



“When we outnumber them on a 3 on 2, slow the play down if there is no back pressure”

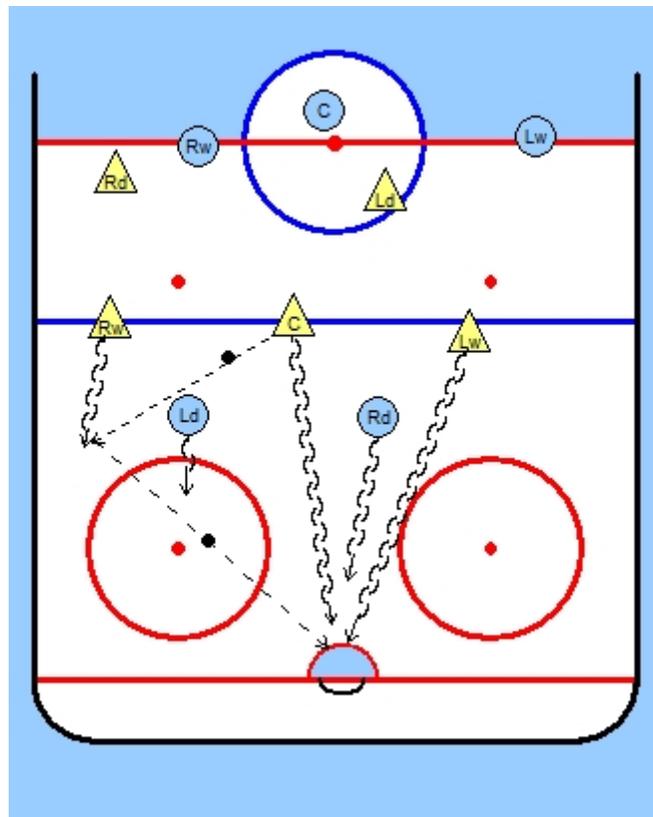
OFFENSIVE ZONE – 3 ON 2’S - 16 PLAYS

The first thing we should do is identify whether their D are backing in or standing up at their blue line and how big is the gap? This will determine whether the space to make a play is in front of their D or behind them.

The second thing to do is to see if there is back pressure that is coming soon. If there is the completion of our play has to be done quickly and be the right play for the limited time available.

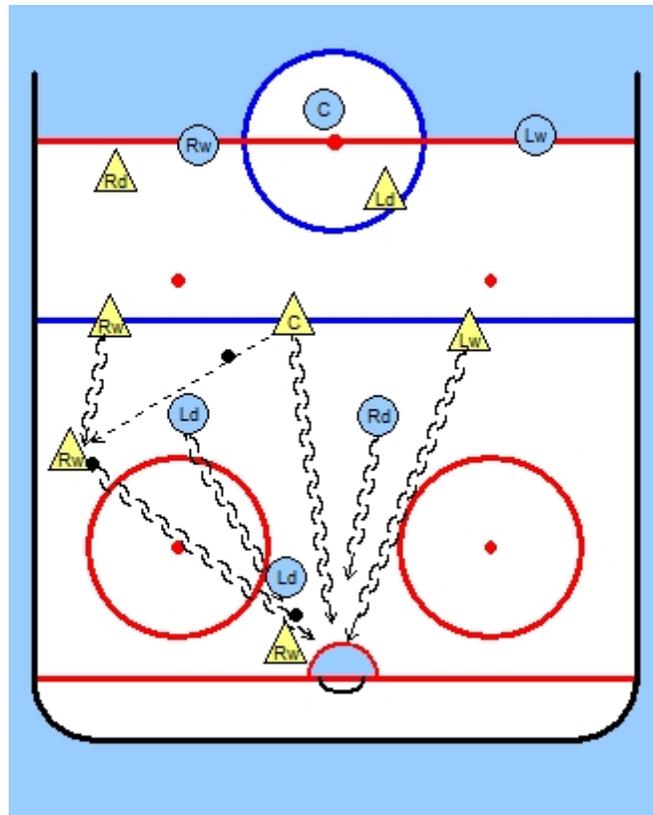
3 on 2’s usually develop into one of the following plays:

1. **To Winger Wide, Pillow Shot** - Our centre passes the puck to our winger positioned wide or cutting towards the net. *Our winger shoots low looking to score or to create a rebound off their goalie’s pads.* Our centre and weak side winger drive hard to the net for a rebound.





