

PUBLISHING INFORMATION

German Top Level Tactics **Fundamental Attacking Strategies**

- Tactical Principles
- Analysis of Situations in the Game
- A Variety of Practices and How to Coach Them

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Prologue

Dear Coaching-Colleagues,

the soccer-game today is as seen from a defensive point of view, shaped by the ball-orientated defending. The defensive chain of four players is not even in the lower leagues a sensation anymore. Spaces to play shrink and thus, the attacking play is made



Ralf Peter - DFB Instructor

more difficult. Therefore, it is important to create strategies against tight defensive formations. But even sophisticated attacking strategies only function if certain fundamental principles are well developed. Eminently important for this purpose is it to cleverly open and use spaces and passing-lanes. This includes individual technical skills and abilities as well as a developed and aligned group-tactical behavior.

The idea behind this eBook: Based on definite match-situations, solutions will be presented which can be trained in small groups as well as in a complex exercise.

I came to know Steven Turek as a young talented coach. It was my pleasure to help him converting the idea and accompanying him with the creation of this eBook. It contains and provides knowledge of tactical analyses and attractive exercises usable for coaches of all levels.

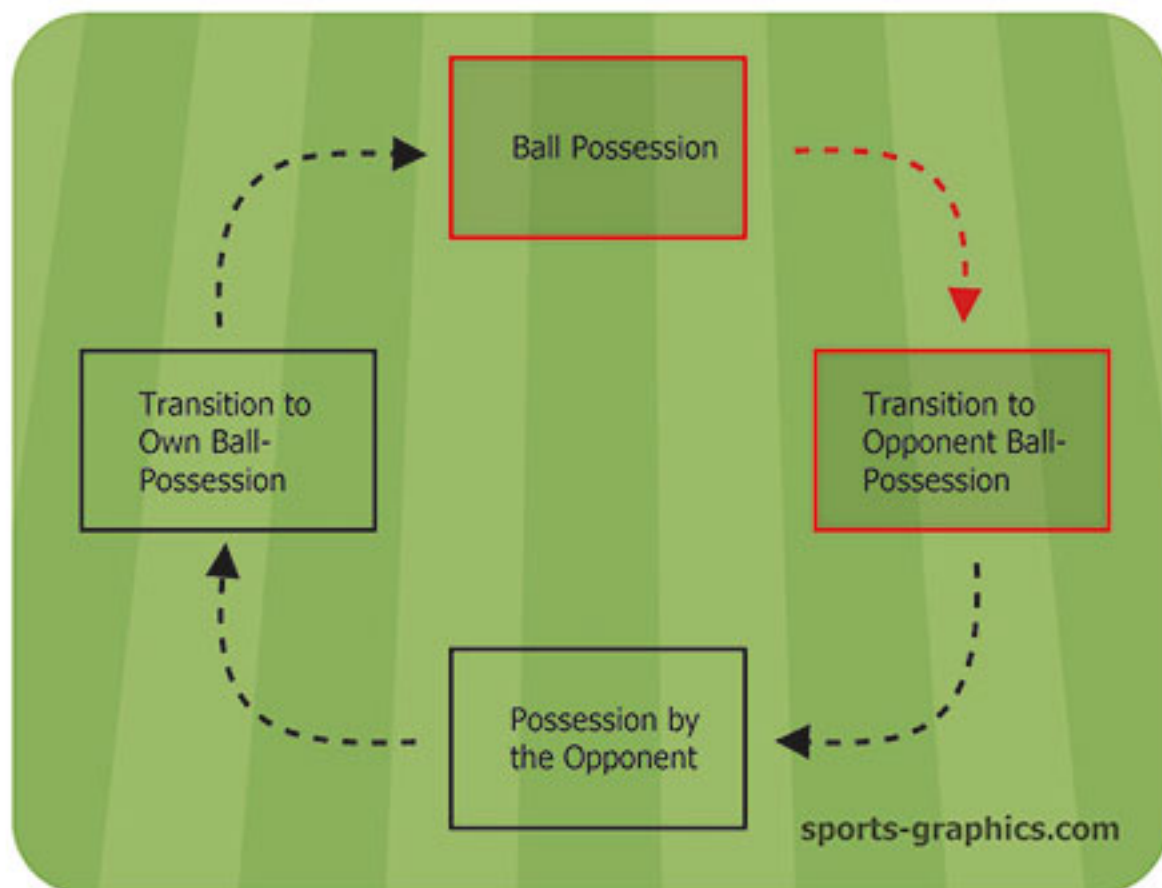
We hope that the eBook contributes to the improvement of your team's performance.

