

## UTV Familiarization and Inspection Checklist

Divide into pairs and conduct an in-depth vehicle inspection of your UTV. Using your knowledge of UTVs, the vehicle's owner's manual, or smart phones, identify and label each of the below items using the supplied tape and markers. Once all items have been identified and labelled be prepared to discuss each item and its importance in relation to the safe operation of a UTV.

Accelerator	<input type="checkbox"/>	Oil	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approach angle	<input type="checkbox"/>	Overall length	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bed	<input type="checkbox"/>	Parking brake	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brake	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ramp break-over angle	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bumper	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rollover Protection Structure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coolant reservoir	<input type="checkbox"/>	Safety belt	<input type="checkbox"/>
Departure angle	<input type="checkbox"/>	Skid plate	<input type="checkbox"/>
Differential lock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Speedometer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Doors	<input type="checkbox"/>	Suspension	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fuel (cap, gauge, and tank)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Throttle mode control	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gear selector	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tires (tire pressure)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ground clearance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weight (Approximate)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Headlights	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheels	<input type="checkbox"/>
Headrest	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wheel base	<input type="checkbox"/>
Height	<input type="checkbox"/>	Winch	<input type="checkbox"/>

## **Learning Activity Summary #1- Starting and Stopping Smoothly**

**Purpose:** This activity will reinforce the importance of starting forward movement smoothly and coming to a controlled stop. Students will recognize the importance of traction and torque as it relates to acceleration and the increase in stopping distance as it relates to increased speeds.

**Description:** Provide the students a description of the exercise and the layout of the course. A facilitator will then drive a series demonstration laps displaying proper driving behaviors. The facilitator will increase speeds as they progress through the exercise to demonstrate the abilities of the vehicles. Once the demonstration laps are completed, students will be paired up in vehicles, instructed to place their vehicles in a line, and drive through the series of cones. A facilitator will be at the entrance to the exercise to regulate the flow of students and vehicles on the course.

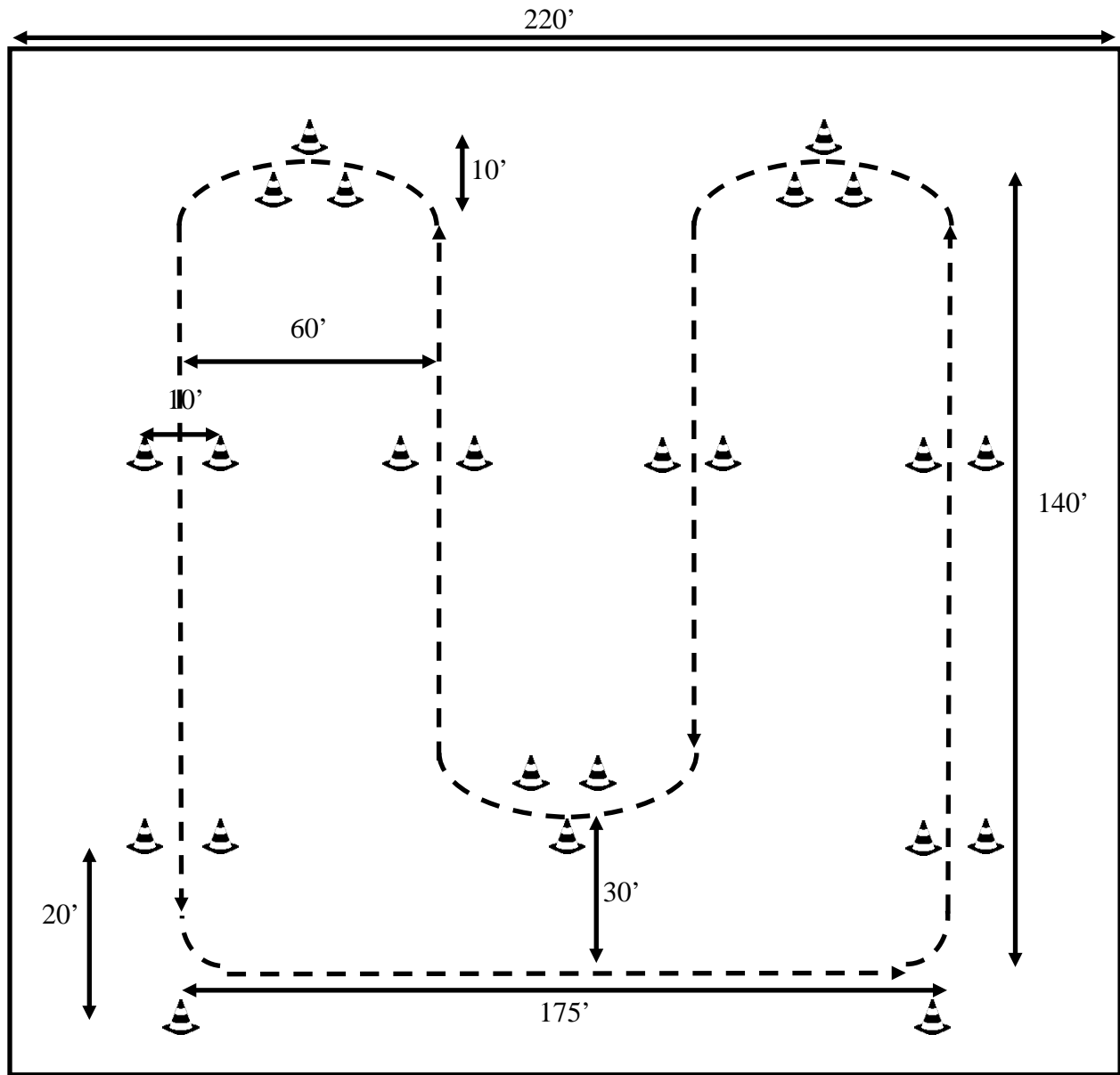
The students will continue to drive through the course until it is determined they can operate the vehicle smoothly. Once facilitators are satisfied, student drivers will rotate to allow all students the ability to complete the exercise.

