



# INDIVIDUAL TACTICS

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Within the subject area of tactics, the IIHF Coach Development Program presents individual tactics for coaches to provide their players with options to solve the many and varying challenges that occur during a hockey game.

Once the players have a sound base of the fundamental technical skills necessary to play hockey, the coach can introduce them to individual tactics and then into team tactics and principles. The next step in the progression is teaching team play systems and, finally a strategy.

In this Level I manual, coaches are introduced to Individual Offensive and Defensive Tactics and we hope will encourage coaches to teach their players to play a creative and dynamic style of hockey.

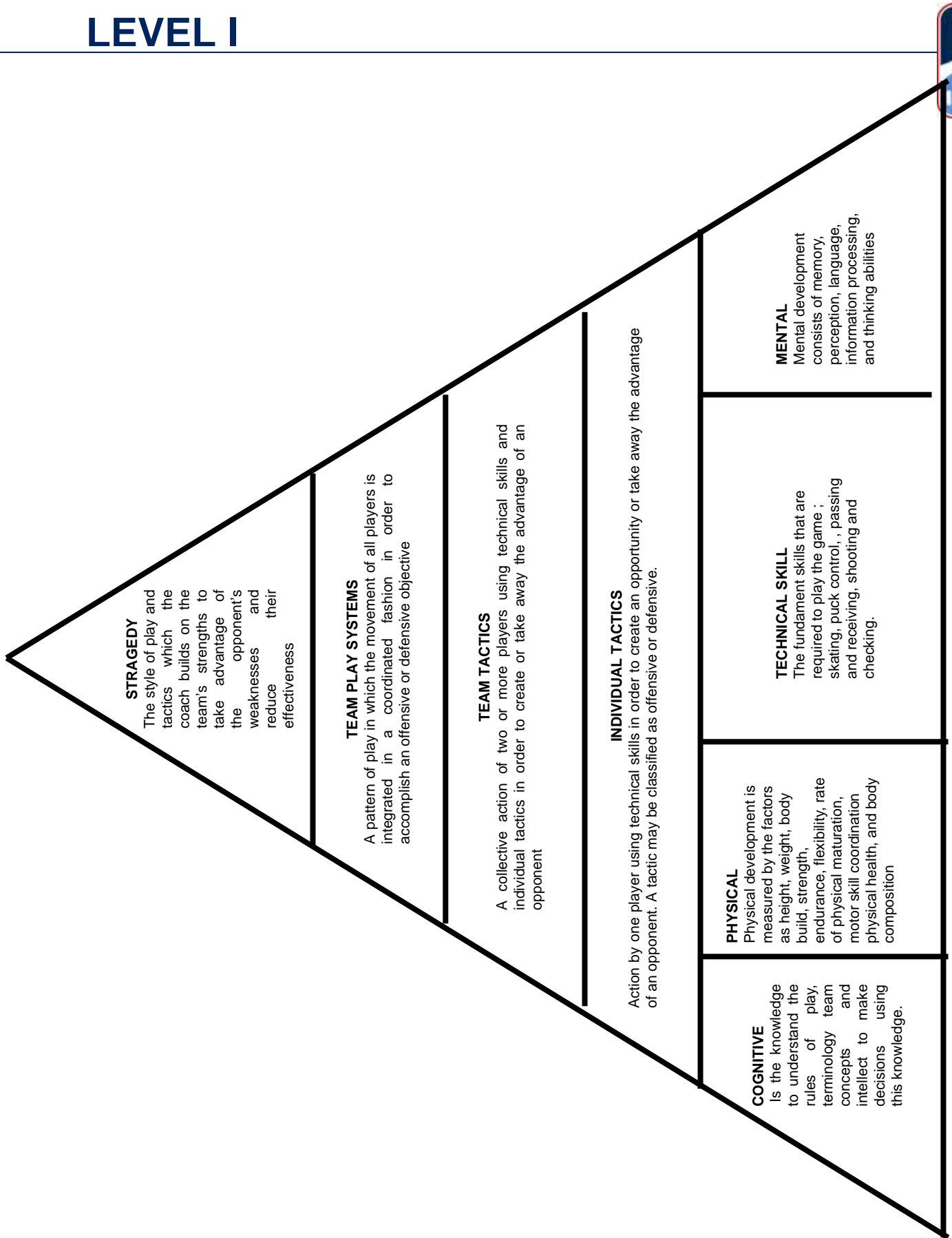
In Level II, these Individual Offensive and Defensive Tactics are refined and Team Tactics and Principles are presented as the next part of the progression.

The teaching progression pyramid (Table 1), will help coaches understand the teaching progression necessary to be able to understand and teach team strategy.

When teaching individual tactics, it is important your players are able to select the correct tactic for a given game situation and be able to perform each tactic under game-like conditions. Successful individual performance is dependent on a player's ability to read and act to varying game situations. The following four steps can be used to guide a player's performance:

- observe the situation,
- organize and process the information,
- select an appropriate response from the available options,
- execute the correct tactic.

