

## CDSFA <br> Skill Acquisition Phase L1 \& L2

First Touch, Running with the Ball, Striking the Ball \& 1 vs 1.

Model Sessions: Level 1

## L1:First Touch - Skill Introduction

## A



B


$$
\stackrel{A}{B}--5-7 m--\stackrel{A}{\underline{A}}
$$

## Instructions:

Players in fours (fives is also fine, and is a way of reducing intensity, if required) with one ball between them. 2 pairs facing each other $5 \mathrm{~m}-7 \mathrm{~m}$ apart. The yellow player starts by passing the ball to the orange player and following their pass at speed.
The orange player uses their first touch to move the ball away from the yellow player, and with the second touch passes to the blue player. The orange player follows their pass and jogs to the back of the opposite line.
In example A, the orange player has moved the ball to the right because the yellow player approached him/her slightly to his/her left side.
In example B, the yellow player has moved the ball to the left because the blue player approached him/her to his/her right.
The coach can also direct the passer to follow the pass by running directly at the receiver. Therefore the receiver has the option of going left or right, ideally the receiver will fake to move the ball in one direction, and then with his/her first touch move the ball the other way.

## Coaching Tip:

- At speed.
- First touch where possible on less favoured foot, so that the second touch or pass is on strongest foot.
- It is also encouraged at early stage to utilise both feet.
- Look around prior to receiving the ball, get into good habits early.
- Everything you do should be developed for game situations.
- Have the players call out their team mates name, good team bonding and necessary in a game to commence the "field talk".


## L1:First Touch - Skill Training



## Instructions:

Positioning Games with two touches as a mandatory requirement (i.e. first touch = control the ball, second touch = pass the ball).

Disallowing a direct pass forces the players to have a good first touch in order to move the ball away from the defender(s) and keep possession!

Which positioning game to use depends on the level of the players and ranges from 4 v 1 (easiest), $3 \mathrm{v} 1,5 \mathrm{v} 2$ and 4 v 2 (most difficult).

The grid size also depends on the level and capabilities of the players with $15 \mathrm{~m} \times 15 \mathrm{~m}$ as a starting point ( $15 \mathrm{~m} \times 20 \mathrm{~m}$ for the 5 v 2 ).
The coach can make the exercise more challenging for the players by simply decreasing the space or easier by making the grids bigger.

## Coaching Tip:

- Move to support as the ball moves
- Make angles (do not stand in the corners)
- Keep your body open to the field
- Move the ball with your first touch away from the defender(s)
- Use body feints to disguise your intention


## L1:First Touch - Skill Game



## Instructions:

5 v 5 with the restriction that with every ball contact each player must take two touches.
Disallowing direct play forces the players to have a good first touch in order to move the ball away from the defender(s) and keep possession!

## Coaching Tip:

The coach can make the game more challenging by simply decreasing the space or more easy by making the field bigger or creating a numerical advantage for the team in possession of the ball by adding a 'joker'.

## L1:Striking the Ball - Skill Introduction



## Instructions:

A: In a grid of approximately $20 \mathrm{~m} \times 20 \mathrm{~m}$ (dependent on group size) half of the players position themselves outside the grid without a ball and the other half with a ball inside.
The players inside the grid dribble freely until they can pass to a 'free' player on the outside who then passes the ball back to the same player.
Change roles every two minutes, players must use left / right foot on coaches call i.e. 2 min left foot only; then 2 min right foot only.

## Coaching Tip:

- Only pass the ball when the passing line is 'open' and make sure someone else is not passing to that player at the same time
- Pass the ball precise and with the right speed
- Look where you run when asking for the ball back and make an angle for the return pass


## L1:Striking the Ball - Skill Introduction



## Instructions:

B: Next the players form pairs with one ball and position themselves at the edge of the grid, 3 m on either side of the line.
The players move towards each other while playing one touch passes until they have reduced the distance to 1 m 2 m .
Then they move backwards again continuing to pass until they have reached their starting position
Right foot only
Left foot only
Right-left alternately

This exercise challenges the players to work on the 'weight' and accuracy of their pass using both feet over varying distances

