

## **Topic:** Striking Lofted and Driven Balls (Long Balls)

Technical Warm up	Organization	Coaching Pts.
www.sports-graphics.com	High & Long:  2 players are at opposite ends behind a goal in a 10x20 yard grid, and try to score points by striking the soccer ball through the two goals without the soccer ball bouncing and/or rolling before crossing the goals. A player scores 3 points for every lofted/driven ball he/she strikes successfully. Receiving players can catch the ball.  Version 2: The player taps the ball forward to strike it long  Version 3: Use the other foot	<ul> <li>Body position and balance</li> <li>Eye on the ball at moment of contact</li> <li>Strike ball with ankle locked and hard bone on top of foot</li> <li>Non-kicking foot directed at target</li> <li>Lean the body back when striking the ball</li> <li>Strike the lower part of the ball and follow through towards target landing on shooting foot  Time: 15 minutes</li> </ul>
Small Sided Game	Organization	Coaching Pts.
www.aports-graphus.com	Over the Middle:  2 players at the ends of a 15x30 yard grid are trying to hit soccer balls over the player in the middle. When the player in the middle intercepts or catches the soccer ball, he/she will change positions with the last player who struck the ball.  Version 2: The middle player serves the ball to the kicking player	<ul> <li>Technique of striking a ball served to you</li> <li>Hitting the ball with the inside of the foot to curve it</li> <li>Hitting the ball straight</li> </ul>
		Time: 15 minutes
Exp. Small Sided Game	Organization	Coaching Pts.
www.sports-graphics.com	3v3 +Targets - Go Long: In a 20x40 yard grid with targets, two teams are trying to score by striking long balls to the target. If the target catches the ball without bouncing before entering his/her zone, the attacking team scores a point.  Organization	<ul> <li>Technique of striking a long ball</li> <li>When</li> <li>When you have no pressure</li> <li>On the run</li> <li>To get behind defenders</li> <li>Time: 20 minutes</li> <li>Coaching Pts.</li> </ul>
_	If 6v6, play in a 45x60 yd. field. If 8v8, play	
6v6 to 8v8 Scrimmage	in a 55x80 yd. field. Play with Goalkeepers and encourage them to communicate with teammates.	• All of the above  Time: 30 minutes
COOL DOWN	Activities to reduce heart rate, static stretch	ing & review session - Time 10 min.