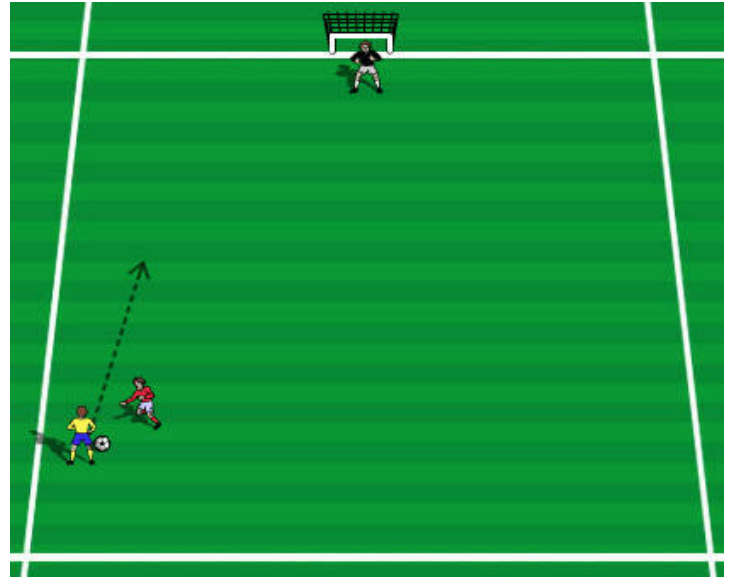


Soccer Edition 272

Welcome to the Soccer Newsletter. Today's newsletter addresses what to do when you get beat defensively.

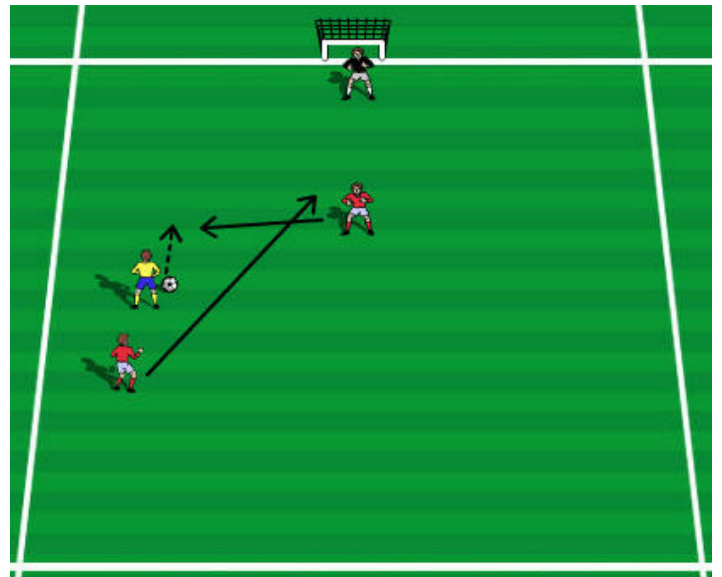
Too often, when a player gets beat defensively (off the dribble), their first thought is to stop and sulk. Without having to go into too many details because it should be quite obvious, this is NOT a good option.

If, after getting beat the player is able to quickly recover and get goal side, that would be the first option.



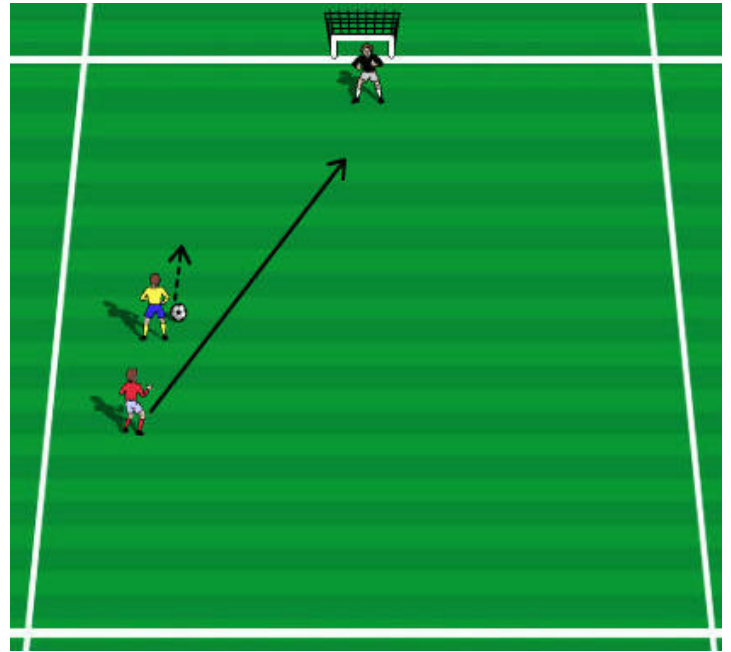
If, after getting beat, the player is not able to get goal side, the next option is to see if someone else can quickly cover (the second defender) and if so, to quickly get back to provide support for this player.

If there isn't a player behind you to provide support, the next thought is to make a hard run back toward the 12 yard spot.



The reason for making this sprint towards the 12 yard spot is that ultimately, the player with the ball is going to head toward the goal and if you can't catch them right away, the next thought is to go to where they are going to be going (a good attacking player will beat the defender and then cut in toward goal but many will run a straight line down the field and not cut in and by doing this, you can beat them to their ultimate destination by taking a more direct path toward the goal.

Once you get the inside track on these players, the next step is to get yourself organized so that you can decide quickly whether to go to the player with the ball, or to find another player (if someone else has been able to provide coverage for the player with the ball).



If, as a general rule, a team always recovers toward the 12 yard spot and then reorganizes, the team will be more successful in getting back behind the ball and will also be better at developing the habit of recovering when beat as opposed to hoping someone else can cover

If you have any questions or comments about this newsletter or any other subject, either send them to comments@finesoccer.com or post them to the forum at <http://finesoccer.com>.

Have a great day.

Lawrence

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