

Coaching Combination Play Between Attacking Mids and Forwards

Jimmy Gabriel
University of Washington &
US Soccer National Staff Coach

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Phase 1:

Central Pass to Attacking Midfielder

- ⊞ The attacking midfielder dribbles the ball down the center of the field
- ⊞ Both central forwards peel off to create space for a penetrating pass
- ⊞ The attacking midfielder has the option of continuing the dribbling run between the two central defenders or delivering a penetrating pass to either of the center forwards

Each of these options are designed to end with a shot on goal

Coaching Points

- ✍ Collecting the pass, turning and dribbling with the ball
- ✍ Forward players peeling off the shoulders of the central defenders
- ✍ Forward players cutting in front of their defensive mark
- ✍ The timing and accuracy of the penetrating pass
- ✍ The timing and accuracy of the shot on goal

Diagram 1:

Coaches should add their own diagrams ☺

Pass from Width to Attacking Mid or Central Forward

- ⊞ The ball is passed wide to wing back
- ⊞ The attacking mid breaks forward into central penetration space
- ⊞ The near side center forward breaks into the central space
- ⊞ The wing back passes the ball into the penetration space to the attacking mid
- ⊞ The wing back passes the ball to the central forward who may collect it or flick it on to the attacking mid

Coaching Points

- ✍ Timing of forward run
- ✍ Timing of run back into midfield
- ✍ Timing and accuracy of pass by wing back
- ✍ Selection of pass by wing back

Diagram 2:

Adding Defenders and Midfield Players

- ⊞ The teams are now 8 attackers versus 7 defenders (six outfield players and a goalkeeper)
- ⊞ The ball is played wide to the wing back
- ⊞ The nearest midfielder to the wing back should break forward to attract the attention of the opposing wing back
- ⊞ As the midfielder moves forward the attacking mid should also move forward into central penetration space
- ⊞ The nearside central forward should move back into the space vacated by the attacking mid
- ⊞ The wing back should decide which play to make

Coaching Points

- ✍ The coordination and timing of runs by the midfield and forward players
- ✍ The selection of the pass by the wing back
- ✍ The finishing of the overall attacking play

Diagram 3: