

# THE PROGRAM FORWARDS





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## **Hockey Training For Forwards**

Outwork, outskate and outscore every team you face. Developed by veteran Gary Roberts and trainer Matt Nichol, these drills will evolve your game and punish your opposition.

### **START YOUR TRAINING**

Earn the top spot on the roster by training hard during the season and throughout the summer. Begin with a solid warm up then move on to the drills that strengthen the areas of your game that need it most.

**WARM UP** 

BASE

**SPEED GYM** 

SPEED FIELD

POWER LOWER BODY

POWER UPPER BODY

**ENDURANCE** 

**SKILLS** 



## WARM UP OVERVIEW

Warm Up	Sets	Reps	Rests	Superset	Page
Wall Squats	2	60-90s			3
Glute Bridge Marching	2	60-90s			3
Glute Bridge	3	15-30s			3
Three Position Wall Stretch		6 each leg			3
Side Leg Lifts On Wall		5 each leg			4
Inch Worms		20 metres			4
Swiss & Med Ball Rotations	3	10 each side	30s		4
Wall Side Lunges	3	5 each direction			4
Rear Delt Lateral Raises	2	12-15 reps			4

#### WARM UP WALL SQUAT







Be an intimidating force on the ice by improving your overall body mobility and posture.

- Start in a seated position with your back and shoulder blades against a wall and your knees bent at 90 degrees.
- Extend your legs and slide your torso up the wall, hold, and return to first position.
- 3. Complete 2 sets of 60-90 seconds.

#### WARM UP GLUTE BRIDGE MARCHING







foot to the ceiling.

4. Complete 2 sets of 60-90 seconds

1. Lay flat on your back.

2. Lift your midsection, resting your

weight only on your shoulders and

3. Extend one leg at a time, kicking your

Build your power and speed by working your core and glutes, the most powerful muscles in the skating stride.

#### WARM UP THREE POSITION WALL STRETCH



WARM UP GLUTE BRIDGE





- 1. Lay flat on your back.
- 2. Lift your midsection, resting your weight only on your shoulders and heels.
- 3. Hold for 15-30 seconds.
- 4. Complete 3 sets.



Improve your speed by increasing flexibility in the muscles specific to skating

to help you achieve a lower skating position and a longer stride.



- 1. Use a wall or a post for stability.
- Kick your leg forwards, backwards and sideways.
- 3. Each kick should get progressively higher.
- 4. Complete 6 reps for each leg.

Develop explosive stops and starts by adding power to your skating stride with this drill.

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#### WARM UP SIDE LEG LIFTS ON WALL







Maximize your agility by creating balance in the muscles surrounding the hip, enabling you to move laterally and change direction on a dime.

- 1. Start in a seated position with your back up against a wall and your knees bent at 90 degrees.
- 2. Extend one leg and hold for 10 seconds.
- 3. Repeat with your other leg.
- 4. Complete 5 reps for each leg.

#### WARM UP INCH WORMS







Build overall body strength and stability and control play during battles in the corners.

- 1. From an upright position, bend at the waist and touch the ground.
- 2. Without bending your legs, "walk" your feet in to meet your hands.
- 3. Without bending your arms "walk" your hands out until you are in a bridge position again.
- 4. Complete for 20 metres and jog back to start.

#### WARM UP SWISS & MED BALL ROTATIONS







Increase stability and strengthen your core to land harder body checks and protect the puck.

- This drill requires a Swiss ball and Medicine ball.
- 1. Sit on a Swiss ball holding a medicine ball at arm's length.
- 2. Keeping your hands at eye level, pass a medicine ball to your partner on one side and pick it up on the other, creating a circle around your head.
- 3. Complete 3 sets of 10 reps in each

#### WARM UP WALL LATERAL LUNGES



faster footwork on the ice.



