


Core $4 \leq$ Handhook

M: \%:\% healthway

## INTRODUCTION

Hockey WA are delighted to be able to provide a resource to assist and support coaches and teachers to implement and develop grassroots participation programs in communities, clubs and schools.
The objectives of this resource are to provide 'Core 4 ': $4 \times 1$ hour session plans to start players on their hockey journey.
4 Essential Skills with technical cues for coaches, teachers, parents and players. A number of skill targeted activities and small sided games to support long term participation and engagement
Future ideas and concepts to support a Safe, Fun and Engaging Learning Environment for Hockey


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PASSING
Left hand at the top of the stick and bottom hand $1 / 3$ way down the stick for power / control
SOB, no noise
Encourage to pass off of both feet not just left for long term development
Encourage to explore different ways and angles to pass the ball
TRAPPING
Stick on the ground in line with the ball direction - the stick face should be at $90^{\circ}$
Try to 'catch' the ball with a soft bottom hand so that the ball doesn't bounce off the stick

## RECEIVING

Receiving is a focus on receiving on the move
The idea is to 'catch the ball' on the stick from left to right or right to left on the forestick preferably but sometimes the reverse

$x \times x \times x \times x$
$x+x \times x+x$
$x \times x+x$

## tACKLING

Encourage players to reach in and steal the ball from the opposition from the side.
When tackling hands stay apart and we do not swing the stick or tackle through the line of the body No body contact should be made at any time

WHEN TACKLING FROM FRONT ON PLAYERS NEED TO
Move left to move their body away from the line of the opponents body on a $45^{\circ}$ angle / rún an arc
Move towards the player and as they player is about to pass you, place the stick in front of the ball
Stay low in a strong position and move your feet and push forward with the bottom hand if you require additional force to win the ball


## ELIMINATION SKILLS

Elimination can be executed via a pass, stick work (skill), the body or ball carry speed. These skills are something that are encouraged through dribbling, passing, tackling / invasion games and especially small sided games and games are focused on / can be adapted to focus on specific types of eliminations.

## $\therefore x \times x$ <br> : $x x$ <br> $x \times$ core 4

## 1. TALK AND RULES - SAFETY CHECKLIST (SEE SAFETY ADVICE PAGE 3)

Reinforce key points of SOB, using the flat side of the stick only, no use of the feet or hands

## HOW TO HOLD A STICK AND BODY POSITION (SEE ESSENTIAL SKILLS PAGE 0)

## *WARM UP GAME

In groups of 3-4 the aim of the game is to tap each other on the back of the knee in a coned box of $10 \mathrm{~m} \times 10 \mathrm{~m}$. The technical objective is to maintain the 'ready position' posture with no 'yo-yo's' (up and down) or bent backs. If you are tapped on the back of the knee you have to do a forfeit (e.g. 5 squats / push ups / jumping jacks) and then re-join the game.

## 3. BALL CARRY RELAY WITH RECEIVING POSITION

 Participants learn how to dribble through a basic dribble, on the floor (still holding it) for the player to dribble into Focus on keeping SOB and the ball in front at 1 ' 0 ' clock.
## MAKE IT A GAME / CHANGE IT

How many points can you get in 1 minute per team (1 length = 1 pt )
Add cones / gates to weave in and out of (forestick ball carry only, encourage foot movement to change direction)
Encourage going faster and making mistakes to push
their boundaries their boundaries


## 4. STOP - GO-BACKWARDS

Everyone has a ball each and the participants perform the instructions below in accordance to the coach's actions. Start with 'Stop and Go' and then add progressions gradually. Once progressions have been added then change the game to attend to visual and cognitive cues in other weeks / for progressive warm up games
Go - Carry the ball at 1 ' 0 ' clock with SOB
Stop - Stop the ball on the spot by changing your grip
Backwards - Carry the ball in front at 1 'o' clock whilst walking / jogging backwards (grip change required)
side to side - Dragging the ball outside their body line by changing their grip and keeping stick on ball on the spo Zig zag - Dragging the ball side to side whilst moving forwards' keeping stick on ball

