Session 2: Training for 1600/3200m and Steeplechase

> 2010 ITCCCA Presentation Coach Vicki Mitchell University at Buffalo Cross Country/Track & Field



#### Overview

Training keys for distance events on the track: 1600/3200 Training for Steeplechase Sample Training calendar Putting 3 seasons of training together for the high school athlete Sample Annual Plan

# **Training Components**

- Must have adequate training in both aerobic and anaerobic elements
- Must consider non-physiological elements such as enthusiasm and team spirit
- Speed must never be neglected at any phase of training

 The distribution of time spent in aerobic and anaerobic workouts is like putting together a jigsaw puzzle – everything must link together to produce results

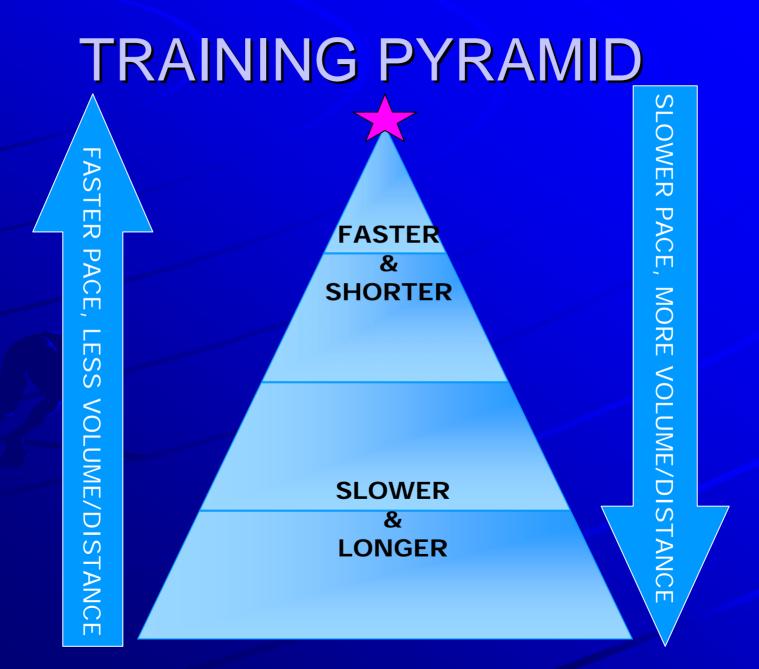
# TRAINING PYRAMID

REPS Mile pace

INTERVAL 3k – 5k pace

TEMPO RUNS + 25sec to INT pace

ENDURANCE/EASY RUNNING



# **Goals of Training Program**

Get out strong, but conserve energy
Push middle portion of race
Shift to an even faster finishing pace, more anaerobic
Learn how to run fast but not strain

How?

 Training for SPEED, ECONOMY, and AEROBIC POWER

# **Training Program Basics**

- Start training plan at the end of the season with main competitions (goal races), and divide into appropriate phases, and then determine length of each training phase
- Phase 2: Transition into track
- Phase 3: Early Season Meets (Indoor track)
- <u>Phase 4</u>: Main Competition Season (start of outdoor track)
- <u>Phase 5</u>: Championship Season (Regional, State, National meets)

#### Phase 2: Transition to Track

- Phase 2 should incorporate a rest/recovery week at the end of the XC season and prior to beginning indoor track training and competition.
- Goals include building in REP paced running as primary workouts and tempo & interval workouts as secondary
  - Hills workouts are ideal (can be REP effort or INT effort)
  - Early season track meets used as part of training
- Length can be 4-6 weeks or longer.
- Include strides & drills (speed component) on non-quality days – "Speed" each day
- Include auxiliary training such as circuit training, core strength, cross training, etc. to address any weaknesses and develop the overall athlete

### Phase 3: Early Season Meets (Indoor track)

- When planning for the indoor and outdoor season, keep the outdoor end of season meets in mind as the peaking point
- Phase 3 can be 6 weeks or longer, depending on the length of the indoor competition season
  - Component of "Speed" is regularly part of training
    - Strides at varying paces and length
  - Two to Three quality sessions per week
    - REP workout
    - Interval or Tempo or Fartlek workout
    - Races count as a quality session
  - At end of season, limit to 2 quality sessions per week to allow for a little more recovery heading into end of indoor season meets

# Phase 4: Main Competition Season (Outdoor track)

- Phase 4 includes the start of the outdoor season with duel/league meets
- Not a peaking phase
- Challenging Phase of Training
  - Includes 3 quality sessions/week including quality intervals and reps, and a maintenance of Tempo
  - Plan races and workouts based on the distance raced, mid-week races, and importance of race
    - <u>Standard layout(3 quality sessions)</u> Mon workout, Wednesday workout, Saturday Race
    - Two races/week layout (3 quality sessions): Tues Race/workout, Wednesday workout, Saturday race
    - Important weekend race (2 quality sessions): Tues workout, Saturday race

