



*“Don’t allow a 2 on 2 to be turned into a 2 on 1 against one defenceman”*

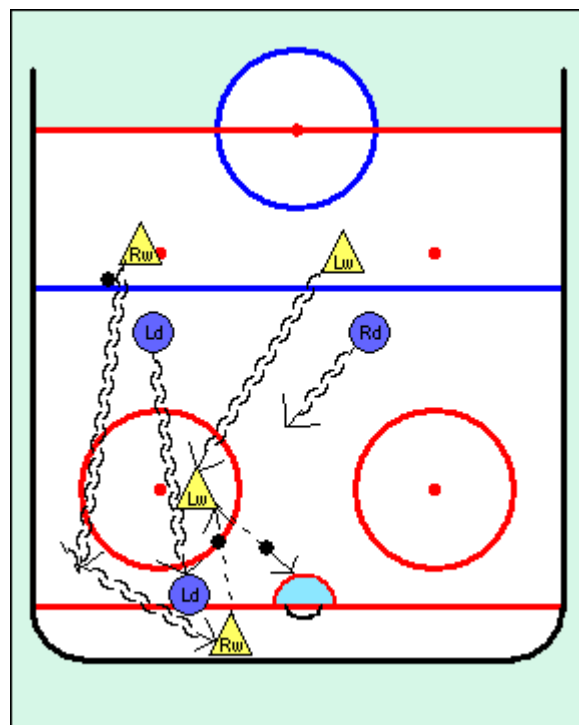
## DEFENSIVE ZONE – DEFENDING 2 ON 2s - 6 Plays

When they come over the red line towards our blue line with 2 players against 2 of our defencemen when it is a clear 2 on 2 with none of our back checking forwards close to them, understand their best play depends on how our defencemen are positioned ... backing in in fast or slow, high at our blueline or lower around the top of our faceoff circles.

### Our Defenceman Too High at Blue Line

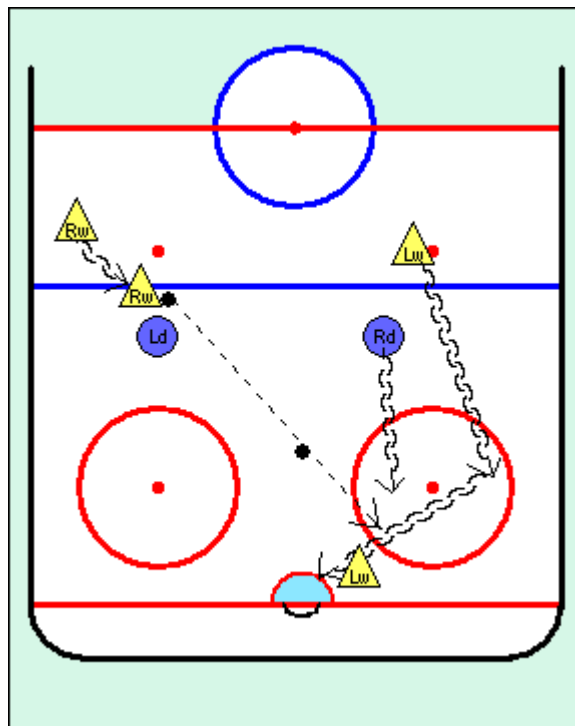
If our defencemen stay too high at our blue line as in the diagram below, rather than backing in to above the top of our faceoff circles, their two forwards will have a number of options, so our defencemen should stay directly in front of their 2 forwards and don’t allow any plays behind our 2 defencemen as outlined below:

- Their player with the puck can try to go wide and hard to the side of our defenceman at the boards trying to get by him so he is clear to go in on net himself, or make a pass back to their other forward now stacked behind him away and over from our other defenceman in the face off circle. So, take the outside away from their forward as he tries to go by and squeeze him out along the boards.





