

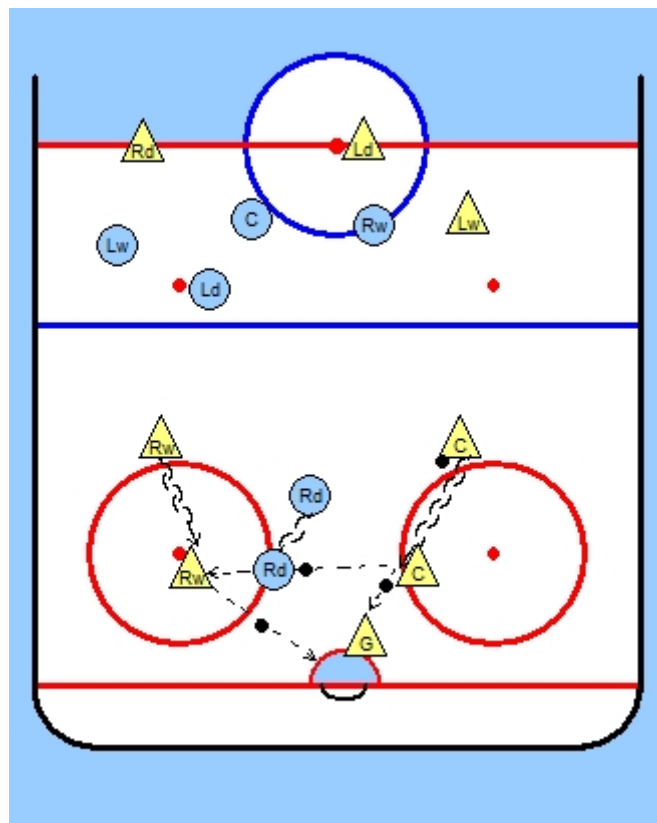


“A 2 on 1 from the neutral zone is like a 5 second power play, don’t waste it”

OFFENSIVE ZONE – 2 ON 1s – 3 PLAYS

When we outnumber them 2 on 1 coming over their blue line and our 2 players come in side-by-side either separated only slightly or separated a great deal, their D will try to stay as much in the middle between our 2 players as they can taking the passing lane away to our player without the puck with his stick blade, skates or body and forcing our player with the puck on as much of an angle to their net that they can.

Slow down a little if there is no great back pressure to encourage their D to back in more than to the top of or just inside of their face off circle so our passing or shooting play will happen closer to their net. On the other hand, if our player with the puck goes in too far, their goalie alone should be able to handle him and their D will cover our player without the puck making sure our player with the puck can’t deek our goalie to the other side.

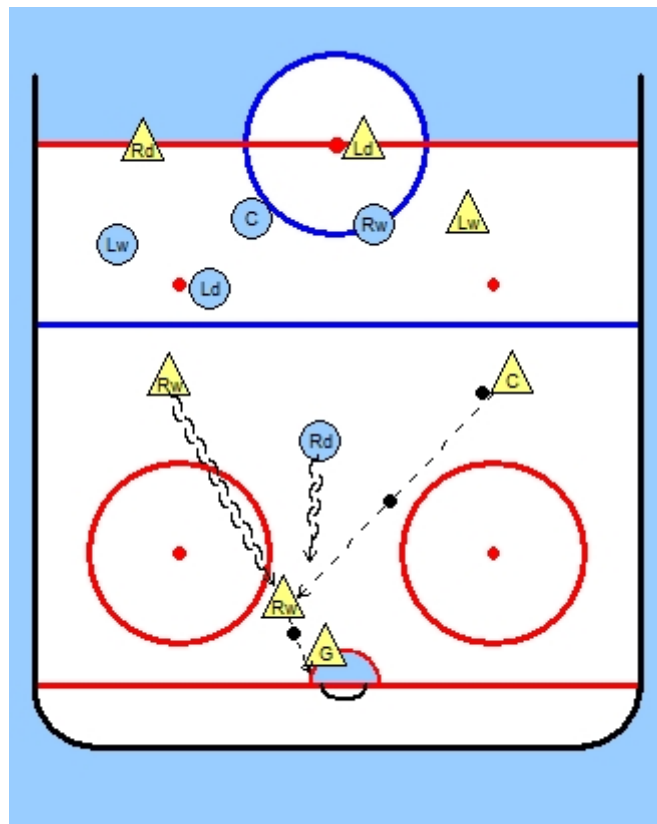




Their goalie will come out and play our player with the puck as if we are going to shoot but will be ready to move across the net quickly if we decide to pass across or back. We should look at our player without the puck as if we are going to pass to him but instead fake the pass and try to get their goalie to move off the near side post and then shoot quickly high to that near side.

