

# **Open Tryout Procedures AYSO Extra Program**



**This document was prepared by:**

**The Extended Play Task Force  
And  
The AYSO National Coaching Advisory Commission**

The following procedures outlined in this document are to be used to fairly evaluate a player's soccer skills.

In order for the evaluation of players to be meaningful to both players and coaches across the program, the evaluation system must be applied as consistently as possible among all evaluators. Recognizing that differences among evaluators are to be expected, we nevertheless want to minimize these differences as best we can. Our challenge is to provide players and coaches a meaningful measure of player abilities relative to other players trying out for this program.

**The Director of the Tryout for Program XXX must:**

- Inform eligible players of date and location of the tryout.
- Ensure tryout publicity is adequate and timely.
- Secure appropriate facilities/equipment
  - Two full-sized soccer goals for three of the four tryout stations.
  - Painter or cones for marking grids as required.
  - 12 size 5 (maybe 4s) soccer balls and a ball pump.
  - Drinking water
  - First-aid supplies
  - Pens, pencils, clipboards as required by staff (to include Evaluators)

**Tryout staff requirements:**

**Registrar:**

Will register the players as they arrive for the tryout.

**Group assigner:**

Will place all players in a tryout group and place their name on the tryout summary sheet (see Tryout Summary Sheet).

**Two or three people to help with what ever issues might arise:**

- Setting up the nets
- Getting water
- Putting out cones
- To do what ever might be needed.
- Be "jack of all trade", with the exception of being an evaluator.

**Evaluators:**

Eleven (11) evaluators (8 station evaluators and 3 goalkeeper evaluators) are required for a full tryout (Number of players trying out will determine the hard number of evaluators required for each tryout).

**Evaluators must.**

- Become familiar with the evaluation tool (see Evaluation Tool and Evaluation Station Descriptions).
- Review the purpose of individual station with players as group arrives to their station.
- Evaluate all players fairly.

**Tryout Overview:**

A player's technical, tactical, functional attacking and functional defending skills are to be evaluated by **neutral** evaluators using the same defined process at every tryout.

Every player **must** receive a copy of a personal Evaluation Form completed by an Evaluator.

The Tally Sheet(s) will be used to transfer player information to the Personal Evaluation Form.

The original Tally Sheet(s) must be kept by the Regional Commissioner.

All players must have a numbered soccer shirt; there must not be a duplication of numbers.

Before the evaluations commence, a coach (not evaluator) must conduct a solid 20 minute warm-up.

Each player's technical, tactical, functional attacking and functional defending skills will be assessed at four different evaluation stations (**see page X**). The four stations will be staffed with two (2) Field Evaluators and one (1) Goalkeeper Evaluator (with the exception of the station that has no goalkeepers).

All evaluators must fully understand the criteria that will be used to evaluate the players trying out.

Groups of 12 players will begin at each station and will rotate (players rotate, not evaluators) between stations at timed intervals of 20 minutes until they have completed all four stations. A maximum of two goalkeepers per goal will alternate in the goal at three of the stations (one station has no need for goalkeepers). If there are not exactly 12 players per group, the Lead Evaluator must make appropriate adjustments when organizing the small sided games. There should be no fewer than 5 or no more than 7 a side assigned to each group and there must be a 10 minute break for the players between station rotations.

## **Stations**

### **Station 1 - Technical**

On half of a full sized soccer field, players will play 6 vs. 6 possession (keep away) under pressure for 20 minutes. This activity is designed to enable players to demonstrate their technical abilities. Evaluators will concentrate on the evaluation of players' dribbling, passing and ball control abilities including: turning, shielding, vision, feints/fakes, balance and touch while dribbling; passing with accuracy, pace, timing and deceptiveness; and controlling techniques using various surfaces while maintaining eye contact with the ball and ultimately preparing the ball for the next move (see Technical Evaluation Sheet).