$\square$ LINE 2
$x-x \therefore x$

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| V1. VOCAL | COACHING POINTS |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| STOP | Grip change \& ball in front |  |
| GO <br> BACKWARDS <br> SIDE TO SIDE <br> ZIG ZAG | - - Stick on ball <br> - Ball in front at 1 'o' clock <br> - Body position with ability to look forward whilst dribbling |  |
| V2. VISUAL | CUE | COACHING POINTS |
| STOP | Hand up in stop sign | Grip change \& ball in front |
| GO | Hands by side | - Stick on ball <br> - Ball in front at 1 'o' clock <br> - Body position with ability to look forward whilst dribbling |
| BACKWARDS | Hands on head |  |
| SIDE TO SIDE | Both arms to the side |  |
| ZIG ZAG | Both arms up |  |
| V3. COGNITIVE |  |  |
| STOP | Red Cone | Grip chanǵe \& ball in front |
| GO | Green Cone | - Stick on ball <br> - Ball in front at $1 \%$ clock <br> - Body poosition with ability to look forward whilst dribbling |
| BACKWARDS | Blue Cone |  |
| SIDE TO SIDE | Yellow Cone |  |
| ZIG ZAG | Pink Cone |  |

5. PASSING AND RECEIVING BOX ACTIVITY

- Requirements: Approximately $33 \%$ ball to player ratio e.g 9 players would have 3 balls in the box,
- Part A:

Practice passing the ball with SOB in the space. All players must be moving (at least walking) with and without the ball

- Part B:

Timed exercise: How many times can you pass/receive the ball on the forestick SOB in 2 minutes

- 1 point for each, no point if there is a large noise between the stick and the ball
- Part C:

Timed exercise: Same exercise as Part B except you cannot talk and need to make mutual eye contact before passing

- Part D:
${ }^{2}$ Creative opportunity: Find as many different ways to pass to teams mates with SOB as possible.
- Suggest concepts such as off your left / right foot, through your legs, passing behind / to the side



1. ROB THE NEST - WARM UP/REFRESH FROM WEEK 1

2. SHAPE ESCAPE


SET-UP
In 3 's, get $3 / 4 / 5$ cones and make a shape in a space. Then inside your shape practice passing and receiving the ball both with SOB. Passing in 3 's is important as it enables you pass different angles, not just straight

DESCRIPTION
The objective of the game is for the team to pass/ receive the ball in every shape and then return to the shape they first started in. Each player in the team must receive the ball once before you can go to the next shape.


## WEEK 2

## 3. HOW TO TACKLE SAFELY

## TACKLING

- Encourage players to reach in and steal the ball from the opposition from the side.
- When tackling hands stay apart and we do not swing the stick or tackle through the line of the body - No body contact should be made at any time


## WHEN TACKLING FROM FRONT ON PLAYERS NEED TO

. Move left to move their body away from the line of the "opponents body on a $45^{\circ}$ angle / run an arc
2. Move towards the player and as they player is about to pass you, place the stick in front of the ball
3. Stay low in a strong position and move your feet and push forward with the bottom hand if you require additional force to win the ball


## SET-UP

1 ball between 2

## DESCRIPTION

n 2's players must start in a good low tackling position with bent knees and a neutral back position (see 4 essential skills). The aim of against the opponents stick and win the ball through good footwork and stick trength to manoeuvre into position of strength over en opponent. We must ensure heaas stay away no swinging of the stick (SOB).

