



Academy Terminology - Explained

A lot of the feedback from the coaches during the carnival and in your exit interviews would have contained the following terminology. It can be difficult to determine exactly what is meant by each term so I have attempted to define each of these common football expressions in greater detail below.

Footy Smarts

Can be defined as an understanding and awareness of the developing game and can include the following;

- Reading the play: Offensively; knowing **where** and **when** to move when your team is in possession or about to take possession. Defensively; covering the player in the most dangerous position or moving to where the ball is most likely to go that will most hurt your team.
- Finding space: Identifying and moving to a part of the ground to command the football in an offensive position.
- Decision making under pressure; finding the best option under time and physical constraint.
- Running patterns in ensuring you're not cutting off your teammates space/lead, zonal marking at stoppages, drawing opponents to create space behind you

Goal sense

Goal sense can be defined as having an excellent understanding of your positioning within the forward 50 and knowing when, and what your capabilities are in shooting for goal.

Vision

A player with vision has an elite understanding of how the game is unfolding in real time, accompanied by exceptional decision making under pressure.

Skills

Hitting targets by hand or foot

Evasive Skills

Navigating the traffic around a contested football and being able to avoid the tackler.