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 setting techniques can be found in the specific setting modules. This module will focus on the tempo and the location of the different sets as well as on the opportunities that the setter can create for their hitters.

### 51 – 53 Combo
Middle player runs a 51 and rightside attacker comes around to hit a 53 past the middle hitter.
- The setter can set the 51 if the **middle blocker is reading** and waiting for the set.
- The setter can set the 53 if the **middle blocker fronts the 51** and commits on it.
- The release on the 53 set needs to be fast in order to **create time crisis** for the blockers.
- The 53 set is just above the antennas and falls a meter past the middle hitter in order to give the rightside player enough room to jump and hit.
- Setter sets both balls from the **same hand position** in front and over the forehead.

### 51 - 33 Combo
Middle player runs a 51 and leftside player runs a 33 past the middle.
- The setter can set the 51 if the **middle blocker is reading** and waiting for the set.
- The setter can set the 33 if the **middle fronts the 51** or commits on it.
- If the 33 set is fast enough, the middle blocker won’t have time to get a good press and the sharp cross-court will be open.
- The 33 set has to **fall into the hitter’s zone**. If it shoots through, the hitter will not have all angles.
- The release for both sets is made from the **same hand position** in front and above the forehead.

### 31 – 53 Combo
Middle player runs a 31 and leftside player runs a 53 between the middle and the setter.
- The setter can set the 31 if the **middle blocker stays neutral** and reads the set.
- The setter can set the 53 if the **middle blocker fronts the 31** or commits on it.
- The release on the 53 set needs to be fast in order to **create a time crisis** for the blockers.
- The 53 set is right in front of the setter and the trajectory has to allow the hitter to hit both angles.
- The release for both sets is made from the **same hand position** in front and above the forehead to increase deception.