

Serving Up Success



PASSING PERFECTION (Above): Zara Mayor (9) receives a serve from the opposing team, creating an opportunity for the setter to set the ball for a spike. The first touch is the most important, setting up the entire play.

CIRCLE OF CHAMPIONS (Left): The varsity team huddles up before each game to prepare for their opponents. Each team has their own chant that they like to use.



Grace Wong (9)

"A notable game would be against Los Gatos, we played very hard and had fun. I play libero which is one of the defensive specialist. I don't hit or block, I only receive."



Alexa Nanovich (12)

"A really notable game would be our home game against Paly. I think we played very hard and went all out. They were a difficult team but we pushed very hard and put up a good fight. Even though we lost, I know everyone on our team was very happy with our performance."



Helios Zepka (10)

"There was a game where I blocked one handed and the ball went straight down, which was really fun. There are many other games and plays that are notable. I play middle. I'm in the middle front, so I hit and block. I don't usually pass or receive."

SERVES AND ACES (Below): Valerie Yang (10) prepares to serve against Basis Independent. "When I go up to serve, I zone in on where I'm aiming, block out my surroundings, take a deep breath because I know every play counts," Yang said.



SMASHING SUCCESS (Right): Celine Safa (12) launches into the air to spike the ball. As team captain, Safa inspires her teammates to be their best selves. "First, my approach is based on the set," Safa said. "Accelerate through the ball. See the block, follow through strong."

ROUTINE EXCELLENCE (below): Karis Lau (12) and Grace Wong (9) perform their pre-game ritual. They came up with this secret "handshake" to spice up the pre-game.



SETTING IT UP (Left): Kirsten Rios (9) sets the ball up so that her teammates can spike and score a point. The setter gets the second touch within the rally, getting the ball ready for the hitter.



DIVING INTO ACTION (Above): Siena Hahn (10) dives to save the ball from dropping. Hahn is the JV team's star libero, the defensive specialist. Hahn has been playing volleyball since she was in sixth grade, playing libero as her main position. "Every libero knows that diving is a guilty pleasure," she said.



Digging Into Volleyball *A Court-Side Guide of Positions*

Opposite Hitter

"The opposite hitter is essentially the same as the outside hitter, just less passing" — Alexa Nanovich (12)

Middle Blocker

"The middle blocker is one of the tallest people on the team. We are the main blockers, always in the front row." — Helios Zepka (10)

Outside Hitter

"There are two outside hitters. Both are responsible for playing offense and quick defense, especially with off-blocks. They have to be ready to adapt to different situations." — Amelie Bite (11)

OP

MB

OH

SET

OH

LIB

Setter

"The setter is the person who leads the game in the court and helps move plays along. They decide how the set unfolds" — Sofia Gomez Molina (12)

Libero

"The libero is in charge of the back row, the key of the defense. The director." — Siena Hahn (10)