## L1:Striking the Ball - Skill Training



## Instructions: - Positioning games

Depending on the ability of your players, choose any of the 3 'basic' positioning games i.e. $4 \mathrm{v} 1 ; 3 \mathrm{v} 1$ and 4 v 2. All have similar objectives but with varying degrees of resistance and complexity.
See diagrams above:
A. 4 v 1 (grid size $10 \mathrm{~m} \times 10 \mathrm{~m}-15 \mathrm{~m} \times 15 \mathrm{~m}$ )
B. $3 \vee 1$ (depending on the level of the players)

## Coaching Tip:

The player on the ball must always have a player to their left and right that they can play to.
But do not stand in the corners, your angle is much smaller if you do that.
With $3 v 1$ this means that you have to move each time the ball move.
Position yourself in a way that you can see the whole grid (with your back to the line)
Play the ball to the proper foot of your team-mate (i.e. away from the defender) and with the proper speed and precision
Please note that 3 v 1 asks for a lot of running and is therefore quite exhausting for players this age. Use regular drink breaks to allow for recovery

## L1:Striking the Ball - Skill Training



Instructions: - (short passing)
C: 4 v 2 grid size $12 \mathrm{~m} \times 12 \mathrm{~m}-15 \mathrm{~m} \times 15 \mathrm{~m}$ depending on level of players

Coaching Tip (specifically for 4 v 2 ):
Now the player on the ball must always have a player to their left, right and in between that they can pass to Especially look to pass through the 2 defenders, that's the most important pass! We call that the killer pass

## Step up:

Make the grid smaller
Step down:
Make the grid bigger

## L1:Striking the Ball - Skill Game



## Instructions:

4 v 4 with 4 neutral players (walls) on a pitch of approximately $20 \mathrm{~m} \times 30 \mathrm{~m}$
4 small goals placed as shown ( 2 m wide)
The team in possession of the ball can use the wall players ( 8 v 4 )
Rotate teams after 3 min or after each score: scorers stay on
Depending on level of the players: 2-3 touches max in order to get an emphasis on passing

## Possible progressions:

Wall players must play the ball direct
Goals count as double if scored by a so-called 3rd man combination (see diagram)

## Coaching Tip:

Monitor and encourage all parts of the foot to be used.

## L1:Running with the Ball - Skill Introduction



## Instructions:

All players running with a ball freely in a grid of approximately $30 \mathrm{~m} \times 30 \mathrm{~m}$ to warm up.

First 2-3 minutes: "low speed/intensity", "use both feet".
Next 2-3 minutes: "accelerate when you see a free space in front of you; now only use your right/left foot".

Now split the players into 4 groups and number them 1 to 4 placing them on all 4 sides. When the coach calls a number, these players run with the ball as quickly as they can across the area and back (opposite group will need to move back to give the others room to turn!).

Now 2 groups at the same time: "take care; vision; if necessary slow down and then accelerate again".

## Concluding Competition

Relay. Grid: $30 \mathrm{~m} \times 20 \mathrm{~m}$; 4 small goals and a $5 \mathrm{~m}-7 \mathrm{~m}$ shooting line at each end. Two equal teams (orange and yellow) positioned as shown in a $30 \mathrm{~m} \times 20 \mathrm{~m}$ grid; each player with a ball;

On the coach's signal the first player from each team start running with the ball to the opposite goal. When they enter the shooting zone they pass/shoot the ball into the empty goal. As soon as the ball passes the goal line the next player can start running with the ball in the opposite direction. If the ball DOES NOT go into the goal the player who took the shot MUST go and touch the player waiting to run with the ball before they can start.

Which team can complete one full sequence first?

- Use right foot only
- Use left foot only
- Each player runs twice (first time right foot, second time with left)


## L1:Running with the Ball - Skill Training



## Instructions:

A grid of $30 \mathrm{~m} \times 20 \mathrm{~m} ; 4$ small goals and a $5 \mathrm{~m}-7 \mathrm{~m}$ shooting line at each end

Evenly split teams positioned as shown
Minimum 4, maximum 8 players per grid; if the group is bigger then make two grids
The exercise starts with the first player of the yellow team running with the ball to the opposite side and shooting the ball into the goal. They can only shoot once they have crossed the line into the shooting zone
As soon as the yellow player shoots at goal, the first orange player starts running with the ball to the opposite side

As soon as the yellow player has had their shot at goal, they turn and chase the orange player to try and catch up with them and prevent them from scoring

Count the goals! Which team scores the most goals?.

