



PRESS RELEASE

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FLORIDA WAVE WOMEN TAKE GOLD AT 5TH ANNUAL PREMIER VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The team competed against twelve (12) other professional women's volleyball teams from across the United States to clinch the national title in Orlando, FL.

Orlando, FL – June 6th, 2016 – The Florida Region of USA Volleyball is proud to announce that their Florida WAVE women's pro indoor volleyball team took home the gold medal at the 2016 Premier Volleyball League (PVL) Championships. This event was held May 28th – 31st in conjunction with the USA Open National Championships in Orlando, FL.

In the finals, the Florida WAVE defeated the Iowa ICE in three sets, securing first place and the \$10,000 grand prize. This is the first gold medal in Florida WAVE women's history. The program took home silver in both 2013 and 2014.

The 2016 Florida WAVE roster includes:

Lexi Dannemiller, Setter, 5'11 (Univ. of Michigan)
Raymariely Santos, Setter, 5'10 (Univ. of Arkansas)
Sam Middleborn, Middle Blocker, 6'1 (Cal State S. Bernardino)
Danielle Hepburn, Middle Blocker, 6'2 (Clemson University)
Aiyana Whitney, Middle/Opposite, 6'3 (Penn State)
Jessica Wagner, Middle/Opposite, 6'2 (Univ. of Tampa)
Erin Fairs, Outside Hitter, 5'11 (Univ. South Florida)
Megan Courtney, Outside Hitter, 6'1 (Penn State)
Nicole Walch, Outside Hitter, 6'2 (Florida State)
Lindsay Stalzer, Outside/Opposite, 6'1 (Bradley University)
Liz McMahon, Opposite, 6'6 (Univ. of Illinois)
Katie Mosher, Libero, 5'9 (Florida State)
Kori Moster, Libero, 5'4 (Michigan State)

Brian Imperiale led the Women's WAVE as head coach for his second year with the program. They finished in 4th place for his first year in 2014. Imperiale is currently the top assistant coach at the University of Tampa (2014 DII National Champions.)

Additional coaching and program staff for the Women's Florida WAVE includes:

- Assistant Coach: **Travers Green**, 3rd year (University of South Florida)
- Assistant Coach: **Julie Darty**, 1st year (Jacksonville University)
- Assistant Coach: **Kaylee Koetter**, 1st year (University of Tampa)
- Statistician: **Jon Wong**, 1st year (University of Tennessee)

Steve Bishop, Executive Director of the Florida Region of USA Volleyball, said, “Our entire Florida volleyball family is very proud of the women’s WAVE team. They performed at the highest level throughout the tournament only losing one match over four days. The coaching staff had a solid plan and executed almost perfectly against some very tough competition from across the USA. It was even more satisfying to win the 5th Annual PVL Championships at home in Florida. We were honored to host the event and we look forward to what the future holds for the Florida WAVE and the PVL.”

The mission of the PVL is to create a successful and sustainable indoor professional volleyball league for elite-level post-collegiate male and female athletes in the United States.

About USA Premier Volleyball League:

The USA PVL is a grass roots professional volleyball league that began in 2012 and is made up of teams from among the forty (40) regional volleyball associations across the United States. The USA PVL is sanctioned by USA Volleyball and offers tournament play and a League Championship event each year. Additional information on the USA Premier Volleyball League can be found at: www.usapvl.com.

About Florida Region of USA Volleyball:

The Florida Region of USA Volleyball is a 501c3 non-profit that began operations in the 1960’s and was officially incorporated in 1982 to promote the sport of volleyball and to create competitive playing opportunities for volleyball enthusiasts of all ages throughout the State of Florida. The Florida Region is one of the 40 regional volleyball associations under the umbrella of USA Volleyball and currently serves over 13,000 members. Indoor and outdoor programming is available for adults, juniors, coaches and officials. The Florida Region of USA Volleyball headquarters is located in Eustis, FL. Additional information on the Florida Region can be found at: www.FloridaVolleyball.org.

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