



## **Midfield Structure :**

### *The Loner :*

Zone 14 patrol: Dominating the space between midfield and defense.

Triggering presses: Directing the B2B midfielders to swarm opponents in possession.

Diagonal switches: Spraying long balls to RAM/LAM when counterattacking.

### *Double #8s (Box-to-Box) :*

Right #8: The carrier — drives forward with the ball, links with RAM.

Left #8: The spoiler — hunts turnovers, recycles possession to LAM.

Rotations: During build-up, the left #8 drops deep to form a double pivot, while the right #8 pushes up to overload the right half-space.

## **Attacking Structure :**

### *The Pest /Striker :*

Role: Blocks central passes, then sprints into the box for cutbacks.

Target: Occupies both CBs to free space for LAM's diagonal runs.

### *The Direct /LAM :*

Stands in free space between their RB and CB. Hugs inside to collect defenders , then darts outside to stretch play.

Acts as the counterattack outlet for long balls from the CDM.

### *Ehh Banange /RAM :*

Starts centrally and plays in spaces to receive underlapping passes from the #8s.

Cuts inside to shoot or cross (right-footed on left to prioritise curling efforts).

## **Aspects of Play :**

### **Build-Up:**

3+1 Rule: Only 3 short passes allowed in defense before a vertical ball is played.

False Width Creation:

LAM/RAM start narrow, baiting opposition fullbacks to press inward.

Suddenly, one AM sprints wide, dragging a defender and opening a central lane.

### **Attacking Phase:**

The Carrier #8 + Ehh Banange combine in intricate triangles to implement third-man runs..

Spoiler #8 overlaps Direckt to create a 2v1 on the flank with more of asymmetry format.

Crossing Hierarchy:

Low cutbacks (65%), far-post lofted crosses (25%), near-post bullets (10%).

### **Transitions:**

*5-Second Rule:* If possession is lost, all 10 outfield players must regain their defensive shape within 5 seconds.

*Counterattack Triggers:* CDM immediately looks for RAM's diagonal run or striker's flick-on.

### **Weaknesses & Solutions:**

#### ***Vulnerability to Direct Long Balls:***

**Issue:** A static high line risks being exploited by pacey strikers.

**Solution:** We will implement a "false retreat" trigger: if the opponent's GK/callback receives under pressure, the back 4 drops 5 meters temporarily.

*"Out of fear for the striker, the defenders dropped deep. The midfield collapsed. The team lost. Even the winger, who stayed wide, suffered"*