

E21 - Tokyo Metropolis League Match 8 - Tokyo Musashino Football Club Youths

Source: [Crunchyroll](#)

Translator:

Editor:

Timer:

QC:

(Please feel free to edit the speaker names if incomplete or inaccurate. Names are handled on a best-effort basis depending on the info on the source file. Dialogue is left as is.)

[00:03] Satake

Satake Koji. I'm looking forward to our game today.

[00:07] Date

Date Nozomi. I don't think we've met, so nice to meet you.

[00:12] Satake

You were the type of midfielder I loved, back when you were playing.

[00:17] Satake

A calm, intelligent playmaker.

[00:20] Date

It's embarrassing when people talk about my playing days.

[00:24] Date

Were you a J.Leaguer, too?

[00:26] Satake

I only played a handful of games in J3.

[00:29] Date

Still, you've built a wonderful team here.

[00:33] Date

They were lesser-known players in their age group, but they've grown so much.

[00:38] Satake

Well, I guess you could say I know how people who don't have "it" feel.

[00:44] Satake

I know it well.

[00:49] Mitsuya

Tachibana!

[00:52] Tachibana

You guys!

[00:54] Mitsuya

Man, you could've visited us every now and again. You're playing today, right?

[00:58] Tachibana

Yeah. I'm looking forward to it.

[01:00] Mitsuya

I'm glad to see you looking so well.

[01:05] Mitsuya

Anyway, is everything okay with your team?

[01:10] Mitsuya

I've never seen a team look so tense while warming up.

[01:31] Referee

Warm-up over!

[01:34] Referee

Both teams, please return to your locker rooms.

[01:41] Takeshima

Sorry, guys.

[01:44] Takeshima

I'm gonna take off with her for ten minutes.

[01:49] Masuko

Wh-What the heck is Takeshima up to at a time like this?

[01:53] Ohtomo

He really just left.

[01:56] Masuko

What can you even do in ten minutes?

[01:56] Sign

Imagination

[01:56] Sign

Imagination

[01:56] Sign

Imagination

[01:56] Sign

Imagination

[03:30] Tsukishima

Why's everyone so tense?

[03:31] Sign

Tokyo Metropolis League Match 8 — Tokyo Musashino Football Club Youths

[03:33] Tsukishima

It's rare to see you looking this nervous.

[03:37] Tsukishima

Anyway, use the countermeasure we've been working on this past week from the get-go.

[03:42] Tsukishima

It'd be a shame if you were too tense

to put all that hard work to good use.

[03:46] Tsukishima

You're better individually than them.

Don't forget that, okay?

[03:50] Fujimiya/I

No. Don't say that*, Tsukishima-san.

[03:53] Sugawara/I

That "pep talk" will have the opposite effect.

[03:55] Ohtomo

It's because we're better individually
that we fear what it'll mean if we lose!

[04:06] Togashi

As usual, all of ya are incompetent.

[04:11] Tachibana

H-Hey, everyone. Please listen to me—

[04:17] Takeshima

Sorry for taking so long.

[04:24] Takeshima

Thanks, Tae. Like barber, like daughter, eh?

[04:29] Asari

T-Takeshima, what happened to your hair?

[04:33] Takeshima

If you have a red pompadour, it's tradition
to psych yourself up by shaving your head.

[04:39] Takeshima

How do I look?

[04:46] Masuko

To psych yourself up?

Right before the game? Are you serious?

[04:52] Takeshima

Seeing those pitiful looks
on your faces, I had to.

[04:56] Takeshima

I wanted to psych all of you
up too, not just myself.

[05:02] Tachibana

Takeshima's right.

[05:03] Tachibana

We've done all we can, haven't we?

[05:06] Tachibana

We're way below Musashino in the league.
That makes us the underdogs.

[05:11] Tachibana

Let's leave our stupid pride
behind and give it all we got!

[05:14] Roan

Yeah! Let's do this!

[05:16] Masuko

Bring it on!

[05:19] Ashito

*Togashi. What you said back
when you were on the junior team...*

[05:23] Ashito

*You weren't in the wrong at all.
Like you said, winning's the priority.*

[05:29] Ashito

*That's right. If we don't win,
then neither of you are right.*

[05:35] Ashito

So with that said, let's go win!

[05:40] Sign (Top)

Musashino Youth

[05:40] Sign (Bottom)

Esperion B

[05:53] Kaneda

*I've been waiting for
this moment for so long.*

[06:08] Sugawara

*We'll kick the Musashino countermeasure
into full gear from kickoff, okay?*

[06:13] Sugawara

Look at the Musashino players.

