## Pole Vaulting the Grand Canyon University & Sky Athletics Way

#### By: Todd Lehman

#### **Pole Speed**

- The speed with which the pole moves from the position at the plant until its final release.
- Ensures that vaulter lands safely in the pit.
- Increases opportunity to raise grip and jump on bigger poles.
- Allows for more time to complete the jump.
- Gives vaulter confidence to execute the swing
- Enables vaulter to jump with the standards deep.
- Ensures safe successful jumping

#### **Pole Speed**

Grip Height
Pole Stiffness
Approach speed
Jump / Take off Dynamics

#### **Sprint Mechanics**

- Posture and Rhythm
- Sprint Mechanics
- Fire into the ground vs. reacting to the ground
- Back of ball of foot full foot contact
- Step over the opposite knee
- Speed takes time
- Acceleration is slow

#### **Approach Phases**

#### Acceleration

Drive out of back Pole carried on skeletal system Push the pole forward

Speed Maintenance
 Toe up – heal up – knee up
 Rhythm
 Pole dropping

Prepare to Jump
 Use gravity to drop pole
 Attacking the box
 Head up eyes up
 Perceived acceleration through take-off

Acceleration

Orive out of back

 Pole carried on skeletal system

 Push the pole forward



### Pole Carry

Top Hand on the pole firm Takes flexibility Bottom hand open and relaxed Carry the weight of the pole on the skeletal system Elbows at 90 degrees Front elbow below the hand Front hand on sternum

#### Pole Plant

Back hand raises up lowering the pole tip

- Front hand stays solid on the sternum acting as the fulcrum
- When pole reaches head height both hands push UP.

Let gravity do the work
Use the plant to help with the jump.

SWING THE HAMMER

#### **Plant Drills**

Pole Drop progression Walking plants 4 step plants Grass plants Jump over the pole tip Slide box Pole throws Med Ball plants Skipping plants

#### The Take-Off

- Use plant to jump up
- Use run and jump to move the pole
- Use the jump to create the swing
- Approach must let vaulter changed direction at take-off
- Line up the energy of the jump and the plant.
- Eyes up at hands
- Open up armpits to the bar
- All energy must be directed at or above the crossbar

#### Line up the ENERGY



#### **Drills for the Take-off**

Sand Plants One arm drills Assisted pole speed Long jump High bar take-offs Houvions Rope take-offs Box take-offs

#### **Drills to Increase Pole Speed**

Straight pole Houvions Bent pole Houvions Grass/Sand plants Tower drills Assisted pole plants Box take-offs Small pole, low grip jumps

## The Swing

- The should be the result of an effective jump and take-off
- See hands through the vault
- Keep pushing on the pole
- When the pole stops moving the swing stops
- Draw big circles with hands and feet



#### **Drills for the Swing**

- Straight Pole Swings
- Pull-overs on high bar
- Rope swings
- Bubkas
- Connection drill
- Tower drills
- Straight Pole Swings
- Pull-overs on high bar
- Rope swings
- Bubkas
- Connection drill
- Tower drills

## Pole Speed Remedies 1. Change grip height

#### 2. Change pole stiffness

#### 3. Change pole length

## Safety

 Standards always set at 80cm (32") Minimize grip heights Pad the areas surrounding the pit • Keep to the progressions (be patient) Teach kids to jump on straight poles first Use positive coaching cues (up, jump, push, fast, swing vs sit, pull, slow, down) Keep the objectives simple for each vault

### **Body Weight Strength**

#### Bubkas



Keep Arms Straight
Use Lat's To Move Hips To Bar

Use Pole Vault Grip

#### Wipers



•With Straight Arms Pike Body & Move Ankles From Side To Side

Use Pole Vault Grip



# QUESTIONS???

Todd Lehman Grand Canyon University

3300 West Camelback Rd Phoenix, Az 85017

> 602 639-7407 office 602 821-3771 cell

todd.lehman@gcu.edu www.skyathletics.com

#### 2020 Camp Dates

# Kiss the Sky Summer Camp June 21 – 25 @ Tonto Creek Camp Junior High Groups Beginners Intermediate Advanced Coaches welcome