Increase the agility and strength of your hips and groin to have



90 degrees. 2. Extend your leading leg and slide your

1. Start in a seated position with your back

up against a wall and your knees bent at

- body up, using the wall as a guide.
- 3. Complete 3 sets of 5 steps in each

#### WARM UP REAR DELT LATERAL RAISES







Improve your posture and maximize your body checking strength by working on your shoulders and lower back muscles.

- This drill requires a Swiss ball
- 1. Position the Swiss ball under your hips and lean over the ball. You may need to anchor your heels under a bar or have a partner hold your feet.
- 2. With your arms behind your head, lift your torso upwards and overextend, hold, and return to first position.
- 3. Complete 3 sets of 12-15 reps.



## BASE DRILLS OVERVIEW

Base Drills	Sets	Reps	Rests	Superset	Page
Med Ball Wood Chop	3	10-12 reps	30s		5
Side Planks	2	5 reps	30s		5
Walking Lunges	3	20 metres	60-90s		6
Speed Play: Buildups	3	60 metres	60-90s		6
Pyramid Sprints	3	60 metres	60-90s		6
Horizontal Pull-Ups	3	20 metres	60-90s		6
Dumbbell Squat and Press	3	10-12 reps	30s		6
Skater's Squats	2	10-12 reps	30s		6
One Arm Dumbbell Row	3	5 each direction	30s		7
Pause Push-Ups	2	12-15 reps	30s		7

#### BASE DRILLS MED BALL WOOD CHOP







Build these muscles for a stronger shot and harder checks.

- This drill requires a Medicine ball.
- Start in a standing position with your feet shoulder width apart.
- **2.** Hold the med ball in two hands and raise it over your shoulder.
- 3. Bring the med ball down across your body in a chopping motion, stopping at your hip.
- 4. From the bottom of your chop, raise the ball over your other shoulder.
- **5.** Chop down to your opposite hip to complete a figure eight.
- 6. Complete 3 sets of 10-12 reps.

#### BASE DRILLS SIDE PLANKS







Build a stronger core for greater stability on your skates.

- Begin in the push-up position. Roll onto one arm with your weight on your elbow and lower leg.
- Extend your other arm straight out in a "T" position, keeping your core straight and your feet stacked on top of each other.
- 3. Hold this position for 5 seconds. Return to first position and switch to your other arm.
- 4. Complete 2 sets of 5 reps holding each position for 5 seconds.
- Hold this position for 5 seconds. Return to first position and switch to your other arm.
- **6.** Complete 2 sets of 5 reps holding each position for 5 seconds.



#### BASE DRILLS SPEED PLAY: BUILDUPS







Remember to keep your knees high with your arms and shoulders relaxed. Run against a teammate or time yourself to increase the intensity by trying to beat your best time. Practising these bursts of speed with help forwards skate up ice during a rush and while back checking.

This drill requires a field at least 60 metres long.

- From a standing position, get up to speed with a steadily increasing pace.
- 2. Begin with a 20 metre jog.
- 3. Transition into a 20 metre run.
- 4. Then break into a full out sprint for the last 20 metres.
- 5. Jog back to your starting position.
- 6. Complete 3 runs.

#### BASE DRILLS PYRAMID SPRINTS





Increase your intensity with shorter periods of rest between each run. Time

yourself or race a teammate to add another level of competition.



This drills requires four cones.

- 1. Set up four cones in a line, 20 metres
- 2. Sprint from the first cone to the second cone then jog back.
- 3. Sprint from the first cone to the third cone then jog back.
- Sprint from the first cone to the fourth cone then jog back.
- 5. Complete 3 sets of runs.

#### BASE DRILLS HORIZONTAL PULL-UPS







Get the strength you need to win battles in the corners by building a stronger back and arms. For increased difficulty, wear a weighted vest or elevate your feet on a Swiss ball or bench.

This drill requires a squat rack.