[06:16] Sugawara

They're all familiar faces, aren't they?

[06:18] Sugawara

*We've been showing them how much better
than them we are since we were small.*

[06:22] Sugawara

*If we play our usual game,
there's no way we will lose!*

[06:25] Esperion B Players

Yeah!

[06:32] Kaneko

There it is! The high press!

[06:44] Sugawara

Quick! Over here!

[06:49] Muto/I

He rushed him just to play it backwards?

[06:52] Muto

Put some pressure on him!

[06:57] Miyako

All the Esperion players are so good.

[06:59] Kaneko

Aren't they just?

[07:01] Miyako

But their play is so one-note. They're just hitting long balls. Is that on purpose?

[07:07] Takeshima

Aoi! It's coming your way!

[07:09] (Flashback) Date

Yes, our only advantage is how technically skilled we are individually.

[07:15] (Flashback) Date

If we utilize that fully,

[07:17] (Flashback) Date

a simple tactic will work wonders against Musashino's high press soccer.

[07:23] (Flashback) Date

To make it work, brush up on your long ball skills.

[07:29] Ashito/I

Let me be very clear...

[07:31] Ashito/I

I ain't got a lot of skills!

[07:35] Ashito/I

No matter how much I stayed behind to practice, I was still bad at it. But...*

[07:40] (Flashback) Takeshima

Verbalize everything, one long pass at a time.

[07:44] (Flashback) Tachibana

And make eye contact.

[07:45] (Flashback) Tachibana

Communicate with your eyes, then pass it. Every time.

[07:55] Ashito/I

For the sake of those guys who helped me practice it,

[07:59] Ashito/I

I've gotta make sure this long pass...

[08:02] Ashito/I

...makes it all the way through!

[08:05] (Flashback) Takeshima

Approach the ball diagonally.

[08:08] (Flashback) Roan

The toes of your planted foot should point where it's going.

[08:11] (Flashback) Tachibana

Extend your toes, lock your ankle, and...

[08:15] Ashito/I

...hit the middle of the ball

with the top of your foot.

[08:22] Kaneko

The long ball got through!

[08:23] Kaneko

He's clean through!

[08:33] Tachibana

Dammit!

[08:51] Shinagawa

Esperion's tactic today is to go direct.

[08:55] Shinagawa

They chose a style of play
that isn't so focused on possession.

[08:58] Kaneko

Going direct. It's a proven
formula against a high press.

[09:03] Anri

All of Musashino's players
contribute to the high press.

[09:07] Anri

Naturally, that creates numerous
spaces in their own half.

[09:11] Anri

So sending long balls into those spaces...

[09:16] Kaneko

Coach Nozomi had them
practicing long balls for a week.

[09:22] Kaneko

So like you pointed out, it's one-note.

[09:26] Kaneko

I'm sure a lot of teams that face
Musashino will go with this tactic.

[09:31] Kaneko

But what sets Esperion Youth apart
from those other teams is their skill.

[09:37] Takeshima

Ohtomo! Don't force it! Pass it back!

[09:44] Takeshima/I

Staying after training wasn't a bad idea.

[09:48] Takeshima/I

*It's like, by teaching it, I was talking it
through and explaining it to myself.*

[09:53] Takeshima/I

And I learned what all of them were thinking.

[09:56] Takeshima/I

Spending time together like that matters.

[10:05] Roan

I missed!

[10:07] Ashito

Don't worry about it! You'll get it next time!

[10:11] Ashito/I

*It's working! Musashino's
high press can't function!*

[10:16] Miyako

So basically, this tactic's all about making
the most of their individual skill, right?

[10:22] Kaneko

Right! For now, at least.

[10:25] Miyako

Is that all?

[10:28] Miyako

Is that all they've got?

[10:37] Kaneda

Long balls, huh?

[10:39] Kaneda

I didn't expect Esperion to fall back
on such an immature tactic.

[10:44] Kaneda

But you guys have some decent skills.
You've got a good flow going. More or less.

[10:49] Ashito

"More or less"?

[10:51] Kaneda

Go tell that lousy player
something for me. Tell him...

[10:56] Kaneda

For it to work, he needed to score.

[10:59] Kaneda

But he couldn't.

[11:01] Kaneda

After the game, he'll realize
that was the fatal blow.

[11:33] Ashito

All right!

[11:34] Ashito

Here comes today's second attempt!

[11:37] Ashito/I

But before that, I gotta make eye contact.

[11:42] Ashito/I

Hit the middle of the ball.

[11:44] Ashito/I

Hit it. Hit it.

