



US Soccer National Coaching Schools

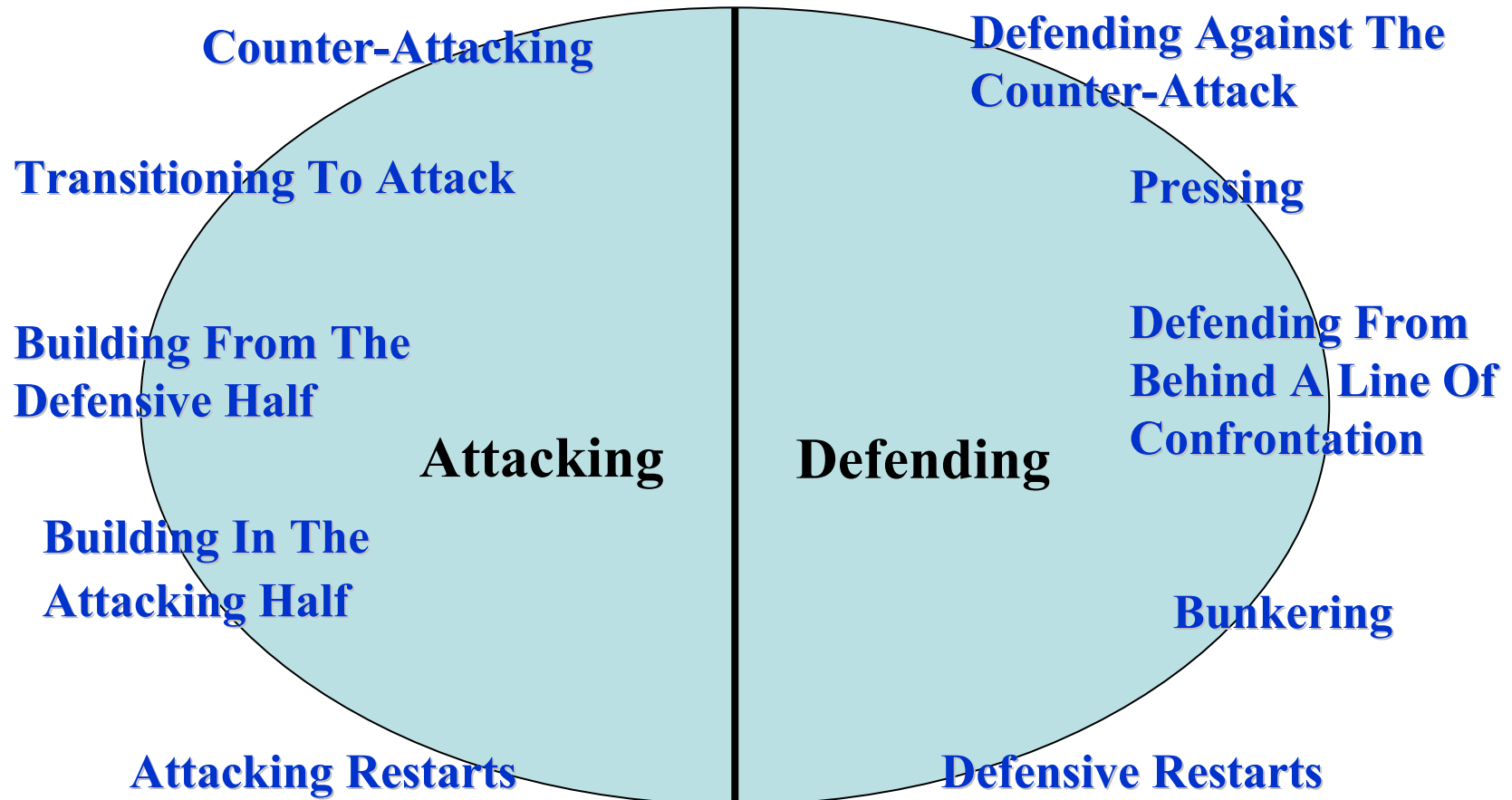


*Match Observation:
Phases of Play
Relating Competition to Training*

Dr. Tom Turner



Phases of Play





Phases of Play

Counter-Attacking

Transitioning To Attack

Building From The
Defensive Half

Building In The
Attacking Half

Attacking Restarts

Attacking

Defending Against The
Counter-Attack

Pressing

Defending From
Behind A Line Of
Confrontation

Bunkering

Defending

Defensive Restarts



Phases of Play

Counter-Attacking

- 1. Follows a Positive Turn-Over**
- 2. Recovering Team "Open": Time and Space Available to Attack.**
- 3. Situation may be Numbers up, Numbers Even, or Numbers Down.**
- 4. Technical Solutions can include both Passing and Dribbling.**
- 5. Vision, Initiative and Urgency Required to Create Chances.**
- 6. Organization of Team "Behind" the Counter is Important**



