



## Article

# Strategic Understandings: An Investigation of Professional Academy Youth Soccer Coaches' Interpretation, Knowledge, and Application of Game Strategies

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Table 4

*Themes Generated from Data Analysis*

<b>Higher order theme</b>	<b>Lower order theme</b>	<b>Exemplar</b>
Maintaining control of the game	Playing in a style that represents identity of soccer club	We'd prefer to lose and maintain our way of playing, than win and play differently
	Using game plans	The coaches talk together before the match to devise a Plan A
Players as problem solvers	Game management	We help the players to learn how to recognize the state of the game
	Dealing with change	The game is always changing, so the players need to realize this and adapt
Player reflection	Reflecting on and in performance	Some players understand they need to watch game footage back afterwards to reflect on their performance
	Having a why behind game actions	I'm not sure how consistently players could tell you why they make a certain decision in game play
Individuals within a team	Playing to strengths	Using each other's strengths to outwit the opponent is part of the game
	Recognizing opportunities to practice individual targets	Individuals are challenged, whilst being aware of the overall team performance