- Position the bar just above shoulder height and grip it like you were doing a bench press.
- 2. Straighten your core in a plank with your heels touching the floor.
- 3. Pull your body up to the bar in a reverse
- 4. Complete 3 sets of 8-12 reps.

#### BASE DRILLS WALKING LUNGES





This drill helps with mobility by working your hips, legs and core.



- Start with your hands on your hips or ears.
- 2. Lunge forward with a high step and end with your knees at a 90 degree angle.
- 3. Follow with the opposite leg and travel 20 metres before jogging back to the start
- 4. Complete 3 sets.

#### BASE DRILLS DUMBBELL SQUAT AND PRESS







By working your legs and shoulders simultaneously you build overall strength and increase your coordination.

- This drill requires two dumbbells.
- Hold a dumbbell in each hand at shoulder height.
- 2. Perform a squat.
- 3. When you return to first position, use your momentum to press the dumbbells above your head.
- 4. Complete 3 sets of 10-12 reps.
- For building power, use a heavier weight and do less reps and sets. For increasing endurance, use a lighter weight and do more reps and sets.

#### BASE DRILLS SKATER'S SQUATS

rushes up ice and while back checking.





This drill mimics a skating stride to improve leg strength and stability for



- This drills requires four cones.
- Start in a standing position with your feet together.
- 2. Extend a leg behind you at a 45 degree angle to end in a lunge position.
- 3. Hold, and return to start position and extend with the other leg.
- 4. Complete 2 sets of 10-12 reps.



#### BASE DRILLS ONE ARM DUMBBELL ROW







Build a stronger back and arms for more control of the puck and a harder shot.

This drill requires a dumbbell.

- Place one arm and knee on a bench for support and keep your back straight and parallel to the ground.
- 2. Lean over so the dumbbell hangs straight from your arm and lift the dumbbell to your chest. Squeeze with your back muscles while keeping your back straight.
- 3. For building power, use a heavier weight and do less reps and sets. For increasing endurance, use a lighter weight and do more reps and sets.

#### BASE DRILLS PAUSE PUSH-UPS





A stronger shot and a harder body check both start by building upper body  $\,$ 

strength. This chest and shoulder drill will get you there.



- 1. Start in a push-up position.
- 2. When you reach the down position pause for 3 seconds before returning to the up position.
- 3. Complete 3 sets of 12-15 reps.



# SPEED GYM OVERVIEW

Speed Gym	Sets	Reps	Rests	Superset	Page
Reverse Lunge & Step-Up	3	6-8 reps	60-90s		8
Med Ball Jump Squats	3	10-12 reps	30s		8
Med Ball Split Jump & Twist	3	10-12 reps	30s		9
Med Ball Side To Side Twists Med	3	10-12 reps	30s		9
Ball Wood Chop	3	10-12 reps	30s		9

#### SPEED DRILLS REVERSE LUNGE & STEP UP







A forward's legs are the foundation of every shot, pass and body check they give. Use this drill to build leg muscles evenly by focusing on your hamstrings and glutes throughout the drill.

- This drill requires a one metre platform.
- 1. Start one step behind the platform.
- 2. Lunge backwards until your front leg is at a 90 degree angle with your knee touching the ground.
- 3. Bring your back leg up to step onto the platform and bring your anchored leg up to a 90 degree angle.
- Your raised leg now returns to first position and you step off the platform to first position.
- Keep your arms in motion to mimic a sprinter's stance throughout the steps.
- 6. Complete 3 sets of 6-8 reps for each leg.

#### SPEED DRILLS MED BALL JUMP SQUATS

Build the explosive leg power needed to handle body

checks and power past defensemen.







- This drill requires a medicine ball.
- Start with your legs apart in a flex position, holding the Med Ball above your head.
- 2. Squat so your knees are at least 90 degrees.
- 3. Explode upward as high as you can, keeping your legs open and ready to transition to the next squat.
- 4. Complete 3 sets of 10-12 reps.



