How to beat the Aggressive Baseliner?

This player likes to stay back and finish the point quickly with powerful and forcing shots. Their goal is to hit a lot of winners. One side is usually stronger (forehand) than the other, though the other side usually is steady. Their patience is just average and usually will become impatient if many balls are retrieved. Approaching the net is not their favorite tactic except when they set up the point to put the ball away.

Some tactics to implement:

1. Use Moonballs – This should be used more often on slower court surfaces. The timing is a little more difficult on faster surfaces. These shots allow the aggressive baseliner to create their own pace.
2. Use slice shots from baseliner. This ball is usually slower and lower. This ball stays out of their strike-zone (below waist/chest height).
3. Be a hustler. Chase all balls down. Get a racquet on everything. This will allow him to press when the big points are played.
4. Decide which is the weaker side. Though it might not be very weak it is still weaker than their other weapon. Try to play more often to this weaker side.
5. Come to net to break their rhythm and force them to not to dictate the point. You are beating him to the punch (proactive) Also, their passing shots are aggressive and usually are hit higher above the net (easier volleys).
6. Mix up pace, heights and spins. This usually throws their rhythm off. They like to have similar balls to groove their weapon.
7. Serve into the body. They usually can't hit power shots from a jammed position. They usually are stepping lateral or backward to hit this shot thus losing power.

General Mindset:

1. Remember don't focus on their amount of winners. Focus on your limiting your unforced errors and YOUR game plan. Even great aggressive baseliners don't stay hot the entire set or match.
2. Be patient and consistently apply pressure by incorporating the above tactics. Don't get involved in a slug-fest. That is THEIR game not yours.
3. Slow the match down by taking more time. Aggressive players usually play fast and try to maintain that pace. SLOW everything down (changeovers, between points, service and return games etc.)