Enjoy reading

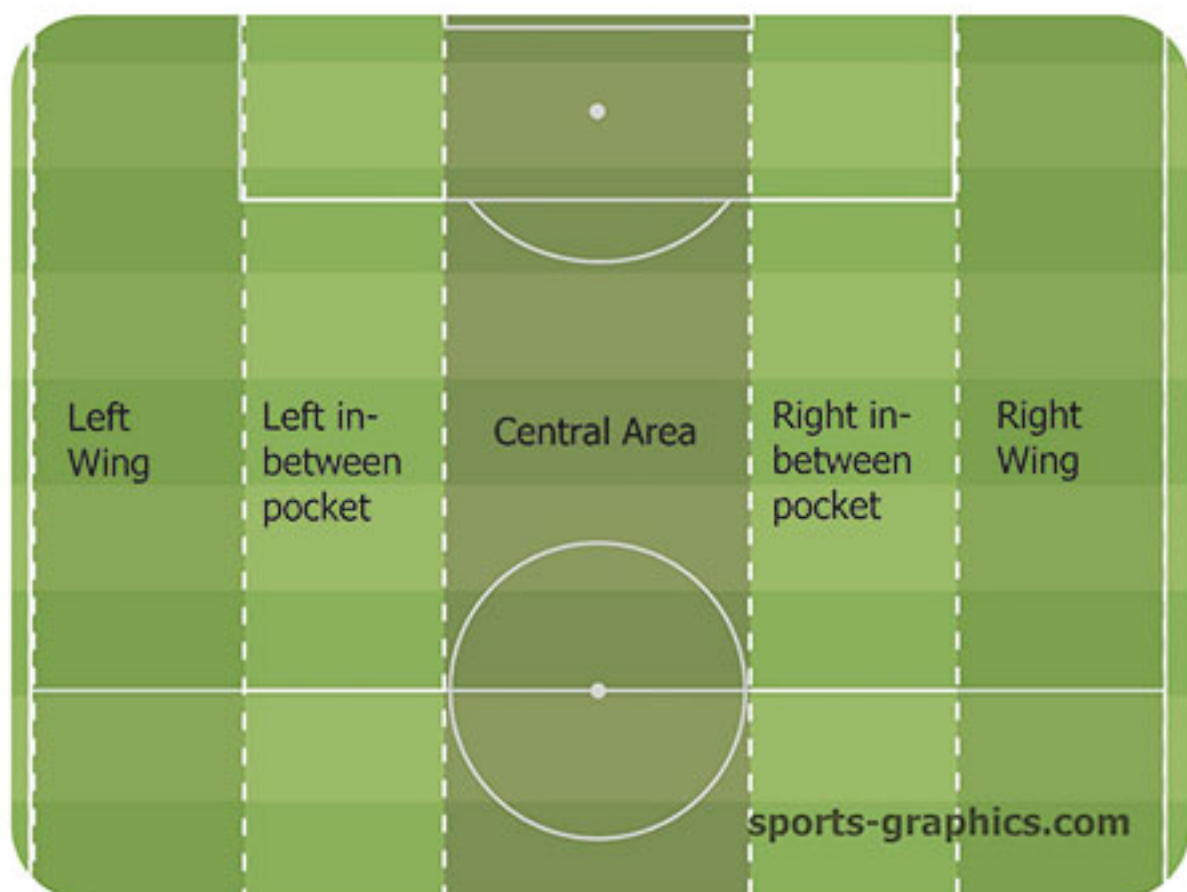
wishes Ralf Peter

Introduction

There are four repetitive phases in soccer: Own ball possession - the transition from own ball possession to opponent ball possession (lost ball) - opponent ball possession - the transition from opponent ball possession to own ball possession (regain of the ball) and so on. This book especially focuses on situations relating to own ball possession. Since this has a direct impact on the transitional behavior of the opponent, we will also thematize this phase. In the beginning, we will explain principles which are important for the own ball possession in order to successfully open and use passing-lanes. In the following, we will present concrete tactical situations and the appropriate solutions. It is about a fundamental situation in the build-up with two solutions. In turn, these solutions result in two new fundamental situations for which we will present new solutions. Relating to all these tactical situations, we will illustrate practical examples (exercises, little competitions and match-imitating training methods).



All tactical situations will be explained and described in the complete coherence to the competition 11 v 11. In order to illustrate these descriptions as detailed as possible, the pitch is divided into five vertical zones. Both wing zones are located between the sidelines and the beginning line of the penalty box. Both in-between pockets reach from the lateral penalty box line to the intersection of the penalty arc and the penalty box. The central area is as wide as the center circle. These boundaries are not to be understood as defined, but serve more as an orientation and a clearer understanding.