## Coaching Tip:

"Push the ball forward every 3-4 steps"
"Run as fast as you can but keep the ball under control" "If the defender catches up with you, this is what you can do" (demonstrate!)

- Feint to turn and accelerate again
- Feint to stop and accelerate again
- Cut off the defenders line by crossing in front of them
- Take on the defender 1 v 1 if they manage to get in front of you (scoring in both goals is allowed!)
Step up: Narrow the distance between the two goals on the by-line
Step down: The chaser just races against the runner to beat him to the shooting line.
If the chaser reaches the shooting line first, the runner cannot shoot and score anymore


## L1:Running with the Ball - Skill Game



## Instructions:

4 v 4 line football
Grid size approximately 30 m wide by 20 m long (pitch shape is short but wide)

Explanation of the game:
4 v 4 small sided game; to score a goal a player must run with the ball across the opponent's by-line (see diagram A).

Assess how the game goes: do all players run with the ball regularly and are goals being scored? If the answer is no, make it easier:

- Make the pitch wider
- Add a neutral player ("joker") who always plays with the team that has the ball (numerical advantage of 1 player; see diagram B)
- If still too difficult: bigger numerical advantage (2 jokers) If too easy:
- Make the field more narrow
- Scoring zones rather than the whole line


## Coaching Tip:

"Spread out; use the width of the grid"
"We must have a centre forward and 2 wingers"
"run with the ball whenever you see space in front of you"
"don't be afraid to take on opponents"
"when a defender is chasing you use the feints you learned earlier"

Encourage the players to fail, as that allows them to attempt things out of their comfort zone, without trying they will never succeed.

## L1:1 v 1 - Skill Introduction



## Instructions:

4 markers placed $12-15 \mathrm{~m}$ opposite of each other with centrally in a diamond $1 \mathrm{~m}-1.5 \mathrm{~m}$ apart (see diagram).
Max. 2 players with ball line up at the markers. On the coaches call two players opposite each other start dribbling to the other side. In the middle they perform a prescribed or free feint to go around the right side of the markers and accelerate to the opposite marker. After 2 minutes: now go around the left side of the markers.

Progression:

- Speed up tempo (maintain proper execution)
- Take out the markers (perception and communication)


## Concluding tagging game:

All players move with a ball inside a $15 \mathrm{~m} \times 15 \mathrm{~m}$ grid while 1 or 2 "taggers" (holding a bib in their hands) chase the other players and try to "tag" them.

All players (taggers and runners) MUST keep their ball under control at all times.

A player who is tagged or loses control over the ball or runs out of the grid must change roles with the tagger.

The same rules apply for the tagger(s): they cannot tag someone unless they have the ball under control.

To make it easier/more difficult (for taggers):

- More/less taggers
- Smaller/bigger grid


## L1:1 v 1 - Skill Training

## Instructions:

In a grid of approximately $20 \mathrm{~m} \times 30 \mathrm{~m}$ two small goals are placed on each byline with markers on the corners and on the sideline at 5 m from the corners to mark the 'scoring zone'.

Two teams of 6 players maximum line up behind the markers on the sideline as shown. The coach is positioned with the balls between the two goals on one side of the pitch.

On a signal from the coach orange \#1 and yellow \#1 sprint around the corner marker and the nearest goal. The coach serves in favour of the orange player who take on the yellow player at maximum speed. The attacker can finish in either of the 2 goals but must finish from INSIDE the 5 m 'scoring zone'. If the defender wins the ball they can score in one of the opposite goals (one attempt max. each). When the action has ended the players line up on the opposite side.

The coach can manipulate the 1 v 1 through the angle with which they serve the ball.

## Coaching Tip:

Attacker:

- Go at the attacker at speed
- Use a feint to put the defender of balance.
- Threaten to go one side then suddenly attack the other.

Defender:

- Show the attacker one way
- Bend your knees and stand on the balls of your toes so you're able to change direction quickly.
- The best moment to commit is when the attacker takes a heavy touch or slows down.


