LEARN TO TRAIN
Pre-Designed Practice Session Plans

## Overview

The Practice Session Plans in this package are provided to give you an idea on how to go about introducing basic soccer activities to the players you get to coach.

There are six practice sessions plans provided covering:

1. 1 v 1 Duels with Possession of the Ball
2. 1v1 Duels without Possession of the Ball
3. Exploiting Space to Maintain Possession
4. Exploiting Space to Regain Possession
5. Creating Scoring Chances
6. Preventing Scoring Chances

We'd encourage you to use the various games and activities to guide your application of the concepts shared in the Online Course(s). You will get an opportunity to try out some of these practice sessions during the on-field practical workshop that follow your online training.

1V1 DUELS WITHOUT THE BALL
Community Stream: Learn to Train

## Key Questions

## SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Primary: To create an environment that encourages players to regain possession in 1v1 situations.
- Secondary: Players will also be required to use searching skills to recognize and deny spaces and gaps.


## QUESTIONS FOR PLAYERS TO EXPLORE

- Who is the focus? The defender in a 1 v 1 situation.
- What is our objective? To deny progression of the ball and regain possession.
- Where on the field? 1v1 situations will occur everywhere on the field. Consider where on the field and the nature of urgency. Example: Are players in a position where they can score?
- When should a player attempt to win the ball in a duel? Identify a bad touch, players facing the wrong way and receiving a bad pass.
- Why will this help? To better understand moments to effectively win the ball and avoid getting off balance.
- How can you be successful? Reduce the space when you can, reduce options to exploit, anticipate and be alert, attempt to put yourself between the ball and the player when opportunity allows.
- Consider: Awareness (perceive), identify the problem (conceive), identify potential options (decide), how can you remove options (deny), carry out action (execute) \& assess whether it was successful (reflect)


## Physical Literacy Toolbox

## TRAVELLING MOVEMENTS



- Walking
- Running
- Jumping
- Hopping
- Skipping
- Backwards
- Side shuffle
- Crawling
- Rolling


## BALANCE MOVEMENTS

- One leg balance
- Landing
- Spinning
- Stopping
- Twisting
- Dodging


## Session Parts

## PART ONE: 1V1 WARM UP

- A fun activity that encourages players to react \& change direction in a 1 v 1 situation
- Players will also be required to use searching skills to recognize and deny spaces and gaps.


## PART TWO: 3v3 TO END ZONES

- This fun game allows players to explore a representative environment that has direction, teams and creates 1v1 situations.
- Players will also be required to use searching skills to recognize and deny spaces and gaps.


## PART THREE: 2v2 TO GOAL

- This activity encourages players to defend in a 2 v 2 scenario.
- Players will also be encouraged to explore the difference of defending near a goal.


## PART FOUR: 7v7 OR 9v9

- This game allows players to explore a representative game that has direction, teams and goals.


## CHALLENGE FOR HOME: DEFEND

- This is a fun activity encouraging players to develop 1v1 attacking and defensive skills.


## Managing the Environment

## FIELD AND EQUIPMENT

- Setup a space that is appropriate based on the needs \& number of players involved.
- Any activity that includes players scoring in a goal can be recreated by using two cones (goals are preferable).
- Any activity that includes a small target goal can be substituted with players as a target.


## PLAYERS

- If activities are illustrated as using less players, then in attendance, consider these solutions to keep players active:
- Multiple stations
- Third team (consider duration inactive)
- Resting players/Substitutions (consider duration inactive) can they juggle, 1v1, 2v1, etc.
- Tasking players - Example: Target player vs a target goal


## CONSTRAINTS/CONDITIONS

- Consider using \& exploring 'Constraints' or 'Conditions' to assist the players in making the session easier or more challenging. In the session examples, we will continue to use the language 'MAKE IT EASIER' \& 'MAKE IT HARDER'
- You can also use 'Constraints’ \& 'Conditions’ to invite players to solve specific problems with a repetition of actions or solutions. EXAMPLE: If you want players to dribble you can reward points to the opposition if they regain the ball intercepting a pass. This as a result does not over constrain the players choice but does create a risk vs reward scenario for the players to explore.
- COACH CONSIDER: Avoid telling players they 'cannot' perform a specific action or solution. All options should be made available with rewards or risk associated to it.


## OBJECTIVE

- RECOMMENDATION: 10X10 with eight players
- Red (attacker) attempts to run to either gate without being tagged by White (defender)
O. COACH CONSIDER: Adding two additional groups in the same space if players are waiting for long periods of time.

MAKEIT EASIER: Make the space smaller:
O. MAKE T HARDER: Make the space bigger OR Add a ball.


