



Goalkeeper Set Piece Protocol

Category: Goalkeeping: General

Skill: Mixed age

Pro-Club: Rochester Youth Soccer Association
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Description

This document is meant to give coaches and goalkeepers basic guidelines for set pieces. These guidelines are meant to be a conversation starter and a place to start for multiple types of set pieces around the field.

Corner Kicks

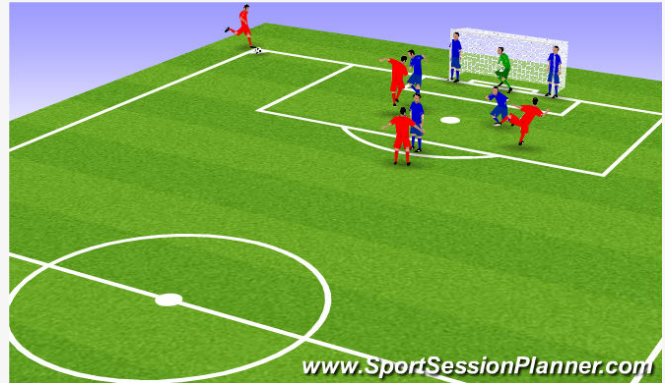
When setting up for a corner kick, the goalkeeper should:

- be the organizer
- ensure every player is marked from the other team
- if there are players from the other team that haven't been marked up yet, singling out teammates and placing them on certain numbers from the other team. "Jimmy mark #3"
- be able to multi-task. all of the gk's attention cannot solely be focused on making sure marks are picked up, the gk must watch the ball and be ready for when the kick is taken.

It should be up to the coach/team/goalkeeper as to whether or not players will be on one/both posts. There are advantages and disadvantages to all three scenarios.

The same applies to whether there will be a player that sits out at the corner of the six yard area for the short/low driven service. Or if the team will designate a floater, one who will simply attack the ball where ever it lands in the penalty area.

Each team is different in how they can handle corner kicks. These are situations that should be talked through amongst the team to be consistent on gamedays.



Free Kicks (shooting)

The diagram is to depict a general guideline for building a wall when the ball is in various areas of the field.

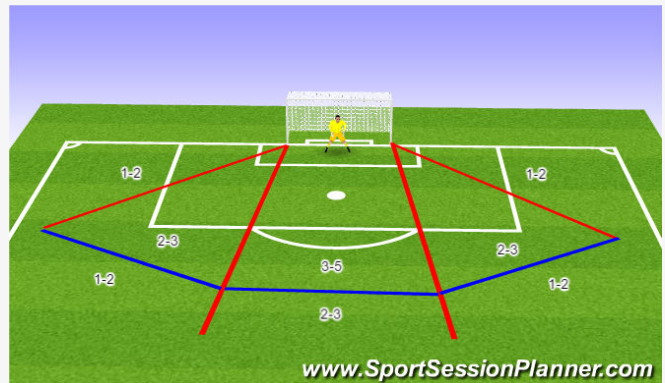
A wall is only needed and should only be used when the free kick is within shooting range. We do not want to take people off of opposing marks to put them in a wall if the shot off of the free kick is not a realistic threat.

Note: The numbers in the diagram are for how many people to have in a wall. These numbers are a general recommendation and should be adapted based on the age, circumstance, strength of free kick taker, comfort of the team and goalkeeper.

Free kicks most near the endline and corner should have the least number of players in the wall as the angle for a shot is very tight. The closer the ball gets toward the corner the more the free kick should simply be treated as a corner kick. As the ball nears the center of the field the number of players that are placed into the wall is increased due to the increased chance that there is a shot on goal. As free kicks are awarded further from the penalty area they should be treated as if they are going to be more of a service rather than a shot, thus requiring less players in the wall, as depicted on the diagram.

Once again, age and strength and accuracy of the free kick taker should be considered when deciding on how to build the wall. As teams get older there tends to be more shots taking from free kicks rather than services when players are younger.

The keeper should build the wall with the the outside player lined up with the ball and the "near" post. The taller players in the wall should be on the post side and the shorter players should be on the opposite side. The goalkeeper should line up on the other side of the goal, opposite of the wall, with a direct line of sight to the ball.

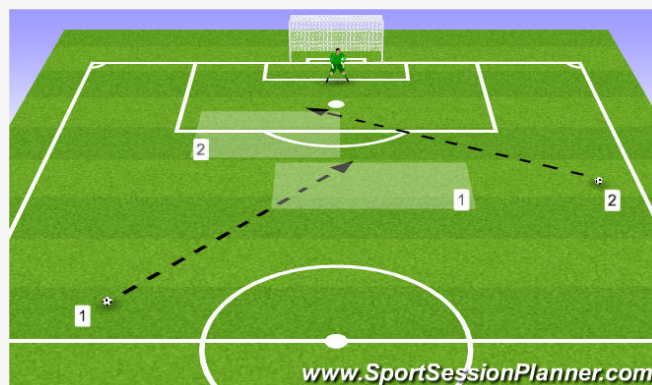


Free Kicks (services)

Free kicks that are further away from goal have a very small likelihood of being shots. Therefore, these free kicks should be treated as services into dangerous areas that the keeper must deal with.

The keeper needs to decide where the holding line should be. For scenario #1 that could be "5 yards off of the 18" or for scenario #2 that could be "hold the 18/ hold the penalty spot."

This line should be decided with the coach and the keeper or amongst the team. This line is important to hold strict as it can act as an offside line and a space that allows the keeper space to claim the service.



Goal Kicks

The goalkick should be a free kick that possession can be retained and given right back to the opposition. Many goal kicks the idea is to simply blast the ball back up the field often times resulting in loss of possession and the opposing team is coming right towards goal again.

As a goalkeeper every time we get the ball we should think how can I get the ball back to my teammates safely and penetrate the opposition's defense at the same time. If we can penetrate then we simply keep possession of the ball.

In the diagram, I depict three options that are better than simply blasting the ball in the middle of a cluster of both teams' players. Option 1 would be a quick short kick to one of the defenders, that we can then move up the field. Option 2 would be a good option to possibly penetrate through the line of opposing forwards. Option 3 would be an option to penetrate through two lines of the opposition.

To play this way, the team needs to be on the same page. The goalkeeper needs to have options wide, short, medium and long to be able to restart, retain possession and build an attack again.

