

Relay Concepts & Coaching Dilemmas

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Dynamite Relays

4x1 – 24 Years in a row under 42.0 Average = 41.4

4x2 – (Added to the state Meet 14 Years Ago) Under 1:26.40 – 7 Times Best of 1:24.08 (Broke existing NFHS Record)

4x4 – 26 out of Last 30 Years 3:20 or Better 2001-2007 = 3:14.58 Average 1995-2008 = 3:15.78 Average

4 Best Former Athletes = 2:58.6 (45.90, 44.6r, 44.6r, 43.5r)

Sprint Relays

4 x 1 – 4 x 100 - 400 Relay – Sprint Relay

4 x 2 – 4 x 200 – 800 Relay – ½ Mile Relay

4 x 4 – 4 x 400 – 1600 Relay – Mile Relay

4 x 100

1. Batons & Starting 2. Method of Exchange a. R-L-R-L b. R-R-R-R ????? Worth It? c. Runner's Position In/Out Feet – 3 or 4 point or Standing Body

4 x 100

4. Checkmarks – Line vs. Box Athlete's Choice?

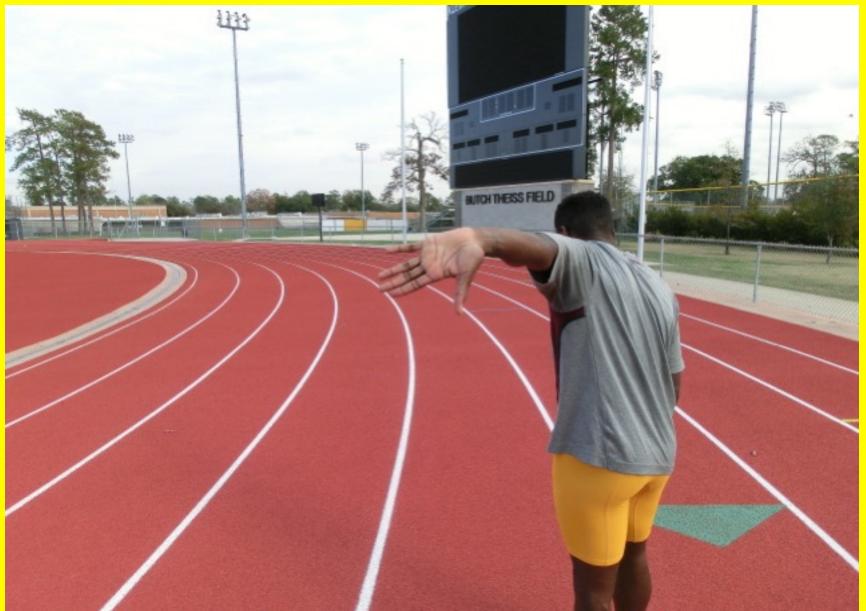
- 5. Markers
 - a. Tape
 - **b. Tennis Balls**
 - c. Poly Spots/Gym Markers d. Bath Mat

Remove all Tape & Marks From Lane

4 x 100 Baton Exchange a. Command ??? b. Hand Placement – No Table



c. Aim Point



d. Wait for Target & Push Top



**<u>Keep Baton Vertical</u>, but Reality is Baton Goes From Vertical Towards 45 Degrees



e. No Command

4-5 cycles

Mark in Zone ?

Safety Mark ?

4 x 100

Drills – 1. Stationary 2. On Track Full Speed ? Distance Fatigue

Dual Accelerations



Dual Accelerations





4 x 200 Blind or Visual

Method of Exchange 1. R-L Switch 2. R-L-R-L 3. R-R-R-R

Runner's Position



Checkmarks

15-16 Foot Lengths for Boys & 13-15 for Girls 2/3 of 4x100 3 Cycles Zone Marks Move Up in Zone?