Counter-Attacking



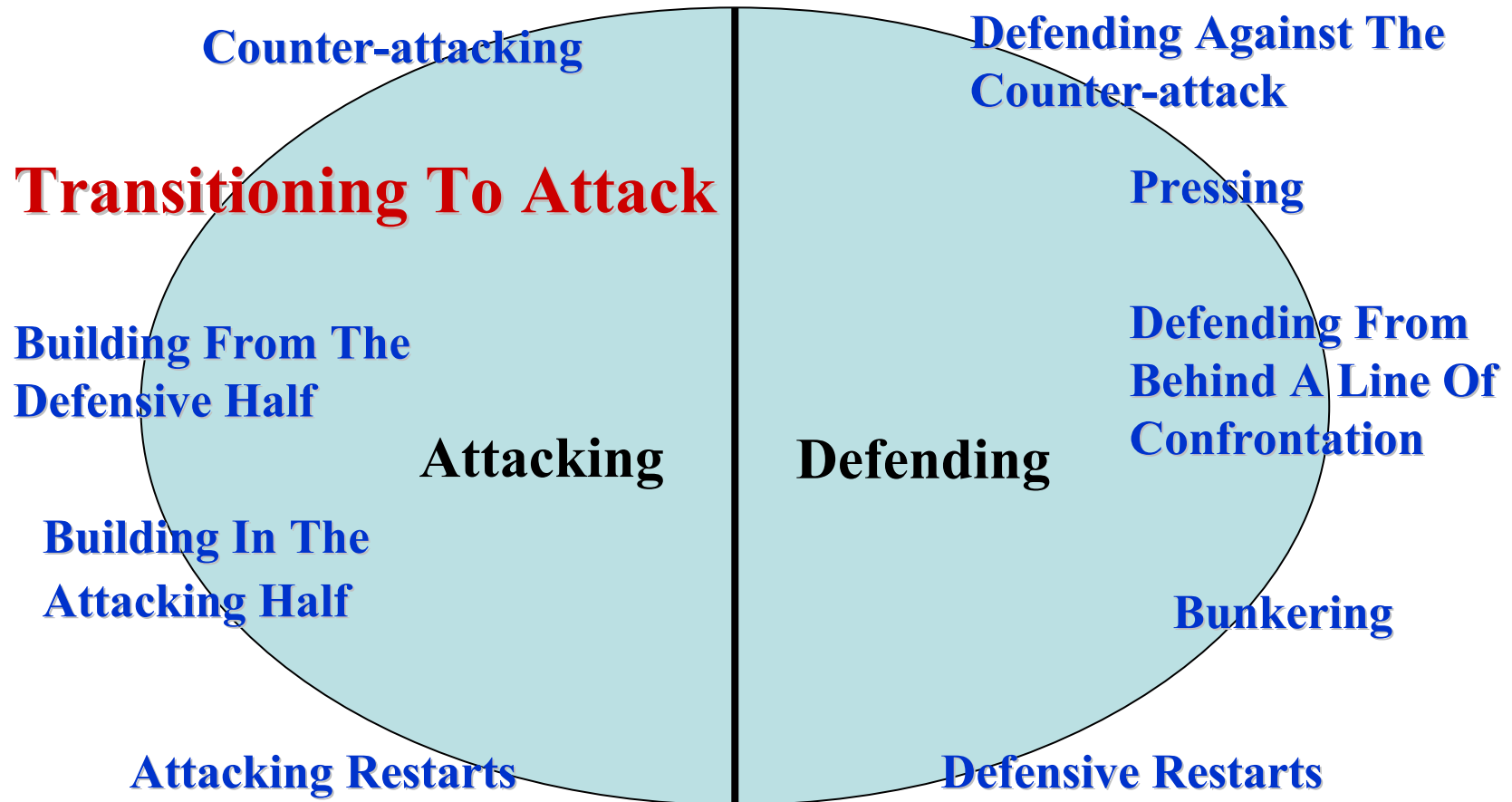


Counter-Attacking





Phases of Play





Phases of Play

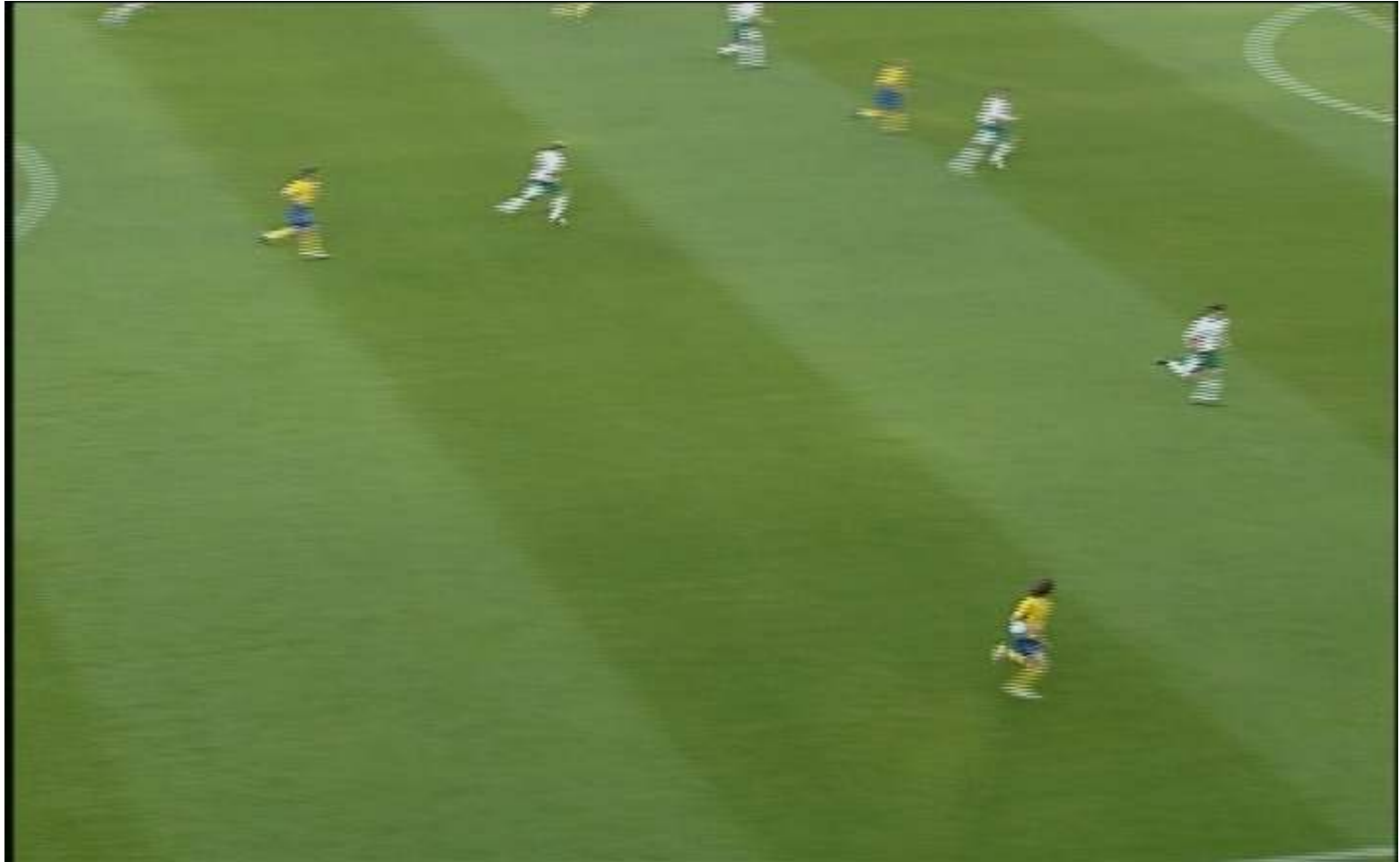
Transitioning To Attack

- 1. Space to Attack the Goal is Available.**
- 2. Speed of “Positive” Play Increases.**
- 3. May Follow a Positive Turn-Over (Counter-Attack); a Build-Up from the Defensive Half; or a Build-Up in the Attacking Half.**
- 4. Any Player can Initiate an “Attack”.**
- 5. “Attacking” Can Start in Either Half.**
- 6. Can be Signaled by a Long Pass, a Penetrating Pass, a Series of Short Passes, a Dribble, or a Shot.**
- 7. Organization of Team “Behind” the Counter is Important**



Transitioning to Attack

Flank Attack





Transitioning to Attack Beating An Offside Line





Transitioning to Attack

Flank Attack

FIFA Women's World Cup
USA
2003

GROUP C

GERMANY
V
CANADA

Birgit Prinz
Germany



Transitioning to Attack

Center Channel Combinations





Transitioning To Attack

Playing to a Target





Phases of Play





Phases of Play

Building From The Defensive Half

- 1. Primary Objective is to Create Forward Passing or Dribbling Options.**
- 2. Secondary Objective is to Create Time and Space to Organize the Team for the Build-up.**
- 3. May or May Not Include the Goalkeeper.**
- 4. Opponents May be Dropping Off or Pressing. (Tactical Cues)**
- 5. May Include the Natural Involvement of the Back Line in Ball Circulation.**
- 6. Can Change to "Attacking" at any Moment.**
- 7. Definition of Roles and Creation of Space Critical to Success.**



