

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

June 2010: ISSUE 9

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WELCOME NOTE FROM COMMISSIONER

Florida Region Members,

The 2010 season is well under way and we had a very successful Girl's Regional Championships. We crowned a champion in the 10 and under and 11 and under divisions, a first for the Region. Congratulations to those teams that won a championship in the event this year and good luck in your volleyball future. I hope those that are still playing on the indoor side this season enjoy their remaining events. At the Regional event we had our awards banquet which was stellar as always. Our guest speaker was a professional sportswriter who taught us all the value of our preparation both physically and mentally to be a champion in sports. If you missed his talk, you missed something great. I wish good luck to all of the teams that will be travelling to Girl's and Boy's Junior Nationals, may you all achieve great success.

Our outdoor programs are starting to kick into high gear and if you have not attended or participated in a Florida Region outdoor event, you should make plans to attend. They are simply awesome! We have both adult play and junior's play and are putting on some of the best events in the country along with our co-host Exclusive Sports Marketing.

Enjoy the rest of your season. I look forward to seeing you on the court or in the stands.

James Phillips, Commissioner
 Florida Region of USA Volleyball

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We did it! As I said in last month's *Vol-eNews* newsletter, we were expecting to exceed last season's high number of 40 courts and 130 teams at our first junior beach tour stop in Siesta Key on May 23rd and we did. We actually had 48 courts in play and over 170 junior beach teams competing for the age division crown. We are aware that the event had a few glitches! They have been thoroughly reviewed by event management and plans have been put in place so that it won't happen again. However, one of our biggest complaints was regarding parents and spectators yelling at junior players during the games.

We are going to revisit our Spectator/Parent Code of Conduct at all upcoming events to make sure that everyone in attendance is aware of what behavior is acceptable and unacceptable. One of the biggest differences between the indoor game and the outdoor game is that spectators and parents are simply not allowed to interfere or coach from the sidelines. The outdoor game is much more pure in the sense that the athletes play with virtually no outside influences. We only allow coaches to give instruction during timeouts and at the end of the game. Coaches (and spectators) may not give any instructions during the game! To make sure that we protect this tradition of the outdoor game, we are putting more staff on the ground at all upcoming events to monitor the situation. With that said, we are confident that all future events will take place in a safe, competitive, and fun environment.

On another note, we are very proud to announce the award winners that were recognized at our 2010 Regional Awards Ceremony on May 7th in Orlando. This year we inducted two new members into the Florida Region Hall of Fame: **Eric Vlahov** and **Mike Farah**. Both of these longtime members have contributed greatly to the Florida Region and the sport of volleyball. You can find a full list of the winners on our Florida Region website (www.FloridaVolleyball.org). Congratulations to all of the award winners!

Remember to be an ambassador of the game, whether you play, coach, or officiate!

See you on the court,

Steve

Steve Bishop, CYSA
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CLUB HIGHLIGHT – BLACK CREEK VOLLEYBALL 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 **Jason Berry** and the **Black Creek Volleyball Club** will be highlighted, enjoy!

Q: Tell us how you got started in volleyball?

A: I started playing beach volleyball in Ohio at a lake near my house. The volleyball was not what you would call legal. A few friends and I started playing by the rules, and continue to play that way ever since. I moved to Florida a year later so I could play year round.

Q: How long have you been coaching volleyball?

A: I have been coaching since 1992. I started with Southwest Sunset Volleyball Club in Ft. Myers, Florida. I was also an assistant coach at Barron Collier High in Naples.

Q: What is the size of your club currently? What was the size when it was started?

A: Our club started with 1 team our first year, expanded to 4 last year and we currently have 13 teams. Needless to say it has been an interesting year!

Q: Do you plan to add a boy's team? Why or why not?

A: It is something I would love to do in the future. I teach at a Junior High and I know some of the students here have expressed an interest in volleyball.

Q: Do you have a beach volleyball program? Explain.

A: We are starting it this year. We were hoping for about 5-10 teams, but from early interest it looks more like 20 teams, so we are pretty excited. We are in the process of building two courts at the school I teach at.

Q: What future plans do you have for your club?

A: I am hoping we can continue to provide a competitive outlet for Clay County girls to play volleyball and work towards scholarships for college. The growth of club volleyball in our country is huge and we want to make Clay County a force in the USAV community.

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

A: I would say we offer a competitive program for a great price. I think we have some great coaches who truly want what is best for the girls they coach, and want them to not only to become great players, but better people.

Q: Are you involved in any other volleyball activities besides coaching?

A: I am also a Junior High Basketball coach, along with teaching and working on getting my master's degree.