### **Key Learning Points:**

- Smooth acceleration is completed through a balance of torque and traction.
- Effective braking involves smooth brake application to prevent skidding.
- Skidding tires have no traction and no control.
- Accelerating and braking while in a turn can greatly alter vehicle stability.

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Learning Activity #1- Starting and Stopping Smoothly  
Course Diagram**



## **Learning Activity Summary #2 – Rear-wheel Cheat and Proper Positioning in Turns**

**Purpose:** This activity will reinforce vehicle dynamics while in a turn. Students will encounter rear-wheel cheat and be forced to adjust vehicle position to avoid striking cones on the course. Students will also feel the effects of lateral weight transfer as speeds increase and decrease.

**Description:** Provide the students a description of the exercise and the layout of the course. A facilitator will then drive a series demonstration laps displaying proper driving behaviors. The facilitator will increase speeds as they progress through the exercise to demonstrate the abilities of the vehicles. Once the demonstration laps are completed, students will be paired in vehicles, instructed to place their vehicles in a line and drive to a specific cone dedicated by a facilitator.

Once instructed, students will drive around the cone in a clockwise direction. After each student driver has driven multiple laps, they will come to a stop at the instruction of the facilitator, change direction, and drive counter clockwise around the cone. This will be completed in both two and four-wheel drive. Additional laps can be added for vehicles equipped with locking differentials.

