True player development focuses on the development of the player, not the development of the team. Up to U12, this should be the only criteria used in designing and running youth soccer programs.

Ron Quinn, contributor to USYSA

Schedule

12:00-12:25  Welcome, introductions, review schedule.  Bob Bussiere, Director of Coaching, CSA
  1. Review club philosophy about player development.
  2. Ideas about technical/skill development.
  3. The Coaching Progression (warm-up, small sided, expanded, game).

12:25-1:05  Session 1  Principles of Play.  Attacking (Coach Riess)

1:05-1:15  Break

1:15-1:55  Session 2  Principles of Play.  Defending (Coach Rosenbaum)

1:55-2:05  Break

2:05-2:45  Session 3  Principles of Play in a 4v4 format. (Coach Raben)
  Breakout in small gym:  The 3rd attacker/defender in a 9v9 format. (Rosenbaum)

2:45-2:55  Break

2:55 – 3:35  Session 4  Principles of Play in a 7v7 format. (Coach Cappy)

3:35 -3:45  Break

3:45 – 4:25  Session 5  Principles of Play in a 9v9 format. (Coach Manlove)
  Breakout in small gym:  Activities and Ideas for 4v4 coaches. (Coach Raben)

4:25  Closure
Session Topics

1. Principles of Play – Attacking. 1st attacker and 2nd attacker.
   - Penetration, Width, Depth, Mobility, Improvisation.
   - Pressure, Cover, Balance, Compactness, Patience.

   - Shapes: 0-1-2-1, 0-2-2, 0-1-3.
   - Shapes: 1-2-1-3, 1-3-1-2, 1-3-2-1.
5. Principles of Play – in a 9v9 game.
   - Shapes: 1-4-3-1, 1-2-3-3, 1-2-4-2.