

# Strategies for 3v3 Soccer

Strategies here are very different, given all the changes in rules, setup, and gameplay.

Although coaches draw up all kinds of plays, let's take a look at some key strategies you can use to help your team succeed.

## Defending in 3v3 Soccer

### V-Shape formation

Most teams line up in a 'V' shape with one player staying further back and the other two positioned forward.

When defending, the last player ideally always stays between the goal and the ball.

When in possession, the team should be careful not to lose the ball as this leaves them open to counterattacks -- one of the most common ways to score in the game.

### High press

While some teams like to press high and have all three players forward, this does have its risks.

Opposing players can either trick or pass their way in for an easy score.

### Zone defense

Most teams retreat when they lose the ball with each player defending a different "zone" or area.

The idea is that while one defender covers the ball, the other two mark the opposing players.

The other two defenders will also help by playing the passing lanes.

This system allows you to contain the opposition and wait for the right time to take back control of the ball.

Communication is crucial as players constantly switch covers to defend rotating attackers.

It is a good idea to have the two forward players defend the middle are of the pitch.

This forces the attacking players out wide, giving them less space to operate.

## **Attacking in 3v3 Soccer**

### **When defense leads to offense**

Due to the faster pace and smaller goals, defending well is one of the best forms of attack.

Many goals come from counter attacks or quick transitions after a successful defense.

A strong defense often leaves the opposing players out of position to defend a devastating counter attack.

As such, patience is essential and this holds true for both defending and attacking.

Attackers need to probe away at the defense, rotating here and there, until the right opportunity to strike arises.

### **Pass and go**

Another way to get around opponents and score goals is through quick precision passing and constant movement.

Even after making a pass, the player keeps moving and works towards getting open for the next pass.

By whizzing the ball about, creating passing triangles and moving into space, you can drag opponents out of position.

This opens up their defense, giving your team shooting opportunities.

### **Dribble around the defense**

Dribbling is a good way to open up space and create numerical advantages out on the pitch.

You want to choose your battles wisely to avoid handing the initiative to your opponent.

Dribbling tricks and moves with quick bursts of speed can help you get around an opponent and in position to score.