

GOAL ANALYSIS

Attacking on the Flank: Crossing from Deep (1)

15-Oct-2008: World Cup 2010 Qualifying

Belgium 1-2 Spain (2nd Goal): Villa - Assist: Guiza

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



Belgium are in a 4-4-1-1 formation in this phase with good organisation and distances between the lines. Spain would have difficulty to attack through the centre and for this reason attack on the flank.

One attacker (Guiza) uses the width of the pitch and supports the left back (Capdevila).

Xavi passes to Guiza on the left and Capdevila makes an overlapping run. The right back closes him down and Guiza moves the ball onto his right foot.



Guiza hits an excellent cross with his right foot in behind the defensive line towards Villa and Ramos who move from the other side into the penalty area.

Villa times his run well and scores with a header.

PROGRESSION

2. Crossing & Finishing with Quick Transitional Wide Counter Attacks



Objective

We have the same elements as the previous practice, but now also work on quick transitions to attack out wide.

Description

In this progression we expand to use half of a full pitch and mark out the zones as shown in the diagram. We now have a 4v4 situation in each central zone, but we still have the same 4 neutral players in the side zones. All players must stay within their zone and can only shoot in their goal.

The practice starts with one team in possession and the objective is to quickly pass the ball to a teammate in the other zone and attack by using the 2 neutrals in the side zones. The neutrals cross the ball in and there is a 4v4 situation with the attackers trying to score (1 point).

The defenders try to clear the ball so the team can make a fast transition from defence to attack with the same objective (they pass to the other zone, then to a neutral player out wide who crosses the ball).

Coaching Points

1. Players should coordinate their runs - e.g. One to the near post, one far post and 1 running in from behind.
2. Monitor the movements inside the penalty area and encourage players to finish with 1 touch.
3. The accuracy, weight and timing of the crosses are key for this practice to be successful.

PROGRESSION

3. 2 v 1 Flank Play in a Dynamic Zonal Game



Description

Working on a full pitch, we place a full sized goal 18 yards past the halfway line. The middle zone between the penalty area and the halfway line is divided into 3 zones as shown in the diagram.

We play an 11v11 game with the red team in a 4-3-3 formation (with V) and the white team in a 4-4-2 (with bowl). Only the full backs on both teams and the red wide forwards are allowed in the side zones.

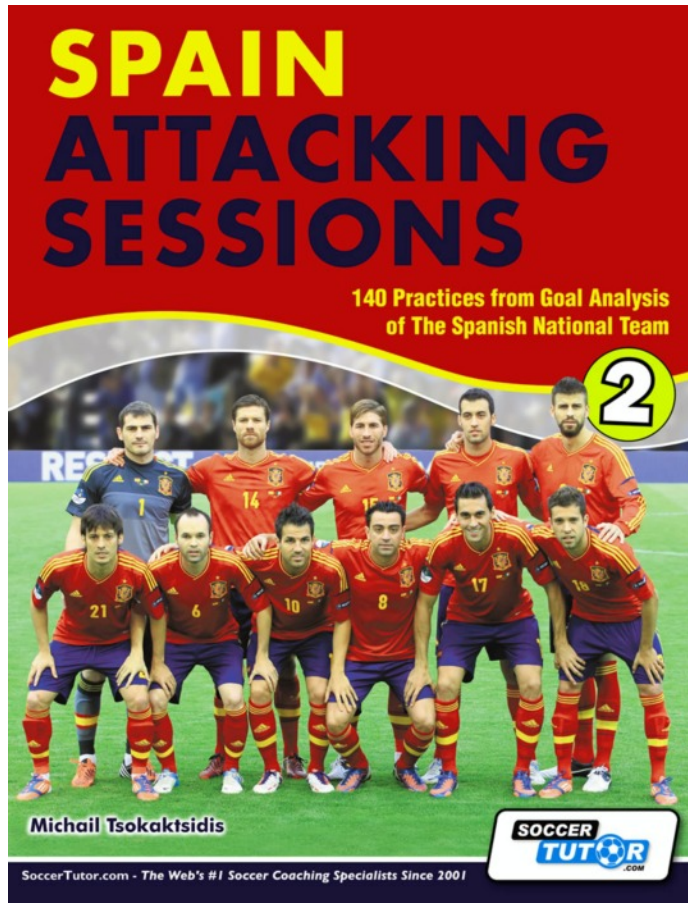
The objective for the red team is to use the side zones (full width of the pitch) to create a numerical advantage (2v1) on the flanks and cross from near the byline to score.

If the red team score a goal by attacking through the centre they get 1 point and if they score a goal after a cross/pass from the side zone, they get 2 points.

If the white team win the ball, they must finish their counter attack within 10 seconds.

When an attack is finished or the ball goes out of play, it always restarts with the red goalkeeper. After a set amount of time, change the roles of the teams.

140 Practices from Goal Analysis of the Spanish National Team



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