

Florida Region (USAV) FloridaVolleyball.org  
**Vol-eNews**  
 The official source for Florida volleyball news!

## NOVEMBER 2009: ISSUE 2

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### WELCOME NOTE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

To all Volleyball enthusiasts, welcome to the 2010 season of USA Volleyball in the Florida Region. This promises to be a great year of volleyball with increased growth in members and events for our region. We have some new rules that are going to change the way we officiate and it stands to challenge all of us to improve our sense of the game. If you have not had the chance to see the “new” net rule, please go to our website, [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org), and click the link on the official's page. You will see a link for the net rule. Please click and watch as it is very interesting.

This is an exciting year because it starts with the Women's final four in Tampa beginning December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009. There is also a PAVO convention for officials, which is a must if you wish to advance and become a better official, and there is an AVCA convention for coaches that even the longest tenured coach will benefit. Along with the conventions will be a USAV junior's event and an AVCA High School All-Star game. There is fun for the whole family and something for all to enjoy.

Please make your plans to attend and join the Tampa volleyball community to kick off the year with a bang. I look forward to seeing all of you there, and please come up and say hi.

**James Phillips**, Commissioner  
 Florida Region of USA Volleyball

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## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Well it's that time of the year again! High school and college volleyball is in full swing and club volleyball is right around the corner. The FHSAA Girls Volleyball Championships will take place between Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> in Lakeland. We anticipate another great event and look forward to seeing many of our USAV members playing in the various championship matches.

In this edition we are featuring a list of the top Florida women's college teams in each of their respective playing divisions. We wish them all continued success as they set their sights on the ultimate goal, the National Championship title. While I am on this topic I would encourage each of you to make plans to attend the NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Final Four coming up in Tampa. The semi-final matches will take place on Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> and the championship match will be on Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at the St. Pete Times Forum. (Note: Discounted group tickets are available until November 13<sup>th</sup>.)

As we kick off the start of our 2009/2010 club volleyball season, we want to remind everyone that the membership renewal process has started. You should have received an e-mail with your user name and password. If you have not received that due to a change in your e-mail address, please call the Florida Region office and we can assist you with renewing your membership.

Finally, this month we have the final two stops of our Corporate Grass Volleyball Challenge series. On November 7<sup>th</sup> we will be in Longwood and on November 21<sup>st</sup> we will be in Jacksonville. These are great community events that offer both recreational and competitive playing divisions. Help us spread the word on these final two events and make plans to join us as we "Kick Some Grass" for charity.

I hope you have a great month and an even better Thanksgiving celebration with your family and friends!

*Steve*

**Steve Bishop**, Executive Director  
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## NEW INDOOR JR. CLUBS

We would like to welcome the following new Indoor Jr. Clubs for the 2009/2010 club season:

CLUB NAME	CONTACT	CITY
AaWamb Volleyball	Tim Edfors	Babson Park
All Star Volleyball Club	Kelly Barlow	Lake Worth
Faith in Action Volleyball Academy	Saundra Maher	Vero Beach
Florida Palm Bay Juniors	Qi Wang	Palm Bay
Fort Myers Fusion	Wynn DePasquale & Steve Harrell	Ft. Myers
Impact Volleyball Academy	Teri Messner	Winter Haven
KP Elites	Christy Lowe	Valrico
Ocala Power VB Academy	Lindsay & Jason Morris	Ocala
Ohana Volleyball Florida	Mililani Quinsaats-Suzuki	Tamarac
Riptide Volleyball	Buddy Tatum	Jupiter
St. Pete Volleyball Club	Mark & Courtney Draper	St. Petersburg
Tribe Volleyball	Dean Barboza & Albert Sturgeon	Pompano Beach
Volleyball Institute of Palm Beach	Shanon Lewis & Dave Saenz	Palm Beach
West Pasco Volleyball Club	Jason Kucera	New Port Richey

You can learn more about these clubs by visiting the Indoor Jr. Club Directory page on the Florida Region website: [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org)

## NATIONALLY RANKED FLORIDA COLLEGES

Below is a list of women's colleges in Florida that are currently ranked in their respective divisions heading into November.

### NCAA Division I (as of October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009)

Ranked 10<sup>th</sup> – University of Florida (Gainesville), 16-3

Ranked 17<sup>th</sup> – Florida State University (Tallahassee), 19-2

Other Florida DI Colleges Receiving votes: Florida International University

### NCAA Division II (as of October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009)

Ranked 7<sup>th</sup> – University of Tampa (Tampa), 22-2

Ranked 13<sup>th</sup> – Saint Leo University (St. Leo), 23-2

### NAIA (as of October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009)

There are no NAIA colleges in Florida ranked in the Top 25.