- Their player with the puck slows down and fades to the middle a little after just crossing the blue line, while our other forward skates hard around our defenceman to the net. Our defenceman should challenge their fading forward with the puck, stick on puck, controlled not allowing him to pass or shoot



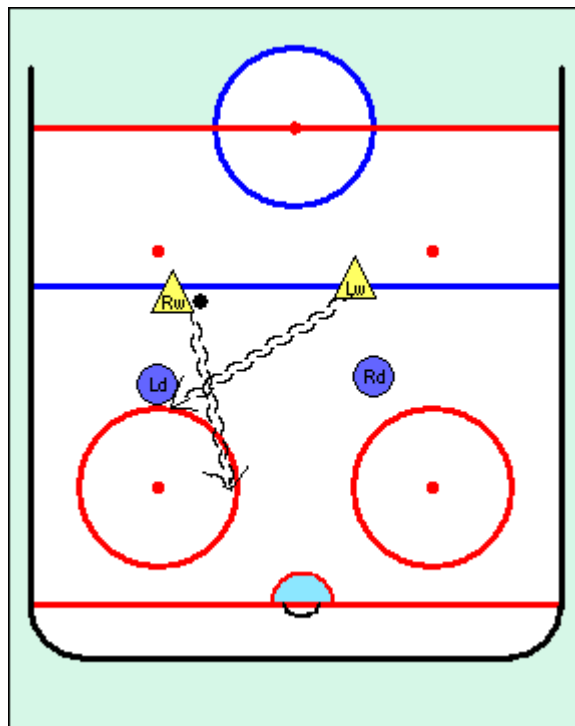




## Our Defencemen Backing In To Around The Top Of Our Faceoff Circles

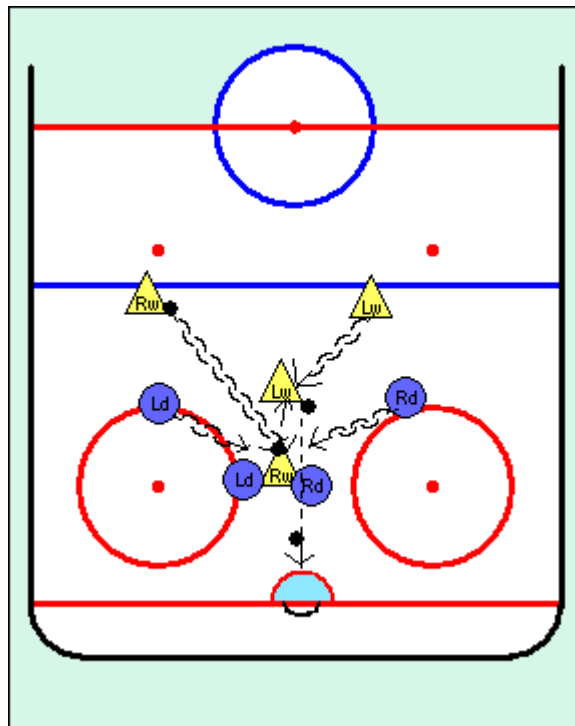
If our defencemen back in their forwards will try several options:

- Try to criss cross by having their forward without the puck skate hard at our defenceman closest to their other forward with the puck trying to have their player with the puck skate between our defencemen. When the criss cross starts our defenceman on the same side as the puck carrier should attack their player with the puck stick on puck not allowing this player to pass or cut in behind their other forward running interference





- Try to drop pass by having their forward with the puck skate hard in between our defencemen while their other forward comes in behind him about 6 feet away. When our defencemen see this developing one defenceman should attack their puck carrier before he has a chance to drop pass stick on puck aggressively, calling out I got the puck carrier



**THEY WILL BE CAREFUL NOT TO TELEGRAPH THE DROP PASS BY LOOKING BACK OR SLOWING DOWN. IF WE READ IT AND INTERCEPT THE PUCK IT COULD BE TROUBLE GOING THE OTHER WAY**



- Their puck carrier may try to beat one of our defenceman on his side one on one but sees our defenceman is angling him off, so our forward button hooks around the mid boards intending to pass to their other forward going hard to the net for a deflection on net. Stick on puck, watch the middle of his chest, not the puck and take the man not letting him get by or cut back into the middle or pass in front of our net to their winger

