



Competition Ideas

Competitive Cauldron Tournaments

This best practice takes your whole team or group. Play doubles and have them change partners every week. Play short games to 10 points or just for five minutes. Play can be done on two narrow courts per net (with a 2 meter buffer between the two courts), that reach full length. The teams that are out can "referee" each game. If you can run two nets down the middle of a regulation court as noted in this article and done for youth games, you can put up four courts and have all playing each round. After that partnership round is over, track the number of wins and losses in each of the rounds by each individual. Over time, you will see who plays the best, no matter who their partner is. Some programs pick their top six starters based on this information, other coaches come to learn that certain players need to be on the court due to their "winning" capabilities, even if their technique is not as perfect as a coach might desire. A separate Competitive Cauldron spreadsheet template is available from USA Volleyball for one, two and three person tournament formatting.