





(FOOTBALL) CONTENTS

7-9 Session 1

7-9 Session 2 10

7-9 Session 3 14

7-9 Session 4 18

10-11 Session 1 22

10-11 Session 2 26

10-11 Session 3 30

10-11 Session 4 34

12-13 **Session** 1 36

42 **12-13 Session 2**

12-13 Session 3 48

12-13 Session 4



AGE STAGE

ADULT

AGE 16-17 14-15 12-13



AGE

10-11 7-9

4-6



STAGE

LATE GO GAMES
EARLY GO GAMES
NURSERY

PLAYER
PATHWAY
PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA

PLAYER PATHWA PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA

OUTCOMES

These workshops will help coaches to further understand the TURAS coaching principles and embed them in their weekly coaching sessions.



These workshops delivered by Leinster **GAA** staff will discuss what age appropriate coaching involves as well as demonstrating a variety of practical coaching activities.

> This coaching resource offers further coaching materials to those coaches working with players aged 7-13.



DELIVER PLAYER





PART-TAKE SESSION WITH EXAMPLES OF **GOOD PRACTICE REVIEW SESSION USING**





GOO Learning



TESTING AND CHALLENGING; ALL PLAYERS SHOULD BE CHALLENGED TO IMPROVE AT THEIR LEVEL

- Are players recognised for effort more than outcome – encourage to try things
- Are the players engaged in the task or are they distracted?
- Do you set targets for players during activities

RESEMBLES THE GAME (GAMES BASED)

- What part of the game did your activities seek to develop
- Were the players motivated to complete the activity
- Did you communicate to the players why they were doing the activity

SHOULD ALWAYS BE AN ENJOYABLE, DEVELOPMENTALLY APPROPRIATE & HOLISTIC GAA EXPERIENCE

- Were the players showing signs of enjoying the session? i.e. positive body language
- Were the activities age appropriate?
- Did you develop the person as well as the player?

UNDERSTANDS THE PLAYER IS AT THE CENTRE OF THE GAME AND PROVIDES INDIVIDUALISED DEVELOPMENT (PLAYER CENTRED)

- Did you use different conditions for different players within activities?
- How did you decide on your pairings/groupings
- Did you try to engage one to one with as many players as possible?

ALL PLAYERS INVOLVED, ALL THE TIME; LOTS OF TOUCHES, LOTS OF DECISIONS

- What percentage of your session included games
- Did your group/team sizes allow players maximum touches
- Did you use questions to facilitate thinking players



PLAYER
PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA



G&A Learning





PLAYER PATHWAY

DI AY TO STAY WITH THE GAA

adult 18+ YRS

LATE TEENAGE 16-17 UR

MID TEENAGE 14-15 YR

EARLY TEENAGE 12-13 YRS

LATE GO GAMES 10-11 YRS

T-9 YRS

NURSERY
4-6 YRS



THE COACH

- Variation. Coach open to trial & error
- Well organised/planned sessions
- Maximise all coaching resources to increase knowledge
- Guide children. Don't tell them
- Be a role model
- Convey Enthuasiasm

AGE 7-9

Kicking

Punt kick Right Hand to Right Foot

Right Hand to Right Foot Left Hand to Left Foot

Handling

Stationary Catch - Body/Low/High

Movement

Use Four Steps, One Handed Bounce Solo

Tackle

Near Hand Tackle

Running Speed Developed through Fun Games — i.e. Chasing Games

Jumping

Jump for distance & in all directions

Agility

Jump for distance & in all directions

Body Resistance Exercises

Fun Squat preformed through "laying an Egg" game Balance & Strength improved through Fun Tug of War Games

ENVIRONMENT

- FUN is number one priority •
- Coach to player ratio 1:8
- Be sensitive to each players development needs
 - Discovery/Exploration •
 - Actual game results are secondary

Decision Making

Players encouraged to move into space

Devise games that require players to look up

SCHOLOGICAL FOR CONCHABILITY OF PLAYERS

Ask players to imagine themselves as role models to improve skills

Use trigger words to develop concentration

Zones

Use zones for basic positional understanding

Players play all positions to experience attack & defence

Small sided games crucial for individual learning

Basic Communication

Call for the ball

THE GAME

- Small sided games, 3v3, 4v4, 6v6, 7v7 MAX
- Zones can be used to stop bunching of players.
- Player fouled takes free
- Players sample all positions. •
- Every child has their own ball at home.

 Play against a wall, with a friend, with group of friends.

THE PLAYER

- Only goes flat out —
 no sense of pace
- Need approval from coach/parents
- Like to show off individual skills
- Small group activities are vital for improvement
- Imagine themselves as inter county players to improve skills



Develop basic awareness of performance through outcomes e.g. Target scores in a minute

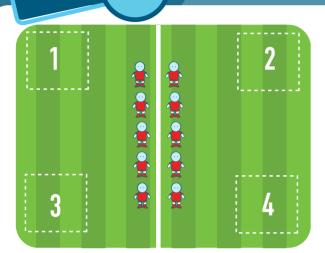




WARM UP-HEADS, SHOULDERS, RUN



HEY COACHING POINTS



This activity works on players reactions and also their listening ability.

Players face their partner with one standing either side of the halfway line.

Whatever body part/action the coach calls the players must touch/do.

After a couple of seconds coach calls a number and players must all run to that corner (compete against your partner).

Progression:

To make it more challenging you can change the name of each corner (use numbers, colours,

Participant Feedback

How can you be fast off the Mark? Head up stay on your toes.

What skill can you use to avoid bumping into others? Side step and spin (Shoulder Roll)

CATCH AND MOVE



HEY COACHING POINTS

This activity will progress the players catching ability from a standing overhead catch



Players pair off and get a ball for each pair.

To start, player A (with the ball) throws it high to their partner so they have to catch the ball above their head (without jumping).

Keep repeating.

After several goes we now encourage the player to jump and catch the ball above their head.

To develop it further, before the ball is thrown, the player without the ball must run around the cone behind them and attack the ball in the air.

Progression:

Standing--->Jumping--->Running and Jumping.

Participant Feedback

Where are you looking when catching the ball Keep eyes on ball.

What should our hands be in when catching?

Where should our knee be when we jump?

Drive knee up for protection, balance and higher jump.

What do we do after we land?

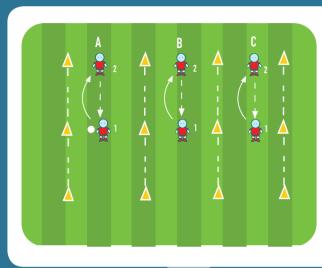
Protect the ball and take your four steps.

What should the catcher shout before they catch the ball? His/Her name.

ATTACH THE BALL



HEY COACHING POINTS



This activity is encouraging high catching and accurate handpassing on landing.

Using cones set up a channel 5m wide and 15m/20m long.

Player 1 with the ball starts in the channel facing player 2.

On the whistle player 1 while jogging backwards throws the ball into the air for player 2 to come forward and perform a high catch.