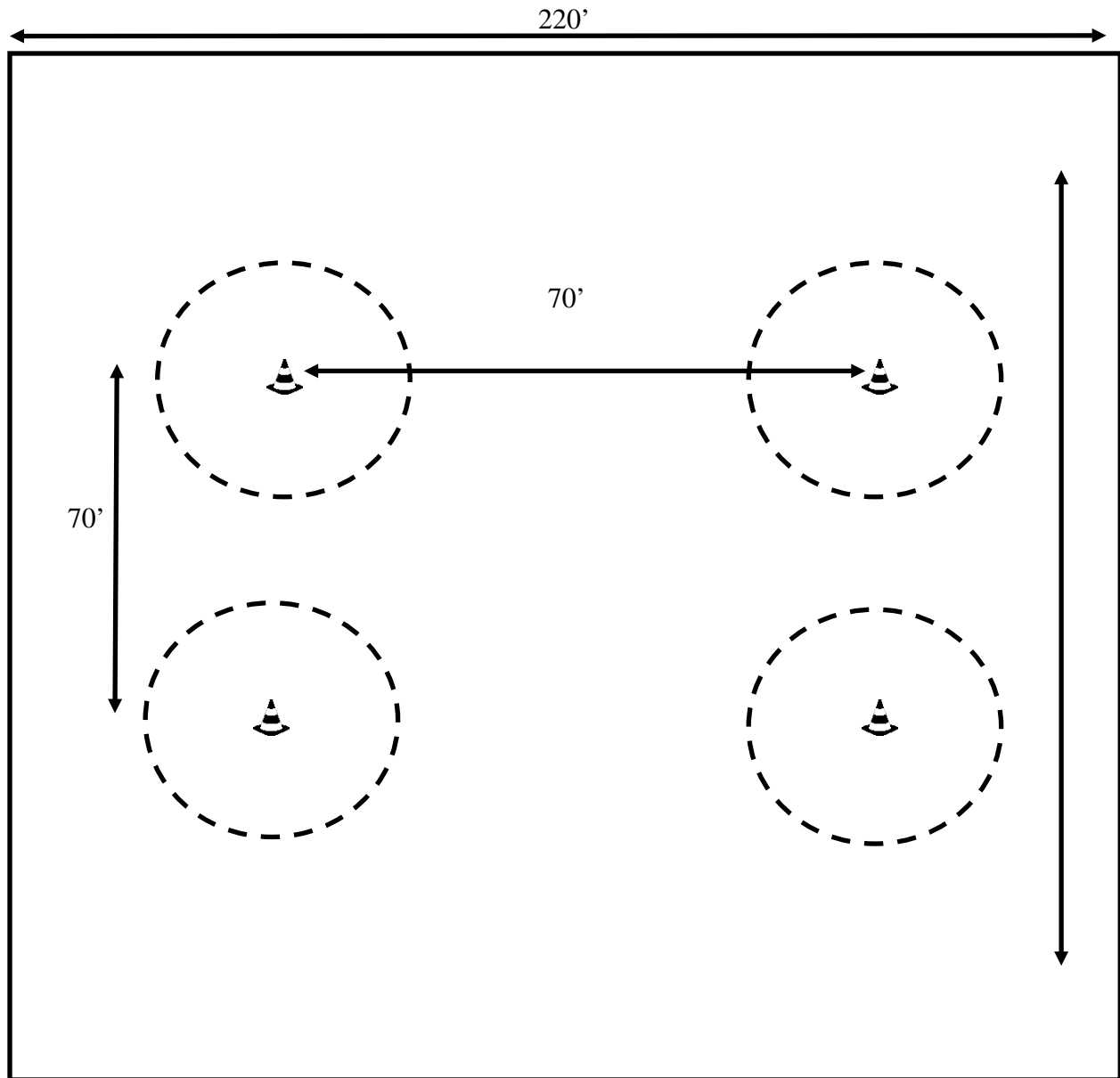
The students will continue to drive around the cones until it is determined they can operate the vehicle smoothly. Once facilitators are satisfied, student drivers will rotate to allow all students the ability to complete the exercise.

### **Key Learning Points:**

- Rear-wheel cheat must be accounted for while making sharp turns.
- Vehicle turning radius' vary greatly when operating in two and four-wheel drive

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Learning Activity #2- Rear-wheel Cheat and Proper Positioning in Turns**  
**Course Diagram**



### **Learning Activity Summary #3 – Left-foot Braking, Backing, and Turning**

**Purpose:** This activity will reinforce throttle control using left-foot braking to drive over obstacles and closely approaching object in both forward and reverse. Students will encounter front end swing and rear-wheel cheat.

