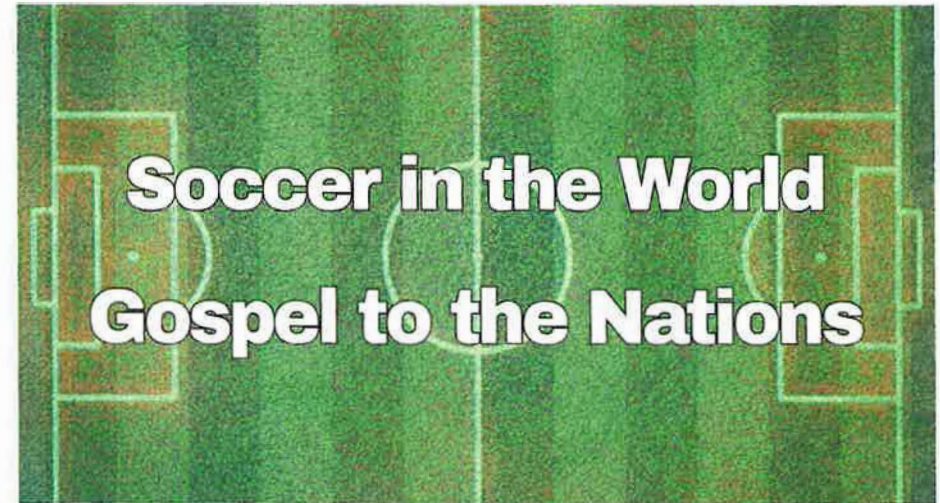


world cup OUTREACH 2026



“Our desire is that each player will learn more about the great game and also learn to have extreme faith as they go through the “game of life.”
-Coach Balyeat



Soccer & Spirit
Camp Curriculum

GROUP STAGE		ROUND OF 32	
NETHERLANDS	V	JAPAN	
JUNE 14 • 5:00 PM CT		JUNE 30 • 12:00 PM CT	
ENGLAND	V	CROATIA	
JUNE 17 • 5:00 PM CT		JULY 3 • 1:00 PM CT	
ARGENTINA	V	AUSTRIA	
JUNE 22 • 12:00 PM CT		ROUND OF 16	
JAPAN	V	FIFA UNIVERSITARIAS	
JUNE 25 • 8:00 PM CT		W83	V
JORDAN	V	ARGENTINA	
JUNE 27 • 9:00 PM CT		SEMIFINAL	
		W97	V
		W98	
		JULY 14 • 2:00 PM CT	

FIFA WORLD CUP 2026
MATCH SCHEDULE
DALLAS

Soccer & Spirit Camp Curriculum



**A project of Church and Community
Ministries Division Dallas Baptist
Association**

**Created by David Balyeat, Charles
Boswell, & Milfred Minatrea
Edited by Pam Minatrea**

Soccer & Spirit Camp Schedule

General Guidelines

Total Time: 2 hours

The two hours are divided as follows:

- 15 min. Warm Up
- 40 min. Drills
- 45 min. Scrimmage
- 5 min. Refreshments and Prayer (review memory verse for the day)

This schedule is the same each day.

Each day during the warm up, a memory verse is introduced and then emphasized throughout the day.

The ideal size of the camp is 50 to 80 children. We recommend that they be grouped by age in the following manner: first and second; third and fourth; fifth and sixth. Depending on the size of the groups, this could be changed. Each group should complete the day working separate from the others. This is due to the different needs each will have such as water breaks, rest time, etc.

By staying with the same age group each day, the counselors will be able to get to know the children and some of their particular needs.

Each group should have a particular meeting place in order to facilitate beginning on time. This could be a corner of the field or designated by colors, etc.

DRILLS

The four days are spent learning the four basic skills of the game: trapping, passing, shooting, and dribbling. During the daily scrimmage time, the skill of the day is emphasized.

Each drill is quickly demonstrated so that the children spend as much time with the ball as possible. The leader should encourage as often as possible and assist the children when needed.

- DAY 1 TRAPPING (see trapping drills)
- DAY 2 PASSING (see passing drills)
- DAY 3 SHOOTING (see shooting drills)
- DAY 4 DRIBBLING (see dribbling skills)

SOCCER & SPIRIT CAMP CURRICULUM DAY ONE

Lesson Title: God Made Me Special

Focal Passage: Psalms 139:14

"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful."

WARMUP: (15 Minutes)

The warm up consists of light jogging and stretching. Combining the two elements of the warm up, using the natural lines on the field of play or other pre-established lines, the children will jog from one to the other, (no more than 40 yards for the smaller children). Each time they arrive at a line, a stretch is performed (See illustration 1a).

After the second lap of jogging, switch to walking and stretching. Every third step, do a toe touch. While holding the right ankle with the right hand, touch the left toe with the left hand. Alternate with every third step.

After walking and stretching, have the children do cross over steps (sideways).

Next, jog with knees high, slapping hands to the knees. Jog a few steps then jump as if heading the ball. Jog a few steps then sit down on the ground and then get up and jog again.

Stationary stretching consists of: toe touches, left foot over right foot, and touch right foot. This is repeated by placing the right over the left. Other toe touches include feet together and feet spread apart.

Rotation exercises (forward, left, back, right) of the neck and waist are important. Movement should be slow in rotation exercises.

In order to facilitate the learning of the memory verse, words could be used in the rhythmic activities.

If there is not time to incorporate all of these into a warm up, different ones can be introduced on various days.

TECHNIQUE DRILLS: TRAPPING (40 Minutes)

The children will enjoy playing soccer more if they are competent in the basic elements of the game. It is important to combine the learning of the skill with the reason for the skill. Trapping is learning to make the ball do what the player wants the ball to do and not the reverse, where the ball dictates what the player will do next. The ball must always be brought under control. Once the ball is brought under control, the player is able to continue the play. The player must make the decision about where he/ she will play the ball before beginning to trap the ball.

Throw-In



A throw-in is taken from a close as possible to the spot (within one meter) where the ball crossed the touch line. A player must face the field and have both feet on the ground behind or on the touch line. The player must also hold the ball in both hands and throw it back into play from behind and over his head

Corner Flag



Corner flags help determine whether a ball passing close to the corner has actually crossed over the goal line or the touch line.

Uniforms

The uniform consists of jerseys, shorts, socks, shoes and shin guards.

Goalkeeper's Uniform

The goalkeeper's jersey must differ in color from those of his teammates or the opposing team. It is usually padded at the elbows and shoulders.

Soccer Game In Progress

Start of Play

A coin toss by the referee decides which team has won the choice of ends or the kickoff at the start of the game. A kickoff is also used to restart the game after the first half and after a goal. A goal may not be scored directly from a kickoff. The teams change ends for the second half and the team that did not kick off at the start of the game kicks off in the second half.

soccer, both a regulation game and overtime periods are divided into halves. The game for adults is usually two 45-minute halves. Some competition rules call for overtime play of two 15-minute halves after the regulation time has expired. The half-time period for the World Cup will be 15 minutes for each of the 52 games.