- To Winger Wide Around Defenceman, Angles to Net** - Our centre passes the puck to our winger and our winger goes wide around their defenceman and *tries to go in on goal on an angle*. Their defenceman will try to poke check our winger and will turn to chase him and if their defenceman cannot knock the puck off our stick or catch our winger their defenceman will bother our winger as much as possible. He will stretch his stick out as wide as possible towards our winger holding it with both hands just above our winger's shin pads firmly so our winger's movement is slowed a little. Our winger should lean net side on their defenceman, knee and leg out wide to get leverage on him and drive to the net.





7. **Centre Wide Around Defenceman** – When we come over the red line towards their blue line with 3 players against 2 of their defencemen when our centre has the puck, and their defencemen are backing in, one good play after our forwards have crossed their blue line is for the centre to skate hard in front of our right winger and around their defencemen wide along the boards on our right side. At the same time our right winger should fade into the middle slowing down and feeling the open area developing as their defenceman chases our centre. Our left winger must stay wide, not get close to their other defenceman, and go hard to the net

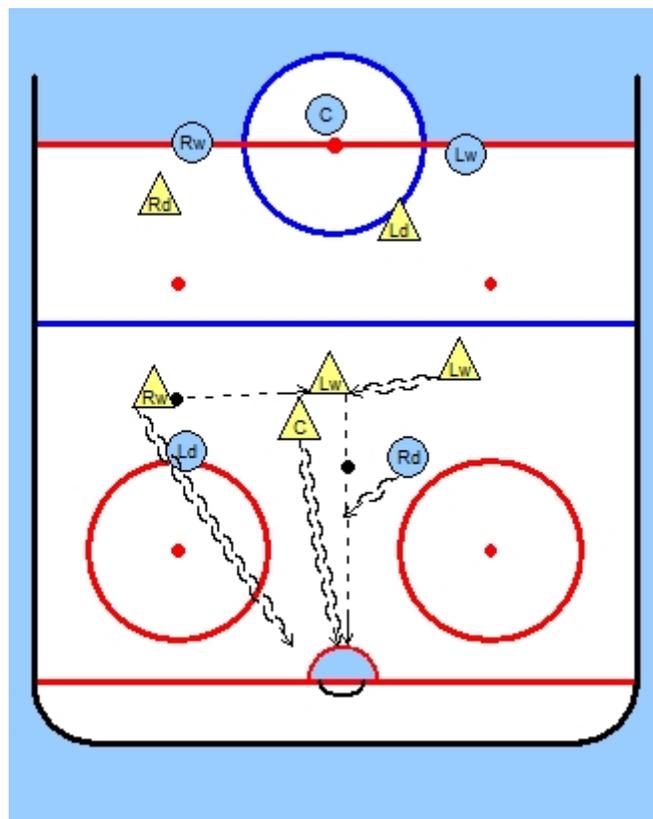
SPEED CHANGES CONFUSE THE DEFENCE

If our centre can get around their defenceman and fairly clear, say one or two steps, our centre has the following options:

1. Pass to our right winger going hard to their net before our centre gets into their corner. Our centre then goes hard to the net for any rebound
2. Go to the net himself for a short side shot or 5 hole shot or wide side shot
3. Continue around their defenceman and before going around their net pass the puck back to our right winger in the middle slot or pass the puck back to our right winger almost directly behind their defenceman at the side of their net in the face off circle
4. Continue around their net with their defenceman chasing him and pass the puck to our right winger in the deep slot
5. Continue around their net with their defenceman chasing him and pass the puck to our left winger coming hard to the net
6. Continue around their net with their defenceman chasing him and pass the puck to our defencman coming late into the deep slot on the other side

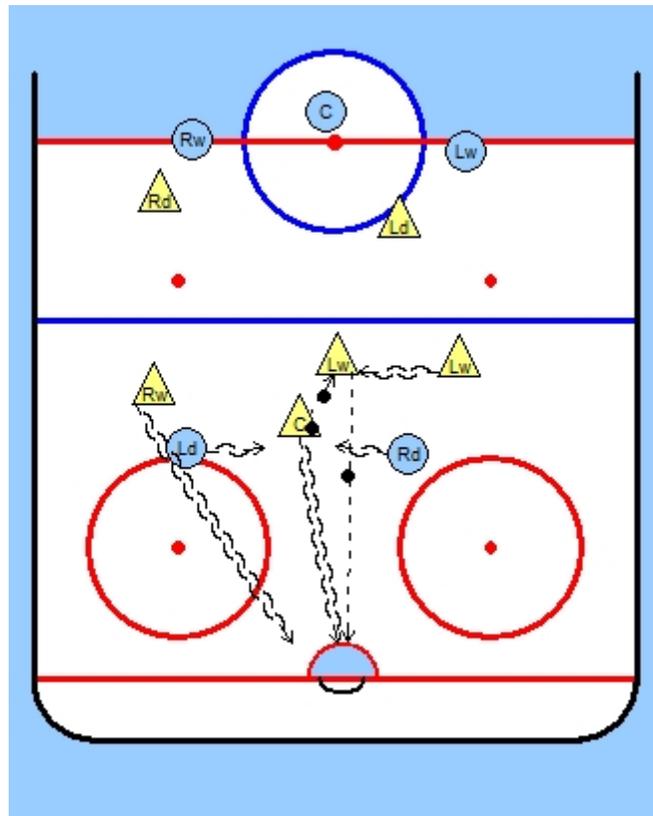


8. **Centre Drive No Puck** – Our winger with the puck slows down as he crosses their blueline, and at the same time our centre skates hard between their defencemen to the net trying to force their weak side defenceman to back in towards the net a little and our weak side winger fades into the middle, and takes a pass from our strong side winger.



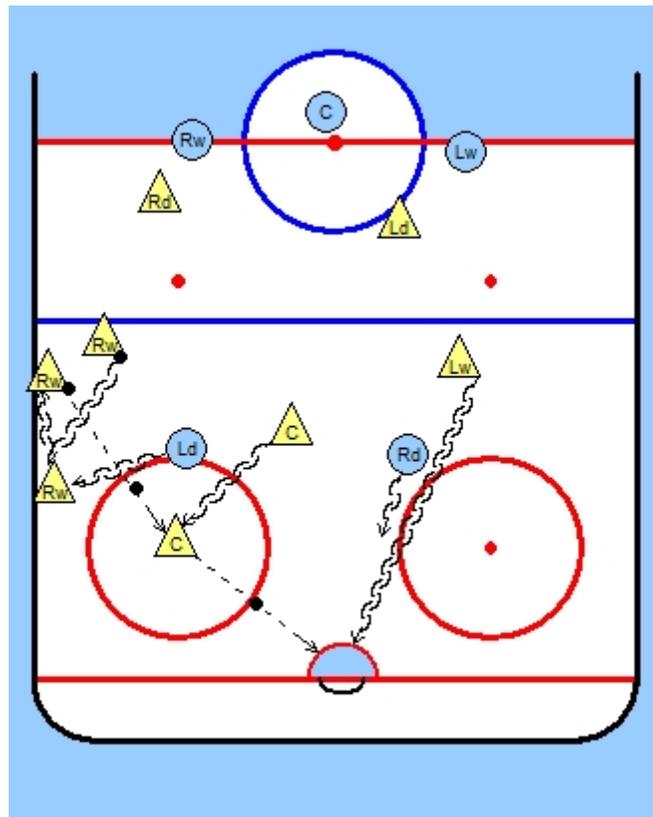


9. **Centre Drive Drop Pass** - Our centre with the puck skates hard in between their two defencemen forcing them to try to sandwich him with body checks. Just before the check, our centre drops the puck back to one of our wingers fading in behind our centre for a good shot or a pass off to our other winger going to the net.



