7 ways to get your players to play smarter

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1. Have your players **watch film** of themselves. Players learn more from watching what they do wrong when they can see it over and over again.

2. When teaching a drill or skill, always **teach it like they have never done it before**. Try to do this for the first couple weeks, so that the players are hearing exactly what you want from them in the drill or skill. Players like consistency!

3. Run drills that **require your players to think** by providing them with situations and allowing them to figure out the best way to conquer those situations. Whether it is a scoring play, defensive scheme, man up or man down, repetition is key!

4. Allow your players to **teach the drills or skills to each other** from time to time. This will make them actually have to think about what you tell them.

5. Encourage your players to **coach younger kids**, whether in a clinic, camp or helping with a team. This will help players understand why coaches teach things the way we do.

6. Encourage your players to **attend high school or college games** (depending on their age). Have them watch players that are older than them and notice the speed of the game as it gets faster at each level. Point out the things they do well and things they might not do so well. Have your players discuss this with each other.

7. Encourage your players to **attend camps**! This is a great opportunity for them to be taught by all different levels of coaches.

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