### **Station 2 - Tactical**

On half of a full sized soccer field with two full sized goals, players will play 6 vs. 6 plus goalkeepers (see Goalkeeper Evaluation) for 20 minutes (rotate the goalkeepers if numbers warrant). Evaluators will concentrate on the evaluation of players' overall skills in developing **tactical** play including: field awareness; communication; leadership; awareness of organization and shape of play; ability to play on and off the ball; and ability to support, create options and make appropriate runs that support the attack or defense (see Tactical Evaluation Sheet).

### **Station 3 - Functional Attacking**

On half of a full sized soccer field with two full sized goals, players will play 6 vs. 6 plus goalkeepers for 20 minutes (rotate the goalkeepers if numbers warrant). Evaluators will concentrate on the evaluation of players' ability to maintain possession under pressure, create individual and team space, turn on a defender, recognize and take the direct route to goal, plus anticipation, preparation, decisiveness and timing when shooting.

### **Station 4- Functional Defending**

On half of a full sized soccer field with two full sized goals, players will play 6 vs. 6 plus goalkeepers for 20 minutes (rotate the goalkeepers if numbers warrant). Evaluators will concentrate on the evaluation of players' defending control and balance, ability to establish appropriate marking distance, goal-side/ball-side position, ability to prevent an attacker from turning and tackling skills.

## AYSO (Program name) Tactical Evaluation Form

Player Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator \_\_\_\_\_

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### Station 1 - TACTICAL

#### **Outstanding (5) translates to a player who:**

Has an awareness of what is happening or what might happen on the field of play; is able to communicate verbally and non-verbally with teammates; has a willingness to assume responsibility for taking charge on the field; and has the soccer skills required to develop tactical play. Is very aware of what constitutes organization and shape of play; is able to play both on and off the ball; consistently provides support for the attack and defense and creates options with appropriate runs.

#### **Above Average (4) translates to a player who:**

Has an awareness of what is happening on the field of play; is able to communicate verbally with teammates; will at times assume the responsibility for taking charge on the field; and has the skills required to develop tactical play. Has an awareness of what constitutes organization and shape of play; is able to play both on and off the ball; frequently provides support for the attack and defense and creates options with appropriate runs.

#### **Average (3) translates to a player who:**

Has an awareness of play; has limited verbal and non-verbal communications with teammates; is reluctant to take charge on the field; and has most of the skills required to develop tactical play. Occasionally displays an awareness of what constitutes organization and shape of play while attacking and defending; is able to play both on and off the ball; occasionally provides support for the attack and defense and creates options and makes runs.

#### **Below Average (2) translates to a player who:**

Has a limited awareness of play; has limited verbal communications with teammates; is reluctant to take charge on the field; and needs to refine soccer skills in order to be able to develop tactical play. Seldom displays an awareness of organization and shape of play; is unable to play off the ball while attacking and defending; and is at times able to provide support and makes runs.

#### **Needs Improvement (1) translates to a player who:**

Has no awareness of play; is unable to communicate with teammates; will not take charge on the field of play; and lacks the skills required to develop tactical play. Has no awareness of organization and shape of play; is unable to play off the ball; and is not able to provide support or make runs.

Score

#### **Overall Rating For: Sportsmanship, Coachability, Attitude and Leadership**

5 = Outstanding 4 = Above Average 3 = Average 2 = Below Average 1 = Needs Improvement

Score

**Additional Comments:**

# AYSO (Program name) Functional Defending Evaluation Form

Player Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator \_\_\_\_\_

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## Station 3 - FUNCTIONAL DEFENDING

### **Outstanding (5) translates to a player who:**

Has great defending control and balance; is able to establish appropriate marking distance; maintains a goal-side, ball-side position; is able to prevent an attacker from turning; and has exceptional tackling skills.

### **Above Average (4) translates to a player who:**

Player has good defending control and balance; is able to establish good marking distance; maintains a goal-side and ball-side position; is able to prevent an attacker from turning; and has good tackling skills.