## OBJECTIVE

- RECOMMENDATION: $25 \times 25+5$ end zone with eight players in two teams.

0. 3v3 directional game to end zones. Players score a point by dribbling into the end zone.

- If a player passes to a teammate and it is intercepted by the opponents, the defending team gains a point. This will encourage players to search and explore dribbling opportunities creating 1 v1 situations but does not restrict the decision of a pass when it is available.

MAKE IT EASIER: Pair players up with someone on the opposition who they can only defend.


## OBJECTIVE

O. RECOMMENDATION: $20 \times 12$ for $9-10$ players.

- 2 V 2 directional wave activity with two attackers (Red) attempt to score against the two defenders (White) and goalkeeper.
-. Once the ball is secured by the defenders or goalkeeper, or the ball goes out of play, the next pair of attackers drive in. The original attackers return to the starting position to wait for their next turn.
Two designated defenders work for a set period of time.
Q. COACH CONSIDER: The coach should be involved to motivate the defenders, as the practice is both mentally and physically draining.

O- COACH CONSIDER: Introducing scoring systems: points for clean sheets or successful defending attempts, for example:


## 7V7 OR 9V9

## OBJECTIVE

- REQUIREMENT: 60X40 with fourteen players in two teams OR 80X50 with eighteen players in two teams.
o. Directional game with each team scoring on their opponents' goal.
- COACH CONSIDER: Have balls around the playing space and when they go out of bounds either allow players to grab then nearest ball or the coach can serve into the playing area.
O. COACH CONSIDER: Continue to encourage the importance and value of establishing team shape: EXAMPLERE $(1-2-3-1)$ \& White $(1-3-2-1)$ as

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## OBJECTIVE

- Setup a space and create two gates.
- One player attempts to tag the other player who can run in either gate.
O. MAKE IT HARDER: Add a ball for the attacker:

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| $\bigcirc$ Players | $\sim \sim$ | Dribble |
| ---: | :--- | :---: |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  | Pass/Shot |
|  |  | Movement |

1V1 DUELS WITH THE BALL
Community Stream: Learn to Train

## Key Questions

## SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Primary: To create an environment that presents moments to explore how to attack and beat an opponent 1v1.
- Secondary: Players will also be required to use searching skills to locate available gaps \& space.


## QUESTIONS FOR PLAYERS TO EXPLORE

- Who is the focus? The attacker in a 1 v 1 situation.
- What is our objective? To explore movement and actions with the ball to beat an opponent.
- Where on the field? 1v1 situations will occur everywhere on the field. Consider discussing risk vs reward with reference to where on the field. Example: If players lose the ball can the other team score?
- When should a player attack 1v1? When a player identifies spaces or gaps to exploit.
- Why will this help? If a player can beat an opponent or exploit gaps and space, they can get their opponent off balance.
- How can you be successful? Explore a variety of surfaces of the foot to move the ball, bending the knees to easily change direction and change pace where necessary, explore deception actions such as dropping the shoulder, step overs etc.
- Consider: Awareness (perceive), identify the problem (conceive), identify the best solution (decide), how can you get your opponent off balance (deceive), carry out action (execute) \& assess whether it was successful (reflect)


## Physical Literacy Toolbox

## TRAVELLING MOVEMENTS



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## BALANCE MOVEMENTS

- One leg balance
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- Twisting
- Dodging


## Session Parts

## PART ONE: DRIBBLE TAG

- A fun activity that encourages players to escape being tagged with and without the ball.
- Players will also be required to use searching skills to locate available gaps \& space.


## PART TWO: END ZONES

- This game allows players to explore a representative game that has direction, teams and encourages dribbling to score points.
- Players will also be required to use searching skills to locate available gaps \& space.


## PART THREE: 1v1 1v2 WAVE

- This activity encourages players to play forward quickly in 1v1 situations.
- An activity that allows players to explore moving with their ball.


## PART FOUR: 7V7 OR 9v9

- This game allows players to explore a representative game that has direction, teams and goals.


## CHALLENGE FOR HOME: 1v1 GATE

- This is a fun activity encouraging players to develop 1 v 1 skills.


## Managing the Environment

## FIELD AND EQUIPMENT

- Setup a space that is appropriate based on the needs \& number of players involved.
- Any activity that includes players scoring in a goal can be recreated by using two cones (goals are preferable).
- Any activity that includes a small target goal can be substituted with players as a target.