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Q: Does your club do anything to promote youth volleyball (11 and under)?

A: We had a 10's team this year in our club that did great! In the future we are going to look into promoting the game and helping out with our feeder programs like the YMCA as much as possible.

Q: How have you responded to the affects of socioeconomic changes in the state of Florida?

A: We try to keep our costs to a minimum so that our parents and athletes can afford to play the game they love without breaking their bank account.

Q: What can the Florida Region do to help grow the sport across the State?

A: Keep doing what they are doing. I think we are leading the way not only in indoor but also outdoor volleyball in the US.

*Thanks Jason for participating in the Club Highlight. The Florida Region wishes you and your club continued success in the 2009/2010 season! Stay tuned for next month's Club Highlight to learn about **Cindy Phillips** and **Club Beach Dig**.*

REGIONAL HP ALL-STAR TRAINING CAMP



The girls and boys Regional HP All-Star Training and Selection Camp rosters have been finalized and are now listed on the website. Visit the HP All-Star information page to view the list of athletes that have accepted the invitation to attend the camp.

The training camp will be held on June 4th-6th at the Orlando Sports Complex. Players are responsible to bring the following items, shoes, socks, spandex/shorts (black or navy only), knee pads, Regional HP tryout t-shirt, club warm-ups, backpack/gym bag, water bottle, medical release form (notarized) and any prescribed medications.

Special thanks go to the HP coaches for their hard work and dedication to the Regional HP All-Star program. The Florida Region would also like to thank the volunteer coaches for all their help. **If you would like to volunteer** for the training and selection camp please email Kelly@FloridaVolleyball.org.

If you would like more information on the Regional HP All-Star Program please visit our website at www.FloridaVolleyball.org and click on the HP Logo.

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2010 DIG THE BEACH USAV JUNIOR SERIES TOUR



The Dig the Beach USAV Junior Series tour kick-off was held in Siesta Key May 22nd-23rd. The turn out was great, we had over 170 junior teams participating on Sunday!

Come join the Florida Region in Fort Myers this weekend, June 5th and 6th. Note: You must have a current USAV membership in order to participate in the following tournaments:

June 5-6 - Fort Myers

June 12-13 - Fort Lauderdale

June 26-27 - Clearwater Beach

July 10-11 - Siesta Key

July 24-25 - Fort Lauderdale, The USAV – Florida Regional Championships

August 7-8 East Coast Beach Nationals (TBD)

September 11-12 National Championships Miami Beach

Visit our Region website, www.FloridaVolleyball.org and click on the Dig the Beach USAV Junior Series logo for more information and to sign up a team. See you on the beach! (Note: Junior players, please pre-register, we will not be accepting onsite registration due to the increase in participation.)

BEACH COACHING CLINICS

All beach coaches must attend a Regional Beach Coaching Clinic to participate in any USAV Jr. Beach event! Coaches that successfully complete a Regional or National Beach Coaching Clinic will be eligible to coach at any USAV junior beach event in Florida.

Please visit our website for available dates, www.FloridaVolleyball.org and click on Outdoor VB page.

JR. BEACH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Florida Region is excited to announce that the USA Beach Junior National Championships will be held on Sunday, August 22nd in Fort Lauderdale, FL. This is great news, this is the first time Florida has ever hosted this event! The top athletes will be competing for the national title, age's 12U-18U.



All event details will be posted shortly on our website, www.FloridaVolleyball.org. We hope that you will make plans to join us!

BEACH VOLLEYBALL MYTHS

It makes me so happy to say more kids will have more opportunities to play beach volleyball than ever before. We have come over many hurdles now and need to keep pushing this great sport. I would like to share some myths that are being tossed about beach volleyball:

Myth #1 – Beach volleyball makes the indoor game sloppy. Nothing can be further from the truth. If you play sloppy, your game will be sloppy indoors or out. Beach makes you quicker, faster and stronger.

Myth #2 - Just let them play outdoors, no need for drills. Drills when properly designed can help the game dramatically.

Myth #3 - My child just plays indoors. Wow, in the next year beach volleyball will begin for many schools, and coaches will be looking for kids that can play both indoor and outdoor as the beach teams will not be fully loaded for 5 to 6 yrs. They will play both, so those who can not and have not will have a harder time.

Myth #4 – Beach volleyball is too hard. Yes it is hard but it is more forgiving on the body.

For those of you who have not played, you have no idea how much fun you are missing. Keep on playing!