#### SPEED DRILLS MED BALL SPLIT JUMP & TWIST







Build the dynamic muscle power and explosive speed needed to get around defenders. The full range of motion makes this drill more "sport specific" as there are multiple muscle groups activated.

This drill requires a med ball.

- Start in a lunge position with one foot in front of the other and hold the med ball with both hands at one side of your waist, opposite your lead leg.
- In one fluid motion, jump up and switch legs, coming down in a flex position and ending in a lunge with your opposite leg forward.
- When in mid-air, move the med ball to your front and cross your body to your opposite hip.
- 4. Complete 3 sets of 10-12 reps.

#### SPEED DRILLS MED BALL SIDE TO SIDE TWISTS

Boost your endurance, stability and reaction time by working



your back and core.





This drill requires a medicine ball.

- Start in an upright sit-up position, with your heels on the ground, holding the med ball at arm's length in front of you.
- 2. Rotate it from one side of your body to the other.
- 3. Complete 3 sets of 10-12 reps.

#### SPEED DRILLS MED BALL WOOD CHOP







Simulate on-ice shooting and bodychecking movements with this drill, while building a stronger upper body.

This drill requires a medicine ball.

- 1. Start in a standing position with feet shoulder width apart.
- 2. Hold the med ball in two hands and raise it over your shoulder.
- 3. Bring the med ball down across your body in a chopping motion, stopping at your hip.
- 4. From the bottom of your chop, raise the ball over your other shoulder.
- **5.** Chop down to your opposite hip to complete a figure eight.
- 6. Complete 3 sets of 10-12 reps.





Speed Field	Sets	Reps	Rests	Superset	Page
Get Up Sprint		5-7 runs	30s		10
Ladder Crossover	6	3 each foot	30s		10
Agility Box Crossover	3	4 starts from the left and right side	60-90s		11
Pyramid Sprints		60 seconds			11
Speed Play: Buildups		3 runs	60-90s		11

#### SPEED FIELD DRILLS GET UP SPRINT







- Practise the sporadic and intermittent explosiveness needed during a game. To increase difficulty, you can race a partner or vary the length of sprints and number of runs.
- Start on your stomach with your hands at your shoulders, ready to push you up to a standing position.
- **2.** Explode up to a sprinting position and sprint 15 metres.
- 3. Complete 5-7 runs.

#### SPEED FIELD DRILLS LADDER CROSSOVER







Improve speed with quicker feet and rapid on-ice crossovers doing this drill.

- This drill requires a ladder or agility web.

  1. Start at one end of the web beside the
- first box.
- 2. Step into the first box with your outside foot, crossing your body.
- 3. Next, bring your crossed foot to the other side of the box and bring your feet together on the other side.
- Repeat the steps, alternating your feet until you reach the end of the web, and jog back to start.
- 5. Complete 3 runs starting on each



#### SPEED FIELD DRILLS AGILITY BOX CROSSOVER









This drill builds the agility and quickness needed for forwards to change direction at top speed. Concentrate on staying low and controlling your arms throughout the drill.

This drill requires at least four SPARQ hurdles

- Arrange the hurdles in a box
  formation
- 2. Stand outside the box and use a crossover movement to step inside the box.
- Uncross your feet by bringing one foot over to the other side of the box and bring your feet together.
- Reverse the motion, by bringing your other foot outside the rear of the box.
- **5.** Plant your feet before sprinting out of the opposite side of the box.
- **6.** Complete 6 sets and try to run each faster than the last.

#### SPEED FIELD DRILLS PYRAMID SPRINTS





Build the on-ice speed forwards need to win battles to the puck. Increase

or compete against a teammate to add another level of competition.

your intensity with shorter periods of rest between each run. Time yourself



Set up four cones in a line, 20 metres apart.
 Sprint from the first cone to the secone.

This drills requires four cones.