## L1:1 v 1 - Skill Game



## Instructions:

3 v 3 on a pitch ( 20 m wide $\times 40 \mathrm{~m}$ long) with big goals and goalkeepers. Placed on the halfway line are 3 equal sized 'gates' as shown in the diagram. Each player (orange or yellow) must defend their 'own' designated gate when the opponent has the ball (i.e. player \#1 defends gate 1 , player \#2 defends gate 2 etc.).

The orange goalkeeper starts the game with all outfield players of both teams in grid A. The orange team combines till one orange player beats their opponent 1 v 1 and moves through one of the gates into grid B and tries to score.

If orange scores the game starts again in grid $A$.
If yellow wins the ball in grid $A$ they can immediately score. If yellow scores, the game restarts in grid $B$ with possession for yellow.
If the yellow goalkeeper wins the ball in grid $B$, the game restarts in grid B with possession for the yellow team.

## Step up:

- The attacking team must make a 1 v 1 effort within 30 seconds otherwise the possession goes to the opponent
- Narrow the pitch (smaller gates)

Step down:

- Introduce a 'joker'
- Widen the pitch (bigger gates)

Model Sessions: Level 2

## L2:First Touch - Skill Introduction



## Instructions:

 players with different colour bibs are positioned as follows:a. The orange players outside the centre circle with a ball each
b. The blue players outside the centre circle without a ball
c. The yellow players inside the centre circle without a ball

- The yellow group moves around the circle calling for the ball and moving it with their first touch to pass it with their second touch to a player outside the circle who does not have a ball (anticipation, communication and awareness)
- Change roles after 1-2 min
- Only use left/right foot
- Only use inside/outside foot
- Serve out of hands to thigh/chest
- After passing the ball servers follow their pass to (passively) pressure the receiver on their 1st touch


## Concluding game:

- 8 v 4 in centre circle, mandatory 2 touches to emphasise a quality 1st touch.
- Blue and orange try to keep possession with yellow defending
- Always position 1 or 2 'link' players centrally
- How long does it take for yellow to make 5 or 10
interceptions? Now blue defends and then orange
- Who is the winner?


## Coaching Tip:

- "Know beforehand to whom you are going to play the ball"
- "Try to use 2 touches only, the 1st touch to receive the ball and the 2nd touch to pass it"
- "Do not just move the ball side-ways, try to make a full turn sometimes"


## L2:First Touch - Skill Training



## Instructions:

Positioning game 4 v 4 with 4 'wall' players ( 8 v 4 ) in a $20 \mathrm{~m} \times 30 \mathrm{~m}$ grid (depending on player's ability).

Mandatory 2 touches for all players including the 'walls' who must keep the ball moving (i.e. not allowed to stop the ball with their 1 st touch). This simple restraint sees to it that each 1st touch must be perfect every time the player receives the ball.

## Coaching Tip:

Possible Coaches Remarks:

- "Move the ball with your 1st touch away from the defender(s)"
- "Use body feints to disguise your intention"
- "Make an angle when asking for the ball"
- "Try to position yourself in such a way that you can see as much of the grid as possible"
- "Scan your options before receiving the ball"
- "Walls: help the players in the grid by coaching them"


## Step up

- Reduce grid size


## Step down

- Increase grid size or go back to an easier positioning game (4 v 1 ; 3 v 1 or 4 v 2 )


## L2:First Touch - Skill Game

## Instructions:

- 4 v 4 with 4 walls $(8 \mathrm{v} 4)$ in a $20 \mathrm{~m} \times 30 \mathrm{~m}$ grid with two 2 m goals and a $5 \mathrm{~m}-7 \mathrm{~m}$ scoring zone at each end (see diagram)

Game rules:

- Mandatory 2 touches for every player (MUST touch the ball twice)
- Walls not allowed to stop the ball or play to each other
- Inside the scoring zone one touch finishes are allowed if the ball comes from the wall player between the goals
- Change teams every 2-3 minutes or after a goal is scored


## L2:Striking the Ball - Skill Introduction



## Instructions:

Gplructions: $7 \mathrm{~m}-8 \mathrm{~m}$.

The passing exercise starts with player \#1 at cone A passing the ball to the feet of the player at cone $B$ (who moves away with a dummy run as if getting away from an imaginary defender, then checks back to the ball to receive it).

