



# USING THE FIELD OF PLAY

(by Otto Orf, 7-4-2014)

Useful team thoughts when the game court is divided into thirds and the direction of play is attacking from left to right.



**DEFENSIVE 1/3**

**TRANSITIONAL 1/3**

**OFFENSIVE 1/3**

<p>Do not take risks in this zone. It is essential to prevent passing softly through the center of this zone. Give and go passes are often unsuccessful, especially when we are not familiar with each other so look to play down the touch lines. Work around the center of this area. Bypass this zone with goalkeeper distribution.</p>	<p>Possession is key here. Don't be afraid to pass negatively to allow TARGET time to get into a dangerous position. Attack quickly when it is 'on' but possessing until finding area of attack will benefit the team greatly. Employ firm lateral passes. Quick parallel passes. Attacking diagonal passes.</p>	<p>Finish with urgency, look to back post when unsure or at poor angle. Consider the situation of the game; are you losing, winning by 1 or 2 goals, etc. Recognition of this is very important. Supporting passes for shot opportunities are hugely important. Use a toe-poke to shoot when the ball is directly in front of you. Lift the ball over an aggressive goalkeeper.</p>
--	--	---

Teams need to have all of their players move as a unit up and down the court keeping the distance between each other at 10-12 yards maximum. Exceptions to this happen during breakout situations and when a team chooses to possess the ball in back with the TARGET in a very deep offensive position.

After passing the ball a DYNAMIC run of a minimum of 1 step and up to 10 steps **MUST BE MADE BY EVERY PLAYER.**

'Checking' back into open space will always benefit the team and result in a much higher percentage of completed passes.

These tactics will put the opposition on notice, open up space and create dangerous opportunities for all.