



Candidate Assistance General Guidelines for Evaluating Soccer

Candidates should consider the following guidelines when observing field sessions.

Technical Warm-up:

- 1) Is there fluid activity with short line or no lines and a lot of repetition?
- 2) Is there a ball involved?
- 3) Do the movements replicate movements found in soccer (changing direction, speeds, maneuvering around and between other players, various types of dribbling, passing and receiving with different parts of the body)
- 4) Does the progression steadily involve more players, more combinations of players more balls, or more variety of movement and stimuli.(players, balls, cones, boundaries
- 5) How does the coach hold the players accountable? How are mistakes by the players addressed?

Small Sided-Expanded Small-Sided Activities:

- 1) Do the technical and tactical challenges replicate challenges found in soccer?
- 2) Do the numbers of players build to 5v5, including uneven numbers, neutral players, small goals and large goals?
- 3) Are the players asked to solve realistic soccer problems that are age appropriate in scope and difficulty?
- 4) Do the players have repeated opportunities to address the recurring themes found in soccer.
- 5) Are the players included in the problem solving process, or does the coach make all decisions towards that end for the players?
- 6) Is technique addressed at this stage?



6 v 6 to 2 Big Goals:

- 1) Should have 5 field players and one goalkeeper per team and two large goals.
- 2) Are the players able to apply the lessons from the earlier exercises to the 6v6 game model?
- 3) Is the coach able to address the recurring soccer themes as they present themselves in the 6v6 game?
- 4) How many players can the coach keep track of in the 6v6 game model?
- 5) Does the coach anticipate the plays or is his reacting and seeing only the result?
- 6) Do the points made during this stage reflect the themes established earlier in the training?

Coaching Methodology:

- 1) Does the coach provide a clear direction to the exercise?
- 2) Is the exercise appropriately challenging for the players' age and ability?
- 3) Does the coach provide appropriate guidance and direction to the players, while also allowing the players enough opportunities to experience the game for themselves?
- 4) The information and guidance from the coach should be specific to the challenges that the players are experiencing in the exercise, but not so specific that the players cannot apply the lesson to their future soccer experiences.
- 5) Does the coach properly manage the activity? Is consideration given to safety, flow of the activity, equal playing opportunity, and time for uninterrupted play?
- 6) How does the coach hold the players accountable? How are mistakes by the players addressed?
- 7) Are the players included in the problem solving process, or does the coach make all decisions towards that end for the player?