

8 vs 8

Typical 8 v 8 lineup 3-3-1 w/ Sweeper

Strong Defense, Wide Play, very comparable to playing 11 vs 11

Common Line-Ups

2-3-2 More Attacking/Less Defense

3-2-2 More Direct/Strong Defense

3 Defenders Fullbacks -

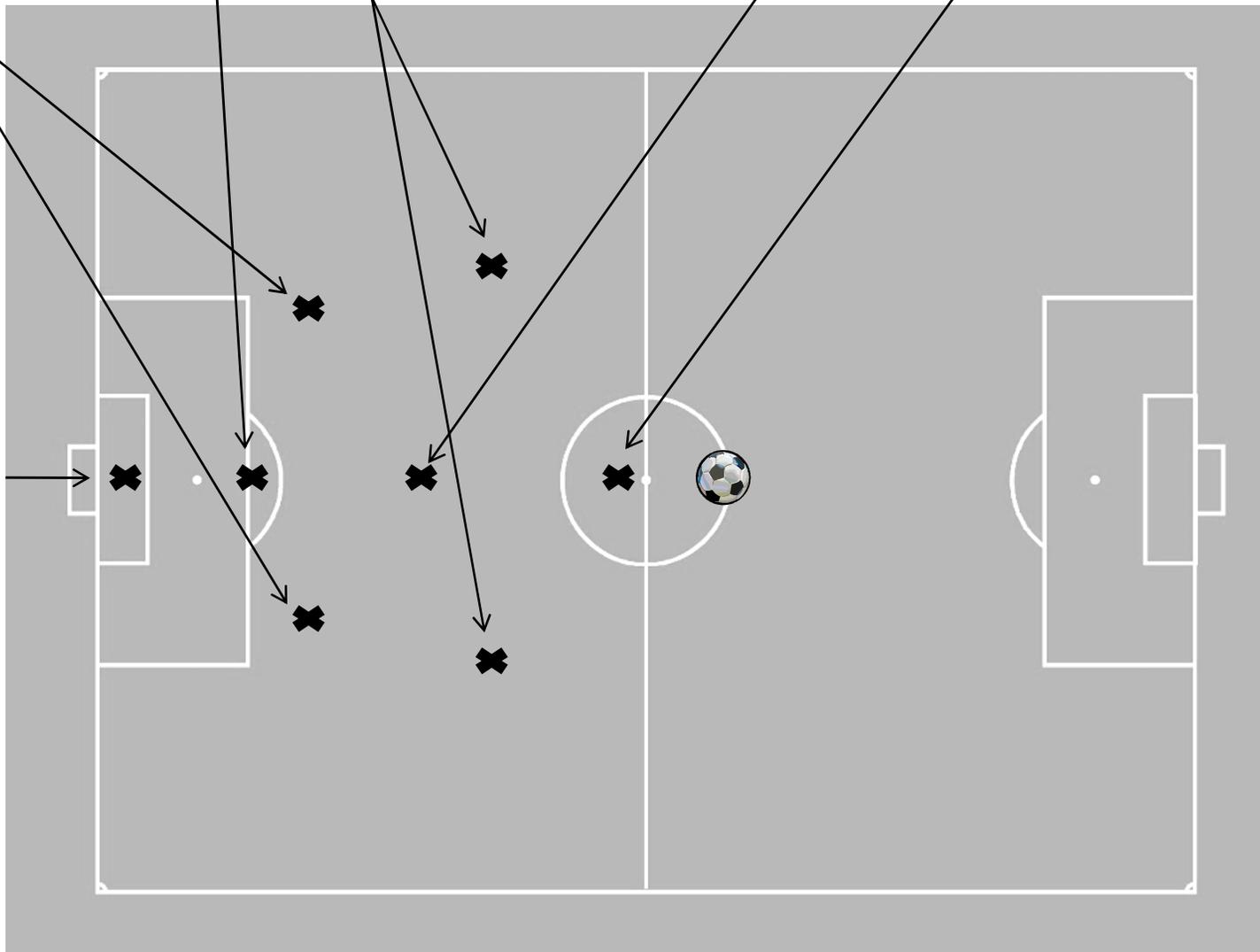
2 Outside Defenders & 1 Sweeper

3 Midfielders (Halfbacks)

2 Wing Midfielders & 1 Center Midfield

1 Forward (Striker)

Goalkeeper



8 vs 8

Team movement in attacking half - central

2 Outside defenders man mark and move as high up the field as possible until they reach their marks, even past half. It is imperative that the defensive line does not sit back and wait in THIS area, they must move up the field and keep the team together as a unit