On landing player 2 handpasses the ball to player 1 and they keep repeating until the end of the grid.

If we need to have three in a group due to space or numbers the player who catches the ball passes it to the third person who in turn passes it to player 1.

Progression:

Add a third person to each group who applies some pressure to the catcher while jumping and also while landing.

Bring in a second ball so the catcher is having to work more often and is constantly up and down.

Participant Feedback

What is the best point to catch the ball? its highest point

Where are your head hands feet? Head – Looking at ball, hands – in a 'w' shape, feet – knee drive

what will slow down your team gaining possession? Waiting for the ball

JAIL BALL



HEY COACHING POINTS

This is a fun game that rewards players for performing a high catch.

(Set up as many grids as possible to avoid large teams)

A grid is set up 20 x 10m with a line of cones across the middle.

Players are divided into two teams (max 3 or 4).

The team who starts with the ball must kick it high into the air with the aim of trying to land it in the opposition zone.

If it lands on the ground in the opposition zone whoever is closest to it must go to jail and perform 10 high catches with the coach before they can join their team again.

If the ball is caught with a high catch that team gets a point.

If the ball lands outside the zone the kicker must go to jail.

Variation:

If players are struggling to keep kicks inside the zone you can allow them to throw the ball into the air

Progression :

A second ball can be added to make players have to think and work more.

The area can we made larger so players have to cover more space in order to perform the catch.

Participant Feedback

How do we stop more then one player going for the same ball? Encourage communication between players.

What will make it harder for the kicking team? Defending team together to close off space.

What will help kickers?
Scanning the opposition grid to see where space is.



PLAYER
PATHWAY
PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA



G&A Learning



PRINCIPLES IN **ACTION**

esting and Challenging; all players should be challenged to improve at their level

nderstands the player is at the centre of the game and provides individualised development (player centred)

esembles the game (games based)

Il players involved, all the time; lots of touches, lots of decisions

hould be an enjoyable, developmentally appropriate & holistic GAA experience

Today I will set up activities to involve my players making lots of decisions when in possession of the ball.



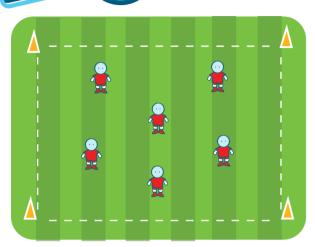




WARM UP- COACH SAYS



HEY COACHING POINTS



Players all start spread out in a large grid.

On the coaches call players must do what is instructed (eg. Get in groups of 3, give someone a piggy back, get in the wheelbarrow position.)

While waiting for the coaches instruction players should be jogging around the grid in random directions.

Last player/s to perform the required activity have to step out and perform 10 of a specific skill before joining back in (solos, catches etc).

Participant Feedback

What direction will you be running in a match?

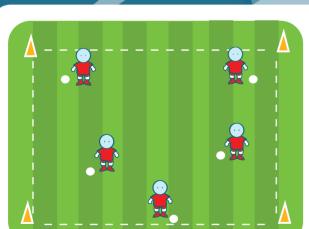
Multi-direction

When will you have to react fast in a match?
To win breaking ball get out in front of marker. Sprint when you hear instructions.

HOT POTATO SOLO



HEY COACHING POINTS



Here players will test their ability to solo the ball both left and right foot at speed without opposition.

Players line out inside a large square (20m x 20m) with a ball each.

Ensure each player has enough space to perform the skill

On the whistle players begin to solo the ball on the snot

Players count how many successful solos they can perform in 30 seconds.

If the ball is dropped or goes above the players head they must go back to zero.

Repeat the challenge with the opposite foot.

Progression:

Add in movement so players have to take four steps before completing a solo.

Players must move in random directions, not in a circle.

Have one player as a statue in the centre of the circle. A stationary player can be added to tackle participants near them.

Variation:

If you do not have enough footballs you can have a ball between two.

Players take two solos and pass to partner.

Participant Feedback

What hand should the ball be held in when performing a solo? Same hand as the foot you are using (Right hand / Right foot)

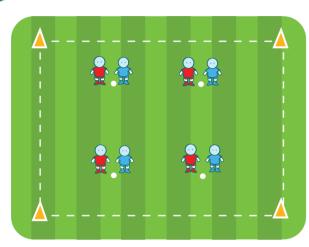
When we are moving how do we ensure we avoid contact? Head up, take your four steps towards space.

What do we do with the ball during the four steps? Protect it.

SOLO PRESSURE



HEY COACHING POINTS



A drill that replicates soloing the ball in multiple directions while under pressure.

A grid is set up 25m x 25m.

Players are paired up with one player getting a ball.

On the whistle the player with the ball must move around the sqaure without getting dispossessd by their partner.

After 30 seconds reverse roles and see who can get more dispossessions.

Progression:

The size of the grid can be made smaller.

Two players can tackle player with the ball.

Participant Feedback

What can the player with the ball do to help maintain possession?

If you are getting tackled from the left side, solo with your right and visa versa.

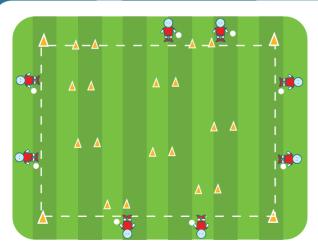
How will you contact with other players? Keep your head up and take your steps into space

Can a side step help you here?
Yes! It will create extra space to perform the skill.

SOLO A GOAL



HEY COACHING POINTS



In a tight environment players must identify space and learn to exploit it.

A large square is set up (25m x 25m) with a variety of small goals randomly placed around the inside (see diagram).

Players start on the outside of the square with a hall each

On the whistle players must try solo the ball through as many of the goals as possible to gain points.

as many of the goals as possible to gain points.

out and do the same.

Each of the goals should be made using as many different coloured cones as possible. Players must go for a different coloured goal each time.

After 30 seconds players count up their scores. Repeat the exercise with the opposite foot.

Progression:

Coaches can move around the square and block off certain goals. This will force players to look up and also encourage change of direction

Players can knock someones ball away while they solo. If successful that person must step out and perform 5 solos before rejoining. If tackle is unsuccessful the tackler must step out and do the same.

Participant Feedback

Why do you need your head up?
To scan the grid and identify goals that are empty

How would a side step be helpful here?

Avoiding contact/tackle and exploiting space

When is the best time to knock someone's ball away During a solo, hop or a fumbled ball.

How can players ensure they protect the ball? Hold ball in two hands when taking steps.





PRINCIPLES IN ACTION

Today I will challenge each player on their kicking. They will kick for accuracy & length. Ability levels will vary from player to player but all will be challenged to improve.