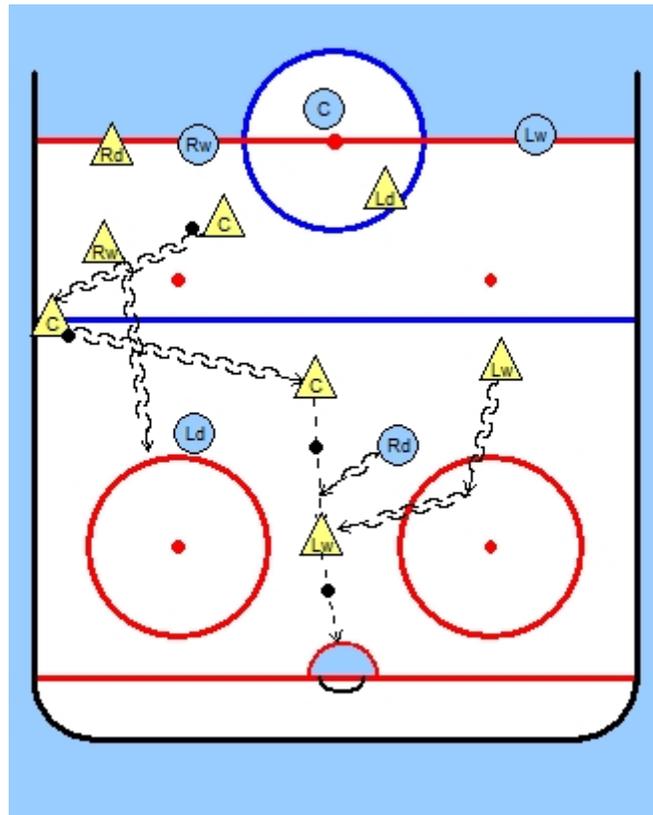


- 11. Winger Buttonhook At Half-Wall Pass to Centre** - Our right winger skates hard over the blue line like he is trying to beat their defenceman wide and as their defenceman comes over to check him our winger curls around to the inside towards the boards and back out towards the blue line ready to pass to our centre who has gone to the net and created a passing lane. Our weak side winger skates past their weak side defenceman on the boards side to try to hold him there to allow for the pass to our centre going to the net.



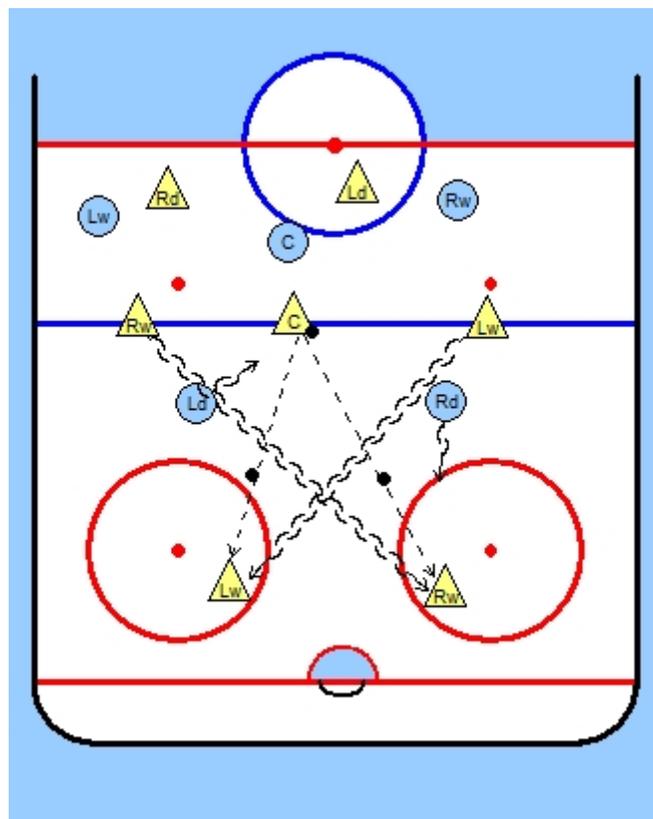


12. Centre Crosses with Winger Passes to Weak Side Winger – Our left shot centre close to the boards crosses our blueline and crosses with our right winger going towards the strong side boards outside of their left defenceman. As our centre just inside their blueline gets closer to the middle their defenceman moves towards him and at the same time our left winger skates past their right defenceman cutting sharply behind him looking for a pass from our centre.





14. **Wingers Cross Low** – When their defencemen stay high above our circle when our centre has the puck and all 3 of our forwards cross our blue line, our wingers may cross, go low in front of their net and open up ready for the pass from our centre who stays around our blue line. Unless both of their defencemen go back and cover our wingers one of them will be open.