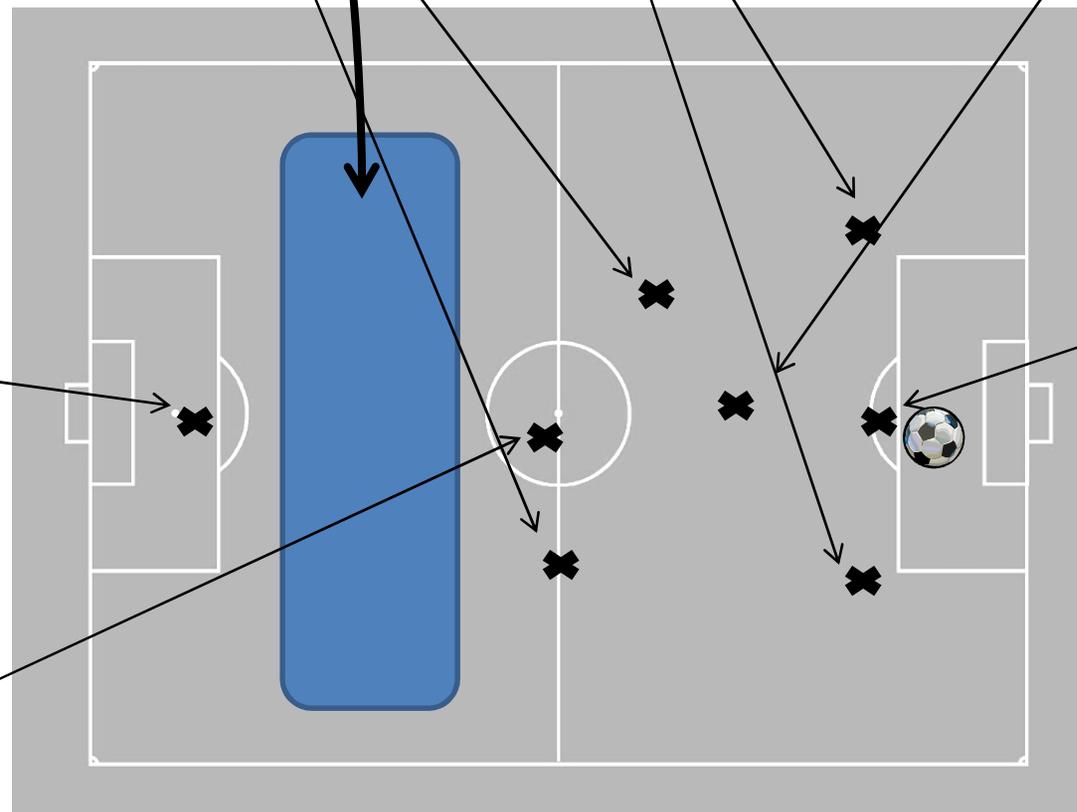
2 Wing midfielders move far enough up the field to provide attack support for forward (so there isn't only 1 player trying to score), but stay wide to spread the field

Center Midfielder moves up the field to provide drop support for forward and wing midfielders, always covering the "hole" in the middle

Goalkeeper moves up to the top of the penalty box, in case he has to come out and clear a ball that goes past the sweeper

Forward plays as high as possible, providing first line of pressure on the opposing team

Sweeper stays 5 to 10 yards behind defenders, covering ball-angle to goal



8 vs 8

Team movement for wide play

Notice there is a lot of space on the far side of the field, if there are attacking players in this space, it is the responsibility for the far side defender or midfielder to cover them, at this young age, a ball that is played that far will allow the team to slide and defend

Near side outside defender moves to the side the ball is on, either marking a forward from the other team, or providing support for the midfielder pressuring the ball

Central midfielder shifts to the side the ball is on to assist in defending that area, they don't want to leave the area of the width of the penalty boxes, unless in active pursuit of the ball or a mark

