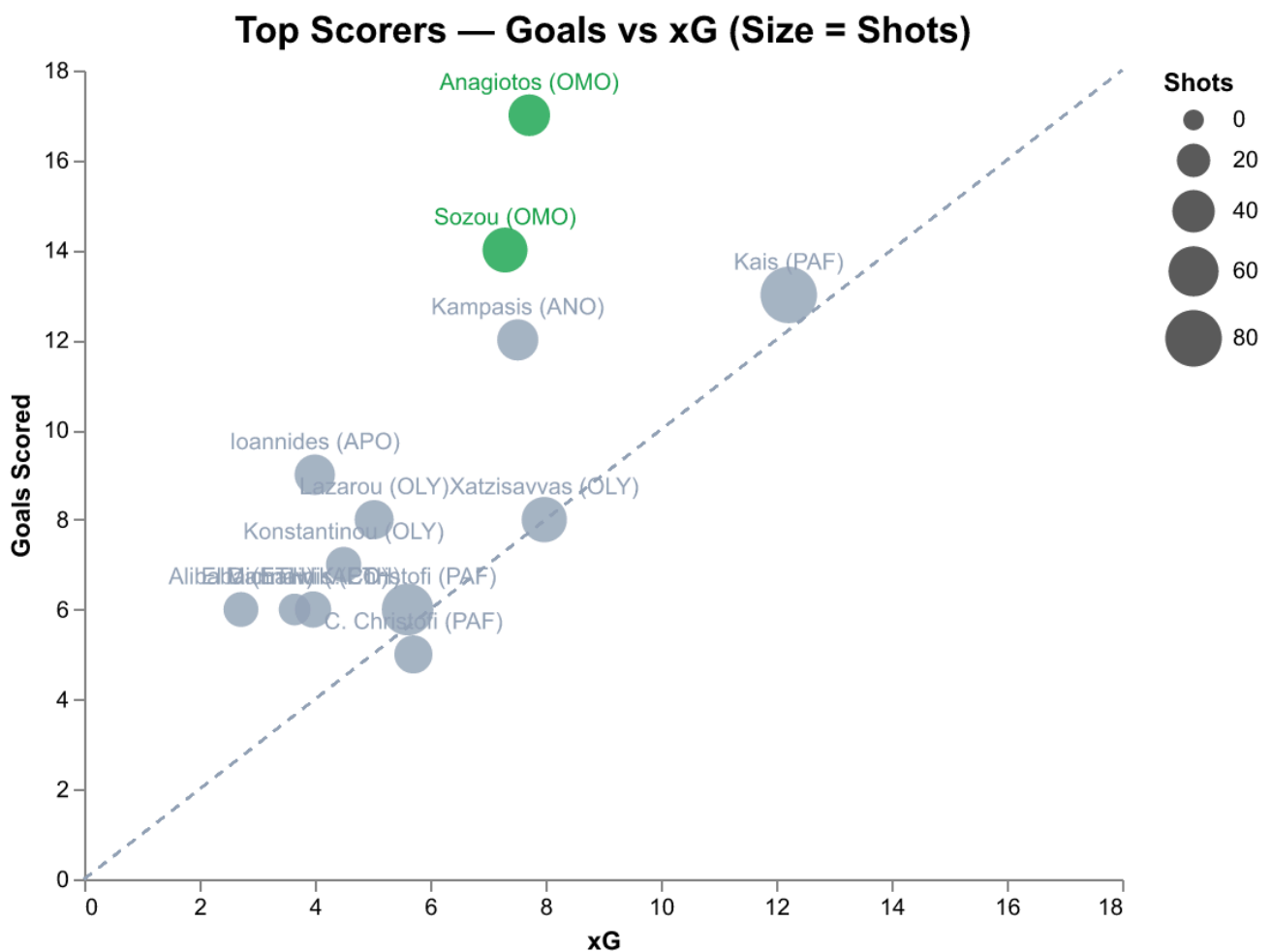
Shot Type	Shots	Goals	Conversion	League Avg Conversion
Close shots (not from crosses)	117	35	29.9%	~18%
Long shots	85	8	9.4%	~6%
Shots from crosses	17	2	11.8%	~10%
Headers	23	5	21.7%	~12%

Close-range shots not from crosses produced 35 of 50 goals (70%) — this is the team's bread and butter. Even here, the conversion rate of 29.9% significantly exceeds the league average. The team is clinical from everywhere, but especially from

the positions that matter most.

The sustainability question: If Omonoia's conversion rate regressed to even the second-best in the league (18.4%, Anorthosis), the team would have scored approximately 45 goals instead of 50 from the same chances — still impressive, but five fewer goals across 14 matches would likely have turned at least one or two wins into draws. If conversion dropped to the league average (12.5%), the total would fall to roughly 30 — a completely different season.

3. The Anagiotos-Sozou-Epiphaniou Triangle



No team in the Cyprus U16 League depends on its attacking trio as heavily as Omonoia depends on Alkis Anagiotos, Demitris Sozou, and Theodoros Epiphaniou. Together, these three players are involved in 48 of the team's 50 analysed goals — scoring 35 and assisting a further 27 (with some assists going to each other's goals). Understanding this triangle is essential to understanding the team.

Alkis Anagiotos — The Lethal Finisher

17 goals, 9 assists | 13 appearances | xG: 7.72 | xA: 3.74

Anagiotos is the league's top scorer, and it is not close. His 17 goals came from just 38 shots — a conversion rate of **44.7%**, which is almost beyond comprehension. Nearly every other shot he takes finds the net. His xG of 7.72 means he has scored

9.28 goals more than expected — the largest individual overperformance in the competition by a considerable margin.

He is not a poacher. His 9 assists and 22 key passes demonstrate genuine creative ability, and his 32 successful take-ons from 108 dribbles suggest a player comfortable carrying the ball. He rotates freely between the right wing, left wing, and centre-forward positions, making him difficult to mark. His 26 goal involvements (goals + assists) in 13 matches translate to exactly **2.0 per match** — a rate that would be exceptional at any level.

For all the superlatives, the data demands a cautionary note. A 44.7% conversion rate is not repeatable, even for the most gifted finishers. Regression towards the mean is inevitable. The coaching challenge is twofold: enjoy the brilliance while it lasts, and build a system that doesn't collapse when the goals slow down.

