

Picket Fences is a great small area hockey game that can be setup as a 2 vs. 2 or 3 vs. 3 game. The offensive team gets 2 points for scoring a goal and the defensive team gets 1 point by skating the puck between the tires.

## Setup:

- Teams are set up in one of the offensive zones in line with Dots.
- Players help keep the puck in play if it comes over towards the line of players
- Net is set up in the Blue Paint (per usual)
- There are two cones 10-15 feet apart just above the tops of the circles in the zone
- Coaches set up just outside the Blue Line with a pile of pucks


## Game:

Objective: Play a Game up to a certain Number (1 point for the Defensive Team skating the puck between the tires \& 2 points for the Offensive Team when they score)

- When the whistle blows, three players in White (Offensive) get a puck from coach while three players in Red (Defensive) being to defend
- The team in White attempts to score while the Team in Red attempts to steal the puck \& skate it between the tires
- The coach allows the players to compete for 20-30 seconds
- There is NO change of possession (White is offense the entire shift)
- When the next whistle blows, three new players enter from the White and Red team
- Now, Red is on Offense and White is on Defense
- Coach can give a new puck to the Offensive Team if:
- If the goalie covers the puck
- If the puck goes out of play
- A goal is scored
- The defensive team skates the puck between the tires


## Principles:

The brilliance of this game is both teams are attempting to 'score' while one attacks the goalie \& one aims

## The game incorporates

- Defending 3v3 (in a condensed space)
- Once the Defenders gain possession of the puck, they must thinking 'offensively', to skate/get open to score a Goal (skate puck between tires)
- Communication with other teammates is essential so each defender can operate in a 'man on man' scenario
- Attacking 3v3 (in a condensed space)
- The offensive players are can either challenge a defender 1 v 1 with the puck or try to isolate and create a $2 v 1$ on a defender
- Player without the puck must work to get open, drive net or create space for teammates
- Must find a way to create space \& opportunities to get off a quality shot with pressure
- 'Play after the Play' - anticipate loose puck/rebounds and regain possession for more offensive zone time with the puck
- Players must constantly talk \& perceive the ever changing environment to solve problems as they happen (both offensively \& defensively)


## Related Game / Variation

The picket fences 3 vs 3 uses the full zone and incorporates 2 gates. This way the defenders can use deception or are forced to use another option in order to carry the puck through the gates.

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