

# FLEXBLE FITNESS

### Contract/Relax (PNF) Principles

Move into stretch so that it is slightly uncomfortable but not painful Contract muscle into resistance: either band or wall/floor on the inhale Move deeper into stretch on the exhale and hold for 3-5 seconds before repeating contraction Repeat 3-5 times, do not ease up on stretch between contractions hold new range in place

## **Use Stretching and Movement as Assessment**

What part of line is tight, what lines are tight?: back line, front line, lateral line, etc If a stretch isn't felt after using different angles to target all fiber directions that area doesn't need to be stretched

Observe side to side differences, which leg or arm is tighter?

#### **Stretching Principles**

Utilize breathe during stretch Avoid pain, but move into discomfort

Focus on stretches you need: find restricted area, find appropriate stretch and apply principles Avoid long-slow stretching pre-workout, focus on range of motion, mobilizing not stretching Target all fiber directions stretching fascia and connective tissue not just muscle Support spine/back to isolate areas, having to balance decreases effectiveness of stretch Be creative: use same range of motion in different ways before or after workout

### **Tips**

Stretch and practice movments daily for 15minutes morning and at night Flexibility will change with practice, stretches should also change

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# SUPERFICIAL BACK LINE



## **Hand-Walks**

Assessment for whole back line: where is restriction?

Start in crouched position and walk out to pushup (plank)

Walk feet to hands, till you are in forward bend position

Walk hands out again to pushup position and repeat

2<sup>nd</sup> part is in reverse: walking hands to feet till in forward bend position then walking feet back



#### **L-Band Stretch**

Back supported, keep head on floor

Leg straight, not bent at knee

Inhale push heel to floor (whole leg) while resisting with band, exhale pull leg up towards head, repeat 3x



## **Lateral Hamstring with Band**

Back supported, keep head on floor

Leg straight, not bent at knee, take leg across body

Stretch range between 60-90 degrees (90 is L-position from leg to torso), pull toes up/rotate foot out to target entire line



Back of Knee Stretch/Slide-

Out (Hamstring/Calves): For slide, start with straight spine and slide bent leg forward



## **Seated Position**

Sit at edge of seat or cushion using any boltering necessary to:

A: Elevate hips above knees

B: Tilt pelvis slightly forward

Hips above knees puts pelvis into anterior tilt supporting lumbar spine (Pelvis as bowl spilling water out front) Breathing: Bring awareness to Front/Back & Sides

# SUPERFICIAL FRONT LINE

# **Lunge Stretch**

Set leg up right leg against wall (pictured), lower leg flush, while other leg is in 90 degree angle (lunge)

Torso parallel to 90 degree thigh and hands on ground

First work to support, transferring elbow/hand to left leg

Slowly lift torso upward, PNF: push leg into wall and knee

into floor on the inhale and get tall on the exhale, repeat 3x, eventually including arms

# LATERAL LINE



#### **Hip Opener 2 Variations**

Leg is at 90degrees, keeping spine straight lean forward into stretch, PNF: push whole leg into floor or table on inhale, keeping spine straight move torso forward on exhale. Vary angle targeting all the fibers around the hip



#### Lat Stretch

Using band position arm so stretch is felt from arm to hip

Move arm across body targeting different fibers

# DEEP FRONT LINE (CORE)

# Mid-Line Stabilization, Activation and Stretching



## The Squat

Start with **Dislocates/Pass-Thrus** to open shoulders Lead with the Pelvis: send the hips back If necessary use stool behind hips to fall back on Gradually decrease height so that hip crease is below knees Weight on heels, gaze forward, arms forward or holding bar Push knees out as hips go back, lengthening adductors Assess: how does this feel on my knees, are quads active?



## **Turkish Getup**

Setup: raised knee same side as weight, initial support is foot and forearm

I: **Roll** to side keeping weight and arm extended (don't situp)

II: Pushing into hand and foot **slide** extended leg back into kneeling (T-Position with both arms extended)

III: T-position to **stand**ing: turn and square hips then stand IV: **Lower** in reverse: knee to floor, slide leg back through, hand support(pictured), forearm support then lower



# **Running Drill**

in new stretch

4Pts:posture/mid-foot /90-cadence/lean Start jumping in place heel kissing floor after forefoot lands Then alternate steps left then right

Add jump-rope, applying 4 principles: lean after adding rope and go forward, head and hips straight, mid-foot landing, 90 candence and slight lean



# **Psoas Stretch/Spiderman**

Starting from crouched position walk arms out in front, (Pictured), left leg steps outside hands
Drop back hip towards floor and inside forearm
Reverse forearm and hip
Walk hands out, dragging back leg until it replaces front leg



# **Spinal Mobility (Roll-Down/ Cat-Cow)**

The goal of both movements is to bring movement and awareness to the spine

Both movement involvement a progressive flexion and extension of the spine

The Cat-Cow anteriorly tilts the pelvis in the cow position and posteriorly tilts on the cat (rounded back)

The rolldown emphasis is to relax the neck and shoulder during the exercise



# **Pushup Scaling & Progression**

To make the pushup harder elevate feet, to simplify elevate hands

Easiest: Wall 70degress, Box medium, box low

Harder: Feet on 12in box, 24inch, rings, one-arm press on

rings, separate hands on rings

Pushups from knees do not require mid-line stabilition which

is the goal





#### ATAIVI LIIVIL

**Pec Minor**Stretch should be felt from ribcage to arm
Bolster head on floor or use wall

PNF: Push arm into floor on inhale, exhale turn shoulder away from floor deepening stretch

90-degree variation is done from knees with elbow bolstered



#### **External Rotators**

Lie on side with head supported
Arm (Humerus) will be 60 degrees from shoulder
Angle of forearm to humerus is 90 degrees
Use free arm to slowly bring wrist to floor
PNF: Inhale bring forearm up (ext rot) against resistance,
exhale use free arm to lower arm towards floor more
Go slow this can be intense!!