

LEGENDS 212

Chapter 212: Taca de Portugal Finals 2020 IV

#64th minute...

Luis Diaz cut in from the left wing and exchanged the ball with Otavio in a smoothly executed one-two-pass routine to break past the Benfica defense before he finally sent a grounded cross into the 18-yard box.

The ball rolled towards Moussa Marega at a fast pace, however, Marega did not just waste time standing around for the ball to get to him, but instead drew closer to the path of the ball and immediately swung hard at the ball as soon as the ball was within range of his feet.

Aiming for the Benfica goal, the ball thundered off his foot, but before making it past three yards it collided with the outstretched leg of a Benfica player who had gotten in the way of the shot at the last moment.

{Deflected!}

{A last-ditch effort to protect his team's dreams has been duly rewarded!} The commentator said as the ball flew out of play after being deflected off the Benfica defender's leg.

Marega had his hand on his head and looked like he had just swallowed something bitter after seeing his efforts result in nothing, but he didn't dwell on it for too long since his team had to take a corner and he was one of the more physically blessed among his teammates, thus he would be in the thick of the battle for the ball when it was sent flying in.

The corner was taken quickly, but Porto wasn't able to gain anything from the corner and the ball ended up being sent back to midfield.

Benfica then took control of the ball and started pushing the Porto team back with strategic passes until a final ball was somehow sent flying behind Porto's back line from the right side of the field.

Everyone's hair stood on end when they saw Carlos Vinicius somehow get his leg on the ball in front of the goal and take a shot at the Porto goal.

However, the ball flew completely off target due to Vinicius' poor touch to get the ball under control but before the Benfica players and fans could begin groaning in agony at blowing a goal-scoring opportunity, the referee's whistle went off.

The assistant referee's flag was raised and he flagged Carlos Vinicius for offside which meant that even if the ball had ended up in the back of the net, it wouldn't mean anything as the goal would be canceled.

Soon the replay of the pass appeared on the screen and the Benfica striker was shown to be clearly offside when the pass was made which explained why he was so free in the first place.

The Porto players didn't have the benefit of watching the replay, but they didn't really need to as the match was already about to continue.

On the sidelines, the board went up to signify a substitution and Fabio Viera stood on the sidelines warming up while Luis Diaz began walking to the sidelines as the board signified that he would be coming off for Viera.

After the substitution was concluded, Augustin Marchesin sent the ball flying back into the field and the ball was heavily contested by players of both teams as play continued.

The ball was sent back and forth for a while, but Porto soon regained their attacking vigor and once again began pressing hard.

Soon they got the ball back once again and tried to launch an attack, but their attack fell short when Otavio made a pass that was too long for Soares to catch and a Benfica defender ended up sending it back to the goalkeeper instead.

The goalkeeper rushed out to meet the ball and tried to kick it back into the middle of the field with a powerful drive, but he miskicked and the ball didn't end up going too far away from the box, but it still almost reached the middle of the field.

As the ball came back downward, Marega out-jumped his marker to reach the ball first and sent the ball towards Tiquinho Soares who was nearby.

Adding a bit of Brazilian flair to his first touch, Soares brought the ball under control and sent the ball toward the left wing where Fabio Viera was.

Running to meet the ball, Viera brought the ball under control and slowly started advancing towards the box, not able to dash forward recklessly because of the Benfica player blocking his path.

As he slowly moved the ball while making various movements to keep the defender on guard, Viera suddenly saw a blue and white shadow running in from the right wing and he didn't hesitate to follow his instinct and send a chip pass into Benfica's 18-yard box.

Before the Benfica player could begin wondering who Viera was passing the ball to, Jason dashed past the last Benfica defender after the ball and approached the incoming ball that was dipping towards him.

Slowing his pace so he could match the perfect timing, Jason watched the ball advance towards him as if in slow mode, and once he was in range, he immediately swung his right foot hard, catching the ball mid-air and unleashing a powerful volley at the Benfica goal.

The Benfica goalkeeper immediately jumped in the direction of the airborne ball, but he couldn't reach and the ball smashed past his outstretched palm before slamming into the bottom left corner.

Watching the ball nestle comfortably into the back of the net, Jason immediately took off down the sidelines before jumping into a powerslide with his right index finger pointed at the side of his head, but as he slowly came to a stop, he folded his two palms under his armpit in a recognizable posture.

{And he catches it on the volley! Goal!!!}

{Minute 69 and Porto have slammed themselves into the lead once again with a magnificent goal!}

{It's him again! Jason Rose!}

{Loved by the ladies and tormentor of his opponents!}

{He has once again shown his thorny sides and has done it in glorious style!}

{His teammates are ecstatic, the manager dumbfounded, the fans delirious!}

{With magnificent performances matching the all-time greats game after game, he is giving football fans a new name to add to their list of potential greats!}