Goals

A goal is scored when the whole of the ball crosses the goal line between the goal posts and under the crossbar. It does not count if it was kicked, thrown or propelled by the arm or hand of an attacking player. If a defending player deliberately deflects the ball with hands or arms and the ball goes into his own net, a goal is scored for the opposing team.

Substitution of Players

Generally, only two substitutions are allowed in international competition. Players who have been substituted from the game may not re-enter and no substitutions are allowed for players sent off after play has started. Player replacements may be made, with the consent of the referee, at a stoppage of play in the game and players must enter at the halfway line.

End Of A Game

A game is over when the end of the second half is complete unless the game is tied and the competition rules call for overtime periods.

Penalties

Direct Free Kick

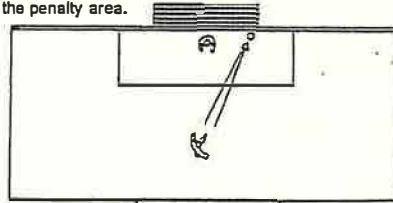
These are awarded for the more serious offenses. These offenses include intentionally kicking or attempting to kick an opponent, tripping an opponent, jumping at an opponent, charging in violent or dangerous manner, charging from behind, striking or attempting to strike an opponent, spitting at an opponent, holding, pushing, or handling the ball with an arm or hand. A goal may be scored from a direct free kick without another player touching the ball.

Indirect Free Kick

These are awarded for less serious offenses, including breaches of the offside rule. Other examples include dangerous play, obstructing an opponent, and time wasting by the goalkeeper. A goal may only be scored from an indirect free kick after a second player has touched the ball. The referee indicates an indirect free kick by raising his hand and keeping it raised until a second player has touched the ball.

Penalty Kick

A penalty kick is awarded after a direct free kick offense is called against a defending team inside its own penalty area. During a penalty kick, only the goalkeeper and the player taking the kick are allowed in the penalty area.



Corner Kick



When the ball is played over the goal line and is last touched by a player on the team defending the goal on that end of the field, a corner kick is awarded to the opposing team. The whole of the ball shall be placed within the quarter circle at the corner flag on the side nearest to where the ball went out. Defenders may not come within

10 yards (9.5 meters) of the quarter circle until the kick has been taken. The player taking the kick may not play the ball again until it has been touched by a second player.

Group the children according to the size group indicated in the following drills, carefully modeling what should be done in the drill. Give each group the ball(s) necessary for the drill. Instruct them to begin practicing the drill with their group when the coach's whistle is blown. Observe and assist each group until all groups have begun to correctly utilize the skills needed for this drill. At that time, blow the whistle to call groups back together for further instruction in the next drill or activity.

SPIRIT SESSION: (15 Minutes)

LESSON OVERVIEW:

Many young people today have lost a sense of purpose for their lives. As a result, they don't know who they are or where they are going. With a lack of purpose they are lost, confused, without direction, meaning or hope. This lesson will help them discover that God created them for a specific purpose. They are His beautiful handiwork, fearfully and wonderfully made in His image. They are not here on this earth by accident. When God made each child, He placed them right where they are to bring Him honor and glory.

TEACHING/LEARNING GOALS:

1. Inform the children that God created them in His image.
2. Explain that God created them for a specific purpose that their lives are valuable to Him.
3. Help them understand that God has selected each child specifically to be part of His team.

STARTING THE SPIRIT SESSION:

ASK: "Why have you come to soccer camp this week?" (wait for responses) - "We are here to learn more about soccer, because soccer is fun!"

Say: "Many people play soccer because it is FUN! Soccer is the most popular sport in the world. There are millions of people who play the game, and at least a billion that watch it. In the USA, soccer is a participant sport."

"Kicking the ball to a friend down the field, heading a really high ball, and scoring a goal to win are reasons the game is so much fun. I hope you learn skills this week that will make your soccer game more fun."

Teaching Procedures:

ASK: "What do you like best about soccer?" (wait for responses) - Share what you like most about the game and why you think the game is fun. "A lot of exciting things happen in soccer." "How about when your team scores a goal? Have you ever scored a goal in

soccer? Isn't that a special feeling? Or, how about when you are running down the field,

Soccer Basics

The Basics

Teams

Teams are made up of 11 players. Positions include a goalkeeper, sweeper, defenders, midfielders, forwards, and substitutes.

Positions

Goalkeeper

Goalkeeper is responsible for protecting the goal. His main advantage is that he's the only member of the team allowed to use his hands. His techniques including tipping the ball above the crossbar, diving left or right to make a save, coming out of the goal to meet a single attacking player, narrowing the space-angle of a shot and punching the ball out of danger.

Defender

Defenders are the back players whose main job is to prevent opposing players from getting into scoring positions, and to support their goalkeeper. They must also be ready to start attacks as soon as they gain possession of the ball.

Sweeper

Sweeper is the last defender whose task it is to intercept an opposing player who has beaten their defender and to intercept passes behind the defense.

Midfielders

Midfielders play in the middle of the field between defense and attack. They serve as support to both the defenders and attackers.

Forwards

Forwards have the difficult job of scoring goals but they must also contribute defensively.

Substitutes

Substitutes are named so that they may replace a player during a match, at the discretion of the team manager. Once a player has been replaced by a substitute, he may not re-enter the game. A substitute may not replace a player who has been sent off. No substitution is allowed for this. Usually, there are only two substitutes allowed during the match.

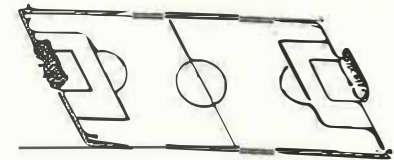
Scoring

For a goal to be scored, the ball must have wholly crossed the goal line between the goal posts and under the crossbar. It makes no difference whether the ball is kicked intentionally or by accident, by an attacking or a defending team member, provided it is not handled (projected into the net with part of a hand, arm or

shoulder) by an attacker.

Field Size

Fields vary in size from 110-120 yards long and from 70-80 yards wide. Goals, penalty areas and other markings are standard size and distance apart, regardless of the field size. (see diagram)



Officials

The referee enforces all the laws of the game and makes all the calls on the field. He is the ultimate authority on the field.

There are two linesmen who patrol each touch line assisting the referee. They use a flag to signal the referee for substitute, offside, or if the ball has gone out of play.

THE EQUIPMENT

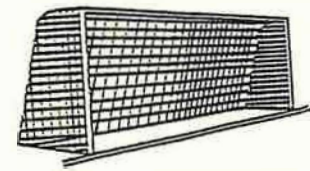
Ball



Official games are played with a standard leather ball which must be a certain size and weight. The full size soccer ball that adults play with is a size #5 with a circumference of 27" to 28" and weighs about 14 to 16 ounces.

