WEEK 1 from Monday 5th to Sunday 11th of January
Macrocycle VI, week 1 (Training week 31)

The training distances covered in High Intensity (on Monday) and Speed Endurance (on Wednesday), will decrease progressively and become more intermittent over the next macro-cycle. Both training volume and intensity have indeed to be cycled throughout the competitive season in an appropriate way to make sure elite referees are fit and fresh after the winter break for both the European and domestic leagues.

Some additional Yo-Yo based exercises have been integrated that combine both internal and external loads. These exercises are not just aerobic but also improve strength and agility.

Mon. 5th:
* Low Int. - 5’ jogging slowly building up to 70% HR\text{\textsubscript{max}} (± 1 km).
* Warm up - 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.
* Strength - 15’ strength, core stability and injury prevention exercises.
* High Int. - 2’ run at 90\% HR\text{\textsubscript{max}}, 1’ jogging, 8 x.
  - All together, this exercise takes (2’ + 1’) x 8 = ± 24’.
* Cool down - 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.

Total duration: 79’

Tue. 6th:
REST DAY

Wed. 7th:
* Low Int. - 5’ jogging slowly building up to 70\% HR\text{\textsubscript{max}} (± 1 km).
* Warm up - 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.
* Strength - 15’ strength, core stability and injury prevention exercises.
* Speed End. - Set 1:
  - Perform 5 laps (± 2’ per lap) of the following field exercise at the prescribed intensities.
    - 3’ recovery
  - Set 2:
    - Perform another 5 laps.
- All together, this exercise takes 10' + 3' recovery + 10' = + 23'.

* Cool down
- 5' jogging and walking, followed by 10' static stretching.

Total duration: 78'

Thu. 8th:
- REST DAY

Fri. 9th: 
- * Warm up
- 20' warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.

- * Speed
- Variations on the 80 m distance (see below):
  - Set 1:
    - 20 m sprint up, 20 m walk down, 2 x
    - 40 m sprint up, 40 m walk down, 2 x
    - 1’ recovery and stretching
    - 60 m sprint up, 60 m walk down, 2 x
      (1 x with a change in direction to the left, 1 x to the right)
    - 1’ recovery and stretching
    - 80 m sprint up, 80 m walk down, 2 x
      (1 x with a change in direction to the left, 1 x to the right)
    - 2’ recovery
  - Set 2: Same exercise but in reversed order (80 > 60 > 40 > 20 m)
- The total exercise time is 14’.
- 3’ recovery.

* High Int. - Use the mp3 file to practice the Yo-Yo test from the start till level 15:8. This takes approximately 9’.

* Cool down - 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.

Total duration: 61’

Sat. 10th: REST DAY

Sun. 11th: If you don’t have a match appointment for the domestic league, use your free time for additional recovery, or use your free time to work on any fitness weaknesses you might have, e.g., aerobic endurance, strength, injury prevention,…).

Alternatively, you may also consider other intermittent activities such as playing badminton, football, squash, tennis, or alpine/cross-country skiing to benefit from complementary mental and physical stimulation.
**WEEK 2 from Monday 12th to Sunday 18th of January**  
**Macrocycle VI, week 2 (Training week 32)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Training Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Mon. 12th:**<br>Tr. 120 | * Low Int. - 5' jogging slowly building up to 70% $HR_{\text{max}}$ ($\pm$ 1 km).  
  * Warm up - 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.  
  * Strength - 15’ strength, core stability and injury prevention exercises.  
  * High Int. - 1’ run at 90% $HR_{\text{max}}$, 30'' jogging, 16 x.  
  - All together, this exercise takes (1’ + 30") x 16 = $\pm$ 24’.  
  * Cool down - 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.  
  **Total duration:** 79’ |
| **Tue. 13th:** | REST DAY |
| **Wed. 14th:**<br>Tr. 121 | * Low Int. - 5’ jogging slowly building up to 70% $HR_{\text{max}}$ ($\pm$ 1 km).  
  * Warm up - 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.  
  * Strength - 15’ strength, core stability and injury prevention exercises.  
  * Speed End. - **Set 1:** Field exercise, 3 laps.  
  One full lap takes $\pm$ 4’ before re-starting. The intensities or percentages are based on a % of maximal speed ($SP_{\text{max}}$), not % $HR_{\text{max}}$. Therefore, 60% $SP_{\text{max}}$ should be a jog and 90% $SP_{\text{max}}$ should constitute a fast tempo run.  
  - 3’ recovery.  
  - **Set 2:** Field exercise, again 3 full laps. |
- All together this exercise takes 27’.