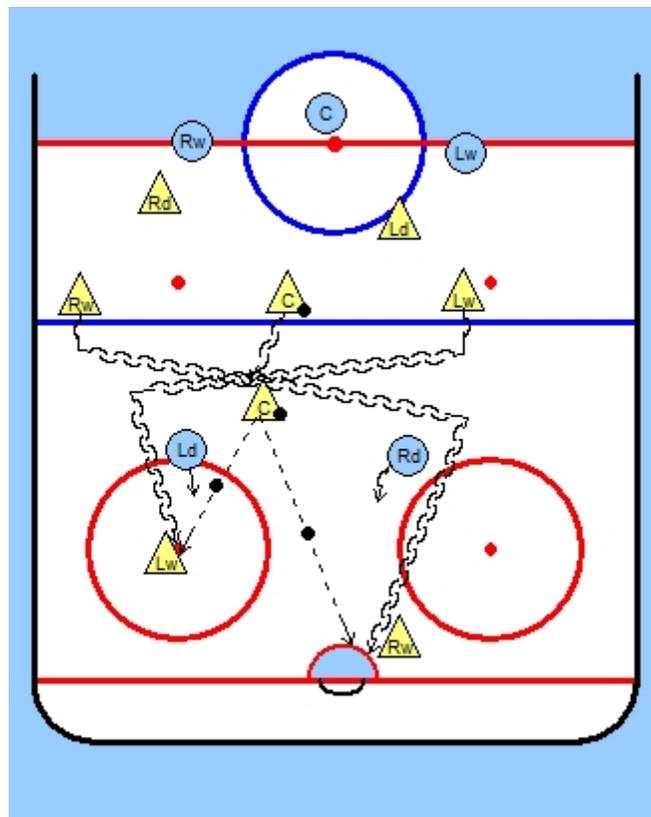
15. Wingers Cross High - When we come over the red line towards their blue line with 3 players against 2 of their defencemen when our centre has the puck and it is a clear 3 on 2 with none of their back checking forwards close to us, one good play is for the centre to skate hard up to their blue line and slow down just over the line as their defencemen continue to back in a bit.

When our centre is over their blue line, the wingers both cross to the other side of the ice in front of or behind our centre switching sides and go wide around their defencemen. Our centre fades either left or right at the same time finding the most open area, depending on what their defencemen do.

This play is designed to confuse their defencemen causing one or both of them to move out of position, either lunging at our centre or going with the crossing wingers.

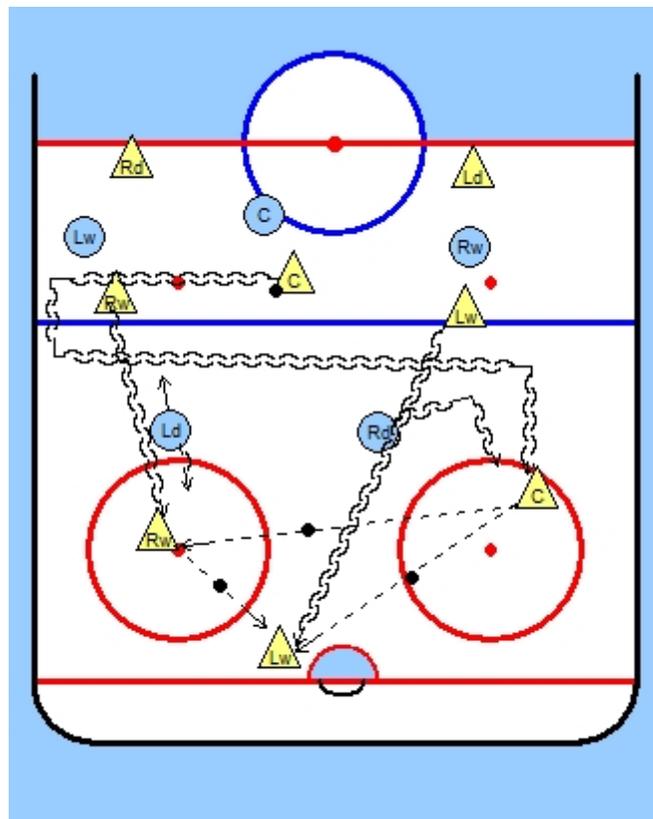
If our centre is a right shot, one good play is for our centre to fade to the right and as our right winger goes around their right defenceman to the net, our centre passes the puck to him very close to the net for the deflection in, or a shot or stickhandle, or passes to our left winger going around their left defenceman

SPEED CHANGES CONFUSE THE DEFENCE





16. **Centre Across Wingers to Weak Side** – Our centre with the puck starts from the middle outside their blueline, skates to the boards, and crosses their blueline. Our RW crosses their blueline in front of our centre and skates right towards their LD. Our centre skates behind our RW across the top of their blueline while our LW skates right towards their RD. Our centre skates by and around their RD. Our RW skates to their now weak side faceoff dot and our LW skates hard to beside their net on the weak side. Our centre passes to either winger for a shot on net





PRACTICE DRILL:

Run 3 on 2 line rushes full ice with the 2 defencemen entering at the near blue line with the defencemen adjusting to the plays as they unfold and experimenting with forcing the play at the blue line or backing in behind our blue line depending on the speed and positioning of the forwards coming at the defencemen – give feedback as needed after each play or whistle the play dead in the middle of it having the players freeze in their positions, and then give feedback