

32nd AEFCA Symposium
19 – 23 November 2011
Turkey – Antalya – Lara

“What can we learn from the U17 & U20 FIFA
World Cups 2011?”

Willi Ruttensteiner

FIFA

For the Game. For the World.

BENCHMARK EVENTS



FIFA World Cup
FIFA Confederations Cup
U20, U17



UEFA EURO
U21, U19, U17



UEFA –
Champions
League

Technical Study Group



TSG remarks:

- Huge interest in the FIFA U17 and U20 World Cups



FIFA U17-World Cup Mexico 2011



TSG remarks:

- Change to the competition format



TSG remarks:

- Natural grass versus artificial turf



TSG remarks:

- Average age of the teams



TSG remarks:

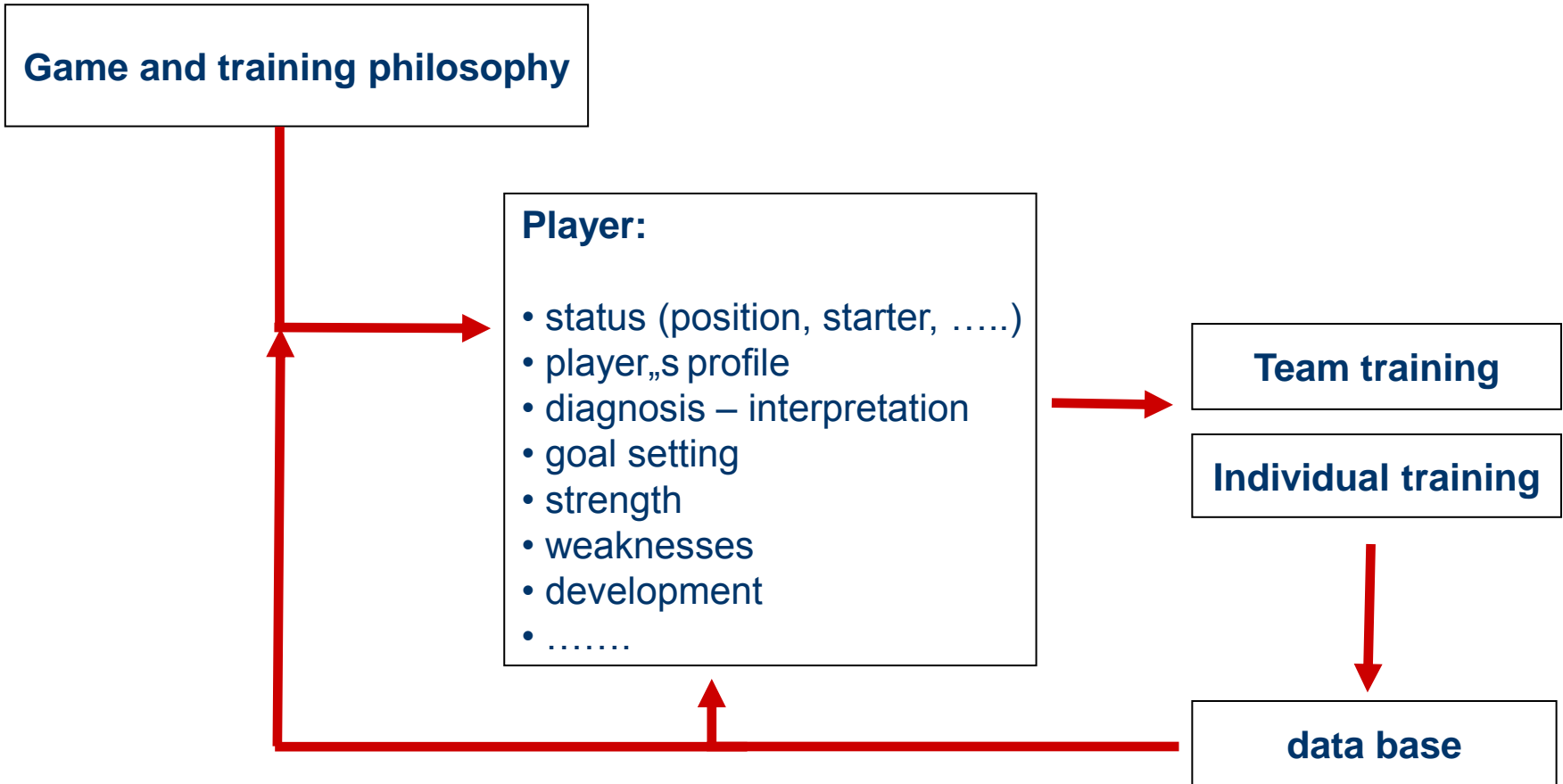
- FIFA awards



“With a clear game and training philosophy, football gains quality and efficiency. Therefore it’s essential for a coach to give his players clearly defined guidelines points of reference, and a behaviour pattern.