**Description:** Provide the students a description of the exercise and the layout of the course. A facilitator will then drive a demonstration lap displaying proper driving behaviors. Once the demonstration lap is completed, students will be paired in vehicles, instructed to place their vehicles in a line and drive to a specific course dedicated by a facilitator.

Once instructed, students will drive smoothly over the beam blocking the entrance to the exercise using throttle control and left-foot braking. Students will drive forward until they get within inches of the first delineator. They will then place the vehicle in reverse and back-up while turning toward the next delineator until they are inches away. Students will then place the car in drive and drive forward until they are inches away from the delineator directly in front of them. Students will again place the vehicle in reverse and back-up to the cone initially driven toward at the beginning of the exercise. Finally, they will place the vehicle in drive and drive forward smoothly until they exit the exercise.

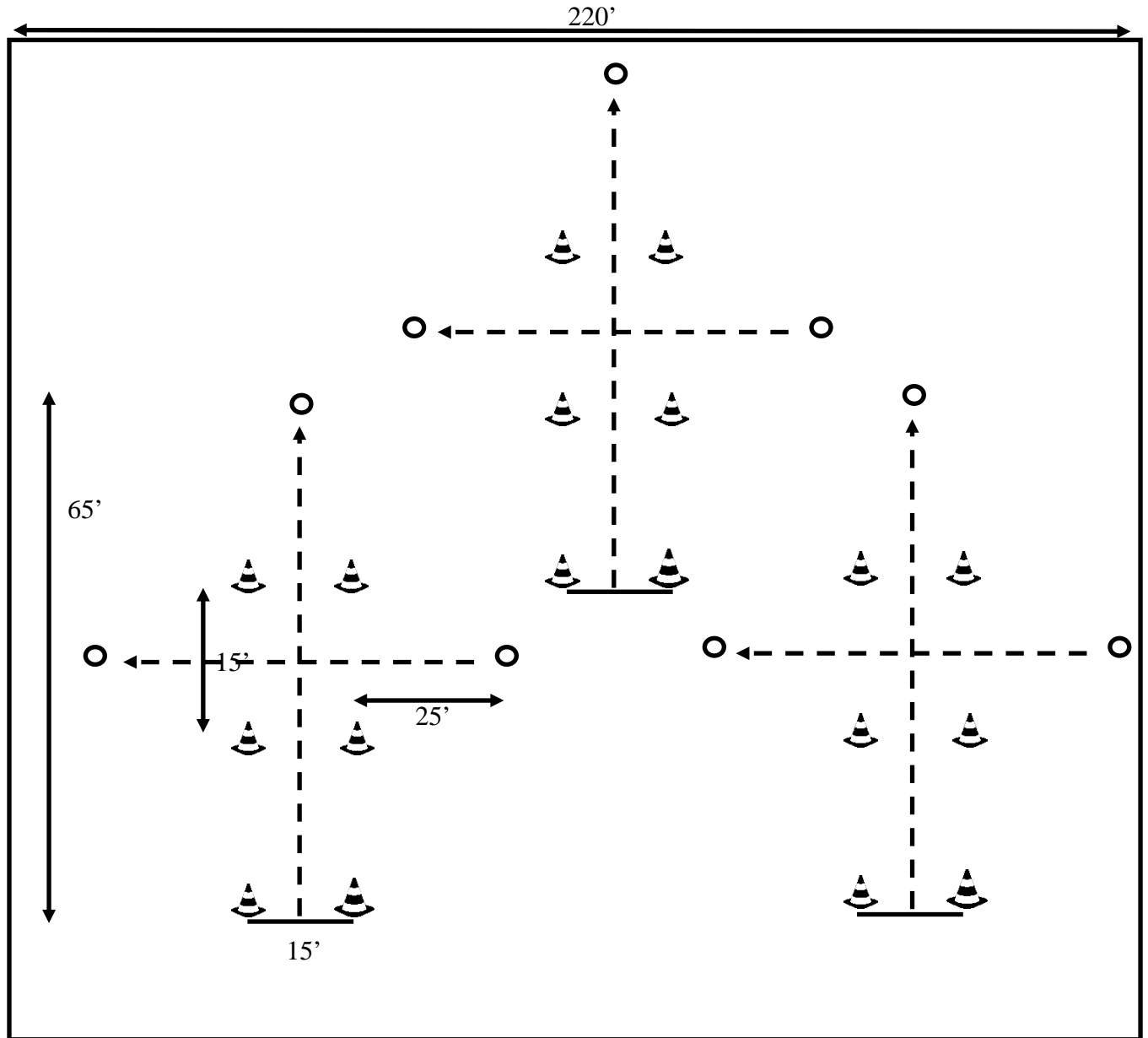
The students will continue to drive through the course until it is determined they can operate the vehicle smoothly. Once facilitators are satisfied, student drivers will rotate to allow all students the ability to complete the exercise.