### **Average (3) translates to a player who:**

Understands defending control and balance; is able to establish adequate marking distance; maintains a goal-side, ball side position most of the time; is able to prevent an attacker from turning at times; and has adequate tackling skills.

### **Below Average (2) translates to a player who:**

Needs to work on defending control and balance; at times is able to establish adequate marking distance; often is not ball-side, goal-side; has difficulty preventing an attacker from turning; and has weak tackling skills.

### **Needs Improvement (1) translates to a player who:**

Has very little defending control and balance; is not able to establish marking distance; is unable to maintain a goal-side position; is not able to prevent an attacker from turning; and has meager tackling skills.

Score

## **OVERALL RATING FOR: Sportsmanship, Coachability, Attitude and Leadership**

5 = Outstanding   4 = Above Average   3 = Average   2 = Below Average   1 = Needs Improvement

Score

**Additional Comments:**

## AYSO (Program name) Functional Attacking Evaluation Form

Player Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator \_\_\_\_\_

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### Station 4 - FUNCTIONAL ATTACKING

#### **Outstanding (5) translates to a player who:**

Is able to constantly maintain possession of the ball under pressure; is able to create individual and team space; is able to turn on a defender; has the ability to take on a defender; recognizes and takes the direct route to goal; is able to anticipate when to shoot; and has great preparation, decisiveness and timing when shooting.

#### **Above Average (4) translates to a player who:**

Is able to maintain possession of the ball most of the time under pressure; is able to create individual and team space; is able to turn on a defender; has the ability to take on a defender and recognizes when to take the direct route to goal; is able to anticipate when to shoot; and has good preparation, decisiveness and timing when shooting.

#### **Average (3) translates to a player who:**

Is able to maintain possession of the ball most of the time under pressure; is able to create individual space and at times team space; has some reluctance to turn on a defender; hesitates to take on a defender -- would rather pass the ball; is able to anticipate when to shoot; has ordinary preparation, decisiveness and timing when shooting.

#### **Below Average (2) translates to a player who:**

Has a limited ability to maintain possession of the ball under pressure; is unable to create individual space; will not turn on a defender; only looks to pass the ball; is able to anticipate when to shoot; has little preparation, decisiveness and timing when shooting.

#### **Needs Improvement (1) translates to a player who:**

Has no ability to maintain possession of the ball under pressure; has no conception of creating individual or team space; is not able to turn on a defender; will not challenge a defender and will not go to goal; does not anticipate when to shoot; and is lacking in preparation, decisiveness and timing when shooting.

Score

### **OVERALL RATING FOR: Sportsmanship, Coachability, Attitude and Leadership**

5 = Outstanding   4 = Above Average   3 = Average   2 = Below Average   1 = Needs Improvement

Score

**Additional Comments:**

## AYSO (Program name) Technical Evaluation Form

Player Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator \_\_\_\_\_

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### Station 2 - TECHNICAL

#### **Outstanding (5) translates to a player who:**

When dribbling, is expert at turning, has great touch, is able to shield defender, maintains excellent field vision while incorporating feints/fakes to unbalance an opponent, and consistently uses change of speed to beat an opponent. When passing, passes are accurate, of correct pace, well timed, deceptive, and successful in advancing the ball or maintaining possession. When controlling, uses all controlling surfaces while maintaining eye contact with the ball, moves into the line of flight of the ball, has excellent balance, cushions on contact with ball, and consistently prepares the ball for the next move.

#### **Above Average (4) translates to a player who:**

When dribbling, is proficient at turning, has good touch, is able to shield defender, maintains excellent field vision while incorporating feints/fakes to unbalance an opponent, and frequently changes speed. When passing, passes are accurate, of correct pace, adequately timed, somewhat deceptive, and successful in advancing the ball or maintaining possession. When controlling, uses most all controlling surfaces while maintaining eye contact with the ball, moves into the line of flight of the ball, has good balance, cushions on contact with ball, and frequently prepares the ball for the next move.

