TRAINING ACTIVITIES 14-19U Technical/Tactical Functional Training for Defenders Mike Haas, US Youth Soccer Region IV Head Boy's ODP Coach

Activity	Description	Diagram	Purpose/Points
Warm-up (28 x 40)	 4 v 4 v 4 Different colors for each team of 4 Two teams play against the other team. Team defending must win the ball. Once a team loses the ball on attack it becomes the defending team. 		Defensive Shape (Pressure, Cover, Balance) Interceptions Passing Receiving Transition
Exercise #1 (60 x 70)	Two 8 yd. counter goals and one full size goal. GK and 6 defenders 5 attackers go to goal and defend counter goals. 6 defenders attack counter goal and defend large goal		 Starting positions Aggressiveness Compactness/Reading Game Passing/Receiving-short service Running with the ball Zonal/Man Responsibilities Progress to giving a goal to the defense for offside
Exercise #2 (75 x 70)	 One goal and 2 target players GK+8 defenders go to targets, defend large goal. 8 attackers attack goal and defend two targets. Targets give the ball back to attackers. 		 Starting positions Shifting and sliding Compactness Connection with MF Passing-long service Zonal/Man responsibilities Passing on of players Transition Receiving
Final Game (full field)	11 v 11 (if possible) Playing forms can vary depending upon coaches preference		All of the above. Add defenders getting into the attack, i.e. dribbling, crossing.