DEFENDING TACTICAL SITUATION 5

Putting Pressure on Midfielders Positioned Between the Lines

Putting Pressure On Midfielders Positioned Between The Lines 95
Tactical Analysis: Pressing Midfielders Who Move To Receive In Free Space Near The Sideline 99
Session For This Tactical Situation (5 Practices) 100
1. Pressing Midfielders Positioned Between the Lines and Retaining a Compact Formation 100
2. Applying Immediate Pressure on Midfielders (Prevent Them From Turning) in a Dynamic Zonal Practice 101
3.Applying Immediate Pressure on Midfielders (Prevent Them From Turning) in a Dynamic Zonal Practice (2) . 103
4. Pressing Midfielders and Retaining a Compact Formation in a Zonal Dynamic 9 v 9 Small Sided Game..... 105
5. Pressing Midfielders and Retaining a Compact Formation in a 7 Zone Dynamic 8 v 9 Small Sided Game..... 106

Tactical Analysis: Pressing Midfielders Who Move To Receive In Free Space Near The Sideline

If one of the opposition midfielders shifted towards the sideline to receive within the free space, Borussia Dortmund triggered special mechanisms to deal with the situation.

Situation 1

Red No.8 moves towards the sideline to receive within the free space (blue zone shown in diagram).

Borussia Dortmund's defensive midfielder (5) does not follow his movement, so that he is able to help retain the midfield line with good shape and balance.

As No.8 has moved into Reus's zone of responsibility and receives the pass from No.4, Reus (11) is the player who moves to close him.

As there is already a player inside his zone of control (red No.2) his main aim is to prevent No.8 from turning with the ball and passing towards No.2. Lewandowski (9) drops back near the ball area to help double mark red No.8 and Kehl (5) shifts into a supporting position.

Situation 2

If the distance between the opposition midfielder No.8 and the winger (Reus) is far enough and Reus realises that he is unable to close him down in time to prevent him from turning, the best option was to stay focused on the full back (2) within his zone of responsibility.

The player who takes over the role of contesting red No.8 is the centre forward (9) while the other Dortmund midfielders drop back to retain a safety distance.

©SoccerTutor.com

Session For This Tactical Situation *(5 Practices)*

1. Pressing Midfielders Positioned Between the Lines and Retaining a Compact Formation

Objective

Retaining a compact formation and limiting the available space for the opposition midfielders.

Description

This is a simple practice within a 50 x 50 yard area. There are two centre backs positioned on the blue cones (red No.4 and No.5).

The practice starts as soon as one of the red centre backs moves forward with the ball. The closest yellow player (No.9 in diagram) takes up a defensive position and the rest of the players adjust their positioning, making sure to retain short distances, keep a straight line and maintain a good defensive shape. When the man in possession stops his forward movement the yellow players also stop. When the player in possession passes back, the yellow players move forward all together as a compact unit.

Coaching Points

1. The key in this practice is for all the yellow players to constantly retain a compact formation.
2. Players need to have quick responses to the changing situation, depending on the red player's action.

PROGRESSION

2. Applying Immediate Pressure on Midfielders (Prevent Them From Turning) in a Dynamic Zonal Practice

Objective

Applying immediate pressure on the opposition midfielders to prevent them from turning.

Description

This is a high tempo practice. There is a 45 x 8 yard zone as shown in the diagrams. The 4 red defenders are positioned on the blue cones and the red midfielders (6 and 8) move freely within the light blue central zone.

The coach starts the practice by passing to one of the centre backs and the reds pass the ball around. The yellow players must take up positions according to the position of the ball, retaining good shape and cohesion.

The reds aim is to pass into one of the mini goals, either by a full back's pass (from the blue cones within the dark blue zone) or by a midfielder receiving within the light blue zone, turning and passing into a mini goal.

The yellow players try to prevent the reds from achieving their aims by immediately applying pressure on the man in possession and by creating defensive triangles to provide cover in case the red player decides to beat his direct opponent. The coach keeps passing new balls inside to keep the tempo high.

