

2010 NSCAA Convention Clinic Outline Book

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Developing the Adolescent Player for Elite European Football

- * A multi-purpose functional practice to include possession, quick combination play and transition
- * The session will have benefits for players of all positions (including goalkeepers)
- * The practice is designed to develop individual technique, skill acquisition and game awareness
- * Concentration will be on improving: -
 - Space making skills – with & without the ball
 - Speed & accuracy of passes (short and long)
 - Control techniques
 - Awareness
 - Decision- making

The initial exercise will help to improve passing techniques over both short and longer distances. It will also include developing control techniques using a variety of surfaces.

Players will further be able to enhance quick- play combinations as well as their finishing skills.

The progression allows players to demonstrate their ability to recognize when to play short and when to switch the play in order to maintain possession. It is designed to develop a game understanding and improve decision-making.

Goalkeepers are included throughout the session in a variety of roles including shot stopping, maintaining possession and initiating attacking play.

In the end part of the session players will have the opportunity to apply techniques & skills learned throughout the practice together with problem solving and improving their offensive and defensive transitional play.

* I have deliberately chosen a larger number of players with an odd amount of goalkeepers to highlight potential problems coaches often have to deal with.