



# Vol-eNews FloridaVolleyball.org

**The official source for Florida volleyball news!**



## August 2013: ISSUE 47

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### WELCOME NOTE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Hello Again!

It is hard to believe half of the summer is gone as I feel we just finished the indoor season. The 2012-13 season was a great indoor season for the clubs of the Florida Region with a record number of teams representing the region at the National Championships. There were 19 Girls clubs and 9 Boys clubs from the region represented at the National Championships in Dallas and Reno. Three girls teams won National Championships in their divisions and two finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> Place. Two boys teams finished 3<sup>rd</sup> and one took 7<sup>th</sup>. Overall we had 33 teams finish in the Top Twenty and 22 teams finish in the Top Ten of their divisions. Congrats to everyone on a great season.... Florida Rocks!!!

As for the summer season, the Florida DTB Tour has been in full swing with the region staff zigzagging across the state between beach venues. The tour is averaging 340 teams each weekend in some great summer Florida beach locations. Many members have told me about the great success of these events and I hope to see everyone at the last stop in August at St. Augustine Beach. Florida is setting a great standard for the rest of the country with these great events.

We’re very proud of the 40 Florida teams that competed recently in the inaugural Florida Beach HP Championships in Deerfield Beach and the over 150 teams that competed in the USA Indoor HP Championships in Ft. Lauderdale! We are extremely proud of the 7 Team Florida delegations that represented our Region and brought home the gold and bronze medals! GO FLORIDA!

**Mary Andrew**  
Florida Region Commissioner



## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

What an exciting month!

In July we hosted 2 sold-out beach tour stops in Siesta Key & Ft. Lauderdale, hosted our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual ROX Florida Beach HP Championships in Deerfield Beach, and hosted the USA Indoor HP Championships in Ft. Lauderdale for the fourth time since its inception. That is a lot in one month and I want to compliment my amazing staff for their continued dedication to the mission of creating competitive volleyball opportunities for players of all ages. They make it look easy!

The biggest highlight for me was the great feedback that we received from the participants of the two HP Championships. Athletes, coaches, parents, and officials have dropped us thank you notes highlighting their great experiences. In this world of regular negativity, it is refreshing when someone takes a moment to send a sincere thank you note and we are very grateful to be able to represent the Florida Region and our 12,500 members.

At the Florida Beach HP Championships we had the top junior beach volleyball athletes in the state descend on Deerfield Beach for a three day battle. Days one and two were for team competition and on day three we crowned the first ever junior king and queen of the beach for each respective age division. In addition, we took all 80 athletes along with the coaches out for some disco bowling and pizza. It was a great time and we are already looking forward to our 2014 event. (You can find a full list of the winners on page 8.)

At the USA Indoor HP Championships in Ft. Lauderdale, we played host to teams from nine different countries and the atmosphere was electric as teams competed to represent their respective country and/or region. Our Team Florida delegation made history as we brought home two medals: Gold for Girls National Select and Bronze for Boys International Youth. (Note: This is the most medals we have won in a single HP Championship event and it also the first medal for any boys team since we added boys to Team Florida in 2007.) As I said initially, what an exciting month of volleyball in Florida!

We in the Florida Region office are honored to serve you!

**Steve Bishop**, Executive Director  
Florida Region of USA Volleyball

E-Mail: [steve@floridavolleyball.org](mailto:steve@floridavolleyball.org)



[www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org)



### **CLUB HIGHLIGHT – JACKSONVILLE JRS. VOLLEYBALL BEACH CLUB**

Each month a member club is featured in **Vol-eNews**. This is a great way to get to know the Club Director(s) and learn more about the clubs throughout Florida. This month **Kent Ammons** and **Jacksonville Jrs. Volleyball Beach Club** will be highlighted.

#### **Q: How did you get involved with the sport of volleyball? What made you decide to get into coaching?**

**A:** I was lucky enough to meet Mark and Steve VanZwieten when I was about 13 down at the local beach court “Villas By-the-Sea”, in Fort Lauderdale. Mark was currently on the hunt for someone that possessed a little bit of knowledge and skill in volleyball to partner up with for some upcoming junior events. Being that the VanZwieten family had created a Mecca for Beach Volleyball in their backyard, it was the ideal spot to critique and expand our games.

I fell so hard for beach volleyball that after I realized what a sport, and what a lifestyle beach volleyball brought to me, I felt the overwhelming urge to teach the sport to others, that has done so much for me throughout my life. It has helped shape who am I today.