## PLAYERS

- If activities are illustrated as using less players, then in attendance, consider these solutions to keep players active:
- Multiple stations
- Third team (consider duration inactive)
- Resting players/Substitutions (consider duration inactive) can they juggle, 1v1, 2v1, etc.
- Tasking players - Example: Target player vs a target goal


## CONSTRAINTS/CONDITIONS

- Consider using \& exploring 'Constraints' or 'Conditions' to assist the players in making the session easier or more challenging. In the session examples, we will continue to use the language 'MAKE IT EASIER' \& 'MAKE IT HARDER'
- You can also use 'Constraints’ \& 'Conditions’ to invite players to solve specific problems with a repetition of actions or solutions. EXAMPLE: If you want players to dribble you can reward points to the opposition if they regain the ball intercepting a pass. This as a result does not over constrain the players choice but does create a risk vs reward scenario for the players to explore.
- COACH CONSIDER: Avoid telling players they 'cannot' perform a specific action or solution. All options should be made available with rewards or risk associated to it.


## OBJECTIVE

- RECOMMENDATION: $10 \times 10$ with eight players.
- Players will chase each other (with or without a ball)
o. Once tagged they swap roles.

0. Play for 30 seconds before returning to their corner.

- COACH CONSIDER: When moving without a ball consider different movements (REVIEW PHYSICAL LITERACY TOOLBOX).

O COACH CONSIDER: Keep score and rotate parthers:
MAKE IL HARDER: Add ano ther eight players to the same space and have four groups go at once.


## OBJECTIVE

- RECOMMENDATION: $20 \times 15+5$ end zones for six players.
o. 3v3 directional game with each team dribbles into the end zone to score a point.
- COACH CONSIDER: Increase space to give players more time and space:
- MAKE IT HARDER: Add gates and reward points to attack centrally or in wide areas.
Q. COACH CONSIDER: Understand why you would add the gate constraint/condition. EXAMPLE: Do you want
 them to attack in wide areas?


## OBJECTIVE

o RECOMMENDATION: $12 \times 6 \times 2$ with eight players in two teams.

- Multidirectional wave game in which a group of players is split into two teams and a series of 1 v 1 situations progress into 1 v 2.
o. One player from each team attacks 1v1 to begin the practice. They aim to enter the opposition area (orange cones), beat the defender and score in either of the mini-goals.
If the defender is successful in regaining the ball, they simply look to dribble out of their area and into the opposition half of the pitch. When the ball is dead, either after the attacker takes a shot or the defender wins possession, the attacker runs around the pole behind the mini-goals to join a teammate and defend in the opposite half of the playing area.
OH

Every attacker should become a recovering defender to create a 1 v 2 situation, and once that ball is out of play, they become the individual defender. The previous individual defender comes out of the practice and awaits their turn to attack in the opposite channel.


0 COACH CONSIDER: Demonstrate the rotations and be patientallowing players necessary time to understand the activity.
}

## 7V7 OR 9V9

## OBJECTIVE

- REQUIREMENT: 60X40 with fourteen players in two teams OR 80X50 with eighteen players in two teams.
o. Directional game with each team scoring on their opponents' goal.
- COACH CONSIDER: Have balls around the playing space and when they go out of bounds either allow players to grab then nearest ball or the coach can serve into the playing area.
O. COACH CONSIDER: Continue to encourage the importance and value of establishing team shape: EXAMPLERE $(1-2-3-1)$ \& White $(1-3-2-1)$ as

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## OBJECTIVE

- Setup a space and create a gate.
- Players face each other between in the gate. Encourage the player to dribble the ball to either gate before their opponent can get there.
- COACH CONSIDER: If players do not have a sibling or friend, practice by having a parent call a combination of cones. Example left cone, middle, left cone, middle, right cone.

MAKE IT EASIER: Start with no ball play the same game with escape movements.

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DENYING SPACE TO REGAIN POSSESSION
Community Stream: Learn to Train

## Key Questions

## SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Primary: To explore how to regain possession by denying space and time on the ball.
- Secondary: Players will also be required to use searching skills to recognize and deny spaces and gaps.


## QUESTIONS FOR PLAYERS TO EXPLORE

- Who is the focus? The player(s) around the ball.
- What is our objective? To explore denying space to regain possession of the ball.
- Where in the environment should you reduce space to regain possession? Everywhere but consider which space is dangerous to concede. Example: Space around the goal we are defending.
- When should a player reduce the space? As the ball travels, on a bad touch, head down \& facing the wrong way.
- Why will this help? By denying \& reducing space the opposition will have less time and options when in possession.
- How can you be successful? Mentality to reduce the space and regain the ball, search to recognize dangerous spaces \& anticipate where the opponents might play next.
- Consider: Awareness (perceive), identify the problem (conceive), identify potential options (decide), how can you remove options (deny), carry out action (execute) \& assess whether it was successful (reflect)


## Physical Literacy Toolbox

## TRAVELLING MOVEMENTS



- Walking
- Running
- Jumping
- Hopping
- Skipping
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- Side shuffle
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## BALANCE MOVEMENTS

- One leg balance
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- Twisting
- Dodging


## Session Parts

## PART ONE: $\mathbf{2 v} \mathbf{2}$ ARRIVAL GAME

- A fun arrival game that allows players to explore a representative game that has direction \& teams.