Demitris Sozou — The Volume Scorer

14 goals, 5 assists | 14 appearances | xG: 7.30 | xA: 2.70

Where Anagiotos is lethally efficient, Sozou is the workhorse. He leads the team in shots (46), takes the most attempts from distance, and is involved in every phase of the attack. His 14 goals from 7.30 xG (+6.70 overperformance) mirrors the team's broader pattern — clinical finishing beyond what the chances warrant.

Sozou's 109 dribbles and 87 ball losses in 14 matches reveal an aggressive, high-risk profile. He loses the ball frequently because he attempts difficult actions frequently, and the trade-off is currently favourable. His 5 assists and 20 key passes make him a reliable creator as well as scorer. Like Anagiotos, he rotates across the front three positions.

Theodoros Epiphaniou — The Architect

4 goals, 13 assists | 13 appearances | xG: 3.27 | xA: 3.44

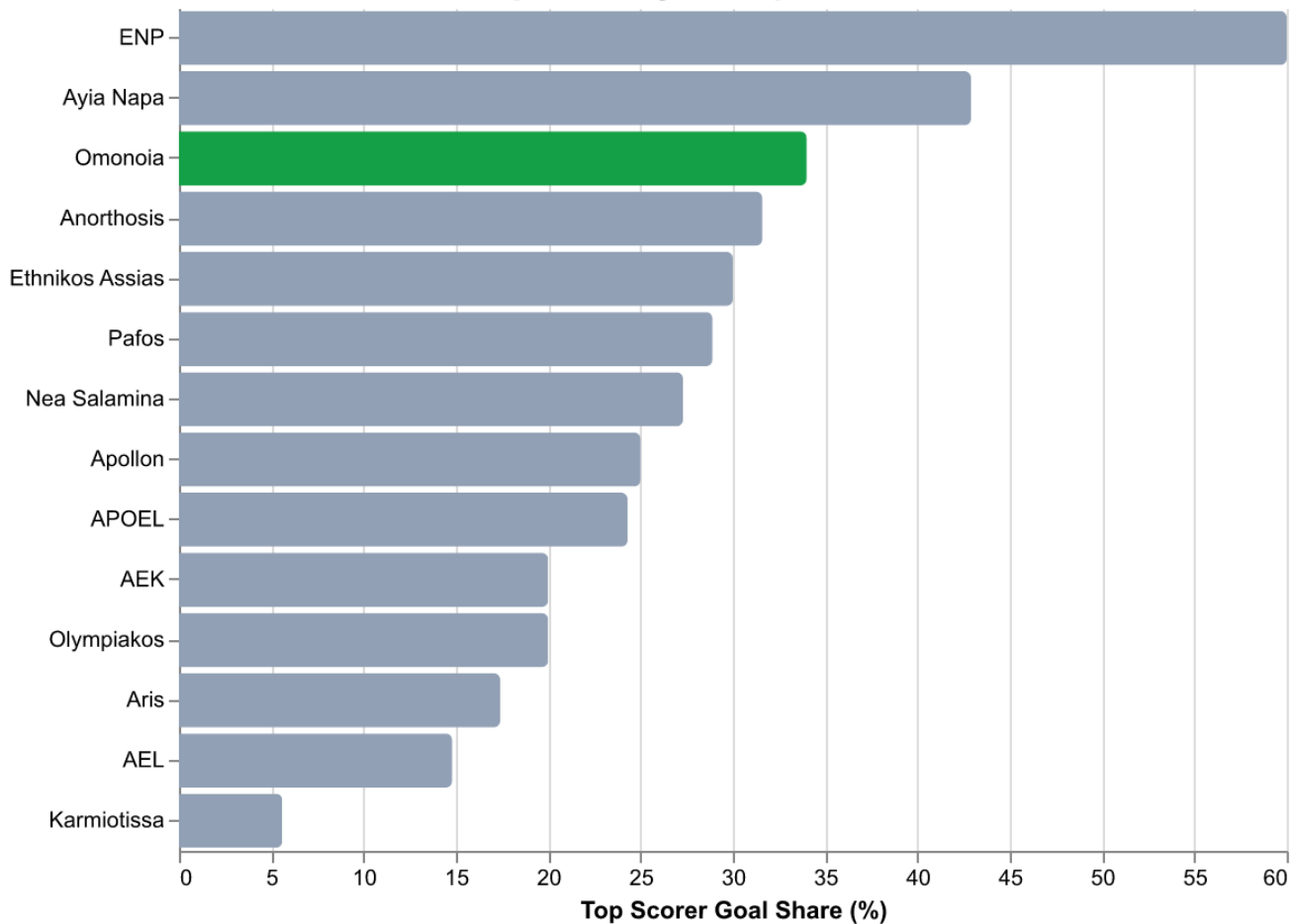
Epiphaniou is the most fascinating player in this squad. His **13 assists** rank second in the entire league (behind Pafos' Konstantinos Christofi with 12, but from 13 fewer appearances). His **34 key passes** in 13 matches (2.6 per match) place him among the competition's elite creators. He plays predominantly as an attacking midfielder and is the connective tissue between midfield and the Anagiotos-Sozou strike partnership.

His assist total of 13 from an xA of 3.44 represents a **+9.56 overperformance** — again, not repeatable. This means that not only are the strikers finishing at unsustainable rates, but the quality of Epiphaniou's assists is also being inflated by their clinical finishing. In a more typical scenario, several of his key passes would result in missed chances rather than goals.

Epiphaniou also contributes 130 recoveries (10.0 per match), 15 tackles, and 150 ball losses — the latter figure is the highest on the team and a consequence of his ambitious passing in dangerous areas. His final-third pass accuracy of 52.0% is a concern that merits attention.

