SESSION PLAN

CONTROL BOTH PITCHES









OBJECTIVES

This session helps players to outwit their opponent by:

- making and tweaking game plans
- · detecting key information about the game and the players
- impacting their opponent's next move by setting game problems.

ORGANISATION

- Set up two areas, appropriate in size for your players, parallel to each other (ensuring there's a small gap between them)
- On each one, mark a halfway line and place a goal at both ends
- · Create a wide lane on the left side of one area and the right side of the other area
- You can include offside lines if appropriate for your players
- Place two whiteboards in the gap between the pitches players will use these to discuss tactics
- We have 18 players split into two teams of nine, but you can adapt the practice to your numbers
- Split the teams across the two pitches to create a 4v4 and a 5v5

HOW TO PLAY

- First, agree on how long games should be, then set a timer and let the games play
- Players are aiming to win their game
 - \circ If a team wins on both pitches, they 'level up' for the next game
 - If a team loses on both pitches, they drop a level (a team can't drop below level zero)
 - If neither team wins on both pitches, allow your players to talk tactics and try again
- We use six levels (but you can adapt to your numbers), and both teams start at level one
 - Level zero: nobody can roam both pitches
 - Level one: one player can roam both pitches
 - Level two: two players can roam both pitches
 - Level three: three players can roam both pitches
 - Level four: four players can roam both pitches
 - Level five: the boss level challenge
- Each level requires players to decide who can play on both pitches (roaming), allowing teams to create an overload when needed
- If a team reaches level five, the 'boss', they face a final challenge this is to win on both pitches without conceding a goal in the last two minutes; do that, and they win the whole game, achieving the overall mission to control both pitches
- You can introduce actions for players to use, such as 'save', 'superpower' and 'pause' (described in detail in the article), to help them solve the problems this activity poses
- Note what levels the teams finish on you can pick up from where you left off the next time you play