Florida NAIA Colleges Receiving votes: Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Webber International University

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**Two Year Colleges (as of October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009)**

Ranked 7<sup>th</sup> – Miami Dade Community College (Miami), 24-4

Ranked 15<sup>th</sup> – Hillsborough Community College (Tampa), 25-7

Ranked 16<sup>th</sup> – Florida State College at Jacksonville (Jacksonville), 28-4

Ranked 18<sup>th</sup> – Pasco-Hernando Community College (New Port Richey), 26-8

You can follow your favorite college by visiting the "FLORIDA COLLEGES WITH VOLLEYBALL" link on the Home Page of the Florida Region website:

[www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org). This link takes you right to the volleyball page of all 52 colleges in Florida with volleyball programs.

**CLUB HIGHLIGHT – JACKSONVILLE JUNIORS**

Each month we will be featuring a member club in *Vol-eNews*. This is a great way to get to know the Club Director(s) and learn more about the club. We will be highlighting clubs of all sizes and disciplines in future editions of *Vol-eNews*. This month we are highlighting **Mary Andrew** and the **Jacksonville Juniors**, enjoy!



**Q: Mary, when did you get involved with volleyball?**

A: I played volleyball in JH and high school (1967-1971) and in college at Stetson University (1971-1975).

**Q: How long have you been coaching volleyball?**

A: I have been coaching volleyball since 1976 when I had my first coaching job at a high school in Duval County.

**Q: When did you start your club? How many teams were in your first year?**

A: We started the club in 1989 when I became the coach at FCCJ that summer. Brandy King was a coach at Mayport Middle School and she had a great middle school program and wanted to find more competition for her players and help other young players in the city. It was really originally her idea. Then one of her former players and my former player Elise Bush joined in with us as she was the new coach at Bolles and she wanted to help. We had three teams and we each coached and did everything else to get things started. We used the FCCJ gym and the Mayport gym and started the club. Brandy retired from the school system a few years later and Elise has been a great supporter of the program and is still involved when possible.



**Q: What were your previous positions with the Florida Region Board of Directors?**

A: I have served on and off on the Florida Region Board since it started - usually as a District Rep or At Large member. I was in on the origination of the Board and have sat through many long suffering meetings and events for the Region in the past twenty years.

**Q: What improvements have you seen in the Florida Region? Your club?**

A: The region has been a work in progress for twenty years. Many people have dedicated many hours and sometimes their lives to getting the region started and to keeping it together and running. The hiring of Steve Bishop as the Exec. Dir. has taken the region forward quickly and professionally. The central organization is greatly improved, the financial responsibility is greatly improved and the services to the members are more current and more diverse.

The leadership of the region is improved and more streamlined so that business can be conducted more efficiently. The region continues to move ahead and to offer more services and events to the members.

Our club has gone through much the same kind of growth as the region. Our leadership is more centralized and our business duties have been delegated to professionals who conduct these duties separate from the coaching and competition. Our leadership structure has also allowed for more attention to the different divisions that we established to serve different levels of membership. The club has been allowed to grow as we have been able to secure more practice times and courts. We have also had more coaches move to town which also allows us to have more teams and serve more layers. Our own facility now allows us to also employ some full time staff to give lessons, clinics and run leagues and competitions.

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

A: If we had to brag it would be to say that we have always tried to do "What is best for the player and the team." We demand that members treat everyone with respect and that we always respect the game. We emphasize teaching, learning and the enjoyment of the game. Our goals are to "Teach-Learn-Enjoy" the game we all love.

We have had our share of accomplishments - but those are not as important as the development of each young person that comes to us for help in learning how to play this game or to providing opportunities for older players to keep playing the game they love. We are also proud to have sent more than 120 players on from JJVA to play college volleyball.



**Q: How do you balance coaching college, club, and running your own facility?**

A: There is no balance in my life - only survival. There is always something to do and it seems as if each year there is more to do. But it is a rare wonder to be able to go to work each day to a job (or more than one job) that you really love and enjoy. It is difficult to juggle so many things, but I have lots of good help (many are smarter and better than me). As long as we are helping people to move ahead in life and become all that God has designed them to be - I am good with the demands and the joy He has allowed me.

**Q: How did you feel when the Facility complex opened up?**

A: The opening of our facility was a necessity - it was an event full of joy and excitement and it was scary at the same time. It is a huge better commitment for our club and it will always be a struggle to make it work as a business. But, we are confident it will work and we go forward with the faith that it will stay open if we stay true to our motive of helping young people with their goal to become better volleyball players and to help everyone enjoy the game they love. We are proud of our club and our facility.

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

A: I look forward to the region offering even better services to our members and to having more events that serve various groups of members. I am certain under the leadership we have now that the region will continue to grow and advance.