Near side midfield moves to provide pressure on the ball

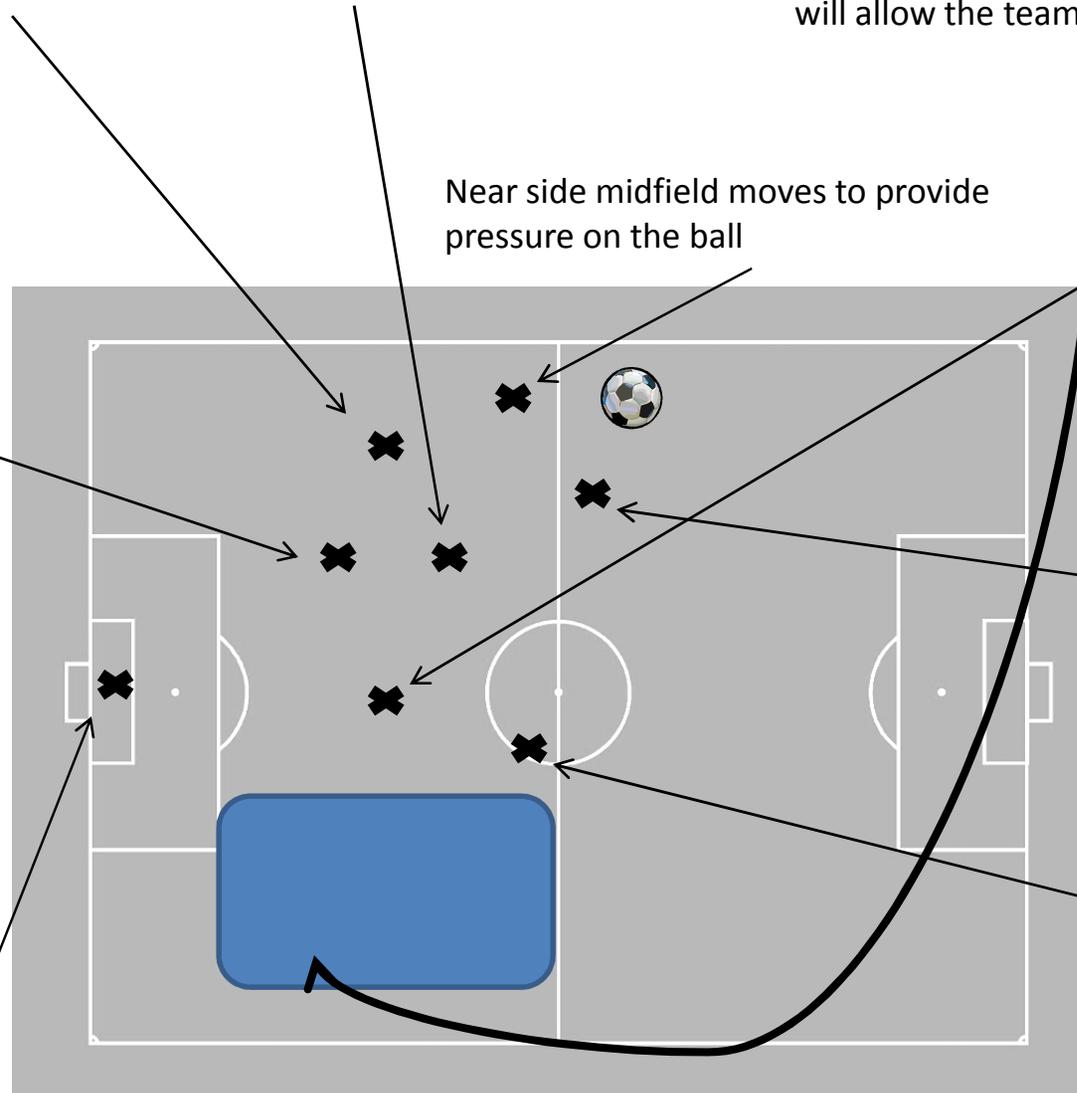
Far side defender moves to either mark a forward in the middle, or to cover the middle of the field, staying in front of the sweeper

Sweeper shifts to the side, not marking a player, staying ball-angle to the ball, slight behind the defenders