You can define, via a game and training philosophy, the demand profile for a top international player, which is an important thing for the player’s development!”

Willi Ruttensteiner



FIFA U17-World Cup Mexico 2011



Key factors for success:

- Good technical and tactical ability
- Physical fitness
- Mental strength
- Outstanding team medical care
- Professional approach dealing with the local conditions
- Individuality

The individual quality of the players is the key to success, not the tactical system!

Tactical flexibility



Technical perfection

Winning mentality

Fast actions

Formations:

- Clearly defined but flexible formations
- Four-man defences predominate
- Variety of midfield formations
- Variable and flexible

Formations



Argentina



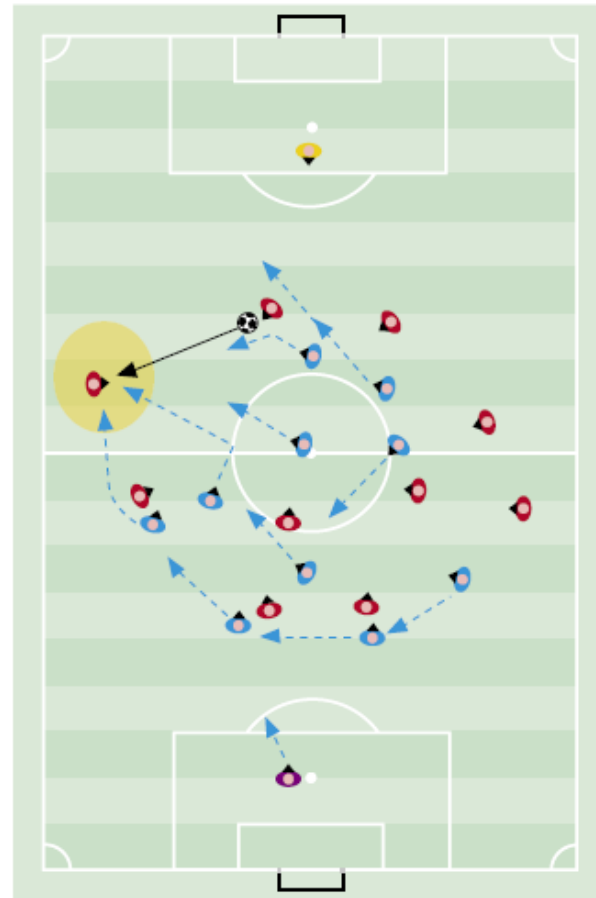
Defence: Zonal system



Moving to the ball in formation is a standard!

Defence:

Midfield pressing
provides the platform



Defence:

Professional tackling



Defence:

Making transitions –
and the correct decision



Forward play:

- Positive thinking brings results
- Passing – the simplest option is often the best
- Speedy counter-attacks from a steady defence
- The importance of wing play
- Goals and their consequences

FIFA U-20 World Cup Colombia 2011





Trends and observations

Development programmes by FIFA, the confederations, associations and clubs



Trends and observations

Effects of altitude on tournament preparation





Trends and observations

Distortion of the FIFA U-20 World Cup





Technical and tactical analysis:

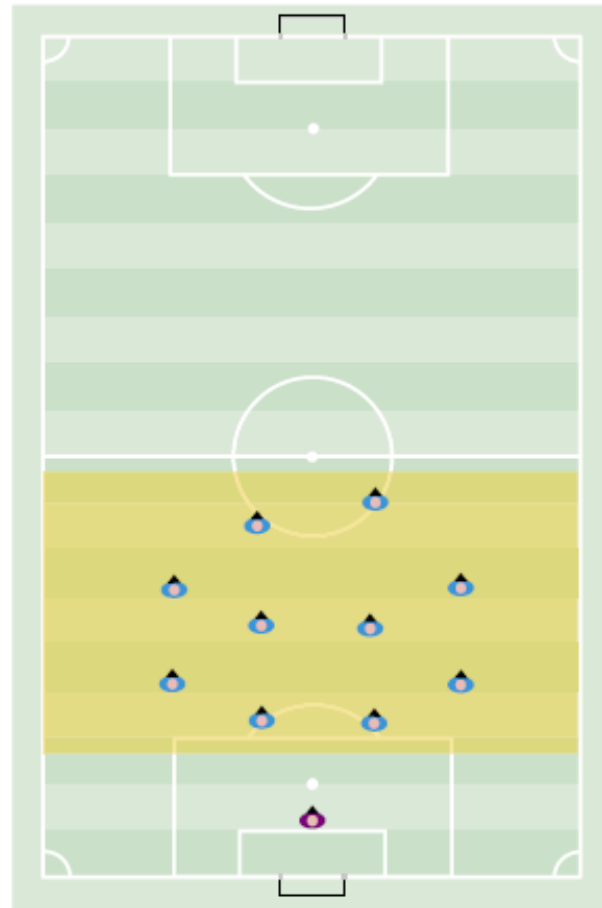
- Difference in quality
- Surprise packages





