



Controlling Dump-ins

A goaltender's responsibility is not confined to staying in his net and stopping the puck. Many times on dump-ins the goaltender is the first player to receive and handle the puck, either setting it up for the defenseman, making an outlet pass, or shooting it down the ice. All of these skills require plenty of practice and goaltenders should work with your forwards and defensemen on all passing and shooting drills to improve their technique.

On a dump-in the goaltender is the only player who can see where the puck is coming from, where it is going and who is coming after it. The first step is to assess the situation and decide whether it is safe to leave the net at all, or just help out by communicating with the defenseman who is retrieving the puck. Often the opposition forwards are on the puck so fast that it is best to stay in the net and guide the defenseman. If there is time to get out, the goaltender should stop and set up the puck and move it quickly to a safe spot or to a teammate.

The three best outcomes of a safely played dump-in are that the puck is set up flat on the ice in an area either behind the net or in the corner where it can be retrieved easily by a defenseman, the puck is passed to a teammate who has the time to make a play, or it is shot out of the zone and down the ice.

As a coach, you want to take the time to work with your goaltender on his or her puckhandling skills. You also should make sure that if the goaltender has good puckhandling skills, that you take advantage of them, and if they are poor, you are cautious of what they are allowed to do in game situations.

DUMP-INS ON NET

The first responsibility is for the goaltender to control the puck and make sure it does not get by them into the net. On low shots, the goaltender should get down on one knee, with the glove hand placed behind the stick in front of the body. If the puck jumps out of control the glove and body are there for back-up. On high shots, the goalie should try to catch the puck whenever possible. If catching the puck is impossible, the goaltender should get as close as possible to where the puck is going to land and get into the stance so if the puck bounces they can control it quickly in front of them with the pads before moving it.

CROSSCORNER DUMP-INS

On dump-ins that come across the ice and into the corner, the goaltender needs to watch the puck all the way to the corner to determine which way it will rebound out. If there is time and the puck is easy to control, the puck should be set up in the corner or behind the net for the defenseman. Otherwise the goaltender, as the only player facing up-ice, should use the boards to shoot it out of the zone. If the puck is bouncing erratically or there is insufficient time, it is often best for the goaltender to say in the crease and let the defenseman handle

the puck while helping out by communicating with him.

HARD-AROUND DUMP-IN

Pucks shot in around the boards are often the most difficult for goaltenders to retrieve, especially with the extra 2 or 3 feet behind each net in most arenas. The goaltender's first objective is to stop the puck by moving as quickly as possible to the boards behind the net. If he is on his glove side, he should try to get his body completely to the boards, glove down, stick on the ice in front of the skate of the leg pad that is up against the boards. The glove hand arm is used to balance against the boards and to push off with when returning back to the net.

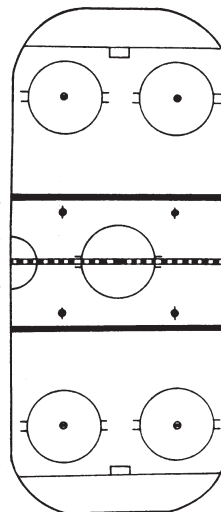
In situations where the puck is not bouncing, or where the goaltender does not have time to get his body to the boards, he should get his stick to the boards (in a shooting position) being careful to cup (close) the blade and angle it so that the puck does not bounce over it or out in front of the net. From this position, the puck can be quickly shot around the boards, passed, or set up behind for a teammate.

Retrieving a puck on the stick side (blocker side) is a little more difficult and a little more unsure. The goaltender should get behind the net in the stance, stopping the puck with the backhand side of the blade of the stick (in a backhand passing position).

Once the puck is under control, it should be set up either directly behind the net or to the side of the net where the defenseman is returning (depending on how much time he has) and the goalie should return as quickly as possible to the net. The goaltender **always** has the inside lane to the net, with the defenseman going to the outside to avoid collisions.

Hard-Around Dump-In Set-up

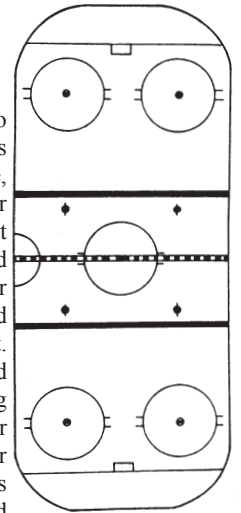
Players form two lines at blue line as shown. On the whistle, X carries the puck over the red line and dumps it around the boards behind the net. The goaltender gets out of the net, stops the puck behind and sets it up for X to retrieve. As X picks up the puck, O pivots in front of the net facing the puck and X attacks O in a 1 on 1



rush up the ice.

Hard-Around Dump-In with Breakout Pass

Players form two lines at blue line as shown. On the whistle, X carries the puck over the red line and dumps it around the boards behind the net. The goaltender gets out of the net and stops the puck behind it. X moves down around the first cone, pivoting to face the goaltender and receives a pass near the goal line. O moves along with X around the second cone, always facing the puck and plays the 1 on 1.



Crosscorner Shootout

X and O begin at the blue line with X dumping the puck crosscorner after passing the red line. X and O move into the zone, X around the first cone and O backward around the second. The goaltender retrieves the puck and shoots it off of the boards up the ice where X tries to outrace O for possession of the puck and a shot at the other end.

Try to incorporate dump-in situations into many of your drills, forcing your goaltenders to be involved as an active part of the breakout. All of the above drills should be done from both sides of the ice so goaltenders work on retrieving the puck from both sides. All of the above drills can also be done full-ice or half-ice. Use your imagination to enhance your drills to get your goaltender more involved.

