Coaching Philosophy: One size does not fit all, only one size fits one.

Does one size really fit all?
PLEASE RETHINK

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Coaching Philosophy: One size does not fit all, only one size fits one

Every given game situation, position and specific zone of the field has a unique technique / strategy to control and carry the ball, in relation to one’s body, opponent or opponents and team mates position. One size does not fit all. Only one – size - fits - one.

The tactical thinking to analyze the given game situation, and the thought process to win the contest varies vastly, from one situation to the other. This is of course Governed by Concepts. And in some cases by very advanced concept or a combinations of concepts. Our current players / coaches, need to understand these concepts clearly, before they will be able to teach and apply them. This is and will be- CONCEPTUAL THINKING- one of the core themes of these Coaching E Newsletter’s.
Scene 1. Topic; Elimination skills in a 1 on 1 situation

What: Match Australia v/s and Belgium
Where: 2015 WHL Final
Game Situation: Australia has built the attack effectively while moving the ball in the back and successfully entering the opponents Left Offensive Quadrant, near the circle
Result: Unable to successfully eliminate the opponent or see the open passes
Solution:
• Learn & Remember How to think & play in the LOQ
• Learn how to cleanly Execute Elimination Dodges in a confined space
Aussie Right Inner passes the ball to Right half or Right Full, near the center line
Aussie Right half scans the field and his options. Observe how the Aussies are maintaining the triangles / diamonds by leading intelligently, as a unit.
Right half passes the ball back to the Center half. If this player had back pedaled and taken a few, quick extra steps, would have helped him in opening up. And receive the ball, while having a 180 degree view, to make the next pass. Just a point. Think about it.
Center half passes the ball to Left Half / Left Full to change the focus of play
Left Half or overlapping deep defender Passes the ball to C.H. and gets its back
Observe how the Aussies are maintaining the triangles & using the width and depth of the field. And making the Belgium's dance to their tune.
Remember The law of Possession:

The way the team with the ball – especially forwards – will position themselves, will directly influence the positional play of the opponents and their defenders.
The player who passes you the ball is free 9 out of 10 times. Refer to the article “7 laws of the game”
Long pass to the LI, who has smartly interchanged his position, while being wide open
Well calculated pass to the L.I. in the space
L.I. receives the pass & brings the ball to his strong side and face the attacking goal
My Views; He should have passed the ball to the L.W. first time or open his right foot to look right
He does it. But the LW has come too close. And narrowed the angle. Observe the shaded open space.
Pass is intercepted or tackled. L.W. should have stayed wide.
Opportunity was not exploited, due to not playing first time or lack of 1 on 1 elimination skills or reading the play intelligently. Having Soft skills are a must. Learning error. Lack of Game sense / Pattern Recognition. This is where soft skills come into play. And this is all, this Coaching ENL is about.
Counter attack launched
Here is quite a similar game situation, from the June 2016 CT, in the match between Australia and Belgium. Coincidentally Gabar? has the ball

• This has happened after a lapse of 6 months. Probably this was not discussed in the meeting, as the coaching staff might have had other important things on their agenda

• Remember; Little things make BIG things happen

• Strategic Tip: Timing of releasing or holding the ball is critical in play making moves

• Please study the next 2 slides thoughtfully
Can you correlate these 2 game situations, which occurred coincidently between the same 2 teams, in 2 different tournaments. Looks like the same Aussie player has the ball in more or less the game situation.
Here Gabar takes a try, while moving from the strong to his weaker side.
Key Message

Aussie’s were marvelous in keeping the:

• Possession of the ball and build up
• Maintaining Triangles and Diamond’s
• Using the width and depth of the field
• Changing the point of attack
• Entering the opponents deep left offensive zone

• But a big BUT, when the time came to employ “soft elimination skills”, the Aussie L.I. ran out of ideas. And this is all this coaching E News Letter is about
Solution: Here is a better way to eliminate a defender in this specific game situation. Slide 20

The paradox of the times is that the top teams know how to create space ... acres of it. But do not know, what to do with it and how to exploit it, smartly and softly.

Yes, they know how to blast the ball hard into the circle and look for deflections. Brute force. When the time comes to read the game situation and eliminate the defenders, they run out of ideas 9 out of 10 times. Please refer to the PP presentation from the previous email, with a example of Argentina and Canada.
Do note how Akashdeep, a young and upcoming player from India, eliminates the England defender on the run, by dumping the ball simply on the opponents left foot. Great Footballers do the same.
The Defender is caught flat footed, sitting on his heals, with little chance to recover quickly.
Do observe how Akasdeep takes a try on the run, on the wrong foot – Right foot in front – very softly and quickly. Yes a lost art
Any Questions?

• Thanks
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