

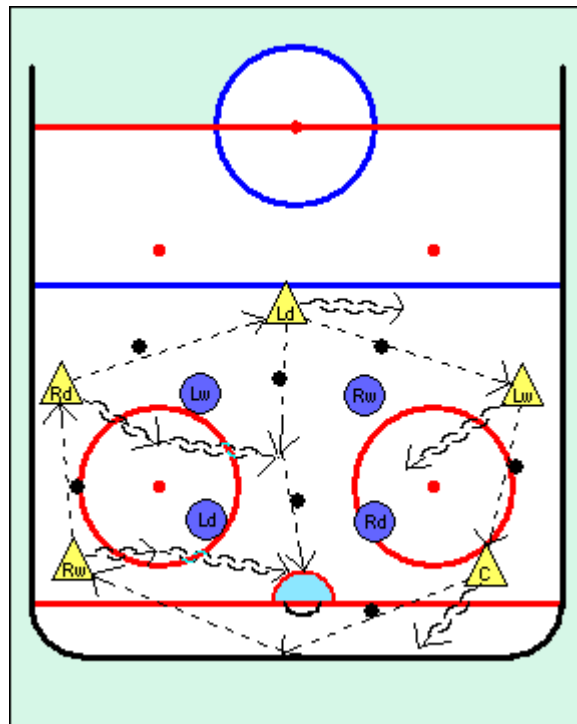


“A five on four power play in their zone can be organized into a two on one on one of the corners of their box formation by our positioning and puck movement, pressuring one of their players to choose which of our two players to cover, and this will give us a great scoring chance”

OFFENSIVE ZONE – POWER PLAY 5 ON 4 UMBRELLA PLAYS

In a previous TIP the 3 high 2 low power play was described. Known as the “Umbrella”. We set up a wide triangle (see diagram below our players in yellow) inside their blue line with our defenceman or forward at the top of the triangle (the quarterback of the power play) at their blue line, and 2 players almost against the boards on opposite sides of the ice a few feet higher than the top of their circle. Our other 2 players are down lower near the bottom of their circle close to the boards.

When they play the moving and flexible box, we will have a 3 on 2 on their 2 players at the top of their box closest to their blue line with their 2 defencemen covering our two remaining forwards down low closer to their net. We will pass the puck around to the open man to try to get them to come out of their box formation and set up our best scoring chance in the slot, in front, at the side or at the high point.





PASSING AROUND THE SIDES TOO MUCH WASTES OUR POWER PLAY TIME!

HOW DO WE GET THEM OUT OF THEIR BOX FORMATION FAST?

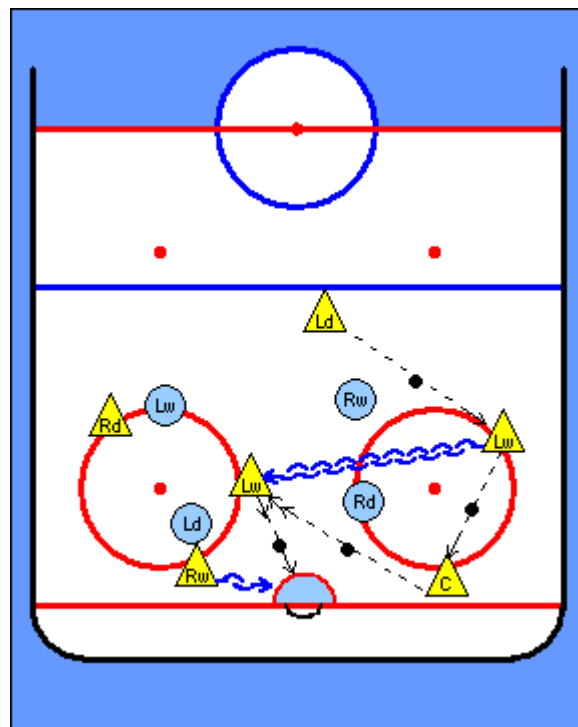
CONSTANT MOVEMENT WITH AND WITHOUT THE PUCK TO OPEN UP

PASSING AND SHOOTING LANES

HERE ARE SOME SPECIFICS!

