

# EFFECTIVE WARM UP STRATEGIES TO MAXIMIZE PERFORMANCE AND REDUCE INJURIES IN STUDENT ATHLETES

KEVIN LARRABEE, CSCS, CFSC, PN-I
ALLIEDSTRENGTH.COM
27 KONDELIN ROAD, UNIT #4, GLOUCESTER, MA



#### THE GOALS OF THIS SEMINAR

- Quick look at the facts (what we know)
- Effective warm up strategies you can implement before practices and games
- Demonstrate movements and drills that can be done on the court/field/off ice with no to minimal equipment
- Reduce the risk of injuries and maximize performance for athletes



### WHAT WE KNOW

- Sitting 6+ hours a day before practice/games
- Injury rates for youth athletes are on the rise
  - Open discussion
- Studies show conclusively that dynamic warm ups and activation drills minimize injuries and maximize performance.
  - Even in gym class



### **CAUSES:**

- Early Specialization
- · Athletes are playing one sport year round
- Not recovering after practices and games
  - Multiple games in a weekend
  - Athletes feel pressure that they need to play in off-season leagues to "be seen" for college
    - What happened to the off season?
- · Extra time outside of practice and games is being focused on skills and drills

# **CAUSES:**

- Lack of Sleep (recovery)
- Poor Nutrition (recovery)
  - We will discuss recovery strategies at a later time



# SOLUTIONS: LET'S START WITH THE WARM UP

- 15-minutes (3 Stage Process to warm up and prepare tissue for strenuous activity)
  - \*Foam Rolling (18" Rollers)
  - 5 Minutes: Stretching
  - 5 Minutes: Activation
  - 5 Minutes: Mobility/Active Warm Up



# STRETCHING SERIES (5 MINUTES)

- · First let's dispel the myths
- 4 Stretches
  - "Bang for your buck"
  - Done in one spot
  - No equipment needed
  - Address all lower body muscle groups

# TEAM STRETCH CIRCUIT • Areas Addressed: Quads, Hip Flexors, Hamstrings, Hip Rotators, Adductors



# **ACTIVATION (5-MINUTES)**

- Glutes
  - Why: Hip Stability/Balance/Preventing Knee Injuries
  - How: Hip lifts, single leg holds, band walks, BW lunges/squats
- Core/Shoulders
  - Why: Balance/Torso Stability/Preventing Low Back Discomfort and Shoulder injuries
  - How: Crawling (linear and lateral) patterns (these can be implemented in the active warm up), front planks, bird dogs

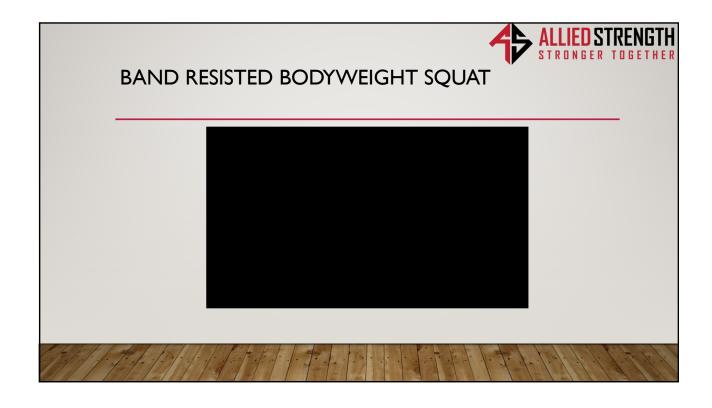


# GLUTE ACTIVATION PROGRESSIONS: TWO LEG HIP LIFT

Two Leg Hip Lift (Glute Bridge)/One Leg Hip Lift (Progression)



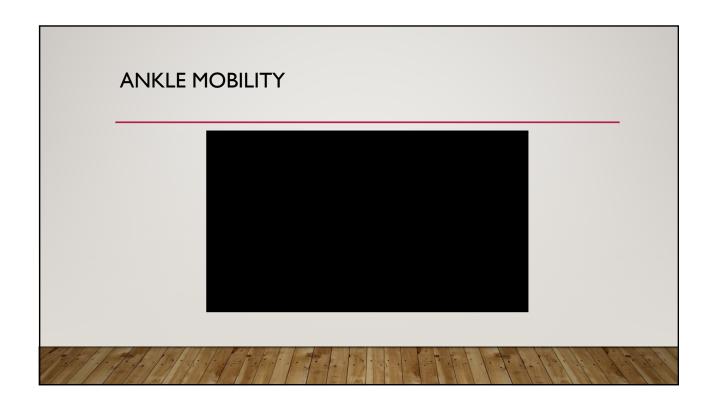




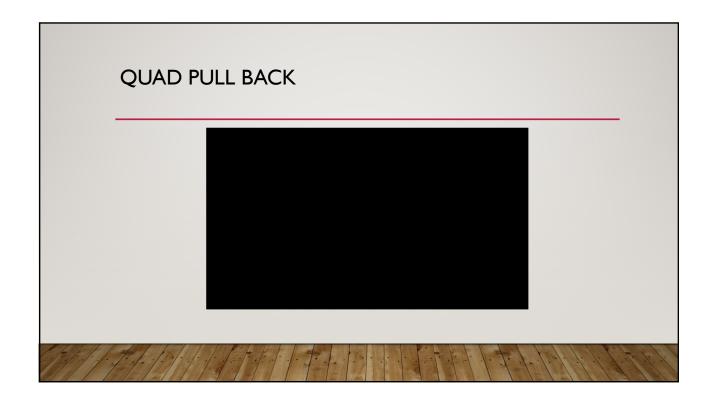


# MOBILITY/ACTIVE WARM UP

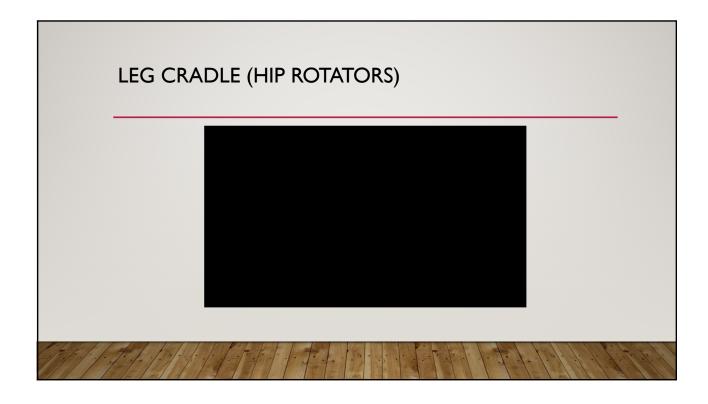
- Make sure you hit the major muscle groups
  - Glutes, Quads, Hamstrings, Adductors, Abductors, pecs/back (shoulder stabilizers)
    - Don't forget the feet and ankles
  - Work through multiple patterns and planes (sagittal, frontal, transverse)
- Prepare the tissue to perform
- Active warm up drills should be done for about 8-10 yards





















# **RECOGNIZING FATIGUE**

- Many non contact injuries can be attributed to athlete fatigue.
- Signs:
  - Having issue catching their breath
  - Wobbly legs
  - Problems with concentration
  - Poor attitude/frustration

# **WRAP UP**

- Prioritize 15-mintues before practices and games to warm up
- Prepare your athletes for performance while reducing their risk of injury
- How can I help you? Questions?
  - AlliedStrength.com
    - Videos/One Sheet
  - kevin@alliedstrength.com