Runner's Responsibilities (Must Be Separated)

Incoming **Run Past/Run Over Don't slow Command Early (If Used) Key Elbow** Look for Palm Wait for Target & Push Top Stay in Their Half Give Top 1/3 (Bottom 1/3) Make Sure It's Taken

Outgoing Full Speed – Run Away **Stay in Their Half Heel Back** Don't Look **Don't Search Take Baton** Adjust Speed at Safety Mark Don't Switch – Carl Lewis **Adjust Baton Early -Twist-Hip-Chest-Gator?**

Additional Thoughts on Blind Exchanges

1. Bonzai Attitude – "Willing To Lose"

2.Coach Must Be There at All Times

3.Coach Must Find & Set Mark

4.Watch From Afar

5.All Choices Based on Weaknesses

6.Most Reliable To Receive From Thoroughbred

4 x 400

A. Baton Exchanges

1.3 Step

2. Drew's Drop

3. Torch

3 Step



Drew's Drop



Torch w/ Gator Carry







B. Methods of Exchange

1. R-L Switch

2. R-L-R-L

4 x 400 <u>C. Method Of Carry</u> Regular Gator

D. Checkmarks ????

2nd Leg = 2 Strides before Lane Insides Start Mark 3rd & 4th Leg = 2 Strides Before 10th HH mark??





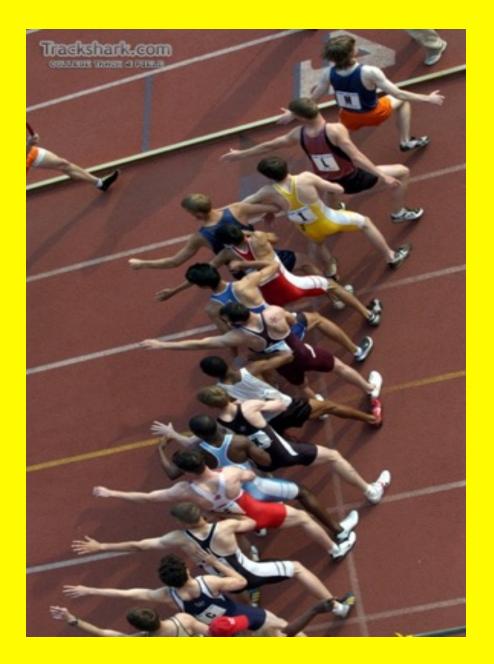


Inside

Window

Block Out

Feet on Side of Triangle



Penn Relays 4 x 400



Runner's Responsibilities

Incoming

- Run to Window
- Run Thru Zone
- Present When Palm Appears
- Hit The Hand The 1st Time
- Make Sure They Take It
- After Pass, Complete Stop Look Before Moving (Unless in Lane 1)

Outgoing

- Create Window
- Pull Runner Thru Zone
- Take Baton "Choke it"
- Adjust After 3, if needed
- Switch Hands, When Clear (Anchor ???)
- Use first 5 to 6 seconds

Coaching Points

Relay Booklet

Walk Track Before Meet

Warm-Up in the Lane They Will Be Using

EMPHASIZE TEAM

NEVER ASSUME an athlete knows even the simplest rules

DON'T CHASE

DON'T WASTE YOUR BEST ATHLETE

Get The Big Picture = Watch From a Distance

Personnel & Strategy

- -Is Curve running important?
- -How do they handle the baton?
- -Are they better in lead or behind?
- -Can they use left/right hand?
- -Can they run out of blocks?
- -200M Runner to lead off?

- -Consistency
- -Competitiveness
- -Experience: (everything else being equal)
- -Use of alternates: Develop depth Train alternate in several spots

4 x 100 Potential

Add up your 4 runners 100 Meter Times & Compare to Relay Time

Great Passing = > than 2.5 sec Difference

Very Good = 2.3 to 2.5 Difference

Good 1.8 to 2.3 Difference

Less than 1.7 = Work Still Needed

Klein Forest 2007 400 Meter Relay

1 st Leg =	11.14	Actual Time = 40.56
2 nd Leg =	10.61	
3 rd Leg =	11.24	Difference = 2.82
4 th Leg =	<u>10.39</u>	
	43.38	Great Passing??

2nd Exchange of Nation's Leading 40.56 Relay



What could have been?



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