

# **Set Piece Importance**

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# Restarts

- Kickoffs
- Throw ins
- Corners – off / def
- Goal kicks – off / def
- Direct / indirect free kicks

# Organizational Points

- Set it up or quick restart?
- Point of restart – defensive third, mid third, attacking third
- Game situation – score, time, players in the game
- Team's strengths vs weaknesses

# Kickoff

- Press vs draw them out
- Numerical advantage (shaded system)
- Play into a team's weakness (left side / right side)
- Address both the offensive and defensive side

# Throw ins

- Go forward – square – negative
- What third?
- Long throw specialist? Flick or feet?
- Second and third ball
- Address offensive and defensive side (protect space behind back line)

# Corners

- Offensive
- Short (change angle) vs direct service (strengths of team)
- Inswing vs outswing
- Zone vs runners
- Second ball – deception/numbers up
- Special plays

# Corners

- **Defensive**
- **Front post / back post?**
- **Zone vs marking or mix – strengths / weaknesses**
- **Cover short (even numbers)**
- **Second ball**
- **Release point**
- **Step line on clearance**

# Goal Kicks

- Offensive
- Play out vs direct
- Strengths of team and style of play
- Play out – spacing and timing
- Direct – compact and drop off – second ball
- Center back drop off on kick to protect space behind backline



# Goal Kicks

- **Defensive**
- **Give space to press – spacing and movement together (shade one way?)**
- **Play high to force direct - strength of team**
- **Center back drop off to protect**

# Free Kicks

- Offensive
- Direct or indirect?
- What third?
- Quick or set up?
- Specialist (left / right foot)(ability to bend)
- Opposing set up to defend – gaps, strength of keeper, ability in the air

# Free Kicks

- **Defensive**
- **Front the ball immediately**
- **Organization / communicate / sense of urgency**
- **Strengths of opposition – special players**
- **Forward or keeper set wall?**
- **Zone vs man – cover goal when keeper plays**
- **Attack first ball and step for second on clearance**

# Final Thoughts

- **Offensive**
- **Teams turn off when balls are out of play – play fast or set up**
- **Know your team and the situation of the game**
- **Be organized and spend time in your training to make sure your players are prepared with their roles**
- **Play to strengths of your team and know your opponent's weakness**
- **Free kick artist train everyday**

# Final Thoughts

- **Defensive**
- **Front the ball immediately**
- **Zone (drop off and attack) vs Man (lock them up)**
- **Cover goal when keeper plays**
- **Never turn your back on ANY ball in ANY situation**
- **Sense of urgency**
- **Organization – strengths on strengths and weakness on weakness**
- **Communication – no breakdowns**
- **Attack the ball**

# Stats

- **Attacking**
- **151 goals scored in 26 games in 2017-2018**
- **29 goals (169 corners scored for 17%) 19% overall**
- **17 free kicks (both direct and indirect) scored – 11%**
- **8 long throw goals – 5%**
- **Total – 36% of our goals were off set pieces or restarts**
- **Scored 97 in the run of play – 64%**

# Stats

- **Defensive**
- **Conceded 11 goals in 26 games in 2017-2018**
- **Conceded 3 goals on 72 corners -4%**
- **Conceded 1 free kick (direct)**
- **Conceded 7 in the run of play – 64% of the goals allowed**