



CELTIC SOCCER ACADEMY

CLUB PARTNER NEWSLETTER

February 2015



CELTIC AT THE NSCAA CONVENTION

Billed as 'The World's Largest Annual Gathering of Soccer Coaches', each year the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Convention draws approximately 4,000 coaches and more than 10,000 attendees over five days and Celtic were once again represented alongside some of the leading clubs in the world when the NSCAA Conference was in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from 14 – 18 January.

Celtic Soccer Academy Manager, Willie McNab was flying the flag for the Hoops as he delivered a field demonstration and lecture to coaches from around the world, educating them in the philosophies and theory of playing the Celtic Way.

It was a great opportunity to showcase the club and what we do. Having the chance to present at a prestigious event such as the NSCAA Convention is a representation of how well regarded Celtic are globally.

The trip also represents an opportunity for Willie to meet up with existing partner clubs in the States and plan ahead for the 2015/16 season. Celtic Soccer Academy currently has six partner clubs in North America and the conference will provide the perfect platform to announce the addition of new partner clubs that will see that number swell in early 2015.

http://www.celticfc.net/pages/celticsocceracademy_international

ACADEMY UPDATE

The Development squad have recently qualified for the latter stages of the inaugural English Premier League International Cup which involves 16 of Europe's top Youth Academies, 8 from England and 8 from the rest of Europe.

Celtic topped their group, remaining undefeated along the way with victories against Villarreal and Sunderland and a draw against Everton. This sees the squad advance to the quarter finals where they will meet either Manchester City or Leicester City later this season.

This tournament gives the young players within the academy the opportunity to test themselves against other top youth players across Europe and give them the experience needed of playing at the elite level of European Football.

Development Squad coach Stevie Frail added: 'When you look at the quality of teams in our group – Everton, Sunderland, Villarreal – and how we had to play three away games, qualifying with seven points is testament to the players and the way they go about their business.'

<http://www.premierleague.com/en-gb/news/features/premier-league-international-cup-2014-2015.html>

EPL INTERNATIONAL CUP



Development squad player Stuart Findlay up against Everton's Arouna Kone



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SESSION OF THE MONTH "DEFENDING SCENARIOS"

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Players move in from the side ready to play.
2. Using the goalkeeper, create a 3v1 against the opposition striker.
3. After safe possession the attacking player gives the ball away to the opposition team at the other end.
4. Two attacking players at the side trigger the transition and a 3v2 towards goal ensues.

