



Liberty FC Model of Play

Players' role and responsibilities, positional numbers

Technical/Tactical Mission

- Develop technically sound players
- Develop players who have a tactical understanding of the game
- Develop players who understand the global number for each position
- Develop players who can attack and defend
- Play with the ball on the ground, short passes to connect the 3 tactical lines of the team
- Build-up from the goalkeeper

4-3-3/ 4-5-1/ 4-1-4-1



#1 - Goalkeeper

- Communicate perpetually with the team, giving useful information and positive reinforcements
 - Physically prepared to come off the line and deal with long balls played behind our defenders
 - Have the ability and the confidence to receive the ball and pass the ball with the feet
 - Shot-stopping
 - Dealing with crosses
 - Organizational skills
 - Leadership skills
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- Best examples: Buffon, Howard, Solo, De Gea, Neuer, Courtois



#2 – Right Fullback

- Ability to defend in wide areas
 - Ability to defend 1v1
 - Providing the width in possession
 - Staying compact with the back line
 - Providing support for the #7
 - Providing support for the #4 and #5
 - Right footed(if possible)
 - Provide crosses into the box
 - Get forward and attack when possible
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- Best Examples: Dani Alves, DeAndre Yedlin, Phillip Lahm, Juanfran, Azpilicueta



#4, #5 – Center backs

- Needs to read the game well
 - Needs to defend 1v1
 - Leaders, organizers, TALKERS
 - Needs to head the ball
 - Good technical level
 - Good physical level
 - Good decision-making in/around box
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- Best Examples: Godin, Kompany, Hummels, Pique, John Terry, Smalling



#3 – Left Fullback

- Ability to defend in wide areas
 - Ability to defend 1v1
 - Providing the width in possession
 - Staying compact with the back line
 - Providing support for the #11
 - Providing support for the #4 and #5
 - Left footed (if possible)
 - Provide crosses in the box
 - Get forward and attack whenever possible
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- Best Examples: David Alaba, Jordi Alba, Filipe Luis, Marcelo, Alberto Moreno, Christian Fuchs



#6 – Holding Center Midfielder

- Reads the game very well tactically
 - Gets the attacking players on the ball
 - Can play in small number of touches
 - Range of passing
 - Ability to intercept the ball
 - Needs to deal with the opponents' #10
 - Positionally secure
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- Best Example: Sergio Busquets



#8 – Box-to-box Midfielder

- Need to attack and defend
- Need to have a good engine; position requires a lot of running
- Drives the team forward
- Can support the #6 or the #10 in both phases of play
- Ability to get the attacking players involved
- Shoot, dribble, penetrate
- BOX-to-BOX



- Best Examples: Arturo Vidal, Yaya Toure, Rakitic, Modric, Matuidi, Gundogan

#10 – Playmaker, Attacking CM

- Technically needs to be at a very high level
 - Ability to see a pass
 - Graceful, elegant (if possible)
 - The attacking heartbeat of the team
 - Support of the #9, #7 and #11
 - Provide quality and guile in the final third
 - Good with both feet
 - Dribble/pass/shoot/penetrate/assist/score
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- Best Examples: Mezut Ozil, David Silva, Andres Iniesta, James Rodriguez, Isco, Thomas Muller



#7 – Right Winger

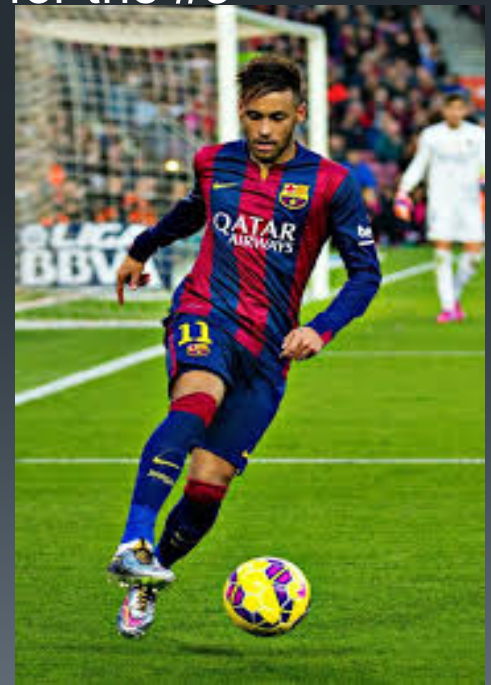


- Ability and desire to take people on
- Provide crosses
- Ability and knowledge to play in the half-space, leaving room for the #2 to overlap
- Combination play requirements
- Tracking back defensively and providing cover for the #2
- Can be right or left footed player
- Comfortability to play as a #11 also

- Best Examples: Jesus Navas, Lucas Moura, Arjen Robben, Gareth Bale,

#11 – Left Winger

- Ability and desire to take people on
 - Provide crosses
 - Ability and knowledge to play in the half-space, leaving room for the #3 to overlap
 - Combination play requirements
 - Tracking back defensively and providing cover for the #3
 - Can be right or left footed player
 - Comfortability to play as a #7 also
- Best Examples: Neymar Jr, Alexis Sanchez, Konoplyanka, Phillipe Coutinho, Douglas Costa



#9 - Striker

- Ability to score goals
- Play with back to goal
- Have a presence in the box
- Get others involved
- Good finisher with both feet and head
- Needs to be able to press the opponents' #4 and #5
- Be able to get involved in combination play
- Look to make runs in behind the backline

- Best examples: Lewandowski, Kun Aguero, Luis Suarez, Fernando Torres, Karim Benzema



Continuing our Education

- We want all Liberty FC players to be familiar with the numbers of each position. We want to be able to tell a player that he/she will be playing the 8, and he/she to understand what position we are asking them to play and a general idea of the requirements of that position.
- The philosophy and identity of our teams will be to play a modern style futbol based on a high technical level, involving possessing the ball and pressing the ball, and being a strong physical team in the attacking and defending transition moments of the game.
- We encourage all our players to watch as many professional games on TV as possible, because watching and analyzing the best teams and players in the world will give us a clearer idea of the game and what/why happens in the game
 - (Akron Zips + Columbus Crew live games are a great educational tool also)