Speedball

Speedball is an invasion game that combines the skills used in basketball, football and soccer. For this presentation we will take out the basketball scoring phase. Traditionally it is played outdoors on a soccer field. The game can be modified for indoor play on a basketball court adding shooting into the goal as another method of scoring. The object of the game is for a team to move the ball (soccer ball) down field into the opposing team’s territory and score a goal in one of two different ways. The ball may be kicked into a soccer goal or passed into the end zone.

In speedball, the ball can be played in the air (similar to passing in basketball or football) or on the ground as in soccer. A ball caught in the air off the foot of another player or by converting the ball from the ground to the air by oneself is played in the air until or unless the ball touches the ground. Once the ball touches the ground, all soccer skills apply to moving the ball. Play starts with a jump ball (as in basketball). After a score, the opposing team gets the ball at half field or half court for a kick off, similar to soccer.

A player may dribble the ball with the feet as in soccer. Once the ball is converted to an aerial ball, a player may use one ‘air dribble’ to self before passing to another player. When catching an aerial pass on the move, a player may take two steps before passing to a teammate. There is typically a time limit for possession of an aerial ball before passing or shooting (e.g. 3 seconds).

Today’s scoring will be as follows:

- Drop Kick – 2 points
- Touchdown – 1 point

However, the scoring can be adjusted to suit the players and playing conditions. For example, when playing indoors, the number of players per team would be reduced to five or six and the drop kick would be replaced by a set shot or lay-up.