Restrictions

1. The full backs must score from within the dark blue zones and the midfielders can score from anywhere, but they must receive within the light blue central zone.
2. When the coach passes a new ball into play, there should be at least one pass played between the defenders before they try to score. Passes between the midfielders are not allowed.
3. The yellow players should only enter the blue zone after the pass towards the player within their zone of responsibility has being made.

Coaching Points

1. The yellow players need to constantly retain a compact formation.
2. The practice should be played at a high tempo throughout.
3. Players need to react quickly to take advantage of the transmission phase.
4. Communication between the players is important to retain short distances and collectively react to the changing situation.

PROGRESSION

4. Pressing Midfielders and Retaining a Compact Formation in a Zonal Dynamic 9 v 9 Small Sided Game

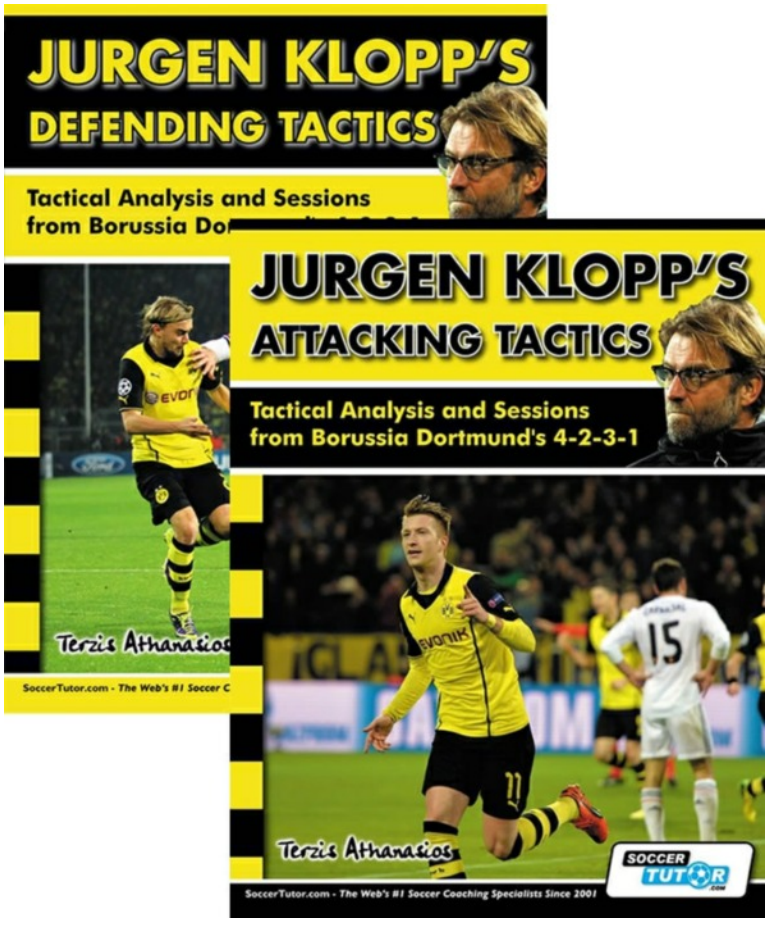
Description

This progression is a competitive 9 v 9 game between two teams. The team in possession (red in diagram) try to find a way to pass the ball towards the forwards within the low white zone. As soon as this happens, the forwards (red 9 and 10) play against the strong side's defender (No.15 in diagram) who enters the playing area. If the yellow players win possession, they must then finish their counter within 8-10 seconds. After five attempts the teams switch roles.

Restrictions

1. The full backs must pass forward from within the dark blue zones and the midfielders can pass forward from anywhere, but they must receive within the light blue central zone.
2. The forwards of the defending team (yellows) are not allowed to enter the high white zone to put pressure on the centre backs. However, if the defender with the ball moves out of it they can then contest him.
3. The defender on the strong side can close the forward down only after the pass has been made.

Learn Klopp's 4-2-3-1 System of Play, Tactics, Each Player's Responsibilities, Positioning & Movement With Every Possible Phase of Play...



BUY YOUR COPY NOW!

Full Colour Print and/or eBook

Worldwide Shop: BUY NOW

USA / Canada Shop: BUY NOW