# Phase 5: Championship Season

- Phase 5 consists of the key focal races of the outdoor T&F season:
  - Regional Championships
  - State Championships
  - National Champs
- Overall weekly mileage/volume will be slightly less
- Intensity remains the same
- Focus workouts on race distance
  - REPS
  - 3k Paced Workouts (speed endurance workouts such as 10 x 400m on 2:30, or alternation 200m repeats at 3k pace and 3kpace + 10sec such as 40/50
  - Tempo Runs as light workouts or blended into REP workotus

# **Steeplechase Training**

- Train like a 3000m (boys can train like a 5000m) runner to have endurance required for the barriers and water jump. Must have the speed of a miler and endurance of a 5k runner!
  - Girls race 2000mSC
  - Boys race 3000mSC
- Incorporate Hurdles into training year round. 2 days/week hurdle drills – all athletes will benefit from the hip mobility & strengthening benefits.
- During the indoor season, 1 day per week, run over 10 hurdles in practice (as part of strides)
- Need to address both hurdling form and the water barrier
- Need good leg strength and core strength to handle the SC; need more than the flat 1500m/3000m incorporated into training

#### Incorporating Hurdles into practice

- 1 day/week in early season run over hurdles during a quality track session (practice with hurdles for safety)
- Focus on form:
  - Trail leg drills
  - Practice lead leg on alternating sides to be ready for either approach
  - Forward lean into hurdle prior to running over it
  - Fast pull through of trail leg
  - Accelerate into the barrier and out of the barrier (will require lengthening of stride as you approach barriers)
  - Lead leg must get to the ground quickly and minimize time in the air.
  - Be prepared for approaching barriers in a pack, and getting a clear vision of the barrier
- Water Barrier
  - Practice first on grass, then pushing off into sand (mark 12' line in sand)
  - Get in close to barrier before stepping on it
  - Lean in, drive up with fast knee action
  - Place foot on barrier and "roll" foot over it, keeping truck LOW to the barrier
  - Strong push outward by rear leg, keeping contact to the barrier until leg has extended. Take off must be powerful
  - Lead leg should land as far across the water as possible and trail leg needs to drive through very quickly!
  - Ideally land 1 foot in water, and next step is out of water pit.
  - Drive quick out of pit, as to not lose time

### Steeplechase: Sample workouts

- In a training session, limit the number of hurdles run to the max in the race (2kSC: 23 hurdles & water barriers, 3kSC: 35 hurdles & water barriers)
- Sample workouts:
  - 6 8 x 400m @ steeple chase pace w/60sec recovery
  - 2 x 800 over Hurdles at 3kSC race pace, 2 x 800m @ flat @ 3k race pace
  - 8 x 100m strides over hurdles at end of easy run
  - Finish distance run with 1 mile over hurdles slightly uptempo
  - Place barrier on grass or sandpit, and practice 10 'water' jumps

#### Steeplechase strength exercises

- Plyometrics will improve strength of legs and shock absorption. Movements must be performed with quickness and precision
  - Depth (box) jumps (work up to max of 10 jumps per workout)
    - Double leg, minimize ground contact time
    - Single leg for more advanced athletes
  - Hurdle Jumps (Work up to max of 3-10 bounds per workout)
    - Double leg, minimize ground
- Hurdle Drills (good for all middle & distance athletes)
  - Hip Circuit
  - Wall Drills
  - Walk-overs
  - Lead leg
  - Trail leg
  - Bounding

#### A Note on Mileage

- How much weekly mileage should you run?
  - Add about 5-8 miles/year to your peak
  - Rotate how much you run each week by 5 20%, lower mileage weeks build in recovery
  - How much is enough?
    - High School Women: no more than 45-50
    - High School Men: no more than 60
    - WHY? Longest race is only 5000m. Focus on quality of your runs, not bulking up slow junk miles