The Dependency Risk

Goal Scorer Dependency — Top Scorer % of Team Goals



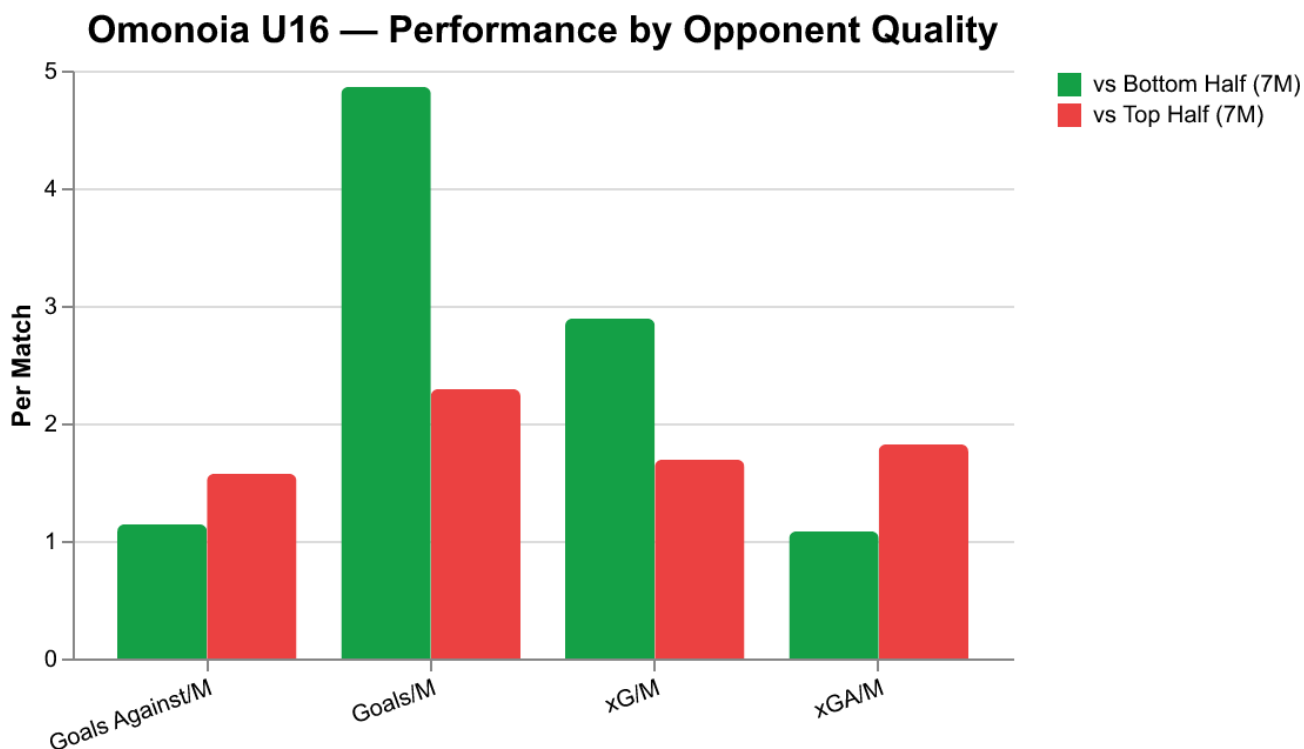
Anagiotos accounts for 34% of all team goals — the highest dependency rate among serious contenders. When expanded to include Sozou, the two players account for **62% of all goals** (31 of 50). If both are included alongside Epiphaniou's assists, the trio is involved in virtually every goal the team scores.

This is a structural vulnerability. An injury, suspension, or form dip to any member of the triangle would devastate the team's output. The four goals scored by unidentified players (NULL entries in the data) and single goals from Adamou, Tsigaridis, Therapontos, Yiallouris, and others demonstrate that goal-scoring from outside the front three is virtually non-existent.

Recommendation — Diversify goal-scoring sources. The midfield trio of Zembylas, Tsigaridis, and Nikolaou have combined for just 3 goals from 41 appearances. Specifically:

- Design training exercises where midfielders arrive late into the box during crossing and set-piece situations.
- Encourage Tsigaridis (22 shots, 1 goal, 1.88 xG) to shoot earlier and from better positions — he has the highest xG of any non-forward but just a single goal.
- Set target: at least 1 goal per 3 matches from midfielders, creating a more distributed threat.

4. Two Leagues — The Top-Half Problem



The most striking split in the data is the performance differential by opponent quality. Against bottom-half teams, Omonoia average **4.86 goals per match** on 2.89 xG — demolishing weaker opponents with 78.4% pass accuracy and conceding just 1.14 goals per match. Against top-half teams, the picture inverts: **2.29 goals per match** on 1.69 xG, with pass accuracy dropping to 72.5% and goals conceded rising to 1.57.

The xG differential tells the deeper story. Against bottom-half teams, Omonoia generate 2.89 xG while conceding 1.08 — a comfortable +1.81 xG margin. Against top-half teams, the margin shrinks to just -0.13 (1.69 xG for vs 1.82 xGA). In expected terms, Omonoia are essentially an even match against the top half, not a dominant force. The actual goals (2.29 vs 1.57) flatter the team thanks to the overperformance effect discussed above.

What Changes Against Quality Opposition

The pass accuracy drop from 78.4% to 72.5% is significant — it means the team completes roughly 6 fewer passes per 100 attempts when pressed by quality opponents. Against bottom-half teams, Omonoia can build patiently through the centre (their preferred route), but top-half teams press higher and more aggressively, forcing errors and turnovers.

Against Pafos (Round 13), the team managed just 1.49 xG and failed to score — a stark contrast to the 8-0 demolition of Ayia Napa. Against APOEL (Round 14), another scoreless performance from 1.22 xG. Two consecutive matches without a goal exposed the fragility beneath the prolific surface.

