

Hose Advancement and Water Supply

Fire Practice — June 2026

Fire Service · Led by Don · 6 sections

OVERVIEW

Practice on advancing attack lines and establishing water supply during the first five minutes of an incident. Six parts: opening comments, the engine company, the role of the pumpers, the supply pumper at the attack intake, the tanker shuttle, and hydrant set-ups with tandem pumping.

Drawn from the automatic transcription of six audio recordings. Some terms, apparatus numbers and proper names may have been mis-transcribed.

PLAY 1 Opening Comments

OBJECTIVES

Set the objectives for the engine company.

KEY POINTS

- Objective 1 — Proper pressure at the smoothbore nozzle for hose-line manoeuvrability and effective flow. Target ~150 GPM at 50 PSI on the 200-ft, 1¾-inch cross-lays.
- Objective 2 — Advancing while flowing, working as a team to get the line around choke points.
- Objective 3 — Define what the nozzle man / team leader does and says over the radio if they come across a victim.

PLAY 2 The Engine Company — Interior Attack

OBJECTIVES

Optimize the hose package and nozzle handling on interior attack.

KEY POINTS

- A good-quality hose package prevents kinks and choke points, reduces nozzle reaction, and keeps a good fire flow.
- Don't rotate the nozzle unnecessarily — it induces air and changes the fire flow.
- Over-pressure causes nozzle whip and kinks in the last 3 feet of the line.
- Flow water 15-20 seconds before entering: set the desired discharge pressure and clear air from the line.
- On finding a victim: call "victim, victim, victim" over the radio and give a CAN report (Conditions, Actions, Needs).
- Decide: keep controlling the fire, or get the victim out? Pass needs (ladder company, extra line) to the chief of operations.

REMEMBER : Flow water 15-20 seconds before entering to bleed air from the line.

PLAY 3 Role of the Different Pumpers

OBJECTIVES

Determine each pumper's role and how to set up the attack pump.

KEY POINTS

- Attack pump: 421 (priority), otherwise 441, 461 or 422 depending on roads and availability. Dedicated to the fire attack: supplies the interior lines.
- Supply pumper: 4-inch hose to the truck (500 ft max) or two 4-inch lines in parallel to reduce friction loss.
- Set the Y close to the supply truck, 2½-inch hoses (one for itself, one for an incoming tanker).
- Setup: auto-prime, drains closed, bleed air from the tank.
- Governor in pressure mode, preset ~125 PSI; red tape ~110 PSI (cross-lays); throttle out ~75%.
- Deck gun: ~70 PSI, ~350 GPM — don't over-pressurize.
- Limit the attack pump's intake to 50-60 PSI initially.

REMEMBER : Throttle at ~75%, never 100% — keep room to increase or decrease.

PLAY 4 The Supply Pumper at the Attack Intake

OBJECTIVES

Feed the attack pumper and manage intake/outlet pressures.

KEY POINTS

- Drafting from a pool: governor in RPM mode (~1250 RPM); prioritize side suctions (front suction struggles over the wheelbase).
- Water enters via the front (under pressure) or the side, into a butterfly valve; prefer the pump operator's side for visibility.
- Bleed the air via the drain before opening the butterfly valve; open slowly.
- Limit intake pressure to 50-75 PSI (critical) so the governor can hold ~125 PSI at the outlet.
- Example: 50 PSI intake + ~50 PSI at idle = 100 PSI; the truck raises RPM to reach 125 PSI.

REMEMBER : Intake capped at 50-75 PSI → governor holds 125 PSI at the outlet.

PLAY 5 Tanker Shuttle Operation

OBJECTIVES

Keep a continuous flow through tanker rotation.

KEY POINTS

- One tanker dumping, a second ready to take over, a third in transit. Any choke point means missing water.
- Fill as fast as you dump; set up 2 dump spots for a continuous ~500 GPM.
- Y set-up: effective under 500 GPM (~300 GPM); the attack pumper is uncomfortable with this scenario.
- Sustained high flow (700-1000 GPM): the Y is inefficient; the supply truck drafts and pushes to the attack pumper.
- > 500 ft or > 500 GPM: two 4-inch lines in parallel.
- Up to 4 supply trucks at once: plan for ~10 tankers, filling 4 at a time.

REMEMBER : Keep the rotation: fill as fast as you dump.

PLAY 6 Hydrant Set-ups and Tandem Pumping

OBJECTIVES

Maximize hydrant flow and loop the attack pumpers together.

KEY POINTS

- Hydrant or dry hydrant: double- or even triple-tap for maximum flow.
- A pumper at the hydrant, min. 2 fill points for tankers, or a direct relay hydrant → supply → attack.
- > 500 ft or > 500 GPM: two 4-inch lines in parallel.
- Very high flow: place a pumper between the supply truck and the main pump (reduces friction loss), or use tandem pumping.
- Two attack pumpers (e.g. sectors 5 and 3): go intake-to-intake to form a loop.
- Keep trucks ~100-200 ft apart max. More versatility and maximum flow at all times.

REMEMBER : Intake-to-intake loop: keep trucks ≤ 200 ft apart.

Quick Reference — Key Numbers

Parameter	Target
Nozzle, cross-lays	~150 GPM @ 50 PSI · aim ~110 PSI
Governor	Preset ~125 PSI at outlet · throttle ~75%
Before entering	Flow water 15-20 s (bleed the air)
Intake pressure	Limit to 50-75 PSI
Deck gun	~70 PSI · ~350 GPM
Drafting	Governor in RPM mode · ~1250 RPM
Two 4-inch lines in parallel	If > 500 GPM or > 500 ft
Intake-to-intake loop	Trucks ~100-200 ft apart
Sustained high flow	~10 tankers · fill 4 at a time

Items to Confirm

- Apparatus numbers (421, 441, 461, 422): to be confirmed with Don.
- Nozzle target "minus 150 GPM": likely "about 150 GPM".
- Best-guess corrections applied: pumper, RPM, 2½-inch hose, attack pumper, visibility.
- "Alreda Pulp" passage (section 3) unintelligible — omitted.