

Solving Common Problems

Troubleshooting guide

My Team are misplacing too many passes

Get back to basics... practice re-focusing the players by asking them to pass unopposed to targets. Really focus on the passing technique, head over the ball, toes of the standing leg pointing towards the target, striking the ball using the instep in the middle of the ball and following through with the foot through the line of the ball. Once the players are re focused, start the activity again at a slower pace to encourage success.

My players often get caught watching the ball instead of supporting play

Try to start each practice with a game that requires lots of passing and moving under no pressure to get the players into the right frame of mind for the practice ahead. If players still aren't moving as you want them to don't be afraid to regress a drill or move to something simpler to refresh players' memories and get more success.

Players are static and don't move for each other as much as they should

Freezing players during games is a really useful tool to help players see what we see as a coach. When you blow your whistle every player should freeze where they are, ask players questions such as who is a good passing option right now? Or can anybody tell me a good space to move into in this situation? Draw attention to certain scenarios. Encourage the players to answer questions for themselves and allow them time to consider where they should be as opposed to where they are.

Players don't always get their head up when they are on the ball and don't consider their pass

In game situations, only allow defenders to intercept passes; don't allow any direct challenges for the ball. This will allow players more time, confidence and freedom on the ball to look for the right pass.