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nderstands the player is at the centre of the game and provides individualised development (player centred)

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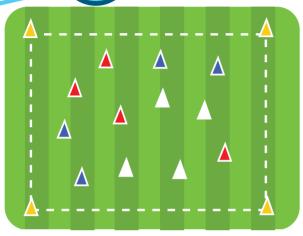




BUMPS, ROUNDABOUTS & STOPS



HEY COACHING POINTS



Using 3 sets of coloured cones eg Red, Blue, White spread these cones out randomly around the whole grid

Blue = Bumps= player jumps over Red= Roundabout= Player must run around White = Stop= Player Squats over cone

Players allowed run wherever they want within grid

Head up

Eyes Open and scanning - like a robot

Players move as fast as they can in any direction

Add extra ABC or RJ as coach likes in between

Progression

Each player with a ball and allow players to practice any skill they like as they move between cones

Add other movement skills instead of runs

Participant Feedback

What targets can we set players? 4 steps Find empty space,

jump high and long, fast feet at roundabouts, Small as a mouse at stops

What do you want players to avoid doing?

Running in circles
Bumping into each other
Following someone else

BRIDGE HICHS



HEY COACHING POINTS



Kickers start with the balls 1 per every 2 players, Bridges wearing bibs

All players start by moving in any direction around the grid (Kickers could be Hand passing to each other, Bridges working on ABC) on coaches call, Bridges get into a "high plank" position as the kickers get any partner and attempt to kick pass the ball over a bridge.

Once the kick is attempted move to a different bridge to gather a kick or to kick

Maybe play 3 games of 10–15 sec and then swap roll

Ball kicked over/under the other player in high plank position to a partner, once you kick

move as fast as you can to a different bridge to receive a pass

Laces pointed in direction you want ball to travel

Encourage HHF, push ball with laces Avoid Kicking ball hard

kick over and under bridge to a partner

Regression
Place ball on ground and kick to partner under

Participant Feedback

Once you have kicked or caught the ball what should you do next?

Move at speed to get to next bridge Scan and call new partner to make sure we have a pair

What way should foot be pointed when kicking?
Toes/Laces pointed at the target
Push ball with foot
No need to kick the ball hard

What should the bridges look like?
Tall
Solid
Not moving



SMASH THE PYRAMID



HEY COACHING POINTS



Players in Teams of 5/6 with their starting position in a circle with a large cone in the

On the coaches call player with the ball must solo/hop in and around centre cone as they turn, and pass to the next player who repeats. Once all players have this done, they must then attempt to hit the cone with the ball by kicking it. Player on opposite side must be aware that ball is to be gathered by them and HP to either player on left or right to kick

Progression

Bigger circle or smaller target, add in a skill before kick is taken (dummy solo right kick

Regression

Bigger target, kick ball on the bounce

Participant Feedback

Should you be standing still when kicking the ball? No kick on the move with good Kicking technique HHF

Players who are not kicking the ball, What should you be doing? Eves on the kicker and ball

On our toes

Make sure ball doesn't get pass us

HICH YOUR POINTS



HEY COACHING POINTS

Participant Feedback

Should you be kicking to max score all of the time? Player figure out their capabilities on distance and accuracy of kicking and move as they need

Should you be standing still for the game? We need to move at all times to find space and also to not always be straight-line kicking.

Do we play the game in silence? We must talk to each to keep count of our score and pick what score we want next

Players working in pairs to get highest score. A score = kick pass from one partner to the other

without ball hitting the ground

Players choose what distance/zone to kick ball into. One partner on each side of the border

Each player with a ball and allow players to practice any skill they like as they move between

Add other movement skill instead of runs.



PRINCIPLES IN ACTION

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Today I will allow lots of opportunities for players to tackle, setting up activities similar to how we should tackle in games.







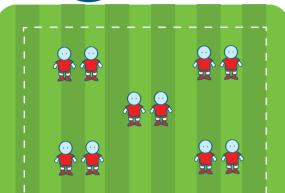




HEY COACHING POINTS

Participant Feedback

What do you need to do to help play this games? Look/Scan for a new free partner Move as fast as they can Take at least 4 steps before you buddy up



Rock, Paper, Scissors, Move

WARM UP

Players in pairs to start with spread out around the grid. On coaches call the pairs play a game of Rock, Paper, Scissors, once there is a winner on this game the pair all split up and find a new partner to play another game with player keeping account of how many games they won.

Progression

Give ball to all players to do a skill after a game and before new game starts (Link to previous skill session) Place ball on ground while playing R, P, S followed by appropriate pick up



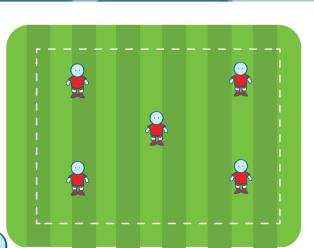
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Participant Feedback

What skills can you use to protect or keep your bib?
Use footwork and body position and don't let chaser see my bib

What else can you do to catch other players bibs? Teamwork, Double/Treble Ups Traps



All players with a bib on their hip, side picked by coach.

Whatever side bib is on player puts that hand behind their back so they only have 1 hand to tackle/catch other bibs with. Bib on left hip = Left hand behind back

Can play as a 1 V all game or spilt group into 2 teams but still end up with 1 winner

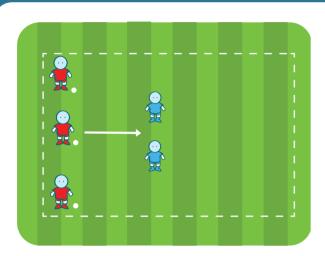
(Encourage attack and going for bibs, tracking others who are chasing someone to get them

(Avoid players standing in corners or not moving)

TACHLE THE BALL



HEY COACHING POINTS



Players get into pairs with 1 ball between 2

Player A must move around grid bouncing the ball basketball style with player B attempting to knock the ball away/touch the ball.

Avoid tackler making contact with ball carrier body (poor tackling)

Depending on numbers and equipment you may play the game with 3 or 4 chasers against the rest of players who all have footballs (May be a progression)

Add in 4 steps solo hop as next step

Participant Feedback

What should the player without the ball be looking to do?
Focus on timing and when to attempt to touch the ball
Getting as close as possible to ball
Correct hand tackle
Foot position

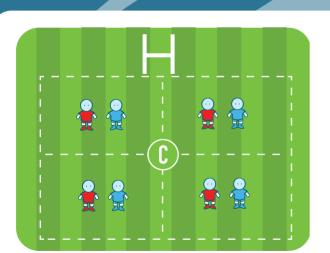
Hand in & Out and tackle the ball

What should the player with the ball be trying to do?
Use body position to protect ball
Swapping from Left to Right and keeping ball as far away from tackler as possible
Evade and create distance

TACHLE DUAL



HEY COACHING POINTS



Divide you're playing area into 4 separate grid with the coach in the middle of the 4

Coach throws ball into one of the 4 grids and the player who gets possession must get the ball back to the coach after he/she has completed a solo/hop all this is done will staying in their assign grid

Once coach has got ball back, he than throws the ball into another grid and game is continue as before.

You can add in a scoring option at also. O

Once the coach has got ball back, he gives it to the other player in the grid who then attempts to kick a score, so both players will have a go at tackling and being tacked in the one game.

Participant Feedback

What stance should the tackler take?

Boxer stance Hands by side

Player with the ball should you just pass the ball over the defender's head?