* Cool down  - 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.

**Total duration: 82’**

**Thu. 15th:**
- REST DAY

**Fri. 16th:**
- * Warm up - 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.
- * Speed - **Set 1:** Sprint exercise in the penalty box, 5 laps in total.
  - 5’ recovery
  - **Set 2:** Sprint exercise in the penalty box, again 5 laps in total.
Performance Training in Football Refereeing
Weekly Training Plan

* High Int.

- Variations on the Yo-Yo test as follows:
  - **Set 1**: start with levels 15, 16 and 17 (takes 7:30), 2 min rest
    - Just start the mp3 file of the beep test at 6’45”
  - **Set 2**: repeat levels 16 and 17 (takes 5 minutes), 2 min rest
    - Just start the mp3 file of the beep test at 9’22”
  - **Set 3**: repeat level 16 (takes 2:30), 2 min rest
    - Just start the mp3 file of the beep test at 9’22”
  - Take care to take each turn on a different foot so that you turn alternatively on your left and right shoulder!
  - Do this exercise by preference on natural grass rather than indoor.
  - This exercise takes 21 min in total.

* Cool down

- 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.

**Total duration:** 79’
Sat. 17th: REST DAY

Sun. 18th: If you don’t have a match appointment for the domestic league, use your free time for additional recovery, or use your free time to work on any fitness weaknesses you might have, e.g., aerobic endurance, strength, injury prevention,…).

Alternatively, you may also consider other intermittent activities such as playing badminton, football, squash, tennis, or alpine/cross-country skiing to benefit from complementary mental and physical stimulation.
WEEK 3 from Monday 19th to Sunday 25th of January
Macrocycle VI, week 3 (Training week 33)

Mon. 19th:
- * Low Int. - 5’ jogging slowly building up to 70% HR$_{max}$ (+ 1 km).
  - Warm up - 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.
  - Strength - 15’ strength, core stability and injury prevention exercises.
  - High Int. - Set 1:
    - 30” run at 90% HR$_{max}$, 15” jogging, 14 x
    - 4’ recovery
    - Set 2:
      - 30” run at 90% HR$_{max}$, 15” jogging, again 14 x
    - All together, this exercise takes 10’30” + 4’ recovery + 10’30” = 25’
  - Cool down - 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.

Tr. 123

Tue. 20th:
REST DAY

Wed. 21st:
- * Low Int. - 5’ jogging slowly building up to 70% HR$_{max}$ (+ 1 km).
  - Warm up - 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.
  - Strength - 15’ strength, core stability and injury prevention exercises.
  - Extended Sp. - Set 1:
    - > 8 sprints to the midline (+ 7”) with 50” active recovery jogging in between each sprint
    - > Jog 1 lap of the pitch (+ 2”)
    - > Duration Set 1: ± 10’

  - Set 2:
    - > 4 sprints to the opposite penalty box (+ 11”) with 70” active recovery jogging in between each sprint
    - > Jog 1 lap of the pitch (+ 2”)
    - > Duration Set 2: ± 7.5’

  - Set 3:
    - > 10 sprints to the penalty box (+ 3”) with 20” active recovery jogging in between each sprint
    - > Jog 1 lap of the pitch (+ 2”)
    - > Duration Set 3: ± 3.5’
- The total duration of this extended speed session is 127’.

* Cool down
- 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.

Total duration: 82’

Thu. 22
REST DAY

Fri. 23
* Warm up
- 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.

