

Just how important is the Goalkeeper? Often referred to as the number #1 position on a team- just where do we start coaching from a technical perspective and how do players improve and develop?

As a Coach are you able to assess your Goalkeeper? Can you determine when and where mistakes are being made when assessing your no. 1 Team player?

For a player to improve they need to know what they need to work on. Coaches should be able to assess the Goal-keeper in the following areas:

Individual Offensive and Defensive Skills Decision making-Offensive and Defensive Attitude

Key factors applied to Goalkeeping help to provide a cook book approach to breaking down goalkeeping techniques. It is important that both coach and player are familiar with the key factors for Goalkeeping

To the Point:

The following Key points are just a few you should know as a Goalkeeper and as a coach:

BASICS	COMMUNICATION	SET POSITION	FOOTWORK
Eye on the Ball Starting Position Body Behind the Ball Set Position	Early	Hands in front of body	Slide shuffle
	Clear	Feet shoulder width apart	Cross over step
	Concise	Weight forward	Short step (forward & back)
Attack the Ball		Feet apart	Power step
1 <sup>st</sup> Touch Decision		Balanced	

A goalkeeper must be fearless in addition to being a good communicator both verbally and physically! A goalkeeper dominates the Goal area and there will be no doubts when players enter into his/her area as to who rules. The goal-keeper must be confident and confidence comes from knowledge.

Coaches and players must know and understand the key factors to goalkeeping!