

World Cup

One of the all-time favorite shooting games is World Cup. Team up two players and have them pick a country. You can have as many groups of two as you have players.

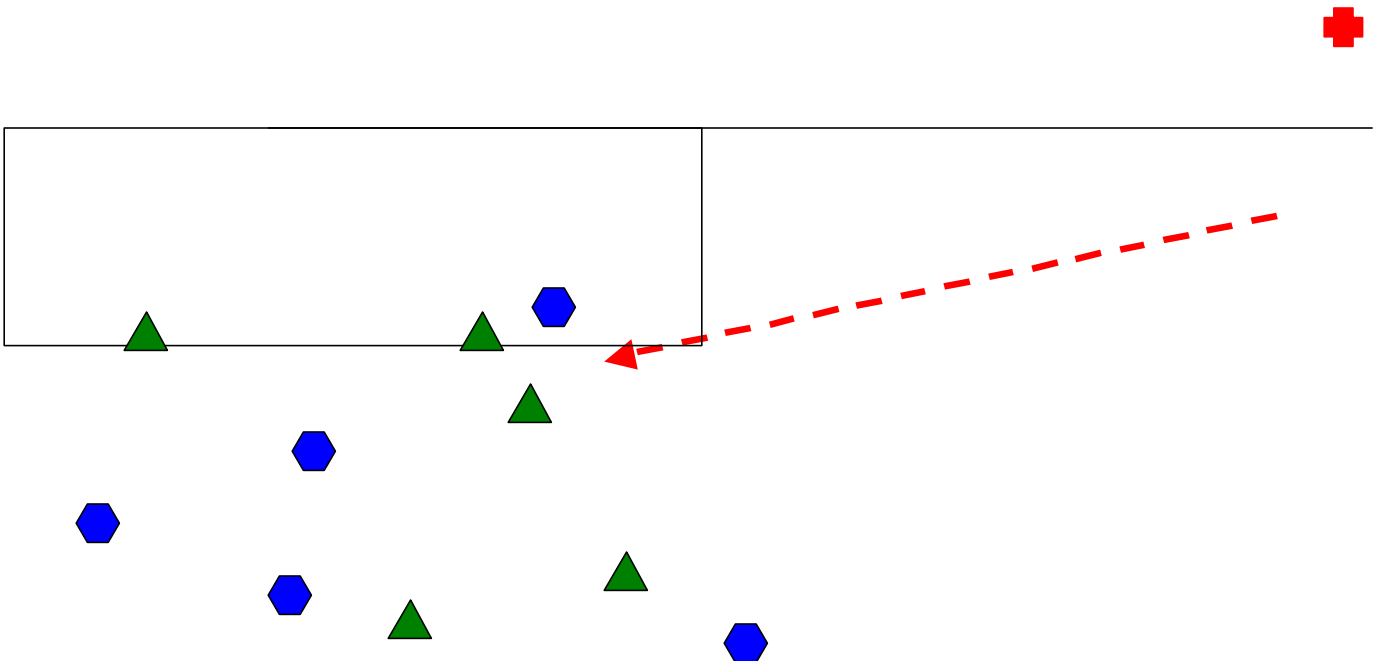
Mark off an appropriate boundary area. Start off with 2 balls and a keeper. The keeper throws the balls on to the field and anyone, on any team can go and get them.

The object obviously is to score. When you score you go off, i.e. advance in the World Cup. The last team on is eliminated from the round. They go behind the net to track down errant shots.

At the conclusion of the round everyone goes back on to the field and the next round commences. Do this until only one team is left standing.

This game encourages players to communicate and shoot at the earliest opportunity.

World Cup Crosses



3 teams, 1 keeper. Half a field. Keeper in goal. Team A at one corner with tons of balls, team B and team C on field. Start team B off in pinnies (pinnies designate the champs).

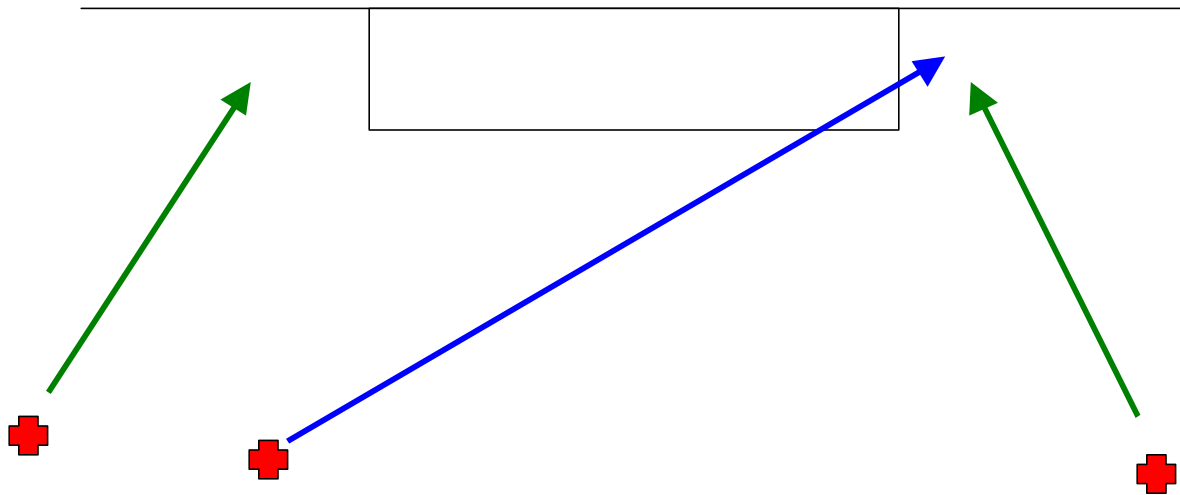
Have kids on A cross the ball, sometimes deep, sometimes just in front of the keeper. As soon as the ball goes out A kicks another in.

Whoever touched the ball last chases it and returns it to the pile in the corner before he/she can get back into play.

Play for 5 minutes. High score wears champs' pinnies, other team goes to the opposite corner, crossing team comes in to play the champs.

Framing the Goal

Anson Dorrance uses an expression, ***"Framing the Goal"***. By this he meant that whenever a shot was about to be taken he wanted other players to frame the goal by getting in position to put back a rebound off either post or the keeper.



Note that the off the ball runs are not at the keeper nor even at the post but 2 to 3 yards outside the post where if the shot is just wide, or if the shot hits the post or if the shot is not controlled by the keeper there is a chance for a put back.

These runs in effect make the goal and extra 12 to 18 feet wider and that can be an enormous advantage

This is something you can concentrate on in training sessions simply by insisting on it during the scrimmage at the end. With small-sides and short fields, there are lots of opportunities to point out this short-coming (and trust me, unless you have the best bunch of goal hounds in the country, they will not anticipate the shots in time to get into the best spots and many potential put-backs will not be taken.)