

Marshfield Youth Soccer
Senior Division Tactical Skills

- All of these skills should be practiced under some amount of pressure and movement with changes in speed.
- There should not be any drills where players are waiting in a long line to perform.

Tactical Skills	U12	U14 and up
Sense of team	Relying on team members to play their positions, positive comments from teammate to teammate	Understanding and appreciating roles of players in attacking, midfield, and defending zones, positive communication between teammates
Components of the game	Communicate positively with teammates, switching the direction of play or attack, intelligent first touches, understanding when to pass to feet and when to space, good body position when asking for the ball, understanding positional play and roles of attack, midfield, and defense	Good verbal and non-verbal communication, good choices for passing, dribbling, shooting, exposure to different systems of play-4-3-3, 3-4-3, understanding game variables-weather and field conditions, awareness of game situations-ahead, behind, time left, always thinking ahead, playing off the ball, ability to adjust during the game
Offense	Understanding off-sides and transitional play, supporting the player with the ball, checking off marks, give and go, recognize pressure, aggressive shooting, reading body position of defender, knowing when to shoot and when to pass in front of net	Looking for the third attacker when in possession, creating space for a teammate, asking to receive ball at proper moment, strategies for two attackers to outplay one or two defenders, using deception, choosing shooting moments, take overs and blind side runs,
Defense	Marking opponents tightly, cutting off route to goal, aggressive individual defending, second defender covering first defender, correct positioning when challenging for the ball, positioning ball side and goal side when defending, pulling opponents off-sides	Understanding defenders' priorities and when to intercept or tackle, pushing attackers wide, understanding defensive pressure, cover and balance, cooperative work with teammates working in the defensive end
In Practice	Learning environment, pressured play, duels at full speed-1v1-2v2, small sided games, emphasis on technical and tactical development, practicing restarts	Pressured activities, scrimmages, tactical problems to solve, 2 v1, 2v2 match ups, small sided games, practicing restarts, technical practice and advice