#### **Q: What would you consider to be your biggest accomplishment in volleyball?**

**A:** My biggest accomplishment was being selected to represent the USA in the first ever Junior Olympics (18U) in Sydney Beach, Austrailia. My partner Steve VanZwieten and I placed 4<sup>th</sup> out of 16 teams from around the world finishing above the other representing USA team which placed 5<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Q: Tell us about the Jacksonville Jrs. Beach Volleyball Club program?**

**A:** We are currently in our fifth year as the beach volleyball branch of JJVA. To be a part of something and to help create a club that can spread and grow the sport that I have found such a passion in is a dream come true. The Beach Volleyball Program is full of talented athletes some experienced, and some just wanting to learn the sport. Either way, we coaches and participants alike have a great time getting out to work and play hard!

#### **Q: What does your club do to take the athletes to the next level, such as playing in college?**

**A:** We train a couple times a week with additional Physical Training offered for those athletes looking to go to the next level. We also compile recruit video to send to colleges for potential scholarships.

#### **Q: How does beach volleyball differ from indoor?**

**A:** The basic volleyball techniques: spike, set, serve, and pass are primarily the same. What makes the biggest difference is game play and theory in addition to being exposed to natures elements (sun, sand, and especially wind).



**Q: What are some of the benefits of sand training?**

**A:** Sand training in my opinion is probably the single biggest thing you can do to cross train to become a better indoor volleyball player. Also, playing indoor visa-versa to beach can also strengthen and get you faster by playing in the sand. I also think there are far less chance for injury (acute or chronic) from playing on the sand.

**Q: What is your opinion on the growth of beach volleyball throughout the years? What do you hope to see in the future for beach volleyball?**

**A:** Just looking back to when I started the opportunities were so far and few between. As I look around now, it is almost as if the junior tournaments are outnumbering the adult opportunities; it's wild, I should have been born 10 years later! ☺ I hope the growth continues as it has been. It's probably far-fetched, but I would really like to see NCAA sanction men's collegiate beach volleyball within the next 10 years.

**Q: If you could brag about your club, what would you say?**

**A:** We have the hardest working, best attitudes from our beach volleyballers and Coaches anyone could ask for.

**Q: What do you look forward to in the future for the Florida Region?**

**A:** The continued growth of the best sport in the world!

*Thanks Kent for participating in the Club Highlight. The Florida Region wishes you and your club success in the 2013/2014 season! Stay tuned for next month's Club Highlight to learn about **Pedro Davilla and Toreros Volleyball Club!***

**USAV GIRLS' & BOYS' JNC RECAP**

**Congratulations to the following junior teams for making it to the medal stand at GJNC & BJNC!**

**Girls' Jr. National Championships:**

- OVA 11 Asics (1st-11 Patriot)
- Tribe 13 Rox (1st-13 National)
- Ocala Power 16 Rox (1st-16 Nat)
- OVA 13 Asics (2nd-13 Nat'l)
- Power 15 Nat'l-M1720 (2nd-15 USA)
- Tribe 18 Rox (3rd-18 American)

**Boys' Jr. National Championships:**

- Tampa Bay VBA 13 (3rd-13 Club)
- Ocean Bay 15 Quick (3rd-15 Club)

## USAV DIG THE BEACH TOUR



There are only 2 Dig the Beach events left of the summer! Register online early to make sure you secure your spot - **the deadline to register online is at noon on the Wednesday prior to the respective event.**

**Aug 3-4** Clearwater Open & ROX Jr. Series Championships, Clearwater Beach  
**Aug 17-18** DTB Tour Championships, St. Augustine Beach

Register online at [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org)!

## 2013 MEN'S PVL CHAMPIONSHIPS RECAP

The 2013 Men's PVL Championships were held in Reno, NV, Jun 29-Jul 2 and featured 5 PVL teams from around the country:

- Team Florida Wave
- Great Lakes Swing Away
- Team New England
- NORCAL Premier
- Team Western Empire



This was the first year of the men's PVL and we are excited to announce the Team Florida Wave as the first official Men's PVL Champions! Congratulations to the following athletes and staff:

### Coaches

Steve Benson – Head Coach  
Rob Holley – Assistant Coach  
Greg Villareal – Assistant Coach

### Staff

Steve Bishop – General Manager  
Krissy McKane – Team Manager



### Team Florida Wave Roster

- #1 Sergio Rios, S
- #3 Hudson Bates, OH
- #6 Robert Schramm, MB
- #7 John Michael Plummer, OH
- #9 Chad Mercado, OPP (**All-Tournament Team**)
- #10 Nick Jensen, MB
- #11 Mike Iandolo, S (**Tournament MVP**)
- #14 Antwain Aguilard, MB
- #20 Srdjan Nadazdin, OPP (**All-Tournament Team**)
- #22 Juan Ramirez, LIB
- #24 Kyle Friend, OH (**All-Tournament Team**)

### **Team Finishes:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Team Florida Wave (\$6,000)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Team Great Lakes Lights Out (\$3,000)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Team Western Empire (\$1,000)

If you are interested in being a part of the Team Florida WAVE (men or women's) for the 2013/2014 season, please contact [wave@floridavolleyball.org](mailto:wave@floridavolleyball.org).