Their D will keep his stick moving side-to-side slightly in control so our player with the puck doesn't know exactly where his stick is going to be second-to-second. If his stick is stationary it makes it easier for us to make a pass between his stick and skates or over his stick without him being able to block or deflect our pass.

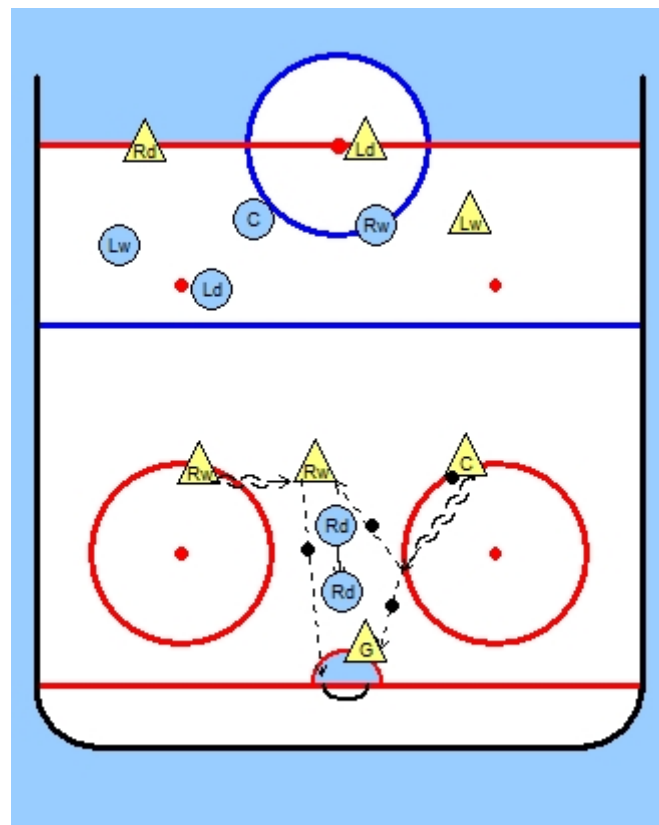
If we cross the blueline with speed and their D is high around the blueline our player without the puck should skate hard to the net for a tip in play (see diagram below).



The ideal 2 on 1 play if there is not much backpressure is to have our player without the puck slow down and stay behind and to the side of our player with the puck. Our player without the puck should be more distance away than their D's stick and arm length (so-called stacking 2 on 1 play) with our player without the puck ready for the one time shot. They can't stop the pass



unless they anticipate it so our puck carrier should pull the puck back and dip his shoulder as if he is going to shoot and then pass the puck back for the one timer. Our player without the puck should come over towards our player with the puck as little as possible but still making sure a solid passing lane to him is open so that when the puck comes for the one timer, their goalie will have to move laterally more to stop the puck. We should shoot to the side their goalie is coming from, not the side he is going to. Their goalie's momentum going one way will make it hard for him to change instantly and go the other way to make the save.



SIMPLE 2 ON 1 RULE: ONE HIGH, ONE LOW, ONE FAST, ONE SLOW

A good forward with the puck will be skating at high speed so he has the option of going to the net himself, or faking such a move or shot and passing off to his open team mate. The passer hopes that by making a move to go to the net or a move to begin the shooting motion their D will take the bait and move his stick and body towards him. The instant their D do this we will find a hole or open passing lane to pass to our open forward for the one timer.

Their D may go down to block a cross ice pass or a pass back or a shot but this tactic must be timed exactly right, so if we see this is about to happen pull the puck back, wait for the slide to pass and then make our best play.



If our forward with the puck finds he has no good passing lane and he is now in so tight that he can't see any mesh behind their goalie, go hard towards the net laterally and see if you can get their goalie to open up holes for you to put the puck in, either the 5 hole or short side or wide side roof, and after your shot stop for any rebound. So should our other forward come in for any rebound.

PRACTICE DRILL:

Run 2 on 1 line rushes 1/2 ice from the centre circle at the red line with the defencemen at the blue lines alternating entrance and the forwards at the red line on either side of the circle in two lines facing opposite directions. As one defenceman enters he should pass the puck to one of the 2 forwards on the 2 on 1 to start the play as they move off the red line. The defencemen should adjust to the plays as outlined above as they unfold and experiment with forcing the play a bit to disturb the opposition's play depending on the speed and positioning of the forwards coming at the defenceman – 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.