

This game is played by two of the most powerful soccer countries in the world. They have accumulated 9 World Cup Championships between them.

The game starts off with Brazil attacking constantly for the first couple of minutes trying to get that first goal, Italy settles down after those couple of minutes and start their attack instead of just defending. In the fourth minute an Italian midfielder from his own half plays a long ball into the penalty area where an Italian defender who had made a overlapping run receives the ball and volleys his shot for a goal, this goal was not allowed, because the player was offside. After that situation occurred it seemed like Brazil picked their game up to another level. This wasn't just going to be a regular friendly game; this was about two countries that didn't want to lose.

The game started to pick up in the pace and technical ability of the players. In the 13th minute of the game Ronaldinho receives a pass in the Italian half on receiving that pass he turns makes a pass to Elano who is making a diagonal run in front of the penalty area, upon receiving the pass Elano one touches the ball back to Robinho and keeps making his run into the penalty area, Robinho then plays a ball behind the Italian defenders where Elano receives the ball and on his second touch plays the ball over the keeper for the first goal of the game.

Now that the first goal had been scored the game picked up again for both sides with Brazil trying to score again as quick as possible and the Italians who are trying to get the next goal and tie the game. During the time before the next goal is scored both teams displayed some wonderful skills with the ball, with great combination play, individual skills all at a high level, and the defenders for both teams never gave up much space to play. However the second goal that Brazil scored was just a great individual play by a great player, the second goal starts with the Italians who are attacking and win a corner from that corner Brazil clear the ball and start a quick counter-attack, the ball is played wide to Ronaldinho at the penalty area who receives and then crosses the ball, the ball is played behind his attacking teammates and a Italian defender gets the ball and is to relaxed on the ball, this is where the magic starts Robinho then side steps the Italian player and takes the ball away from him and turns into the penalty area to penetrate and score, but he has two defenders between him and the goal, so he decides to pull a double scissors move and then play the ball to his left foot and shoot to the far post and he scores. That was just a moment of sheer brilliance.

The second half started with the Italian team making four changes to the starting line up, which I assume was their way of saying to the Brazilians here we come. The Brazil team didn't make any changes as guess feeling comfortable with a 2 – 0 lead. The Italian team started the second half of play attacking the Brazilians often and they were starting to get behind the Brazil defenders, the Italians created two really good chances in this half, the first was when they played a long ball to Rossi who receives the ball takes a few

dribbles and then sends a pass to Toni who receives the ball on his chest in the penalty area with two defenders draped all over him, he turns shoots and scores, the AR then calls for a handball, again the Italians are foiled. The best attempt came later on again Rossi plays a give and go, the ball is played a little to long so he has to chase the ball before it goes over the end line, he gets there in time and cuts the ball back to the 6yd box, where Toni is making his run towards the goal he one touches the pass on goal but the Brazilian keeper comes up with a big save and leaves Toni holding his head. This game continued to keep a good rhythm of play but no more goals were scored.

There are many things to take away from this game.

1. Play was kept simple most of the time
2. Combinations played in open areas and tight spaces
3. Players moving without the ball
4. Technical skills / moves

If youth players practice these things their game will become much better. Spending time with the ball and becoming comfortable with it will help your game. Take advantage of the time indoors practicing your technical skills/moves.