Building from the Defensive Half

Purposeful Ball Circulation





Building from the Defensive Half

Simple Build-up





Building from the Defensive Half

Simple Build-up





Building from the Defensive Half *Outside Defender in Attack*



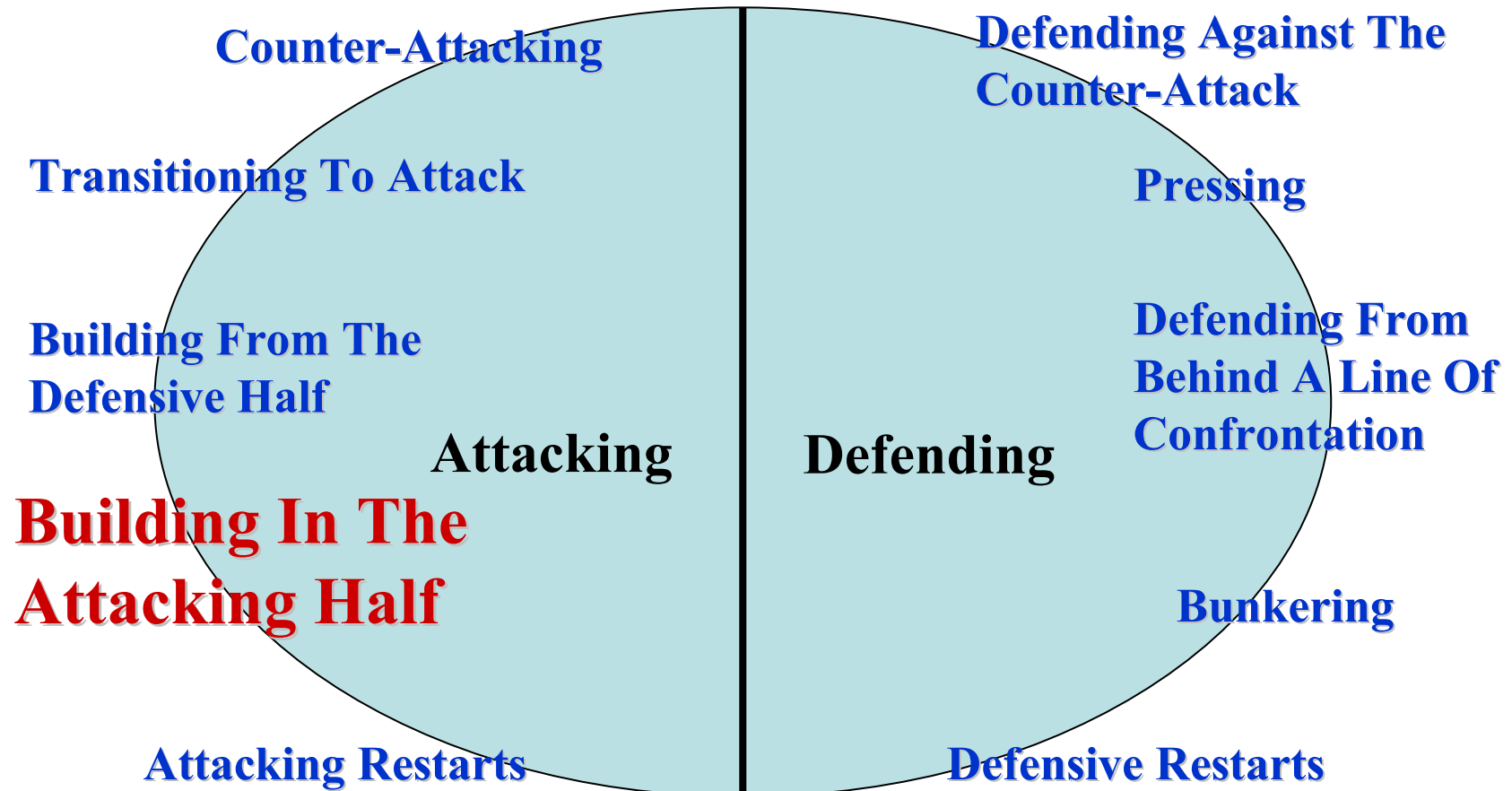


Building from the Defensive Half Outside Defender in Attack





Phases of Play





Phases of Play

Building In The Attacking Half

- 1. Most Demanding Phase of Play:
Most Possessions End in Failure!**
- 2. Opponents may have Eleven Players
Behind The Ball.**
- 3. Individual Vision and Technical
Range Challenged.**
- 4. Premium on Individual and
Collective Creativity.**
- 5. Chances can be Created by
Dribbling, Passing, Shooting, and
Combining.**
- 6. “Changes of Pace” More Important
than Overall Speed of Play.**
- 7. Movement of Off-Ball Players is a
Critical Factor.**
- 8. Ability to Create and Use Space is a
Critical Factor.**



Building in the Attacking Half

Most Possessions End in Failure!





