Offensive Tactics • Breakouts
Part 1 of 3
By Wayne Fleming

This three(3)-part series presents Breakout Options against various forecheck situations. It is key to remember that breakouts are an offensive system or strategy and should only be taught with teams that have a solid grounding in the key technical skills, individual tactics and team tactics that are involved in developing a breakout.

PART 1—Go on the Attack
   a. First option – look for long penetration pass (home run).
   b. Quick up support pass: D-W; D-C; D-D
   c. Turn + go: defenseman wheel with the puck; lots of movement with a purpose.

PART 2—Against Heavy Forecheck Pressure
   a. Move the puck past pressure: quick up D-W/C (easy to find).
   b. Move puck away from pressure: to weak side D-D; D-Forward. Reverse D-D; D-W; D-C
   c. Get it out: hard rim with chip; hard off the glass; up and out (lob/flip)

PART 3—Against the Trap
   i. First option – turn and go with the puck: get the puck up and out before the trap is set.
   ii. Controlled options:
       a) Low breakout – C behind goal
       b) High set up
       c) L.W. stretch up + back under
PART 1—Go on the Attack

**LONG PENETRATING PASS**

- First option – look for long penetration pass (home run).
- Can also send weak side stretch forward up and then back underneath to catch the seam.

**QUICK UP SUPPORT PASS**

- D to D
- D to C
- D to W

**TURN & GO**

- Defenseman wheels with the puck; lots of movement with a purpose
- Forwards fill 3 lanes with lots of movement to gain speed on the attack.