

USYVL Instructional Summary - Spring 2026

Laguna Niguel

Disclaimer: this Instructional Schedule summary is still under development and is provided for informational purposes only. The schedule summaries here may vary from the official practice schedules in the red USYVL coaches handbook. As development of the summary continues it should improve significantly.

Day 1: Thu 2026-04-16: Practice at Niguel Hills Middle School from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Check-in prior to start with Site Director and Clinician!

Set-up Net!

Verify players against Team Roster!

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	5ft 0in	1A
9-10	5ft 6in	1B
11-12	6ft 4in	2A
13-15	6ft 8in	2B

5 minutes: **Name Game**

5 minutes: Skill Warm-up

10 minutes: Introduce **Statue Spiking** (7-8 and 9-10 year olds, move onto Fountain Spiking after one contact)

Introduce **Fountain Spiking** (11-12 and 13-15 year olds)

10 minutes: Introduce **Arch Spiking**

2 minutes: Water Break

25 minutes: Introduce **Serving** (Underhand, Overhand, Sky Ball and Jump Serve)

3 minutes: Cool-down, select team name and report name to Site Director

*** All players should help gather balls during and after every practice/game.

Day 2 of handbook skipped/missed (possibly for holiday, or some scheduling issue)

Day 3 of handbook skipped/missed (possibly for holiday, or some scheduling issue)

Day 4 of handbook skipped/missed (possibly for holiday, or some scheduling issue)

Day 5 of handbook skipped/missed (possibly for holiday, or some scheduling issue)

Day 6: Sat 2026-04-18: Games at Niguel Hills Middle School from 9:00 am to 10:00 am

5 minutes: Skill Warm-up

25 minutes: **Game***

2 minutes: Water Break

25 minutes: **Game***

3 minutes: Cool-down and Announcements

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Game*: Hot Potato for 7-8 year olds. Double Max for 9-15 year olds.

Day 7: Thu 2026-04-23: Practice at Niguel Hills Middle School from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

5 minutes: Skill Warm-up

10 minutes: Introduce **Back Setting**

15 minutes: **Back Set and Spike Combination**

2 minutes: Water Break

5 minutes: **Passing a ball out of the net**

5 minutes: **Setting a ball passed at the net**

10 minutes: **Dig/Set/Spike Combination**

3 minutes: Cool-down and Announcements

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Dig/Set/Spike Combination: Set up one player in the passing, setting and spiking positions. The coach will hit or throw the ball in a downward motion from across the net to the digger. The digger will dig to the setter. The setter will set to the spiker. The spiker will spike the ball over the net. Rotate players after every ball tossed.

Day 8 of handbook skipped/missed (possibly for holiday, or some scheduling issue)

Day 9: Sat 2026-04-25: Practice at Niguel Hills Middle School from 9:00 am to 10:00 am

5 minutes: Skill Warm-up

5 minutes: Review **Back Setting**

15 minutes: **Setting Drill***

5 minutes: **Serving**

2 minutes: Water Break

10 minutes: Introduce **Blocking**

15 minutes: **Team Defense***

3 minutes: Cool-down and Announcements

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Setting Drill: Coach tosses the ball from various positions in the back court to the setter, who will set a hitting line. One player will set until all players have hit; then a new player will rotate into the setter's position. Be sure to challenge (but not over challenge) the setter with the tosses.

Team Defense: Clinician will demonstrate the proper positioning of players on the court, during game play.

Day 10 of handbook skipped/missed (possibly for holiday, or some scheduling issue)

Day 11: Thu 2026-04-30: Practice at Niguel Hills Middle School from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

5 minutes: Skill Warm-up

15 minutes: **Pass, Set, Spike Drill***

10 minutes: **Spiking for Percentage***

2 minutes: Water Break

5 minutes: Review **Blocking**

20 minutes: **Side Out Drill***

3 minutes: Cool-down and Announcements

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Pass, Set, Spike Drill: Have one player in the setter's location and other players in three locations in the back court. The coach or assistant coach, will toss balls to the players in the back court who will pass to the setter who will, in turn, set the player who passed the ball. Rotate player's positions periodically.

