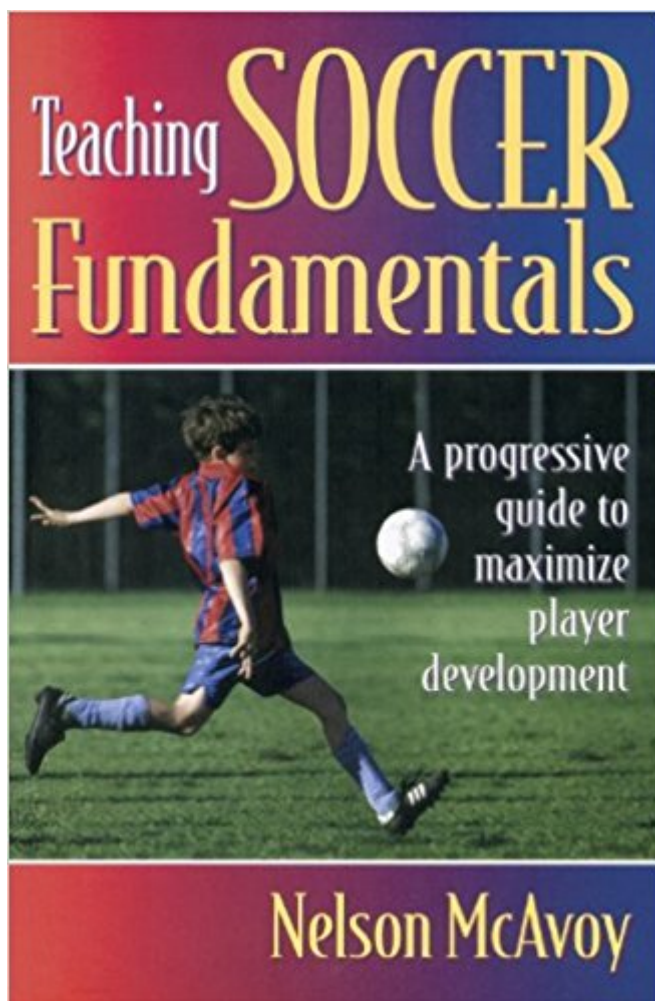




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Teaching Soccer Fundamentals



Synopsis

As a soccer coach, you need to know how to teach basic skills and run solid practices. Teaching Soccer Fundamentals explains how to maximize young athletes' learning of essential techniques and tactics through fun and efficient practice sessions. Including helpful photographs and illustrations as well as instructions that are easy to understand and apply, this book shares more than 30 years of soccer coaching experience. Author Nelson McAvoy offers tips for maintaining kids' short attention span and methods for boosting participation, including short-sided games. Teaching Soccer Fundamentals will make next season a more rewarding experience for you and your players.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"This book will help coaches develop a good foundation and basic coaching methodology. I recommend it for coaches of adolescent players." Jeff Tipping
Director of Coaching
National Soccer Coaches' Association of America
"McAvoy expresses ideas which are of value to both the novice coach and experienced coach at the highest level."
Richard Broad
President, American Soccer Program
Director, Middle States Soccer Camps
Head Soccer Coach, Woodson High School, Fairfax, VA "

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Nelson McAvoy is a former rocket scientist who coaches youth soccer. He has thought and learned a lot about HOW kids learn to play soccer, and in this book he tells you about it clearly, entertainingly, and compellingly. I don't have his experience in coaching kids in the 9-11 year-old range, but I still found the book invaluable, because now I know what I can and can't expect to accomplish with younger kids. I also understand how important it is to be a teacher, and how it can hurt the kids' development if you just "let them play" without introducing the right skills when they are ready to acquire them. Any coach who reads this book and doesn't become that kind of teacher for kids in that critical 9-11 year age group must not have been paying attention! This one is a keeper.

Nice book.