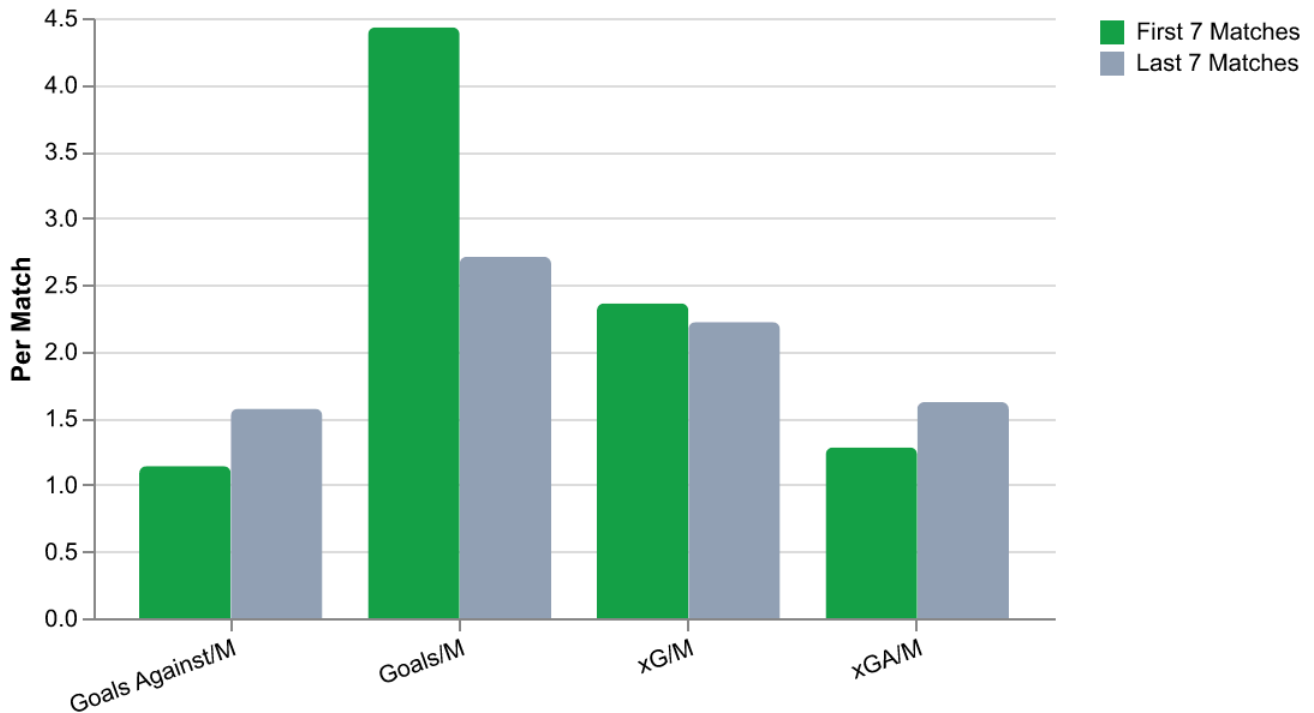
Recommendation — Build resilience against the press. The team's build-up relies heavily on central combinations (120.5 build-up actions per match through the centre, 3rd in the league). Against pressing teams, consider:

- Practising wide build-up alternatives, using Adamou (LB) and Aravis/Therapontos (RB) as pressure-release outlets.
- Drilling quick vertical passes to bypass the midfield press — the team's deep completion rate (11.9/M, 3rd) suggests the runners are there, but the final-third pass accuracy (52.0%, the lowest among the top 7 teams) suggests the execution needs work.

- Target: improve final-third pass accuracy from 52.0% to at least 56% (the league average for the top half).

5. The Season Dip — When the Goals Stopped

Omonoia U16 — Season Progression (First 7 vs Last 7)



The season splits neatly into two halves, and the trend is concerning. In the first seven analysed matches (Rounds 1-7), Omonoia averaged **4.43 goals per match** while conceding 1.14. In the last seven (Rounds 10-18), goals dropped to **2.71 per match** — a 39% decline — while concession rose to 1.57 — a 38% increase.

The critical finding is that the underlying xG barely changed: 2.36 per match in the first half versus 2.22 in the second. The team continued to create similar quality chances; they simply stopped converting them at superhuman rates. This is the xG regression in action — the unsustainable overperformance described in Section 2 is already correcting itself.

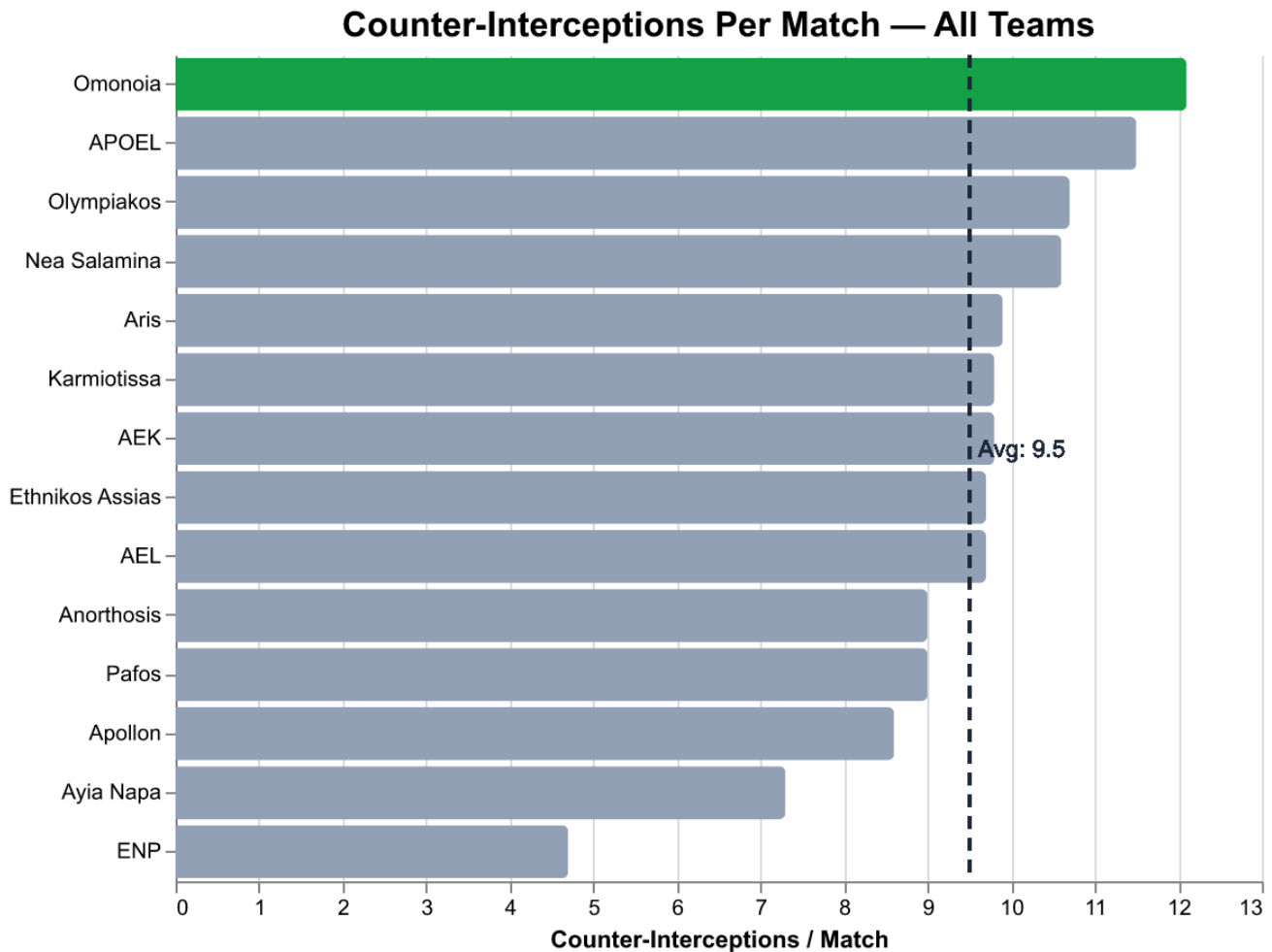
The Scoreless Stretch

Rounds 13 and 14 — against Pafos (0-3) and APOEL (0-1) — represent the nadir. For a team that had scored in every previous match, often spectacularly, two consecutive scoreless performances were a shock. The combined xG across those two matches was 2.71, suggesting the team should have scored approximately 2-3 goals. Instead, zero.