Maybe I should try and take the defender on and use my skills to get pass them

What are those skills? Boxer stance Side step If the attacker gets pass you what should you do, ston?

I should try and still win the ball but remember that the coach is going to give me the ball once they get it and I must attempt to get in for a score



PLAYER
PATHWAY
PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA

10-11



G&A Learning





TURAS



PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA

18+ 4RS

LATE TEENAGE 16-17 YRS

14-15 YRS

12-13 YRS

10-11 YRS

4-6 YRS



THE COACH

- Simple Tips
- Cheer & Praise
- Organised/Planned coaching sessions
- Check if players have their own ball at home
- Recognise that player development comes before winning.

THE PLAYER

Have a short attention span

Compete with greater intensity against

Enjoy team games

Kicking

AGE 10-11

Hook Kick on both sides of the body. Shoot for points & goals. Punt Kick outside of the foot. Punt kick for distance pass.

Handling

Hand pass using both sides of the body. Reach catch moving towards the ball. High catch with feet off the ground.,

Movement

Solo & bounce maximising four steps

Tackling

Shadowing, block down & shoulder,

Body resistant exercise

Performed through FUN games incorporating Push, Pull, Squat, Lunge movement patterns. E.g. Leap Frog

Encourage use of side step & feint in passion of the ball

> Continue to develop principles of Running & Jumping

Decision Making

When in possession challenge the players to scan options — Pass, Travel or shoot.
Off the ball — Who to mark. How to be an option.

Coach to question players during session and in games on decision making.

> Coach to place conditions on training games to challenge decision making e.g. No play, Kick pass only, Left/Right

Support Play

Support Play — Support your team mates in attack & defence. Coach to praise off the ball support runs.

Coaching sessions are game based to improve team play. Training Games have a variety of focus - Scoring, defending, keeping possession, use width.

THE GAME

ENVIRONMENT

FUN is number one priority •

Coach: Player Ratio = 1:8

At least 1 football for every 2 •

Players enjoy practice. Coach •

sets FUN tasks between

sessions.

Player enjoy game •

than results

experiences rather

- Small sided games 5v5, 7v7,9v9, 11v11 MAX
- Size 4 smart touch football
- Continue to allow players to explore all positions
- Limit plays of the ball in coaching sessions to mirror that of match day rules.
 - Has their own ball at home

Evasion





Outline the link between

practise and improvement.

Develop basic awareness of performance through outcomes e.g. 5 points in a row from 10 meters out.









OUT AND IN

before playing to another player.



HEY COACHING POINTS

Half the players in the inner grid with a ball each. Half the players on the outer grid without a ball

For 1 minute, inner grid players move out and pass to outer grid player. Outer

grid player returns the pass. Inner grid player moves back through inner grid

Participant Feedback

How can you let a player with a ball know you are open?

How can you provide a target for a player with a ball? Hands up in catch position in front of chest

what type of hand pass if close to player? Soft open hand pass

How will you know who is open for a pass? Head up and scan, listen for your name being called

How can you protect the ball when travelling through inner

Minimum plays, carry with 2 hands

△♣ **♣** ▲ **♣**▲

BINGO

2

HEY COACHING POINTS

One player at each numbered cone. When number called, players runs to ball and passes it up the line.

Participant Feedback How should you stand in the line before the coach call? Side on sprinter start

First team to get their ball on cone at the other end scores the point.

How should you stand when the ball is being passed? Up on toes

Hands up

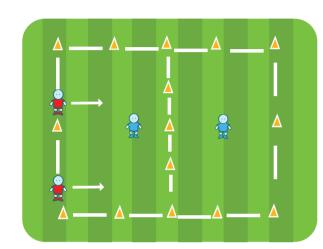
How can you provide a target for a team mate to pass to? Hands up making eye contact

What will slow the ball being moved up the line? Not facing the ball Inaccurate pass Fumbled catch, slow to react to your number being called

GAUNTLET



HEY COACHING POINTS



2 grids with a defender in each

2 attackers attempt to move through both zones keeping possession of the ball

Defenders must stay in their zone

Participant Feedback

When should you pass?
When my team mate is in space

What can help you get space when you have the ball? Perform a side step or a dummy

How can you slow down the attackers?
Backtrack to create doubt
Dummy tackle

BENCH BALL



HEY COACHING POINTS

3v3 in middle with teammates at cone on boundary.

Score when player in middle passes to team mate on outside.

Following a score player on the outside comes into game with the ball.

Passer takes up the position on the outside.

Participant Feedback

Why do you need to scan the grid?
See team mates, see what end is free to score in

When there is no play rule, what must you do to help the ball

when there is no play rule, what must you do to help the ba carrier?

Move into space and call

How will a side step help you here?
Create space for me, give me time to weigh up the options

When is a good time to tackle?
On a fumbled ball
Poor pass
when player is isolated
On 4th step



PLAYER
PATHWAY
PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA



G&A Learning



SESSION

PRINCIPLES IN ACTION

esting and Challenging; all players should be challenged to improve at their level

nderstands the player is at the centre of the game and provides individualised development (player centred)

esembles the game (games based)

ll players involved, all the time; lots of touches, lots of decisions

hould be an enjoyable, developmentally appropriate & holistic GAA experience

During the course of today's session I will strive to give 8 of my players individual feedback on an element of their game.









BACH TO BACH

1

HEY COACHING POINTS



Partners with a ball each move away from each other playing the ball in a variety of ways.

On coach whistle, find partner and line up back to back.

If a player is knocked out they have to perform a skill to get back in.

** " Last 2 players to line up back to back are out for one round only.
Eg Each round 2 players are out and 2 players rejoin."

Participent Feedback

Question the players about the key teaching points of the skill you ask them to perform

Where do you put your hands on the ball when you are bouncing it?

One on top fingers spread

How can you help your partner find you in the grid?
Call his name
Run to him

SOLO TAG

2

HEY COACHING POINTS



All players must play ball every 4 steps.

If tagged, you are out.

** A tag is when the chaser presses the ball against a runner. When a player is tagged, he freezes and completes 5 solos before returning to the game.

Participent Feedback

How will you know where the other players are in the grid? Head up, scan to see the taggers

What should you do to protect your ball? Carry ball in 2 hands between plays Take 4 steps between plays

When performing the toe tap with the right foot, what hand should you drop the ball with?

Right hand



SWIM THE CHANNEL

3

HEY COACHING POINTS

1 v 1 contest in a channel.

ATTACKE

Attacker attempts to travel with the ball from one end of the channel to the other end

Participent Feedback

What can deceive the defender? Side step and acceleration

When moving to the right, what side should you play the ball on?

Right side

DEFENDER

What stance should you be in? side on stance

When should you attempt to tackle? on the attacker's 4th step

RUNWAY





4 attackers attempt to travel with ball through gate at the other end of the zone

2 defenders attempt to delay / dispossess in zone 1

Defenders can only enter zone 2 if the ball is in zone 2

HEY COACHING POINTS

Participent Feedback

How can support runners make it difficult for the defenders?
Players without the ball attempt to exploit space.

