

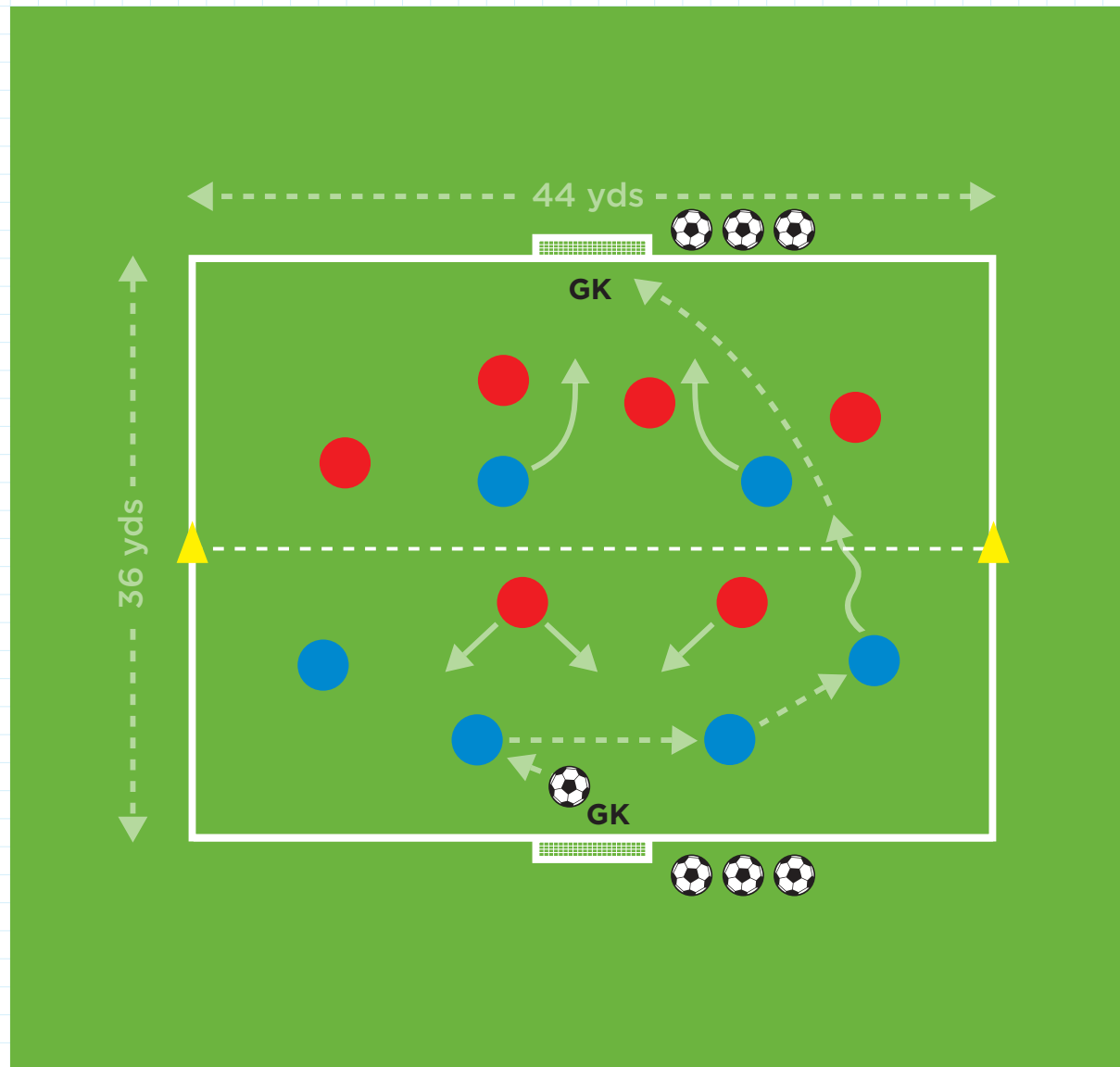
# Finishing in a small-sided game

## Practice organisation

- 36x44yds with goals at each end & half-way line marked with cones, as illustrated.
- 14 players (incl. 2GK's), working in 2 teams of 6, organised 4 Defenders v 2 Attackers in each half of practice area.
- Supply of balls at side of each goal.
- Practice starts with: GK rolling-out to D, who combines with team mates against 2A's to create an opportunity to shoot at goal from within defensive half.
- 2A's in attacking half, look for rebounds & deflections to score.
- GK restarts practice from opposite end if a shot misses the target or plays on if a save is made.

## Detail

- Early assessment & awareness of space available before/whilst spreading-out to receive from GK.
- Patience in build-up & possession to establish good opportunities to shoot.
- 1st touch to set-up shooting opportunity, or shoot with 1st touch.
- Shooting skills: swerving the ball, power shooting, lofting over GK, keeping shots low, angled shooting across face of goal etc
- A's expect ball to become available from GK mishandling or from frame of goal.
- Simple progressions for this practice are:
  - A team defender moves forward with ball into attacking half to create 3v4.
  - Introduce a wide player on each side of the pitch outside main practice area who plays for team in possession, looking to cross or drive ball into main playing area.



## Key coaching points

- D's spread-out to receive ball from GK.
- 1st touch of receiver looking to move ball into space available, preferably in forward direction to move play-on.
- Early observation of position of opposing GK..
- Select technique to use to exploit opportunity to shoot from distance.
- Accuracy of contact on ball.
- Anticipation & reading of rebounds by A's.