## PART TWO: TARGET GAME

- This game allows players to explore a representative game that has direction, teams and encourages players to explore how to deny forward possession.
- Players will also be required to use searching skills to recognize and deny spaces and gaps.


## PART THREE: DENY PROGRESSION

- This activity challenges the players' ability to limit attacking options and defend space both in front and behind.
- Players will also be required to use searching skills to recognize and deny spaces and gaps.


## PART FOUR: 7v7 OR 9v9

- This fun game allows players to explore a representative game that has direction, teams and goals.


## CHALLENGE FOR HOME: COLORS

- This is a fun activity encouraging players to deny and reduce space.


## Managing the Environment

## FIELD AND EQUIPMENT

- Setup a space that is appropriate based on the needs \& number of players involved.
- Any activity that includes players scoring in a goal can be recreated by using two cones (goals are preferable).
- Any activity that includes a small target goal can be substituted with players as a target.


## PLAYERS

- If activities are illustrated as using less players, then in attendance, consider these solutions to keep players active:
- Multiple stations
- Third team (consider duration inactive)
- Resting players/Substitutions (consider duration inactive) can they juggle, 1v1, 2v1, etc.
- Tasking players - Example: Target player vs a target goal


## CONSTRAINTS/CONDITIONS

- Consider using \& exploring 'Constraints' or 'Conditions' to assist the players in making the session easier or more challenging. In the session examples, we will continue to use the language 'MAKE IT EASIER' \& 'MAKE IT HARDER'
- You can also use 'Constraints’ \& 'Conditions’ to invite players to solve specific problems with a repetition of actions or solutions. EXAMPLE: If you want players to dribble you can reward points to the opposition if they regain the ball intercepting a pass. This as a result does not over constrain the players choice but does create a risk vs reward scenario for the players to explore.
- COACH CONSIDER: Avoid telling players they 'cannot' perform a specific action or solution. All options should be made available with rewards or risk associated to it.


## OBJECTIVE

- RECOMMENDATION: $15 \times 10$ with 4 players in two teams.

0. Players play 2 v2 games. 5 games in total and each game last 4 minutes. After each game the the team that wins gets promoted and the team that loses get relegated into the lower division. The aim is to be in the highest league in the last game.

O COAGH CONSIDER: How you make the teams. Do you allow them to do it and play with friends? Or do you try balance it?

- 0 MAKE IT HARDER: If the ball leaves the playing area,
 the last person to touch it must recover it whilst the game continues in a 1 v 2 .


## OBJECTIVE

-. RECOMMENDATION: $20 \times 20+5$ end zones with six players in two teams and two targets
$0.4 \mathrm{v} 4+2$ directional game with each team scoring by successfully passing through a gate into the target.

- COACH CONSIBER: If opposition are defending the gates, allow attackers to play into the target anywhere for one point and three points for the gates.

0. MAKE II HARDER: Make the space bigger OR if players can regain possession within so many completed passes, they are awarded a bonus point:

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## OBJECTIVE

O. RECOMMENDATION: $20 \times 20$.

- 3 v3 directional wave activity where Red (attackers) play in from the end zone to score on the big goal in waves of three.
- White (defenders) out of possession are locked in their respective zones.

0. After the ball is secured by the defenders or goalkeeper, they attempt to score in any of the three pug goals. If they are successful or the ball leaves the area, the next three attackers immediately drive in to begin attacking as the previous three attackers recover to their starting positions.
O. COACH CONSIDER: Impose positional roles on the attackers:

3- For example, one of the attackers must start in the attacking half (as in the diagram) rather than at the end line.

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$\qquad$ MAKE HARDER: To progress further, allow all defender's to defend in both halves of the playing area.

## 7V7 OR 9V9

## OBJECTIVE

- REQUIREMENT: 60X40 with fourteen players in two teams OR 80X50 with eighteen players in two teams.
o. Directional game with each team scoring on their opponents' goal.
- COACH CONSIDER: Have balls around the playing space and when they go out of bounds either allow players to grab then nearest ball or the coach can serve into the playing area.
O. COACH CONSIDER: Continue to encourage the importance and value of establishing team shape: EXAMPLERE $(1-2-3-1)$ \& White $(1-3-2-1)$ as

© Copyright Canada Soccer 2021 illustrated on the diagram.


