

Name: Matt Callahan Topic: Heading for defense Date:

FUNDAMENTAL – WARM UP	 ORGANIZATION Set up a 25-x-35 yard grid Half of team on outside of grid (half of those players need a ball), and the other half moving on the inside Players on the inside show for a ball, receive a pass, and then head the ball back to the outside player Stretch then switch inside/outside players 	KEY COACHING POINTS Read the flight of the ball Keep eye on the ball Get in the line of flight of the ball Time jump to hit ball at highest point Lock neck and keep upper body rigid Thrust forward from waist Direct ball high for time, wide for safety, and with power for distance
MATCH RELATED ACTIVITY	 Circle tosses ball to square who must attempt to head ball high, wide, and with distance to triangle As soon as circle tosses ball they apply pressure Switch roles after five headers Circle starts off applying weak pressure and progresses to applying game pressure 	 Read the flight of the ball Keep eye on the ball Get in the line of flight of the ball Time jump to hit ball at highest point Lock neck and keep upper body rigid Thrust forward from waist Direct ball high for time, wide for safety, and with power for distance
MATCH RELATED ACTIVITY	 Play 7v7 in a 60-x-20 yard area Two coaches serve as a net The net moves up and down the field at the spot at which a team was unable to return a ball One team starts by tossing ball up and heading over the net, other team has three touches to return ball over net Play until one team is driven to it's end line 	 Read the flight of the ball Keep eye on the ball Get in the line of flight of the ball Time jump to hit ball at highest point Lock neck and keep upper body rigid Thrust forward from waist Direct ball high for time, wide for safety, and with power for distance
4v4	 Play 4v4 No restrictions on players Give points for goals scored as well as for defensively headed balls 	Observe to see if session has helped with heading