#### **Average (3) translates to a player who:**

When dribbling, is competent at turning, has average touch, is able to shield defender, maintains good field vision while incorporating some fakes to unbalance the opponent, and is able to change speed. When passing, passes are accurate, of suitable pace, routinely timed, somewhat deceptive, and successful in advancing the ball or maintaining possession most of the time. When controlling, uses several controlling surfaces while maintaining eye contact with the ball, at times moves into the line of flight of the ball, is usually balanced, cushions on contact with ball, and usually prepares the ball for the next move.

#### **Below Average (2) translates to a player who:**

When dribbling, is unable to turn, has little touch, is unable to shield defender, and displays limited field vision while incorporating some fakes, does not change speed. When passing, passes are accurate at times, of inconsistent pace, erratically timed, not deceptive, and at times are successful in advancing the ball or maintaining possession. When controlling, uses limited controlling surfaces while maintaining very little eye contact with the ball, seldom moves into the line of flight of the ball, has little balance, seldom cushions on contact with ball, and seldom prepares the ball for the next move.

#### **Needs Improvement (1) translates to a player who:**

When dribbling, is unable to turn, has no touch, is unable to shield defender, displays no field vision, and does not change speed. When passing, passes are seldom accurate, show no pace, poorly timed, not deceptive, rarely successful in advancing the ball or maintaining possession. When controlling, is unable to control balls, will not move into the line of flight of the ball, has no balance, rarely cushions on contact with ball, and can not prepare the ball for the next move.

**Score**

### **OVERALL RATING FOR: Sportsmanship, Coachability, Attitude and Leadership**

5 = Outstanding   4 = Above Average   3 = Average   2 = Below Average   1 = Needs Improvement

**Score**

**Additional Comments (use reverse side):**

# AYSO (Program name) Goalkeeper Evaluation Form

Player Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

EVALUATOR \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Outstanding (5) translates to a goalkeeper who:**

Is always in the ready position; is constantly adjusting his or her position as the angle of the ball changes; is able to take the initiative away from the attacker; has the ability to read and assess the line; is focused at all times; uses communication that is instructive in nature and clear and loud enough to carry to teammates; has excellent physical and technical skills to deal with demands of the goalkeeper position; is proficient at initiating the attack; consistently makes the save; and has excellent command of distribution techniques.

## **Above Average (4) translates to a goalkeeper who:**

Is always in the ready position; is constantly adjusting his or her position as the angle of the ball changes; is able to take the initiative away from the attacker; has the ability to read and assess the line; is focused most of the time; uses communication that is instructive in nature and clear; has excellent physical and technical skills to deal with demands of the goalkeeper position; is able initiate the attack; frequently makes the save; and has good command of distribution techniques.

## **Average (3) translates to a player who:**

Assumes the ready position most of the time; frequently adjusts his or her position as the angle of the ball changes; is hesitant to take the initiative away from the attacker; has the ability to assess the line most of the time; is focused at times; uses communication that is instructive in nature; has good physical and technical skills to deal with demands of the goalkeeper position; is able to initiate the attack; usually makes the save; and has command of most distribution techniques.

## **Below Average (2) translates to a player who:**

Occasionally assumes the ready position; seldom adjusts his or her position as the angle of the ball changes; is hesitant to take the initiative away from the attacker; is infrequently focused; uses communication; has some physical and technical skills to deal with demands of the goalkeeper position; is hesitant to initiate the attack; occasionally makes the save; and has limited command of distribution techniques.

## **Needs Improvement (1) translates to a player who:**

Rarely adjusts his or her position as the angle of the ball changes; is hesitant to take the initiative away from the attacker; cannot assess the line; is distracted; does not communicate; has limited physical and technical skills to deal with demands of the goalkeeper position; will not initiate the attack; seldom makes the save; and lacks command of distribution techniques.