## CHALLENGES FOR HOME: COLORS

## OBJECTIVE

- Setup four cones different colors
- Parent shouts a color or combination of colors where the player closes the space and gets in a defensive stance before returning.
- COACH CONSIDER: If no parent or sibling to support, decide on a combination of colors and complete exercise alone.
- MAKE IT HARDER: Add a recovery run after returning to the start point simulating a ball in behind (as illustrated with orange arrow).

EXPLOITING SPACE TO MAINTAIN POSSESSION
Community Stream: Learn to Train

## Key Questions

## SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Primary: To explore how to maintain possession moving the ball where players have space and time.
- Secondary: Players will also be required to use searching skills to locate available gaps \& space.


## QUESTIONS FOR PLAYERS TO EXPLORE

- Who is the focus? The player in possession of the ball.
- What is our objective? To explore maintaining possession and exploiting gaps and space.
- Where in the environment should you search for space to maintain possession? Everywhere but consider where space is reduced. Example: Near opponent's goals.
- When should a player search for space and pass the ball? The environment will continue to change, players should identify when they are running out of space and move the ball to bigger spaces where players have more time.
- Why will this help? By searching effectively, players will be able to find space and time or identify other players who are afforded it.
- How can you be successful? Heads up, eyes up \& search the environment, keep body open to play, surface of pass, weight of pass \& movement to receive.
- Consider: Awareness (perceive), identify the problem (conceive), identify the best solution (decide), how can you get your opponent off balance (deceive), carry out action (execute) \& assess whether it was successful (reflect)


## Physical Literacy Toolbox

## TRAVELLING MOVEMENTS



- Walking
- Running
- Jumping
- Hopping
- Skipping
- Backwards
- Side shuffle
- Crawling
- Rolling


## BALANCE MOVEMENTS

- One leg balance
- Landing
- Spinning
- Stopping
- Twisting
- Dodging


## Session Parts

## PART ONE: COMBINATION WARM UP

- A activity that encourages players to escape being tagged with and without the ball.
- Players will also be required to use searching skills to locate available gaps \& space.


## PART TWO: 3v3 WITH THREE GOALS

- This game allows players to explore a representative game that has direction, teams and encourages dribbling to score points.
- Players will also be required to use searching skills to locate available gaps \& space.


## PART THREE: BUILD OUT LEVELS

- This activity encourages players to play forward quickly in 1v1 situations.
- An activity that allows players to explore moving with their ball.


## PART FOUR: 7V7 OR 9v9

- This game allows players to explore a representative game that has direction, teams and goals.


## CHALLENGE FOR HOME: WALL PASS

- This is a fun activity encouraging players to develop 1v1 skills.


## Managing the Environment

## FIELD AND EQUIPMENT

- Setup a space that is appropriate based on the needs \& number of players involved.
- Any activity that includes players scoring in a goal can be recreated by using two cones (goals are preferable).
- Any activity that includes a small target goal can be substituted with players as a target.


## PLAYERS

- If activities are illustrated as using less players, then in attendance, consider these solutions to keep players active:
- Multiple stations
- Third team (consider duration inactive)
- Resting players/Substitutions (consider duration inactive) can they juggle, 1v1, 2v1, etc.
- Tasking players - Example: Target player vs a target goal


## CONSTRAINTS/CONDITIONS

- Consider using \& exploring 'Constraints' or 'Conditions' to assist the players in making the session easier or more challenging. In the session examples, we will continue to use the language 'MAKE IT EASIER' \& 'MAKE IT HARDER'
- You can also use 'Constraints’ \& 'Conditions’ to invite players to solve specific problems with a repetition of actions or solutions. EXAMPLE: If you want players to dribble you can reward points to the opposition if they regain the ball intercepting a pass. This as a result does not over constrain the players choice but does create a risk vs reward scenario for the players to explore.
- COACH CONSIDER: Avoid telling players they 'cannot' perform a specific action or solution. All options should be made available with rewards or risk associated to it.


## OBJECTIVE

O RECOMMENDATION: $25 \times 20$ with 10 players.
0. Each side of the field there are three attackers attempting to combine and keep possession of the ball.

- Two defenders have a ball each and attempt to tag attacking player in possession of the ball. If defenders tag an attacker, the attacking team lose 1 of 3 "ives"

0. Once all lives are lost, they swap roles
O. COAGH CONSIDER. Start with out a ball and play tag. considering different movements (REVIEW PHYSICAL LITERACY TOOLBOX).

© Copyright Canada Soccer 2021
MAKE MT EASIER: Make the space bigger.