2 On 1 Down Low

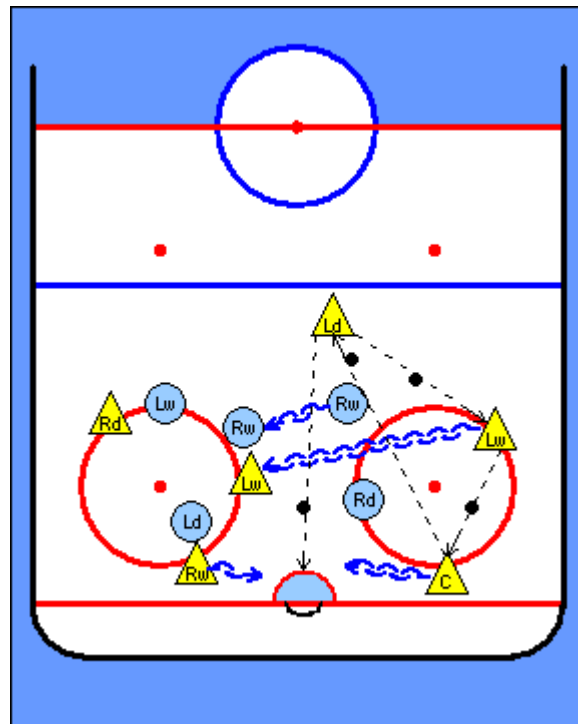
If they play a relatively high and wide box with lots of space in the middle, let's visualize developing a 2 on 1 on their down low Right Defenceman (Rd) in blue with our Left Winger (Lw) and our Centre (C) in yellow in the diagram below. This will turn into a great scoring opportunity for our Left Winger (Lw) in the slot, or for our Right Winger (Rw) at the side of our net, or for our Left Defenceman (Ld) at the top of the triangle near the blueline.



The puck will start at our Ld and be passed to our Lw who in turn will pass it to our Centre down low. Our Centre will take a step towards their net as if he is going to go there or shoot on net to encourage their Rd to move to cover him. At the same time our Lw skates quickly into the slot in the middle of the box. As their Rd leans or moves to our Centre, our Centre moves to create a passing lane to our Lw, and then passes the puck to our Lw. Our right winger (Rw) seeing this



If their R_w breaks their high box coverage and covers our L_w as our L_w goes into the middle of their box, our centre in stead of passing to our L_w passes to our L_d at the point for a clear slap shot and both our Centre and our R_w close hard to the net to screen their goalie and for any possible rebound (see diagram below). This play also works well if they play a relatively short or tight box with not much space in the middle but lots of space between their blueline and the top of their circle.



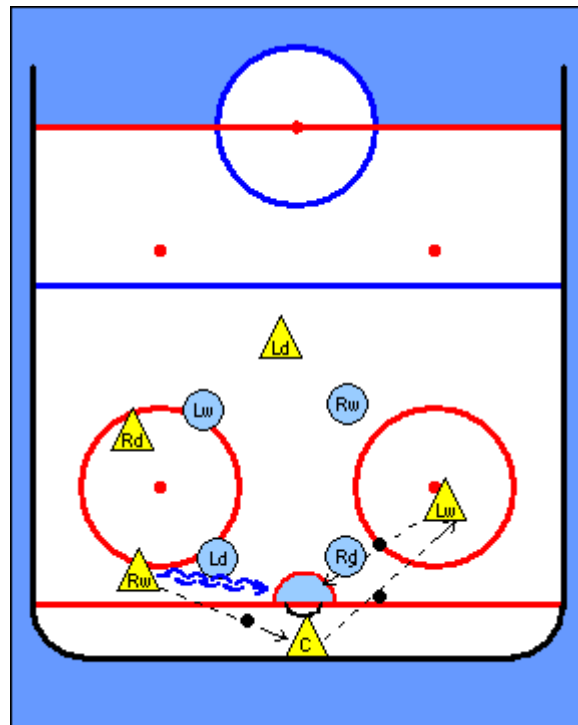
The same play as above can be run with L_w and C or others exchanging positions before the pass to the middle of their box, handing off the puck as they do so to cause more coverage confusion in the other team's coverages.