Phase 2: Transition into Track										
Week	%Miles	М	т	W	тн	F	SAT	SUN		
	80%	Distance + strides	REPS - Q1	Steady paced Run	E/XT	Fartlek Run - Q2	Easy Run	LONG		
#1		strides	3-4 sets:	Strides		45minutes with		60mins		
		Hurdle drills	2 x 200 + 1 x 400m	Hurdles		10-15 x 1min pickups				
	80-85%	Distance	HILLS - Q1	Steady paced Run	E/XT	TEMPO - Q2	Easy Run	LONG		
#2		strides	10 x 1min w/1min recovery	Strides		4 x 1000m @ T		65mins		
		Hurdle drills		Hurdles		w/1min rest				
	90%	Distance	REPS - Q1	Steady paced Run	E/XT	INTERVALS - Q2	Easy Run	LONG		
#3		strides	6 x 500m @ Rep	Strides		4 x 800m @ INT		70min		
		Hurdle drills		Hurdles		with 400m jogs				
	85%	Distance	HILLS - Q1	Easy Run	E/XT	Easy Distance +	Indoor Meet - Q2	LONG		
#4		strides	10 x 75sec with	Strides		4 x 150m accel strides		65mins		
		Hurdle drills	1min recovery	Hurdles						
	90%	Distance Run	REPS - Q1	Steady paced Run	E/XT	TEMPO - Q2	Easy Run	LONG		
#5	to	strides	20 x 200m @ REP	Strides		5 x 1000m @ TEMPO		70mins		
	100%	Hurdle drills	200m jogs	Hurdles		w/1min rest				
	85%	Distance Run	HILLS - Q1	Easy Run	E/XT	Easy Distance +	Indoor Meet - Q2	LONG		
#6		strides	5 x 90sec + 5 x 60sec +	Strides		4 x 150m accel strides		75mins		
		Hurdle drills	5 x 30sec	Hurdles						
	100%	Distance Run	REPS - Q1	Steady paced Run	E/XT	INTERVALS - Q2	Easy Run	LONG		
#7		strides	8 x 200m progress pace	Strides		2 x 1k + 2 x 800m		70mins		
		Hurdle drills	full recovery	Hurdles		with 400m jogs				

1500m/3000m Training Phase 3: Early Competition (Indoor season)										
	90%	INTERVAL- Q1	Distance Run	TEMPO - Q3	E/XT	Easy Distance +	Indoor Meet -Q2	E		
#8		4 x 1000m	strides	20minute Tempo Run		4 x 150m accel strides		Recovery		
			Hurdle drills	Hurdles						
	100%	INTERVAL - Q1	Distance Run	REPS - Q3	E/XT	Easy Distance +	Indoor Meet - Q2	L		
#9		5 x 800m w/400m jogs	strides	16 x 200m		4 x 150m accel strides		80-90min		
			Hurdle drills	Hurdles						
	85%	INTERVAL - Q1	Distance Run	TEMPO - Q3	E/XT	Easy Distance +	Indoor Meet - Q2	L		
#10		2 x 1200m + 2 x 1k	strides	3 x 1mile w/1min rest		4 x 150m accel strides		70-80min		
			Hurdle drills	Hurdles				Meet		
	80-85%	INTERVAL - Q1	Distance Run	RAST REPS - Q3	E/XT	Easy Distance +	Indoor Meet - Q2	L		
#11		6 x 800m	strides	5 x 400m @ REP - 2sec		4 x 150m accel strides		70-90min		
			Hurdle drills	Hurdles						
	100%	INTERVAL - Q1	Distance Run	TEMPO - Q3	E/XT	Easy Distance +	Indoor Meet -Q2	L		
#12		5 x 1k	strides	2 x 10mins @ TEMPO		4 x 150m accel strides		65mins		
			Hurdle drills	w/90sec jogs						
	90%	REP - Q2	TEMPO - Q3	Easy Run +	E/XT	Easy Distance +	Regional - Q1	L		
#13		3 sets of (4 x 200m)	3 x 1k	6 x 100m strides		4 x 150m accel strides	Qualifying Meet	60-70mins		
		progressively faster		Hurdles				SS		
	75%	Easy Run	REP - Q2	Easy Run +	E/XT	Easy Distance +	State Champs - Q1	L		
#14		Strides	2 x 400m @ REP +	6 x 100m strides		4 x 100m accel strides	Indoor			
		Hurdles	4 x 200m @ 800m Pace	Hurdles						
	0%	Easy Run	3k-PACE - Q2	Easy Run +	E/XT	Easy Distance +	National - Q1	Easy L		
#15		Strides	6 x 400m @ 3k pace	6 x 100m strides		4 x 100m accel strides	Indoor Scholastic	Run		
		Hurdles	with 200m jogs	Hurdles			3000m			

### Key Questions to Remember:

#### WHY AM I DOING THIS RUN/WORKOUT?

HOW IS THIS GOING TO BENEFIT MY TRAINING/RACING

# Remember Training Principles & Pyramid as basis of plan

- EASY Runs should be the base of your training program.
- TEMPO runs are good 1 time per week during the summer and fall season.
- INTERVAL workouts are good to develop power and strength needed in cross country and longer track events
- REP workouts are needed to improve running efficiency
- Work to develop your CRITICAL ZONE ability. Know your strengths, and develop weaknesses

RUN STRONG TRAIN SMART HAVE FUN



Coach Vicki Mitchell University at Buffalo Cross Country/Track & Field EMAIL: <u>vam3@buffalo.edu</u> PHONE: <u>716-645-6815</u>