## CHANGE IT

Players can change their grip to try and drag the ball epponents stick and explore different way to steal the ball
2. After a player wins the ball, they have to try and keep the ball for 5 seconds whilst the other player has to try and win it
Play best of 3 then swap partners again Play best of 3 t
someone else
4. DOG \& BONE


## 1. how to tackle safely

SET-UP
1 ball between 2

## DESCRIPTION

In 2's players must start in a with bent knees and a neutral back position (see 4 essential skills). The aim of the game is to push the ball against the opponents stick
and win the ball through good footwork and stick strength to manoeuvre into a position of strength over the opponent. We must ensure heads stay away from the ball and there is no swinging
stick (SOB).


WHEN TACKLING FROM BEHIND OR THE SIDE ON THE RIGHT-HAND SIDE OF THE PLAYER EITHER

Overtake the player and use your forestick to steal the ball with a block tackle or
2. Úse your reverse stick and drag the ball to your forestick


WHEN TACKLING FROM BEHIND OR THE SIDE ON THE LEFT-HAND SIDE OF THE PLAYER EITHER

Slide your forestick in between their stick and the ball to steal the ball from the side

## CHANGE IT

Players can change their grip to try and drag the ball off of the opponents stick and explore different ways to steal the ball
After a player wins the ball, they have to try and keep the ball for 5 second whilst the other player has to try and win it back through safe tackles from the correct position

Play best of 3 then swap partners against someone else

## 2. HOW TO TACKLE SAFELY FROM THE SIDE

 (STEALING THE BALL)WALKTHROUGH PRACTICE
See Essential Skills Tackling from
the side component - page
Player A (Blue stick) with the ball dribbles with the ball in a straight line at walking pac
Player B (Red Stick) then jogs up from behind and practices stealing the ball
from the side on both the left and right hand sides.

TACKLE FROM LEFT
(26)






SET-UP
Create a small playing area,
$20 \mathrm{~m} \times 20 \mathrm{~m}$ (ensure the area is big enough for all players to safely move around). Half of the participants have a ball (starting as cops) and half do not and start on the sideline (starting as robbers) If you have lots of players make 2 boxes

## DESCRIPTION

$1 / 2$ of the group (cops) start with a ball in the box and the other $1 / 2$ start on the sideline with no ball (robbers). When the coach shouts go the robbers must try to steal the ball of any cop and dribble the ball outside the box. The cop can try and win the ball back off the robber in the process. If the robber successfully dribbles the ball outside they get a The dispossessed cop does a fun small forfeit and then joins back in (e.g 5 squats). Games can last for 2-3 minutes and then swap roles.

## CHANGE IT

Make the area smaller / larger to make it easier / harder
Keep score of individual or team 'robber points' and have 3 rounds
If a cop can put the ball on a robbers foot, the robber has to go tackle someone else
Have extra 'savers' on the sideline, if a robber passes to a 'saver' on the outside the robber gets 2 points


## 1. HOCKEY TENNIS



## SET-UP

One ball between six players. Set an area
that fits three players on each side of a line or coned area. Mark out a base line that is 5 meters
from the centre line. from the centre line.

## DESCRIPTION

Skill: Hockey Tennis
One team of three start with the ball on their
side
Each team must try and push the ball over the other team's base line,
without lifting the ball ( 5 metres from centre line). If the ball goes over the sideline, the ball is taken from where it went over the line.
The team who pushes the ball past the other team over the base line
gets one point, the first team to 5 points wins the game.

2. носктор US


3. SMALL SIDED GAMES - 3v3


## SET-UP

Mark out a playing area that
is $15 \mathrm{~m} \times 15 \mathrm{~m}$ with 2 goals up

DESCRIPTION
Each team will be given two goals to
attack and two goals to defend
A goal can be scored through pushing
the ball through one of the goals the ball through one of the goals
If a team pushes or dribbles the ball off the field, the opposing team gets a 'free-push' from where the ball went off
If a goal is scored the defending team estart the game with a 'free-push' from their baseline