Basic Principles: Successfully Open and Use Passing-Lanes

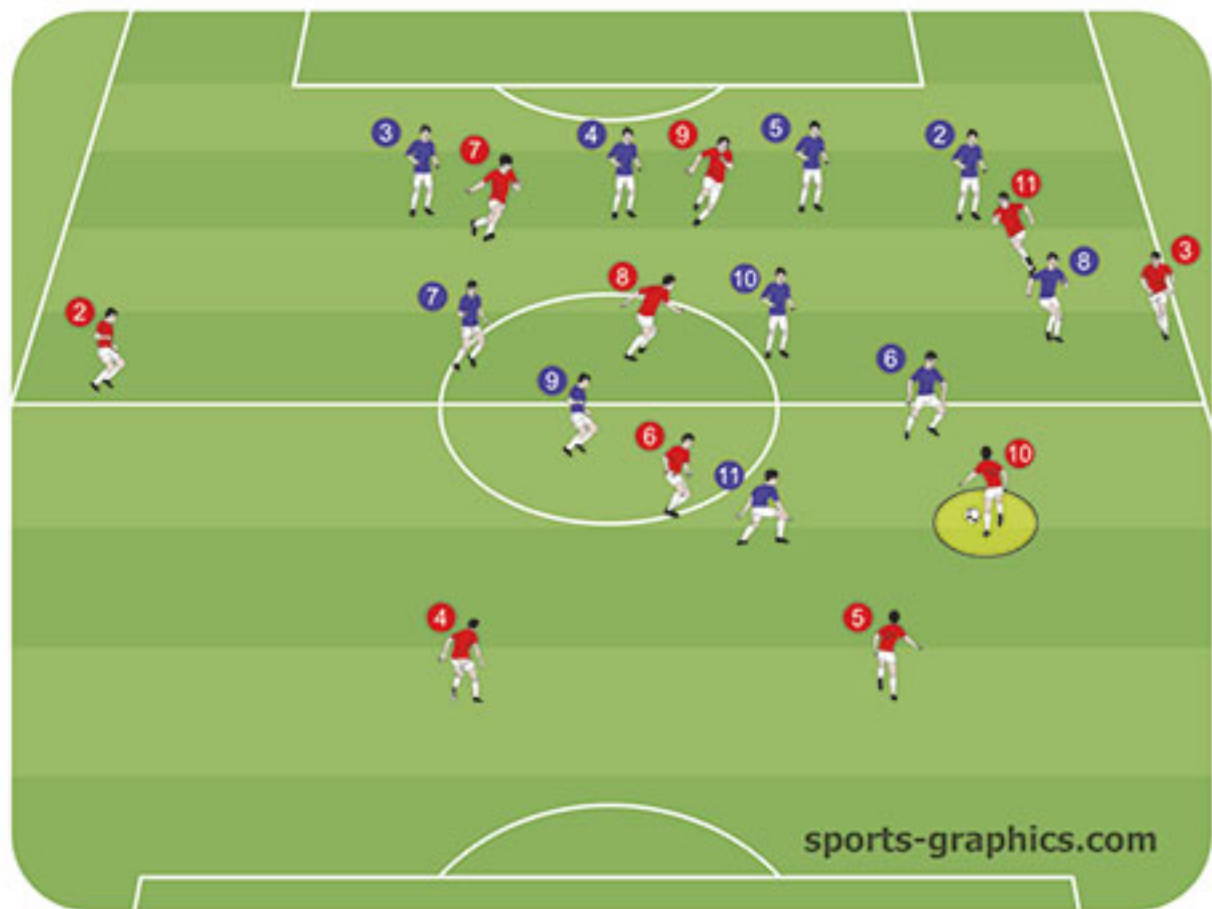
Receiving and Passing as Foundations!

The illustrated solutions are based on flat passes. This demands high passing-skills of all players. As a basic principle, every pass shall be played as sharp as possible (pace of playing), but as soft as necessary (teammate must be able to control the ball safely). All passes shall be precisely passed into the ball-away foot or slightly into the forerun, depending on the current situation of the receiver.

If the ball receiving player has wide space in front, the pass optimally comes into the forerun in order to achieve the highest pace possible.