B bounces back to A1 who plays the killer pass to the first player at cone C .

C1 moves the ball (1st touch) and passes to the player at cone D (2nd touch) and the same pattern is repeated.

All players involved move to the next cone after completing their action/pass (from cone A to B; B to C; C to D and D to A). Every 23 minutes: change the direction (use other foot).
Variation for advanced players

- 2 balls, starting with A1 and C1 at the same time

Concluding Competition: positioning game 4 v 2

- "Count how often you can play a successful killer pass (between the defenders)"
- Every 2 minutes change of defenders and start again.


## Coaching Tip:

"More accuracy, play the ball to your mate's right/left foot"
"Play the ball with more speed"
"Communicate, time your action"

## L2:Striking the Ball - Skill Training

## Instructions:



3 v 1 killer pass positioning game with 9 players.

## Organisation

Two grids of about $12 \mathrm{~m} \times 12 \mathrm{~m}$ (A \& C) separated by a grid of 12 m $\times 5 \mathrm{~m}$ (B).

Three teams of 3 players with different colour bibs, one team in each grid as shown.
The coach is positioned with the balls centrally, next to grid B. The coach starts the game with a pass to a yellow player in grid A . $A t$ that moment one orange player from grid $B$ sprints into grid $A$ to defend/win the ball:
$3 v 1$ in grid A.
Yellow must now look for the right moment to play a killer pass through grid B (with the two remaining orange defenders) to a blue player in grid C . Then immediately another orange player sprints into grid C to defend while the defender from grid A returns to grid B .

If a defender wins the ball in grid $A / C$ or the defenders intercept the killer pass in grid $B$, they change grids with the team that lost the ball.

## Step up or down:

- Make the grids bigger/smaller
- Free or limited touches (2-3) in 3 v 1
- Killer pass: only on the ground or lofted pass allowed as well
- Make easier: 6 players (2 per grid: 2 v 1 ) or harder: 12 players (4 per grid: 4 v 2).


## L2:Striking the Ball - Skill Game



## Instructions:

 pitch with big goals, divided in two grids (A \& B) by a 5 m 'killer pass zone' (see diagram). 2 defenders + goalkeeper and 2 attackers in each half as well as a 'neutral' player ('joker'). All players must stay in their designated grids.The game starts in grid B with yellow + the joker playing 4 v 2 against the 2 oranges.

They must try to play a 'killer pass' through/across the middle zone to a yellow player or the joker in grid A. If the orange players intercept the ball they can score immediately.

The yellow players + joker in grid A try to score against the 2 orange defenders + goalkeeper ( $3 \vee 3$ ). If they score the game starts again in grid $B$. If they lose the ball to orange, the game continues/re-starts in grid A with orange + joker playing 4 v 2 against the 2 yellow players. Players to change roles/grids every 3-5 minutes.

## Step up:

- 2 touches only in $4 v 2$
- No jokers: 2 v 2 (or 3 v 3 ) + goalkeepers


## Step down:

- 2 jokers per grid
- Make grids A \& B bigger


## Coaching Tip:

"Focus on properly playing 4 v 2 first"
"look for the right moment to play the killer pass"
"the right moment is when you are facing forward and make eye contact with the player(s) you want to pass to"

## L2:Running with the Ball - Skill Introduction



## Instructions:

In a $30 \mathrm{~m} \times 30 \mathrm{~m}$ grid the players are divided into pairs with a ball each (for safety reasons the grid should be rather too big than too small!).

One player dribbles in front, the other follows at short distance (change task of leader-follower regularly). In the beginning the speed is low and steady.
The coach asks the players to "scan" the field and be careful to not run into each other.

Next the coach instructs the players to gradually add the following variations:

- Accelerations ("when a space opens up in front of you")
- Changes of direction and turns
- Stop-starts
- Feint stops followed by an acceleration
- Feint turns followed by an acceleration
- Etc

Concluding tagging game (using the same $30 \mathrm{~m} \times 30 \mathrm{~m}$ grid)
The players line up with a ball each and facing the sideline (backs to each other). Distance between the players is $3 \mathrm{~m}-4 \mathrm{~m}$ and is marked out with cones.
When the coach calls "ORANGE" the orange players run with ball to the sideline chased (without ball) by the yellow players who try to tag them before they've reached the line. Depending on outcome the runner or chaser earns a point and we line up again.
When the coach calls "YELLOW" the reverse happens.
Since safety is extremely important, the players must only run in a straight line (stay in their own 'lane').