Goals

The goals are 8 feet (2.4 meters) high. They consist of two upright goal posts placed 8 yards (7.32 meters) apart and joined at the top by a crossbar. Posts and crossbars are usually made of wood or metal and painted white, and nets are usually fitted to the back to show clearly when a goal has been scored.



fake and dribble past another player who was trying to steal the ball?"

ASK: "Do you believe that God wants us to have fun this week playing soccer?" (wait for responses) - "God not only wants us to enjoy playing soccer, but God wants us to enjoy life. Jesus said in John 10:10, "I have come that you might have life, and that you might have it more abundantly." This means God wants us to enjoy life."

SHOW: Hold a soccer ball in the air.

ASK: "What is the purpose of the soccer ball?" (wait for responses, then point out the specific differences about the uniqueness of the soccer ball compared to other balls).

SAY: "Note the size, the shape and the threads on the soccer ball. These tightly woven threads hold the many pieces of leather together. These things make the soccer ball unique. There isn't another ball in sports just like the soccer ball. It was created for the specific purpose of playing soccer. It can be used for other things, but when it was made, it was created to be used in soccer. If that ball is a leather ball, it was created to be used specifically on a grassy field. Like the soccer ball, you too, were uniquely created and there isn't another person like you in the world."

"The Bible says in Psalms 139:13-16 - *You created me; You formed me in my mother's stomach. I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful. You knew all about me before the first day of my life.*"

The Bible describes the way God created us. Like the soccer ball, we are unique. God put our character and personality together in a special way. He made some of us tall, others short. We are not all the same, but we are all special in God's eyes."

"The Bible says *I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Your works are wonderful...*"

SAY: "Let's pretend that you and several of your friends go to the park to play soccer. What would be one of the first things you would have to do in order to play a game? (wait for responses, allow kids to give all kinds of answers) All of those things are important, but one of the things we do first is divide into teams."

ASK: "How do you divide into teams?" (wait for answers) - "Often, two players will choose teams. The rest of the players line up and they are chosen one at a time. When all the players are chosen, the game can begin."

"Nobody likes to be the last one picked. This can take the fun out of the game, because they don't feel wanted or needed. God wants everyone to be on His team. He doesn't want anyone to be left out. God created you and wants you to be on His team."

SHOOTING DRILLS

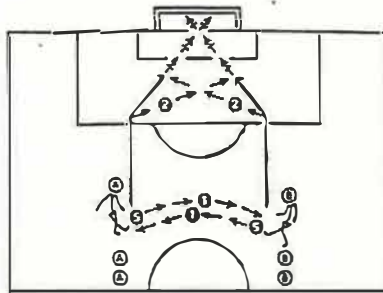
Exchange Dribbles Pass and Shoot

No. of players 2 per drill group.

Distance A to B—10 to 15 yards.

Explanation On a whistle signal, A and B exchange the ball. Each player controls the ball kicked to him and dribbles forward to the 18-yard line, at which point both send a lead pass diagonally across to the space in front of the other player, A to B and B to A. Each player sprints to the ball and shoots at the far corner of the goal.

Purpose Players practice trapping, passing, dribbling, and shooting while progressing down the field.



Flag Shooting Drill

No. of players 1 per drill exercise.

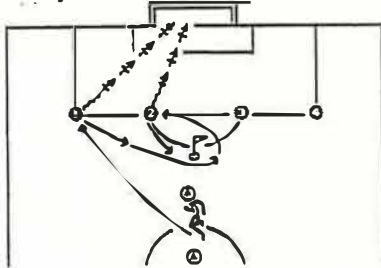
Equipment 4 soccer balls and 1 flag.

Distance A to the flag—10 to 15 yards. The 4 balls are placed evenly on the 18-yard line. (See diagram for the location of the 4 balls.) The flag is placed outside the 18-yard restraining arc.

Explanation Player A sprints to the first ball to his left and shoots the ball at the goal. A then runs around the cone and heads for the second ball in the line. Repeat this procedure till all 4 balls have been shot at the goal. Emphasize getting the shot off quickly.

Purpose Players practice shooting at the goal while they are improving their physical fitness.

Variation Players dribble the ball to the goal area before a shot is taken.



"The Bible says in Deut. 7:6 - *The LORD your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession.* "You are valuable to God. He created you and He has a special plan for your life. He wants you to be part of His team. He will be your coach, calling the plays for life."

CLOSING SESSION:

SAY: "Today we have learned that God made us each in a special way and for a unique purpose. He wants us to be on His team. Just like the soccer ball is different from any other ball, you are each made in a special way. Nobody else is just like you! Let's thank God that He made every one of us and wants us to be on His team."

PRAY: Lead the children in prayer. Pray using simple words, thanking God for each special child whom He has made. Thank Him for His desire that we all be part of His eternal team.

SCRIMMAGE: (40 minutes)

Divide the children into two groups, and supervise them as they play a scrimmage match. Remind them to use the skills which were practiced earlier in their day. Act as referee during the game. Throughout the scrimmage, encourage participation of all children. Affirm them for good traps and passes.

Allow no negative comments, foul language, or intentional roughing. Yellow card warnings may be given as needed. Remind the child given the yellow card that another infraction could result in a red card, after which he or she will not be allowed to participate further in the scrimmage.

CLOSING PRAYER AND REFRESHMENTS: (10 Minutes)

Gather the children together for refreshment time. Before distributing the refreshments, remind the children of Soccer & Spirit Camp tomorrow. Remind them again of what we have learned today. Repeat the memory verse together.

SOCCER & SPIRIT CAMP CURRICULUM DAY TWO

Lesson Title: Rules are not meant to be Broken

Focal Passage: (2 Timothy 2:5)

If anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the trophy unless he competes according to the rules.

WARM UP: (15 Minutes)

The warm up consists of light jogging and stretching. Combining the two elements of the warm up, using the natural lines on the field of play or other pre-established lines, the children will jog from one to the other, (no more than 40 yards for the smaller children). Each time they arrive at a line, a stretch is performed (See illustration 1a).

After the second lap of jogging, switch to walking and stretching. Every third step, do a toe touch. While holding the right ankle with the right hand, touch the left toe with the left hand. Alternate with every third step.

After walking and stretching, have the children do cross over steps (sideways).

Next, jog with knees high, slapping hands to the knees. Jog a few steps then jump as if heading the ball. Jog a few steps then sit down on the ground and then get up and jog again.

Stationary stretching consists of: toe touches, left foot over right foot, and touch right foot. This is repeated by placing the right over the left. Other toe touches include feet together and feet spread apart.

Rotation exercises (forward, left, back, right) of the neck and waist are important. Movement should be slow in rotation exercises.

In order to facilitate the learning of the memory verse, words could be used in the rhythmic activities.

If there is not time to incorporate all of these into a warm up, different ones can be introduced on various days.

