

Topic: U8-U10 Keeping the Ball

Organization	Variations	Diagram	Coaching Points
Fundamental			
Pirates. All players, except one (Pirate), with a ball (20 x 30 area or as needed). Technical dribbling exercise with Pirate(s) attempting to steal the ball from another. Stretch.	 All players, except one (Pirate), dribble to avoid losing the ball to a Pirate. If a Pirate steals a ball, the player losing possession then becomes the Pirate. Continuous. Add pressure by adding 2, 3, and then 4 Pirates to the exercise. Continuous. Add conditions, such as: left/right foot only, inside or foot, outside of foot, etc., to increase the dribbling demands of the exercise. 	X	 ✓ Ball control and manipulating the ball to avoid other players ✓ Develop change of speed and direction ✓ Keep your head up while maintaining vision of the ball, the players and field ✓ Intrinsic competition (self motivation)
Match Related 1			
Team knock-out! (20 x 30 area or as needed). Form two teams, one team is in the grid [each with a ball], the other team without a ball anywhere outside the grid.	 On the coaches' command, the players on the outside enter the grid and attempt to kick the player's balls out of the grid a quickly as possible. If a player's ball is kicked out, they support their teammates by receiving and passing to keep possession. Which team can keep the ball the longest? Rotate players on each team accordingly. 	X $O \cdot V \cdot O$ X $O \cdot V \cdot O$ X X	 ✓ Shield the ball. Keep the body between the ball and the challenging players ✓ Keep control of the ball, turn with it and accelerate to avoid challenging players ✓ Keep your head up to avoid opposition – vision ✓ Verbal and visual communication



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