



23rd December 2023

54 Highfields Manor
Usworth
Washington
Tyne & Wear
NE37 1ER

Reference – Joe Eason

I have known Joe for over 11 years, first meeting him at the age of 4, when he started attending my sessions at Brazilian Soccer Schools Sunderland and during that time I have grown to know Joe not only as a footballer but also as a person.

Work rate/Physicality

Joe is an incredibly hard working young man who is always willing to push himself to his limits, but also strives to help everyone he works with, making him an excellent team player. Over the years Joe has always been extremely fit, with incredible stamina, however, he has now developed into an extremely quick, strong and physical athlete. This allows him to not only cover huge distances during games, but also dominate physically due to his height, pace and strength.

Mentality

This was one area that Joe would often struggle with when he was young, as I would class him as somewhat of a perfectionist, which would sometimes lead to him not dealing with failure in the moment, however, what could be perceived as a weakness was also an incredible strength, as this would be a driving force behind his desire to improve and constantly be better. During our sessions, we focus a lot on technical development and practicing ball mastery skills, which Joe has always excelled in, however, there were times when he couldn't perform a skill to the high standards he would set, he would lose his cool and get frustrated, but this would also push him on and he would practice at home until he could perform whatever skill we had been working on.

As he has grown and matured he no longer has these outbursts of frustration and has the ability to control his emotions, using the desire to get things right to great effect and pushes himself harder during training sessions and games. If he makes a mistake in games now he doesn't get overawed and will quickly put it behind him.

Technical

From a technical aspect I can't speak highly enough of Joe and would say this is his outstanding attribute. Superb with both right and left foot in terms of close ball control, first touch and short passing. The level of ball control Joe has developed over his 11 years with us at Brazilian Soccer Schools has given him superb awareness and vision, as he has the ability to play with head up and scan the pitch both with and without the ball, which allows him to take up excellent positions to receive passes from team mates, but also make good decisions with the ball.

Joe's ability with ball at his feet has given him great confidence and calmness in possession. He is very rarely flustered when under pressure and is able to turn away from defenders, protecting the ball, with great ease, as well as being able to drive forwards into space with the ability to beat defenders in 1 vs 1 situations.



His passing is very accurate, having the ability to play short passes in tight areas, as well as often switching the play to help form another attack on the opposite side of the pitch. This could be done using either foot.

As well as being comfortable with both right and left foot, Joe is also very adept with all surfaces of the foot, in terms of ball control, dribbling and passing.

Tactical

Joe is a very intelligent young man, meaning he is very quick to learn. His positional play is very good, but with help could follow and carry out instructions to play in many different roles, especially through the middle as any type of midfielder. Although I believe his best position is a box to box midfielder, he has all the attributes to play in defence as well, as a ball playing centre back, although I do feel his vision and creativity, as well as his physical presence would be missed further forwards.

Personal

From a personal point of view it has been a pleasure to get to know Joe over the last 11 years and I really do believe he has the potential to play to a very high level. He has the passion, desire and work rate that any team would love to have, but he is also a very pleasant and caring person who would do anything and everything to help those around him.

I am extremely confident that Joe would be an incredible asset to any team.

I would be happy to discuss things further should you require any more information.

Yours Sincerely,

Mark Hodgson

Brazilian Soccer Schools Sunderland & Hartlepool

Head Coach