Building in the Attacking Half

Center Channel Build-up

FIFA Women's World Cup
USA
2003

GROUP C

ARGENTINA

Maren Meinert
Germany

14



Building in the Attacking Half

Outside Midfielder in the Attack





Building in the Attacking Half

Center Channel Build-up





Building in the Attacking Half

Center Chanel Build-up





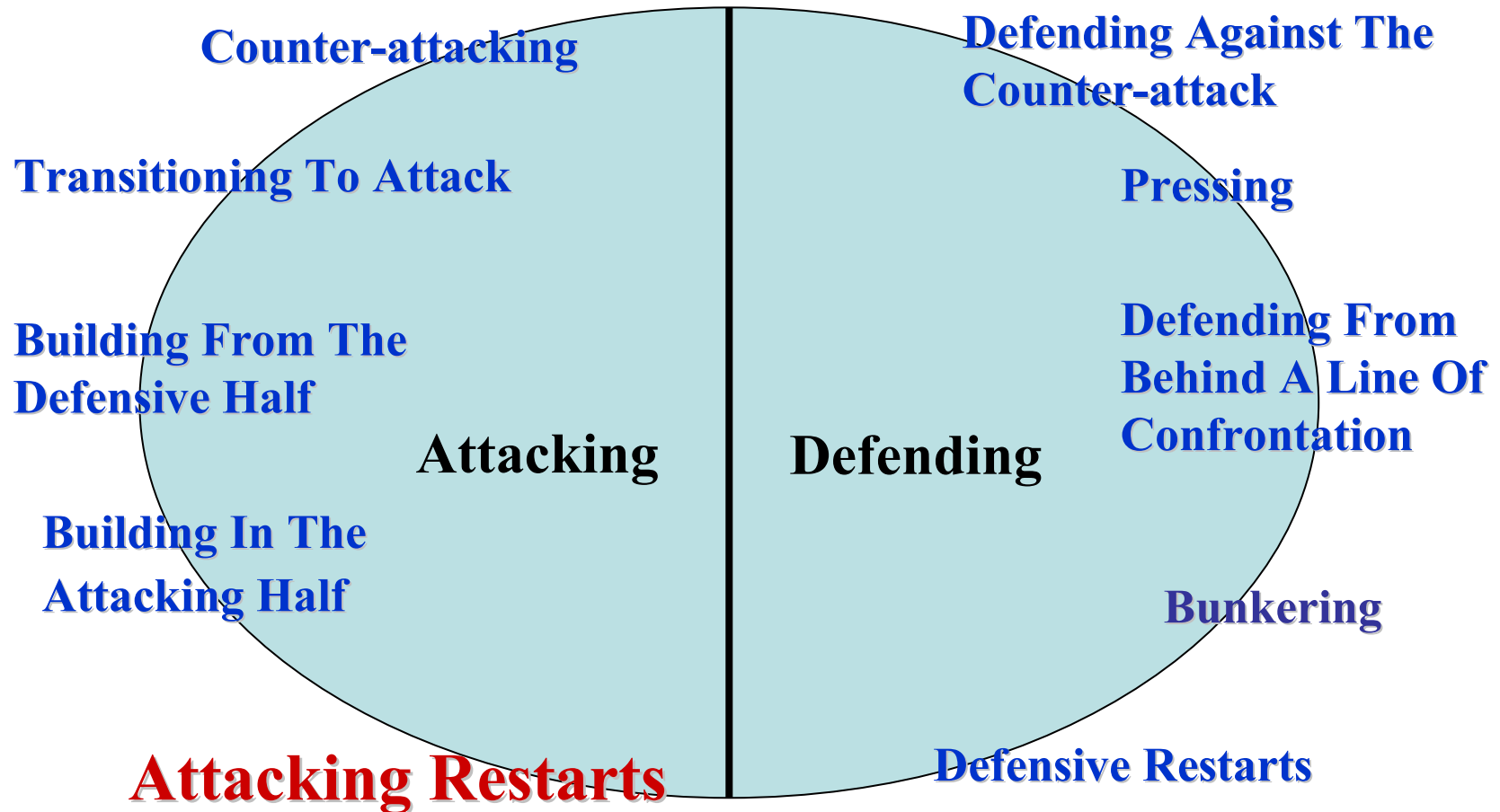
Building in the Attacking Half