TECHNIQUE DRILLS: PASSING (40 Minutes)

SAY: "Yesterday we practiced the skill of trapping. Passing is just as important as trapping. Soccer is a team sport and the movement of the ball on the field among players is accomplished by passing the ball. All players handle the ball, not just one or two. There must be an attitude of sharing the ball. The movement of the ball toward the goal is accomplished best as we pass the ball from player to player. Passing and trapping are fundamental to effectively moving the ball toward the goal."

SHOOTING DRILLS

Turn and Shoot Around the Flags

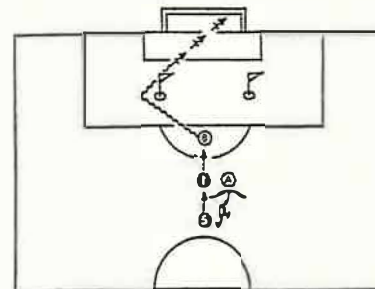
No. of players 2 per drill group.

Distance B to the flags—1 to 2 yards, A to B—4 to 6 yards.

Explanation A passes to B. B pushes the ball outside the flags and shoots at the goal. B changes places with A, and the drill is repeated.

Purpose Players practice turning a ball and shooting.

Variation Eliminate the flags and introduce a defender into the drill.



Cross Runs and Cross Passes

No. of players 2 per drill group.

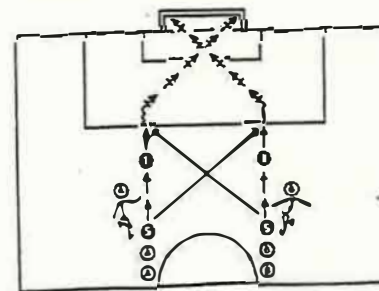
Distance A to B—15 yards apart facing the goal.

Equipment 2 soccer balls.

Explanation Player A and player B, each player makes a diagonal run to pick up the pass of the other player. Each player attempts a shot at the goal.

Purpose Players practice passing to the space and not to the man.

Variation Players pass the ball diagonally and run straight ahead to receive the pass. Then each player attempts a shot at the goal.



DRIBBLING DRILLS

Double Flag Circle and Outside-of-the-Foot Pass

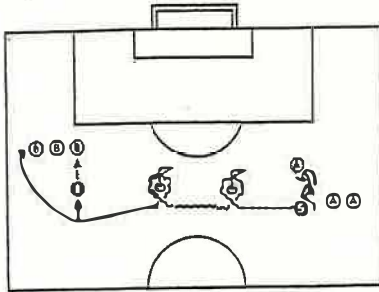
No. of players 3 per drill group.

Equipment 2 flags—5 to 7 yards apart.

Explanation A dribbles around (circles) the nearest flag and then around the second flag. A continues to dribble until he is alongside player B, as seen in the diagram. At this point, A squares, using the outside-of-the-foot pass to player B. A then gets into the back of B's line. B repeats this same procedure and ends up by getting into the back of A's line.

Purpose Players practice dribbling, feinting, and square passing. The square pass is made with the outside of the foot.

Variation Same drill with 2 balls. Start one ball at position A and one at position B.



Group the children according to the size group indicated in the passing drills found in the back of the Curriculum Manual. Demonstrate the drills, carefully modeling that which should be done in the drill. Give each group the ball(s) necessary for the drill. Instruct them to begin practicing the drill with their group when the coach's whistle is blown. Observe and assist each group until all groups have begun to correctly utilize the skills needed for this drill. At that time, blow the whistle to call groups back together for further instruction in the next drill or activity.

LESSON OVERVIEW:

SAY: "Soccer is a game with rules. The rules allow the game to be enjoyed by both those playing as well as watching. Rules help the game to be played in a fair and safe way. Without rules, anything could happen. God also has rules that have been designed for both fairness and safety. His rules help us to enjoy life and be happy. Both sets of rules are meant to be obeyed. If they are not obeyed, a penalty will result."

TEACHING/LEARNING GOALS:

1. To help the children understand that the Bible contains God's rules for our lives
2. To comprehend what rules God gave us to live by.
3. That these rules are fair and for our protection.

When we live by God's rules, we will enjoy life to the fullest.

STARTING THE SPIRIT SESSION:

ASK: "Have you ever tried to play soccer with someone who didn't know the rules? (wait for responses) What happened?" (wait for responses)

SAY: "When we get together to play soccer, one of the first things we do is divide into teams and set the rules. We usually mark the in-bounds and out-of-bounds lines so that everyone will know when the ball is in play."

The next step is to set up goals at opposite ends of the playing field. Goals should be the same size. Teams then choose to play offense or defense. The ball is then placed in the center of the field and the game begins."

Teaching Procedures:

ASK: "Do players ever get mad during a game?" Why? (wait for responses) - "Sometimes players get mad because one player thinks another player broke a rule. He/she accuses the other of committing a foul."

SHOW: Hold up a soccer rule book.

SAY: "This book has all the rules for soccer."

ASK: "Where did these soccer rules come from?"

"An organization called FIFA decided which rules were good for the players and the game. These are the rules a referee will use in a game to protect players and make the game fair.

When playing with friends at home, or at school, rules must be agreed upon before the game. If this is not done, somebody is going to get upset with something that someone else does. He might say, "That's not fair!" But if no rules have been determined, how can we know what is right."

SHOW: Hold up a Bible

SAY: "The Bible is God's rule book for our lives. In it, we learn what we are supposed to do. We see how we are supposed to act. God's rules were not decided on by a group of men. God gave His rules when He spoke to some of His special team members a long time ago. He spoke and they wrote.

The Bible says in 2 Peter 1:21 - *For the Words from God did not come in old times from the mind of man, but special men of God wrote as they were instructed by God's Spirit.*

Men did write the words down, but they only wrote what God told them to write. The Bible contains the Words of God. The rules in it are His."

ASK: "What are some of the rules that are important in soccer?" (Wait for responses)

SAY: "Let's talk about some of these rules: It is important to have the lines on the field clearly marked so we can know when the ball is in-bounds and out-of-bounds. It is important to make sure that both the goals are the same size if the game is to be fair. It is illegal to push or intentionally kick someone. Even if you accidentally trip someone and gain the advantage with the ball, you have committed a foul. You also can't use your hands in soccer, with the exception of the goalie or throwing it in from out-of-bounds. These rules are important for the purpose of making the game fair to all of the players.

God has also given us some rules in the Bible which we are to obey. The Bible says in Eccl.12: 13 - *Honor God and keep his commandments, for this is what people are supposed to do.* "

SAY: "In this verse, the Bible calls rules commandments. Sometimes we call some of God's rules the Ten Commandments."

