Topic: Improving Combination Play



Organization Unrestricted	Variations	Diagram	Coaching Points
8 v 4 (define area if necessary). Three teams of four, each team in a different color pinney or bib. Example: Red and Blue versus Yellow. Team losing possession transitions to defend. Stretch.	 Award goals for successful combination play (i.e., takeover, wall pass, double pass, short-short-long, overlap, etc.) and/or consecutive number of passes in possession (8-12). If necessary, limit number of touches in possession to encourage speed of play. Impose dribbling to commit a defender before passing and combining. 	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	 ✓ Body mechanics and general technique ✓ Proper weight and timing of pass ✓ Correct angel of support and timing of runs ✓ Verbal and visual communication ✓ Speed of play
Restricted Begin with two teams of six. 4 v 2 in the center zone with one target player in each outside zone (20 x 30 area or as needed). Note: center zone is larger than the two outside target zones.	 Team in possession attempts to get the ball from one end zone to the other as many times as possible. Center zone must play [at least] two passes before penetrating outside. Progress to target player serving the ball from a throw-in to feet, chest and head. Rotate teams based on points scored or time. 	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	 ✓ Correct attacking shape and balance ✓ Look for opportunities to combine and create numbers up in the attack ✓ Disguise and deception of pass and runs ✓ Be patient and let opportunities develop ✓ Tactical implications of technique (i.e., receiving)



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Two Goals with Zon	es		
6 v 6 with goalkeepers to two large goals with three zones (44 x 60 area or as needed). 4 v 4 in the middle zone and 1 v 1 in each attacking zone. Middle zone is about 24 yards and each attacking zone is 18 yards.	 Team in possession develops opportunities to combine with an attacking target player. Players cannot enter other zones until one of the following has been achieved: 1. linking with the target player; 2. Combination play has occurred; 3. a consecutive number of passes has been achieved (4-6). Double points are awarded for linking with the target player and combining for a goal. 	$\begin{array}{c} 60\\ yds. \end{array} \qquad X \\ \bullet \\ X \\ \bullet \\ O \\ X \\ A4 yds. \end{array}$	 ✓ Change in rhythm in possession to unbalance defending team shape ✓ Depth and width in the attack to create opportunities to combine and penetrate ✓ Quick and decisive transition from defending to attacking ✓ Assess safety and risk based on field position and support ✓ General decision making
Two Goals			
7 v 7 with goalkeepers to two large goals (50 x 70 or as needed).	Possible Formation 2:3:2.No restrictions.	70 yds. 8 v 8 The GAME 50 yds.	 ✓ Find ways to be creative and score ✓ All of the above
Cool Down		1 2	·
Players jog (dynamic movements). Stretch.	 Focus on major muscle groups. 		 ✓ Reduce Heart Rate ✓ Static Stretching ✓ Review Session