

GOAL ANALYSIS

Building Up Play Against Opponents who Press High Up the Pitch (2)

05-Sep-2009: World Cup 2010 Qualifying

Spain 5-0 Belgium (4th Goal): Silva - Assist: Arbeloa

Spain in a 4-4-2 vs Belgium in a 4-2-3-1



Spain have a throw in deep in their own half on the left and Belgium press in the high zone.

Riera checks away from his opponent and Capdevila throws the ball to him and moves to provide immediate support.



4 Belgium players press the ball but Spain are again able to keep possession in their own half with good movement and above all with good angles and distances to support the player with the ball.

Puyol is positioned at the bottom, Alonso at the top, Capdevila to the left and Pique to the right.

Riera, Busquets and Xavi are also inside the marked zone and build a 4 (+3) v 4 situation (like a rondo possession game).



In this case Spain keep possession in the left half of the pitch and when the opponents are drawn into this area, they move to quickly switch the point of attack from the left to the right.



The situation created in this area is a 4 (+3) v 4 as shown in the diamond zone.

The ball is moved very well with short passes and good support/movement (pass, 1-2 combination etc) from one side to the other.

Arbeloa uses the full width of the pitch and Pique passes to him into the large space on the right in the opposition's middle zone.



Arbeloa dribbles forward very quickly and Silva, Xavi, Riera and Villa also show fast running to get forward and support him in and outside of the opposition's penalty area.

Arbeloa passes to Silva and he dribbles the ball inside.

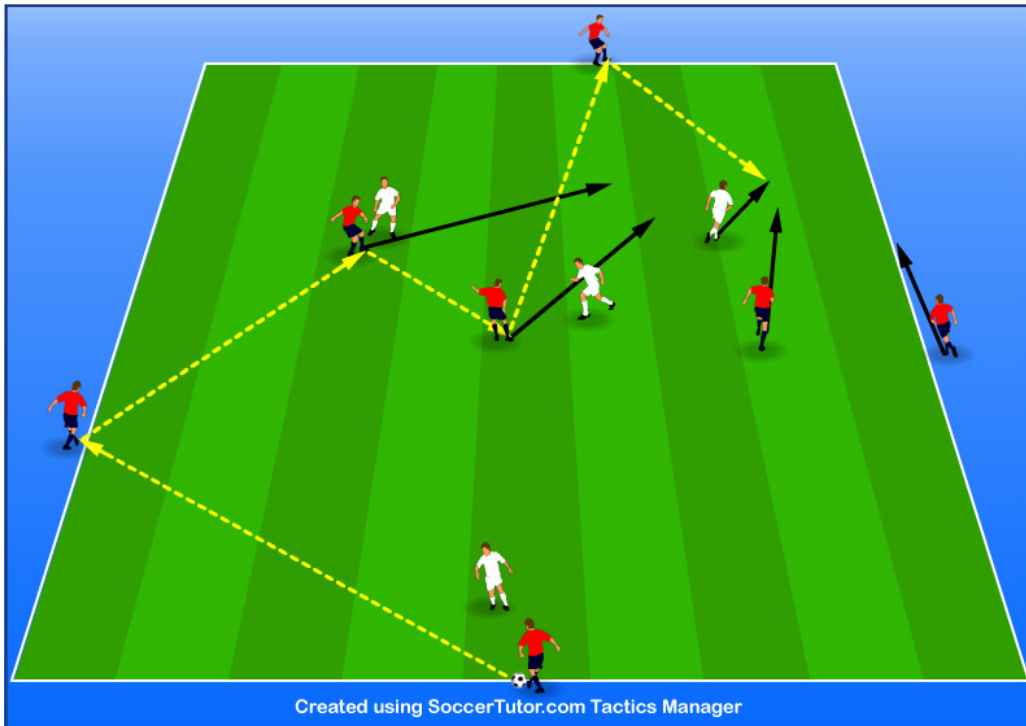


The defenders do not close down Silva quick enough and with an excellent finish he scores in the far corner.

(If 1 or 2 defenders who were near to Villa and Riera had closed down Silva, he also had the solution to pass to his teammates in the penalty area).

SESSION FOR THIS TOPIC *(5 Practices)*

1. Possession Play & Pressing in a 7 v 4 Transition Game



Objective

We work on keeping possession and immediate pressing when the ball is lost (to close the time and space).

Description

In an area 18 x 12 yards we work with 11 players. The red team have 7 players with 4 players on the sides of the grid and 3 players inside. The whites have 4 players all inside. At the bottom and at the top we use centre backs and attacking midfielders or strikers. At the sides we use full backs or wide midfielders/forwards. On the inside we use central midfield players (CM, LCM or RCM).

The objective for the red team is to keep possession and if they lose the ball they make a quick transition to defence and try to win the ball back immediately. (With the ball - OPEN, when we lose the ball - CLOSE).

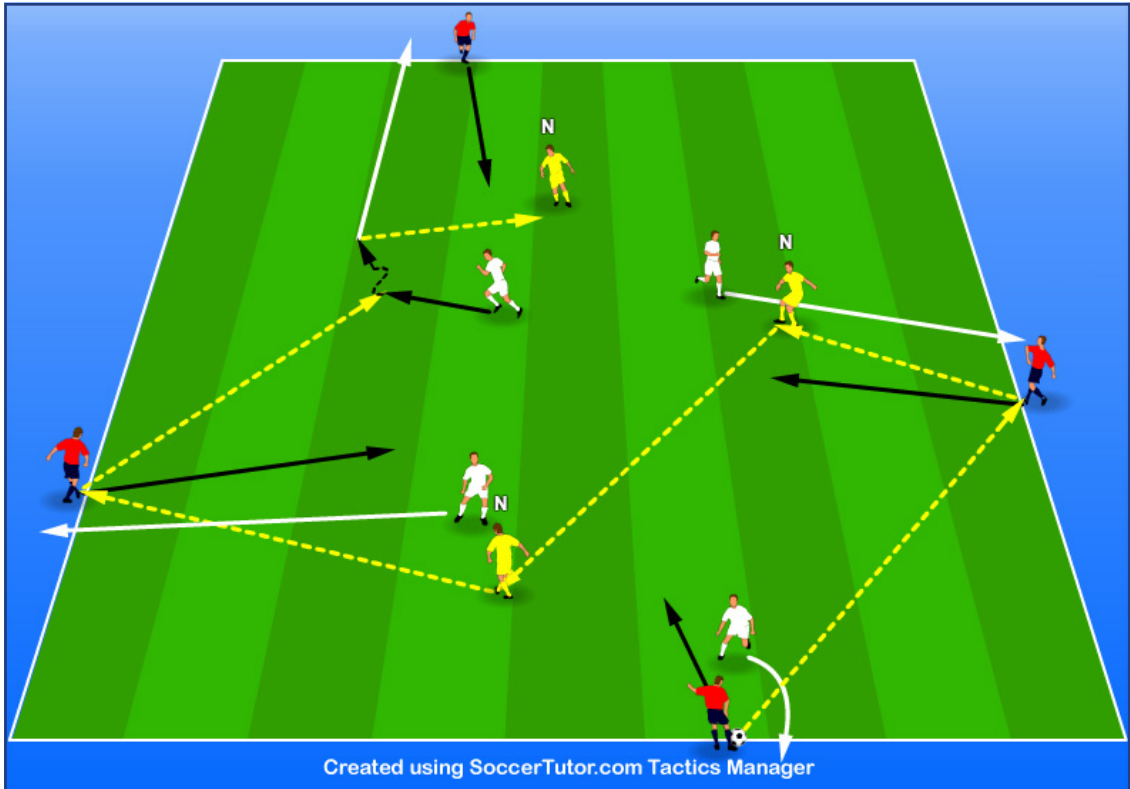
If the reds complete 8-10 passes they get 1 point, if the reds keep possession for 30 seconds they get 2 points. If the whites win the ball and complete 4-5 passes (or keep possession for 6 seconds) they get 1 point.

Rule

The 4 outside red players are limited to 2 touches, the 3 inside red players have 1 touch and the white players have unlimited touches.

PROGRESSION

2. Possession Play & Pressing in a 4 (+3) v 4 Transition Game



Description

In this progression to the previous drill we now have 2 teams of 4 and 3 neutral players (inside) who always play with the team in possession. The team which starts with the ball have all their players at the sides.

The objective for the reds is the same again but when the whites win the ball, both teams change roles and make a transition from attack to defence and defence to attack respectively (the whites take the positions at the sides and start possession as the reds move inside and start to press the ball).

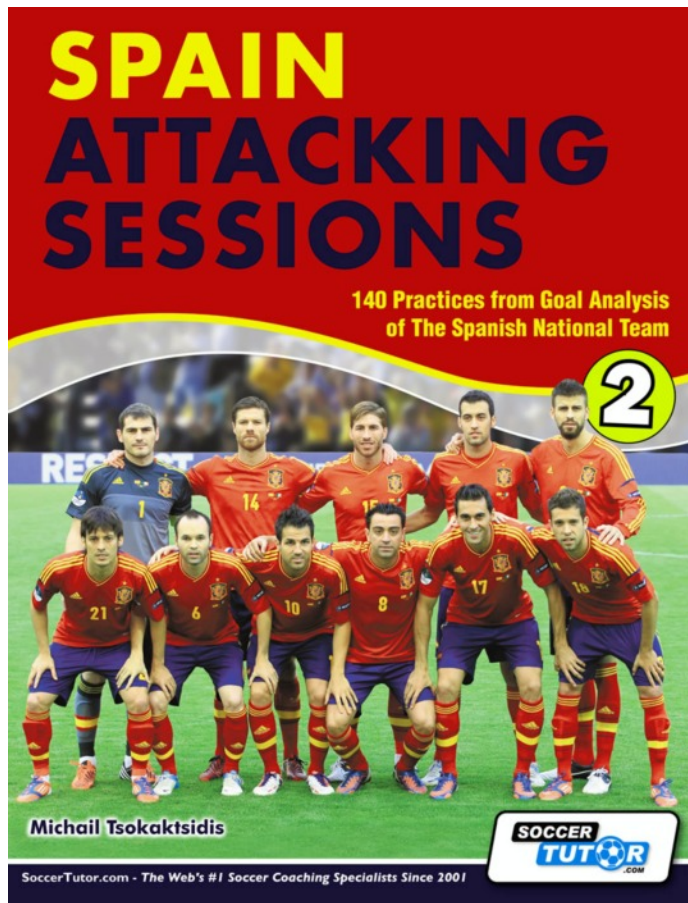
Different Rules

1. All players have are limited to 2 touches.
2. All players are limited to 2 touches and the neutrals have 1 touch.
3. All players are limited to 1 touch.

Coaching Points

1. The angles and distances of the support players should be monitored.
2. The timing, weight and accuracy of the passes is key to maintain possession.
3. Players need quick reactions to make a quick transition to defence or attack.

140 Practices from Goal Analysis of the Spanish National Team



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