DRIBBLING DRILLS

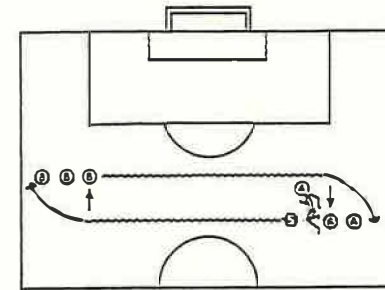
Dribble and Outside-the-Foot Pass

No. of players 6 per drill group.

Distance A to B—20 to 30 yards.

Explanation A dribbles until he is alongside of B. At this point, A square passes to B, and goes to the back of B's line. B then repeats the same procedure.

Purpose Players practice dribbling and outside-of-the-foot passing.



Slalom Dribble (No Diagram)

No. of players 10 or more.

Distance The cones or flags are 2 or 3 yards apart.

Equipment 10 or more cones or flags.

Explanation Players dribble in and out of the flags or cones. When they reach the last flag, they turn back and dribble against the traffic. This drill requires concentration on the part of the players.

Variation All players dribble backward by pulling the ball through and around the cones, using the sole of the foot.

Variation Players dribble 360 degrees around each cone or flag.

Variation If using cones, players jump over each cone.

Purpose Players improve dribbling and feinting skills. Players become accustomed to the feel of the ball.

DRIBBLING DRILLS

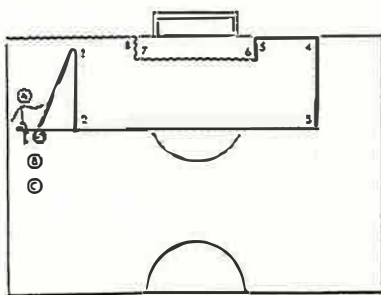
Dribble and Stop

No. of players 1 per drill exercise.

Distance A to the end line—18 to 20 yards.

Explanation Starting with player A, each player dribbles to each corner of the 18-yard line, then to each corner of the goal area. Finally, A dribbles to the left corner of the field, where A passes the ball to the next player in line, who repeats the same procedure. Players follow the numbers seen in the diagram. Each player must bring his ball to a complete stop on each number of corner before continuing to the next number or corner.

Purpose Players improve their dribbling and feinting skills.



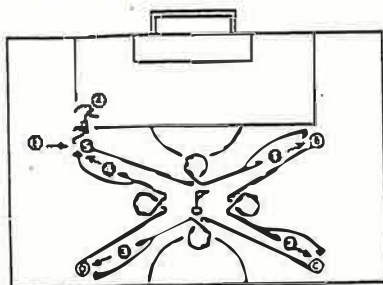
Four Corner Dribble

No. of players 5 per drill group.

Distance A, B, C, and D to the flag—10 yards.

Explanation A dribbles to the center, turns the ball 360 degrees and passes off to player B. B steps into the square and takes the place that has been vacated by A. A then takes B's place and the drill is continued in the same manner.

Purpose Players practice dribbling and turning the ball.



ASK: "What are some of God's rules for a better life?" (wait for several to respond and then highlight their responses with affirmation). "Why do you think the Bible says that it is wrong to steal?" (taking something that belongs to someone else) "Why do you suppose God's Word says that children are supposed to obey their parents?"

ASK: "Can you imagine what it would be like if you went to a soccer game where the referee said there would be no rules? What if players could do anything they wanted? Do you think that would be any fun? Do you think the players would have a good time?"

"Would playing a game without rules be safe? Of course not. There are at least two reasons why we have rules in soccer:

1. So that everyone is safe
2. So that everyone can have fun

SAY: "Just like in soccer, God's rules were given to protect us and to make life fun and happy. The Bible says in Proverbs 29:18 - "... happy is he who keeps the rules of God's law." If you want to enjoy life, then you must honor God and follow His rules, which are found in the Bible.

Today's memory verse tells us that we have to keep the rules if we are going to win the prize. Let's say that verse together now, 2 Timothy 2:5 - "If anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the trophy unless he competes according to the rules."

CLOSING THE SESSION:

SAY: "Today we learned that God has given us a special book of rules. When we keep his rules, this makes God happy. When we keep His rules, our lives will be happy too. Today, I want each of you to take home a part of the Bible. When we get through playing and are having our refreshments, our coaches are going to give each one of you that special book. Let's thank God for the Bible, and for the rules which He gave to protect us and make us happy."

PRAY: Lead the children in prayer. Pray using simple words, thanking God for the rules which He gave us in the Bible. Thank Him for giving rules which help us to be safe and happy. Ask God to help each child to learn to follow the commandments found in the Bible.

SCRIMMAGE: (40 Minutes)

Divide the children into two groups, and supervise them as they play a scrimmage match. Remind them to use the skills which were practiced earlier in the session. Act as referee during the game. Throughout the scrimmage, encourage participation of all children. Affirm them for good traps and passes.

Allow no negative comments, foul language, or intentional roughing. Yellow card warnings may be given as needed. Remind the child given the yellow card that another infraction could result in a red card, after which he or she will not be allowed to participate further in the scrimmage.

CLOSING PRAYER AND REFRESHMENTS: (10 Minutes)

Gather the children together for refreshment time. Before distributing the refreshments, remind the children of Soccer & Spirit Camp tomorrow. Remind them again of what we have learned today. Repeat the memory verse together. After refreshments have been served, give each child a copy of the Scripture portion provided. Remind them to take these home and share them with their family.

PASSING DIRLLS

Middleman Pressure

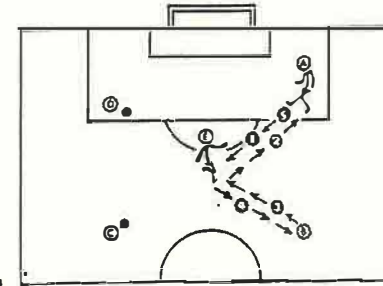
No. of players 5 per drill group.

Distance E to the other players—5 to 10 yards.

Explanation Each man, in his turn, passes to the middle player starting with player A. A passes to E, and E passes back to A. Repeat the same to B, C, and D. E should be kept under pressure. As soon as E passes back, the next ball should be on its way. Passes should be crisp and on the ground.

Purpose Players practice quick control and quick return passing. Players improve their muscular endurance.

Variation Use 4 players. The 3 outside players form a triangle; the 4th player is in the middle of the triangle.



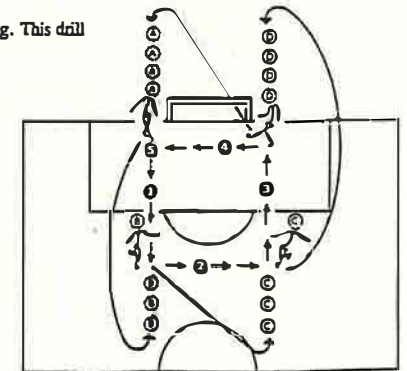
Square Overlap

No. of players 12 to 20 per drill group.

Distance A to B—15 to 20 yards, A to D—15 to 20 yards.