* Speed
- Variations on the 60 m distance (see below):
  - 20 m sprint up, 20 m walk down, 6 x or 120 m sprint in total.
  - 2’ recovery and stretching
  - 40 m sprint up, 40 m walk down, 4 x or 160 m sprint in total.
    (2 x with a change in direction to the left, 2 x to the right)
  - 3’ recovery and stretching
  - 60 m sprint up, 60 m walk down, 2 x or 120 m sprint in total.
    (1 x with a change in direction to the left, 1 x to the right)
- The total exercise time is 15’.
Performance Training in Football Refereeing
Weekly Training Plan

* High Int. - 2 sets of the next Yo-Yo based exercise

Set 1:
- 2 shuttles x 50 m @ high speed (50 m – turn L - 50 m) in 20”
- 20” recovery walk (10 m)
- 10 reps in total

- 2’ recovery

Turning line

Start/Finish line

(2 x 50 m) x 20 reps
100 m high speed run (20”)

Set 2:
- 2 shuttles x 50 m @ high speed (50 m – turn L - 50 m) in 20”
- 20” recovery walk (10 m)
- 10 reps in total

- All together, this exercise takes 15’20”.
- 2000 m of high-intensity running, 200 m walking, 20 turns in total.

* Cool down - 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.

Total duration: 67’

Sat. 24th: REST DAY

Sun. 25th: If you don’t have a match appointment for the domestic league, use your free time for additional recovery, or use your free time to work on any fitness weaknesses you might have, e.g., aerobic endurance, strength, injury prevention,…).

Alternatively, you may also consider other intermittent activities such as playing badminton, football, squash, tennis, or alpine/cross-country skiing to benefit from complementary mental and physical stimulation.
WEEK 4 from Monday 26th of January to Sunday 1st of February
Macrocycle VI, week 4 (Training week 34)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 26th</td>
<td>* Act. Rec.</td>
<td>50’ recovery session in a fitness centre.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tr. 126</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue. 27th</td>
<td>* Low Int.</td>
<td>5’ jogging slowly building up to 70% HR$_{\text{max}}$ ($\pm$ 1 km).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tr. 127</td>
<td>20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* Warm up</td>
<td>15’ strength, core stability and injury prevention exercises.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* High Int.</td>
<td>8 shuttles of 50 m (50 m – turn - 50 m – turn -…8 x) in 1’30”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1’30” recovery walk (40 m)</td>
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<td>5 reps in total</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* Cool down</td>
<td>5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.</td>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>Total duration: 70’</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Turning**

- (8 x 50 m) x 5
- 400 m high speed run
- All together, this exercise takes 15’.
- 2000 m of high-intensity running, 200 m walking, 35 turns in total.

**Start/Finish**

- 2 x 20
- 40 m recovery walk

**Wed. 28th:**

REST DAY

**Thu. 29th:**

* Low Int. 5’ jogging slowly building up to 70% HR$_{\text{max}}$ ($\pm$ 1 km).

* Warm up 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.

* Strength 15’ strength, core stability and injury prevention exercises.

* Speed End. 1 Set of the below exercise takes $\pm$ 8’.

- 50 m sprint ($\pm$ 10”), walking back 30”, 5 x, 1’ rest
- 25 m sprint ($\pm$ 5”), walking back 15”, 5 x, 1’ rest
- 16 m sprint ($\pm$ 3”), walking back 9”, 5 x

- 4’ recovery

* Speed End. 1 set of the following Field exercise for a total of 10’.
**Performance Training in Football Refereeing**

**Weekly Training Plan**

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**2 sets of 5 laps**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One lap</th>
<th>2 min</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Set 1 (5 laps)</td>
<td>10 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recovery</td>
<td>4 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set 2 (5 laps)</td>
<td>10 min</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total duration</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Distance</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walking W</td>
<td>500 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jogging J</td>
<td>800 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Backwards BW</td>
<td>200 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sideways SW</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High intensity HI</td>
<td>800 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sprint S</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total distance</strong></td>
<td>2300 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- All together, this exercise takes 8’ + 4’ recovery + 10’ = = 22’.

* SE for ARs

- While the referees perform their 2 sets of the HI exercise, the next SE exercise can be considered for the assistant referees.

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**2 sets of 5 laps**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One lap</th>
<th>2 min</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Set 1 (5 laps)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recovery</td>
<td>4 min</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set 2 (5 laps)</td>
<td>10 min</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total duration</strong></td>
<td>24 min</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Distance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walking W</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jogging J</td>
<td>1200 m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Backwards BW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sideways SW</td>
<td>400 m</td>
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<tr>
<td>High intensity HI</td>
<td>1600 m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sprint S</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total distance</strong></td>
<td>3200 m</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Match**

  - 10’ match play.