This is what regression looks like at the individual match level. When the hot streak ended, the team had no alternative pathway to goals. The system depends on extraordinary finishing; ordinary finishing produces ordinary results.

The team recovered in Rounds 16-18 with improved results (2-2, 5-2, 3-1), but the goal rate (3.33/M) remains below the early-season peak (4.43/M). The data suggests the new normal is somewhere between 2.5-3.0 goals per match — still impressive, but a significant step down from the early-season explosion.

6. Counter-Pressing as Identity



Omonoia's defensive identity is defined not by high pressing or a deep block, but by **counter-pressing** — the immediate reaction to losing the ball. With **12.1 counter-interceptions per match**, Omonoia rank **1st in the league**, ahead of APOEL (11.5) and Olympiakos (10.7). The league average is 9.5.

This is a deliberate tactical choice. The team's overall pressing intensity (66.8 pressures per match) ranks just 10th — they do not press aggressively in a sustained manner. Their high-zone pressing (7.6/M) ranks 10th as well. But when they lose the ball, the reaction is immediate and effective: 4.4 counter-interceptions per match in the opponent's half (3rd in the league), suggesting the team wins the ball back quickly in advanced positions.

How It Works

The mechanism connects directly to the attacking system. Omonoia build through the centre (120.5 build-up centre actions/M, 3rd), and when they lose the ball in central areas — which happens frequently given the 109.6 ball losses per match — the players around the ball immediately swarm. The midfield pair of Zembylas (131 recoveries in 14 apps) and Epiphaniou (130 recoveries in 13 apps) are the primary counter-pressing agents, supplemented by the high work rate of the forwards.

The 28.6 ball losses per match in the team's own half (7th in the league) versus 80.9 in the opponent's half (7th) suggest a reasonable balance — the team loses possession more often in advanced areas, which is natural given their attacking orientation, and the counter-press mitigates the risk.

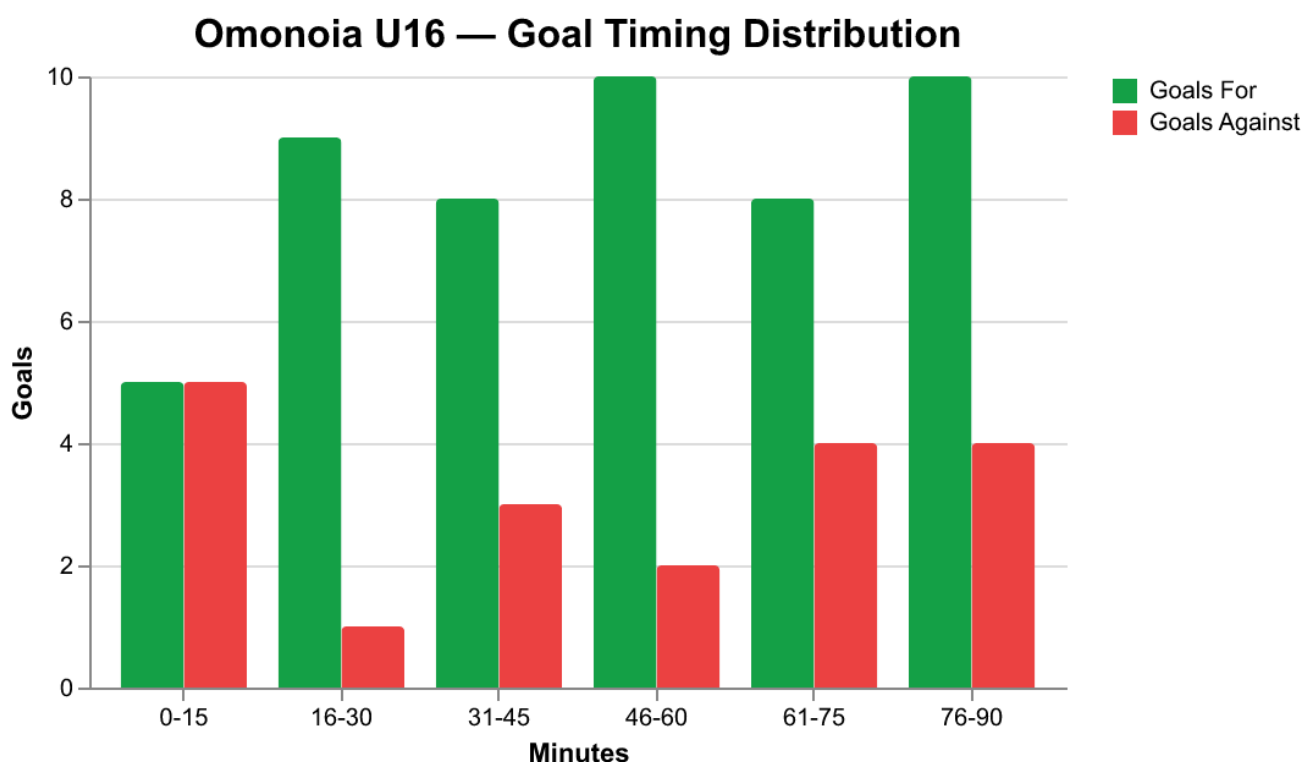
The counter-press is a genuine strength. At 12.1 per match, Omonoia regain possession more quickly than any other team after losing the ball. This feeds directly into the attacking output — quick recoveries in advanced areas create second-phase attacking opportunities before defences can reorganise.

Defensive Structure

Beyond the counter-press, Omonoia's defensive shape has areas of concern. The team concedes **1.36 goals per match** from the analysed data (6th in the league) against an xGA of 1.45 per match (also 6th). This is a respectable but not elite record — well behind Pafos (0.53 GA/M), APOEL (0.91), and Aris (0.93).

The high line metric (55.9/M, 10th) suggests a relatively conservative defensive line, and the vertical compactness (131.7/M, 3rd highest) indicates the team stays tight between the lines. Clearances at 33.6 per match (4th highest) and limited shot-blocking (5.1/M, 12th) suggest a defence that deals with danger by clearing rather than intercepting at source.

