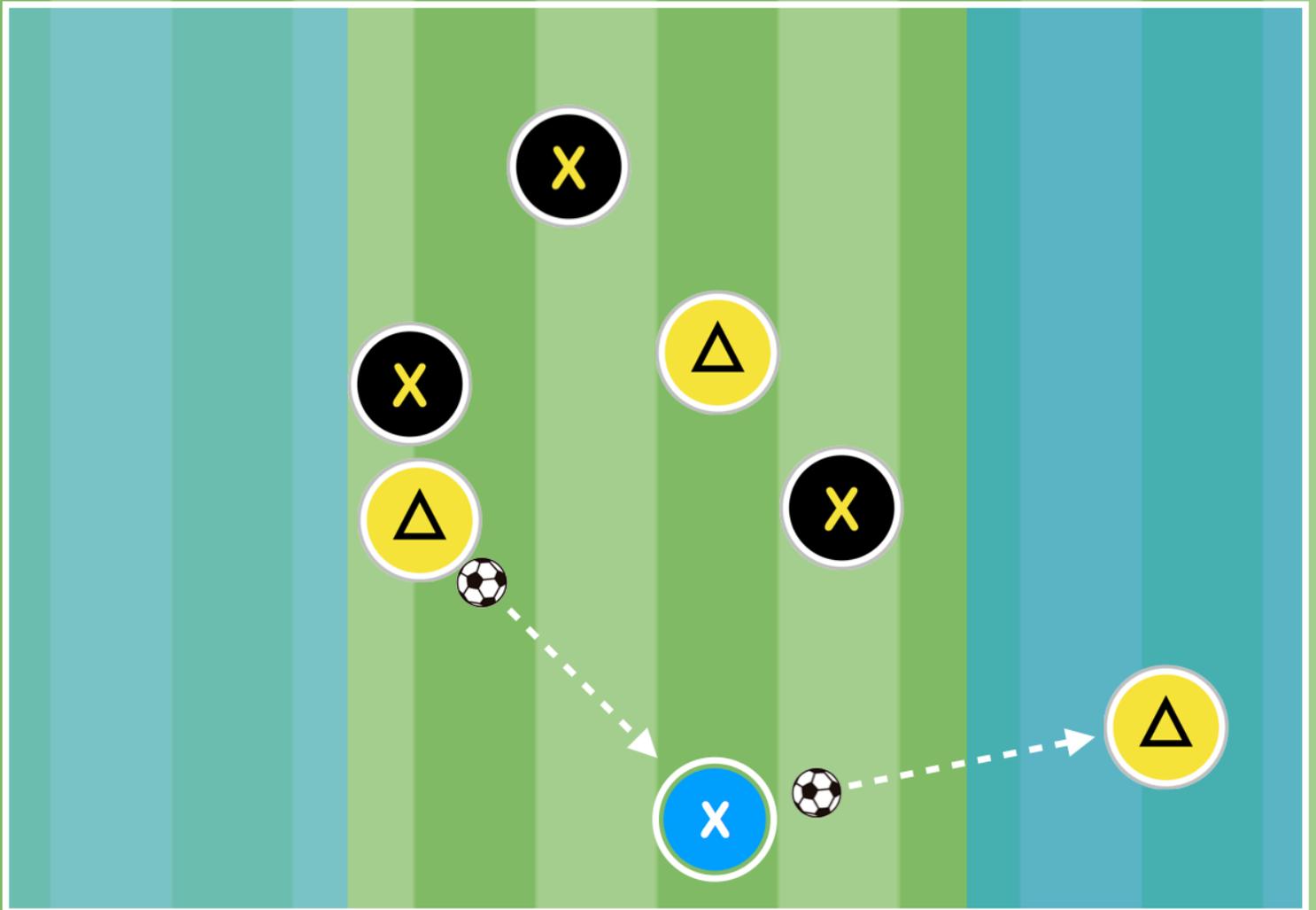


PASS INTO THE ENDZONE



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This is a fun small sided game that encourages and rewards penetrating passes past your opponents into space behind them.

SET UP & ACTIVITY

Set up a rectangle pitch and mark out an engine at end of your pitch.

Put your players into balanced teams of 3v3 and add a neutral player who is always on the team that has possession of the ball. You can play this game with more players but the less players the more space and opportunity each player will have to score points for their team.

This is a simple 3v3 game with an extra neutral player where the teams score a point when one of the players passes the ball to a team mate who is in the opponents end-zone.

Start out the game with no other rules than how the players score a point which is by receiving a pass from a team mate in the end-zone, see how the players try and score points.

