## GAME 1: Bull in the Ring

## Why play this Game:

## Scenario:

In your last game of the season your players found it difficult to keep possession while soloing the ball. How can you improve this given the indoor space available for training?

## What will this Game do?

This game will:

- Build confidence for the player in possession of the ball while soloing
- Develop special awareness for both attackers and defenders


## What do I need to set up this Game?

- Depending on numbers you can use full space or limit this
- 1 Football
- Markers to create circle or can just use your players for this
- Whistle


## What will hall layout look like?



## How do you play this Game?

## Start of Play:

- All players form a circle while one player stays in middle
- The coach throws the ball to one player in the outside circle


## Rules of Play:

- The player with the ball must attempt to solo to a player opposite without getting dispossessed by the player in the centre
- If the runner makes it across the circle the player in the middle stays in the middle, if the player in middle tackles and gets the ball the runner becomes the new tackler in middle and drill continues


## How do you score in the Game?

- Coach can progress this to allocate points for getting across centre or for tackles


## What changes can be made to the Game?

|  | How can I make the Game Easier? | How can I make the Game Harder? |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Space | Increase space in each zone | Decrease space in each Zone |
| Task | Allow players to carry the ball rather <br> than solo <br> Allow player on other side to move <br> to meet the ball | Player must call who they will pass to <br> and cannot change |
| Equipment | Increase number of footballs so not <br> as easy on defender of solos <br> Solo with weaker foot |  |
| People | Remove the defender | Use different equipment eg. Rugby ball <br> etc. <br> Alter coloured cones beside player and <br> can only pass to a different colour than <br> your own. Eg. Leave from a red cone <br> cannot pass to player opposite at a red <br> cone |

## What are the Common Problems to watch out for:

| Problem | Solution |
| :--- | :--- |
| Players losing possession in tackle | Defender to shadow rather than tackle |
| Not all Players touching the ball | A different player must be selected each <br> time. |
| Players passing too early without soloing | Player must hand the ball to player <br> opposite when reach their cone |

## Why Play this Game:

## Scenario:

Your team has a habit of switching off after they score and not keeping the required concentration levels to prepare for an opposition attack. What can you do to develop this during the off season?

## What will this Game do?

This game will:

- Develop spatial awareness with your players
- Increase concentration levels and develop communication skills
- Promote the importance of support play and retaining possession


## What do I need to set up this Game?

- Can use full size hall or an area depending on the space available
- 1 Football
- 2 sets of bibs or at least one set for one team
- Markers/poles to create 4 goal areas
- Whistle/Stopwatch


## What will the pitch layout look like?



## How do you play the Game?

## Start of Play:

- Mark out a playing area suitable to the numbers and ability of players and mark a goal on each side of the playing area


## Rules of Play:

- Divide the players into equal teams
- Possession is retained using the punt kick, hand or fist pass
- Each team scores into two goals, ensuring the play is varied and distributed throughout the playing area


## How do you score in the game?

- Goals through the designated goal area


## What Changes can be made to the Game?

|  | How can I make the Game Easier? | How can I make the Game Harder? |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Space | Decrease Space of overall pitch | Increase Space of overall pitch |
| Task | Can score in any goals <br> Use only one goal per team | Limit the rules of Ladies Gaelic Football <br> i.e. one hop one solo allowed per player <br> Add a goal keeper to each goal area. <br> Use weaker hand/foot |
| Equipment | Larger Goals <br> Remove one set of goals | Smaller Goals <br> Add more footballs |
| People | Smaller of players per game | Increase number of players |

## What are the Common Problems to watch out for:

| Problem | Solution |
| :--- | :--- |
| Lack of space around the middle of pitch <br> area | Encourage players to make decoy runs to <br> draw players out of the midfield area to <br> create time and space for other players |
| Scoring in same goals all the time | Must score in different goal each time |
| Player standing in goals at all times | Create zone in front of goal area where <br> no players are allowed to enter |