- 2. Sprint from the first cone to the second cone then jog back.
- 3. Sprint from the first cone to the third cone then jog back.
- 4. Sprint from the first cone to the fourth cone then jog back.
- 5. Complete 3 sets of runs.

#### SPEED FIELD DRILLS SPEED PLAY: BUILDUPS







Focus on the explosiveness of each step. Remember to keep your knees high with your arms and shoulders relaxed. Run against a teammate or time yourself and increase the intensity by trying to beat your times with more explosive bursts.

- This drill requires a field at least  $60\,$  metres long.
- From a standing position, get up to speed with a steadily increasing page.
- 2. Begin with a 20 metre jog.
- 3. Transition into a 20 metre run.
- 4. Then break into a full out sprint for the last 20 metres.
- 5. Jog back to your starting position.
- 6. Complete 3 runs.



## POWER LOWER BODY OVERVIEW

Power Lower Body	Sets	Reps	Rests	Superset	Page
Med Ball Wood Chop		10-12 reps	30s		12
Walking Lunges	6	20 m each leg	60-90s		12
Skater's Squat	3	10-12 reps	30s		13
Swiss Ball Hip Extension &		10-12 reps			13
Hamstring Curl					
Swiss Ball Crunch		10-12 reps	30s		13

#### POWER LOWER BODY DRILLS MED BALL WOOD CHOP







Put more power behind your shots and more strength into your checks with this muscle building drill.

- This drill requires a medicine ball.
- 1. Start in a standing position with feet shoulder width apart.
- 2. Hold the med ball in two hands and raise it over your shoulder.
- 3. Bring the med ball down across your body in a chopping motion, stopping at your hip.
- 4. From the bottom of your chop, raise the ball over your other shoulder.
- **5.** Chop down to your opposite hip to complete a figure eight.
- 6. Complete 3 sets of 10-12 reps.

#### POWER LOWER BODY DRILLS WALKING LUNGES

Maximize your mobility by working your hips, legs and core

to keep up with every opponent you face.







- 3. Follow with the opposite leg and travel 20 metres before jogging back to the
  - 4. Complete 3 sets.

1. Start with your hands on your hips or

2. Lunge forward with a high step and end with your knees at a 90 degree

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#### POWER LOWER BODY DRILLS SKATER'S SQUAT







This drill mimics the natural skating stride to improve leg strength and stability for rushes up the ice and back while checking.

- 1. Start in a standing position with your feet together.
- **2.** Extend a leg behind you at a 45 degree angle to end in a lunge position.
- 3. Hold, and return to the start position and extend with the other leg.
- 4. Complete 2 sets of 10-12 reps.

#### POWER LOWER BODY DRILLS SWISS BALL HIP EXTENSION & HAMSTRING CURL







Maximize the strength and stability in your hamstrings and glutes to make it even harder for your opponents to knock you off the puck.

This drill requires a Swiss ball.

- 1. Start with your heels on the ball.
- 2. Your back should be off the ground with your weight on your shoulders.
- 3. Roll the ball back to flex your hamstring and hold.
- 4. Roll the ball back to first position.
- 5. Complete 2 sets of 10-15 reps.

#### POWER LOWER BODY DRILLS SWISS BALL CRUNCH







Build your on-ice stability by focusing on abdominal and core strength to be dominant in the corners.

- This drill requires a Swiss ball.
- Position the Swiss ball in the small of your back. Your feet should be flat on the ground.
- Balancing yourself on the ball, overextend backwards and bring yourself to a crunch position.
- 3. Return to the overextended position.
- 4. Complete 2 sets of 10-15 reps.