**Q: Most other large cities have at least two or more volleyball clubs. Why do you think that Jacksonville Juniors has only had one large club for so many years?**

A: There are actually 6-8 other clubs in our area. Jacksonville is a city of a million people but we are also the second largest city in square miles in the world. This means are population is spread out over a very large area. There are concentrations of the population in different areas of the city and each of the areas has a club. Our club happens to be located in a well populated area so we get a greater number of players. With the facility we can now also offer volleyball activities on a full time basis without competition from other sports and this allows for more people to be involved. In addition we can offer more services to our players due to having full time staff. Our greatest asset is our coaching staff. We are extremely proud of the quality of our coaching staff. Many of our coaches have been with us for over ten years and the consistency of staff is valuable in bringing players to our club. The clubs in our First Coast area work together to serve the surrounding communities and JJVA has always had the policy of helping any group in the area start a club if they desire help. JJVA supports the concept of cooperation with area clubs in the spirit of having as many people play the game as possible. As long as kids and adults are playing volleyball, we are happy!

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*We want to thank Mary for participating in our Club Highlight and we wish her and her club continued success in the 2009/2010 season! Stay tuned for next month's Club Highlight as we learn more about **Sam Skelton** and the **Club 4U Palm Beach Juniors**.*

### SPONSOR (REGION PARTNER) HIGHLIGHT - ASICS

We want to extend a special **THANK YOU** to ASICS, who has supported the Florida Region High Performance All Star Program since 2006. ASICS has been one of the best region partners supplying all the HP uniforms for all our teams and



we wouldn't be able to offer the program without them. Their generosity and support have impacted hundreds of junior volleyball players each year in the Florida Region. Their unbelievable support has allowed us to be the best looking delegation and feel great as we compete with some of the top teams in the world.

Each year ASICS has gone above and beyond. In 2009, in spite of the economic climate, they supported our largest number of teams in the history of our High Performance participation and demonstrated their unbelievable commitment to the athletes. Thank you to Laura Greatbanks and the entire ASICS team for being such a great Region Partner!

### CORPORATE VOLLEYBALL CHALLENGE (GRASS TOUR)



This year we have started a Corporate Grass volleyball tournament in various cities throughout Florida. The event will serve as a fundraiser for the Florida Region of USA Volleyball's Scholarship Fund as well as the partnering volleyball club or school programs.

The Corporate Volleyball Challenge event will include both recreational and competitive playing divisions for adult players. Tournament dates are located on our website. All teams are encouraged to register in advance to confirm a spot in the event. Teams in the competitive division will consist of 4 players per team and are required to have 1 female on the court during play. The team fee for competitive teams will be \$200 for regular registration and \$300 for "VIP" registration. Teams in the recreational division will consist of 6 players per team and are required to have 2 females on the court during play. The team fee for recreational teams will be \$300 for regular registration and

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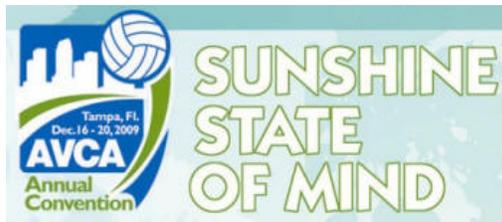
\$450 for "VIP" registration. VIP teams will be provided with t-shirts, as well as lunch and drinks throughout the tournament. Interested teams can register online at the Florida Region of USA Volleyball website: [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org).

### NCAA VOLLEYBALL FINAL FOUR

The University of South Florida and the Tampa Bay Sports Commission are hosting the 2009 NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championships in Tampa Bay, Florida at the St. Pete's Time Forum on Dec 17<sup>th</sup> thru 19<sup>th</sup>. Just a reminder, that the deadline for group youth tickets will be **November 13<sup>th</sup>**. This includes two semifinal matches and NCAA championship for groups of 10 or more. To get more information and to purchase tickets follow the link on the Florida Region website: [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org).



### AVCA ANNUAL CONVENTION



The 2009 AVCA (American Volleyball Coaches' Association) Annual Convention will be held on December 16<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup> in Tampa at the Tampa Convention Center. This is a great training and networking opportunity for volleyball coaches in Florida. Be sure to register by November 6<sup>th</sup> in order to take advantage of the early registration discount. For more information on registration, tickets and prices, click on the AVCA link located on the Florida Region website: [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org)

Sit back, relax, and get into a Sunshine State of Mind as the 2009 AVCA Annual Convention makes its first journey to Florida in December! Building on the two largest conventions in the association's history in 2007 and 2008, the AVCA will take its show to Tampa in '09, where sun and fun will accompany several days of the renowned education, networking events and volleyball action that have made this an annual "can't-miss" event.