Spiking for Percentage: Each player will hit 10 balls in a row. Track how many out of 10 they are able to complete successfully.

Side Out Drill: The coach or assistant coach, tosses the ball from various locations in the opposing team's court. Both teams play the ball out as if in a game situation and the team that sides out wins the point.

Day 12: Sat 2026-05-02: Games at Niguel Hills Middle School from 9:00 am to 10:00 am

5 minutes: Skill Warm-up

25 minutes: **Game***

2 minutes: Water Break

25 minutes: **Game***

3 minutes: Cool-down and Announcements

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Game*: Hot Potato for 7-8 year olds. Double Max for 9-15 year olds.

Day 13: Thu 2026-05-07: Practice at Niguel Hills Middle School from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

5 minutes: Skill Warm-up

5 minutes: **Setting**

5 minutes: **Passing**

15 minutes: **Spiking in Three Directions***

2 minutes: Water Break

5 minutes: **Serving**

20 minutes: **Mobility Challenge***

3 minutes: Cool-down and Announcements

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Spiking in Three Directions: Have players spike down the line, to the center of the court, and cross court. Mark your three locations with towels, sweats, cones, etc. Players will hit three sets in a row for this drill.

Mobility Challenge: The coach or assistant coach, tosses the ball from various locations on the opposing team's court. Both teams play the ball out as if in a game situation and the team that sides out wins the point.

Day 14: Sat 2026-05-09: Games at Niguel Hills Middle School from 9:00 am to 10:00 am

5 minutes: Skill Warm-up
25 minutes: **Game***
2 minutes: Water Break
25 minutes: **Game***
3 minutes: Cool-down and Announcements

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Game*: Hot Potato for 7-8 year olds. **Double Max** for 9-15 year olds.

Day 15: Thu 2026-05-14: Practice at Niguel Hills Middle School from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

5 minutes: Skill Warm-up
25 minutes: **Station Day***
2 minutes: Water Break
25 minutes: **Station Day***
3 minutes: Cool-down and Announcements

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Station Day: The clinician will assign each coach a skill to teach at their station. The clinician will blow the whistle every 10 minutes to encourage players to move from station to station. Players are free to go to whatever stations that they feel will improve their game, but encourage them to visit as many stations as possible.

Stations: Spiking, Serving, Setting, Passing, Digging, Blocking.

Day 16: Sat 2026-05-16: Games at Niguel Hills Middle School from 9:00 am to 10:00 am

5 minutes: Skill Warm-up
25 minutes: **Game***
2 minutes: Water Break
25 minutes: **Game***
3 minutes: Cool-down and Announcements

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Game*: Hot Potato for 7-8 year olds. **Double Max** for 9-15 year olds.

Day 17: Thu 2026-05-21: Practice at Niguel Hills Middle School from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

5 minutes: Skill Warm-up
25 minutes: **Game***
2 minutes: Water Break
25 minutes: **Game***
3 minutes: Cool-down and Announcements

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Game*: Hot Potato for 7-8 year olds. **Double Max** for 9-15 year olds.

Day 18 of handbook skipped/missed (possibly for holiday, or some scheduling issue)

Day 19: Thu 2026-05-28: Practice at Niguel Hills Middle School from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Day 20: Sat 2026-05-30: Games at Niguel Hills Middle School from 9:00 am to 10:00 am

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Day 21: Thu 2026-06-04: Practice at Niguel Hills Middle School from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A

Day 22: Sat 2026-06-06: Games at Niguel Hills Middle School from 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Age Group	Net Height	Pin Numbers
7-8	6ft 0in	1C
9-10	6ft 4in	2A
11-12	7ft 0in	2C
13-15	7ft 4in	3A