



Description

Technical Circle (20 mins)

Set Up

Players create a circle with a 20 yard diameter

Make a 4x4 yard box in the middle of the circle

Instructions

Have 4 or 5 players start with a ball in the middle with the rest of the players around the outside of the circle. Players dribble through the box in the middle and perform a take-over with another player on the outside. The new player with the ball will then have to dribble through the box in the middle before going to another player for a take-over.

Coaching Points:

1. Proper dribbling technique with their laces
2. A take-over is when a player with the ball leaves the ball off their dribbling touch for their teammate to go the opposite direction. It is not a pass.
3. Accelerating with their first touch off the take-over

Progression skills:

1. Players perform a fake, scissors, or pull back in the center box
2. Players go through the center box and then pass to their teammate. Players should use proper passing technique using the inside of their foot.
3. Players pass to the outside and continue to move for a 1-2 combination. For this skill players stay in the middle the whole time so use 30 second intervals and then switch players. Players should not just go around in a circle
4. The player in the middle will pass to the outside, open up and receive a pass back then play the ball back to the same outside player running in. This is a 3 pass sequence unlike the 1-2 above.
5. Three man combination- for this progression only use 2 soccer balls to start. The player in the middle will pass to a player on the outside of the circle. The player on the outside then passes to another player to their right or left and then the ball is played back into the player in the middle. This is also an interval activity.
6. Short-short-long- The ball starts with players on the outside. Have 3 players in the middle and only three players on the outside should have a ball. Players from the middle check to a person on the outside and receive a short pass. They then lay it back to the person on the outside who then looks for a longer pass to a teammate on the other side of the circle. After passing the "long" pass that player should be in the middle.
7. Allow players all options so they must communicate through their combinations

Coaching Points:

1. When passing we want proper inside the foot passing technique. plant foot pointed towards the target, pendulum swing with the kicking foot, contact with the inside of the foot, follow through the ball
2. We need to pick our head up prior to passing so we know our teammate is ready for the pass
3. Can we communicate with our teammate by saying their name or using terms like take-over or 1-2
4. Use a positive first touch when receiving the ball using the inside of the foot
5. Positioning our body so we can provide a return pass with good technique



2v1 (20 mins)

Set Up

2 lines of attacking players about 30 yards from goal

1 line of defenders starting off the post

Instructions

One attacker starts with the ball and starts the play by dribbling towards goal. The attacking player in the line next to them joins in the attack. The defender may go when the attacker takes their first touch. If defenders win the ball can they find the coaches feet between the attacking lines.

Coaching points:

1. Can the attacking players combine using a take-over or 1-2 to beat the defender
2. Can the attacking player recognize when there is no pressure on them and continue dribbling
3. Use a positive first touch to move the ball in the direction you want to go. (this might not be to the goal)
4. Use proper passing and dribbling technique.

Progression:

1. Introduce an overlapping run by the attacker without the ball. For this the attacker runs around the player with the ball to the open space.
2. Start the attacking pairs at different areas across the field so they are attacking from different angles



3v2 (20 mins)

Set Up

- 2 outside lines 30 yards out
- 1 center line 20 yards out
- 2 lines for defenders off the post

Instructions

Same as before with defenders coming from the post. Dependant on the formation you play you can have your target start 20 yards out. If you play with 2 forwards have the center line start behind the forwards acting as a midfielder. The ball starts with one of the outside players everytime. We want players to try and combine using a take-over, 1-2, overlap, or three man combination when going to goal. Players get one point for each successful combination and one point for a goal. If the defenders win the ball can they find the coaches feet.

Coaching Points:

1. Everyone not running away from the ball
2. Proper passing and dribbling technique
3. Communicating with teammates when we want to do one of our combinations
4. Taking the space when a defender is not pressuring
5. Good first touch to set up our dribble or next pass
6. Take the defender away and chec back to the ball to combine



5v3 (15 mins)

Set Up

center midfielders start 40 yards out from goal and the remaining players should adjust appropriately for the formation they play

Instructions

Same as before with defenders coming from the post but adding a fourth player to utilize the diamond shape for attacking the goal. The ball starts with one of the outside players or central midfielders everytime. We want players to try and combine using a take-over, 1-2, overlap, three man combination, or short-short-long when going to goal. Players get one point for each successful combination and one point for a goal. If the defenders win the ball can they find the coaches feet.

Progression

1. Add a fourth defender

Coaching Points:

1. Always have a forward option and a supporting option
2. Proper passing and dribbling technique
3. Communicating with teammates when we want to do one of our combinations
4. Taking the space when a defender is not pressuring
5. Good first touch to set up our dribble or next pass
6. Taking the defender away and checking back to the ball to combine
7. Using our supporting midfielder to move the ball at angles instead of flat balls across the midfield

