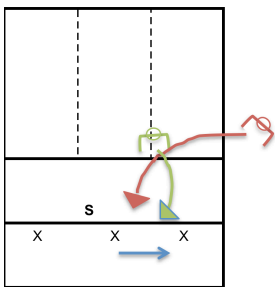


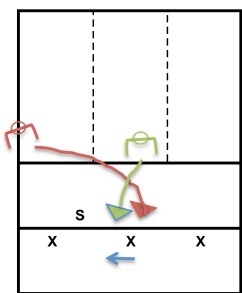
X's and Tandems are combinations of different hitting patterns ran by the hitters of one team with the goal of **opening gaps** in the opponent's block and defense. The hitting techniques can be found in each of the specific pattern's modules. This module will focus on describing the movement of the different attackers and the **opportunities that those movements may create**.



31 - 53 Combo

Middle player runs a 31 and leftside player runs a 53 between the setter and the middle

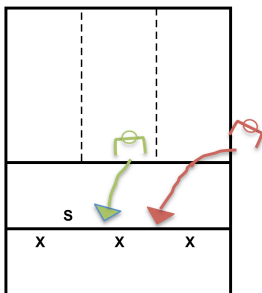
- The leftside starts moving in as the pass is made and uses the middle running the 31 to “hide” from the blockers.
- The leftside initiates approach as to have their **left foot (first step) on the floor as the ball gets to the setters' hands** and explodes into the last “right-left” steps towards the ball.
- If the middle blocker followed the 31, the **cross-court will be wide open** for the leftside to hit.



51 - 53 Combo

Middle player runs a 51 and rightside attacker comes around to hit a 53 on the leftside of the middle.

- The rightside starts in their usual position on the right sideline. As the pass is made, the rightside takes a first step towards the inside of the court.
- The **middle approaches quickly** for the 51 to make sure that the rightside will have space to approach.
- The **rightside is behind the middle attacker** with their left foot on the floor as the ball falls into the setter's hands. **Right after the ball is set**, the rightside takes their last two steps towards the ball.
- If the middle blocker fronted the 51, the **cross-court will be wide open**. If the middle blocker committed on the 51, **the whole court will be open** as they will be on their way down at the time of the hit.



51 - 33 Combo

Middle player runs a 51 and leftside player runs a 31 past the middle

- The leftside starts their approach in their usual position just outside the sideline. As the pass is made, the leftside **slowly starts their approach** towards the net by leaning forward or by taking a small right step.
- As the ball gets to the setter's hands, the leftside has gained speed and has their **left foot on the sideline** with their shoulders facing the cross-court.
- As the ball leaves the setter's hands, the leftside takes a **big right step inside the court**. The last left step is taken **in front of the right foot** to allow for forward movement in the jump.
- The leftside meets the ball about **3 meters inside the antenna** and can hit the **gap between the middle blocker and rightside blocker** or the cross-court passed the middle trying to close the block.