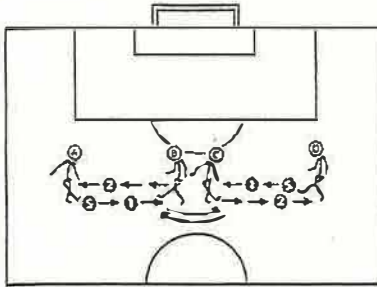
Explanation A passes to player B. A gets in the end of B's line. B passes to C, and B gets in the back of C's line, etc. 2 balls are used to increase the pace of this drill. One ball is started at line A, and the other ball is started at line C.

Purpose Players practice passing, trapping, and overlapping. This drill can be used as a warm-up drill or activity.



PASSING DRILLS

4-Man Return Pass



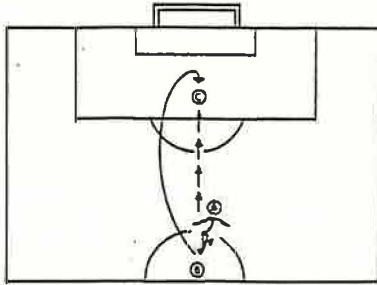
"1-Touch" Overlap

No. of players 3 per drill group

Distance A to C—10 to 12 yards.

Explanation Player A passes to player C and runs behind player C. Player C passes to player B and runs behind player B. Player B passes to A and runs behind player A. Repeat this cycle. All passes should be "1-touch" passes.

Purpose This drill is designed to practice "1-touch" passing. Once players become accustomed to this drill, it can be used to improve muscular endurance.



SOCCER & SPIRIT CAMP CURRICULUM DAY THREE

Lesson Title: God's Provision for My Life

Focal Passage: John 3:16

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life."

WARMUP: (15 Minutes)

The warm up consists of light jogging and stretching. Combining the two elements of the warm up, using the natural lines on the field of play or other pre-established lines, the children will jog from one to the other, (no more than 40 yards for the smaller children). Each time they arrive at a line, a stretch is performed (See illustration 1a).

After the second lap of jogging, switch to walking and stretching. Every third step, do a toe touch. While holding the right ankle with the right hand, touch the left toe with the left hand. Alternate with every third step.

After walking and stretching, have the children do cross over steps (sideways).

Next, jog with knees high, slapping hands to the knees. Jog a few steps then jump as if heading the ball. Jog a few steps then sit down on the ground and then get up and jog again.

Stationary stretching consists of: toe touches, left foot over right foot, and touch right foot. This is repeated by placing the right over the left. Other toe touches include feet together and feet spread apart.

Rotation exercises (forward, left, back, right) of the neck and waist are important. Movement should be slow in rotation exercises.

In order to facilitate the learning of the memory verse, words could be used in the rhythmic activities.

If there is not time to incorporate all of these into a warm up, different ones can be introduced on various days.

TECHNIQUE DRILLS: SHOOTING (40 Minutes)

SAY: On previous days we have practiced trapping and passing. These two skills are designed to help players control the movement of the ball. While these skills are important, they do not score points. Points are scored by shooting. Today we will practice this skill.

Shooting is the result of good movement of the ball. The player must be in a position to send the ball to the goal. There are various ways of kicking the ball that help the player

accomplish the purpose of the game: scoring a goal. The technique can be practiced in the same manner as passing, however, the player must develop accuracy as well as a desire to score, and the confidence that... YES I CAN!"

Divide the children according to the size group indicated in the Shooting Drills found in the back of the Curriculum Manual. Demonstrate the drills, carefully modeling that which should be done in the drill. Give each group the ball(s) necessary for the drill. Instruct them to begin practicing the drill with their group when the coach's whistle is blown. Observe and assist each group until all groups have begun to correctly utilize the skills needed for this drill. At that time, blow the whistle to call groups back together for further instruction in the next drill or activity.

SPIRIT SESSION: (15 Minutes)

SAY: "When a rule is violated by the players during a game, the referee penalizes the one who committed the foul. In life, when we disobey God's rules we are penalized because of our disobedience. God has provided in Christ, a perfect substitute who paid the penalty for our sin against God."

TEACHING/LEARNING GOALS:

1. To help the children understand that we all violate God's rules in the Bible.
2. To lead the children to understand that there are consequences for breaking God's rules.
3. To comprehend that Christ paid the price for their sin.
4. To present an opportunity for each child to make a personal commitment to Christ.

STARTING THE SPIRIT SESSION:

ASK: "Have you ever been playing in a game and you accidentally committed a foul? What happened?" (wait for responses)

SAY: "Yesterday we talked about the soccer rules. Today I want us to look what happens to a player that doesn't play by the rules.

Soccer rules are very clear. If a player trips or pushes an opponent or touches the ball with his or her hands, that is a foul. The referee will stop the game by blowing his whistle, or the linesman can stop the game by raising his flag. The player who has been fouled will then get possession of the ball at the spot of the foul. He kicks the ball and play resumes. The rules are strictly enforced by the referee and the linesman."

Teaching Procedure:

ASK: "Have you ever committed a foul and a referee doesn't see or call the foul? (allow someone to tell about one of those times) Have you ever been on the verge of scoring a goal and someone fouled and the referee didn't call the foul?" (allow for some responses)

TRAPPING DRILLS

Trapping Drills:

Chest Trap:

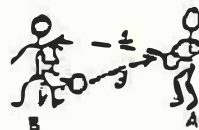


Diagram 1

Thigh Trap:

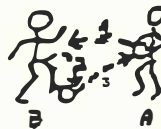


Diagram 2

With the chest and thigh traps, both sides of the chest and both thighs should be used in order to be a more developed player. Once the drill is done with a bounce, it may be attempted without one.

Head Trap

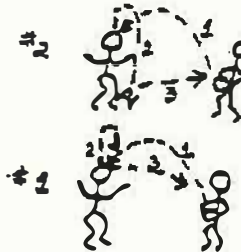


Diagram 3

Equipment: 1 Ball to 2 players

Player A and Player B are 3 to 5 yards apart. Player A tosses the ball to the chest of Player B. Player B, (using the AREA between the shoulder and the center of the chest) cushions the ball and allows it to go to the ground. When the ball bounces - Player B then kicks it back to the hands of Player A, who repeats the drill. The players should rotate after 5-15 times.

Same as chest trap but Player A tosses the ball to the thigh of Player B. Player B uses the soft part of the thigh and allows the ball to hit the thigh, but takes the bounce off of the ball, lets it bounce, then kicks it back to Player A who repeats the drill. The player should rotate after 5 touches on each thigh.

1. In the same formation as the chest trap and thigh trap, Player A tosses the ball to Player B who heads the ball straight up in the air softly, then heads the ball a second time back to Player A.