## POWER UPPER BODY OVERVIEW

Power Upper Body	Sets	Reps	Rests	Superset	Page
Pause Push-Ups	3	12-15 reps	30s		14
Dumbbell Squat & Press	3	10-12 reps	30s		14
Horizontal Pull-Ups	3	8-12 reps	30s		15
One Arm Dumbbell Row		Build Power with more weight less reps. Build endurance with more reps less weight.			15
One Leg Russian Deadlift		8-12 reps	30s		15

#### POWER UPPER BODY DRILLS PAUSE PUSH-UPS







- 1. Start in a push-up position.
- 2. When you reach the down position pause for 3 seconds before returning to the up position.
- 3. Complete 3 sets of 12-15 reps.

#### POWER UPPER BODY DRILLS DUMBBELL SQUAT & PRESS







Perform a squat.

shoulder height.

3. When you return to the first position, use your momentum to press the dumbbells above your head.

This drill requires a Swiss ball.

1. Hold a dumbbell in each hand at

- 4. Complete 3 sets of 10-12 reps.
- For building power, use a heavier weight and do less reps and sets. For increasing endurance, use a lighter weight and do more reps and sets.

A stronger shot and bodycheck starts with the upper body

strength you build with this chest and shoulder drill.

By working your legs and shoulders simultaneously you build

overall strength and increase your coordination.



#### POWER UPPER BODY DRILLS HORIZONTAL PULL-UPS







Get the strength you need to win battles in the corners by building a stronger back and arms. For increased difficulty, wear a weighted vest or elevate your feet on a Swiss ball or bench.

This drill requires a squat rack.

- Position the bar just above shoulder height and grip it like you are doing a bench press.
- 2. Straighten your core into a plank with your heels touching the floor.
- **3.** Pull your body up to the bar in a reverse bench press.
- 4. Complete 3 sets of 8-12 reps.

#### POWER UPPER BODY DRILLS ONE ARM DUMBBELL ROW







Build a stronger back and arms for more control over the puck and a booming shot.

This drill requires a dumbbell.

- Place one arm and knee on a bench for support and keep your back straight and parallel to the ground.
- Lean over so the dumbbell hangs straight from your arm and lift the dumbbell to your chest. Squeeze with your back muscles while keeping your back straight.
- 3. For building power, use a heavier weight and do less reps and sets. For increasing endurance, use a lighter weight and do more reps and sets.

#### POWER UPPER BODY DRILLS ONE-LEG RUSSIAN DEADLIFT







Build your on-ice stability by focusing on abdominal and core strength to be dominant in the corners.

This drill requires a dumbbell.

- 1. Standing on one leg, grab the dumbbell on the floor.
- 2. Pull up across your body, raising the dumbbell over your head.
- 3. Reverse direction to finish just above the floor at the outside of your ankle.
- 4. Complete 3 sets of 8-12 reps.



## ENDURANCE OVERVIEW

Endurance	Sets	Reps	Rests	Superset	Page
40 Metre Shuffle	2-5	20m each direction	60-90s		16
Tennis Ball Suicides		4 runs	60-90s		16
Get Up Tag		3 runs then switch	30s		16
5 Cone Scramble	3	8-10 numbers	60-90s		17
Rabbit Runs		4 runs each	30s		17
Mirror Drill		4 runs then switch			17
Agility Box with Variable 20 Metre		2 runs			17

#### **ENDURANCE DRILLS 40 METRE SHUFFLE**







- Facing one direction, shuffle sideways for 20 metres, without crossing your feet.
- 2. Return to the start by shuffling back in the other direction.
- 3. Repeat 2-5 times. Try to run each faster than the last.

Increase your lateral speed with this drill to get around defenders. Concentrate on keeping your centre of gravity low and pushing with your outside leg. Challenge yourself by timing how long each rep takes, then try to beat your best time.

#### ENDURANCE DRILLS GET UP TAG







This head to head drill mimics the puck chases every forward wants to win. Practice your acceleration and deceleration using quick changes of direction while avoiding your partner. Increase the level of competition by making the space smaller or adding more opponents.

This drill requires a partner.