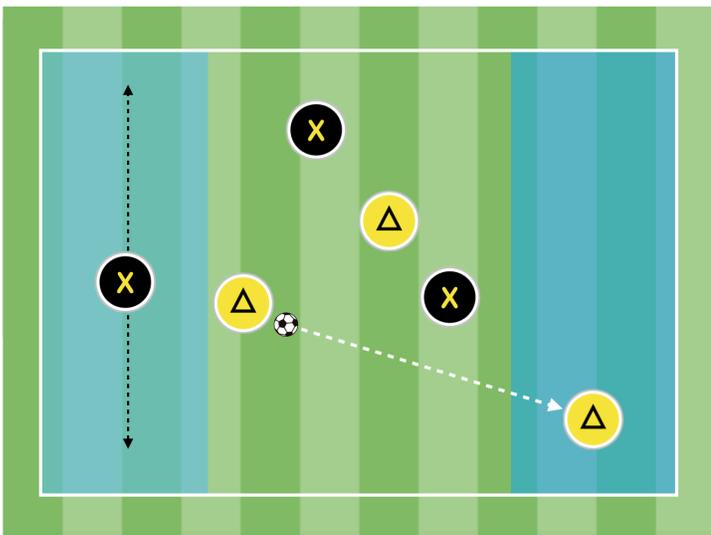
- Adjust your pitch and make it bigger for beginner players and for lower ability players.
- Adjust the depth of your end-zone make it deeper for beginner players to give them more room to receive a pass and get the ball under control.

COACHING POINTS

- Encourage players to find space and move when they do not have the ball.
- Encourage players to get their head up and look to find an open player on their team, look forwards to the end-zone first to see if you can make a pass and score.
- Ask players what different ways they can think of to score a point in this game, then challenge them to try and do them. Here are some potential solutions.
- Pass to a team mate who is open and waiting in the end-zone

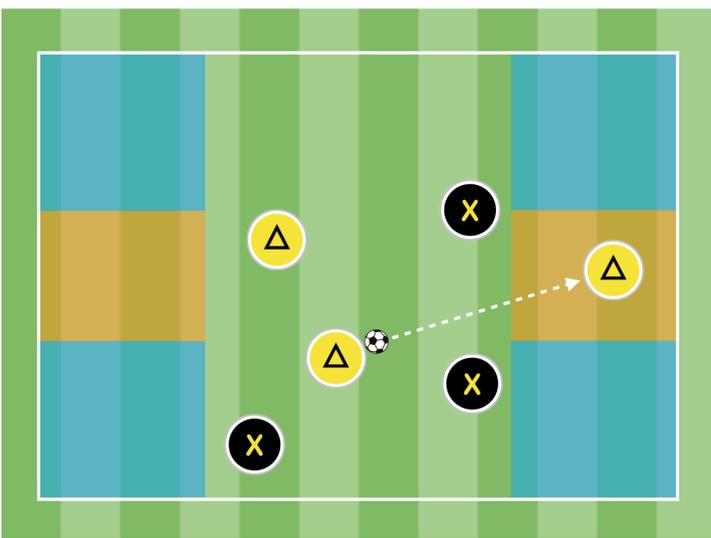
- Pass the ball into the end-zone and a team mate runs onto the ball
- One team mate will shield and hold the ball on the line of the end-zone and wait for a team mate to get open

VARIATIONS



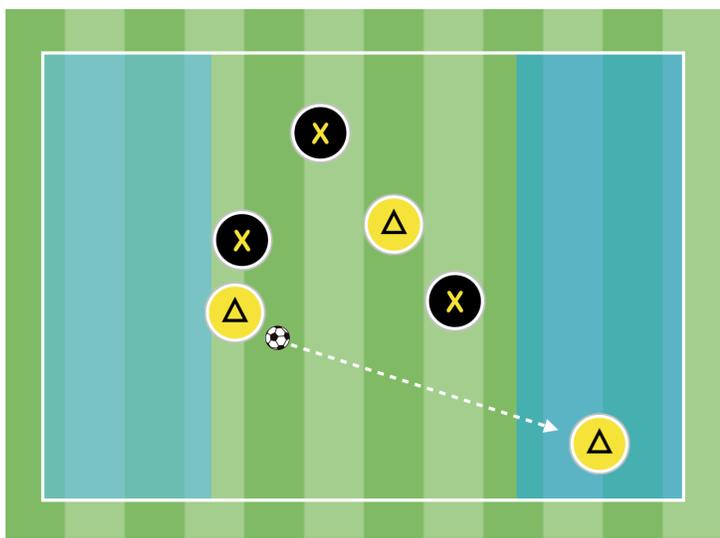
A very simple variation to this game and one you may want to start with is to assign one player who is locked into the end zone providing a target player for each team.

This player has to stay in the end-zone, other players can still receive a pass and score. This sometimes makes the game simpler and easier for younger players to understand.



Another variation of this game is to create two wide zones and a central zone within each end-zone and assign different point values for passing into the different zones depending on what you want the teams to achieve.

You may assign higher points for getting into the wide zones or the central zone.



The last variation here is for when you find that the teams are having a lot of success with the game using the neutral player you will remove the neutral from the game so it becomes a simple 3v3.

This will force the players in possession to work harder to get away from the defending team and find space to receive the ball.