Philosophy of the Ground Pass

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Tiqui Taca – One Touch
19 Variations and Coaching the 6-Cone Drill

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19 Variations and Coaching in the 6-Cone-Drill

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20 Tactical Rules for Successful Combination Play

1. **Stretching the opposing defensive block**
   If a counter attack is not possible, it is important to spread out and open up the space to stretch the opposing defensive block, thereby creating more playing space to build up one’s own attack.

2. **Using the entire field in width and depth**
   Good width and depth coverage on the field is achieved by optimal manning of the sidelines and positioning the forwards as deep as possible. Based on the current offside rule, staying even briefly behind the opposing defensive line in the tactical offside has proven to be an effective tool.

3. **Creating a majority near the ball**
   In order to provide sufficient passing options to the man on the ball and stand up to the opponents’ pressing, a majority near the ball should be sought whenever possible.

4. **Seeking 2 v 1 situations**
   The 2 v 1 is the smallest possible majority. The 2 v 1 scenario is the “atom of tactical play.” During a possession attack, the team seeks a 2 v 1 majority over any attacking defender as often as possible.

5. **Creating passing options in every direction**
   The player in possession of the ball should have as many passing options close to the ball, as well as farther away as possible. He should ideally be able to make long forward or diagonal passes, but also square passes and back passes. However, when passing, the same basic rule applies: depth before width. All players constantly and quickly change their positions according to the game situation, depending on the position of the ball, teammates and opponents.
6. **Using running feints**
   In today’s soccer, the players are under a huge amount of opposing, spatial, and time pressures. The amount of space around the ball keeps getting smaller. In order to shake off the opponent in these restricted spaces, the use of running feints is indispensable. In doing so, one changes a mental head start into a moving head start.

7. **Coordinating getting open**
   Any efforts to get open should always be coordinated. That also applies to the important and effective positional changes in width and depth. When trying to get open, the motto is: create open space and run into open space.

8. **Forming triangles in every direction**
   In order to create diagonal passing opportunities and good angles for the man on the ball, triangles must be continuously formed in every direction.

9. **Taking advantage of gaps**
   The players run out of the opponent’s cover shadow into open areas and quickly man the gaps. In doing so, they take advantage of the so-called second gap, the gaps between opponent and teammate. Successful deep play during a possession attack is only made possible by using the lanes and playing the gaps. To have the largest field of vision possible, the players assume a slightly oblique open posture so they can observe the playing area and action and can quickly start another action (dribbling, pass) with the first touch.

10. **Recognizing passing options before the first touch**
    The importance of a good first touch as preparation for optimal play cannot be emphasized enough. The player receiving a pass should already be aware of all possible passing options and have made eye contact with a potential pass receiver before making the first touch.

11. **Anticipating game situations**
    Today’s players are expected to anticipate game situations, quickly grasp them, immediately evaluate (analyze) them, and then make decisions as quickly as possible. We need players who can quickly and effectively adapt to rapidly changing conditions and situations.

12. **Avoiding risky dribbling in the defensive and middle third**
    Dribbling in the defensive and middle third should be avoided due to possible loss of possession and resulting threat of a counter attack. In addition, senseless dribbling does not move the opponent’s defensive block enough. The ball should be dribbled into open spaces and never into a zone that is loaded with players.

13. **Achieving a 1 v 1 majority—creating the 1 v 1 challenge**
    The majority situations against compact defensive blocks can hardly be created with combination play alone. This requires players who have mastered the offensive 1 v 1.
14. **Mastering group tactics**  
Mastery of all important group tactics, such as the double pass, playing with a third man, laying off and taking over the ball, crosses and overlapping runs are prerequisites for a successful possession attack.

15. **Skipping over players or an entire line of players**  
Skipping over a player or even an entire line of players whenever possible while moving the ball down the field has proven very effective. This means moving downfield quicker with fewer passes.

16. **Executing a shift in play**  
To move the opponents’ compact defensive block and induce them to make mistakes during a possession attack, the ball must circle quickly and steadily in one’s own ranks and shift play from one side to the other. A *shift in play* is not only a changing of sides with high, long and especially diagonal balls but can also be done with fast passing sequences. The shorter the touch, the less time the opponent has to correct and adjust his position.

17. **Striving for high execution speed during a shift in play**  
Shifts in play are only successful if they are done quickly and unexpectedly. They must be so fast that the defensive players can no longer correct or insufficiently correct their positions relative to the attackers. Especially effective is a one-time or repeated play in the opposite direction against the opposing shifting formation. The objective of a shift in play is to make a hole either at the wing or in the center to make room for moving the game down the field.

18. **Getting behind the defense**  
A long diagonal ball behind the defense is especially effective here.

19. **Changing the pace**  
It is recommended to occasionally take out the speed and change the rhythm because a tactically strong opponent adjusts to transparent power kicks. Changes in rhythm provide an opportunity for a brief recovery and undermine the opponent’s focus.

20. **One Touch Soccer**  
The fastest way to play the ball is to pass it directly because the ball is simultaneously being controlled and passed. Making two touches to this purpose does not simply require a double effort but also much more time. For this reason, direct passes at the right moment must become a regular component of offensive play if we want to improve our chances at successful offensive play in restricted spaces.
19 Variations in the 6-Cone-Drill

DVD Tiqui Taca – One Touch
19 Variations and Coaching in the 6-Cone-Drill
Coaching perfect passing in the 6-cone-drill from basics to shooting.
The 6-Cone-Drill is reduced from the real match and therefore this drill is very realistic and game-related.

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NOTE: This ebook shows the graphics of the drills from the DVD “Tiqui Taca – One Touch - 19 Variations and Coaching in the 6-Cone-Drill”. Take them to the training sessions to organize the drills. You will find more variations, detailed information and coaching points in the DVD.

**Variation 01: Square with 1 Player in the middle**
Use the space around the cones
Players often make the mistake to wait at the cones. The coach should tell them that they have to move into the space around the cones, and his partner should not pass the ball directly onto the cones.
Variation 02: Square with two Players in the middle

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Variation 03: 6-Cone-Drill in a rectangular (without switching sides)

Forming triangles in every direction
In order to create diagonal passing opportunities and good angles for the man on the ball, triangles must be continuously formed in every direction.

Creating passing options in every direction
The player in possession of the ball should have as many passing options as possible.
Variation 04:
6-Cone-Drill in a rectangular with switching sides (One Ball)

Variation 05: 6-Cone-Drill switching sides
Two opponents (closing down passing lines)
Variation 06:
6-Cone-Drill switching sides and a 2 vs. 1

Variation 07:
6-Cone-Drill switching sides and a 2 vs. 2
Variation 08: 6-Cone-Drill switching sides and two balls

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Variation 09: 6-Cone-Drill passing to the goalkeeper

Variation 10: 6-Cone-Drill without cones

Variation 11: 6-Cone-Drill skipping a line
Variation 12: 6-Cone-Drill with catching the ball

Variation 13: 6-Cone-Drill with a 2 vs. 1

Variation 14: 6-Cone-Drill with a 2 vs. 2
Variation 15: 6-Cone-Drill with a shot on goal

Variation 16: 6-Cone-Drill with a shot on goal after a 2 vs. 1
Variation 17:
3 vs. 3 plus 2 neutral players

Variation 18a:
3 vs. 3 plus 2 neutral players including restricted touches
(without graphic)

Variation 18b:
3 vs. 3 with 2 neutral players and one-touch play
(without graphic)
Variation 19:
6-Cone-Drill with shooting on 2 goals
DVD Tiqui Taca – One Touch
19 Variations and Coaching in the 6-Cone-Drill

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