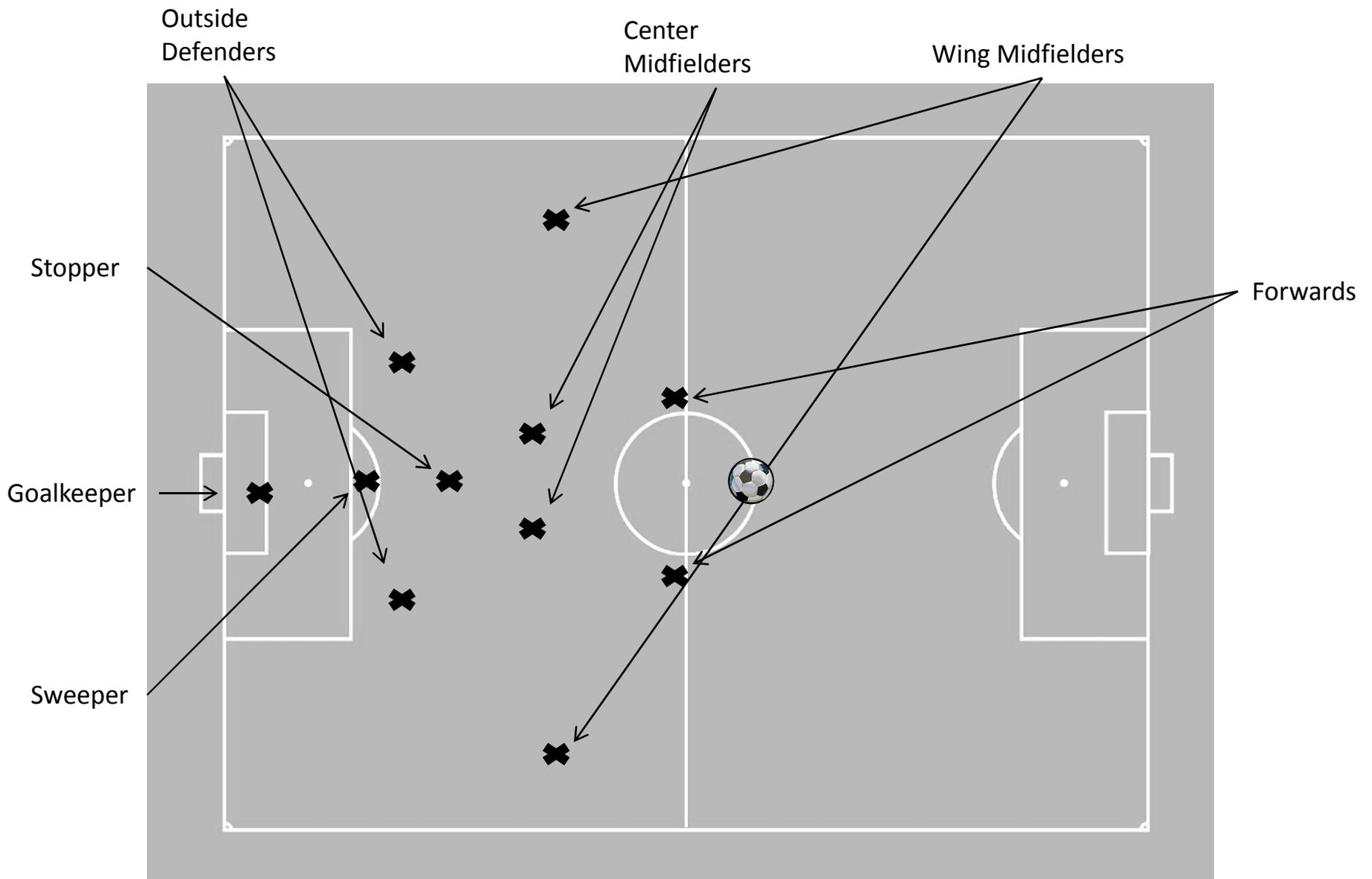
Forward provides immediate pressure high up the field

Goalkeeper slides slightly cutting off the best possible angle to the goal from the ball

Far side midfielder slides towards the middle of the field, marking any players here, or preparing to be a wide option on the attack



11 vs 11 **Typical 11 v 11 lineup 4-4-2 w/Sweeper**
Strong Defense, Wide Play, Simple Jobs



11 vs 11 Team movement in attacking half - central

2 Outside defenders man mark and move as high up the field as possible until they reach their marks, even past half. It is imperative that the defensive line does not sit back and wait in THIS area, they must move up the field and keep the team together as a unit

2 Wing midfielders move far enough up the field to provide attack support for forward (must remember to stay very wide, may come in more central to cross, or receive a crossed ball)

