

THE WINNING DIFFERENCE: Angled goals shows attackers how to move defenders

Sometimes it's like playing chess.

The opposition's four pawns are in front of your team - your players have got to somehow get past them to get at the king - their goalkeeper.

In chess, you entice your opponent to move their pawns, thus opening up a route to the king. In soccer you can do the same. You have to apply pressure in the right way to force those four defenders apart and ultimately give your players a route to goal.

In your training sessions you need to practice so your attackers can unpick that defensive lock and create goal-scoring opportunities

Here's how [Micheal Beale](#) sets up and plays the game Angled Goals in his *64 Small-Sided Games* manual.

How to set up

- Pitch size: 30 x 20 yards (minimum) up to 40 x 25 yards (maximum).
- Two teams of four players.
- Two keepers.
- No offside.
- Two goals placed at opposite corners of the pitch.
- If the ball leaves play, pass a new ball onto the pitch.



What you get your players to do

- This practice is played as a normal 5-a-side game.
- Because of the angled goals, your players will start to realize where they need to pressure and force their opponents when they are defending.

When attacking the team in possession should look to switch the ball quickly or to use the wings and get into good crossing positions.