### **2013 USA HP CHAMPIONSHIPS RECAP**

**It was a great week of volleyball at the Ft. Lauderdale Convention Center for the 2013 USA Indoor HP Championships!** Team Florida brought home not one medal, but two! We would like to congratulate our Girls' National Select Team who went undefeated in their division (8-0) and won the GOLD MEDAL! We would also like to congratulate the Boys' International Youth Team for winning the Bronze Medal – this is the first medal for the Team Florida Boy's Division!

The week started out with an opening ceremony which introduced each of the 111 teams in attendance, including teams from 9 other countries. Former 2008 Olympic Silver Medalist, Stacy Sykora, was a keynote speaker for the ceremony and shared her insight and wisdom on what it takes to be a successful athlete. There was also a rock concert and an "HP's Got Talent" where New Zealand stole the show with their "infamous" cultural dance!



Team Florida boasted 7 teams, 4 girls' team and 3 boys' teams and were outfitted head to toe in ASICS apparel with branding made possible by 1<sup>st</sup> Place Volleyball. Without these two corporate partners, none of this would be possible – **THANK YOU ASICS & 1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE VOLLEYBALL!**



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## FINAL COMPETITION RESULTS

Team Florida	Rank	Record
Girls' National Select (GNS)	1 <sup>st</sup>	8-0
Boys' International Youth (BIY)	3 <sup>rd</sup>	5-3
Boys' National Select (BNS)	5 <sup>th</sup>	5-3
Boys' National Youth (BNY)	7 <sup>th</sup>	4-4
Girls' International Youth (GIY)	7 <sup>th</sup>	6-2
Girls' National Youth (GNY)	9 <sup>th</sup>	6-3
Girls' Future Select (GFS)	11 <sup>th</sup>	4-4

## ANNUAL JR. FORUM MEETINGS

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT** - Beginning in 2013, indoor jr. clubs for girls that have been a USAV club in good standing for at least two seasons will no longer be required to attend an annual jr. forum meeting.

The format of the new meetings has been changed to an educational/best practices format for seasoned clubs. The Florida Region staff will now prepare an annual written update and distribute that to all clubs via email and on the region website. Please note that new clubs and clubs that have been in existence for two years or less are still required to attend the annual meeting of their choice. Note: Clubs that are required to attend and do not will incur a \$500 fine and will not be recognized as a USAV club in good standing until the fine has been paid in full. This is a standing mandate from the Florida Region Board of Directors.



### SCHEDULE

**Nov 2, 2013**

West Palm Beach, FL  
Exact Location TBA  
Time: 9a to 4p

**Nov 3, 2013**

Ocala, FL  
Exact Location TBA  
Time: 9a to 4p

### SESSIONS AVAILABLE

- New Club Director Meeting
- Club Admin Training
- AES/WebPoint Training
- Branding/Marketing/Promotions
- Bookkeeping/Accounting
- Risk Management
- Grass Roots Programming
- IMPACT Coaching Clinic

## 2013 ROX FLORIDA BEACH HP CHAMPIONSHIPS RECAP

The first ROX Florida Region Beach HP Championships were held in Deerfield Beach, FL, on July 18-20. This elite all-star junior beach volleyball showcase fielded the top 10 girls teams and top 5 boys beach teams per age division based on their Dig the Beach tour rankings. This unique event offered team competition on day 1 & 2 along with individual competition on day 3 to determine the best team and best athlete on the beach in each age division!



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## TEAM COMPETITION RESULTS

Team	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Girls 12U	Madison Bobes Paige Duffack	Tessa Bohn Jordan Naranjo	Brooke Lohuis Natalia Pico
Girls 14U	Christine Jarman Ava Richards	Laura Stevenson Brooke Bauer	Emma Strong Abby Strong
Girls 16U	Charlotte Earnhart Nikki Esposito	Ashley Allmer Courtney Krause	Briana Correa Amy Oxton
Girls 18U	Macie Tendrich Beth Shoaff	Meghan Conway Alexandra Lilliquist	Brittany Pellitteri Vanessa Freire
Boys	Devin Decker Brandon Lozano	Hector DeCastro Jake Cibula	Clay Messenger Patrick Brennan

## JR. KING & QUEEN OF THE BEACH COMPETITION RESULTS

Division	Name
Girls 12U	Mariah Walker
Girls 14U	Emma Strong
Girls 16U	Courtney Krause
Girls 18U	Kaylee Anderson
Boys 16U	Ryan Dunnington
Boys 18U	Jake Cibula



Event Director: **Steve Bishop**  
 Event Staff: **Michele Sisser, Heather Cormier, Nancy Cothron, Joe Rohr, Meghan Bryant, Danielle Biaso, Scott Bishop**

*Thank you to ROX Volleyball for outfitting the entire Beach HP Delegation and Beach HP Staff!*

## MUDD VOLLEYBALL CHALLENGE

The mission of the March of Dimes is to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality. Every day, babies are born fighting for their lives, and every day the March of Dimes helps them win.