## L2:Running with the Ball - Skill Training



## Instructions:

Organisation: Outside the penalty box another grid of the same size has been marked out.

Two teams (orange and yellow) are divided in 4 groups of equal numbers ( $\mathrm{A} ; \mathrm{B} ; \mathrm{C}$ and D ) and positioned as shown in the diagram.

Groups orange $A$ and $D$ have a ball each, groups yellow $C$ and $B$ line up between the cones on the byline of the grid.

The exercise starts with the first player of group A passing the ball to the first player of group $B$ (pass between the cones and with speed). Player B controls the ball and runs with it at speed toward the goal.

Player A follows their pass, overlaps and then chases player B who tries to finish (the shot can only be taken from inside the penalty box).
After the action has ended, the yellow player goes with the ball to position $A$; the orange player goes to position $B$.

Now it's group D and C's turn. Groups change sides regularly (use of other foot!). "Who scores most ?"

## Coaching Tip:

- "Push the ball forward every 3-4 steps"
- "Run as fast as you can but keep the ball under control"
- "If the defender catches up with you, this is what you can do:" (demonstrate!)
- Feint to turn and accelerate again
- Feint to stop and accelerate again
- Cut off the defenders line by crossing in front
- Take on the defender 1 v 1 if they get in front


## L2:Running with the Ball - Skill Game

## Instructions:

4 v 4 in a grid of approximately $35 \mathrm{~m} \times 35 \mathrm{~m}$.
There are five gates of 3 m positioned as shown.
The team in possession scores a goal when one of their players runs with the ball through one of the gates.

If the defending team wins the ball, the roles change without stopping the game.
"Which teams scores most?"
Step up:

- The attacking team must make an effort within 30 seconds, otherwise the possession goes to the opponent
- Decrease the gate size

Step down:

- Increase the gate size
- Add another gate
- Introduce a 'joker'


## L2:1 v 1 - Skill Introduction



## Instructions:



- Set up the organisation as shown in the diagram. Grids $A$ and C $20 \mathrm{~m} \times 10 \mathrm{~m}$, grid B $20 \mathrm{~m} \times 15 \mathrm{~m}$, with two 2 m goals on each byline
- All players dribble with a ball in grid B
- Avoid collisions (balls and players)
- Make feints (free choice)
- Accelerate after a feint into grid A or C

Progression:

- Number all players 1-4. On the call of a specific number these players ( i.e. all \#1's) feint and accelerate out of grid B and finish in separate goals (awareness; communication and decision-making!), then get their ball and return to grid.


## Concluding Game:

'Cross the canal' to free zone on other side.
One group (yellow) position themselves in grid $B$ and are the 'defenders'. All other players with a ball each in grid A. On the coaches signal they must all dribble to grid C.

The defenders must eliminate runners by kicking the runners balls out of grid B.

When a defender kicks your ball out of the grid, you have to get it and start to juggle on the side until a new game starts.
"Who wins?" (fastest time by defenders or last runner standing).

## L2:1 v 1 - Skill Training



## Instructions:

Outside the penalty box is a $15 \mathrm{~m} \times 15 \mathrm{~m}$ grid with 6 cones placed as shown in the diagram.

Two teams (orange and yellow) are divided into 2 groups of equal numbers and positioned as shown.
Groups orange $A$ and yellow $C$ have a ball each. The exercise starts with A1 passing the ball to B1. A1 then runs around the central cone to receive the ball back from B 1 . At the moment A 1 starts their run around the cone, D1 also starts to run around the opposite central cone.

A1 must now try to beat D1 in a 1 v 1 to enter the penalty box and finish on goal. D1 can only defend in the grid and is not allowed to enter the penalty box.

The action stops when A1 has finished on goal; D1 captures the ball from A1 or the ball goes out of the grid.