Table 1 introduces a flow chart which illustrates why individual tactics are necessary in building team systems. As well, the key content areas for individual tactics in Level I and Level II are outlined.



Teaching Progression Pyramid

## TACTICAL

**COGNITIVE**  
Is the knowledge to understand the rules of play, terminology and concepts and intellect to make decisions using this knowledge.

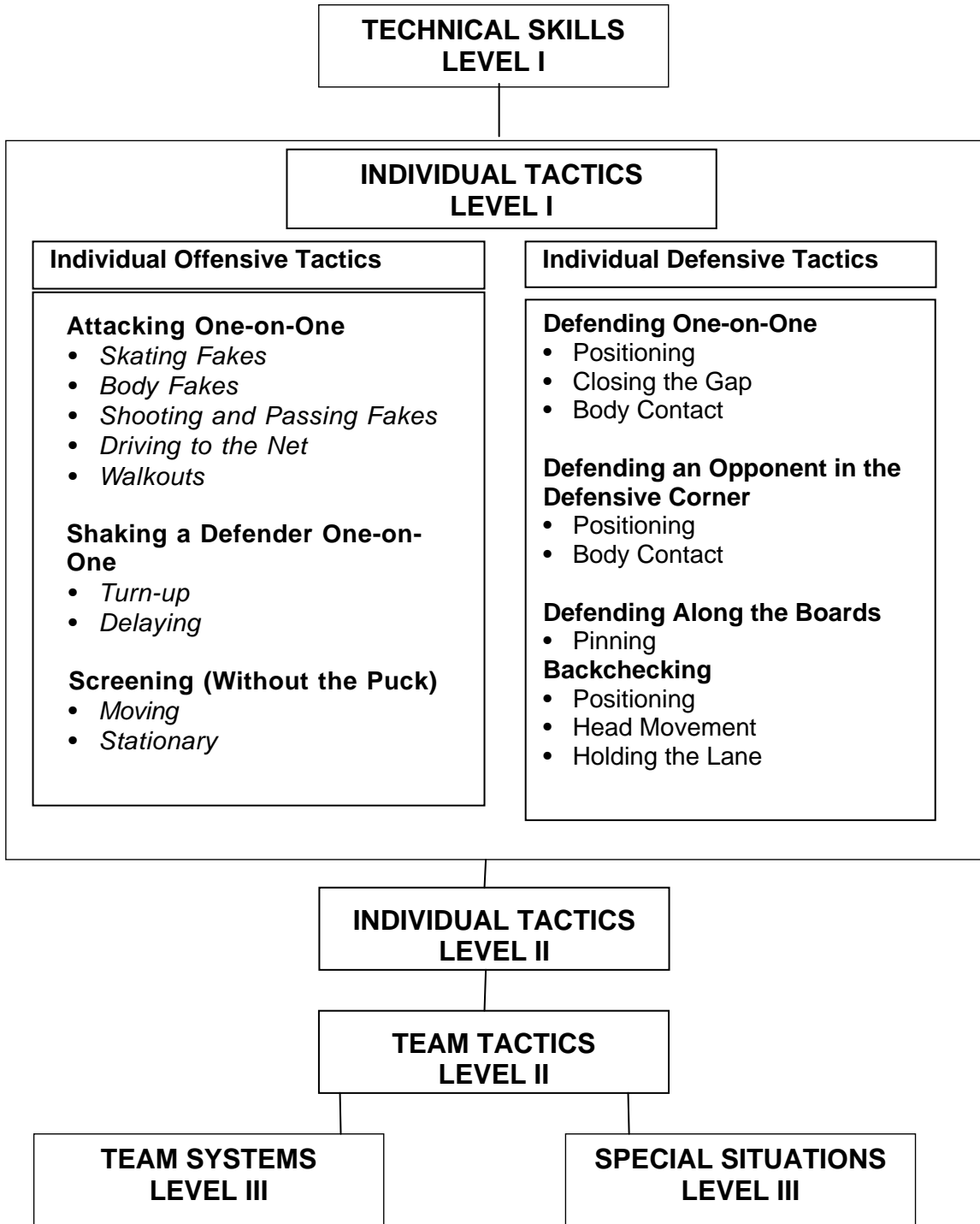
**PHYSICAL**  
Physical development is measured by the factors as height, weight, body build, strength, endurance, flexibility, rate of physical maturation, motor skill coordination physical health, and body composition

**TECHNICAL SKILL**  
The fundamental skills that are required to play the game ; skating, puck control, , passing and receiving, shooting and checking.

**MENTAL**  
Mental development consists of memory, perception, language, information processing, and thinking abilities

## Individual Tactics

The following table illustrates the importance of Individual Tactics in developing your teams systems



**Table 1:** Flow Chart showing Individual Tactics in the Design of Team Play System