O MAKE IT HARDER: Reduce the size of the playing area OR allow defenders to not have balls. 3V3 WITH 3 GOALS

## OBJECTIVE

- RECOMMENDATION: 20X15 with six players in two teams.

0. 3v3 directional game with each team scoring on their opponents' three goals.

- COACH CONSIDER: Have balls around the playing space and when they go out of bounds either allow players to grab then nearest ball or the coach can serve into the playing area.
O. MAKE II HARDER: Remove some of the goals OR

Players can only score once they enter their opponent's half This will create less space closer to

© Copyright Canada Soccer 202 goal.

## OBJECTIVE

O. RECOMMENDATION: $25 \times 25$ with eight players in two teams and two target players.
0. $4 \mathrm{v} 4+2$ directional activity where Red (attackers) receive a ball into the goalkeeper from the coach and build out successfully passing into Yellow (neutral) who passes it back to any Red before dribbling over the line for a point.If White (defenders) regain possession, they score on the big goal:

- Rotate roles on attempts or a set duration.

COACH CONSIDER: Usin'g a retreat line to provide more time and space.

MAKE $1 T$ EASIER: Make the space bigger
MAKE IT HARDER A video game ap proach where if Red are successful three times before losing three "lives" by conceding on the big goal, they go to the next level This can be adding more defenders, reducing the space or reduce their "lives"

## 7V7 OR 9V9

## OBJECTIVE

- REQUIREMENT: 60X40 with fourteen players in two teams OR 80X50 with eighteen players in two teams.
o. Directional game with each team scoring on their opponents' goal.
- COACH CONSIDER: Have balls around the playing space and when they go out of bounds either allow players to grab then nearest ball or the coach can serve into the playing area.
O. COACH CONSIDER: Continue to encourage the importance and value of establishing team shape: EXAMPLERE $(1-2-3-1)$ \& White $(1-3-2-1)$ as

© Copyright Canada Soccer 2021 illustrated on the diagram.


## OBJECTIVE

- Find a hard surface like a wall.
- Player faces the wall and passes the ball and controls with one touch and repeats.
O. MAKE IT HARDER: Add a cone or object behind you and complete ten before turning and dribbling the ball and repeating


PREVENTING SCORING CHANCES
Community Stream: Learn to Train

## Key Questions

## SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Primary: To explore how to deny space and gaps to prevent opponents to score.
- Secondary: Players will also be required to use searching skills to recognize and deny spaces and gaps.


## QUESTIONS FOR PLAYERS TO EXPLORE

- Who is the focus? The player(s) around the ball.
- What is our objective? To explore how to deny scoring opportunities.
- Where will this occur? In close proximity to goal.
- When should should players deny all space for their opponents? In and around the box/goal. Example: Players should not allow any space around their goal eliminating scoring opportunities.
- Why will this help? To make it difficult for opponents to have time and space to score.
- How can you be successful? Mentality to reduce the space and stop all opportunities to score, search to recognize dangerous spaces \& force away from goal, watch the ball, move your feet with the attackers, use closest leg to the ball to block.
- Consider: Awareness (perceive), identify the problem (conceive), identify potential options (decide), how can you remove options (deny), carry out action (execute) \& assess whether it was successful (reflect)


## Physical Literacy Toolbox

## TRAVELLING MOVEMENTS



- Walking
- Running
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## BALANCE MOVEMENTS

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- Stopping
- Twisting
- Dodging


## Session Parts

## PART ONE: 1V1 DEFEND THE GOAL

- A fun activity that encourages challenges defenders to limit attacking options and scoring opportunities against opponents breaking towards goal.
- Players will also be required to explore 1v1 defending actions.


## PART TWO: POOL TABLE

- This game allows players to explore a representative environment that has direction, teams and exposes the defending players to overload situations.
- Players will also be required to use searching skills to recognize and deny spaces and gaps.


## PART THREE: BREAKOUT

- This activity challenges players to approach the ball quickly while managing space and limiting attacking options behind them.
- Players will also be required to explore 1v1 defending actions.


## PART FOUR: 7v7 OR 9v9

- This game allows players to explore a representative game that has direction, teams and goals.


## CHALLENGE FOR HOME: CLEAN SHEET

- This is a fun activity encouraging players to prevent chances to score in an unopposed goal.


## Managing the Environment

## FIELD AND EQUIPMENT

- Setup a space that is appropriate based on the needs \& number of players involved.
- Any activity that includes players scoring in a goal can be recreated by using two cones (goals are preferable).
- Any activity that includes a small target goal can be substituted with players as a target.