- **Cool down**

  - 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.

**Fri. 30**:  
**REST DAY**

**Sat. 31**:  
* **Warm up**

  - 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.

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* Speed
- Set 1:
  - 1) 11 m sprint, 11 m jogging, walking to the start, 4 reps
  - 2) 25 m sprint, 25 m jogging, walking to the start, 2 reps
  - 3) 50 m sprint, 50 m jogging, walking to the start, 1 rep
  - 5' recovery and stretching.
  - Followed by a 2nd Set of 7 sprints.

* High Int.
- 3 sets of the next Yo-Yo based exercise
  - Set 1:
    - 2 x 40 m (40 m – turn – 40 m) in 17”
    - 17” recovery walk (10 m)
    - 10 reps in total
    - 2’ recovery between sets
  - Set 2:
    - 4 x 20 m (20 m – turn – 20 m – turn – 20 m – turn – 20 m) in 19”
    - 19” recovery walk (10 m)
    - 8 reps in total
    - 2’ recovery between sets
Performance Training in Football Refereeing
Weekly Training Plan

- Set 3:
  - 8 x 10 m (10 m – turn – 10 m – turn – 10 m – …) in 21”
  - 21” recovery walk (40 m)
  - 6 reps in total
  - 2’ recovery

- All together, this exercise takes 21’
  (6’ Set 1 + 2’ rec. + 5’ Set 2 + 2’ rec. + 4’ Set 3 + 2’ rec.).

- 1920 m of high-intensity running, 240 m walking, 72 turns in total.

YOYO Exercise 1 10 X (2X40m), 8 X (4X20m), 6 X (8X10m)

* Cool down - 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.

Total duration: 71’
Sun. 1st.

If you don't have a match appointment for the domestic league, use your free time for additional recovery, or use your free time to work on any fitness weaknesses you might have, e.g., aerobic endurance, strength, injury prevention,…).

Alternatively, you may also consider other intermittent activities such as playing badminton, football, squash, tennis, or alpine/cross-country skiing to benefit from complementary mental and physical stimulation.
WEEK 5 from Monday 2\textsuperscript{nd} to Sunday 8\textsuperscript{th} of February  
Macrocycle VI, week 5 (Training week 35)  

Mon. 2\textsuperscript{nd}.  
* Act. Rec.  
Tr. 130  
- 50’ recovery session in a fitness centre.  

Tue. 3\textsuperscript{rd}.  
* Low Int.  
Tr. 131  
- 5’ jogging slowly building up to 70% HR\textsubscript{max} (± 1 km).  
* Warm up  
- 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.  
* Strength  
- 15’ strength, core stability and injury prevention exercises.  
* High Int.  
- Yo-Yo intermittent recovery run, level 1  

<table>
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</table>

- International referees should aim for 18:2 or more. This corresponds to 1.800 m and takes 14’42".  
- National elite referees should aim for 17:6 or more. This corresponds to 1.640 m and takes 13’26".
Performance Training in Football Refereeing
Weekly Training Plan

* Cool down - 5' jogging and walking, followed by 10' static stretching.

**Total duration: 70'**

**Wed. 4th:**

**REST DAY**

**Thu. 5th:**

* Low Int. - 5' jogging slowly building up to 70% HR$_\text{max}$ (+ 1 km).

* Warm up - 20' warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.

* Strength - 15' strength, core stability and injury prevention exercises.

* Speed End. - Set 1: Field exercise, 5 laps of 2' each.
- During each lap, there are 12 different activities: walking (W), jogging (J), high intensity running (HI), sprinting (S).
- 4' recovery.
- Set 2: Field exercise, another 5 laps of 2' each.

- All together, this exercise takes 10' + 4' recovery + 10' = 24'.

* Match - 10' match play.

* Cool down - 5' jogging and walking, followed by 10' static stretching.

**Total duration: 89'**

**Fri. 6th:**

**REST DAY**
Performance Training in Football Refereeing
Weekly Training Plan

Sat. 7th:  
* Warm up  - 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.

* Speed  - 10 m sprint up, 10 m walk down, 3 x
- 20 m sprint up, 20 m walk down, 3 x
- 30 m sprint up, 30 m walk down, 3 x
(with a change in direction to the left or to the right)

- Once the 9 sprints (180 m total sprinting distance) have been completed take a 5’ stretching and drinking break.