After the action has finished the players involved move as follows:

- A1 to group B (bring back the ball)
- B1 to group A (bring ball from A1)
- D1 goes back to group D (line up at the back)
- Next sequence is C1 passing to D2 with B2 defending
"Which team can score the most?"
Step down: 'Passive' defending by the defenders
Step up: 2 v 1 ('overlapping' player)
After passing to $\mathrm{A} 1, \mathrm{~B} 1$ now 'overlaps' A1 to make it 2 v 1 (see diagram).


## Coaching Tip:

ATTACKER
"Go at the defender with speed"
"Use a fiint to put the defender off balance"
"Threaten to pass to the overlapping player but accelerate past the defender instead
"Show the attacker one way"
"Bend your knees and stand on your toes so you're able to change direction quickly"
The bect moment to commit is when the attacker takes a heavy touch or slows down"

## L2:1 v 1 - Skill Game



## Instructions:

## Organisation:

A grid of $40 \mathrm{~m} \times 30 \mathrm{~m}$ (depending on ability) divided in 2 grids of 20 m $x 30 \mathrm{~m}$ by a halfway line of 4 cones (see diagram). Two small ( 2 m ) goals on each byline and a $5 \mathrm{~m}-7 \mathrm{~m}$ shooting line at each end.
Two teams of 4 players each. The game starts in grid $A$ with the orange team in possession and one yellow defender ( 4 v 1 ). The 3 other yellow players position themselves as shown (one between the goals and the other 2 at the shooting line cones).

The orange team must get a player running with the ball across the halfway line into grid $B$ and score in one of the goals (inside the scoring zone).
At the moment the orange player crosses the halfway line one of the yellow players enters the grid to attack the orange player (1v1).
Which defender commits depends on the 'gate' through which the attacker enters grid $B$ (see diagram).

- If orange scores: restart in grid $A$
- If the yellow defender captures the ball in grid $B$ : restart in grid $B$ with yellow in possession
- If the defender wins the ball in the 4 v 1 , they can score immediately in 1 of the 2 goals (from any distance)


## Variations:

No goals but the attacker must run with the ball across the byline

## Step up:

- The attacking team must cross over the halfway line within 15 seconds otherwise the possession goes to the opponent
- Decrease the grid size


## Step down:

- Increase the grid size


## U8 \& U9



| Playing Format | Under 8 \& 9 |
| :---: | :---: |
| NUMBERS | $7 \times 7$ |
| FIELD SIZE | $1 / 4$ Full Size Pitch Length: $\mathbf{4 0 m - 5 0 m}$ Width: $30 \mathrm{~m}-40 \mathrm{~m}$ |
| FIELD MARKINGS | Markers or line markings |
| PENALTY AREA | 5 m depth $\times 12 \mathrm{~m}$ width |
| GOAL SIZE | Width: $\mathbf{2 . 5 m - 3 . 0 0 m}$ Height: $1.8 \mathrm{~m} \mathbf{- 2 . 0 m}$ |
| GOAL TYPE | Markers, Poles, Goals |
| BALL SIZE | Size 3 |
| GOALKEEPER | Yes |
| PLAYING TIME | $2 \times 20$ minutes |
| HALF TIME BREAK | 6 minutes |
| REFEREE | Instructing Game Leader |

## U10 \& U11



| Playing Format | Under 10 \& 11 |
| :---: | :---: |
| NUMBERS | $9 \vee 9$ |
| FIELD SIZE | $\begin{aligned} & 1 / 2 \text { Full Size Pitch } \\ & \text { Length: } 60 \mathrm{~m}-70 \mathrm{~m} \\ & \text { Width: } 40 \mathrm{~m}-50 \mathrm{~m} \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| FIELD MARKINGS | Markers or line markings |
| PENALTY AREA | 5 m depth $\times 12 \mathrm{~m}$ width |
| GOAL SIZE | Width: $4.5 \mathrm{~m}-5.00 \mathrm{~m}$ Height: $1.8 \mathrm{~m} \mathbf{- 2 . 0 m}$ |
| GOAL TYPE | Markers, Poles, Goals |
| BALL SIZE | Size 4 |
| GOALKEEPER | Yes |
| PLAYING TIME | $2 \times 25$ minutes |
| HALF TIME BREAK | 7.5 minutes |
| REFEREE | Instructing Game Leader |



Better Coaches, Better Players.

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