2. Player A tosses the ball to Player B who heads the ball up, then allows it to drop down to the ground, then kicks it back to player A.

player must learn to do things the coach's way. The coach has a particular strategy, style,

and training method. It is important to him that his players improve their skills in order to achieve the highest level possible. A good coach can determine the position for which a player is best suited. It is very important that a player learn the responsibilities of his position. "

When we accept God's invitation to be on His team of champions, He becomes our coach. He wants to help us improve the quality of our lives and to be the best that we can be. It is important that we listen to His instructions and follow them. Jesus said in John 14:15 - "*If you love me, you will obey what I command.*" If we are committed to being on God's team, we will follow His instructions.

The Bible says in John 8:47 – "*He who belongs to God hears what God says.*" This is true in soccer and it is true on God's team."

REVIEW: "Today we have learned three things about being on God's team. When we accept His invitation, we are to put on the uniform of baptism. Second, we are to give 100% to be His follower. We call it "discipline-being in training." Finally, we learned that God becomes our coach. He is always there to teach us what we need to be the best. Let's thank God for what we have learned today."

LEAD THE CHILDREN IN A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR WHAT HAS BEEN LEARNED AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DECIDED TO FOLLOW HIM.

SCRIMMAGE: (40 Minutes)

Divide the children into two groups, and supervise them as they play a scrimmage match. Remind them to use the skills which were practiced earlier in their game. Act as referee during the game. Throughout the scrimmage, encourage participation of all children. Affirm them for good traps, passes and dribbling.

Allow no negative comments, foul language, or intentional roughing. Yellow card warnings may be given as needed. Remind the child given the yellow card that another infraction could result in a red card, after which he or she will not be allowed to participate further in the scrimmage.

CLOSING PRAYER AND REFRESHMENTS: (10 Minutes)

Gather the children together for refreshment time. Before distributing the refreshments, thank the children for being part of Soccer & Spirit Camp this week. Remind them that any of us can receive Christ as Savior when we pray. Encourage those who have accepted Christ to put on the uniform of baptism. Recognize representatives from the host church who have been present through the camp. Allow them to invite children to become part of the ongoing ministry of the church. Repeat the memory verse together before you pray.

SAY: "Just because the referee didn't call the foul doesn't mean that the foul didn't happen.

There are times in a soccer game when the referee doesn't see all the fouls that are committed. Even though he missed the call, you and your opponent both know the truth.

Did you know that unlike a referee on a soccer field, God sees each and every time we disobey one of His rules. In the Bible Jesus said, "*There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known*" (Matthew 10:26).

There isn't a time when you can disobey one of God's rules without Him knowing. He sees everything we do the minute it happens. God never makes a wrong call.

All of us are guilty of breaking God's rules at some time in our lives. The Bible says in Romans 3:23, *for all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.* What that means is that all of us have broken God's rules."

ASK: "*Have you ever told a lie?*" (wait for a response) Well the Bible says that one of God's rules is to tell the truth. If you have ever told a lie then you have broken one of God's rules. "

ASK: "*Have you ever disobeyed your mother or dad?*" (wait for responses) The Bible says for children to obey your parents. Every time you disobey your parents, you are disobeying God."

SHOW: Hold up a yellow card

ASK: "*How many of you know what this yellow card is: What it is for? How it is used in a soccer game?*" (allow children to answer) Soccer rules are very clear. If a player trips or pushes an opponent, or if they touch the ball with their hands, that player can be given a yellow card. This is an official warning. The player must change his or her behavior on the field. The yellow card reminds us that we aren't playing according to the rules.

Deep down inside each of us there is a place where God flashes a yellow card to let us know that we have done wrong. He said "*Do this*", but we said "no". God said "*Do not*", but we said "*I will anyway.*" The yellow card of our conscience is God's way of warning us when we are violating His rules."

SHOW: Hold up a red card

SAY: "I am holding a red card. *Do you know what it is for?*" (wait for responses) If a player refuses to change his behavior after receiving a yellow card, the referee will give him a red card. The red card removes that player from the rest of the game. He is ejected."

SAY: "The Bible says that because we have broken God's rules, we are separated from

Him (Isaiah 59:2). That separation continues forever in death. Romans 6:23 states, "*For the wages of sin is death ...*"

The word "wages" means payment for what one has done, something earned. The word "sin" means that we have disobeyed God by breaking His rules. We missed the mark. Death, the payment for sin, is eternal separation from God. Because we have broken God's rules (sinned), we experience separation from God (death). We cannot be with Him. We are ejected because of what we have done. That separation from God will last forever."

ASK: "*What happens when a player is given a red card?*" (wait for responses)

SAY: "The player must leave the field for the rest of the game. The team suffers because no substitution is allowed for the ejected player. Soccer rules are meant to be obeyed. If they are not, punishment will result. This is true in soccer and it is true in life.

In soccer there is no substitution for an ejected player. However, unlike soccer, God has made a substitute player to come into the game for us and receive our red card. His name is Jesus. He came to take our punishment. In John 3:16, the Bible says

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life."

Jesus became our substitute. He never sinned and did not deserve to be punished. But He received our punishment for disobeying God's rules. Jesus took our punishment when He died on the cross. When I see a red card, it reminds me that Jesus gave His life's blood to pay my debt of sin. Because of what Jesus did for us, we can enjoy the excitement and joy of abundant and eternal life. "

CLOSING THE SESSION:

Lead the children in the plan of salvation. Include these four aspects.

- Admit that you are a sinner
- Ask for forgiveness
- Abandon your disobedient lifestyle by committing to follow God's way of life
- Accept Jesus as your Savior and Lord

Invite children to receive Christ as Savior by praying. Pray and allow them to repeat each phrase after you.

When God selects you to be on His team there is something special He wants us to do. It is like the uniform for His team. The Bible calls it baptism."

ASK: "*Have you ever seen someone baptized?*" (wait for responses)

*Note - some may mention baptism of infants which they have seen or experienced. Do not attack the fallacy of infant baptism at this time. Instead move to the next step.

EXPLAIN: Help the children understand that baptism is a symbol in which a person is placed under water and raised back up. Talk about baptism as a symbol that the old way of life has died and is buried. The follower of Jesus now has a new life, resurrection. *Note: These concepts are not always easy to explain with children. Do not get bogged down at this point. A simple explanation is sufficient.*

SAY: "In Acts 2:41, the Bible says that after the people responded to God's invitation to be on His team, they were baptized.

Jesus gave a commandment, "*Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Spirit.*" Baptism will be one of the most important events of your life. Baptism lets all people know that you have chosen to follow God and His rules."

SAY: "There is one characteristic that separates those who are good from those who are great on a championship team. Do you know what that might be?"

ANSWER: It is commitment to go all out and give 100% for your coach and your team.

SAY: "Everything else in your life, every relationship, every activity, every ounce of energy is committed to achieving the level of skill it takes to be the best. As long as you are on the team, you eat, sleep, and live for the game.

God asks a similar kind of commitment of those who answer the call to be on His team of champions. The Bible says in John 12:26

"Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be."

