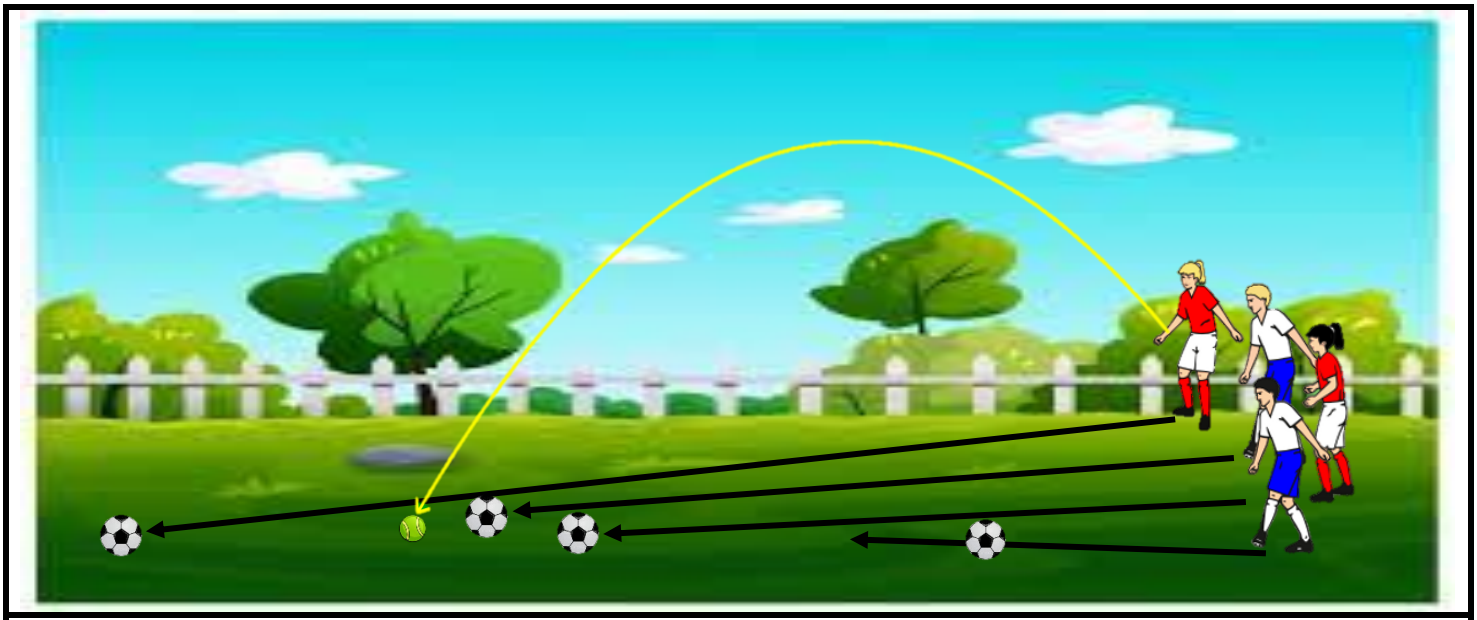
Challenge of the Week

U12

SKILL ACQUISITION: Passing/Shooting: Surface of the foot and ball, Pace and accuracy

Team Soccer Bocce



Number of Players: 4 – kids, parents, grandparents (whomever is available)

Equipment: Any outdoor space, a soccer ball each & a tennis ball or small object to use as the pallino (target ball.)

Organization: Select 2 teams of 2. Each player starts with a ball. 1 player starts with the pallino. He or she tosses it into open space. The player who tosses the pallino plays their soccer ball first. Then 1 player from the other team. Take turns until all 4 players have played their soccer ball.

Object of the Game: Once the pallino (target ball) has been tossed into open space, as mentioned above, the player who tossed the pallino plays their soccer ball & tries to get it as close to the pallino as possible. A player from the opposing team plays next and tries to get their ball closer. The player from the first team plays next and either tries to get closer or bump the opponent's ball away. The final player plays their ball to either get points by getting closer and/or bumping their teammates ball closer, bumping the opponent's ball further away. The team that earns the most points plays the pallino next and plays first.

Scoring: 1 point for each ball closest to the pallino. If both your soccer ball & your teammate's soccer ball stop closer to the pallino than either of the opponent's, your team earns 2 points for the round. (If a soccer ball is bumped further away from the target ball, you may not win the point this round.) The first team to 12 points wins; must win by 2 points.

Variations (select as many variations as necessary)**:**

- Try to find a playing area that is not completely flat
- Try using equal number of left foot kicks and right foot kicks
- Toss the pallino further away
- If you are winning by 2 or more, your team can only use their weaker foot until the game is back to within 1 point or even.