Outside Defender in the Attack



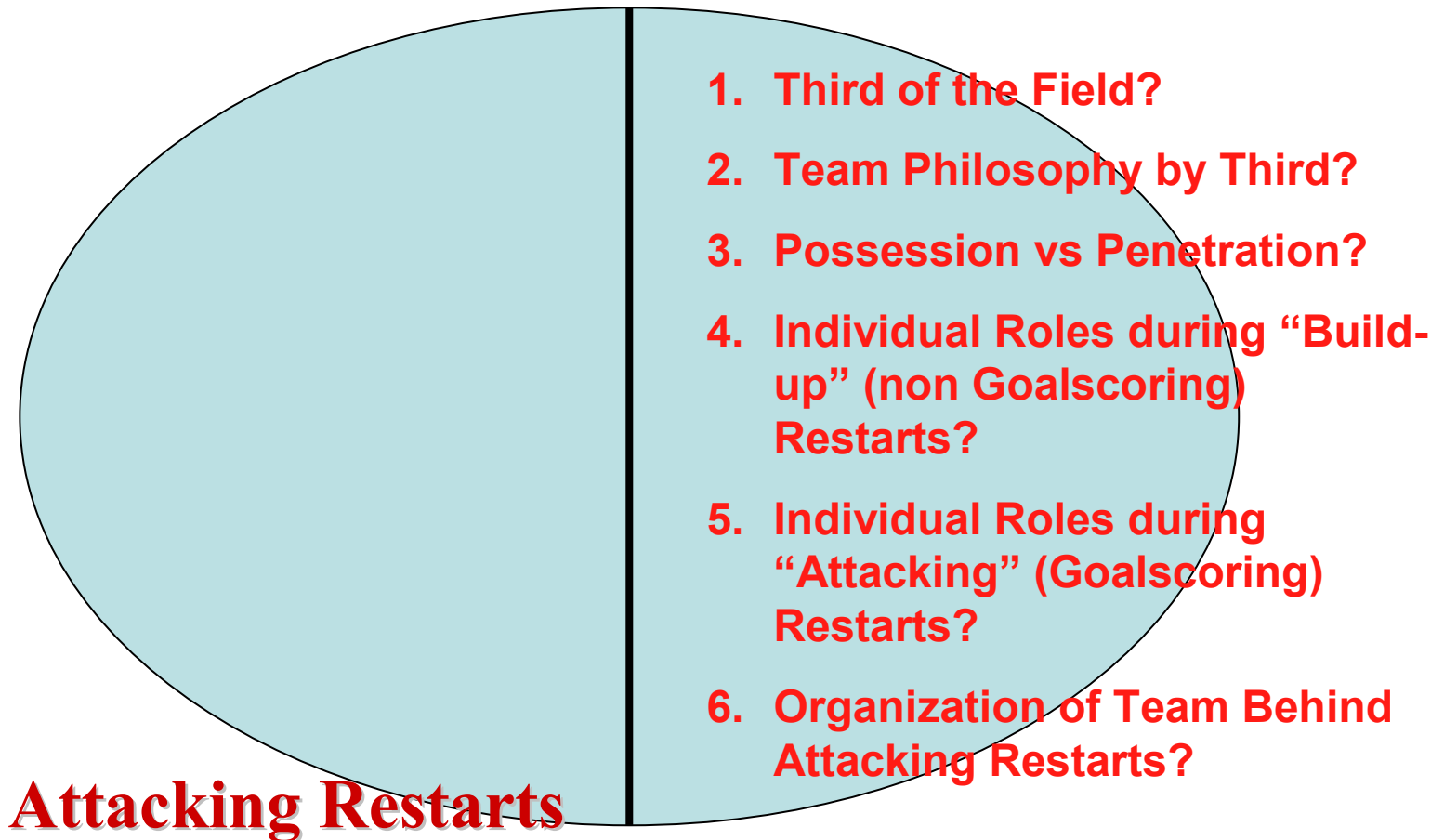


Phases of Play



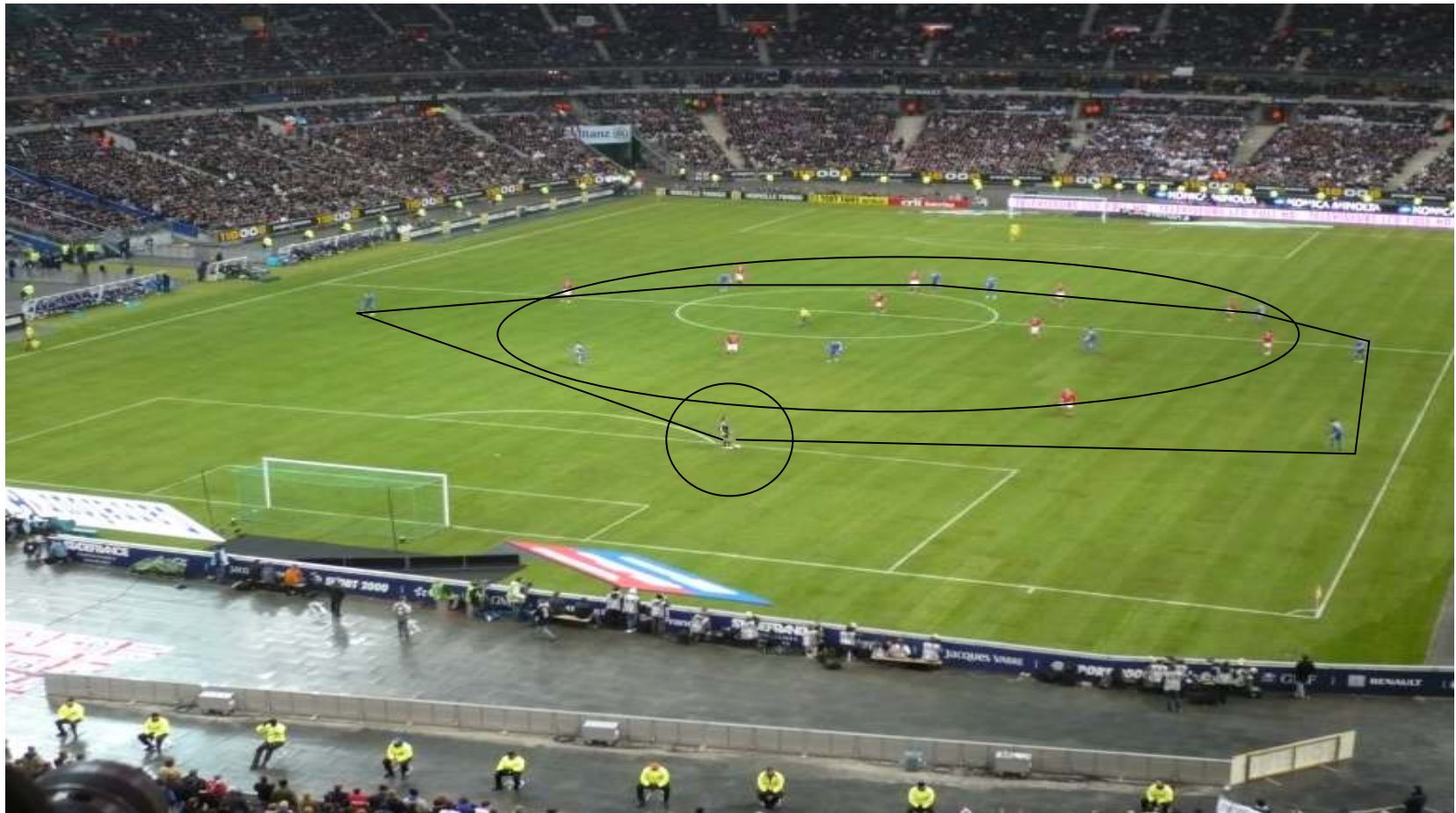


Phases of Play





Goalkeeper Possession

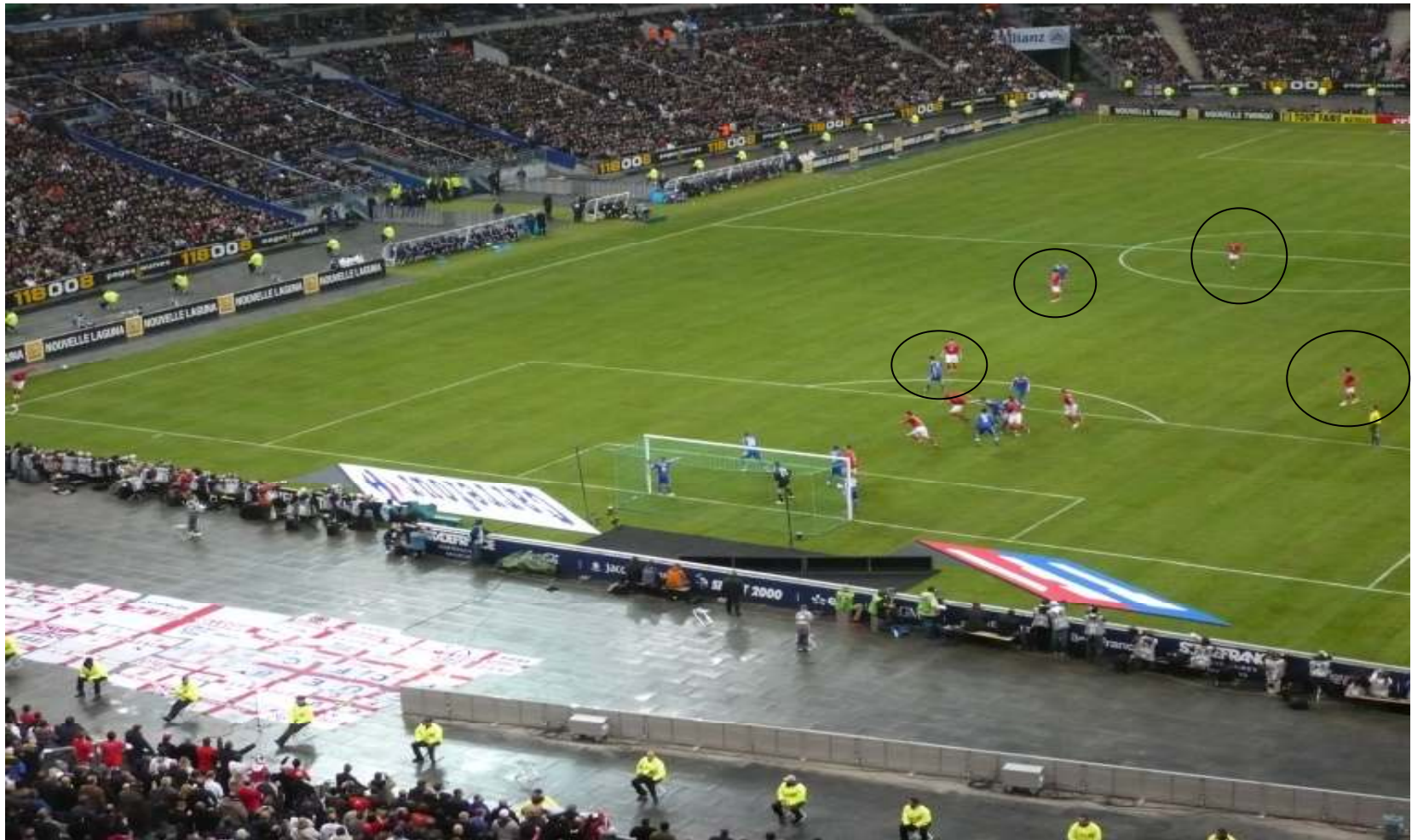




Goal Kicks



Corner Kicks

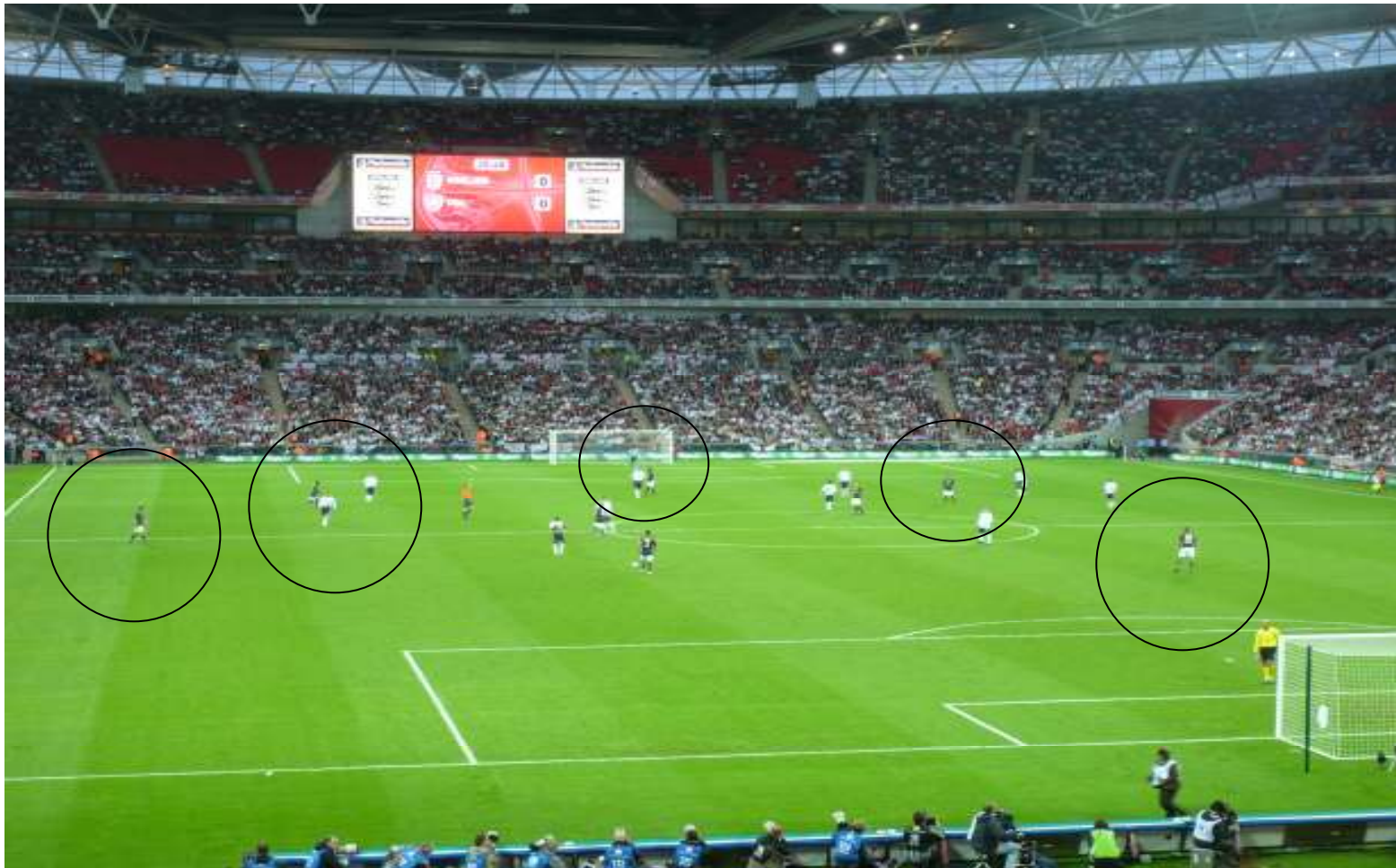




Free Kicks: Shooting



Free Kicks: Non-shooting





Throw-ins: Attacking Half

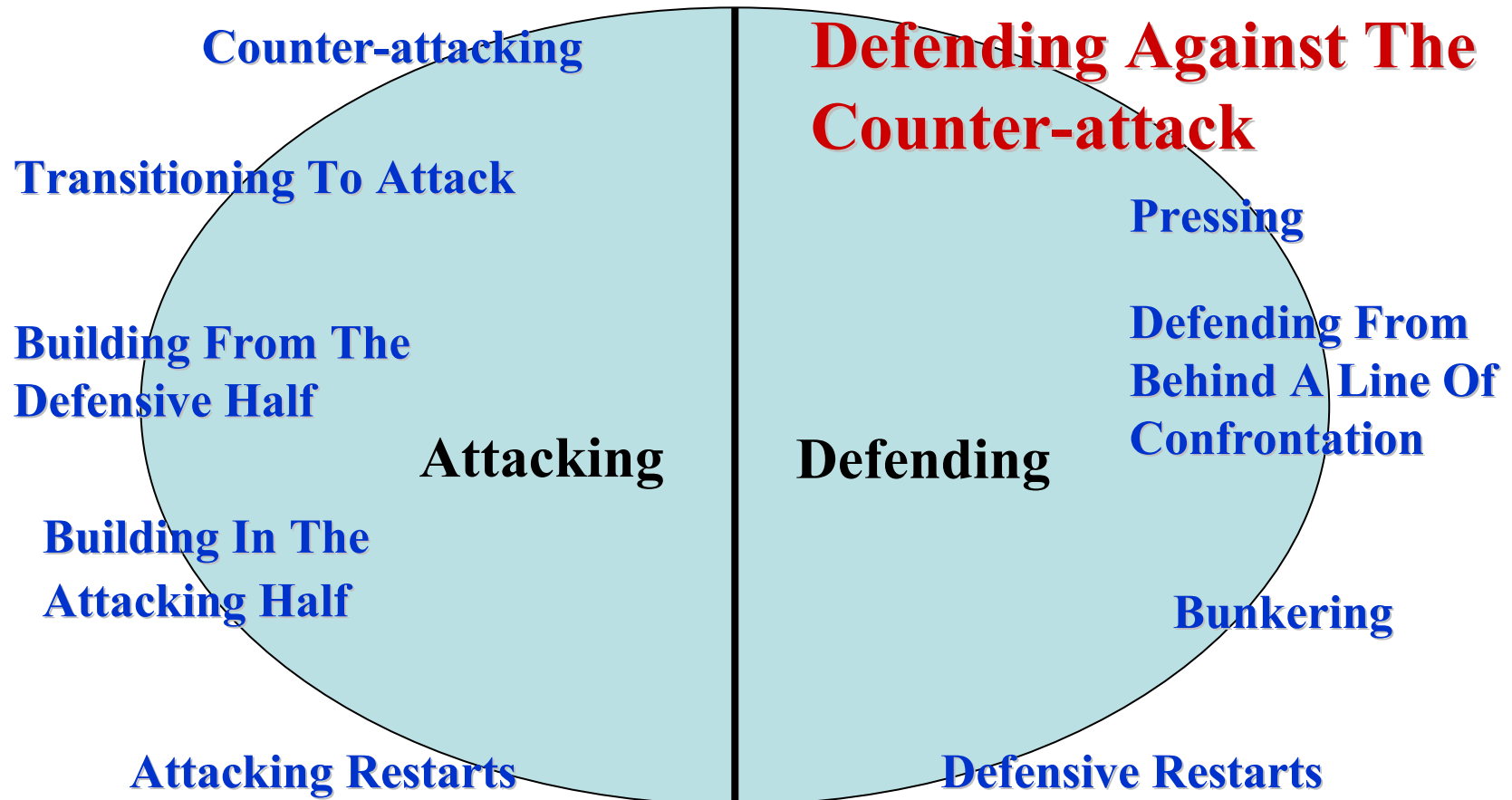




Throw-ins: Defending Half



Phases of Play





Phases of Play

- 1. Immediate Role of Closest Defender(s): Slow the Attack!**
- 2. Decision to Press or Drop Back based on Immediate Tactical Situation, Time, Score, and Overall Match Situation.**
- 3. Re-organization of the Defensive Group and Block (#'s) Critical to Overall Success.**
- 4. Role of Back Line and the Goalkeeper in Defending Offside Space Also Important.**

