



Division 'A' Team Formation, 4v4 (No GK)

Most children at this age do not understand space in the abstract. Their main relationship is to the ball, and it has a magnetic attraction even if a teammate has it. The IDEAL starting shape in 4v4 soccer is a 1-2-1 diamond that creates three passing options for the player with the ball. This seed can be planted with them on goal kicks or other kick-ins but will not last once the ball is in play. The scrum around the ball is normal and natural. Yelling "Spread out" is like telling them to grow up. Be patient, they need time to do both. Put 4 players on the field, remind them which goal they're supposed to score in, and let them play. Don't allow a player to stand in front of the goal, and don't make them believe it's a rule that certain players can't cross midfield. The main objective for this age group is that they have fun running around and will want to come back.

