

## 5 v 5 with Targets

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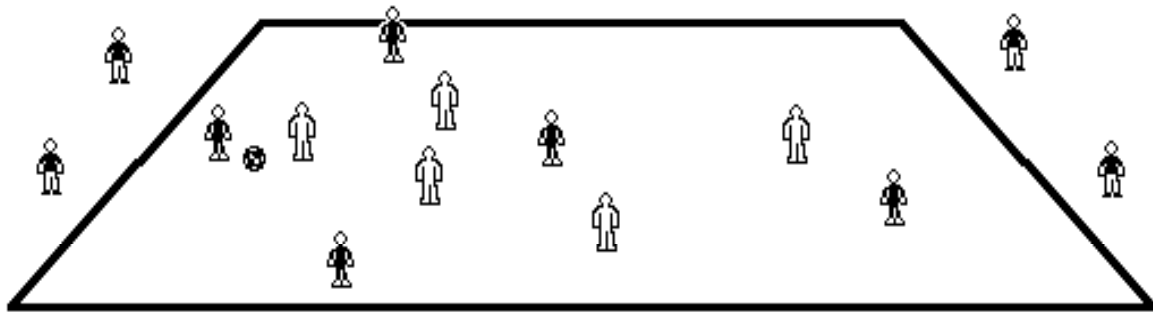
This is a favorite of mine. In this game the team in possession (here the black team) scores a point whenever it can play the ball to one set of targets and then, in the same possession, play the ball successfully to the set of targets at the other end of the field.

The reason I like this game so much is that it does several things; first it makes possession directional. There is a purpose for the possession, get to both sets of targets.

Second, the 360 degree nature of the game means both the team in possession and the team defending have to transition each time the ball is played into a target. Both teams are constantly trying to get into better positions to either help or defend the ball.

Finally, it is economical. It requires good technique. It requires good decisions. It forces all players, including the targets, to think in advance of the ball. Clean technique, good decisions equal improved speed of play.

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Options: 1) put touch restrictions on the team with the ball; 2) put touch restrictions on the targets.

Coaching points: 1) Coach the shape of the team. To support the ball well, the ball must always have a right, a left, a short through option and a longer through option. 2) Coach the shape of the player, the player needs to open himself to the field (e.g. backside to the outside) to be able to play the ball with the fewest touches.

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