

Brazil should have played better

While I am thrilled that Brazil has reached the quarter-finals by defeating Chile on Saturday, the fact is that Brazil barely scraped through to victory with a marginal one-goal lead in the penalty shoot-out (*Luiz Felipe Scolari warns Brazil they 'might not be so lucky' next time after Chile win, June 29*).

Having lived in Brazil for some years, I strongly support its team. Nevertheless, it lacked strategy. Throughout the game, Brazil was on the defensive. Chile was very aggressive and frequently had Brazil on the run.

The star striker Neymar was often left stranded without adequate support while trying to score a goal. A few times when he came under pressure from the Chilean defenders, he found nobody to pass the ball to. The Brazilians are relying on the brilliance of some team members like Neymar to steer them to victory. This is not enough.

Given the performance against Chile, Brazil will neither land in the finals, nor will it win the World Cup.

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Unexpected game



A reader expresses dismay over Brazil's lacklustre performance against Chile on Saturday. Ian Walton / Getty Images