Fairport Red Raiders
Varsity Soccer

Gianni A. Bussani
Varsity Soccer Head Coach
585.421.2100 x62684
Cell#: 585.764.9575
gbussani@fairport.org

www.fairportkicks.com

The Five Pillars of Evaluating Players

In evaluating soccer players, we look at the 5 pillars of the game and see where they rank in all 5 categories. The five pillars are:

1. Psychological   2. Physical   3. Technical   4. Tactical   5. Psychosocial

1. **PHYSOCHOLOGICAL …** This put simply comes down to whether a player is capable of mentally handling everything that comes at them; whether they can handle pressure, and also includes things like their character. Do they have the mental strength to maintain a high level of performance throughout a training session and/or game?

2. **PHYSICAL …** A player's size, speed, strength, coordination and conditioning are included in this category. In looking at speed, it's more important over a 10-40 yard area than over a 2-mile distance. Other ways to determine this ranking would include a person's body fat percentage as well as jumping ability etc.

3. **TECHNICAL …** Do they strike the ball properly? Do they receive the ball properly? Do they run properly? Also, do they play balls properly in a game situation (there are loads of players out there who can strike a ball beautifully without pressure but put them in a game situation and they become less effective). Technical ability includes finishing, maintain possession, first touch and dribbling to take on defenders.

4. **TACTICAL …** The tactical pillar consists of things like do they know where and when to be places on the field? How is their positioning and how is their decision making on the field? Do they dribble too much or not shoot enough?

5. **PSYCHOSOCIAL …** included in this will be how they deal with their teammates and coaches, refs (and ref decisions) and the fans. Things like discipline and dedication would come into this category as well. This includes things like whether they see their team accomplishments as being more important than their individual accomplishments, whether they can handle pressure, and also includes things like their character and whether or not they fit in to a team environment. (if they say they will be there for you, can you trust them, etc).