Score

## **Overall rating for: Sportsmanship, Coachability, Attitude and Leadership**

5 = Outstanding   4 = Above Average   3 = Average   2 = Below Average   1 = Needs Improvement

Score

**Additional Comments:**



**Player and Parent  
(Program name) Program Evaluation Summary Sheet**

**Players Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

The intent of this evaluation is to provide you the player and your parent a neutral qualified evaluator's opinion of the soccer skills relative to a typical U-**XXX** and above soccer player at the tryout you attended for **(PROGRAM NAME)**.

Each player's technical, tactical, functional attacking and functional defending skills were assessed at four different evaluation stations. The four stations were staffed with two (2) Field Evaluators and one (1) Goalkeeper Evaluator (with the exception of the station that has no goalkeepers).

The following were the findings of the evaluators.

5 = Outstanding 4 = Above Average 3 = Average 2 = Below Average 1 = Needs Improvement

**Station 1 - Technical**

On half of a full sized soccer field, players will play 6 vs. 6 possession (keep away) under pressure for 20 minutes. This activity is designed to enable players to demonstrate their technical abilities. Evaluators will concentrate on the evaluation of players' dribbling, passing and ball control abilities including: turning, shielding, vision, feints/fakes, balance and touch while dribbling; passing with accuracy, pace, timing and deceptiveness; and controlling techniques using various surfaces while maintaining eye contact with the ball and ultimately preparing the ball for the next move.

**Station 2 - Tactical**

On half of a full sized soccer field with two full sized goals, players will play 6 vs. 6 plus goalkeepers (see Goalkeeper Evaluation) for 20 minutes (rotate the goalkeepers if numbers warrant). Evaluators will concentrate on the evaluation of players' overall skills in developing **tactical** play including: field awareness; communication; leadership; awareness of organization and shape of play; ability to play on and off the ball; and ability to support, create options and make appropriate runs that support the attack or defense (see Tactical Evaluation Sheet).

**Station 3 - Functional Attacking**

On half of a full sized soccer field with two full sized goals, players will play 6 vs. 6 plus goalkeepers for 20 minutes (rotate the goalkeepers, if numbers warrant). Evaluators will concentrate on the evaluation of players' ability to maintain possession under pressure, create individual and team space, turn on a defender, recognize and take the direct route to goal, plus anticipation, preparation, decisiveness and timing when shooting.

**Station 4- Functional Defending**

On half of a full sized soccer field with two full sized goals, players will play 6 vs. 6 plus goalkeepers for 20 minutes (rotate the goalkeepers, if numbers warrant). Evaluators will concentrate on the evaluation of players' defending control and balance, ability to establish appropriate marking distance, goal-side/ball-side position, ability to prevent an attacker from turning and tackling skills.

**Overall rating for: Sportsmanship, Coachability, Attitude and Leadership**

**You have been selected to participate in the program**

**Sorry, you have not been selected to participate in the program**



## Goalkeeper Score Tally Form

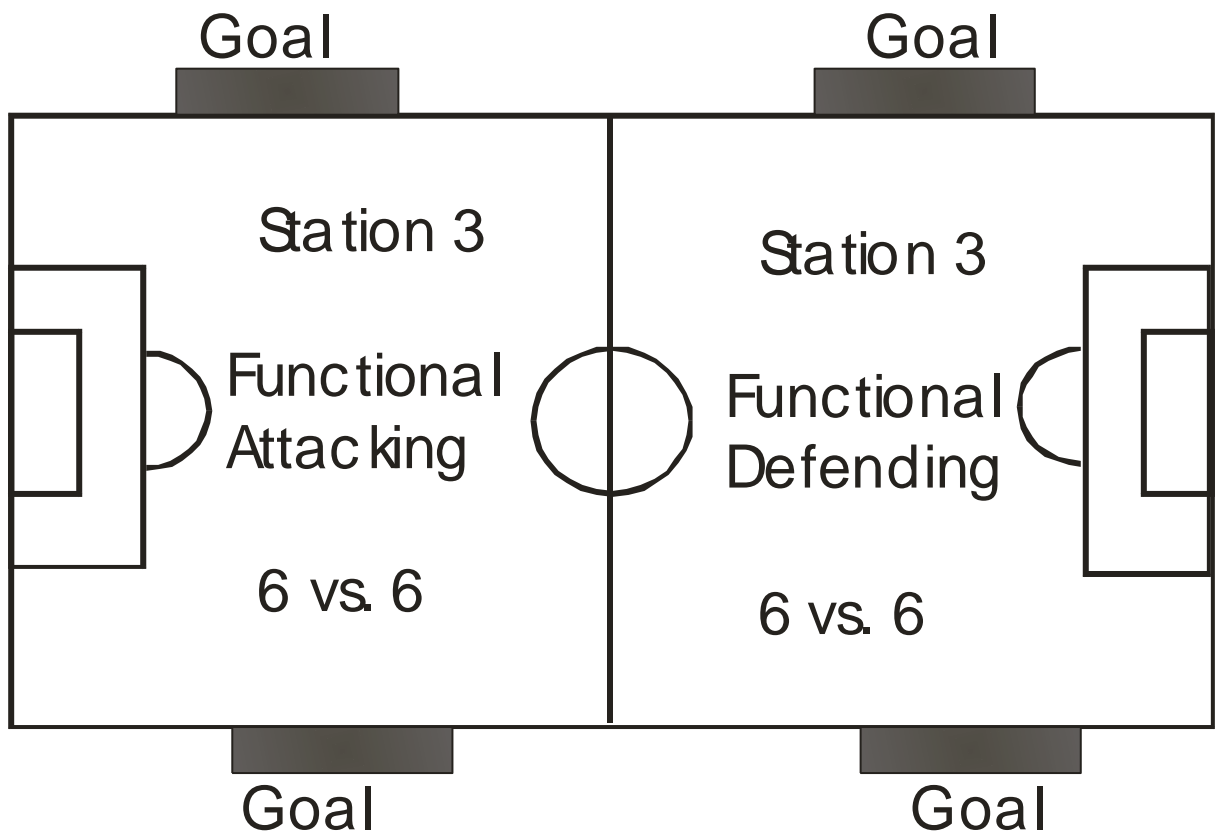
