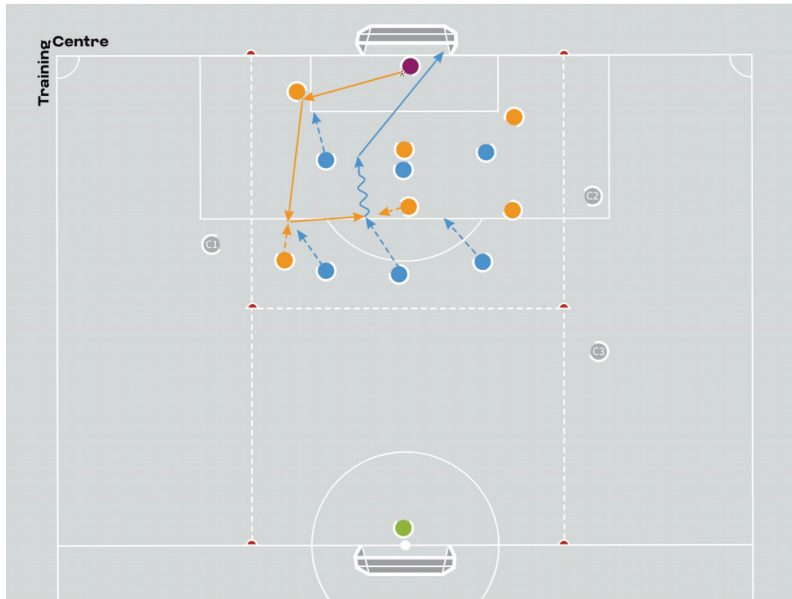


FIFA Talent Coach Programme

6v6 small-sided game: Pressing in a high block



Organisation

- Use 1 half of a full-size pitch with a full-size goal and a goalkeeper at either end.
- Narrow the pitch to 30m wide.
- Split the group into 2 teams of 6.
- Structure the team so they use 2 centre-backs.
- Mark out an offside line halfway across the playing area.

Explanation

- The ball starts with the goalkeeper of the blue team, who must try to progress the ball and create a goalscoring chance.
- The orange team must press inside the blue team's half and try to win the ball and score.
- The team out of possession must always press inside the opposition's half with the centre-backs on the halfway line.
- Apply the offside rule.

Key coaching points

- The defending team players should prioritise organising themselves in a compact block to avoid leaving opposition players unmarked and in space to receive and progress play forwards.
- Ensuring both vertical and horizontal compactness, the pressing team can deny the opposition space to progress play forward and force the opposition into wide areas.
- With the centre blocked and the ball forced wide, the defending team should aim to create a numerical advantage around the ball-carrier and apply an aggressive press, limiting passing options to force a turnover.

Roles of coaches

- First coach – explains the purpose and actions of the game.
- Second coach – encourages the defending team to press and use the correct strategy.
- Third coach – observes from one side of the pitch.