To be on God's team of champions, you must be willing to put God first and follow Him. Just like in soccer, it takes a lot of dedication to be the best you can be. Those who are on God's team must be willing to give 100%. It takes discipline to be the best. Discipline is the willingness to keep on even when it is not easy."

ASK: "*What happens after a player is selected to play for the American team?*" (wait for responses)

SAY: "After he or she is selected, the player begins to work out under the team's coach. That coach makes a commitment to help the player increase his or her level of skills. The

SAY: "Someone decided who would be on each team. Every country wants to have the best players of their nation on their Olympic soccer team. Those players were selected based upon their level of skill, attitude, willingness to learn, and character. Those who meet the right standards are invited to be on their country's soccer team.

God is also selecting a team. He invites people to be on His team. God selects people based on what they can become rather than what they have done or can do. God is inviting each of us here today to be on His team. We must decide how we are going to answer His invitation.

There is a four step process to answering God's invitation to be on His team. We talked about this yesterday. Some of you accepted His invitation yesterday. Some of you have thought about what we discussed yesterday, and now you are ready to accept God's invitation today. Let me remind you of how you can accept God's invitation. You must:

- Admit that you are a sinner
- Ask for forgiveness
- Abandon your disobedient lifestyle by committing to follow God's way of life
- Accept Jesus as your Savior and Lord

If you would like to answer "yes" to God's invitation to be a part of His team of champions, then I would like for you to bow your head and repeat this prayer after me. Now remember, don't say the words of this prayer unless you really mean it."

PRAY:

"Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I have disobeyed you and broken your rules for life. Please forgive me of my sin against you. I believe that you died in my place as a substitute. I want to turn from my life of disobedience and follow you all the days of my life. I invite you into my life to be my Savior and Lord. Thank you for making me a part of your championship team. In Jesus name, I pray. Amen."

SAY: "Accepting God's invitation to be on His team of champions is the first part of God's game plan for your life."

Teaching Procedure:

ASK: "If you were selected to be on the American soccer team, how would you be identified as one of the players?" (wait for responses)

SAY: "Once you are selected to be on the team, you receive a uniform. When you wear the uniform on the field, everyone immediately knows what team you play for. If you play for the United States, you wear an American uniform.

PRAY:

"Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I have disobeyed you and broken your rules for life. Please forgive me of my sins against you. I believe that you died in my place as a substitute. I want to turn from my life of disobedience and follow you all the days of my life. I invite you into my life to be my Savior and Lord. Thank you for making me a part of your championship team. In Jesus name I pray. Amen"

While children still have their heads bowed, ask those who have prayed inviting Christ to be their Savior to lift their hands so that you can know of their decision. Workers should note each child who raises their hand. Later, workers will want to speak with each child, allowing the child to tell what happened when he or she prayed. Some may need further counsel before they have necessary understanding to receive Christ as 'Savior.

Celebrate God's love with the children. Tell them we are happy because some of them have invited Christ to be their Savior today. Remind other children that any of them can ask Christ to become their Savior. He is always ready to respond to our prayers.

SCRIMMAGE: (40 Minutes)

Divide the children into two groups, and supervise them as they play scrimmage match. Remind them to use the skills which were practiced earlier in their game. Act as referee during the game. Throughout the scrimmage, encourage participation of all children. Affirm them for good traps and passes.

Allow no negative comments, foul language, or intentional roughing. Yellow card warnings may be given as needed. Remind the child given the yellow card that another infraction could result in a red card, after which he or she will not be allowed to participate further in the scrimmage.

CLOSING PRAYER AND REFRESHMENTS: (10 Minutes)

Gather the children together for refreshment time. Before distributing the refreshments, remind the children of Soccer & Spirit Camp tomorrow. Remind them that any of us can receive Christ as Savior when we pray.

Repeat the memory verse together.

SOCCER & SPIRIT CAMP CURRICULUM
DAY FOUR

Lesson Title: God's Plan for My Life

Focal Passage: John 12:26

"Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am my servant also will be."

WARM UP: (15 Minutes)

The warm up consists of light jogging and stretching. Combining the two elements of the warm up, using the natural lines on the field of play or other pre-established lines, the children will jog from one to the other, (no more than 40 yards for the smaller children). Each time they arrive at a line, a stretch is performed (See illustration 1a).

After the second lap of jogging, switch to walking and stretching. Every third step, do a toe touch. While holding the right ankle with the right hand, touch the left toe with the left hand. Alternate with every third step.

After walking and stretching, have the children do cross over steps (sideways).

Next, jog with knees high, slapping hands to the knees. Jog a few steps then jump as if heading the ball. Jog a few steps then sit down on the ground and then get up and jog again.

Stationary stretching consists of: toe touches, left foot over right foot, and touch right foot. This is repeated by placing the right over the left. Other toe touches include feet together and feet spread apart.

Rotation exercises (forward, left, back, right) of the neck and waist are important. Movement should be slow in rotation exercises.

In order to facilitate the learning of the memory verse, words could be used in the rhythmic activities.

If there is not time to incorporate all of these into a warm up, different ones can be introduced on various days.

TECHNIQUE DRILLS: DRIBBLING (40 Minutes)

SAY: "The last basic skill we will learn is dribbling. This is a very important skill, but often misused. A player should only dribble to advance the ball in the open field, or to place himself in better position for a shot on goal.

The skill is abused when a player takes on one or more players of the opposing team, because he will certainly lose the ball. Every player has a different style of dribbling, but there are some characteristics that are the same for the skill. Many times it is what the player does with his body and not what he does with the ball that makes a good dribbler."

Divide the children according to the size group indicated in the dribbling drills found in the back of the Curriculum Manual. Demonstrate the drills, carefully modeling that which should be done in the drill. Give each group the ball(s) necessary for the drill. Instruct them to begin practicing the drill with their group when the coach's whistle is blown.

Observe and assist each group until all groups have begun to correctly utilize the skills needed for this drill. At that time, blow the whistle to call groups back together for further instruction in the next drill or activity.

SPIRIT SESSION: (15 Minutes)

LESSON OVERVIEW:

SAY: "God invites each individual to be a part of His team for the purpose of building up His Kingdom. Upon accepting God's invitation, His team members are to join a local church fellowship where they can develop and mature to their maximum potential as they follow God's instructions."

TEACHING \LEARNING GOALS:

- To give each person present an opportunity to make a commitment to Christ as their Lord and accept Him as Savior
- To understand that once they have received Christ, they need to be a part of a local church fellowship
- To help the children realize they must follow God's instructions
- To see the potential they can be for God, by developing into the best possible servant

STARTING THE SPIRIT SESSION:

ASK: "Do you ever watch the Olympic games when they are on TV?"

SAY: "The Olympics are being played by some of the best players in the world."

ASK: "How do you suppose those players got to be on the teams representing their countries?" (wait for responses)