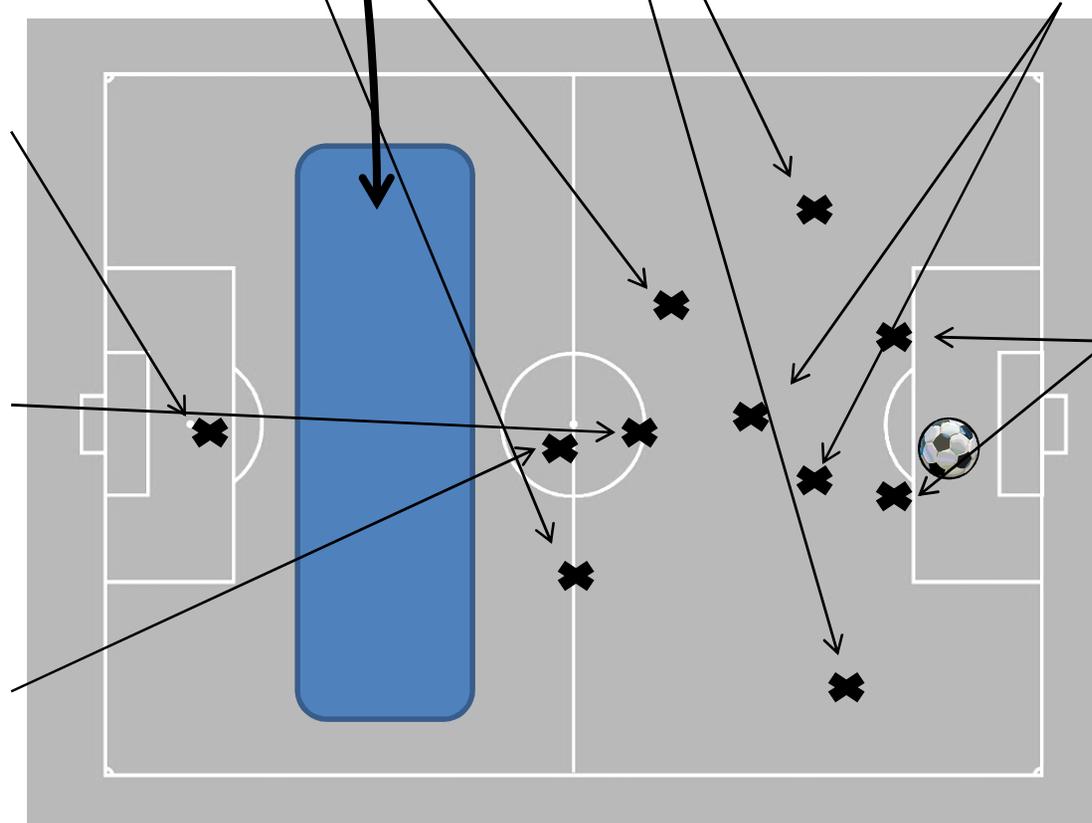
Center Midfielders moves up the field to provide drop support for forward and wing midfielders, always covering the "hole" in the middle, always close to each other

Goalkeeper moves up to the top of the penalty box, in case he has to come out and clear a ball that goes past the sweeper

Stopper provides support for central midfielders, and man marks in the middle if necessary

Sweeper stays 5 to 10 yards behind defenders, covering ball-angle to goal

Forward plays as high as possible, providing first line of pressure on the opposing team



11 vs 11

Team movement in attacking half - wide

2 Outside defenders man mark, they slide to the side of the field the ball is attacking. If far side defender does not have a man, he moves towards the center of the field, but not past the center, unless in active pursuit

Wing Midfielders – Near side pressures and provides a stop on the ball, far side marks wide player from other team, but stays as wide as possible, unless in active pursuit