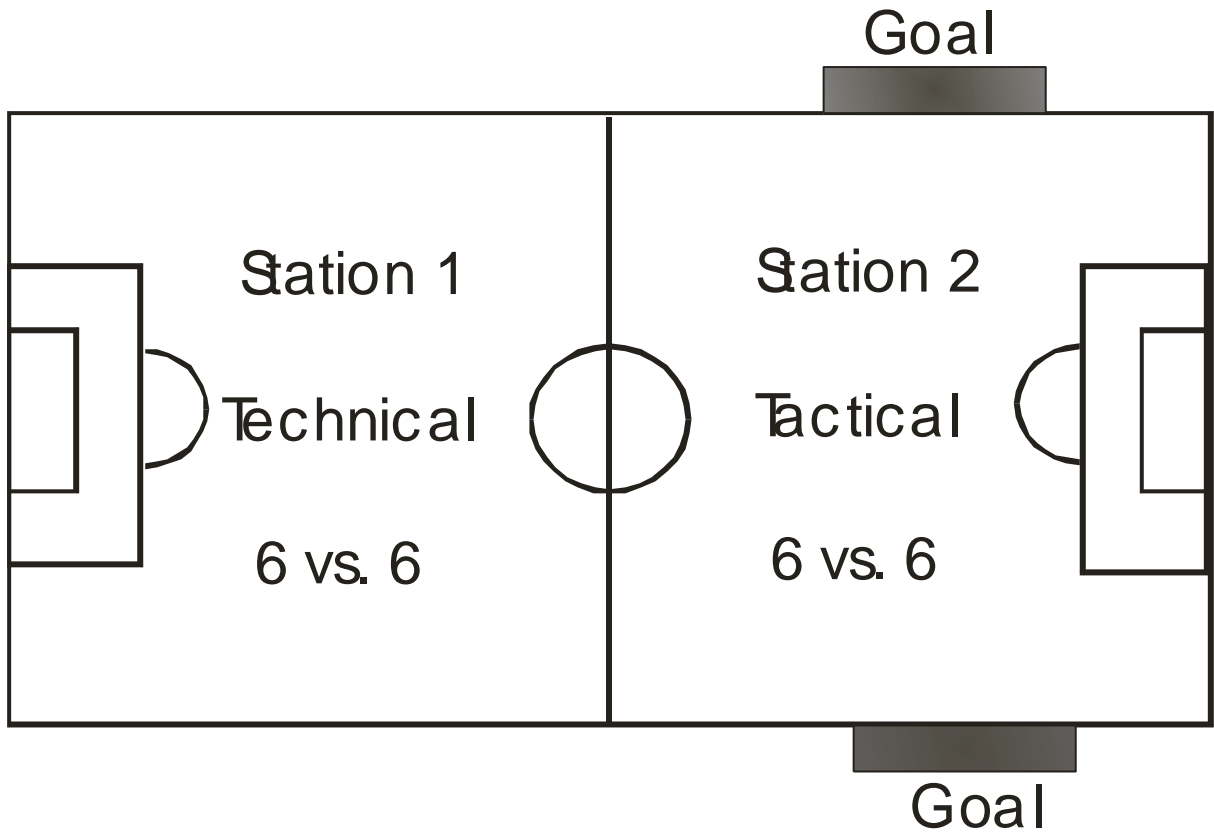
Goalkeeper Evaluator Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Goalkeepers Evaluation - 5 = Outstanding, 4 = Above Average, 3 = Average, 2 = Below Average, 1 = Needs Improvement**

