

## *Evaluation Criteria for Classic Skills Evaluations (Field Players)*

### **1. Technical**

- A. Dribbling-
  - 1. Keeps the ball within reach while dribbling.
  - 2. Can turn and change direction to avoid pressure or to penetrate offensively.
- B. Ball Control/First Touch-
  - 1. Settles a passed ball at his/her feet quickly and efficiently.
  - 2. Uses various parts of body to receive a ball.
- C. Passing-
  - 1. Completes passes to teammates feet or to useful space.
  - 2. Strikes ball with laces or instep.
- D. Shooting-
  - 1. Thinks to shoot first.
  - 2. Consistently hits target.
  - 3. Strikes ball with laces or instep.
- E. Tackling-
  - 1. Tackles squarely and doesn't reach for the ball in an off-balance manner.

### **2. Tactical/ Decision Making**

- 1. Attacking (on the ball)
  - a. Attempts to penetrate by dribbling when it is "on" to dribble (i.e. free space ahead of the player or free space behind the first defender.
  - b. Passes or shoots at the appropriate time.
  - c. Looks to maintain possession by passing to teammates instead of kicking the ball aimlessly.
- 2. Attacking (off the ball)
  - a. When close to teammate with the ball, supports at an appropriate angle and distance.
  - b. When distant from teammate with the ball, helps team maintain shape or makes penetrating runs to open space.
  - c. Avoids crowding teammate with the ball or contributing to a "beehive" situation.
- 3. Defending
  - a. Puts pressure on the ball when he/she is closest to the ball.
  - b. Provides good communication and cover to first defender.
  - c. Provides balance when far from first defender.

### **3. Work Rate**

- 1. On loss of possession, is willing to work back and get behind the ball defensively.
- 2. Willing to make appropriate runs offensively even if there is little chance that the player will get the ball.
- 3. Generally "busy" and strives to make an impact at all times.
- 4. Competes consistently for 50-50 balls.

### **4. Athleticism/Physical**

- 1. Shows at least average speed, strength, and size for his/her age group.
- 2. Appears to be generally fit and willing to compete.

### **5. Intangibles**

- 1. Demonstrates a willingness to compete and a passion for the game.
- 2. Arrives prepared to play and appropriately dressed.
- 3. Shows soccer personality by being vocal and showing leadership qualities.