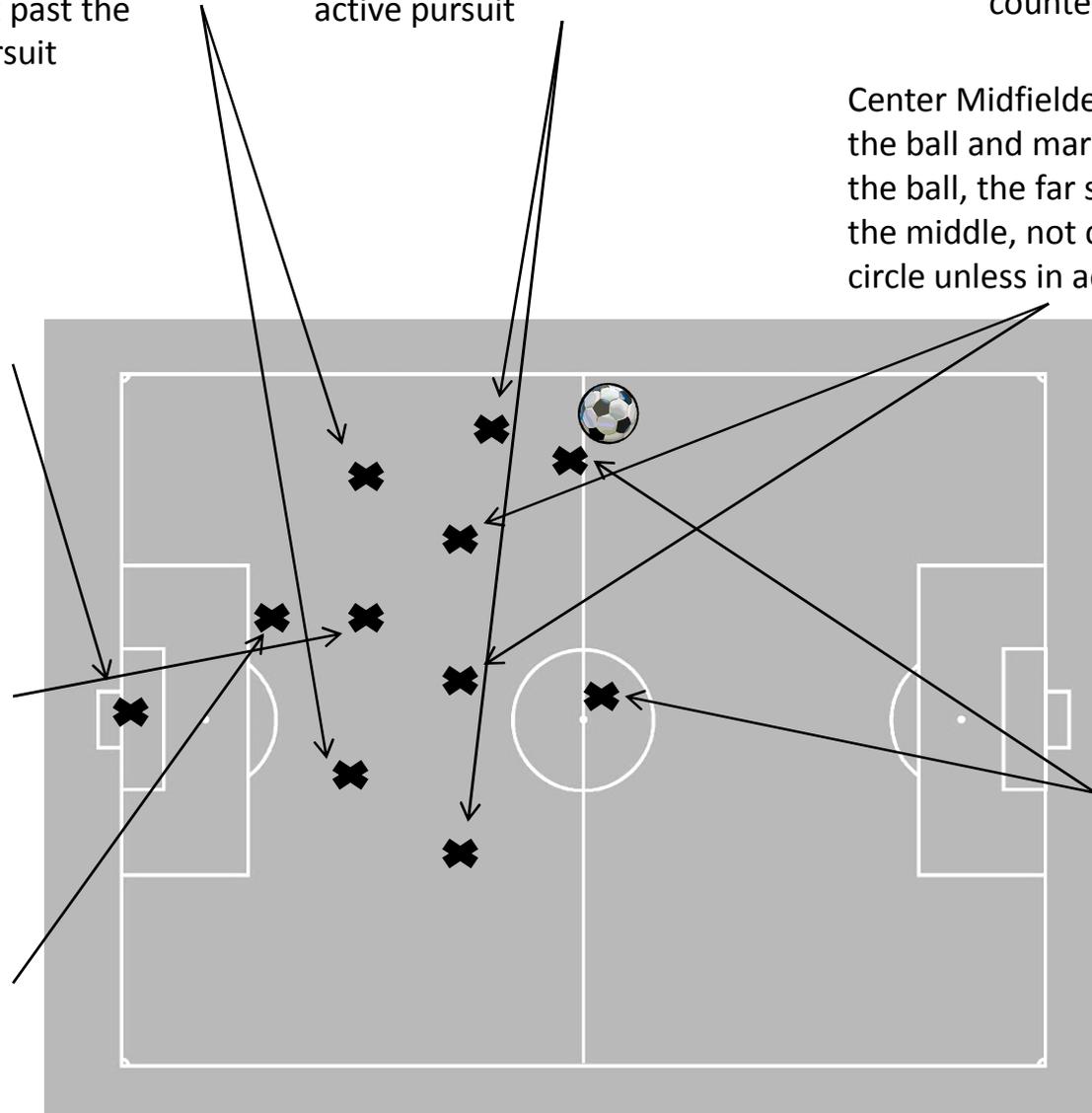
Team shape – Despite the fact that the ball is on the side, we keep our team shape whenever possible to take away as much space as possible, and to be ready for a counter attack opportunity

Center Midfielders – Near side pressures the ball and marks any open player near the ball, the far side slides in and covers the middle, not coming past the center circle unless in active pursuit

Goalkeeper slides to side of ball cutting off any angle

Stopper man marks central attacker, does not move far out of center of field unless in active pursuit

Sweeper stays 5 to 10 yards behind defenders, covering ball-angle to goal



Forwards – Near side plays as high as possible, providing first line of pressure on the opposing team, far side needs to stay high and defend against a ball swinging across the back, ready to open to space if we win the ball

11 vs 11 11 v 11 lineup 4-4-2 – Flat Back 4

Tricky & Strong Defense, More Wide Play
More difficult for defense to play, but more flexible and more attacking when played right

The difference between this and the sweeper is there are 2 center backs that play together, they become the “sweeper” on whatever side they are playing

The outside defenders have more freedom to move forward and attack on the wings, meanwhile the flat back 4 will slide and become a flat back 3