In both these plays, the key is our L_w **trying to make something happen** by going into the middle of their box for a pass. This forces one of their players to change position and coverage or else our L_w will be wide open in the middle of their box. As soon as they try to react to our movement we do something different capitalizing on their movement either by their R_d or their R_w. And by having our R_w closing hard to the net we may score on the rebound.



As we are cycling the puck looking to set up good scoring opportunities or as we are trying to gain clear control of the puck sometimes using behind their net makes sense to set up another pass. Again, we are playing 2 on 1 with one of their down low defencemen.

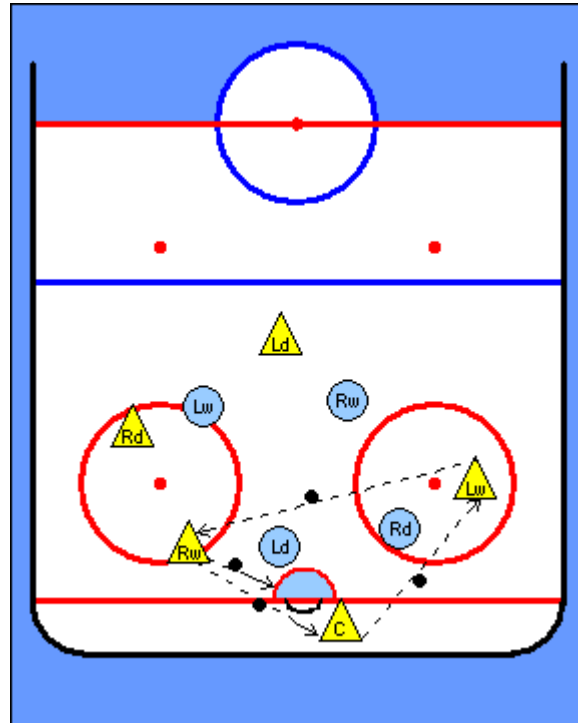
2 On 1 (Rd) From Behind Their Net - Pass to Strong Side Winger
(Rw to C to Lw, shoot, Rw to net for rebound)





2 on 1 (Rd) From Behind Their Net - Pass to Wide Strong Side Winger and Then to Weak Side Winger

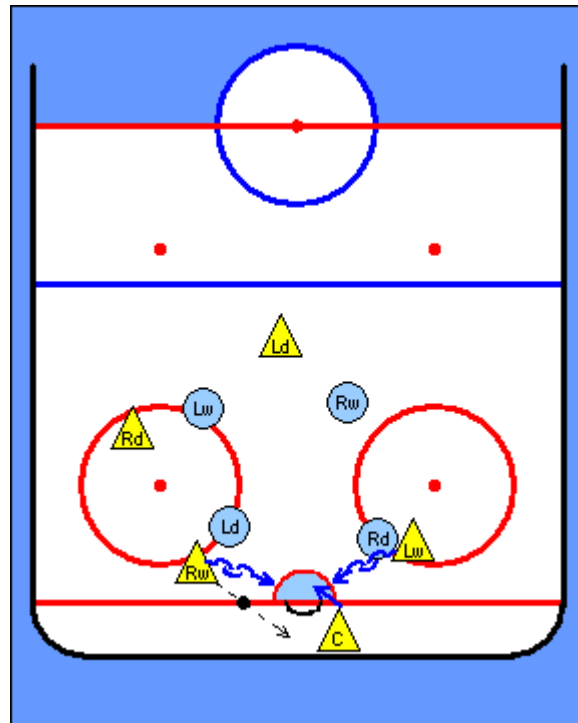
(Rw to C to Lw to Rw for one – timer shot, C crashes the net)