What decisions do you have to make when you are the ball carrier?

Should I pass or should I travel?

When should the ball carrier travel with the ball?
When the defenders mark the support runners and leave a gap to run into



PLAYER
PATHWAY
PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA



G&A Learning



PRINCIPLES IN ACTION

esting and Challenging; all players should be challenged to improve at their level

nderstands the player is at the centre of the game and provides individualised development (player centred)

esembles the game (games based)

ll players involved, all the time; lots of touches, lots of decisions

hould be an enjoyable, developmentally appropriate & holistic GAA experience

I have set up todays session to be one that players will really enjoy. I will encourage laughing and fun throughout the session.



SHILL SET SESSION

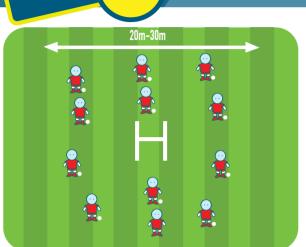




HOOK HICH OVER THE BAR



HEY COACHING POINTS



Players jog around both sides of the goal each with a ball.

On the coaches whistle each player turns and trys to hook kick the ball over the bar.

Players practice using both feet.

Participent Feedback

When kicking with your left foot, what hand do you hold the ball with?

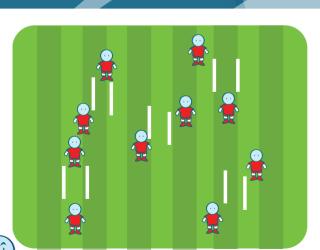
Left Foot - Use the same hand, same foot.

Stop after you kick the ball. Where is your jersey facing when you score or put the ball wide?
Your Jersey should be facing over the bar.

FIND A GOAL



HEY COACHING POINTS



In Pairs try to hook kick the ball through a goal to your partner standing 10–15m the far side of the poles

You get a score for every completed hook pass through the goal to your partner.

Pairs must score in a different goal every time.

Play for 2 mins

Progress

2 points for a clean catch, 1 point for a 1 hop catch, 3 points for weaker foot

Move further or closer away from your partner

Use weaker Foot

Participent Feedback

Keep eyes on ball until it has left your foot.

What sort of ball would you like to receive?

On the chest or 1 bounce in front

What way do you finish facing when kicking to your partner? Finish with your chest to the target

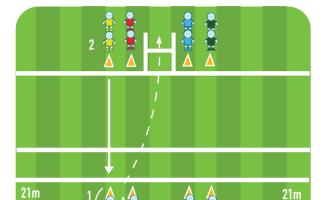
What are you looking at just before you kick the ball? Keep your head down for the count of "1,2"

What do you do when a defender is in the way?
Change direction and keep your head up looking for another

AROUND THE CORNER



HEY COACHING POINTS



2 kick passes to 1 and travels out around 1.

1 hand passes back to 2 who then kick for a point.

Progression

-race to see first line to score. .

Participent Feedback

As a forward where do you want the pass?

Just out in front of my chest so I can take the ball at pace

What do you look at first and last before you strike the ball?

Look at the goal, then look at the ball, then kick it

What is important with your hook kick for score?

Move your leg like a swing

To score for our team, what do we need to do?

Pass accurately, follow pass at pace, quick release from hand
to foot to shoot

HEY COACHING POINTS

CIRCLE SCORE





Participent Feedback
What are the good positions to take up when not on the ball?

Veen maying to be an article for a nece or do nothing and let my

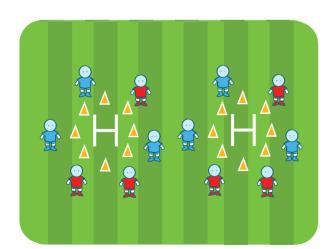
Keep moving to be an option for a pass or do nothing and let my defender drift towards the ball so you will be free in space

Why do you think your ball dropped short?
I shot from too far out , I need to find my scoring range

Where did you finish up facing when that shot went wide? My chest was pointing away from the goal. Great score!

Where did you finish up with your chest?
Chest and Jersey going over the bar

What are the good positions to take up when off the ball?



Circle Score

Play a game at 5-7 aside

Set up an extra goal if needed

No sideline

Aim is hook kick over the bar outside the 20m circle

Whichever team collects the ball after a score they continue to play on.

Conditions- Use as many as you want

Point for every hook kick (pass or score)

No plays allowed



PLAYER
PATHWAY
PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA



G&A Learning







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Today I have set up my activities to ensure my players make a huge number of individual & team decisions. I will ask 3 players to explain a decision they made during the course of the session.





TEAM

PASSING

MOVE

BALL FROM GRID



OUER THE RIVER

HEY COACHING POINTS



ADD A

BLOCKER

COACH

2- 3 Footballs per grid

Kick a high ball to the opposite grid

Ball must be kicked as high as a cross bar

Score if you make a high catch

Progression — 1 player from each team swaps grid and acts as a blocker to stop the ball being caught.

Participant Feedback

What are you looking at when ball is being kicked over? Keep your eyes on the ball as it comes over the river

What should you do to avoid going for the same ball as a team mate or avoid bumping into them?

Look around the area for others and call your name to let team

mates know you are going for the ball.

AROUND THE GRID

2

HEY COACHING POINTS

Using the same grids players go back to the original teams

Players in their groups start throwing the ball for their team mates to high catch the ball.

This is where the coach and instruct on coaching points

Progression Add a blocker from another team to stop the high catches in the grids.

All teams now play together with a blocker in each section trying to move the ball around "Grid to Grid" to get a score

Participant Feedback

How should you use your legs to jump higher? Drive the knee high into the sky

Are your hands close together or far apart? Close together in a W shape

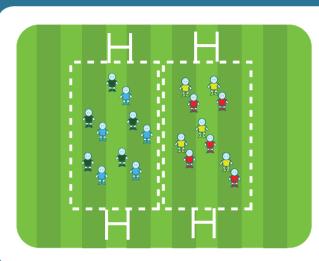
What should you do after catching the ball above your head? Bring ball into body to protect it, take four steps and scan the playing area'.



REACT, CATCH, SCORE



HEY COACHING POINTS



Blue vs Green and Red vs Yellow

2/3 players from each to act as feeders

Game is played as normal but when a ball goes dead a feeder lobs the ball in for a competed high catch

Rotate feeders every 3 mins like rolling subs

Goalkeeper/Last player back must kick ball high for a contested catch

Participant Feedback

How can you help your teammate contest the high ball? Get in around your teammate for breaking ball and be in front of your marker

Which is best when trying to catch the ball, stand tall underneath where the ball is or be running onto it attacking the ball to catch?

Run jump and attack the ball so you will get up higher.

Is there a time when you don't want to catch the ball?
Yes if you can knock the ball down to a on coming teammate

SUPPORT THE STAR



HEY COACHING POINTS



Play 4 teams as above

1 "Star" Player stays unmarked 15m-20m area in front of the goal

Double score is awarded if the "Star" high catches the ball and lays it off to a support player for a score.

All sidelines and kickouts are kicked high into the air.