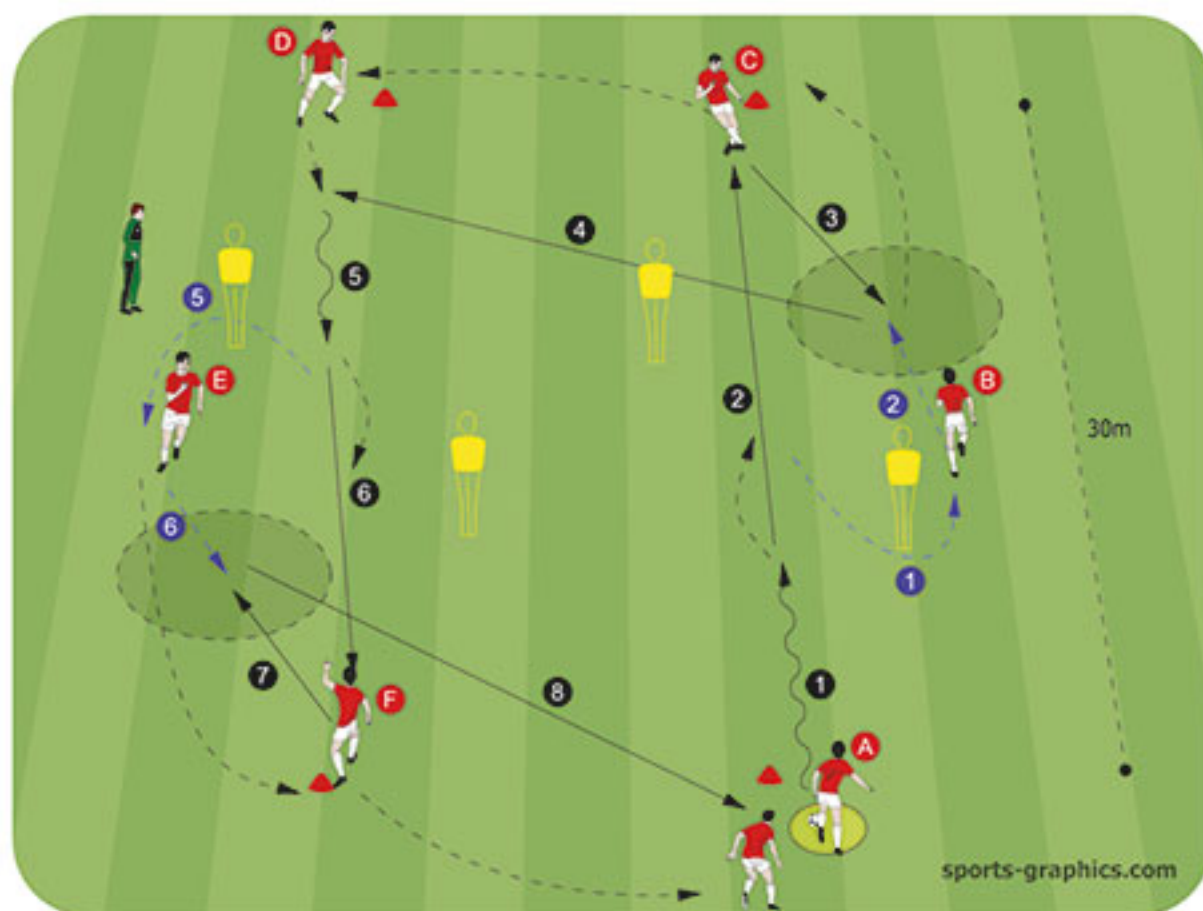
Initial Dribbling Instead of Passing from a Standing Position!

In order to ensure a save combination play, it is necessary for the players without ball as well as for the ball carrier to regularly create situations in numerical advantage. If the ball possessing player has wide space in front, it is advisable to conquer this free space in a fast dribbling. Thereby, the ball carrier is supposed to dribble as long as possible towards an opponent. Then, he passes in the last possible moment the ball to his teammate without any risk (last-minute-pass). This results in the situation that the opponent is not able to instantly pressure on the ball receiver. Additionally, the passing player is already in movement which leads to a higher passing-quality. Furthermore, he is able to use the dynamic in order to re-offer again to play for example an one-two combination.

Match-Situation: Ball in Possession of the Tilted Central Midfielder

#10 received the ball in an open position. #6 followed him and is able to mark him. #3 positions high and thus, binds #8. #8 positions centrally between #10 (who probably secures the chain) and #7 (who needs to pay attention to a shift of the play to #2). #8 is additionally able to run into the vertical gap. #11 serves as a vertical passing option in the gap between #8 and #6. Both center backs #5 and #4 insure ball possession and serve as additional open men. The position of the ball-distant wing-back #2 depends on the detailed situation on the ball. If #10 is in possession without any pressure, #2 could position higher for a possible shift of the play. If #10 orientates to the ball-near wing or gets into a pressure-situation, #2 moves inwards and thus, is able to additionally prevent a possible counterattack.