## PLAYERS

- If activities are illustrated as using less players, then in attendance, consider these solutions to keep players active:
- Multiple stations
- Third team (consider duration inactive)
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## CONSTRAINTS/CONDITIONS

- Consider using \& exploring 'Constraints' or 'Conditions' to assist the players in making the session easier or more challenging. In the session examples, we will continue to use the language 'MAKE IT EASIER' \& 'MAKE IT HARDER'
- You can also use 'Constraints’ \& 'Conditions’ to invite players to solve specific problems with a repetition of actions or solutions. EXAMPLE: If you want players to dribble you can reward points to the opposition if they regain the ball intercepting a pass. This as a result does not over constrain the players choice but does create a risk vs reward scenario for the players to explore.
- COACH CONSIDER: Avoid telling players they 'cannot' perform a specific action or solution. All options should be made available with rewards or risk associated to it.


## OBJECTIVE

- RECOMMENDATION: $30 \times 30$ twelve players in three teams.
O. Red (attacking team) start with a ball each and attack a goal each in a 1 v 1 situation.
o. Once the attack is finished, they collect another ball from the middle and attack the next goal to their right.
o Each attacker attacks each goal.
O. Teams swap roles after attackers have attacked every goal.
O. COACH CONSIDER: Keep score of which team concedes the least goals.

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## OBJECTIVE

0. RECOMMENDATION: $30 \times 20$ with ten players in two teams.
-. 5 v 5 directional game with each team scoring on their opponent's goal.
0 . The field has six balls around the field (as illustrated on the diagram)
1. If the ball leaves the playing area the player who touched it last must recover the ball creating a moment of 4 v 3 .
The other team (Red on the diagram) can take any of the six balls and attack their opponents goal.
The player who is recovering the ball must return that ball where the team in possession took it from.

COACH CONSIDER: If the ball comes off the goalkeeper they are not required to replace the ball, an outfield team must replace it.

© Copyright Canada Soccer 2021MAKE IT HARDER: Make the playing area smaller:

## OBJECTIVE

- RECOMMENDATION: 30X10 with six players in two teams.
- 3 v3 directional activity with attackers trying to score on their opponent's goal.
- Reds (attackers) play 3v1 against White (defender)
- Once a team breaks into the middle third it becomes a 1 v 1 with one defender stepping towards the attacker.
0 The other defender becomes the goalkeeper If White regain possession, they play into any of the three pug goals.

Q COACH CONSIDER: Playing for a designated time on if the once attackers lose their three "Iives" by scoring on the pug goal:

-. MAKE IT HARDER: Allow an extra attacker and a recovering defender in the middle zone for a $2 v 2$

## 7V7 OR 9V9

## OBJECTIVE

- REQUIREMENT: 60X40 with fourteen players in two teams OR 80X50 with eighteen players in two teams.
o. Directional game with each team scoring on their opponents' goal.
- COACH CONSIDER: Have balls around the playing space and when they go out of bounds either allow players to grab then nearest ball or the coach can serve into the playing area.
O. COACH CONSIDER: Continue to encourage the importance and value of establishing team shape: EXAMPLERE $(1-2-3-1)$ \& White $(1-3-2-1)$ as

© Copyright Canada Soccer 2021 illustrated on the diagram.

| Cotional |
| :---: |
| Corthing |
| Protication |

## OBJECTIVE

- Setup two cones or objects to create a goal \& add two cones or objects as a marker where the attacker has to enter before shooting on goal.

0. Activity will start with a 1 v1 attempting to stop any shots on goal.

- MAKE IT EASIER: Make the goal smaller.
O. MAKEIT HARDER: Make the goal bigger.

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CREATING SCORING CHANCES
Community Stream: Learn to Train

## Key Questions

## SESSION OBJECTIVES

- Primary: To explore how to create space and gaps to score.
- Secondary: Players will also be required to use searching skills to locate available gaps \& space.


## QUESTIONS FOR PLAYERS TO EXPLORE

- Who is the focus? The player in possession of the ball.
- What is our objective? To explore how to create opportunities to score.
- Where will this occur? In close proximity to goal.
- When should a player look to create and score? In and around the box/goal. Example: Players do not need to beat opponents to score, rather find enough space to shoot.
- Why will this help? Space \& time is reduced in and around the goal, finding space and gaps to shoot and finish is limited.
- How can you be successful? Mindset to score, head up \& search the environment and the goal, unbalance opponent to create space/gap, quick decision \& execution \& explore different surfaces to shoot the ball. Example: Side foot for accuracy, toe for speed \& laces for power.
- Consider: Awareness (perceive), identify the problem (conceive), identify the best solution (decide), how can you get your opponent off balance (deceive), carry out action (execute) \& assess whether it was successful (reflect)


## Physical Literacy Toolbox

## TRAVELLING MOVEMENTS



- Walking
- Running
- Jumping
- Hopping
- Skipping
- Backwards
- Side shuffle
- Crawling
- Rolling


## BALANCE MOVEMENTS

- One leg balance
- Landing
- Spinning
- Stopping
- Twisting
- Dodging


## Session Parts

## PART ONE: SHOOT CIRCUIT

- A fun activity that encourages players to create space to score with numbers up.
- Players will also be required to use searching skills to locate available gaps \& space.