"Star" can be switched after a score or every few minutes

Progression- "Star" can be marked and can score.

Add 2 "Stars" in the zone

Participant Feedback

Should I stay close to the star or far away?
Stay away from the Star not to help the defending team blocking the area.

What runs should you make as the Star?
Vary the angles of runs to give different options to my team mates. Make runs from side to side at different angles.

Should all players run into support the Star? No some should support and some should wait outside the zone.



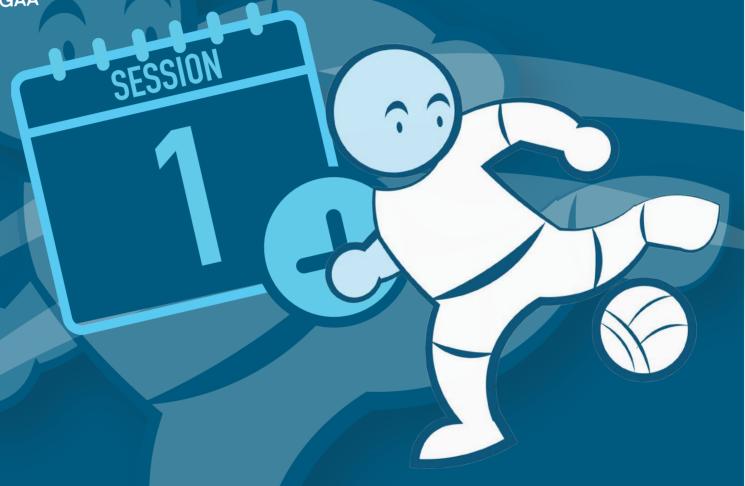


PLAYER
PATHWAY
PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA

12-13



G&A Learning





TURAS



PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA

18+ YRS

LATE TEENAGE 16-17 YRS

MID TEENAGE 14-15 YRS

12-13 YRS

LATE GO GAM 10-11 YRS

EARLY GO GAME

4-6 YRS



THE COACH

- Get to know your players individually
- Well organised and planned sessions
- Games Based Coaching
- Set Individual skill Challenges to do away from the field

THE PLAYER

Begin to see relationship

group

between effort & outcome

Potential changes in maturation rates due to a change in school

Become very self-conscious in front of

Lack of confidence may be a barrier to

AGE 12-13

Kicking

Emphasis on accuracy. Kicking on the move & Kicking for distance. Free taking (hands & ground)

Handling

Low, Chest & High Catch in pressured situations

Movement

Dummy Kick/Solo, feint & Sidestep, Attack ball at full pace. Chip lift.

Tackling

Shadowing player in possession both on & off the ball

Body resistant exercise

Performed through FUN games incorporating Push, Pull, Squat, Lung movement patterns. E.g. Leap Frog

Evasion

Encourage use of side step & feint in passion of the ball

Running

Challenge players to stop suddenly to develop deceleration FITTESS

Decision Making

Play conditioned games to create pressure on players decision making

gain & maintain possession of the ball under pressure

> Learning to work in team environment, individual decisions now has more impact on team outcome.

Team Play

Encourage and support team mates vocally

Work on teams ability to create space when in possession

Work on teams ability to deny space when not in possession

THE GAME

- Small sided games 5v5, 7v7,9v9, 11v11 MAX
 - Size 4 football •
- Continue to allow players to explore all
 - All players experience game time in matches
- Limit plays of the ball in coaching sessions to mirror that of match day rules.

Activities focus on building skills to



ENVIRONMENT

FUN is number one priority •

Coach: Player Ratio = 1:10 ●

Players development takes

Fun & Enjoyment are a major •

priority over results

theme of all sessions

At least 1 ball for every 2 players •



DE PLOUERS

Players aware of how

activities are used to improve

specific skills. Look for

feedback from players to

question this.

Using imagery ask players to mirror recent pieces of play by their hero's





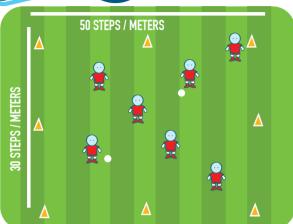




WARM UP



HEY COACHING POINTS



Mark out a big square as seen in diagram

1 ball per three players

All players moving freely in square

Player on the ball has to find player not with a ball. Can't pass to same player twice in a row

Coach can blow whistle every 60 seconds and incorporate dynamic movements ie.squat. lunge, hamstring kicks, high knees, hell flicks.

Participant Feedback

How will we encourage players to find a pass?
Play with their head up. Scan the zone for options & call a player who is free. No more than 7 seconds on the ball

How can you encourage accuracy in kicking? Aim kick pass 1 bounce in front of the player

How can we challenge our players more?

Add in 2/3 people to intercept. No tackling only intercepting.

GAMES BASED ACTIVITY



HEY COACHING POINTS

EL 21 21 C

14m line to 45m line with 7v7 inside. (Start with full width but judge it on numbers & ability)

Possession based game with two teams and coach © starts with the ball.

A kick passes to your team mate is a point. Ball doesn't have to be caught cleanly.

First team to 10 points wins.

Hand passes are allowed in between but the objective is to get a kickpass to your team without the other team touching the ball.

Participant Feedback

How can we encourage players to kick pass?

Teammates not on the ball to run in to space & not towards player on the ball. Praise good kicking.

Should player on the ball be looking to hit player directly or into the space player is running to?

Space. Gives player a greater target to aim at

How can we make this more difficult?

No handpassing, kicking only. 3 passes for a score rather than 1.

PRACTICE THE SHILL



HEY COACHING POINTS

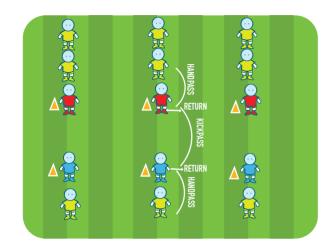
Participant Feedback

Should kick passes go to chest here?

Yes. If mistakes happen lets learn from them.

If kick pass is too short for 1 individual player what can we do? Challenge players to use both feet all the time. Different kicking style ie. Punt kick instead of hook.

How can we progress this activity? Use of both feet. Challenge players to get "x" amount in a row.



Groups of 5.

Ball starts at the end with 2 players. Red and Blue players stay on their cones. Yellow players are moving.

First yellow player plays hand pass to red.

Red returns to same vellow player who kicks to blue and continues his run to receive back off blue.

He finishes by hand passing to next yellow player who does the same coming back

Rotate the red and blue players.

GAMES BASED ACTIVITY





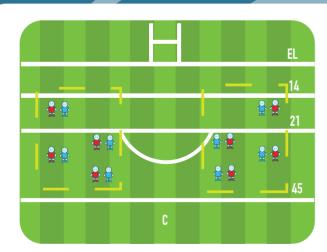
Participant Feedback

How can you assist player on the ball? Call name. Hands up. Point to where you want the kick pass.

HEY COACHING POINTS

How could we make this more successful if we felt there wasn't many kick passes happening?

5v3 instead of 4v4. Attackers have 2 free players now. Change 3 defenders every few minutes.