Defending Against The Counter-attack



Defending vs. Counter-Attack



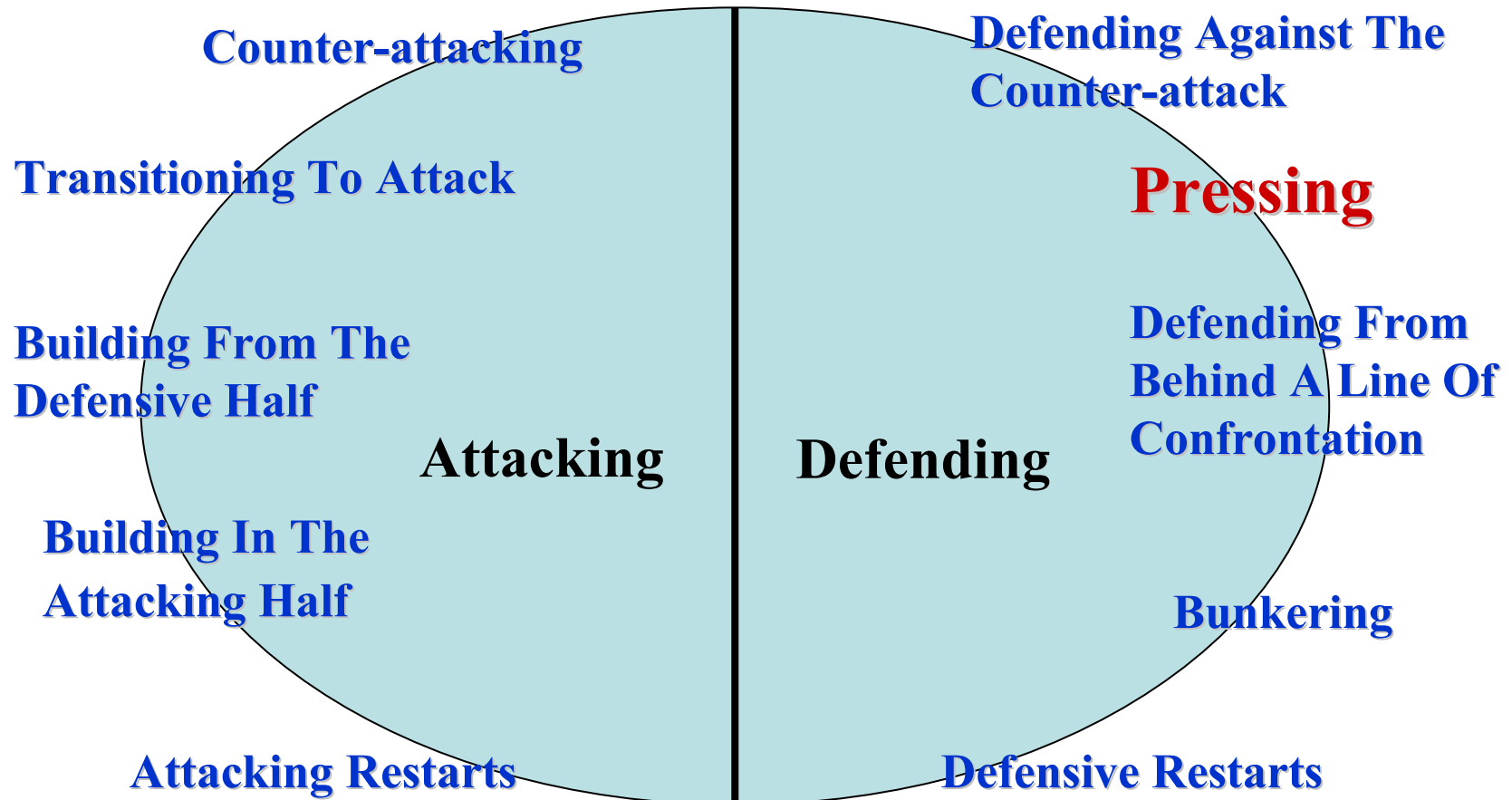


Defending vs. Counter-Attack





Phases of Play





Phases of Play

- 1. Reading the Tactical Cues
Critical for Success.**
- 2. Block Moves Ball-ward.**
- 3. Ball Winning vs. Channeling
Play.**
- 4. Contingency for Deeper Re-
organization?**
- 5. Use of Offside Space?**
- 6. Goalkeeper's Role?**

Pressing



Pressing – Center





Pressing - Center

FIFA Women's World Cup
USA
2003

GROUP C

GERMANY
V
JAPAN

Birgit Prinz
Germany

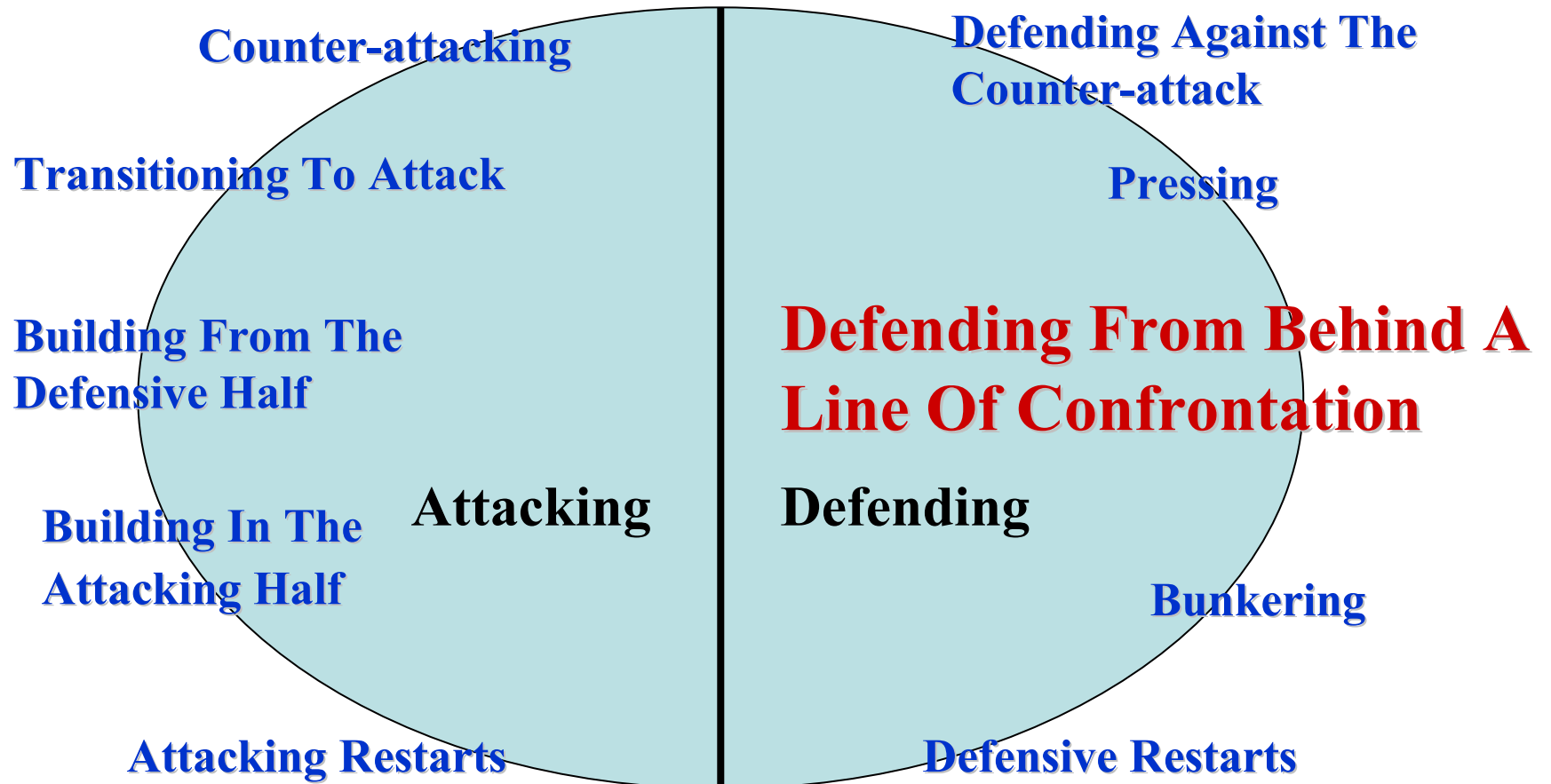


Pressing – Flank





Phases of Play





Phases of Play

- 1. Why Drop Off?**
- 2. When to Start Defending?**
- 3. Move the Block Ball-ward.**
- 4. Use of Offside Space?**
- 5. Transition Shape in Attack?**