7. Goal Timing — Vulnerable Early, Dominant Late



The opening 15 minutes represent Omonoia's most vulnerable period. The team scored 5 goals and conceded 5 in this window — the only period where goals for and against are equal. This suggests the team takes time to establish its rhythm and is susceptible to early pressure.

From minute 16 onwards, the balance shifts decisively. The 16-30 minute window is the team's most dominant period: **9 goals scored, 1 conceded**. Once Omonoia find their tempo, they are difficult to stop. The 46-60 minute window is equally productive (10 scored, 2 conceded), suggesting the team comes out strong after half-time — perhaps a testament to effective half-time coaching interventions.

The second half as a whole (1.93 goals/M vs 1.64 in the first) slightly favours Omonoia offensively, while defensive performance is marginally better (0.64 GA/M vs 0.71). This is an encouraging pattern — unlike many youth teams that fade

physically in the second half, Omonia maintain or even improve their output.

Recommendation — Address the slow start. The 0-15 minute vulnerability (5 for, 5 against) suggests the team is not fully engaged at kick-off. Consider:

- A more structured warm-up routine with match-intensity pressing exercises in the final 5 minutes before kick-off.
- Define clear first-minute pressing triggers — know exactly where to press from the opening whistle rather than reacting.
- Target: reduce goals conceded in 0-15 minutes from 5 to 2 or fewer.

8. Home vs Away — The Paradox

An unusual pattern emerges from the home/away split. Contrary to expectations, Omonia's attacking output is marginally **better away** (3.67 goals/M vs 3.50 at home), and their defensive record is significantly **better away** (0.83 GA/M vs 1.75).

Metric	Home (8M)	Away (6M)
Goals/M	3.50	3.67
xG/M	2.40	2.14
Goals Against/M	1.75	0.83
xGA/M	1.75	1.05
Pass Accuracy	74.0%	77.8%
Ball Losses/M	109.1	110.2
Dribbles/M	139.0	103.0

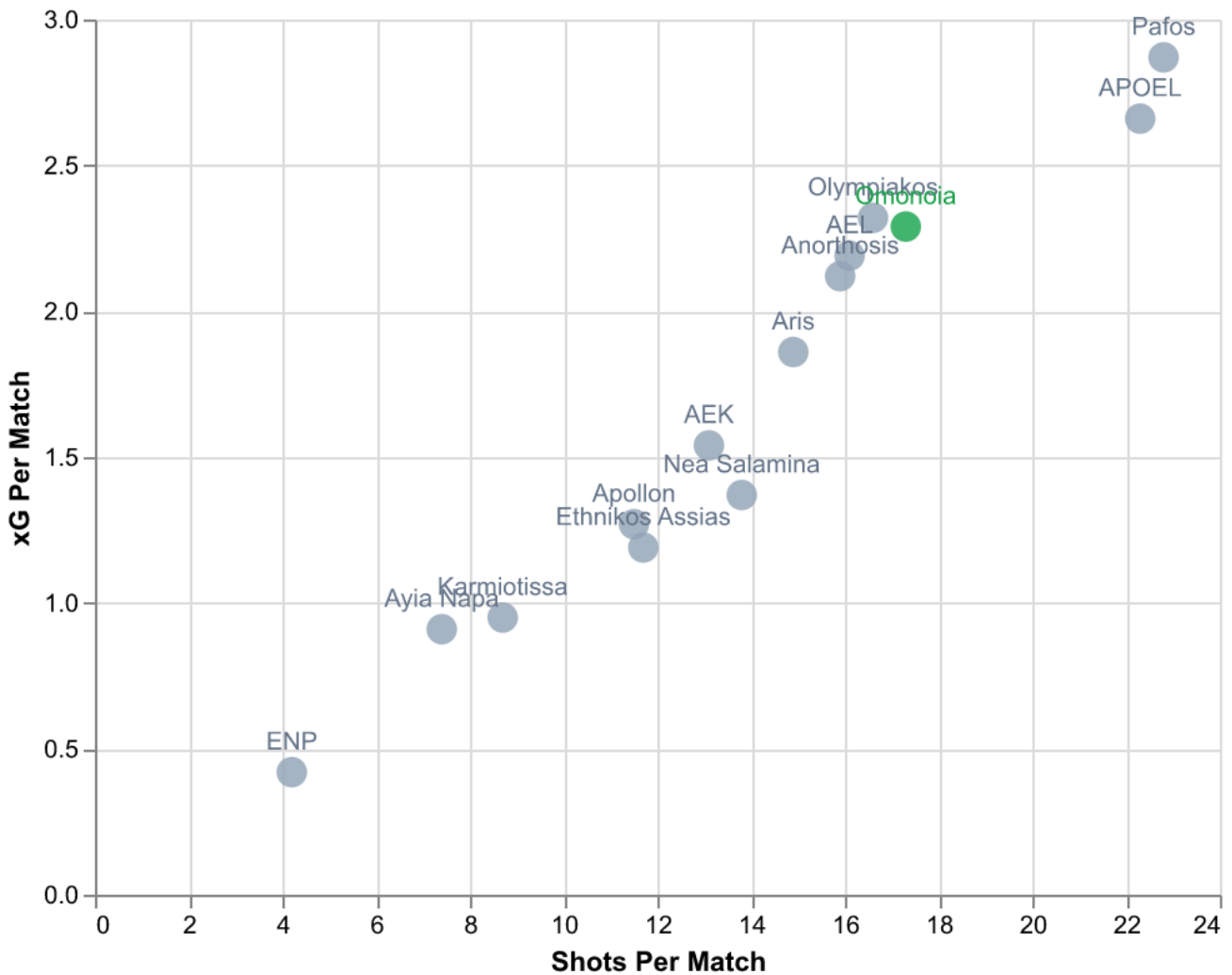
The xGA data confirms this is not a statistical fluke — the team concedes 1.75 xGA per match at home versus just 1.05 away. Pass accuracy is also better away (77.8% vs 74.0%). One possible explanation: the team attempts more aggressive, high-risk play at home (139 dribbles/M vs 103 away), which leads to more turnovers and defensive exposure. Away from home, a slightly more conservative approach produces better overall results.