**Date: August 24, 2013**

**Venue: Lee Vista Center - Orlando, Florida**

*-Bring your swamp clothes, sunscreen, and your game - we'll provide the MUDD!*



For more information please contact Stephanie Baer at (321)274-8684 or [saber@marchofdimes.com](mailto:saber@marchofdimes.com).





## USAV MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 marks the beginning of the 2013/2014 membership season for USA Volleyball. You can renew your USAV Membership by logging into your account and clicking "To Apply for Your Membership Click Here" located at the top of the screen. If you have any questions, please contact [Office@FloridaVolleyball.org](mailto:Office@FloridaVolleyball.org).

## BOARD MEETING UPDATES FROM THE COMMISSIONER

I would like to give you an update on the national USAV meetings:

1. Motion Passed: To add an Open Division at the GJNQ for the 13U age group.
2. Motion Passed: There will have to be an Adult R2 for every match at every Nationally Sanctioned Event in the coming year.
3. Motion Passed: A team may not play on both weekends of a split weekend national qualifier.
4. The Safe Sport initiative will be introduced to all of the regions to implement to all members in the upcoming year. This is a USOC mandate and covers all youth Olympic youth sports in the USA.
5. Motion Passed: The insurance fee to all regions will increase by \$1.15 in the upcoming year. No increases have been made in the last 5 years to this fee. (I voted against this) Many other issues were discussed, but no significant changes made. I will give a more detailed report in the next few weeks.

At the Florida Region board meeting in May these items passed:

1. Motion passed: Only require the Fall Jr. Forum meetings for new club directors and there will only be two Forums. One each will be held in the southern and northern sections of the region. Directors, who have attended at least one Director's Forum in the past, will not be required to attend. They will be sent updates on rule, policy and procedure changes. Any director is still welcome to attend.
2. Motion Passed: For the Regional Championships and the Regional Qualifying Tournament coaches will only have to sign one form to verify that they have in their possession the signed/notarized player medical forms; they will no longer have to show each player medical form at tournament check in. This should really speed up check in for these events. We are also researching methods for electronic check in.

Other items were discussed with no action. I will follow up with a more detailed report in the next few weeks. Thanks for all of the support this year and I wish everyone a safe and happy conclusion to their summer. I am looking forward to our new Mini Club Fall Championships in October and more great opportunities for our members to play this great sport.



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## SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT

Thank you to ASICS for their continued support of our Team Florida Indoor HP All Program and our Florida WAVE indoor pro volleyball teams. They make it possible for us to have the best dressed teams in the US. We are proud to partner with ASICS since 2006!



## MEMBERSHIP COUNT UPDATE

As of August 1, 2013, the Florida Region has **12,520** members. We look forward to meeting our new goal of 13,000 members! Thank you to all of you for supporting USA Volleyball...please let others in your area know about the playing, coaching, and officiating opportunities offered by USA Volleyball in the Florida Region.

## REGION INFORMATION

Florida Region of USA Volleyball, Inc.  
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Web: [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org)

### Board Members:

**Mary Andrew**, Commissioner  
**Doug Darling**, Asst. Commissioner  
**Donna Beasley**, Secretary/Treasurer  
**Sam Skelton**, Indoor Chair  
**Nancy Cothron**, Outdoor Chair  
**Darin Clark**, Official's Chair

### Staff:

**Steve Bishop**, Exec. Director/President  
**Steve Benson**, Events Manager  
**Michele Sisser**, Registrar/Office Mgr.  
**Krissy McKane**, Marketing Coordinator  
**Heather Cormier**, Events Coordinator  
**Sue Wainio-Oato**, Official's Coordinator

### Junior Admin Board (JAB) Representatives:

**Lori Eaton, Russel Williams, Rita Crockett, Carrie Prewitt**

## OFFICIAL FLORIDA REGION CORPORATE PARTNERS



The Official Outdoor Volleyball of the Florida Region of USA Volleyball!



The Official Outfitter of the Florida Region HP All-Star Program since 2006!



The Official Indoor Volleyball of the Florida Region of USA Volleyball!



The Official Outfitter of the Team Florida Beach HP All-Star Program!

## OFFICIAL FLORIDA REGION BUSINESS PARTNERS