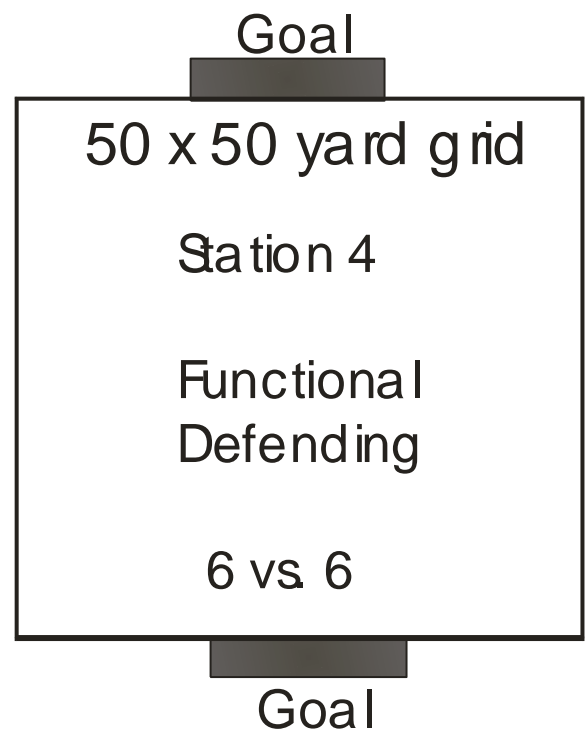
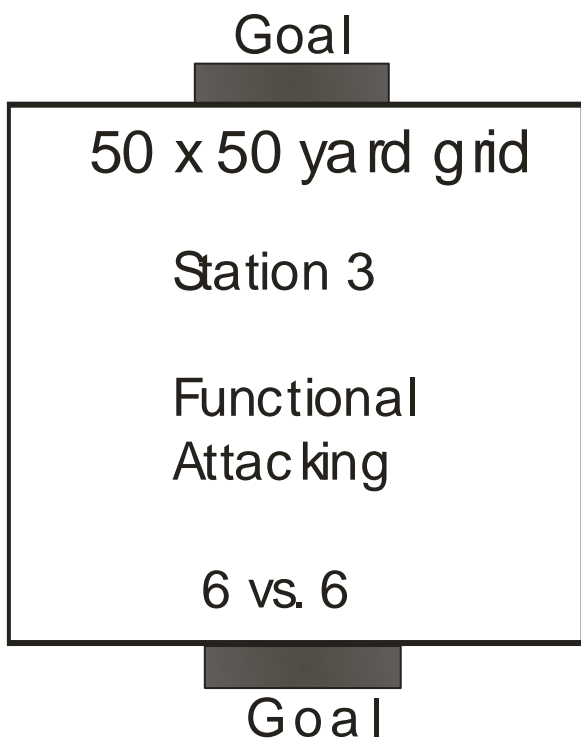
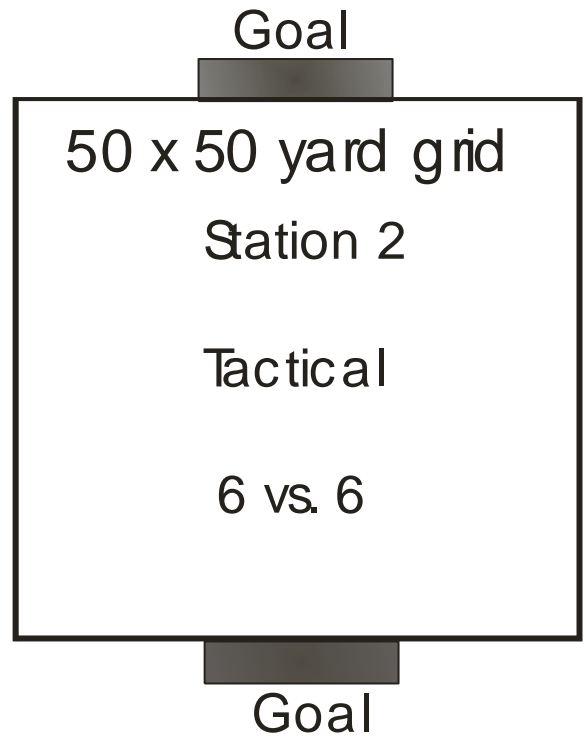
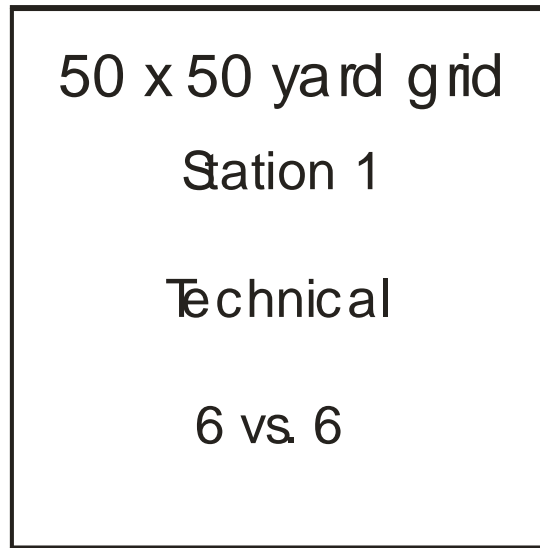
Player (Goalkeeper) Name

|       |                          |
|-------|--------------------------|
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |

# Open Tryout Station Layout Example 1



## Open Tryout Station Layout Example 2



All questions regarding Tryout Procedures should be referred to John Ouellette, AYSO National Coach at: 800-826-2976 or email: [johnouellette@ayso.org](mailto:johnouellette@ayso.org)