



PRESS RELEASE

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## NEW HICKORY POINT BEACH FIELDHOUSE APPROVED BY LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The 4,000 square foot auxiliary building will add to the already well-received 21-court Hickory Point Beach sand volleyball complex located on Lake Harris in Tavares, FL.

**Tavares, FL – May 15, 2017** – Lake County Commissioners gave final approval on the new Hickory Point Beach Fieldhouse last week with a 5-0 vote. The Florida Region of USA Volleyball is excited to continue the partnership with the county as they initiate this new state-of-the-art building, set to open in the spring of 2018. The new facility will feature locker rooms with showers, restrooms, meeting rooms, a training room, a concessions area and storage.

The Hickory Point Beach complex was completed early July 2014. The Florida Region partnered with Lake County, Florida and Lake County Water Authority to jointly build the project on the 68-acre Hickory Point Recreational Complex, next to Lake Harris. This state-of-the-art facility offers professional level net systems, stadium quality lighting, a professional speaker/intercom system, antennas & pads on every court, short court lines, 24 inches of top quality washed white sand, 20 feet minimum between courts (side-to-side) and 35 feet minimum between courts (end-to-end.)

Teams from over ninety (90) cities from across Florida, nineteen (19) states and fourteen (14) countries have played at Hickory Point Beach since its grand opening. Numerous local, regional, national and international events have been hosted at the facility and that number is expected to skyrocket with the addition of the new building. The estimated economic impact of Hickory Point beach on the local economy has been approximately \$1.6 million over its three years of operation. The new fieldhouse is projected to continue this trend and add value to the already successful facility.

**Robert Chandler**, Economic Growth Director for Lake County, FL, said, “We could not be more excited about the construction of the Hickory Point Beach Fieldhouse and the impact this first-class facility will have on not just Hickory Point Beach, but Lake County’s entire sports tourism industry. Hopefully, this will send a signal to the entire sand volleyball world that Lake County is serious about our commitment to the sport and our desire to be the nation’s premiere sand volleyball facility.”

**Steve Bishop**, Executive Director for the Florida Region of USA Volleyball, said, “We are extremely grateful to Lake County and the Lake County Water Authority for their continued partnership and support of the Hickory Point Beach project, especially the addition of the Fieldhouse. This partnership is truly pioneering and it is benefiting local, national, and international volleyball athletes of all ages. This project started as a mere dream back in 2004 and serves as a testament that truly unbelievable things can happen when government and non-profits work together on a common vision. We are humbled by their trust in our organization and their unwavering support of this project!”

### 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 14,500 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).

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