- Set 2:
- In reversed order, i.e. from 30 m to 10 m, each distance 3 x for a further 9 sprints.

- The total sprint distance is 360 m. The total exercise time is 15’.

* Cool down  - 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.

Total duration: 50’

Sun. 8th:

If you don’t have a match appointment for the domestic league, use your free time for additional recovery, or use your free time to work on any fitness weaknesses you might have, e.g., aerobic endurance, strength, injury prevention,…).

Alternatively, you may also consider other intermittent activities such as playing badminton, football, squash, tennis, or alpine/cross-country skiing to benefit from complementary mental and physical stimulation.
WEEK 6 from Monday 9th to Sunday 15th of February
Macrocycle VI, week 6 (Training week 36)

Mon. 9th:
  Tr. 134

Tue. 10th:
- * Low Int. - 5’ jogging slowly building up to 70% HR_max (± 1 km).
  Tr. 135
- * Warm up - 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.
- * Strength - 15’ strength, core stability and injury prevention exercises.
- * Ext. Speed - **Set 1 (using a dynamic start):**
  > 8 fast runs over 20 m (± 3’)
  > 2’ recovery
- **Set 2 (using a dynamic start):**
  > 6 fast runs over 40 m (± 6’)
  > 2’ recovery
- **Set 3 (using a dynamic start):**
  > 4 fast runs over 60 m (± 9’)
  > 2’ recovery
- **Set 4 (using a dynamic start):**
  > 2 fast runs over 80 m (± 12’)
  > 2’ recovery
Performance Training in Football Refereeing
Weekly Training Plan

- All together, 20 fast runs should be performed from a dynamic start position. Decelerate smoothly, turn and jog back to the start. Depending on the age and/or fitness level, the re-starts are timed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOP</th>
<th>INTERMEDIATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Set 1 every 20&quot;</td>
<td>Set 1 every 25&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set 2 every 40&quot;</td>
<td>Set 2 every 45&quot;</td>
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<td>Set 3 every 50&quot;</td>
<td>Set 3 every 55&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set 4 every 60&quot;</td>
<td>Set 4 every 65&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The total duration of this extended speed session is ≈ 18'.

* Cool down

- 5' jogging and walking, followed by 10' static stretching.

**Total duration: 73'**

Wed. 11th:

REST DAY

Thu. 12th:

* Low Int.

Tr. 136

- 5' jogging slowly building up to 70% HR_{max} (+ 1 km).

* Warm up

- 20' warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.

* Strength

- 15' strength, core stability and injury prevention exercises.

* Speed End.

- Field exercise (below) for a total of 8' or 6 laps.

![Diagram of 2 sets of 6 laps](image-url)

- One lap: 1'20"
- Set 1 (6 laps): 8 min
- Recovery: 4 min
- Set 2 (6 laps): 8 min
- Total duration: 20 min

Walking: W 480 m
Jogging: J 480 m
Backwards: BW 480 m
Sideways: SW ---
High intensity: HI ---
Sprint: S 720 m

Total distance: 2160 m
- 4’ recovery.

- Field exercise (below) along the wide diagonal line, run for 10’ or 10 tempo runs in total.

- All together, these exercises take 8’ + 4’ recovery + 10’ = 22’.

  * Match
    - 10’ match play.

  * Cool down
    - 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.

  **Total duration: 87’**

Fri. 13th: REST DAY

Sat. 14th: Tr. 137

  * Warm up
    - 20’ warm up, mobilisation and dynamic stretching.

  * Speed
    - **Set 1:** Sprint exercise in the penalty box, 5 laps in total.

    - 5’ recovery

    - **Set 2:** Sprint exercise in the penalty box, again 5 laps in total.
- The total exercise time is 15’.

  * Cool down - 5’ jogging and walking, followed by 10’ static stretching.

**Total duration:** 50’

Sun. 15th: If you don’t have a match appointment for the domestic league, use your free time for additional recovery, or use your free time to work on any fitness weaknesses you might have, e.g., aerobic endurance, strength, injury prevention,…).

Alternatively, you may also consider other intermittent activities such as playing badminton, football, squash, tennis, or alpine/cross-country skiing to benefit from complementary mental and physical stimulation.