**Defending From Behind A
Line Of Confrontation**



Defending from Behind a High Line of Confrontation



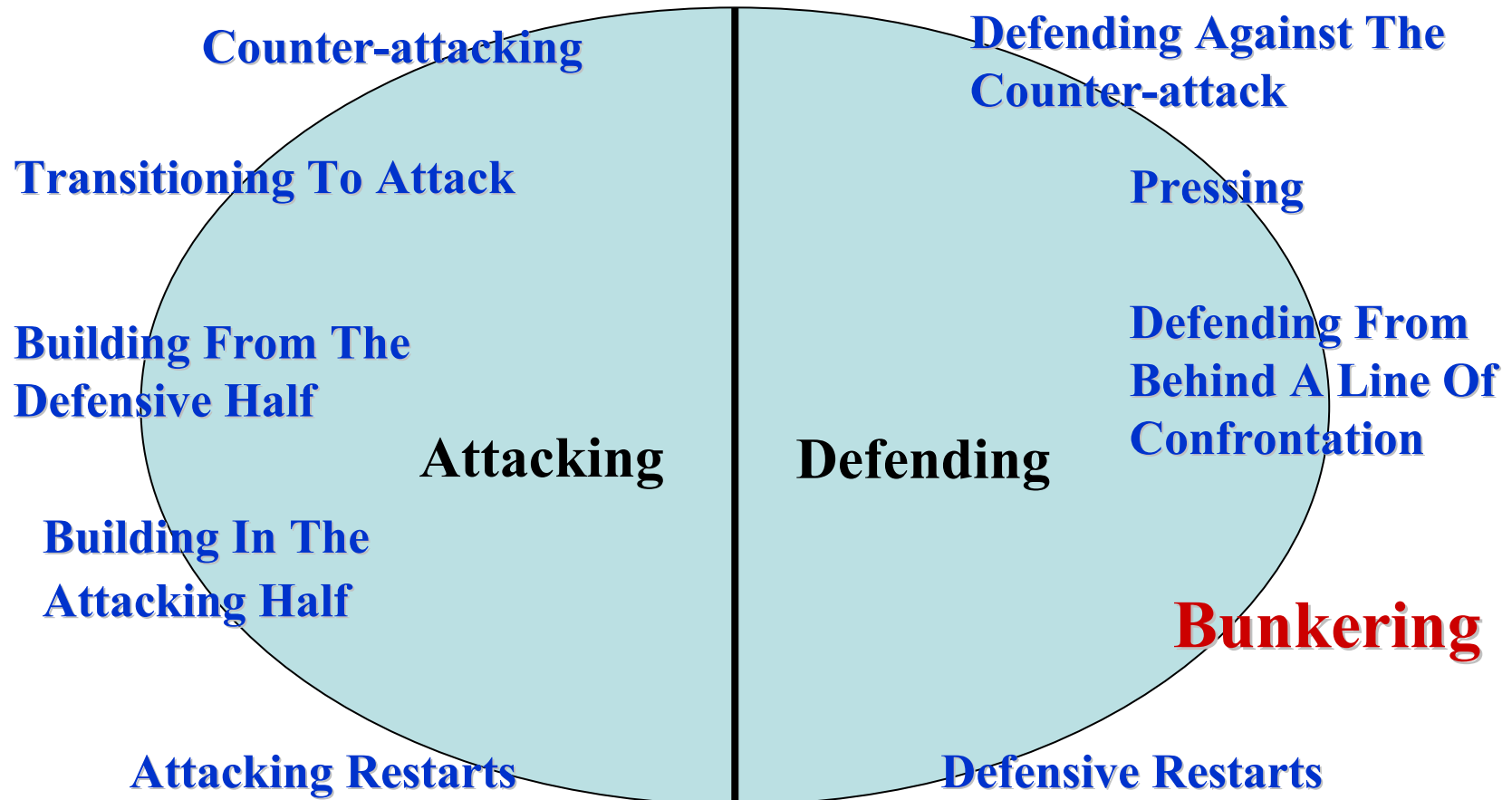


Defending from Behind a Deep Line of Confrontation





Phases of Play





Phases of Play

- 1. Natural Phase of Play:
Everyone Has to Bunker.**
- 2. Time, Score, Match Situation,
Team Quality Issues
Determine Volume of Use.**
- 3. Objective: Prevent Goal
Chances (Primarily Shots and
Crosses).**
- 4. Clog Passing Lanes.**
- 5. Track Runners.**
- 6. Organize Defense Behind any
Counters.**

Bunkering



Bunkering (Unsuccessfully)



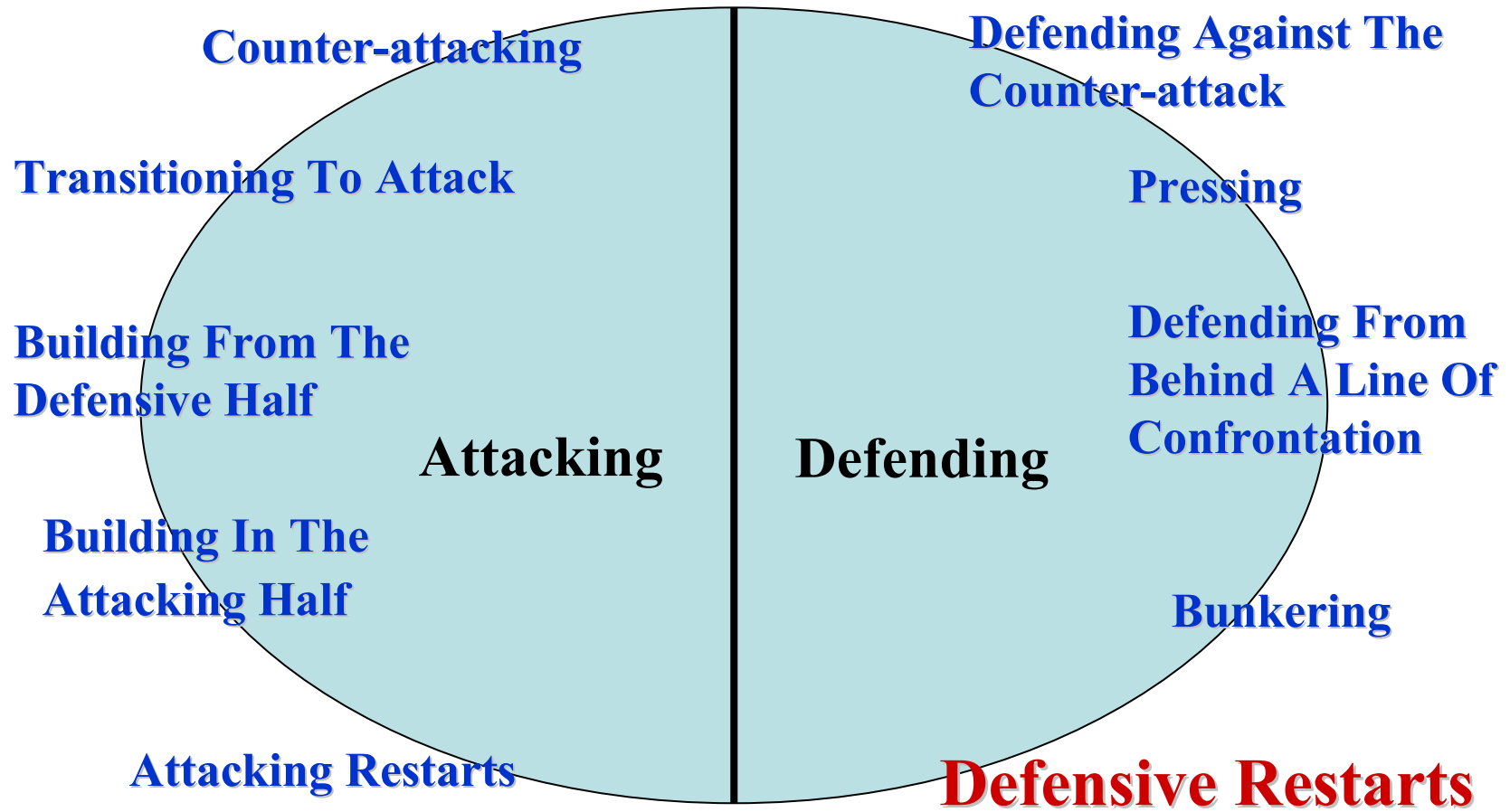


Bunkering (Successfully)





Phases of Play





Phases of Play

- 1. Third of the Field?**
- 2. Eliminate Easy Penetration Options.**
- 3. Organize Defenders in Dangerous Attacking Spaces.**
- 4. Individual Match-ups?**
- 5. Preparation for Counter-Attack: All 11 Back?**

Defensive Restarts



Goal Kicks





Goal Kicks





Corner Kicks





Free Kicks: Shooting





Free Kicks: Non-shooting



GK Possession: Pressing





Throw-ins: Defending Half



Throw-ins: Attacking Half



Part II
Applications for Training