

## Topic: Finishing off of Crosses

Organization Warm Up	Variations/Principles	Diagram	Coaching Points
Technical long passing work in groups of four, one ball between four. Stretch.	<ul> <li>Keep it innovative, demanding and realistic.</li> <li>Driven balls.</li> <li>Flighted balls.</li> <li>Bending balls.</li> <li>Make sure players strike moving balls versus stationary balls.</li> </ul>	X X X	<ul> <li>✓ Body mechanics and technique</li> <li>✓ Body shape and balance</li> <li>✓ Preparation touch before striking</li> <li>✓ Angle of approach</li> <li>✓ Eye on the ball when striking</li> </ul>
Exercise #1			
6 v 6 + 2 with goalkeepers to two large goals (½ field, full width and length, with "free" channels on the flanks). Neutral flank players play unopposed in the "free" channels and service crosses.	<ul> <li>Balls must be serviced by flank players to attacking team before going to goal.</li> <li>Goals scored off crosses are worth two, while goals scored during run of play are worth one.</li> <li>Progress to adding defensive pressure to the flanks once the ball has entered the flank channels.</li> <li>Be sure to use arced or bending channels which encourage proper tactical applications of technique.</li> </ul>	6 v 6 + 2 with goalkeepers	<ul> <li>✓ Body shape and mechanics</li> <li>✓ Eye on the ball – read the flight of the ball</li> <li>✓ Body in line of flight with the ball</li> <li>✓ Area of contact (striking surface)</li> <li>✓ Use of upper body and legs to generate power</li> <li>✓ Proper timing of runs to ball and target areas</li> </ul>



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Exercise #2				
7 v 7 with goalkeepers to two large goals (¾ field, full length and width). Add four "free" corner zones (25 x 20 or as needed) to each corner of the field.	<ul> <li>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.</li> <li>If necessary, 6 v 6 + 2 with goalkeepers. This may help to encourage numbers up in the attack.</li> </ul>	³¼ Field	<ul> <li>✓ Timing of runs</li> <li>✓ Deception of runs (i.e., near post runs to unbalance defending unit for far post attack)</li> <li>✓ Technique upon demand</li> <li>✓ Tactical application of technique</li> <li>✓ Willingness to attack with a purpose</li> </ul>	
Exercise #3				
8 v 8 with goalkeepers to two large goals (¾ field, full length and width).	<ul> <li>Possible formation 3:3:2</li> <li>No restrictions</li> </ul>	<sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Field  9 v 9  The GAME	✓ Coach within the game ✓ All of the above	
Cool Down				
Players jog (dynamic movements). Stretch.	<ul> <li>Focus on major muscle groups.</li> </ul>		<ul><li>✓ Reduce Heart Rate</li><li>✓ Static Stretching</li><li>✓ Review Session</li></ul>	