Recommendation — Apply away discipline at home. The data suggests the team's home matches involve unnecessary risk-taking. Consider:

- Reducing speculative dribbling at home — the 36-dribble-per-match gap between home and away is significant.
- Maintaining the patient, efficient style that produces better passing accuracy and fewer goals conceded away.
- The team's xG is actually higher at home (2.40 vs 2.14), so the chances are being created — the issue is defensive balance, not attacking intent.

9. Build-Up and Chance Creation

xG Per Match vs Shots Per Match — All Teams



Omonoia sit in the **upper-middle quadrant** of the shots vs xG scatter — generating 17.3 shots per match (5th) with 2.29 xG per match (4th). This places them in the same tier as Olympiakos and AEL for shot volume, but behind the elite creators in Pafos (22.8 shots, 2.87 xG) and APOEL (22.3 shots, 2.66 xG).

How Omonoia Build

The team's build-up is **centrally oriented** — 120.5 build-up centre actions per match (3rd in the league) versus 43.6 through the flanks (also 3rd). Chance creation follows the same pattern: 63.7 central chance creation actions per match against 53.7 on the flanks. This preference for central play is deliberate and reflects the team's personnel — Epiphaniou operating as the creative hub in central zones, feeding Anagiotos and Sozou.

Key passing metrics:

- **Deep completions:** 11.9/M (3rd) — the team progresses the ball into dangerous areas regularly
- **Box receptions:** 12.9/M (3rd) — players receive the ball inside the box at a good rate
- **Key passes:** 12.7/M (3rd) — the creative output is strong
- **Final-third pass accuracy:** 52.0% — this is the problem

Final-third pass accuracy of 52.0% is the lowest among the top 7 teams. Pafos complete 68.5% of their final-third passes; APOEL 64.9%; even Aris manage 55.2%. Nearly half of Omonoia's passes in the final third fail. This

inefficiency forces the team to create far more chances than it should need — and to rely on superhuman conversion rates to compensate.

Crossing: A Limited Weapon

Omonoia attempt 9.2 crosses per match (8th) with a 30.2% success rate (7th). This is unremarkable. Only 17 of 242 shots came from crosses (7.0%), suggesting the team rarely uses wide delivery as a primary attacking method. The crossing game is functional but not a differentiator.

Cross Type	Per Match
Early crosses	2.0
Late crosses	5.4
Cutback crosses	1.9

Late crosses dominate (5.4/M), with a reasonable number of cutbacks (1.9/M). The team could benefit from increased variety in crossing, particularly given Anagiotos's header conversion (5 goals from 23 headers, 21.7%).

Set Pieces: Untapped Potential

Set pieces contribute just 2 goals from corners and 0 from free kicks across 14 matches — a modest return from 4.4 corners per match and 6.4 free kicks awarded per match. By comparison, Pafos have scored 5 from corners and 1 from free kicks; APOEL have scored 3 from corners and 1 from free kicks.

Recommendation — Invest in set-piece routines. With 4.4 corners and 6.4 free kicks per match, the team has ample opportunity but only 2 set-piece goals in 14 matches. Specifically:

- Design 3-4 corner routines with rehearsed movements — the current return of ~1 goal per 30 corners is below the league leaders.
- Use short corner options more frequently (1.4/M currently) to create better crossing angles.
- Target: 1 set-piece goal per 3-4 matches, which would add 3-4 goals across a season.

10. Player Analysis

Squad Overview

Player	Pos	Apps	Goals	Assists	xG	xA	Key Passes	Pass Acc	Recoveries
Konstantinos Iakovou	CB	13	0	0	0.09	0.19	2	86.0%	111
Ioannis Koukos	CB	13	0	0	0.46	0.39	0	85.6%	56

Michalis Kattou	CB	8	0	0	0.05	0.46	4	83.0%	64
Pavlos Adamou	LB	14	1	0	0.52	0.47	6	64.9%	108
Antonis Aravis	RB	11	1	2	0.50	1.02	16	69.0%	84
Christos Therapontos	FB	14	0	1	0.32	1.00	9	71.4%	82
Andreas Zembylas	CM/DM	14	0	2	0.61	0.95	10	73.4%	131
Ioannis Nikolaou	DM	10	0	0	0.42	0.50	7	84.9%	84
Stavros Tsigaridis	CM/LW	13	1	0	1.88	1.42	14	69.1%	122
Theodoros Epiphaniou	AMF	13	4	13	3.27	3.44	34	67.8%	130
Alkis Anagiotos	RW/LW/CF	13	17	9	7.72	3.74	22	64.4%	66
Dimitris Sozou	RW/LW/CF	14	14	5	7.30	2.70	20	66.5%	78
Angelos Yiallouris	RW/CMF	12	2	1	2.68	1.72	11	78.9%	82
Argyros Stavriniadis	CF/LW	12	3	0	1.62	0.32	4	77.8%	29
Orestis Stylianou	GK	14	0	1	-	0.10	1	79.9%	82

The Defence — Iakovou's Command

Konstantinos Iakovou is the standout defender — 551 passes at 86.0% accuracy in 13 appearances, the team's most reliable distributor. He plays exclusively at centre-back and rarely loses the ball (81 losses vs 111 recoveries). His composure on the ball sets the tone for the team's central build-up.

Ioannis Koukos partners Iakovou at centre-back with similar passing reliability (85.6% accuracy from 284 passes in 13 apps). The pair complement each other well — Iakovou as the primary ball-player, Koukos as the more defensively oriented partner. **Michalis Kattou** (8 apps, 83.0% pass accuracy) provides quality depth at centre-back and occasionally operates in midfield.

The Full-Backs — Workhorses with Risk

Pavlos Adamou (LB, 14 apps) is an ever-present but a significant ball-loss liability — 163 ball losses, the third-highest on the team. His passing accuracy of 64.9% is concerning for a full-back in a possession-oriented system. He recovers the ball frequently (108) and contributes 16 tackles, but the turnovers are a consistent source of danger.

Antonis Aravis (RB, 11 apps) and **Christos Therapontos** (who alternates between RB and LB, 14 apps) share right-back duties. Aravis offers more creativity (16 key passes, 2 assists) but also loses the ball at a high rate (150 losses in 11 apps). Therapontos is more conservative (71.4% pass accuracy, 9 key passes) and provides reliable defensive cover.

The Midfield — Stability and Recovery

Andreas Zembylas is the midfield anchor — 14 appearances, 131 recoveries (team-high), 21 tackles (team-high). He alternates between central midfield and defensive midfield, providing the platform for the team's build-up. His 73.4% pass accuracy and 2 assists suggest competence rather than creativity.