## PART TWO: BUMPERS

- This game allows players to explore a representative game that has direction, teams and encourages players to shoot with a reduced playing area with numbers up.
- Players will also be required to use searching skills to locate available gaps \& space.


## PART THREE: 4 GOAL GAME

- This activity encourages players to explore a variety of actions to score in multiple goals.
- Players will also be required to use searching skills to locate available gaps \& space.


## PART FOUR: 7v7 OR 9v9

- This game allows players to explore a representative game that has direction, teams and goals.


## CHALLENGE FOR HOME: SNIPER

- This is a fun activity encouraging players to explore different types of finishes and shots.


## Managing the Environment

## FIELD AND EQUIPMENT

- Setup a space that is appropriate based on the needs \& number of players involved.
- Any activity that includes players scoring in a goal can be recreated by using two cones (goals are preferable).
- Any activity that includes a small target goal can be substituted with players as a target.


## PLAYERS

- If activities are illustrated as using less players, then in attendance, consider these solutions to keep players active:
- Multiple stations
- Third team (consider duration inactive)
- Resting players/Substitutions (consider duration inactive) can they juggle, 1v1, 2v1, etc.
- Tasking players - Example: Target player vs a target goal


## CONSTRAINTS/CONDITIONS

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## OBJECTIVE

- RECOMMENDATION: Two practice areas measuring $30 \times 8 \& 30 \times 15$ with one goal at each end.
o. Objective score as many goals in a pre-determined time

0. Starts with a pass into the free zone and go 2 v 1 with an attempt to score.

- Defenders locked into their zone
- COAGH CONSIDER: After attacking defend OR keep defenders for a set time.
- MAKE ILEASIER Have one zone and one defender.

-. MAKE I HARDER: Make the space bigger and add a defender and attacker for a 3 v 2 in each zone.


## OBJECTIVE

O. RECOMMENDATION: $30 \times 20$ with twelve players in three teams and two goalkeepers:
0. $5 \mathrm{v} 5+4$ directional game with each team scoring on their opponent's goal.

- Team Red and Team White play inside the grid, while one team (Green) stands on the perimeter and plays for the team in possession.
O. Normal rules inside the grid, with Teams Red and White both trying to score
Q. Team Green play with the team in possession

COACH CONSIDER: Set a target number of goals to win. Team
$\qquad$ Green replaces the losing side playing in the grid.

MAKE IT HARDER: Reward players for the types of goals you want to see: for example, a first time finish or after an assist by


## OBJECTIVE

- RECOMMENDATION: $30 \times 30$ with twelve players in three teams.
o. 4 v 4 multidirectional activity with four goals \& four keepers.

0. Objective score in any goal in a set amount of time.

- Attack a different goal after each goal.
- COAGH CONSIDER: Playing for a designated time or different tasks. Example: Score in all four goals to win OR each player must score to win.

O MAKE IT EASIER: Make the space or goal bigger.

MAKE IT HARDER: Add different types of finishes for certain goals. Example: First time finish on the right and left goals:

## 7V7 OR 9V9

## OBJECTIVE

- REQUIREMENT: 60X40 with fourteen players in two teams OR 80X50 with eighteen players in two teams.
o. Directional game with each team scoring on their opponents' goal.
- COACH CONSIDER: Have balls around the playing space and when they go out of bounds either allow players to grab then nearest ball or the coach can serve into the playing area.
O. COACH CONSIDER: Continue to encourage the importance and value of establishing team shape: EXAMPLERE $(1-2-3-1)$ \& White $(1-3-2-1)$ as

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Coaching
Crotification
Pramam

## OBJECTIVE

- Setup four cones or objects to create two goals
- Each player/parent/sibling will take it in turn to shoot on their opponent's goal

0. MAKEIT EASIER: Decrease the distance.

○ MAKE IT HARDER: Increase the distance.

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| $\bigcirc$ Players | $\sim \sim$ | Dribble |
| ---: | :--- | :---: |
|  | $-----\rightarrow$ | Pass/Shot |
|  | $\longrightarrow$ | Movement |

