

Hi there. It's Mark Renneson from Pickleball Coaching International. Thank you for making this purchase of Third Shot Development. This series of lesson plans is all about the third shot. Now, in my experience, when people think about the third shot, sometimes they assume we're talking about the third shot drop and the third shot drop is important. It's the second plan in this series, but I want to talk about plan number one first, and this is all about the third shot drive. That of course means, after you serve and the return gets hit to you, hammering that ball, hitting it low, hitting it fast. The third shot drive can be a really useful tool for causing trouble for your opponents. And honestly, if you're talking about intermediate players very often, a good third shot drive, very often a mediocre third shot drive, will cause trouble for players at the net and your players who are hitting that drive will be rewarded for it.

So it's really important that they understand the purpose of the drive, how to hit it well, and how to really think about the third shot, not just as an opportunity to hit something soft and defensive, like a drop, but an opportunity to cause trouble for the opponents. So I think you're really going to like using this lesson plan with them. I'm not going to lie, once I had a student burst into tears when I told her that she could actually play a third shot drive, that was an option. She was ready to quit pickleball because she had so much trouble with the drop. And when we opened up the drive as a possibility, she just couldn't contain herself. She burst into tears and gave me a big hug. Anyway, that's plan number one, third shot drive.

Lesson plan number two is all about the drop and your players, that's a very good chance that they are coming to you because they want to improve their third shot drop. It is a really tough shot to hit. You've got to be so precise to have the ball at just the right speed and just the right height over the net. If you fail to do that, you hit too hard or too high, gets put away as a smash from the opponents, too low or too slow, it's in the net. So you're going to use that third shot drop lesson plan, I think quite a lot.

And then finally, plan number three, third shot decision making. I love training decision making. I think it's often, under-trained coaches sometimes don't know how to do this. This is all about helping your players identify when they should hit a third shot drive and when they should hit a third shot drop. There's some nuance here, but I find using this lesson plan is really empowering for the students because they now feel like when they're out on the court, they can make good decisions themselves. And hopefully, especially with those other two lesson plans coming first, they can then implement those great decisions, right? They can execute the shots that they want. Anyway, thanks again for purchasing this series, Third Shot Development. I think you're really going to love it.