[11:47] Ashito

Boom!

[11:50] Ashito

Bingo!

[11:51] Kuroda/I

*Nice. You picked out a
really good space, Aoi-kun!*

[11:58] Ashito

W-Wait, what?

[12:05] Ishikura

Dammit!

[12:07] Muto

Hold it!

[12:18] Tachibana/I

Togashi's pretty amazing.

[12:20] Tachibana/I

*He has a powerful kick
but also silky control.*

[12:26] Muto

Nakano!

[12:46] Ashito/I

Th-That was close.

[12:49] Ashito/I

If I hadn't brought him down...

[12:53] Ashito/I

...Kaneda totally could've scored just then.

[13:02] Mikami

Sweet! Great place for a free kick!

[13:05] Mitsuya

Plus, a yellow card for them
in the first 15 minutes!

[13:11] Ashito

Dammit. I'm so sorry.

[13:14] Ohtomo

Don't sweat it. You were trying to defend.

[13:17] Takeshima

Move more into the middle!

[13:19] Ashito/I

A-A yellow card.

[13:21] Ashito/I

Now I have to be careful.

[13:24] Ashito/I

But more importantly...

[13:26] Ashito/I

Those two long balls earlier...

[13:31] Ashito/I

*Five minutes ago,
they would've got through just fine.*

[13:35] Ashito/I

So why aren't they getting through anymore?

[13:38] Muto

They're leaving Tachibana
and their No. 12 up front.

[13:43] Muto

They want to counter with a long ball.

[13:45] Muto

Watch out for that.

[13:55] Muto

Kaneda!

[14:01] Ashito/I

What's this uneasy feeling I'm getting?

[14:05] Ashito/I

*Back then, he and Kaneda
seemed to be on bad terms.*

[14:10] Ashito/I

So what were they talking about?

[14:13] Sugawara

All right, everyone!
It's the direct approach all the way!

[14:17] Sugawara

They have no answer to our tactic!

[14:19] Sugawara

Use your technique to punch through!

[14:21] Kuroda

Just going direct won't cut it anymore.

[14:26] Ashito

Kuroda?

[14:27] Kuroda

Musashino's adjusted their
tactics in the last few minutes.

[14:31] Kuroda

In response to our direct approach,
they're waiting for us a step further back.

[14:36] Kuroda

That means their reaction time once
the ball is kicked is intentionally shorter.

[14:40] Kuroda

And every single one of them is doing that.

[14:43] Ashito

H-How did they adjust so quickly?

[14:47] Kuroda

It's their No. 10. That guy.

[14:50] Kuroda

Muto Chiaki.

[14:53] Kuroda

He's an incredible playmaker.

[14:55] Ashito

P-Playmaker?

[15:13] Sugawara

There's space out in front!
Don't let them pass into it!

[15:20] Anri

He's in no hurry.

[15:22] Anri

Instead of launching an attack, he's calming everyone down by playing back passes.

[15:27] Anri

That was also his aim earlier, when they had a free kick in front of the goal.

[15:31] Anri

It was a huge opportunity to score, but Muto went around talking to his teammates.

[15:38] Anri

He was most likely telling them about the new game plan.

[15:41] Anri

His calmness spreads through the whole team.

[15:46] Anri

He's an excellent captain and playmaker.

[15:51] Tachibana/I

We're only 17 minutes into the match.

[15:53] Asari/I

They adjusted to our strategy too quickly. Dammit!

[16:01] Satake

They're already starting to hesitate.

[16:04] Satake

But Esperion hasn't got anyone who can calm them down.

[16:10] Ashito/I

What on earth is going on?

[16:13] Ashito/I

Everyone's mood is so low.

[16:16] Ashito/I

Did you all forget what we've been working on this past week?

[16:19] Ashito/I

*Don't start doubting.
Don't doubt yourselves, guys!*

[16:22] Ashito/I

We're going to win!

[16:33] (Flashback) Muto

You don't need to go out

of your way to get the ball.

[16:36] (Flashback) Muto

They're bound to make a mistake.

[16:39] (Flashback) Muto

Make something of that one chance.

[16:43] Ashito/I

Oh, uh, a short pass, huh?

[16:46] Ashito/I

Then, we'll reset here, and...

[16:52] Kuroda

I hit it too weak!

[16:59] Takeshima/I

I won't let you get past—

[17:08] Takeshima/I

That was close.

[17:29] Ashito/I

This guy...

[17:32] Ashito/I

We can't leave him unmarked.

[17:35] Ashito/I

Kaneda...

[17:38] Ashito/I

His ball-reading skills...