- 1. Lay down on your back with your head touching your partner's.
- 2. When your trainer indicates, get up.
- 3. Use explosive movements to catch your opponent and tag them.
- 4. Complete 3 runs then switch to avoid being tagged.

#### **ENDURANCE DRILLS TENNIS BALL SUICIDES**

petitive, time yourself and aim to beat your best time.





Use this drill to build controlled acceleration and deceleration to always

be in the best scoring position on the ice. To make this drill more com-



This drill requires 5 tennis balls.

- Begin with a tennis ball in your hand, one at the start line, as well as one at the 5, 10, and 15 metre marks.
- 2. Sprint to the ball at the 5 metre mark with a ball in your hand.
- 3. Switch the ball in your hand for the one at the 5 metre mark and return to the start.
- 4. Switch the ball you picked up at the 5 metre mark for the one at the start and sprint to the next ball at the 10 metre mark.
- 5. Continue switching each ball between the start and the 10, and 15 metre
- 6. Complete 4 runs.
- 7.



#### ENDURANCE DRILLS 5 CONE SCRAMBLE







Keep your knees bent to help acceleration and deceleration while facing forwards throughout the drill. Increase the intensity by doing 10 push-ups every time you miss a cone or advance to the wrong one, this will keep you on your toes.

This drill requires 5 cones.

- 1. Start in the middle of the 5 cones.
- 2. When your partner calls out a number, sprint to the corresponding cone and
- 3. Use the shuffle technique to return to the middle cone and wait for the next
- 4. Complete 3 runs of 8-10 numbers

#### **ENDURANCE DRILLS RABBIT RUNS**







Focus on accelerating and decelerating from various speeds to get past defensemen along the boards. Up the difficulty by increasing the distance of the chase. Make sure to keep an arm's-length between you and your partner. If you break that space do 10 push-ups before switching.

This drill requires a partner.

- 1. Stand behind your partner.
- 2. The person in front acts as the leader and sprints forward at varying speeds for 20 metres.
- 3. The person following runs when their partner runs and stops when they
- 4. Switch places and complete 4 runs each.

#### **ENDURANCE DRILLS MIRROR DRILL**







This drill will help you deke out defenseman next time you hit the ice. If you're leading, complicate your steps by adding crossovers, shuttles, arm swings and head movements to throw off your opponent.

This drill requires a partner.

- 1. Stand facing your partner.
- 2. Your partner acts as a leader and moves forward, backwards and side to side.
- 3. Mirror each of your partner's movements exactly.
- 4. Switch places and complete 4 runs

#### S AGILITY BOX WITH VARIABLE 20 METRE







Build explosive power and a stronger skating stride with this drill. Concentrate on keeping your centre of gravity low and pushing with your outside leg. To make this drill more competitive, time yourself and aim to beat your best time.

This drill requires 4 cones arranged as a 20 metre by 20 metre box.

- 1. Start by sprinting forwards 20
- 2. Shuffle right 20 metres.
- 3. Then backpedal 20 metres.
- 4. Carioca 20 metres to the left, and carioca back.
- 5. Sprint forwards 20 metres.
- 6. Then shuffle left 20 metres.
- 7. And backpedal 20 metres to complete the square.
- 8. Complete 2 runs.





Defence Skills	Reps	Page
Stickhandling (around cones, with a pipe, and over an obstacle.)	Various controls for 30s each.  Add the pipe and continue for 30s each.	18
	Various controls over an obstacle for 30s each.	
Shooting (accuracy and point shots.)	At least 25 shots each	19
Passing	30s each drill	19/20

#### SKILLS DRILLS STICKHANDLING



This drill requires four cones and a road hockey ball.

- Control the ball in a figure eight formation, forward for 30 seconds then backwards for 30 seconds.
- 2. Practice different types of control by mixing rollies, toe-drags and pulls.
- 3. Now add a third cone to create a triangle. Stickhandle in and around it, making sure to go in both directions using a variety of techniques for 30 seconds each.
- 4. Add in a fourth cone to create a box.
- Stand in the middle and stickhandle in and around the cones to focus on puck control in tight spaces.
- **6.** Then rate within the box as you stickhandle to work on control in motion
- 7. Complete a circuit of various controls for 30 seconds each.