$\star \star \star \star \star \star$ CORE 4 COMPLETE $* * * * * *$

fun and engaging learning environment... What's next?
We believe that the best way to engage and develop participants is through small sided games and skill specicic decision making activities which mirrors current trends in int parnational sport and peer reviewed research from groups including Australian Sports Commission; FIFA; AFL and Cricket to name just a few.
Key Benefits of Small Sided Games include:

1. More touches and off the ball involvement
2. Easier to make decisions due to less options
3. More scoring opportunities
4. More passes and opportunity for teamwork
5. Invölves all players
6. Breaks the game down into chunks
7. Eliminate presses and zones
8. Teaches players when to use a skill

Types of Small Sided Games:

1. Goal Based: The objective is to score a goal
2. Zone Based: The objective is to get into a zone (via passing / receiving or ball carry)
3. Possession Based: The objective is to retain the ball

As well as implementing small sided games and skill specific decision making activities, it is important that we change the game to continually offer new challenges, different decisions in a variety of inclusive hockey environments. This will be explored on the next page.

## SMALI SIDED GAMES / CHANGE IT

h order to provide a variety of inclusive hockey environments whe change the game to continually offer new challenges, tasks and decisions making activities to engage participants.

For a more detailed approach please refer to the Australian Sports Commission 'Change It' concept. https://sportingschools.gov.au/resources-and-pd/schools/playing-for-life-resources/change-it

|  | Examples of ways to change small sided games |
| :--- | :--- |
| Coaching Style | Use / No of verbal instructions / demonstrations - Guided discovery - Use of questions |
| How to Score | Possession: Make 3 passes as a team - Keep the ball for 10 seconds <br> Zonal: -Dribble into a zone - Receive a pass in a box / zone - Get the ball into through a zone <br> Goals: 2+ goals to score from - Location of these goals / gates - Where you can score from |
| Area | Increase / Decrease the size of the area - Change the shape of the area |
| Numbers | Increase numbers of players - Decrease number of players - Add one extra to one team |
| Game Rules | '2 passes before you can score' - 'Push passing only' - '2 points if you make an interception' |
| Equipment | With or without hockey equipment - Playing with larger / softer balls |
| Inclusion | Everyone must touch it before you can score - Same person can't score twice in a row |
| Time | 'As many as you can in 1 minute' - 'Each team gets to be cops on 2 minute rotations' |

## OTHER DRIBBLING GAMES / ACTIVITIES

## 1. SKILLS CHALLENGE

In groups of 4-5 teams need to create a skills challenge with a start and a finish line and obstacles. All groups require $0-12$ cones each Individuals are timed on their own course then teams rotate and have a go at each groups skills challenge.


## 2. SIMON SAYS

In a large coned box proportionate to the number of players, all participants have a ball each In a large coned box proportionate to the number
The concept is similar to 'Stop / Go / Backwards'

3. FOLLOW THE LEADER


SET-UP
1 ball each in pairs with 2 cones per pair. Set up 2 cones between 5-10 metres apart 5 metres for younger newer players,

DESCRIPTION
Both players start with a ball each and one of them is named the 'leader' and one the
follower'. The objective of the game is foower. The objective of the game is
for the leader to dribble up and down the line between the two cones and get to a cone before the follower can get within in a sticks length of a cone. After 90 seconds swap roles and play again. Encourage both players to have SOB and to look / be follower / leader is moving.

## CHANGE IT

The follower doesn't need a ball (Makes it easier). The leader can try to add 'dummies' and 'body feints' to make the follower go the wrong way.
Rather than following the leader the follower has to go the opposite direction as opposed to mirroring them.

## EXTREME FOLLOW THE LEADER

$$
\text { Set Up: } 1 \text { ball each in pairs with } 2 \text { cones per }
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Set Up: } 1 \text { ball each in pairs with } 2 \text { cones per } \\
& \text { cones between } 5-10 \text { metres apart wide and } \\
& 3 \text {-5metres depth. }
\end{aligned}
$$

Description: Same as Follow The Leader except it
is 3D and you can carry the ball vertically as well as orizontaly. The main goal is still the same for the follower to mirror the movement of the leader.