Ioannis Nikolaou (DM, 10 apps) is arguably the most technically secure midfielder — 84.9% pass accuracy from 291 passes, with 84 recoveries and just 46 ball losses. When available, he provides a calming presence in front of the defence.

Stavros Tsigaridis (13 apps) is the most versatile midfielder, splitting time between central midfield and left wing. With 1.88 xG and 1.42 xA from 13 apps, he has the underlying numbers to contribute more to the attack — his single goal from 22 shots represents a significant underperformance.

Rotation Players

Angelos Viallouris (12 apps, 2 goals, 1 assist) provides depth across the right wing and central midfield with a tidy 78.9% pass accuracy. **Argyros Stavriniadis** (12 apps, 3 goals) serves as a backup forward with a reasonable 1.62 xG. **Demetris Xiourouppas** (5 apps, 1 goal, 2 assists) and **Athos Kounounis** (4 apps as CB, 2 goals) offer depth but limited sample sizes.

11. Tactical Shape and Style

Omonoia's formation data is recorded as UNKNOWN in the system, but the positional data reveals a clear structure. The team operates with a back four (Iakovou and Koukos/Kattou as centre-backs, Adamou at left-back, Aravis/Therapontos at right-back), a midfield pivot (Zembylas and Nikolaou), an attacking midfielder (Epiphaniou), and a fluid front three (Anagiotos and Sozou rotating across all three forward positions, with Tsigaridis, Viallouris, or Stavriniadis as the third forward).

The system is best described as a **1-4-2-1-3** or **1-4-2-3-1** depending on Epiphaniou's positioning — he operates as a classic number 10, sitting between the lines and connecting midfield to attack. The front three interchange freely, which is both a strength (unpredictability) and a potential weakness (positional discipline).

Ball Possession and Recovery Profile

Zone	Recoveries	% of Total
Defensive third	582	40.7%
Middle third	501	35.0%
Attacking third	347	24.3%

The recovery profile shows a team that wins the ball back across all three zones but is most active in the defensive third — consistent with a mid-block defensive shape that relies on counter-pressing in advanced areas when opportunities arise.

Discipline

Omonoia are among the most disciplined teams in the league — just **8 yellow cards and 0 reds** from 14 analysed matches (0.6 yellows/M, 6th in the league). This is a credit to the team's playing style — they compete aggressively through pressing and counter-pressing rather than through physical challenges.

12. Strategic Summary and Priorities

What Omonoia U16 Do Well

1. **Clinical finishing** — 20.7% conversion rate (1st in the league). Even allowing for regression, the team's shot selection and finishing quality are genuine strengths worth nurturing.
2. **Counter-pressing** — 12.1 counter-interceptions per match (1st). The team's ability to immediately recover the ball after losing it is a tactically sophisticated and repeatable skill.
3. **Central creativity** — Epiphaniou's 34 key passes and 13 assists, combined with the team's central build-up preference, create a coherent and identifiable attacking identity.
4. **Second-half performance** — The team maintains or improves its output after half-time, suggesting good fitness and effective coaching interventions.
5. **Discipline** — 0.6 yellows per match with no red cards. The team competes fairly and avoids unnecessary suspensions.

What Needs to Improve

1. **xG overperformance (56%) is unsustainable** — The team scores 50 goals from 32 xG. When this regresses — and the season dip suggests it already is — the team needs better chance creation to compensate.
2. **Final-third pass accuracy (52.0%)** — Lowest among the top 7 teams. Nearly half of all passes in the final third fail, forcing the team to rely on volume and clinical finishing rather than precise combination play.
3. **Top-half performance gap** — 4.86 goals/M vs bottom half, 2.29 vs top half. The team is exposed against quality opponents who press effectively.
4. **Dual-striker dependency** — 62% of goals from two players. Zero goals from central midfield regulars. If Anagiotos or Sozou miss matches, the team has no alternative goal-scoring pathway.
5. **Full-back ball losses** — Adamou (163 losses) and Aravis (150 losses) are turnover liabilities. In a central build-up system, losing possession in wide areas can create dangerous transitions for opponents.

Priority Recommendations

1. Improve final-third combination play (Training priority: HIGH)

- Design 4v3 and 5v4 overload exercises in the final third with emphasis on first-time passing and off-the-ball movement.
- Target: increase final-third pass accuracy from 52.0% to 56%+.
- Benefit: higher xG from the same number of attacks, reducing dependence on clinical finishing.

2. Diversify goal-scoring (Training priority: HIGH)

- Set explicit goal involvement targets for midfielders — Tsigaridis (1.88 xG, 1 goal), Zembylas (0.61 xG, 0 goals), and Yiallouris (2.68 xG, 2 goals) should all be arriving in the box more frequently.
- Practise late runs from deep positions during crossing and cutback situations.
- Target: at least 20% of team goals from non-forwards.

3. Set-piece investment (Training priority: MEDIUM)

- Develop 3-4 rehearsed corner routines and 2-3 direct free-kick set plays.
- Current return: ~1 goal per 7 analysed matches from set pieces.
- Target: 1 set-piece goal per 3 matches, adding 3-4 goals across a full season.

4. Address opening-minute vulnerability (Training priority: MEDIUM)

- Focus on match-start intensity — structured pressing from the first whistle.
- The 0-15 minute window (5 for, 5 against) is the only period where the team does not dominate.
- Target: concede 0 goals in the first 15 minutes in 80%+ of remaining matches.

5. Full-back passing under pressure (Training priority: MEDIUM)

- Dedicated passing-under-pressure drills for Adamou and Aravis/Therapontos.
- Reduce ball losses from full-back positions by 15-20%.
- Consider Nikolaou (84.9% pass accuracy) as an occasional pressure-release option in the build-up.

Methodology

This report analyses 14 of 19 matches played by Omonoia U16 in the Cyprus U16 League Division 1 during the 2025/2026 season. Event data was not available for Rounds 5, 8, 9, 15, and 19. All per-match metrics are calculated from the 14 analysed matches only. League standings are sourced from the official CFA website (cfa.com.cy) and reflect all 19 rounds.

Per-match rates are used throughout for cross-team comparisons, as teams have varying numbers of analysed matches (ranging from 9 to 17). Raw totals are used only for ratios, percentages, and individual player statistics where the number of appearances is stated.

Report produced for the Omonoia U16 Technical Staff Cyprus U16 League Division 1 | Season 2025/2026 Based on 14 of 19 matches analysed | Data current to Round 18