

Tactical Development

In all of our AYSO coaching courses starting with U-6, we talk about and teach the Objectives of the Game and The Principles of Play.

Objectives are WHAT should happen.

Principles are HOW objectives happen.

Developing Attacking Tactics

Attacking Objectives.

Score

Advance the Ball

Maintain Possession

And with the Objectives go the five Attacking Principles which are:

Penetration

Depth

Mobility

Width

Creativity

Manipulate Space

Supporting players must be moving and playing the width of the field. How?

Take-overs

Overlapping Plays

Give and Go

Wall Pass

Diagonal Runs

Clearance Runs

Prepare to change Tactics during a Match

If the tactics you planned are not working or not being executed by your players, you should change the game plan.

This change could be as simple as changing the system of play. Even making adjustments to player responsibilities could alter your tactics.

Using Time Wisely

Too often in games, we are in a big a hurry to get the ball to the opponent's end of the field and usually end up trying to force a play that is not ready to happen. Most of the time, when we force plays that are not really there, we lose possession of the ball. In these types of situations, players go in one direction and that is straight forward.

Tactical Development

Developing Defending Tactics

Regain Possession
Delay
Prevent Scoring

An amazing statistic – 53 percent of all goals scored in soccer come from regaining possession in the opponent's third of the field.

With these Objectives go the five Defending Principles of Play.

Delay
Depth
Balance
Concentration
Composure

Understand Where and When to Defend

The 4 D's of Defense.

Deny	What?	The ball
		The turn
		Space
Delay	Why?	Slow down the attack
		Put pressure on the attacker
Direct	Where?	Away from the goal
		Towards support
		To attackers weak side
		Where support wants attack to go
Destroy	When?	The ball is loose and unprotected
		On a signal from the support

Individual Tactics

This the level at which you must start teaching tactics.

Playing 1 v 1, In a 10 x 10 yard grid each player is exposed to both attacking and defending tactics.

Start with maintaining and regaining possession.

Tactical Development

Group Tactics

Start with the lowest level possible and that is 2 v 1 in a 10 x 20 grid.

The focus of the attacking pair is to maintain possession of the ball. This is achieved by the support player being in the best position or moving to create the best passing for the player with the ball. There should be constant movement by the attacking players.

Tactics of Set Pieces

Set pieces occur whenever there is a restart. It is important that you have designed and practiced set pieces for all of the various restarts.

There are secrets to why set pieces work.

Simplicity – Remember, they should be age and skill appropriate

Organization – This must be practiced so that players know their roles and responsibilities.

Deception - Design plays that look the same but are different.

Test the goalkeeper – Shoot quickly and often.

Variety – Don't do the same set piece over and over.

Notes:
