

### CO179| Soccer players' tactical performance in small-sided games according to positional role

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To develop players' tactical performance from each positional role in training session, coaches design some small sided-games (SSG) with game scenarios similar in competitive settings (1). The aim of study was to compare players' tactical performance in SSG between positional roles. We evaluated 54 male Colombian academy players (Me= 16; IQR=3 years), divided in three categories of positional role: Defenders (n=18), Midfielders (n=18), Forwards (n=18), who compete at regional level from 3 soccer clubs. We used the System of Tactical Assessment in Soccer – FUT-SAT (2) to assess players' tactical performance in small- sided games in an area of 36 meters length by 27 wide during 4 minutes. The coaching staff selected the teams according to players 'positional role (defender, midfielder, forward). All teams had the same arrangement "goalkeeper +3 vs. 3+ goalkeeper" (GK+3 vs. 3+GK) and each one played one game totalling nine games. In data analysis, we used descriptive analysis (mean and standard deviation) for tactical performance of core tactical principles. To identify the differences between players' tactical performance according to positional roles we used Anova one-way, Kruskal-Wallis and Mann-Whitney. The level of significance was set  $p < 0.05$ . Only in core tactical principle defensive coverage, midfielders displayed significantly higher values than defenders ( $p = 0.025$ ;  $z = -1.891$ ;  $U = 104.5$ ). According to our results, players from each positional role displayed similar performance in core tactical principles. Although they were divided according to positional role, they did not have specific function and were not organised into a tactical system. The only difference found could be explained for the characteristics of midfielders in moving to center of play at the correct moment regardless of arrangement. The experimental approach was not able to demonstrate significance difference on most tactical performance of core tactical principles between players from different positional roles.

1. Sarmiento H, Clemente FM, Harper LD, Costa IT da, Owen A, Figueiredo AJ. Small sided games in soccer—a systematic review. *Int J Perform Anal Sport*. 2018;18(5):693–749.
2. Teoldo I, Garganta J, Greco PJ, Mesquita I, Maia J. System of tactical assessment in Soccer (FUT-SAT): Development and preliminary validation. *Motricidade*. 2011;7:69–84.

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