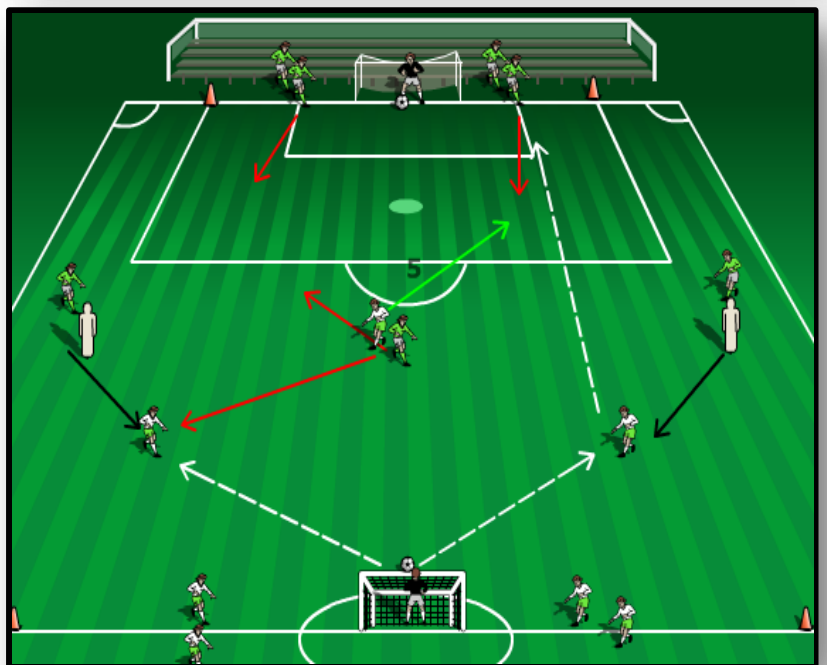
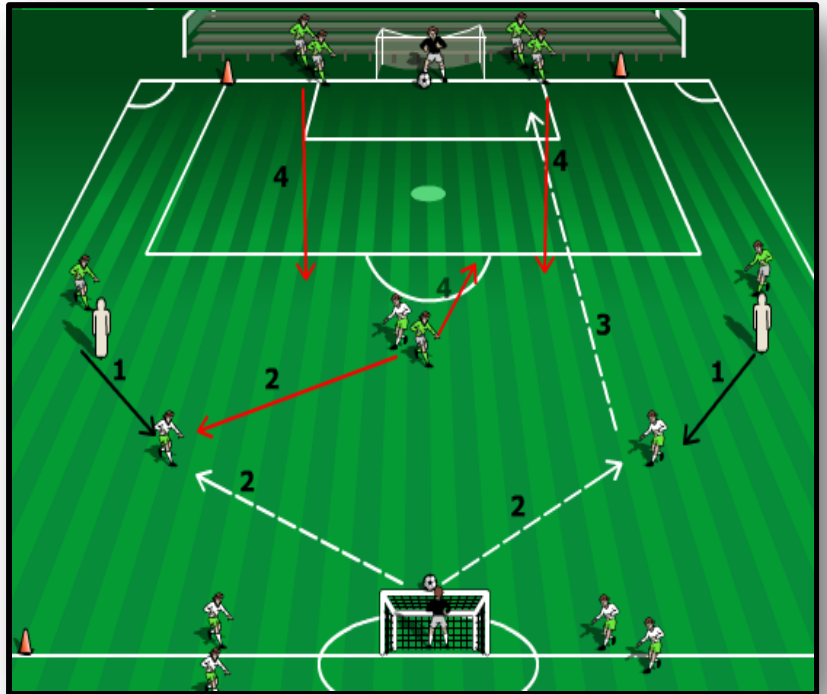
Play until a goal is scored or the defending team win possession

PROGRESSION

Same set up as above but this time the middle player for the defending team now becomes 'live' and enters the play to create a 3v3. This time if the defending team win possession they get to attack the opposite goal. How well does the attacking team react to the transitions?

COACHING POINTS

1. Centre backs narrow off and push up slightly.
2. When defending in an overload, drop off and leave the decision with the attacker – force away from goal.
3. When in a numbers equal situation (3v3) immediate and high pressure – force away from goal and press high.
4. When loss of possession occurs, become compact and press aggressively.



This session is based on our Professional Academy curriculum for ages 17 – 20 years

For more information on the Celtic Club Partnership Programme contact:
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INTERNATIONAL COACHES CONVENTION

26th – 28th February 2015

INTERNATIONAL COACHES CONVENTION 2015



AN ACADEMY LIKE NO OTHER
THURSDAY 26TH - SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

'An Academy Like No Other'

The International Coaches Convention will be entering its 4th year and gives unparalleled access to one of the top youth academies in the world. This unique insight into the workings of Celtic FC's Youth Academy will cover exclusive content such as:

- **Unique access to behind the scenes area of the Academy**
- **Interactive workshops on Player Development**
- **Insight into the Celtic FC & St Ninian's High School partnership programme**
- **Match preparation of Academy teams**
- **Sports Science Practical and Theoretical sessions**
- **Specialist goalkeeping practical sessions**
- **See some of the youth teams in actions**
- **Executive seating and pre/post match hospitality for the Celtic FC home match v Aberdeen**

This year's International Coaches Convention will take place in Glasgow on the following dates: **26, 27 & 28 February 2015.**

Please note flights, insurance, accommodation and transfers are not included in the price but we can assist with local hotel rates and ground transportation when registering for the convention.

For more information or to book a place on the International Coaches Convention please contact:

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