FLEXIBILITY, BALANCE AND COORDINATION

Shannon Schafer Schafer Sports Center

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Flexibility

 Flexibility is the range of motion in a joint or group of joints, or the ability to move joints effectively

Why is Flexibility Important?

- Decreased risk of injury
- It allows for better posture
- Less muscle soreness after workout
- Improved range of motion
- Improved performance

Balance

- An even distribution of weight enabling someone to remain upright and steady
- In other words, it's the ability to maintain controlled body positions with control while performing tasks (static or dynamic)
- A static movement could be "standing on one foot"
- A dynamic movement could be " standing on one foot and hopping"

The Importance of Good Balance

- Allows control of your body position, whether you are moving or remaining still
- Improves your sport performance
- Improves your posture
- Increases agility

Coordination

- The ability to use different parts of your body together smoothly and efficiently
- Simply, being able to activate the right muscles in the right amounts to move or not move in exactly the way you want or need to

How To Develop Coordination

- Body Awareness: understanding your body's movements
- Eye-Hand Coordination
- Muscular Strength: the ability to exert force against resistance
- Muscular Endurance: ability of muscles to exert force repeatedly against resistance
- Isolated Movement: ability to move an arm or leg while keeping the remainder of the body still
- Attention and concentration: The ability to maintain attention to a specific task for an extended period of time

Why Are These Skills Important For Our Athletes?

- Helps Improve Abilities in Sports
- Decreases Injury
- Improves Self Regulation for Daily Tasks
- Improved Posture
- Spatial Awareness Is Enhanced
- Stronger Trunk Control
- Improved Motor Planning

What Can we do to help our Athletes improve Flexibility, Coordination & Balance

- Add a couple of simple stretches to each workout
- A Hamstring Stretch (straight legs reaching for toes)
- A Groin Stretch (butterfly stretch)
- A Hip Stretch
- Have Your Athlete Walk on Unstable Surfaces
- Incorporate Simple Lateral Movements
- Core and Trunk Conditioning
- Eye-Hand Coordination Drills
- Midline Drills That Cross The Body