#### SKILLS DRILLS STICKHANDLING UPPER HAND CONTROL







Add another layer of difficulty by changing the ball to something smaller and more unpredictable like a golf ball or SPARQ Reaction

- Slide a piece of pipe on your stick and grip with your lower hand.
- 2. Concentrate on using your upper hand to control the ball through the cones.
- 3. Practice combining different types of control with rollies, toe-drags and pulls around the cones.
- 4. Complete a circuit of various controls for 30 seconds each.



#### SKILLS DRILLS STICKHANDLE OVER AN OBSTACLE







This will help you maintain control of bouncing pucks and avoid stick-checks on the ice. Strengthen your core by incorporating a side to side jump over a hurdle, landing on one foot and holding for 3 seconds per jump as you stickhandle.

- This drill requires a piece of pipe or stick and two cones.
- Set up a piece of pipe or stick on top of two cones, creating an obstacle that is half a metre wide, making sure the ball can fit underneath.
- Practice combining different types of control with rollies, toe-drags and pulls around the obstacle.
- 3. Get creative and combine rolling the ball through or popping it up and over the obstacle as you move.
- 4. Complete a circuit of various controls for 30 seconds each.

#### SKILLS DRILLS ACCURACY SHOOTING







- This drill requires a hockey net, practice balls and a stick.
- Begin by turning the net on an angle so there's less net to shoot at.
- From 3 metres away, practice wristers, snapshots and backhands for at least 25 shots each.
- Move back to 6 metres and practise wristers, snapshots and backhands for at least 25 shots each.
- 4. Move back again to 12 metres away to practice wristers and shots.

#### SKILLS DRILLS POINT SHOTS







To simulate game-time shooting, have a partner feed you passes to work on one-timers. To increase the degree of difficulty, try standing on one leg at a time to improve stability, wear a weighted vest while you shoot or tape pucks to the back of your blade to weight it down. This will give you more power behind your shots.

- This drill requires a hockey net, practice halls and a stick.
- Begin by putting the net down so you're shooting at the top of it. This smaller target will help you keep shots low and create more tip-in opportunities or rebounds off the goalie's pads.
- 2. From 6 metres out, practice snapshots for at least 25 shots
- Move back to about 12 metres out to practice slapshots.

#### SKILLS DRILLS PASSING



vary the path of the passes.



Strengthen your core and improve stability by standing on one leg

or by stride jumping from foot to foot, this will mimic your skating

stride. Increase the difficulty by using a SPARQ Reaction ball to



- This drill requires a stick, road hockey ball and a wall.
- Standing 3 metres away from a wall, pass to yourself beginning on your forehand, cradling the pass for 30 seconds then switch to one-touching it off the wall for 30 seconds.
- 2. Work on your backhand for 30 seconds.
- 3. Then alternate giving and receiving passes between your forehand and backhand for 30 seconds.
- 4. Increase the distance of your pass by moving 6 metres away from the wall, then 10 metres away. Work on forehand, backhand and alternating passes from these distances.



#### SKILLS DRILLS TOUCH PASSES







Strengthen your core and improve stability by standing on one leg during the drill. Increase the level of difficulty by reducing the size of the obstacle. You can do this drill alone by passing off a wall.

- This drill requires a partner, sticks and road hockey ball.
- Standing about 3 meters from your partner with an obstacle between you, use a forehand pass to get the ball over or under the obstacle and to your partner. Continue this for 30 seconds.
- 2. Switch to your backhand and repeat for 30 seconds.
- 3. Increase your distance from the obstacle to 6 and 10 metres and complete the forehand and backhand circuit. Continue passing for 30 seconds each