Topic: Finishing Off Crosses II



Organization	Variations/Principles	Diagram	Coaching Points
Warm Up			
Technical heading work in pairs (server and header), one ball between two. Technical heading work in groups of three (two servers and one header), one ball between three. Stretch.	 Phase I: Start about 5 yards apart. Check away, return and head ball from server. Focus on the top ½ of the ball and head the ball "down". Rotate every 8-10. Rotate and repeat. Phase II: Check away, return and head ball to opposite server. Focus on redirecting the ball down and at an angle. Rotate and repeat. 	1. X• X X 2. X• X	 ✓ Body mechanics, shape and balance ✓ Eye on the ball – read the flight of the ball ✓ Body in line of flight with the ball ✓ Area of contact (striking surface) ✓ Upper body and legs to generate power
Phase I			
Two large goals with goalkeepers (36 x 65 area) with "servers" in each of the flank channels. Note: be sure to have plenty of balls for both servers in the flank channels.	 Flank players cross balls, focusing on various services (i.e., driven, flighted, in-swinger, out-swinger, cut-back on the ground, etc.). Target players begin without defenders, making both near and far post runs. Advance by adding defenders inside the area marking runners in the box (i.e., 2 v 0, 2 v 1, to 3 v 2). Award points for scoring out of the air (i.e., header or volley), and award defenders a point for clearances outside the 18 yard box. 	36 x 65 (Full Width) S / GK / GK / S	 Timing and angle of runs (i.e., near and far) Adjust starting position as ball travels Assess flight of the ball (i.e., driven, flighted, etc.) Always know where the goal is and follow the ball with your eyes after heading it Head balls down and at angles away from the goalkeeper

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Phase II			
5 v 5 + 2 with goalkeepers to two large goals (36 x 65 area with neutral channels). Neutral flank players play unopposed for team in possession and service quality crosses.	 Each team must stay in their own half of the field to begin. If the neutral player receives the ball in their defending half of the field, they must serve an early cross; if they receive the ball in the attacking half, they can penetrate to the end line. Pull the midfield line and allow free play, and then allow one defender to pressure the outside flank player once a ball is played into the channel. 	36 x 65 (Full Width) $ \begin{array}{c} $	 Aggressive and positive mentality to score Tactical application of technique: Direct ball on target (the goal) Teammate Path of teammate Deflect ball toward target
Phase III / Game			
8 v 8 with goalkeepers to two large goals (2/3 field or as needed)	 Possible formation 1:3:3:2 v. 1:3:2:3 No restrictions 	2/3 Field 9 v 9 The GAME	 ✓ Coach within the game ✓ All of the above
Cool Down			
Dynamic movements and static stretching.	Focus on major muscle groups.Reduce heart rate.		✓ Review Session

2