2 On 1 Defenceman (Rd) From Behind Their Net Wrap Around

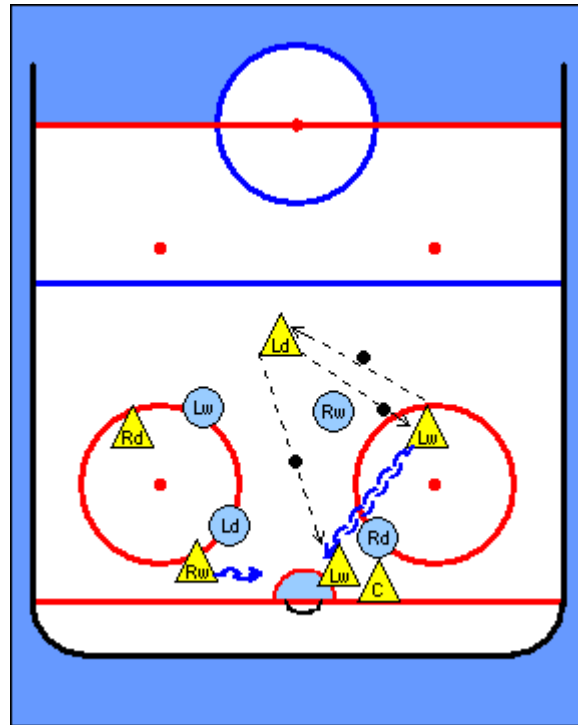
(C wraps around right in the crease taking Rd's bodycheck, taking more than one wack at the puck until it goes in and Rw and Lw crash the net for any rebound – turns into 3 of us on 3 of them including their goalie – whoever wants the puck the most will get it!)





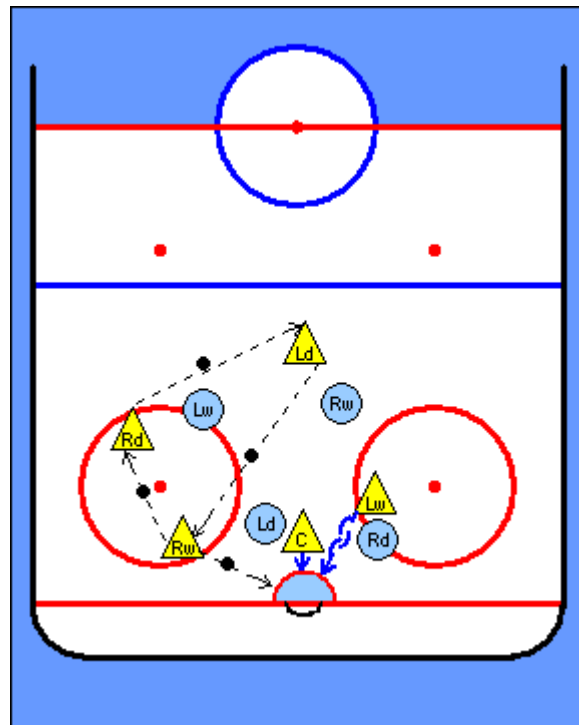
2 On 1 Defenceman (Rd) in Front - to Winger For Redirect

(Ld to Lw back to Ld, then hard pass to Lw at side of their net for redirect by Lw on net, Rw crashes the net)