Not able to attend the entire Convention? Did you know that the AVCA offers a weekend only package? Beginning with the AVCA All-American/Players of the Year banquet on Friday, Dec. 18, weekend only attendees will have access to all of the remaining weekend activities, including getting to choose from

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nearly 30 educational seminars, admission into three parties as well as the benefits of the numerous other convention activities!

Weekend only registrants also have the opportunity to purchase tickets to the NCAA championship match Saturday night and Under Armour All-American High School match Sunday.

Go to the AVCA Convention Web site ([www.avca.org](http://www.avca.org)) for complete information on this year's event, and to register today!

## PAVO ANNUAL CONVENTION



PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF VOLLEYBALL OFFICIALS

The 2009 PAVO (Professional Association of Volleyball Officials) Convention will be held in Tampa in the St. Pete Times Forum from December 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. A limited number of NCAA National Championship tickets will be available for PAVO members; a special seating block is provided but limited. Register before November 15<sup>th</sup> to take advantage of the early registration fee. For more information on registration, tickets and prices, click on the PAVO link located on the Region website: [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org)

## VOLLEYBALL IN THE NEWS REMINDER

We would like to remind everyone to send in volleyball news links from their community so we can post your links on our website at [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org). This page will provide a large, easy to read database to show what is happening in Florida volleyball without searching the web. It will also make it more convenient to show friends and family news articles about volleyball by directing them to our easy to access website. You can send any volleyball news stories to [Kelly@FloridaVolleyball.org](mailto:Kelly@FloridaVolleyball.org). Thank you to those who have been sharing their articles with us. Keep 'em coming!



## IMPACT TRAINING CLINICS

The IMPACT Coaching Clinic schedule will be posted on the EDUCATION page of the Florida Region website in November. IMPACT stands for Increased Mastery and Professional Application of Coaching Theory. It is a required course for all USAV coaches and is offered for FREE to all new USAV coaches.

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## MEMBER CLUB BANNER INFORMATION



This year we are offering our member clubs a free 36"x36" banner to hang up in their practice gym or playing facility to show their affiliation with the Florida Region and USA Volleyball. The first banner is FREE and each additional banner is \$25.

If you would like to get a banner for your gym, you can email [info@FloridaVolleyball.org](mailto:info@FloridaVolleyball.org) or call the office at 352-742-0080.

## 2010 CALENDAR INFORMATION

If you visit our website, [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org), and scroll down and you will see the 2010 year-at-a-glance 8.5"x11" calendar (on the right side). You can print one off for your own personal use. We also have a 2010 11"x17" calendar available; it includes many pictures of last year's highlights.



Coming out in December will be our new 2010 desktop calendar backgrounds. Several desktop options will be available and we will include a reminder in our December 2009 *Vol-eNews* newsletter.

## WILSON FRIDAY NIGHT ADULT TOURNAMENT SERIES



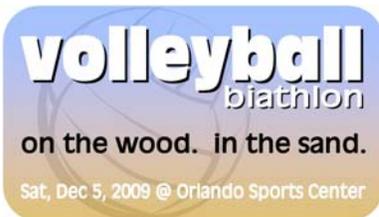
We are pleased to introduce a new and exciting opportunity for adults to play some competitive volleyball between December 2009 and May 2010. This series of events is designed to help coaches, officials, and college grads get back on the court. We have started this tournament series in an effort to create playing opportunities across the state.

Many convention center tournaments have partnered up with us to ensure a convenient venue. The gym will open at 6:30pm and playing times will take place at 7pm, 8pm, and 9pm. Random pools of three will play twice and referee once. The best part is there are no uniforms required and no score-sheets. The flip-score will be the official score. There will be men's division,

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women's division, and a co-ed division. If you do not have a team put together come anyways, you will be able to play on one of the co-ed teams.

### VOLLEYBALL BIATHLON IN ORLANDO



We would like to introduce the first ever multi-surface volleyball tournament in the Florida Region. The two surfaces will be sand and wood. This will be a great day to show off your beach volleyball skills as well as your indoor abilities. The co-ed Volleyball Biathlon will include both recreational and competitive playing divisions for adult players. The tournament will take place on Saturday December 5th, 2009 in Orlando at the Orlando Sports Center. Register online at [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org).

### ADULT'S OFFICIALS IMPROVEMENT CLINIC

Our Official's Improvement Clinics for adult officials will be held during the first two weekends of December in all four districts. Check out our website, [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org), then click on our Officials page; there we will post the times and dates. It is very important that adult officials attend this clinic for there have been rule changes that you will need to know for the upcoming season.



### HIGH PERFORMANCE COACHES WANTED!



During the month of November we will be accepting applications from coaches who are interested in participating in our 2010 Regional High Performance program.

The online HP coaching application will be available starting on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and the deadline to apply will be Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Interested coaches can find the application on our Florida Region website: [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org).

### REGION CONTACT

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