Two 4v4 games either side of the pitch.

Mark out squares from 14m to 45m and allow for space in the middle

Possession based games where the objective is for teams to get two 15m+ kick passes and clean catch in a row

They are then allowed outside the square and shoot for point.

Swap teams around so everyone gets a chance to play against everyone

PLAYER
PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA



G&A Learning

12-13

SESSION

42

PRINCIPLES IN ACTION

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nderstands the player is at the centre of the game and provides individualised development (player centred)

esembles the game (games based)

ll players involved, all the time; lots of touches, lots of decisions

hould be an enjoyable, developmentally appropriate & holistic GAA experience

Today all my activities are game based to bring all the skills of the game into play.







SESSION 2

WARM UP: DODGEBALL



HEY COACHING POINTS



Two small squares with equal teams in both

Roughly a ball between 2/3

Objective of the game is to try and hit the other team members and knock them out

You can also get a team member out by catching the ball

You can only aim for the waste down

You get a point for each time you hit an opposing player

No players eliminated

Participant Feedback

Would this activity be useful to start if 3 or 4 players arrive early?

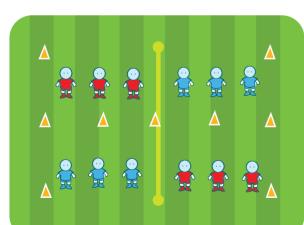
Yes. Start 2v2 and as players arrive allocate them to either team so it builds into 2v2, 3v3, 4v4 etc.

How can we challenge our players more in this warm up? More footballs. Also reward player who catches the ball by allowing them to bring a team members back in

PRISONER BALL



HEY COACHING POINTS



Four small squares roughly 10m x 10m

Yellow line in the middle is tape tied around the top of two poles

3 or 4 players in each square

Red players are trying to kick the ball over the tape into the other red players square

If the ball lands in the square the player who is closest is eliminated.

The eliminated player must perform a skill before rejoining the game.

Same goes for the blues .

Participant Feedback

How can we give our players a greater chance to catch the ball?

Encourage other team to kick high over the net giving catching team good opportunity to catch.

Should we as coaches praise every catch/attempted catch?
Yes. Lets build confidence in each of our players. Catching in some players can be a confidence issue.

How can we challenge our players more in this activity? Lets focus on a specific catch. Start with chest catch only then build into high catch only.

PLAYER IN THE MIDDLE



HEY COACHING POINTS

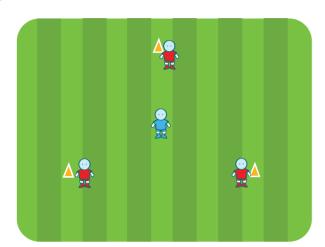
Participant Feedback

Should players remain rigid on the cones?

No. Lets encourage our players to move left and right and attack the ball. Lets develop the reach catch in this activity.

How can we progress this activity if we feel it is too simple? Add in an extra football.

After two chest catches they must do a high catch.



3 players at 3 cones in red

1 player in the middle

Objective is for the three in red to maintain possession by passing the ball from one

Players in red trying to develop the reach catch

Rotate player in blue

CAMES BASED (END-ZONE GAME)



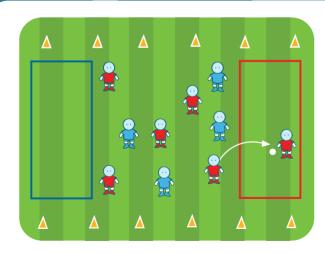


Should we allow opposing players in the end zone here? No lets encourage the attacking team to only be in and end zone. No standing in the end zone.

HEY COACHING POINTS

Do we want players catching the ball static in the end zone? No lets encourage players to move around and look for players to time run into the end zone.

Can we make this activity more challenging for our players? Yes. 2 points for a kick pass and catch in end zone. Have a 2v2 in each end zone. They are the only players allowed in the end zone. Rotate these players.



No opposing player allowed in opponents end zone

5v5 / 6v6

2 large squares at either end that are the full width of the pitch

Objective of the game is to catch the ball in your "end-zone"

Players can hand pass or kick but ball must be caught in the "end zone" to score a point

Once you score you leave the ball down and the other team attacks



PLAYER
PATHWAY
PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA



G&A Learning

12-13
GGG
SESSION

PRINCIPLES IN ACTION

In todays session I will ask players to mark a player they feel will really test them to play their best.

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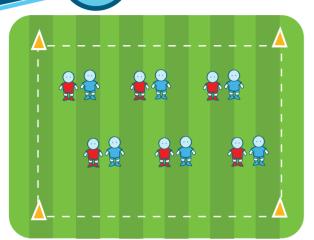




MOVEMENT WITH OR WITHOUT THE BALL.



HEY COACHING POINTS



Mark out a grid using cones. Size will depend on number in session. 2 teams red bibs vs blue bibs. No more than 8v8 so possibly set up 2 grids. Try get 5 passes in a row = 1 point.

Start off with a tennis ball, left hand only, right hand only etc.

Progression

bring in football and use hand pass.

Make square bigger and allow kick pass.

Drop ball, turnover or out of bounds give possession to other team.

Participant feedback

How do we encourage use of space?

Player in possession cannot move forcing team mates to create options.

Diagonal balls and head up looking for player.

When should we play a short pass?

To retain posession when long pass not on.

How do we encourage communication? Use of names when looking for a pass.

When should we not pass the ball?

Do not pass the ball unless player looking at you.

Dont throw for the sake of throwing.

ACTIVITY 2



Participant feedback

What position should hands be in to recieve the ball?
Out in front, chest high, fingers spread and thumbs pointing together.

HEY COACHING POINTS

What position for the head?
Up and looking for the next ball.

What postion for the feet? Up on the toes no flatfeet.

How can we adapt this to a match scenario?

Encourage pass and move. Keep heads up and anticipate where next ball is coming from.

Set up 7 sets of cones opposite each other. 10m apart. A B C D E F G. 2/3 players per cone.

A pass to A and follows the ball.

A pass to B and follows the ball.

A pass to A and then diagonally along the line.

Try to get the ball moving a full circuit without any mistakes.

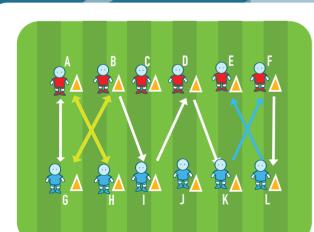
Start by throwing the ball, underarm throw and follow your pass.

Introduce the hand pass L+R

In 3. move the ball diagonally along the lines, still following your pass. when rhythm going introduce a second, third ball etc.

Tip

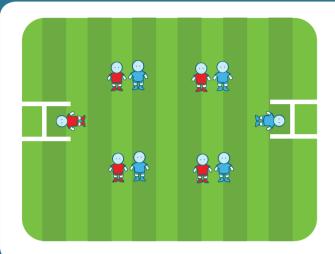
Use different skills to incorporate spacial awareness, movement through congested spaces and concentration.



