GOALS:

X’s goal illuminating the occasion
What a goal!
What an effort
An absolute stunner
Tremendous Strike
What a Wonder-strike!
X with an absolute show-stopper!
X!! Lifeline! (If team trailing but pulls one back)
X!!! GAME ON!
X slips it in!
X Flicks it in
FEROCIOUS STRIKE
X! Emphatic Finish!
X! it was a devastating Finish
X!!! What about that?!
World Class Finish!
That is Top Class!
Top Drawer Stuff
Struck with plenty of venom
Absolutely Ruthless
X minute and TEAM is 2 goals to the good
A simple finish for a player of his caliber
X announces his/her arrival in real style
Finished with a flourish by X!
TEAM IS RAMPANT
TEAM IS RUNNING RIOT
X! Well they have some hope restored (If team trailing but pulls one back)
X!! Lifeline! (If team trailing but pulls one back)
X! Hope restored! (If team trailing but pulls one back)
X (GOALKEEPER NAME) was beaten comprehensively
X!-- Taking her time and Finding the net!
Beautifully measured header
(If A Good strike)... X! ASTONISHING!!!
Pin point precision personified
That could be just the shot in the Arm that TEAM needs
The TEAM hold all the Aces now
X Bundles it over the line!
X Forces it home!
It trickles in!!!
It rolls in!
Shots:

X GOES FOR GLORY!!
X! It’s a sweetly struck volley
X Fires It
X Wants to have a go
X Sent her shot fizzing towards goal
X Steps into one
X Looking to bend one
Good Hit!
Well Struck
Sweetly struck
X rising to meet it! (HEADER)
X climbs the ladder! (HEADER)
Half a chance!
X encouraged to shoot
The shot is on... and its taken by X
A blazing effort from X
The Crossbar saves TEAM
Its a lovely attempt by X
X with the Long Shot just to see if GOALIE NAME was paying attention
X can hit it-- she's not closed down
X Trying to guide it towards the upper corner
It wasn’t far away
GOALKEEPER is looking to join the select band of goal-scoring keepers
XX going for goal!!
IS THIS THE MOMENT?!
Deflected shot yields a TEAM CORNER
XX trying to pull a rabbit out of a hat really (ON A SPECULATIVE EFFORT)
X LETS IT GO!
X invited to have a go!
X LETS IT FLY!
X UNLOADS
X goes for the Curler!
IT’S THERE TO BE HIT!
X Invited to shoot!
X looking for something special here!

Resource courtesy of Marc Serber, San Diego Sockers
Missed Shots:

X’s shot Skewing away from goal
X! shot cannons off the crossbar
X! Flashes it Just wide
It was X with the effort
(If just wide) that shot looked useful
XX! (shoots weakly).. Couldn’t Generate the power
XX couldn’t make an effective connection
X Couldn’t get proper contact
The shot was always dragging well wide of the mark
Speculative effort at best from X
X on the shot! Couldn’t control it
X didn’t get a hold of the shot
X to try his/her luck! Couldn’t get any purchase in the shot
No one can force the ball home in a TEAM Jersey
XX! it’s there to be hit
It sat up nicely for her/him
X almost latched onto it
X! Off target...
X scuffs his/her shot
That effort had GOALKEEPER’S NAME interested
Not enough to trouble GOALKEEPER’S NAME
XX Tried to curl it-- got it wrong
XX didn’t have his/her shooting boots on there
Header wasn’t up to scratch
Another chance for TEAM but they still can’t kill this game off
XX!!— Couldn’t convert
Blistering attack from TEAM! (if misses) but no end product
XX was lurking (If just misses a cross)
XX! Needed a softer touch
XX! Couldn’t quite catch it the way he/she wanted
XX! (on a missed shot)-- S/he doesn’t do the business
The Deflection took the sting out of it
X from Sanchez
It trickles just wide!/ Flashes just wide!
SAVES: (GK= Say GK’s NAME)