#### **Key Learning Points:**

- Throttle control and left-foot braking is essential while crawling over objects
- Rear-wheel cheat must be accounted for while making sharp turns.
- Driving a UTV in reverse offers a variety of difficulties unique to UTVs

**Time:** 30 minutes

Learning Activity Summary #3 – Left-foot Braking, Backing, and Turning  
Course Diagram



## **Learning Activity Summary #4 – Chicane**

**Purpose:** This activity will reinforce throttle control while conducting a series of turns in both forward and reverse. Students will encounter front end swing and rear-wheel cheat.

**Description:** Provide the students a description of the exercise and the layout of the course. A facilitator will then drive a demonstration lap displaying proper driving behaviors. Once the demonstration lap is completed, students will be paired in vehicles, instructed to place their vehicles in a line and drive to a specific course dedicated by a facilitator.

Once instructed, students will drive smoothly forward weaving in and out of the cone pattern. Once students reach the end of the pattern, they will place the vehicle in reverse and back through the cone pattern.

Each student will conduct this exercise at least twice prior to rotating with their partner. The students will continue to drive through the course until it is determined they can operate the vehicle smoothly. Once facilitators are satisfied, student drivers will rotate to allow all students the ability to complete the exercise.

### **Key Learning Points:**

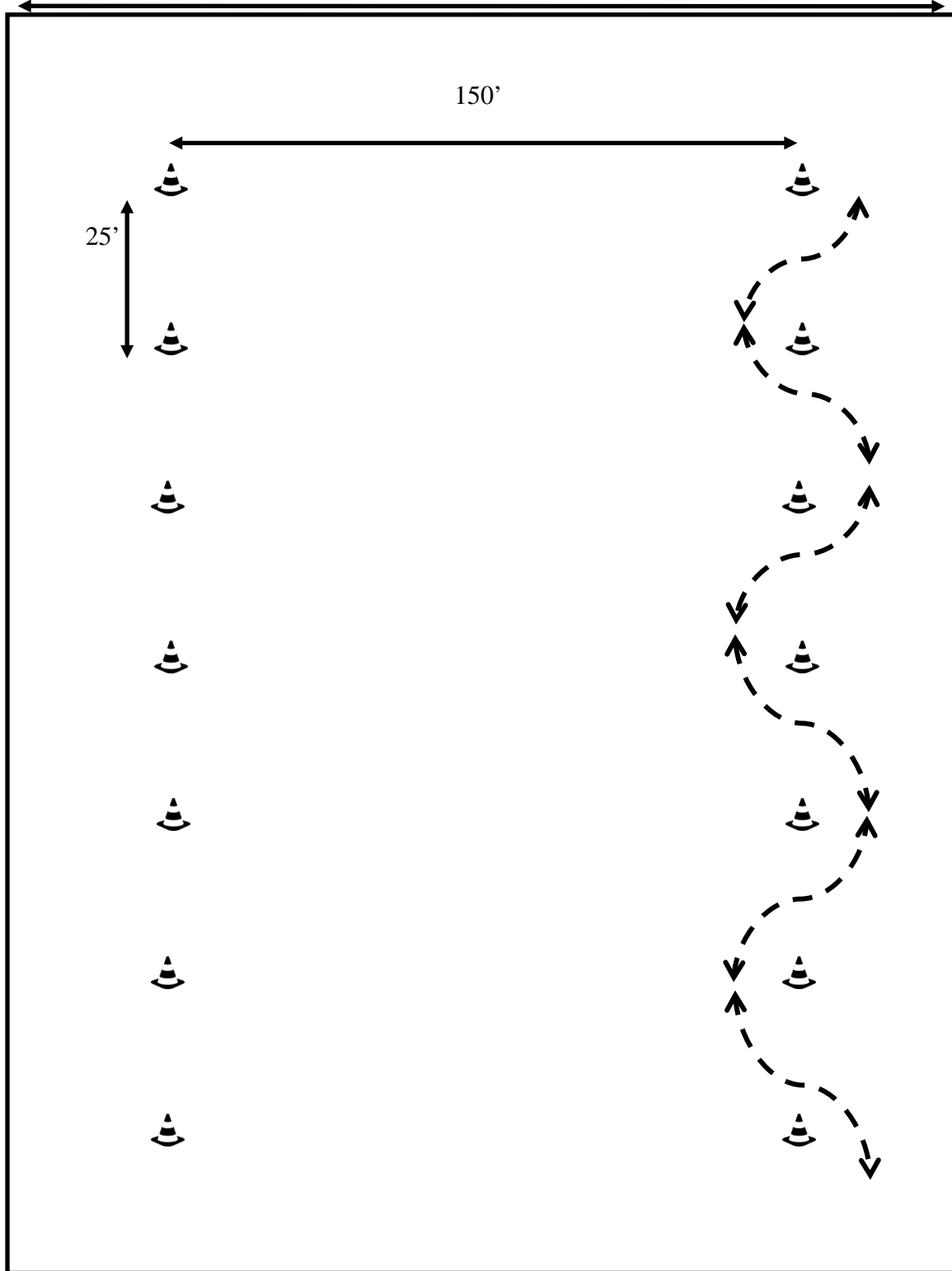
- Smooth throttle control and steering while weaving through the cone pattern to prevent wheel lift.
- Small steering adjustments needed to prevent more steering input when off course.
- Rear-wheel cheat must be accounted for while making sharp turns.
- Driving a UTV in reverse offers a variety of difficulties unique to UTVs

