

2016 EHF "Rinck" Convention Open Master Coach and Licensing Course

# SUBSTITUTION TACTICS IN HANDBALL MATCH

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- According to the rules of the game players substitutions during the handball match is relatively simple.
- The most important highlights:
  - A player who is entitled to participate may, in principle, enter the court through the team's own substitution line at any time (Rule 4:3).
  - Substitutes may enter the court, at any time and repeatedly, without notifying the timekeeper/scorekeeper, as long as the players they are replacing have already left the court (Rule 4:4)
  - The substitution rules also apply during a time-out (except during a team time-out) (Rule 4:4).



- All the court players on a team must wear identical uniforms. The combinations of colors and design for the two teams must be clearly distinguishable from each other (Rule 4:7).
- All players used in the goalkeeper position on a team must wear the same color, a color that distinguishes them from the court players of both teams and the (goalkeeper(s) of the opposing team (17:3).
- A player who is switching between the court player and goalkeeper positions must wear the same number in the back and in the front of the shirt (Rule 4:8).



- Generally speaking, the rules give the coaches a lot of options to prepare a specific tactics concerning substitutions of the players during a match.
- By doing this coaches mostly take into account:
  - the characteristics of their own team (players),
  - the desirable way of playing (game model),
  - the characteristics of opposing teams.



- Changing players due to fatigue or. maintaining the level of skills throughout the game (the first-initial team and substitutions):
  - The right moment,
  - The number of simultaneous substitutions,
  - Substitution – re-substitution off the same player.
- Substitution of players due to bad performance - improving the quality of the team performance.



- Substitutions – attack – defence:
  - Some handball players are largely specialized and stronger in attack or defense - so the coaches decide to substitute such players to gain the strongest team in a certain phase of the game,
  - Almost all teams change at least one player at positions Centre left and Centre right in 6:0 and Centre Back in 5:1 zone defence (sometimes also on other position).
  - Almost all the best teams have defence specialists who has almost no playing time in attack. They usually cover the most important positions and are pillars who underpinning the operation of their defences.



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- Some teams made the CA without carrying out a substitution of players (which is made later). Others carried out a substitution already during the CA.
- For this purpose players adjust leaving playing positions in the defence and movement around the pitch during the CA. For such a way alternation there are several reasons:
  - The overall time of the attack is reduced, because after unsuccessfully performed counterattacks or even extended counterattack takes too much time to change the defender with an attacker (danger of passive play);
  - By doing this attackers can gain an advantage because defensive players have more difficulties to change;



- Defence specialist is usually less successful in the counterattacks or extended counterattacks - so his replacement makes sense from this perspective.
- New rule concerning the execution of „Throw-off“ CA can be executed also with fast execution of „Throw-off“ -this requires a lot of tactical adaptation also in the return .



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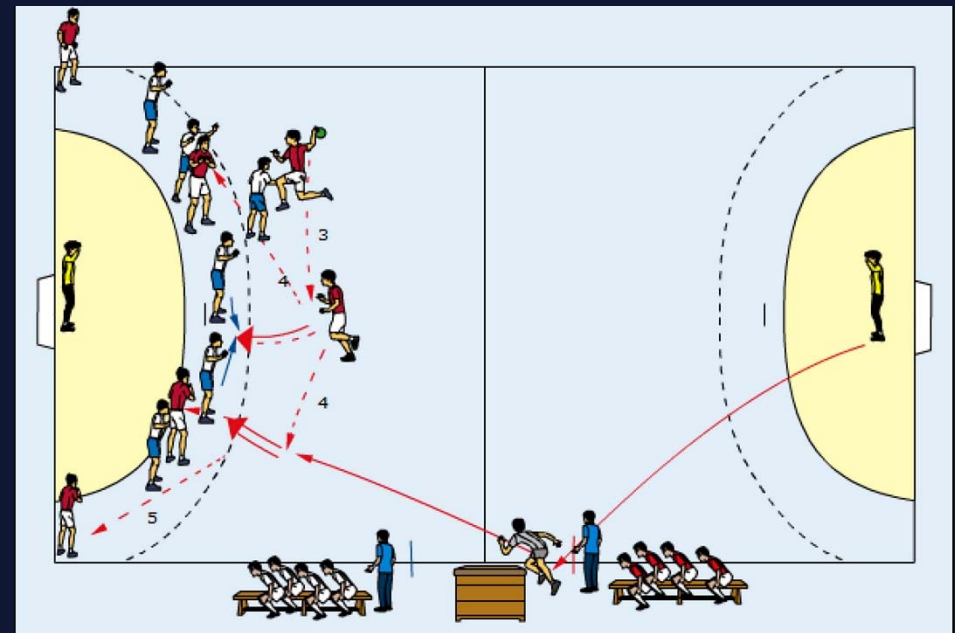
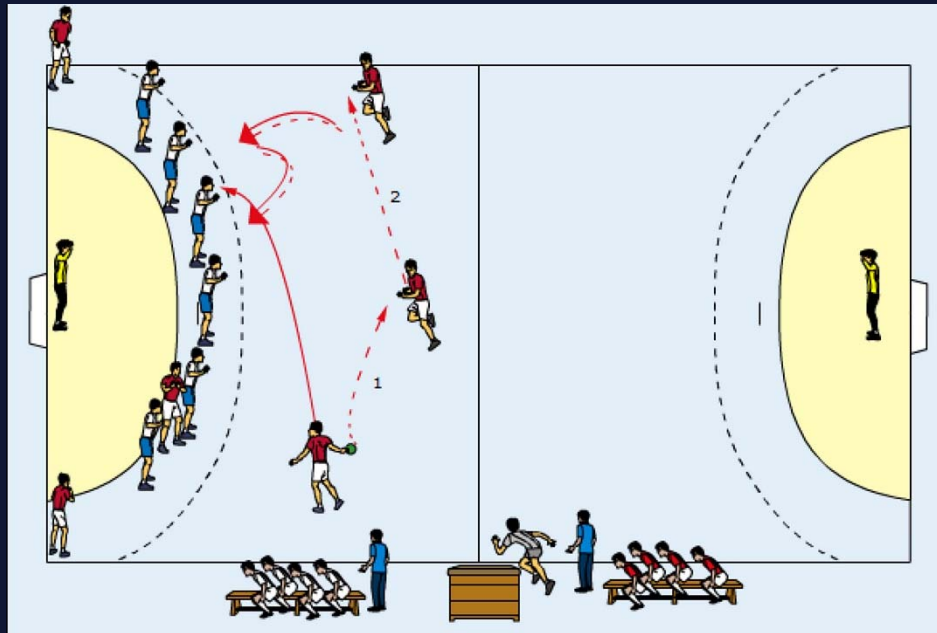
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- Substitution with a reduced team (player less) during return into set-zone defence - it requires a lot of precaution.
- Substitution - goalkeeper and court player when in attack is player less.
- Substitution - goalkeeper and court player in situations when teams are numerical equilibrated.



- Substitution at the end of the match when scoring a goal is needed.



Thank you very much for  
your attention!



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