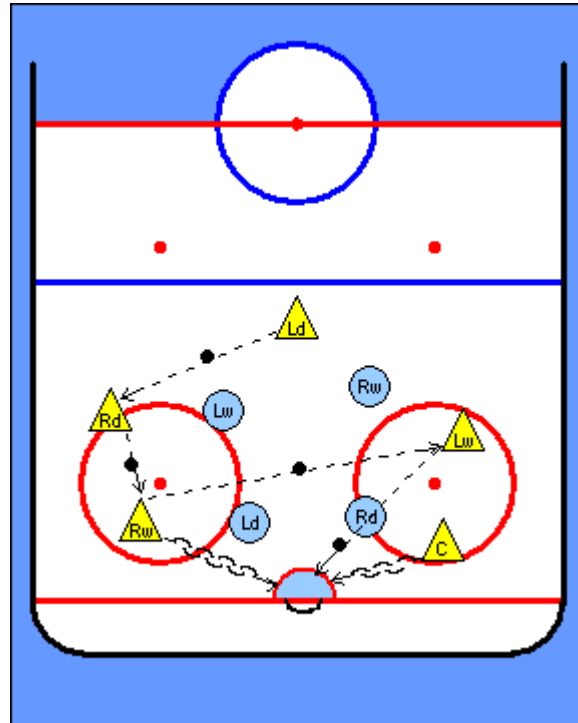


2 On 1 Defenceman (Ld) In Front Of Their Net - To Winger at Side of Their Net
(Rw to Rd to Ld to Rw, shoot, C and Lw crash the net)





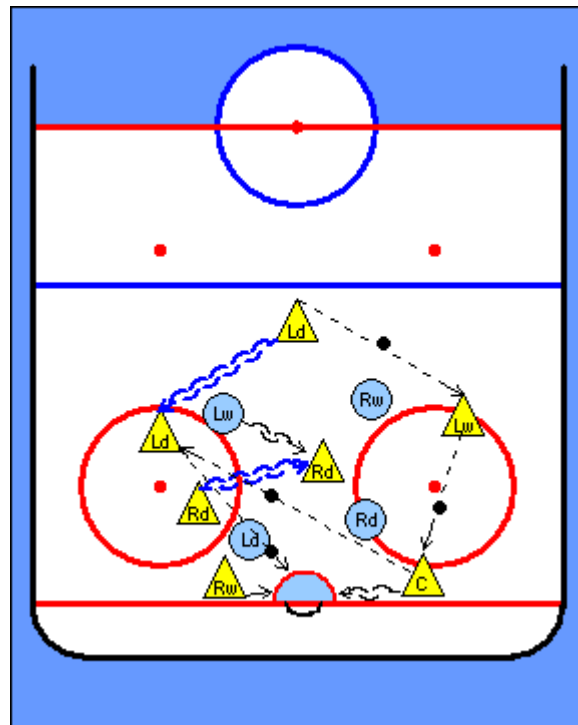
2 On 1 Defenceman (Rd) In Front Of Their Net - To Winger at Top Of Their Circle
(Ld to Rd to Rw across ice to Lw, shoot, C and Rw crash the net)





2 On 1 Left Winger (Lw) At The Top Of Their Box

(Ld to Lw to C across ice to Ld sneaking behind Lw. Lw moving to cover Rd going into the middle of the box, Lw's back probably turned to Ld, Ld shoots, C and Rw crash the net)



PRACTICE DRILL:

After explaining and diagramming each of the above plays off ice, set up 4 pylons inside the blue line in a box penalty kill formation. Walk the players through each play explaining that the one that will work the best depends on what their penalty killers do in reaction to our constant movement and passing.

Then run a real 5 on 4 power play starting with a face off in the offensive zone or shoot the puck in from centre and make the power play line win the puck with a 3 – 2 hard forecheck. Make sure the 5 have different coloured practice jerseys from the 4. Blow the whistle for instruction when needed having the players stop immediately in their tracks on the whistle. Get a stop watch out and keep track of how many goals are scored in a 2 minute stop time interval. Make a competition out of it using different forward lines and telling them the line that scores the most will play more on the power play if you are in a very competitive league and the players are old enough in your judgment.