**Time:** 30 minutes



Learning Activity Summary #4 – Chicane  
Course Diagram

220'



## **Learning Activity Summary #5 – Collision Avoidance Obstacle**

**Purpose:** This activity will simulate an obstacle suddenly entering the driving path of the student, causing them to make an evasive maneuver to avoid a collision.

**Description:** Provide the students a description of the exercise and the layout of the course. A facilitator will then drive a demonstration lap displaying proper driving behaviors. Once the demonstration lap is completed, students will be paired in vehicles, instructed to place their vehicles in a line and drive to the beginning starting area of the course.

Once instructed, students will drive smoothly forward in a straight-line. As students approach the signal cones, the facilitator will give a signal to the students; directing them which lane to turn into. When in the dedicated lane, students will quickly apply the brakes and come to a complete stop. After the students come to a complete stop they will be instructed to drive back to the starting area through the chicane exercise.

Each student will conduct this exercise at least three times prior to rotating with their partner. The students will continue to drive through the course until it is determined they can operate the vehicle smoothly. Once facilitators are satisfied, student drivers will rotate to allow all students the ability to complete the exercise.

### **Key Learning Points:**

- Smooth throttle control and steering while weaving through the cone pattern to prevent wheel lift.
- Small steering adjustments needed to prevent more steering input when off course.
- Rear-wheel cheat must be accounted for while making sharp turns.
- Driving a UTV in reverse offers a variety of difficulties unique to UTVs

**Time:** 30 minutes

Learning Activity Summary #5 – Collision Avoidance Obstacle Course Diagram

