



*“When any reasonable chance at getting the puck out at the half wall fails, eat it”*

## DEFENSIVE ZONE – THE HALF WALL SEAL

One of the most difficult plays in the defensive zone is for our winger at the half wall when there is no time and space to make a pass up, back, or sideways or chip the puck out. Our winger has turned facing our end to protect the puck and their strong side winger, defenceman and their centre are already there on our winger.

Our winger turns against the boards putting the puck between his skates but their 3 players are working him over pretty good. Our centre and strong side defenceman must anticipate what's happening and help fast by coming and pinning their players and our player to the wall to force a whistle. There will be 6 players there, 3 of ours and 3 of theirs.

Our chances of winning the faceoff if we can get a whistle are much higher than our chances of winning the puck at the half wall in this situation and getting the puck out of our zone.

Our weak side defenceman covers net front and our weak side winger covers slot middle in case we lose at the half wall (see diagram below).

