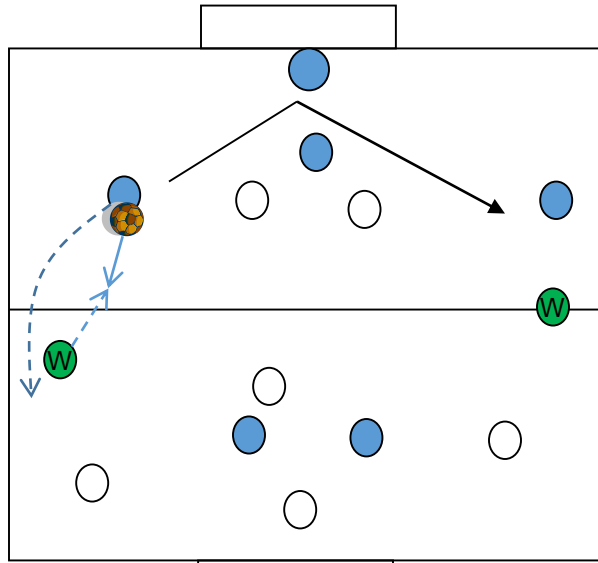


The importance of the wide midfielder

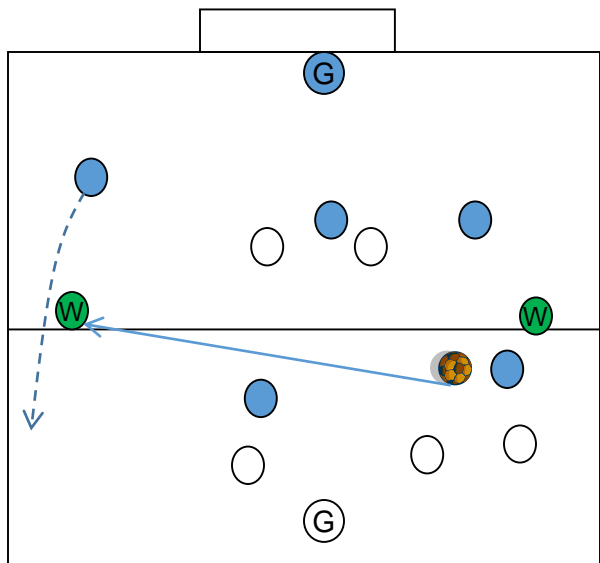




Wide midfielder Final Game



Striker is marked so the ball is played to the outside mid



Player being invited to overlap

Organization

Area 35x45 yards with a halfway line

5v5

Two neutral wide players that start on the opposite half to the ball and must check in to receive a pass

These players play for both teams

Teams have 4 players in defensive third and two strikers in attack

Strikers are the only ones to be restricted into their half of the field

Coaching points

- Communication
- Awareness of striker
- Check to receive pass
- Receive with an open body shape
- Recognize whether to use striker or fullback as the next passing option
- Three F's of passing: Force, flight, and feel (pace, low drive/lofted, spin)
- Coach the players to recognize when to go forward
- Coach the players speed of play slow to pull in opponents and quick to hit out
- Coach the wide players to check to receive
- Coach early movement off the ball to support the wide midfielders
- Coach the wide midfielders ability to deceive the opponents with disguised passes
- Coach the striker movement off the wide players
- Coach the recognition of pressure from the wide players