GK was there
No way past GK
SHOOTER testing the Wits of GK
GK able to deal with it effectively
GK went to the extreme of her penalty area (When gets ball top of box)
After a good punch out-- GK Decisive
GK had to be agile
Good reactions from GK
GK got down well
GK did his/her thing
GK at Full Stretch
GK punches to safety
GK Fists it clear
GK saw it extremely late
GK had to react!
SHOOTER trying to find the corner!--- GK had other Ideas
That is a howler of the highest order (ON A BAD MISTAKE)
GK had cement shoes (when GK doesn’t move)
GK Just pushes it past the post
Right into the bread basket of GK
GK is alert
GK Had to be alert
Beaten away by GK
Palmed away by GK
Pawed away by GK
It was creeping in... GK did well!
Claimed by GK
It was arrowing in but GK did well to get a touch
GK decides to Punch
GK elects to punch
GK is equal to the task
GK is Barking instructions
GK is a boss in that area
saved by the Goalkeepers best friend (When ball hits post)
SAVES: (GK= Say GK’s NAME)

The goalkeeper was saved by his/her best friend
GK takes it cleanly
Great Save thanks to their ELASTIC goalkeeper!
GK Had to apply gloves!
Quick reactions from GK
That’s smart goalkeeping
Stunning save! Tremendous save!
Smart save from GK
The shot of X stinging the gloves of GK
**DEFENSE:**

Cut out by X  
That’s easier to defend  
STRIKER crowded out in the end  
Crunching challenge  
X made a bit of a mess of that but Y was there to sort it out for him/her  
Shot is charged down by X  
nicked away  
Snuffed out by X  
Useful tackle  
Every road is turning into a cold-a-sac for the ATTACKING TEAM  
Brilliant piece of defensive work  
Textbook defending by X  
DEFENDER policing ATTACKER (X policing Y)  
DEFENDER harrying ATTACKER  
Stellar challenge by X  
Away by X (When a player clears the ball)  
Very well played by X to shut the door  
X is the cornerstone of the defense  
The mass ranks of the swarming defense  
dogged defending there by X  
DEFENDER to marshall ATTACKER  
After a good tackle.... It was X who was waiting for him/her  
Stern resistance from the TEAM (from the Dutch)  
X and Y conspire to clear  
X able to cut off the pass at the expense of a corner  
X with the clear but at the expense of the corner  
X HOOFS it clear  
X (if he just smashes it out) taking the safest route  
X able to get it away at the 2nd time of asking  
the cross cut out by X  
X fetching (retrieving a loose ball)  
ATTACKER lost out that time to DEFENDER  
X Intervenes  
ATTACKERS Gets past first base but not the second man/woman  
X shows impressive speed on the recovery run

Resource courtesy of Marc Serber, San Diego Sockers
DEFENSE:

The DEFENSIVE TEAM have managed to close all avenues
Panic defending!
Its very important defensive work by X
The defense was rocking there
X takes up a decent covering position
X Scrambles away
Scooped away by X
Neither defense was watertight
X- sticking to his/her task dutifully
X Skied her clearance
X picks up the pieces
X Seizes on the loose ball
X (on a block) FLINGING HERSELF AT THE BALL
Its swallowed up by the wall (Free kick into wall)
the wall had firm foundations (Free kick into wall)
the wall was well constructed (Free kick into wall)
It was an awkward but effective challenge from X
X gets there but at the expense of the corner
DEFENSIVE TEAM (The Dutch) was able to deal with it
After defensive play; Attacker was watched very carefully by Defender
A chance to grab a breather for the beleaguered defenders
Across came X and necessarily so
Resolute defending
X back to tidy up
Here's ATTACKER (defender wins the ball) not this time
_Instead of “well positioned” you can say ”well stationed”_
TEAM (the English) dealt with it
It’s a good ball in but TEAM (the English) dealt with it (on a cross)
The stifling presence of DEFENDER
X seizes the loose ball
ATTACKER Pursued well by DEFENDER
X stands her ground
ATTACKER looses out
X nearly made a rye hash of it (on a nervy defensive play)
When someone loses the ball--- X is in trouble
X picks up the pieces
It's X who takes command
X snapping at his/her ankles
Well marshaled by X
X keeps snapping at his/her ankles
X mops it up
X sees the danger
The COLOR OF DEFENSIVE TEAM (red) shirts converge
X has tracked her run
Well watched and dealt with by X
Repelled again by X
X tidies up
X is the auxiliary defender
DEFENDER hunting down ATTACKER
DEFENDER hunted ATTACKER down
They’re swarming here, England (NAME OF TEAM ON DEFENSE)
(When player wins the ball) Attacker caught by Defender
X/TEAM wins it back
Cross repelled by X
ATTACKER dispossessed by DEFENDER
X has her/his pocket picked
DEFENDER picks her/his pocket
ATTACKER shepherded by DEFENDER
DEFENSIVE TEAM (The English) are Resting on the ropes a little
(When going back on D)— THE TEAM (The Koreans) must retreat once more
Someone eventually had to take charge and X did
X beaten to the punch by Y (when one player gets to the ball before another)
The Door slammed Shut
And the chase is on here! Can X win it?!
Well the TEAM (the Korean) defense aren’t getting the message
Crucial intervention by X
X with a vital clearance
X with a vital touch
X hooks it clear
PASSING:

TEAM will Hit the reset button
Badly weighted ball
nice passing movement-- beautifully done this
You can see what the idea was
Well you can see the gears turning in X’s head
X Was looking for the little flick on
(Bad pass) That’s careless
(When a move breaks down) The move peters out
X finds Y
Unbroken string of possession
Just one pass to many in the end
X just a little of kilter with his/her pass
X picks out Y
X has contented himself/herself with simple passes
X Guiding.guides it back to her/his keeper
X can act as the release valve (player in support or usually GK)
There’s nothing to hit in the middle-- X is going to have to turn out again
Too much on that pass by X
Decent ball by X
X Put it on a dime... Perfectly placed
Positive move this
TEAM trying to pass through the TEAM at the moment
X helps it on to Y
X pushes it forward for Y
X a little touch on for Y
X sprays it out wide
X needs to find her/his radar
X Conducting the orchestra
Y the brains of this TEAM (Japan) side
Helped on by X
They (or England) need(s) to get the ball into the vital areas
Nicely worked that by TEAM (Japan)
X TRYING to release Y
X Releases Y!

Resource courtesy of Marc Serber, San Diego Sockers
PASSING:

X plays it into the path of Y
TEAM is doing well to Spray it around the park
X strokes the ball for Y
If one door is closed they don’t mind recycling back- TEAM
Pinged in by X
Fizzed in by Y
X-- Orchestrating
X is controlling the rhythm of the game for TEAM
X is pulling the strings in midfield
X, Poking & Prodding at the seams of the TEAM (English) defense
X, clever ball
X drilled in a perfectly weighted ball for Y
Wonderful interplay
X nestles the ball forward for Y
X has been a constant outlet for TEAM on the Right/Left- Near/Far side
X couldn’t smuggle it through
X smuggles it through
X slips it though
X slides it through
Sweeping move from TEAM
Another piercing ball
X tries to squeeze it through
CROSSING/FREE KICKS:

(if a good ball is played in and missed) It deserved better
X it into the danger area
It wasn’t the greatest delivery in truth
X puts it into the melting pot
(on a dead ball) X, Y, and Z are the main Characters in this plot
X is the main protagonist in this plot
Pinpoint cross
What a cross that is
Cross right on the money
X hovering over the dead ball
X pumps one in (on a cross)
X fizzes it in!
X pings it in
X looking to set the table!
Curled in between the last defenders and the goalkeeper
X pulling/pulls it into an interesting position
(when the ball bounces in the box) It’s up for grabs!
If a good ball into the box just yell “THAT’S USEFUL!”
X slides its across
The box is very congested and crowded
Not an effective pass/ball/corner kick
Not the best cross s/he’s ever hit
Here we go again-- another set piece-- X Taking charge
Good corner from X!
(Free Kick/Corner/ Long Throw) A chance for the center halves to get forward
The heavy artillery coming forward for TEAM (the English)
The Calvary is coming up from the back
Cross just too tall for X!
X dinks it across goal
X is popping up all over the field
Low drive comes in! And its inches away from X!
It was an inquisitive cross
When ball bouncing around (Still might be something on for TEAM!!--DONT JUST SAY BALL BOUNCING IN THE BOX

CROSSING/FREE KICKS:

X the target
It goes in dangerously and there were no takers!!
X looking to set the table
X puts it into the danger area!
X whipping the ball into an interesting position
X plays it into the corridor of uncertainty
X Measuring it!
DRIBBLING/CREATING SPACE:

X- Looking to pierce the armor around the penalty area
X is In the mood to put on a few party tricks
Plenty of tricks in his/her arsenal
Great technique
X Looking to wrong foot the defender
X Looking for that invention around the edge of the box
X or the TEAM is knifing through the defense
X Waltzing through the defense
X is carving open this defense with surgical precision
X Twisting/Turning
X Invited to go at the gap
X Looking to engineer a bit of space
Fantastic work from X
TEAM is carving them open almost at will
X Swivels on the ball
X Gliding through the heart of the defense
X glides through the midfield
X Motors her/his way through
X Arrowing his/her way in
X Goes the outside route
X trying to dance her/his way clear with the ball
X-- Such a willing runner on that far side
X-- s/he’s forward again here
X- Venturing Forward (usually a defender)
X Jumping into the attack (Usually a defender)
X Joining the attack (usually a defender getting forward)
TEAM is making waves
Running at pace is X
X has Plenty of grass to Gallop into
X MAY HAVE TOO MUCH PACE FOR (Y) DEFENDER!!!
X dicing his/her way through the midfield
X will take on Y (DEFENDER)
Couldn’t manufacture the touch
Some foraging work there
X, A LITTLE PIROUETTE FROM Her/him
DRIBBLING/CREATING SPACE:

X-- Right down the throat/heart of the (OPPOSING TEAM) defense
X chiseling away on the flank
X continues to show his/her attacking metal
X trying to muscle his/her way through
X fending off Y (DEFENDER)
Another piercing run
And here comes X
S/he had more time then S/he realized
X slipped at the most inopportune of moments
X Maurads forward
X darts towards the area
X seizes the initiative
S/he’s covered every blade of grass, X
X eats up ground
X Motors forward
X, Exerting pressure
S/he’s a willing runner, X
X dicing with danger
Just about checked his/her balance- X
TEAM is trailing 1-0-- X- trying to do something about it
Wonderful skill from X
X weaves her way around Y (DEFENDER)
X carrying forward
X sizing up Y (DEFENDER)
Trickery/wizardry
X skips by Y
X marches forward
X advancing
X turns immediately-- full of intent!
X carving them open
X done by Miyazowa
X advancing down the left/right
X bearing down on goal
X Tormenting Y (DEFENDER)
On a trap-- well taken by X

Resource courtesy of Marc Serber, San Diego Sockers
DRIBBLING/CREATING SPACE:

X has been electrifying
X- Electrifying in full flight!
X on the move
Its the searing pace of X
X Bursting forward
X-- Still a willing runner on this side
X-- s/he’s enjoying herself/himself
X sticking with it and earning the corner
X in traffic/trouble tries to Negotiate his/her way out of it
X gets on his/her bike
X snakes past Y
X has plenty of tricks in his/her arsenal
Oh lovely invention from X
A great piece of improvisation from X
X Has a seam
X Saunters forward

Resource courtesy of Marc Serber, San Diego Sockers
BREAK/COUNTER-ATTACK/Getting UP:

This is a potentially menacing break (ON a good break) REAL PROMISE HERE! AND TEAM COULD BE IN BUSINESS
It all fizzes out for TEAM (the Japanese)
The break is well and truly on here... but they waste that The break is on here
TEAM, Building again... X...
unrelenting pressure from TEAM
Here comes TEAM (The Dutch) again
This is a good surge forward Promising here for TEAM
X rekindles the attack TEAM is attacking with gusto
X is taking the game by the scruff of the neck TEAM is really turning the screw***
Can they find an end product to all of this X Ghosting in! Can they turn it into something productive
SUBSTITUTIONS:

TEAM (The U.S.) is preparing fresh legs
COACH is about to hit the switch on his/her second change
It’s X whose going to leave us
Y goes off to warm applause
Another throw of the dice for COACH
It’s X who gets first entrance from the bench
It’s X who’s number is up-- s/he’s done the business
It’s X who’s going to come off- s/he’s done her bit
It’s the final shuffle of the pack for TEAM (the Koreans)

Giving the ball away/self destruct:

The bounce deceiving X
X showed to much of it to Y
X couldn’t get it out of her feet
A bit too casual
That was careless
Heavy touch by X
you can’t afford to give gifts away
It was a self inflicted wound
A comedy of errors
Shambles... wasn’t it
X was caught out for pace
A Decent position goes to waste for the TEAM
TEAM (The French) were almost the architect of their own downfall
TEAM (The English) hit/push the self-destruct button
TEAM (The Koreans) are in absolute shambles at the back
TEAM was opened up
It goes from bad to worse for X and TEAM
it was really a self inflicted wound for TEAM
Plenty to consider for Coach— his/her side have been second best
The TEAM with it all to do!
Well the TEAM defense isn’t getting the message

Resource courtesy of Marc Serber, San Diego Sockers
REFEE:

Yellow Card is administered to X
X goes into the referee’s notebook
X forces the referee to reach for his pocketbook once again
It’s a puzzling decision
Corner the verdict
X goes for a tumble! The referee unimpressed
Referee not impressed
Referee not interested
Protest falls on deaf ears
Referee deciding that X had no case for a free kick

IS s/he (the ref) going to give a free kick or the penalty/a yellow or a red?? It’s the latter!

The Referee brandishes the yellow card

POSITIONING:

X Shaping out to this Right Hand side
X Switches Flanks
X is sniffing around here!

OFFSIDE:

X has Strayed offside
X has gone too soon this time
X saw the flag up against her/him
X just a bit too quick out the starting gate
X Left the starting gate too soon
FOULS:

X the Recipient of the barge in the back there
X hit the turf
A Little suspicious
was s/he clipped there?
X thought it was a clean challenge but the referee begs to differ
That was a rash challenge by X
X went down under some duress
X clatters into her/him
S/he’s abused the rules again-- X
S/He keeps abusing the rules-- X
X bundled over by Y
The Referee was right on the scene

INJURIES:

Was s/he bundled over? S/he was certainly under some duress
X is laboring a bit at the moment

(When a player walking off injured but looks okay) say: That picture
looking promising for X

X pulled up lame
MISC:

X was prominent in the first half
S/He’s become a versatile performer, X
S/he’s a bit of a live wire, X
All the traffic early on in the direction of TEAM’S goal
TEAM is/are roaring back into contention
A lot to digest at halftime
Midfield melee
S/He may be the beneficiary of it
They’re growing into the game, TEAM
This games been a slugfest
Approaching the Xth minute
TEAM must withstand this early/period of pressure
Is the pendulum swinging?
The TEAM are finding their feet again
The Pendulum swinging both ways
s/he’s a nippy little character-- X
X plays with a real purpose
Deflects kindly for X
S/he’s showing that s/he’s willing to put in the work- X
Most of the traffic in the direction of TEAM’S goal early on
S/He looks in the mood— X
THE TEAM is looking to move up the gears
TEAM is in the driving seat
TEAM are on the Ropes

Resource courtesy of Marc Serber, San Diego Sockers
EVEN MORE:

It fizzed into the top corner
Marvelous goal
X with the effort
X! It’s a cracker!
Wonderful solo goal by X
It’s a brilliant individual effort
It’s a lovely solo goal
Fabulous!
What about that from X?!
It’s a super goal
Super strike!
rasping shot
X shows what he's got in his locker!
Scores a stunner
X has hauled them back into contention!
(After a goal with a team trailing) And that’s more like it from TEAM
(If a sub scores) Off the bench to wonderful effect!
It’s a dream start for team X and a disastrous one for team y
(If scores and is back in a match) There’s life and belief for TEAM!
(If team completes an astonishing comeback) TEAM ARE BACK FROM THE DEAD
It’s an emphatic finish!
X lights up the competition
X Tried to event something!
A blow to the point of the jaw of the TEAM
(2nd goal in quick succession) IN THE BLINIK OF AN EYE
(Goal to wrap up a win) — That seals the deal!
(Goal to wrap up a win) — X has polished TEAM Off
TEAM has liftoff!
Good delivery!
(PK Goal) Spot on from X!
This could be the moment!
Its turned in!
It’s crept in!
X HAS DONE IT FOR TEAM!
EVEN MORE:

X with a glorious ball
That is a superb finish from X
They've sliced them open
(X about to take a PK) X, a picture of concentration
KEEPER Plucks it out of the night sky
more assertively this time
X driving at Y
X has a pop
X has had a hit
KEEPER has made the save of the game so far
It took a while but they've broken the house down
Another decent save from KEEPER