Technical and tactical analysis: Defensive Play

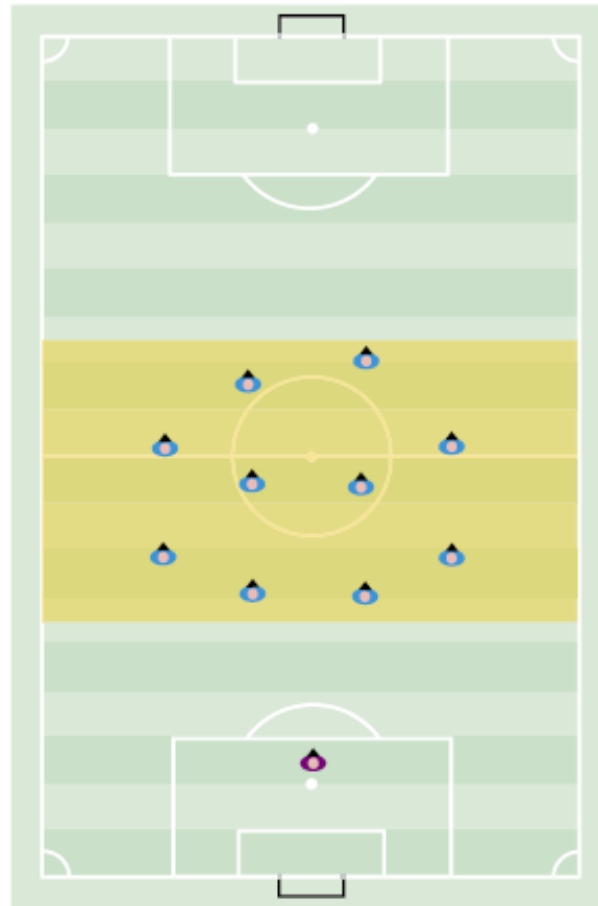
Defensive pressing
– deep defence





Technical and tactical analysis: Defensive Play

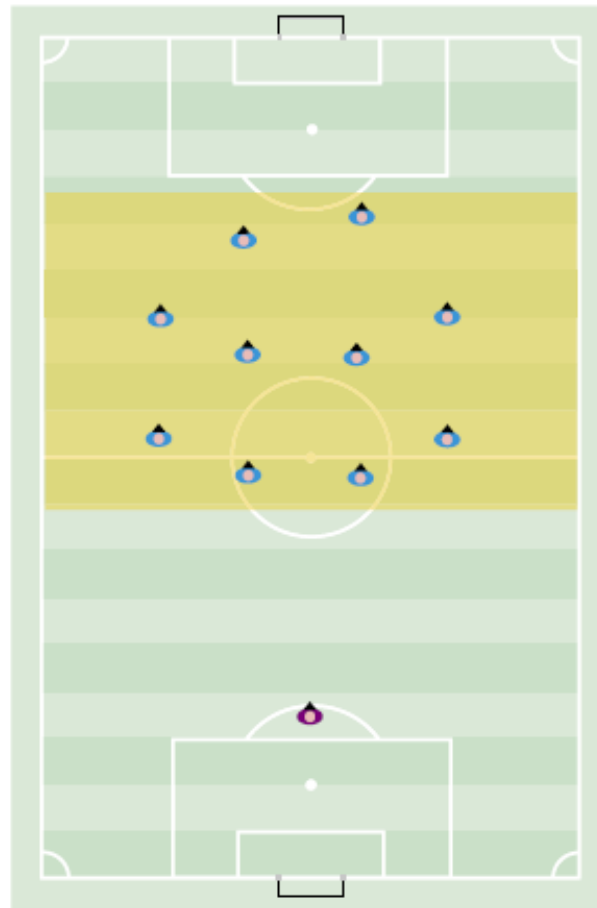
Midfield pressing





Technical and tactical analysis: Defensive Play

Pressing up front





Technical and tactical analysis: Attacking Play

Mexico 5:2:3 → 3:2:5

Spain 4:2:3:1 → 3:4:3

France 4:1:4:1 → 4:1:2:3



Technical and tactical analysis: Attacking Play

- Wing play
- Combination play and accurate balls in behind opposition defence
- “A” national team and U20 national team: same style of play



Technical and tactical analysis: Attacking Play

- Decisive details:



- Player errors / mistakes
- Nerves
- Key incidents
- Counter attacks
- Set pieces

Key factors for success:

- Individual players with high skills / goalscorers / playmakers,.....
- Patient build-up, good links between the team lines
- Excellent passing game with many options for the player in possession
- Ability to play under pressure
- Deep and width of the pitch used well

Key factors for success:

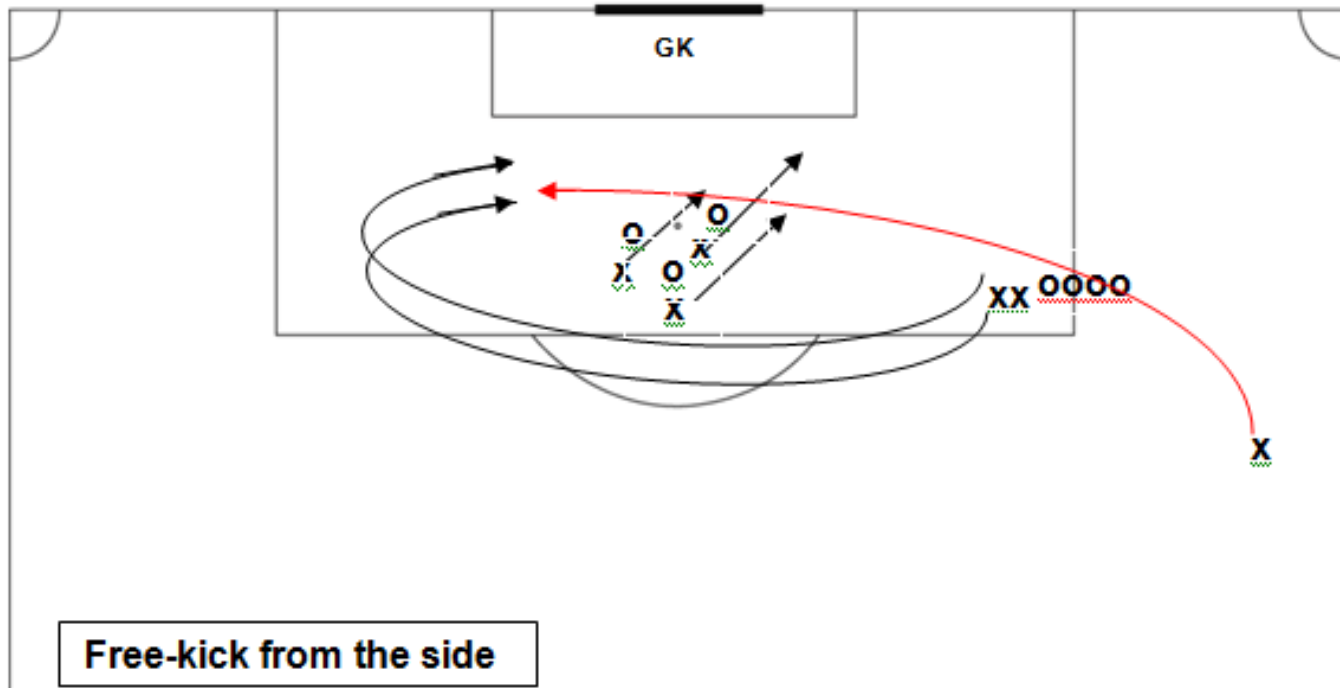
- Fast transition
- Disciplined well organised defence, power in one-on-one
- Immediate pressing after loosing the ball
- High fitness levels, excellent off-the-ball movement
- Winning mentality
- Substitutes' bench

Set pieces:

U17 FIFA World Cup 2011: 41 out of 158 goals

U20 FIFA World Cup 2011: 34 out of 132 goals





Goals from open play	U17	U20
	117	98
Combination play	39	21
Wing play	19	25
Defence splitting pass	13	17
Diagonal ball into penalty area	1	2
Solo effort	16	6
Exceptional finish	13	12
Defensive error	5	5
Rebound	8	7
Own goal	3	3

From what distance the goals were scored?

	U17	U20
	158	132
Inside the goal area	32	25
Inside the penalty area	84	72
Outside the penalty area	32	23
Penalties	10	12

„Talent doesn't suddenly explode at the age of 25. A good player is good from his early youth. Mistakes are often made at the basic training and development stage. The coaches are responsible for this, because they think they're working with professional teams.“

Johann Cruyff, 1994

Conclusions for the development of players:

- Individualisation in the education of the players (technique / tactics)
- Training of basic techniques with pressure of time and space
- Training of creativity and tactical flexibility
- Fitness is the basis for a high quality football player
- Education of personality
- Basic setting to offense

„What does a good coach look for?“

- System
- Regularity
- Two-footed, on both sides
- Various repetitions
- Exact demonstrations
- Positive coaching
- Encouragements



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Thank you for the audience and for your attention!

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