

9v9 First System of Play

As we advance into the higher numbers of players that make up the team, coaches must make sure to play a system that provides the team with defensive, midfield and offensive balance

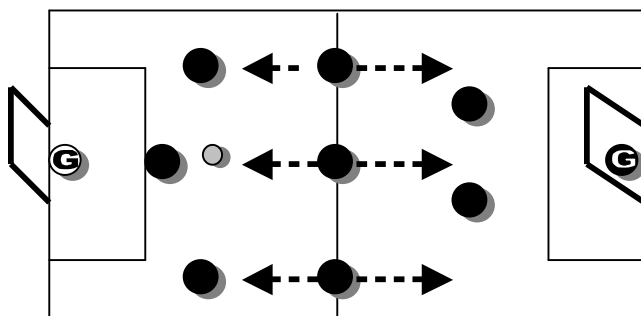
This 3-3-2 system of play will provide the defense with three defenders plus a goalkeeper at all times and with as much as six outfield defenders when the midfielders join the back line defenders

The system also provides the team with two attackers at all times and with as much as five attackers when the midfielders support the attack

The coach must choose the system that best suits the talents of his players and this system requires three solid strong defenders plus two attackers who are adept at holding onto the ball and scoring goals

The system also requires three midfielders who are mobile enough to provide support for the defenders and the attackers

Like most systems of play once the players become used to the positional requirements the coach can work on the teams style of play and introduce some flowing movement into the mix



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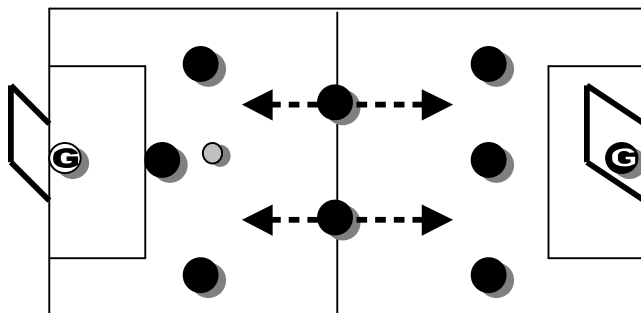
The 3-2-3 system of play would be preferred by coaches who decide that they have the type of players who can fit into the three different roles required by this system

Like most 9v9 systems of play a back line of three players protects the goalkeeper. The central defender would stay in the central position while the two wide defenders would be expected to defend their wing area when the ball is on that side. However when the opponents' attack is being formed down the opposite wing the wingback would be expected to cover round into a more central area to assist the central defender

The two midfield players would be expected to fetch and carry the ball from the defenders to the forwards and then to support the attack from a position of depth

When the team is defending the two midfielders would be expected to attempt to win the ball in the midfield or failing that to drop back in support of the back line defenders

The three attackers would be expected to provide balance in the attack by penetrating the wings and central attacking areas in order to get crosses into the goal area and shots on goal



9v9 Third System of Play

One of the most popular systems is the 2-4-2 that provides the team with two back line defenders, four midfield players and two forwards

This system provides a solid stay at home defending duo whose job is to block the central attacking area

The system also provides an attacking force of two forwards whose first task is to score goals but whose second task is to hold the ball long enough to allow the midfielders time to re-position themselves from defensive support to attacking support positions

The main working force is situated in the midfield where players are required to perform four different tasks

These players must combine together to defend the midfield area and when needed to drop into a deeper defensive area to assist the back line defenders

On offence they must retain control of the ball in the midfield area in order to advance the ball into the attacking area while at the same time attempt to break forward onto the attack by making penetrating runs with and without the ball.

