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### **Who shares wins: Communication affords enhanced game performance**

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A key feature of success in games play is the ability to attune to the actions of team-mates and opponents enabling enhanced anticipation and effective decision-making. However, the emphasis on technique in many traditional coaching programmes means that there is limited focus on the development of these key perceptual skills. Perhaps, coaches feel that an ability to devise strategies and tactics based on an assessment of the relative strengths and weaknesses of the self, team mates and opponents is something that is only appropriate for high level players supported by high levels of technological input. However, it could be argued that the development of games player's perceptual skill should be an integral part of any development programme to facilitate intelligent performers who can solve their own game based challenges. To that end, in this session I will show how using a constraint-led approach to coaching games enables coaches to manipulate task constraints to create learning environments that facilitate the development of player's awareness with less recourse to verbal input. This games based practical session will enable the participants to take part in a series of progressive small-sided games where ongoing team success is dependent on each team member's ability to share performance knowledge acquired in games with team-mates. The high level of activity interspersed with high levels of communication between team mates, will demonstrate how the use of a more 'hands-off' coaching style can be used to create a holistic, intrinsically motivating learning experience that results in enhanced game understanding while at the same time facilitating the development of communication skills and enhancement of psychological factors such as perceived competence, autonomy and relatedness.