



Tech Corner

2012 Men's Olympic Tournament

Croatia – Korea



Brilliant passing technique during counter-attack

Croatia had no trouble in prevailing against Korea's offensive defence models (3:3- 1:5-, man-on-man). Surprisingly Croatia showed a consequent fast-paced play from the very beginning. In recent tournaments Croatia rather focused on individual strength as part of set-up attacks.

The picture row shows how Croatia consequently follows up its play against Korea's offensively acting defenders to break free the left wing with help of creative and fast reverse shots!



1 Croatia is moving the ball forward facing an offensively acting Korean defence.



2 The left back profits from open space in depth to play a one-on-one action immediately.



3 He breaks through to the centre despite body contact ...



4 ... to overrun his opponent ...



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... to do a dive shot to feed the pivot.



The pivot nearly stands still to receive the ball with one hand ...



... to run to the inside and thus to tie up the opponent ...



... and to play a reverse shot to the teammate who is taking up the left back's position.



The left back, after receiving the ball, plays a reverse pass to feed the free standing wing player.



He ties up the opposing outside defender in order to gain space for the wing player.



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The reverse pass is a bounce pass.



Picture 12 to 14: The left wing is free for a shot on the goal and throws the ball into the near corner against the offensively acting keeper.