## BEAT THE BALL

## SET-UP

Make a circle with 5-8 people and one person on the outside. One person in the circle starts with the ball. The outside person' is the 'runner'

## DESCRIPTION

The ball must travel around the circle with each The ball must travel around the circle wist each
player trapping + passing. The runner must try and 'beat the ball'. Each full rotation is 1 point of 6 , running 1 and a half times $=1.3$ points.

## CHANGE IT

Number of hockey balls
Direction of passing
Adding a skill eg. indian dribble
Runner has to hop/dribble a hockey ball
Ball can't go to your next door neighbour

## BATTLESHIPS

## SET-UP

5-8 Cones in a line with spaces between them an teams of 2-5 opposité each other. Each player ane and requires a ball each

## DESCRIPTION

1 team starts with the balls + the coach shouts 'fire'. The players must push the balls' and "sink the battleship', through hitting the opponent's cones, Any cone hit is taken away. The balls are
then collected + the other team gets to try \& hit the opposition battleship


4 balls are placed in a line a 4 balls are placed in a line a
safe distance in front of the safe distance in front of the
collectors. Beside the 4 balls are two cones placed around 3 -5m apart for the pusher to un around. One goal is set up on the field for the collectors o place the balls in, this goal is to be placed on the opposite side to the cones.


## DESCRIPTION

- Set up 4 batlls in a straight line facing the playing area
'One player is the 'firer' with 4-5 players being the collectors. The 'firer' pushes the balls into the field and One player is the firer, with 4-5 players being the collectors. The firer pushes the
Once the 4 balls have been fired, the players from the safe zone must collect the bass them the -goal.
-The 'firer's' score is how many times they run around the cones before all for ball are pushed into the goal.



## BOX TRAP - ZONAL



## SET-UP

Have a playing area that is $15 \mathrm{~m} \times 15 \mathrm{~m}$ with 4 zone goals at each end. A goal is made up of 4 cones creating a box. The field should be large enough allow space for all the players

## DESCRIPTION

A team scores a goal by passing the ball to a team mate who receives the ball in a box
A defender cannot enter the bóx
The player who knocks out a ball gets a point

- The player who had their ball knocked out does a minor forfeit (e.g $3 \times$ jumping jacks) and then joins back in


## KNOCKOUT - POSSESSION GAME

| STEPS | CHANGE IT |
| :--- | :--- |
| START OUT | Teams score points by successfully <br> receiving the ball anywhere on the field |
| GET INTO IT | Vary the size of the boxes |
| PROGRESSIVE | Knockout teams: Put players into <br> teams of 2/3/4 and their objective is to <br> knockout / eliminate opposition teams. <br> In this case if you are 'knocked out' <br> you stand on the outside and you are <br> eliminated. The eliminated players are <br> allowed to reach in and steal balls from <br> opposition teams. |



## DESCRIPTION

Set up a field the same size as for the passing skill.

- Every player has a ball. In this game, players are trying to steal balls from other players and pass it out of the field, while trying to keep their ball safe in the field.
Once a player's ball has been pushed out of the field they are eliminated.


ZONE BALL GAME


NON-POSSESSION TEAM
SET-UP
2 Boxes which are approximately $10 \times 10$ metres with 2 teams of 3 or 4 in each box

POSSESSION TEAM

## DESCRIPTION

The objective of the possession team is to keep the ball and attempt to make 10 passes in total. In this case, every time the possession team (A) make 3 passes, an extra player from the opposition (D) enter their zone to press / dispossess the ball. When dispossessed they must pass or dribble the ball into their own zone to become the possession team.

When the ball is won by the opposition, the team dispossessed can try and win back the ball before it is passed or carried into the opposition zone
As the ball enters the opposition zone, the roles are reversed, and the opposition must add an extra player to press / dispossess the ball




