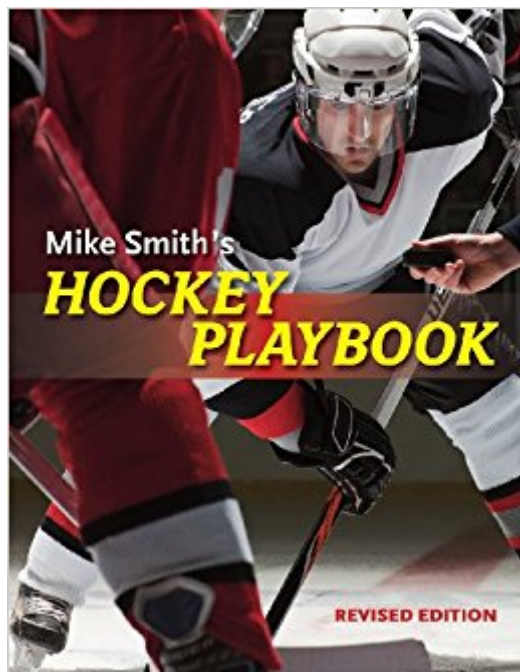


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Mike Smith's Hockey Playbook



Synopsis

The bible for hockey coaches at all levels of competition. Mike Smith's Hockey Playbook is a practical handbook for coaches seeking to improve their players and better their team-play. The book features systems for defensive, offensive and special-team situations, all accompanied by annotated, easy-to-understand diagrams. The systems range from conservative to aggressive -- some are intended for big, physical teams; others for fast-skating and highly skilled teams; and some work for both. Smith also includes teaching methods and drills for honing specific skills. The first challenge for every coach is to determine the abilities of each skater. The approach in Mike Smith's Hockey Playbook is effective with players of all ages and levels of ability. Coaches can match systems with team strategy, bringing a special creative magic to one of the fastest team sports in the world. Mike Smith's Hockey Playbook includes: Clear step-by-step diagrams Dozens of plays and skill-building drills Conservative and aggressive systems Teaching strategies for all levels of play.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The ex-GM, one of the game's deep thinkers, makes it easy for coaches. This one didn't stay on the desk very long before the serious minor hockey dads at the office were borrowing it. (Lance Hornby Toronto Sun 2011-12-17)

Michael A. Smith has been involved in hockey for over 40 years as a player, coach and general manager of the New York Rangers, Colorado Rockies, Chicago Blackhawks and Team USA. He

was an adviser for the National Hockey League and has traveled extensively as a lecturer and studied European training methods in Russia and Sweden. The author of six books on hockey, he lives in West Tisbury, Massachusetts.

Clear, concise, readable, coherent, and beautifully presented. Not a single word of nonsense anywhere. All totally straight-forward and user-friendly. Keeping things simple is often great advice, and this book follows that philosophy exactly: it sticks to the tried and tested, and to the soundest fundamentals. (And there's never a day when the fundamentals are not required IN ABUNDANCE. In fact, most mistakes come down to breakdowns, or a lack of understanding, of the very basics. In other words, to play hockey well, you don't have to make it complicated.) The book's key innovation is its step-by-step diagrams. They show how a play, a situation - be it defensive or attacking - evolves. This is done over several drawings; up to eight in some instances. (A single drawing just freezes a moment in time. Then you're left wondering, WHAT NOW? Not here. The diagrams function as a sort of picture show, letting you see what's next. Great stuff.) Overall, an excellent resource, not only for players and coaches, but for goalies and fans too. Highly recommended.

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