BOOK REVIEW As a soccer coach, you need to know how to teach basic skills and run solid practices. "Teaching Soccer Fundamentals" explains how to maximize young athletes' learning of essential techniques and tactics through fun and efficient practice sessions. The book is full of humor, a pleasant read, and teaches without being boring. Including helpful photographs and illustrations as well as instructions that are easy to understand and apply, this book shares more than 30 years of soccer coaching experience. Author Nelson McAvoy offers tips for maintaining kids' attention, having fun, and methods for boosting participation. "This book will help a coach develop a good foundation and basic coaching methodology. I recommend it for the coach of the adolescent player." Jeff Tipping Director of Coaching National Soccer Coaches Association of America This is Nelson's 'McAvoyage' of studying and coaching soccer for over 30 years. His passion has taken him to many places and sources in his quest to learn about this great sport. It is what many coaches crave to do and that is find 'their way' reflecting both personality and ideas that dovetail into their world. Open this book and you enter Nelson's world. Enjoy both Nelson and his book. Graham Ramsey Director, Education and Training, Maryland State Youth Soccer Association Former National Staff Coach for the USSF Coaching Schools "McAvoy expresses ideas which are of value to both the novice coach and experienced coach at the highest level." Richard Broad President, American Soccer Program Soccer Coach, Woodson High School, Fairfax, VA Former

men's soccer coach, George Mason University Nelson McAvoy retired as a head scientist at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center and is now involved in what truly brings him joy, helping kids learn the game of soccer. Director of the Potomac Highlands Soccer Club, McAvoy has coached youth soccer in widely different locations, including Eastern Europe, Puerto Rico, and Washington D.C. He is a Scottish Football Association youth and club coach. He has also held a USSF B license for 25 years and holds an advanced national diploma from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

In his book, Nelson McAvoy offers you a plan on how to teach young players the game of Soccer, rather than another book of drills. Unlike most books, he centers on the development of the child learning capabilities and how they learn to kick a ball. Then he explains how to teach it. Through a step by step procedures, he develops the laces kick, then the inside of the foot push pass as the child learns how to turn their foot. The book is filled with enough pictures, practice plans, and games to keep your youth team busy and learning in a fun environment. I would recommend this book for any coach who is looking for the long term development of the youth player.

This book is full of practical and useful information. It is obvious that McAvoy has a lot of valuable experience. However, his style of writing injected a lot of his own personality into the work, which I found to be distracting. I got tired of hearing about Izavbell, and her name so unusual as to detract from what McAvoy is trying to convey. And I was a bit taken aback when McAvoy advises the reader already in chapter 1 that he or she should 'try to hit someone in the face unexpectedly with your fist' to prove a point about instincts. I hope no one actually tries this! But if you are looking for a decent book about soccer and not a great work of literature, this one is for you. McAvoy shares a lot of great drills and games to keep any team occupied for a full season!

Nelson McAvoy briefly coached my sister, and was one of the best even back in the '70s. Every word in this book resonates with the experiences of what works and what doesn't. You'll learn just how much learning to mix in with the right amount of fun, and the book is chock full of drills that will train the players to act like a soccer player without thinking about it. I just know when I get out there on the field armed with this book that the kids are going to enjoy it enough to sign up next year, and are going to learn the game without realizing it because they're having a blast.

Regardless of whether you know the game, if you want to learn more about how to teach the game,

this is the book for you. I grew up playing, but starting coaching was a struggle to get the kids to understand -- until I bought this book 2 years ago. I still recommend it, and I still use it. This shows you what skills to start with and how to progress as the kids catch on. With the philosophies and games in this book you can keep the attention of your team for many many practices.

I have no sports background but have been coaching U8 soccer for several seasons. I moved up to U9 boys and have been looking for a book to explain more about the fundamentals of soccer and provide drills to teach them. This book emphasizes teaching soccer fundamentals including the push pass, instep kick, moves, and tactics. It also gives you drills that emphasize each skill in gradual progression. In 2 practices, my guys could do a decent instep kick!

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