

Identifying a Talented Under-13/Under-15 Athlete

Generic Skills & Evidence of Game Sense

- Use of space/width/depth
- Aware of others - can clear when appropriate
- Dictate space
- Quick transition

- High One handed release - accurate pass
- Keeping possession

Athletes may not necessarily show all of these qualities

- Movement skills - sprint/change of direction/pace/ability to move in multi directions/body angle
- Balanced footwork
- Able to turn fully
- Ability to go & go again - re-offer

- Able to apply some defensive pressure by using stage 1 & 2. Possibly some evidence of stage 3.
- Able to win possession of the ball

Understanding and Application Of Positional - Roles & Responsibilities

Under 13s Should be aspiring to hit criteria in all areas.

Under 15s should be hitting criteria in Ball Handling & Transition Areas and aspiring to hit criteria in Effectiveness in Position area.

GS	Movement and Ball Handling	Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.	Effectiveness in Position	Confident from a range of distances. Aiming for 80% & greater volume of shots. Is generally available when CC hit the circle edge. Strong rebound position and take in the air.	Transition	Dictates to opponent to limit her availability through the court. Shows signs of working with others in a pair or unit.
GA		Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.		Confident from a range of distances. Aiming for 80%. Is generally available when CC hit the circle edge. Is generally available 1st phase on Centre Pass when required. Strong rebound position and take in the air.		Dictates to opponent to limit her availability through the court and may take intercepts. Shows signs of working with others in a pair or unit.
WA		Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.		Is generally available 1st phase on Centre Pass when required. Accurate feed and can keep possession. Generally available on circle edge		Dictates to opponent to limit her availability through the court and may take interceptions. Shows signs of working with others in a pair or unit.
C		Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.		Deliver Centre pass. Links and connects both attack defence. Accurate feed and can keep possession. Generally available on circle edge.		Shows signs of working effectively with the WD for effective 2 on 1 at the centre pass. Shows signs of working with others in a pair or unit.
WD		Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.		Puts pressure on receipt of WA on 1st phase of Centre pass –shows signs of working with WD 2on1. Dictates WA movement in the attacking third and puts pressure on feeds. Takes interceptions off opponent.		Transitions from defence to attack providing option for the initial turnover. Sets up in position to provide an option on a back line pass Shows signs of offering a reset option to maintain possession.
GD		Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.		Puts pressure on receipt of GA on 1st phase of Centre pass. Limits shot volume - Strong rebound position Takes interceptions off opponent. Challenges for rebounds Shows signs of switching with GK		Transitions from defence to attack providing option for the initial turnover. Sets up in position to provide an option on a back line pass Shows signs of offering a reset option to maintain possession.
GK		Change direction & change of pace. Lands balanced, turns to goal but may be inconsistent in delivering correct pass accurately. Sound catching technique. May have physical capacity but limited movement skills at present.		Dictates & restricts GS movement. Limits shot volume –variety of marking the shot. Takes interceptions off opponent. Challenges for rebounds. Shows signs of switching with GD		Transitions from defence to attack providing options including on the transverse line. Delivery of the back line pass with success.

Understanding and Application Of Positional Roles & Responsibilities

Athletes may not necessarily show all of these qualities

Observation Nudges

GK

Regaining possession
Volume of shots

WA

Variety of passes
Effectively getting free - where centre
pass is received

GD

Regaining possession
Volume of shots

GA

Volume and accuracy recorded

WD

Positioning of WA when feeding
Regaining possession

GS

Volume and accuracy recorded

C

Variety of passes
Effectively getting free

Essential Positional Criteria that Selectors are looking for

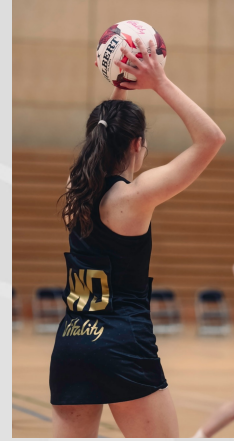
GS: Prepared to shoot & accurate shot
Available in a 1:1 situation
Able to deliver an accurate pass
Volume & accuracy recorded



GA: Prepared to shoot & accurate shot
Available in attacking circle & in the attacking third
Able to deliver an accurate pass
Volume & accuracy recorded



C: Deliver a Centre pass
Link between an attack and defence
Maintain possession and able to deliver an accurate pass to shot
Variety of passes
Effectively getting free

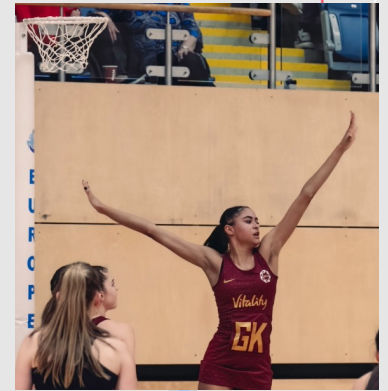


WD: Effective defending at a Centre Pass
Gain possession and win ball
Available and able to deliver an accurate pass
Positioning of WA when feeding
Regaining possession



WA: Available at a Centre Pass
Maintain possession and an accurate feed
Available at the circle edge
Variety of passes
Effectively getting free-where centre passes are received

GD: Dictate movement of GA
Gain possession / win ball
Available and able to deliver an accurate pass
Regaining possession
Volume of shots



GK: Dictate availability of GS
Gain possession / win ball
Available and able to deliver an accurate pass
Regaining possession
Volume of shots

What position/s does the athlete that you are nominating play?
Check the criteria in the bubble – does she have these qualities?

The importance of a growth mindset for a performance athlete

Does the athlete that you intend to nominate have a Growth Mindset?

I have a Growth Mindset

I am willing to listen

I understand the importance of playing for the club

I am determined to improve

I am motivated & want to succeed

I play other sports

I want to learn to train

I can learn from failure



Effective Play & Common Errors

Effective Play:

- Movement into appropriate space
- Recognising when to clear/interchange – not asking for every other ball
- Attacking the circle edge to feed shooters
- Ability to track opponent & see ball
- Determination to regain possession of the ball
- Appropriate release point

Common Errors:

- Following the ball – not aware of others
- Turning back on ball - not adjusting body angle
- Asking for the ball when defended - unaware that they are defended
- Not adapting to defender – doing the same thing
- Head goes down when loses possession of ball
- Do they keep passing to the same player/friends

Developing game sense activities/practices to help identify talented athletes

- What do you want to see?
- Do you need to extend/adapt/modify the activity?
- What does the player do naturally?
- Does the athlete understand the concept?
- Drip feed & overload – how does the athlete react?
- Does the athlete's performance change?

What attributes do you think that you might see during these activities/practices that might confirm your decision to nominate?



- To assist in your identification of talented Under-13 and Under-15 athletes, it would be beneficial to watch this video clip - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mh3iPQF8KAM>
- This video link shows Athletes competing in the Under-15 School Games National Finals 2021. These players will be at NSL Teams' Academy level representing their franchise.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Practice applying the selection criteria during school/club activities

Use Game Sense Activities

Learn to recognise Effective Play & Common Errors

Practise Observation Skills – watch online clips/footage

Attend Workshops in order to up skill

Attend County Under-13 and Under-15 Player Development Programme Sessions

Liaise with County Development Lead

THANK YOU

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