OLYMPIC HANDBALL



HEY COACHING POINTS



Pick 2 teams (7v7 8v8) Put bibs on. 2 goals

Aim of the game, throwing smaller ball to start, Must keep possession and score in opponents' goal. Player with the ball cannot move. Can only score by throwing.

Progression.

Condition the game allow the player in possession to take their 4 steps. Introduce the hand pass rather than the throw pass.

TIP

Condition the game to focus on specific skills ie. Left hand pass, right kick etc. or if you recieve a kick pass you must hand pass. Decrease the size of the pitch to raise the intensity.

Player with the ball cannot move therefore the other players must do what? They have to make the runs off the ball to create options.

How does player with the ball create space? Throwing Diagonal balls to create space.

When should you only pass to another player? When they are looking at you.

What changes can we make to the activity to encourage inclusivity? If the same players involved all the time introduce conditions so each player on the team must touch the ball before scoring etc.

ACTIVITY 4

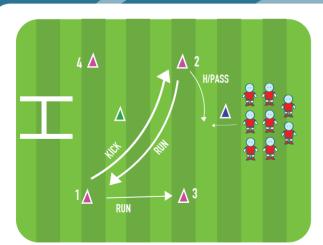


HEY COACHING POINTS

Where is the correct place to handpass the ball? Chest high and in front of player so they dont have to break stride.

Why should player 2 sprint diagonally in front of attackers? To take the defenders eye off the ball.

When might this be useful in a match scenario? Wing forward plays the pass and makes the run forcing the backs to make a decision stay or go with the man. Thus, creating space...



Max 16 players

Set out 4 pink cones .2 On 21m line and 2on the 45m line

Green cone about 25mtres from goal and blue just outside 45m line.

Defenders start on the pink cone's attackers on the blue. Token defender on

Attackers attack in groups of 3.

1 kicks to 2 and runs to 3

Attackers advance towards Token defender and work score

Start from other side next time and alternate

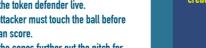
Switch after 8 mins and keep alternating Token Defender.

Progression.

Make the token defender live. Each attacker must touch the ball before they can score. Bring the cones further out the pitch for

longer scoring opportunities.

2.hand passes to BLUE and SPRINTS to 1.



PLAYER
PATHWAY
PLAY TO STAY WITH THE GAA



G&A Learning

SESSION SESSION

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During the course of todays session I will strive to give 4 of my players individual feedback from our most recent match and see can they act on it during todays session.



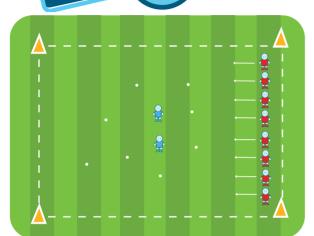




DYNAMIC WARM UP



HEY COACHING POINTS



Set out a defined grid using cones. 2 safe areas at either end.

Every player gets a bib and hangs it out of the back of their shorts. (mouse) Select 2 players to be catchers in the middle (cats)

On the whistle try to make it across from one side to the other whilst retaining your bib. No holding onto bibs and catcher can only pull the bib.

When you're caught you become a cat.

Keep going till only 1 or 2 left.

Progression

second round throw out a line of footballs, and this time you must make it across and pick up a ball along the way and retain your bib.

Round 3. ball each and the player must solo across to the other side and retain bib also.

Participant feedback

What skills can we use to evade the cat?

Observation, the shimmy, feint side step.

What skill can we use to catch the mouse? The near hand tackle.

When is it easiest to catch the mouse? When they bending down to pick the ball.

When might you use this in a match? When closing down a player.

When and why to use this activity?

Great energizer to get the heart pumping during the warm up and useful to revisit skill practised in previous sessions.

NEAR HAND TACKLE



HEY COACHING POINTS

Set out lots of mini goals 2 cones 1m apart.

Working in pairs, one ball between 2.

Player 1 travels around through the cones with player 2 shadowing as a token defender.

Switch and repeat.

Round 2 token defender becomes active and must try to win possession, using the near hand tackle.

Round 3 against the clock as many as you can in 2 mins. 1point for goal and 1point for dispossession, then switch.

Progression

all players have a ball each must stay inside grid and get through as many goals as possible. One dispossessor in the middle. When youre caught youre out.

Participant Feedback

What hand should we use for the tackle and why?

Hand nearest to the ball, because it doesnt allow you to put your hand on the other players back.

When should we tackle the ball?

Try to hit the ball when it is in the air i.e.. Between the soloers foot and hand.

What are the benefits of soloing off both sides?

You can swap to other foot to keep the ball away from your opponent and it allows you to use arm to hold player off.

What do we do with players that are OUT?

When playing games where players are out, make sure players on outside are working in pairs (skill of your choice) working rest.

52

TACHLE CHANNEL



HEY COACHING POINTS

Participant Feedback

What is the aim of the ball carrier? To beat player in the middle and keep the ball.

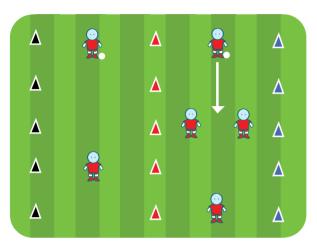
What skills needed?

The solo, feint, sidestep roll the tackle.

What is the aim of defender?

Tackler hold the player up, use near hand tackle, show him onto his weaker side. Attack the ball when he bounces or solos it.

What happens when we win/lose posession in the middle? Winner becomes attacker loser switches back to defender



Tackle Channel

Mark out channels with cones 10m apart between the 21m line and 45m line. 1 player starts at the end of the channel and tries to solo through the channel. Player in the middle must tackle his opponent. Player must stay inside the cones. Swap positions at other end.

Possession vs Tackle

Use layout similar to above.

4 players per zone. 1 at each end and 2 competing in the middle. Kick the ball out between players who compete to win the ball. Player with ball must try pass to player at opposite end. The other player automatically becomes a defender and must try dispossess. Rotate players every 2 minutes

NO BLOCK DOWNS



HEY COACHING POINTS

Participant Feedback

When should I pass or shoot?

Always pass to player in better position. Only shoot when 85% or more confident of scoring.

What skills are needed as a defender?

Frontal block, near hand tackle, showing player onto weaker side and holding up player.

How does the tight space benefit the players?

This is pure chaos and congestion resulting in great crack and high tempo. Players will learn to perform under pressure and pass the ball to the person in the better position for the shot. Many chances to perform the block and tackle.

How do we ensure high tempo during the activity? Make sure you have plenty of balls in each goal and quick restart after each score etc.



Game played between 21yd line and end line and full width of the pitch.

I goal on each line, 2 teams, full rules,

The keeper must start each play with a handpass.

The ball must be kicked over the bar for a score.

If you score YOUR keeper restarts the game if wide OPPOSITION.

Get blocked down, or dispossessed minus one point and turnover.





AS CHILD COACH RESOURCE

Coaching Sessions developed by the following Leinster GAA staff:

Alan Monahan — Wexford GAA



Barry Teather — Meath GAA



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