[17:40] Asari/I

That reaction to a passing error was insane!

[17:43] Roan/I

His mid-range shots are crazy accurate.

He can shoot from anywhere!

[17:48] Ashito/I

One chance... One error

is all he needs to score.

[17:52] Ashito/I

As long as he's around, it's bound to happen!

[17:56] Satake

High press without hesitation.

[17:59] Satake

All players working as a single unit.

[18:01] Satake

A playmaker to coordinate them.

[18:04] Satake

A pure striker.

[18:06] Satake

We have everything Esperion doesn't.

[18:14] Ohtomo/I

We should reconsider man-marking.

[18:16] Ohtomo/I

That guy's seriously scary.

[18:20] Takeshima/I

*This is posing a problem right when
our long balls are no longer working.*

[18:25] Takeshima/I

For now, we need to rethink our marking.

[18:28] Ashito

Hey, guys!

[18:30] Ashito

Let me take care of marking Kaneda.

[18:35] Ashito

Positionally, his direct match-up is me.

[18:38] Ashito

I have to mark him—

[18:39] Kuroda

You only switched to defense recently.

[18:43] Kuroda

Do you even know how to man-mark, Aoi-kun?

[18:46] Ashito

What? Why are you objecting—

[18:48] Kuroda

Let me do it.

[18:52] Kuroda

I want to make up for my error.

[18:56] Tsukishima

Kaneda-kun has grown a lot, hasn't he?

[19:00] Tsukishima

At the tryouts last year, it was
only his aggression that stood out.

[19:05] Tsukishima

His technique and speed have improved,
but most notably, so has his core stability.

[19:10] Tsukishima

His skills have improved tremendously,
which has given him confidence.

[19:15] Tsukishima

But no need to worry.

[19:17] Tsukishima

When it comes to playing soccer,
our kids are better equipped.

[19:21] Tsukishima

I know it.

[19:23] Muto

Long ball incoming!

[19:25] Muto

Be careful!

[19:29] Muto

What?

[19:31] Mikami/I

They've adjusted their play?

[19:33] Mikami/I

*They've stopped relying on long balls
and started playing more short passes.*

[19:37] Nakano/I

Possession soccer is Esperion's specialty.

[19:41] Nakano/I

How do we want to handle this?

[19:47] Sign (Top)

Musashino Youth

[19:47] Sign (Bottom)

Esperion B

[19:48] Sakai

Saeki, incoming!

[19:49] Saeki

Got it!

[19:52] Saeki

Nakano, hit it to Kaneda!

[19:57] Kaneda

All right!

[20:06] Kaneko

That pint-sized kid's man-marking him?

[20:09] Kaneko

He might get steamrollered.

[20:12] Tsukishima

Positioning's the most important
thing in man-to-man marking.

[20:17] Tsukishima

Keep a good distance from your opponent
so you can observe his movement,

[20:22] Tsukishima

and predict his next move.

[20:25] Tsukishima

And then...

[20:26] Kuroda/I

Take the ball!

[20:32] Tsukishima

Differences in physique don't matter.

[20:34] Tsukishima

When it comes to basic skills,
Esperion players are a cut above.

[20:39] Tsukishima

Other players are adjusting now too,
by mixing in some short passes.

[20:43] Tsukishima

If they play their usual game,

there's no way we will lose to Musashino.

[20:48] Date

Tsukishima.

[20:50] Tsukishima

Hm?

[20:51] Date

You should stop trying
to play the game on paper.

[20:56] Kuroda/I

*All right! Now I can
kick-start our possession soccer.*

[21:10] Kaneko

H-He's so fast!

[21:13] Kaneko

And so's the little one who's marking him!

[21:20] Ashito

Kaneda!

[21:27] Takeshima

Pin him in there!

[21:31] Kuroda/I

Stop giving me a hard time!

[21:32] Kuroda/I

This isn't where I'm meant to be.

[21:35] Kuroda/I

I shouldn't be having to play like this!

[21:44] Kuroda/I

Good.

[21:56] Takeshima/I

Angle's too tight. It won't go in.

[22:00] Kaneda

Esperion...

[22:03] Kaneda

You pieces of shit!

[24:20] Sign

Next Episode

[24:20] Sign

Like A Demon

[24:20] Sign (Bottom)

This is a work of fiction, and bears no relation to any actual persons, organizations, or names.

[24:23] Kaneda

The next episode of *Aoashi* is:

"Like A Demon."

Revision #1

Created 2024-03-25 21:18:24 UTC by whimsee

Updated 2024-03-25 21:18:25 UTC by whimsee