



**PRESS RELEASE**

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

## **20-COURT SAND VOLLEYBALL COMPLEX GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY SET FOR APRIL 30<sup>th</sup>.**

The Florida Region of USA Volleyball will hold a groundbreaking ceremony for the Hickory Point Beach sand volleyball complex on Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM. The location of the new sand complex is at the Hickory Point Recreational Complex, located at 27341 State Road 19, Tavares FL 32778. This event is open to the public.

**Tavares, FL – April 23, 2014** – The Florida Region of USA Volleyball (Eustis, FL) will hold a groundbreaking ceremony on Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM for the Hickory Point Beach sand volleyball complex.

The notable organizations that will be in attendance include Lake County Board of Commissioners, Lake County Water Authority, Central Florida Sports Commission, Lake County Economic Development & Tourism, Mission Inn, Lake-Sumter State College, Mount Dora Community Trust and the Florida Region of USA Volleyball.

**Steve Bishop**, Executive Director for the Florida Region of USA Volleyball commented, “We are grateful for the continued support of this project and I want to personally invite the public to join us for our ground breaking ceremony at the new Hickory Point Beach sand volleyball complex. This unique partnership between Lake County, Lake County Water Authority and our non-profit corporation demonstrates how great things can happen when organizations come together with a common goal. The new sand volleyball complex will bring many volleyball enthusiasts to Lake County in the coming years as we focus on hosting events for amateurs and professionals of all ages. This is truly a win-win for Lake County and for the sport of volleyball.”

Hickory Point Beach will be a 20-court sand volleyball complex located on Lake Harris at the Hickory Point Recreational Complex in Tavares, FL. It is set to open the July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 weekend. The Lake County Board of County Commissioners approved the \$398,000 plan with a 5-0 vote and praised the project as a win/win for all parties involved. The Hickory Point Beach sand volleyball complex will reside at the 68 acre Hickory Point Recreational Complex that currently has five soccer fields operated by Lake County Soccer. The sand volleyball complex will have professional level net systems, lights, permanent restrooms, an intercom system, web cams and twenty-four inches of top-grade sand. In addition to the two sports, the complex also has boat docks, children’s play area, a two-story pavilion, nature walk, free parking and a beautiful view of Lake Harris.

Events at Hickory Point Beach will include tournaments, leagues, camps and clinics. Organizations that could benefit from a sand volleyball complex of this magnitude are USA Beach Volleyball, NCAA Sand Volleyball, American Volleyball Coaches Association, Florida High School Athletic Association, The National Volleyball League, National Collegiate Sand Volleyball Association, Lake-Sumter State College, local high schools and charities. Additionally, Lake County Soccer will be able to enhance their programming by adding sand soccer competitions. Future plans include opening

a beach volleyball academy with an educational component similar to the Club Med Academies program in Port St. Lucie, FL.

The heavy lifting will begin immediately as construction plans are finalized between Florida Region, Lake County, Lake County Water Authority and local general contractor, Butch Hendrick. Hickory Point Beach is scheduled to host its grand opening event during the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend for adults and juniors. A local beach volleyball league will be scheduled for Tuesday and Thursday nights beginning in July. Additional information will be available on the Florida Region website in the coming weeks.

**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 12,500 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](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org).

For additional information contact:

**Ashley Shewey**, Marketing Coordinator

Florida Region of USA Volleyball, Inc.

t: 352-742-0080 e: [Ashley@FloridaVolleyball.org](mailto:Ashley@FloridaVolleyball.org)

###