## Topic: Finishing off of Crosses

| Organization | Variations/Principles | Diagram | Coaching Points |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Warm Up |  |  |  |
| Technical long passing work in groups of four, one ball between four. Stretch. | - Keep it innovative, demanding and realistic. <br> - Driven balls. <br> - Flighted balls. <br> - Bending balls. <br> - Make sure players strike moving balls versus stationary balls. | X X X | $\checkmark$ Body mechanics and technique <br> $\checkmark$ Body shape and balance <br> $\checkmark$ Preparation touch before striking <br> $\checkmark$ Angle of approach <br> $\checkmark$ Eye on the ball when striking |
| Exercise \#1 |  |  |  |
| 6 v $6+2$ with goalkeepers to two large goals ( $1 / 2$ field, full width and length, with "free" channels on the flanks). Neutral flank players play unopposed in the "free" channels and service crosses. | - Balls must be serviced by flank players to attacking team before going to goal. <br> - Goals scored off crosses are worth two, while goals scored during run of play are worth one. <br> - Progress to adding defensive pressure to the flanks once the ball has entered the flank channels. <br> - Be sure to use arced or bending channels which encourage proper tactical applications of technique. |  | $\checkmark$ Body shape and mechanics <br> $\checkmark$ Eye on the ball - read the flight of the ball <br> $\checkmark$ Body in line of flight with the ball <br> $\checkmark$ Area of contact (striking surface) <br> $\checkmark$ Use of upper body and legs to generate power <br> $\checkmark$ Proper timing of runs to |

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## Exercise \#3

8 v 8 with goalkeepers
to two large goals ( $3 / 4$ field, full length and width).

- Normal rules of soccer apply, with one exception: if the ball is played into a "free" corner zone, players are allowed to cross the ball unopposed. However, the ball must enter the zone prior to the player.
- If necessary, 6 v $6+2$ with goalkeepers. This may help to encourage numbers up in the attack.

| Exercise \#2 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7 v 7 with goalkeepers to two large goals ( $3 / 4$ field, full length and width). Add four <br> "free" corner zones ( 25 x 20 or as needed) to each corner of the field. | - Normal rules of soccer apply, with one exception: if the ball is played into a "free" corner zone, players are allowed to cross the ball unopposed. However, the ball must enter the zone prior to the player. <br> - If necessary, 6 v $6+2$ with goalkeepers. This may help to encourage numbers up in the attack. |  | $\checkmark$ Timing of runs <br> $\checkmark$ Deception of runs (i.e., near post runs to unbalance defending unit for far post attack) <br> $\checkmark$ Technique upon demand <br> $\checkmark$ Tactical application of technique <br> $\checkmark$ Willingness to attack with a purpose |
| Exercise \#3 |  |  |  |
| 8 v 8 with goalkeepers to two large goals ( $3 / 4$ field, full length and width). | - Possible formation 3:3:2 <br> - No restrictions |  | $\checkmark$ Coach within the game <br> $\checkmark$ All of the above |
| Cool Down |  |  |  |
| Players jog (dynamic movements). Stretch. | - Focus on major muscle groups. |  | $\checkmark$ Reduce Heart Rate <br> $\checkmark$ Static Stretching <br> $\checkmark$ Review Session |