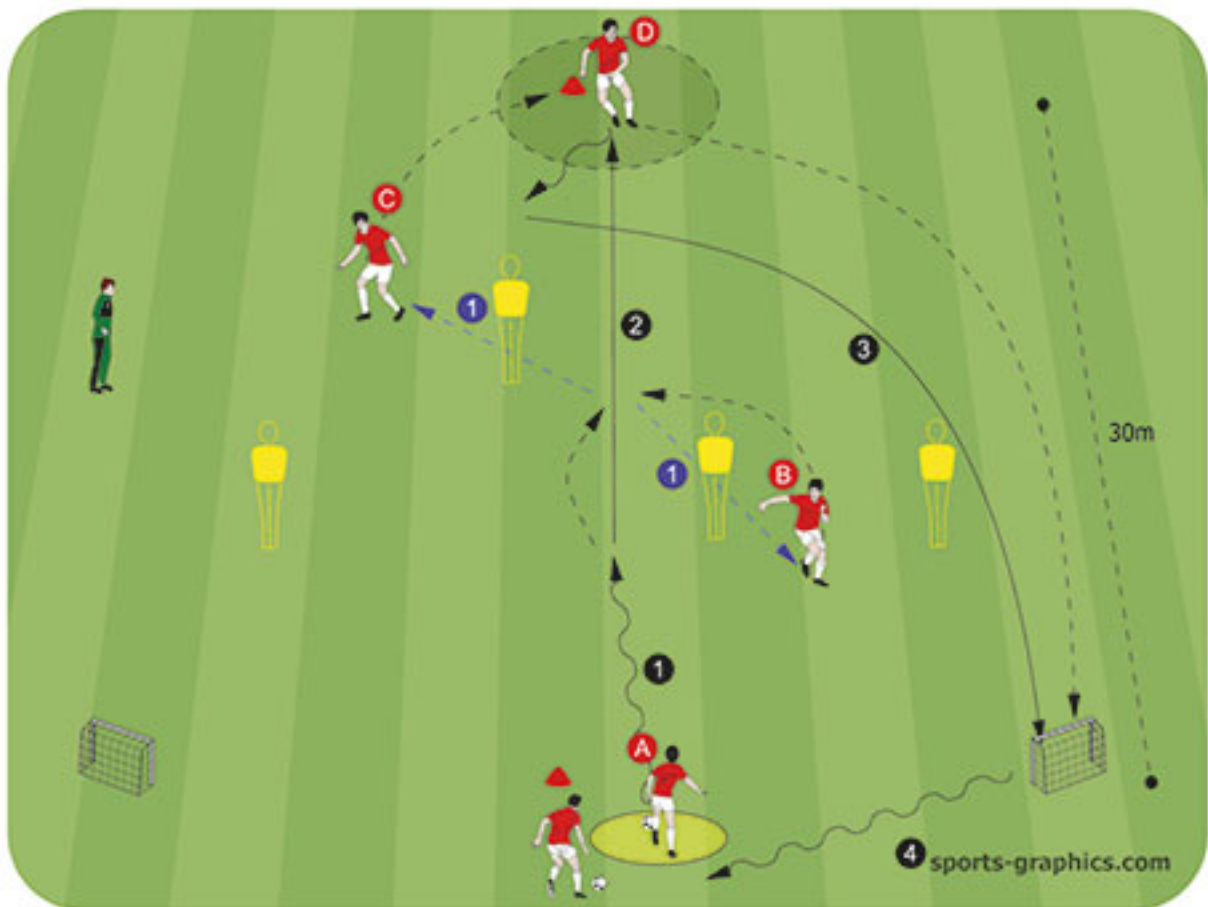
Variation 2:



A starts an initial dribbling. Player B opens with a short sprint the vertical passing-lane (timing: first the dribbling, then the sprint to open the passing lane!). With the played pass to C, B approaches C and passes to the parallel set up group (D). Here, the same combination is performed. Position Changes respectively one station further.

Consider change of pace: Quickly open the passing-lane - slow down the pace - quickly sprint towards the ball (but: Do not run too far towards the ball carrier).

Variation 7:



A starts an initial dribbling. Both players B and C move out of the vertical passing lane with a short sprint. Both run staggered to each other (reference to competition: all levels remain occupied). D diagonally receives the ball into the run with the first touch and subsequently plays a chip ball into the opposite mini-goal. All players move one position further.

The player, who played the chip ball, gets the ball and lines up.