Dave Carstenson, Outdoor Chair
Florida Region of USA Volleyball

NEW JR. NATIONAL OFFICIALS & NATIONAL REFEREES/SCORKEEPER

The Florida Region is proud to announce the Class of 2009 Officials:

- **Robert Owen** – Junior National Official
- **Kelvin Diaz** – Junior National Official
- **Laurie Obreza** - Junior National Official
- **Michael Rehberg** - Junior National Official
- **Joao Paulo Santasofia** – National Referee
- **Moises Santiago** – National Referee
- **Tony Cothron** – National Referee
- **Sally Anderson** – National Scorekeeper

Congratulations to the Class of 2009! The Class of 2010 Officials will be announced on the Florida Region website (www.FloridaVolleyball.org) at the end of the summer.

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REGIONAL AWARDS CEREMONY (9th ANNUAL) RECAP



The 2010 Florida Region Awards Ceremony was held on Friday, May 7th, 2010 at the Double Tree Resort in Orlando on International Drive.

There were over 30 award categories presented to clubs, coaches, club directors, players and many more. The guest speaker, **Don Yaeger**, was amazing! He shared his life experiences and what it takes to be a great athlete, he was truly inspiring.

The Florida Region is proud to announce the Hall of Fame inductees:

Mike Farah
Eric Vlahov

Congratulate to the scholarship award winners:

Margaret Holbery - Commissioner's Scholarship
Alexandria Johnson - Florida Region Scholarship
Kelly Marble & Catherine Goble - Ned DeGroot Memorial Scholarship
Jenna Keeler & Madeline Scullo - Mark Headrick Memorial Scholarship
Ebony Gunn & Lexie Grizzle - Ben Jordan Memorial Scholarship

If you would like to view the winners please go to our website, www.FloridaVolleyball.org, and click on the Regional Awards Ceremony logo. Pictures are also located on the bottom left of the awards page.

GIRL'S JR. REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS RECAP

The 2010 Girl's Jr. Regional Volleyball Championships was held on May 8th-9th at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. This tournament was a great turnout. There were 347 teams that participated in this event and 12 vendors with great volleyball accessories.

Below are the first place teams:

18U Club Division:

Pinellas Heat 16 Elite – Gold Division
MCJ 18's – Silver Division
JM 10 - 18 Panthers – Bronze Division

17U Open Division:

Pinellas Heat 16 Elite Red – Gold Division



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Performance 17 Black – Silver Division

17U Club Division:

SUNCOAST 17 NATIONAL – Gold Division

GAC 17 Black – Silver Division

Gulf Coast 17 Navy – Bronze Division

16U Open Division:

South Florida VBC 16-1 – Gold Division

OVA 14 Asics – Silver Division

16U Club Division:

SVA 16 Navy Brittany – Gold Division

Top Select 16Travel – Silver Division

JVA 16 KIM – Bronze Division

15U Open Division:

Miami Elite 14 Blue – Gold Division

MAV 15 Elite 10 – Silver Division

15U Club Division:

Top Select 15 Travel – Gold Division

Florida Elite 15's – Silver Division

14U Open Division:

OVA 13 Asics – Gold Division

South Florida VBC 14-1 – Silver Division

14U Club Division:

RVC 14 Elite – Gold Division

KP Elites 14 – Silver Division

13 Open Division:

Palm Beach Jrs. 13 Elite – Gold Division

Cape Coast 13 Nike – Silver Division

13U Club Division:

GAC 13 Black – Gold Division

OVA 13 National – Silver Division

South Florida 13-2 – Bronze Division

12U Club Division:

Tampa United VBA 12 Tampa – Gold Division

JVA 12R – Silver Division

JVC CHILL 12 – Bronze Division

10-11U Club Division:

OVA 10 ASICS – Gold Division

Great job to all the teams that participated in the Girl's Jr. Regional Volleyball Championships! See you next season!

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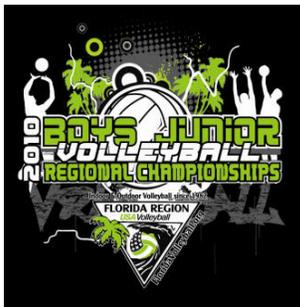
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REGIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

This year the following three positions are up for election: **Secretary/Treasurer, Outdoor Chair, and Official's Chair.** Individuals should have experience in the respective position, be a member in good standing of USAV, and live in the Florida Region. They must also be willing to serve the entire 4-year term and attend 4 meetings per year.

Voting closed on May 31st. The results will be posted by June 15th. The individuals selected will begin their term in office on July 15th.

BOY'S JUNIOR REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS



The Boy's Junior Regional Volleyball Championships will be held June 12th - 13th, 2010 at the Orlando Sports Center for age's 14U-18U.

The deadline to register was Monday, May 31st, 2010. After May 31st teams will only be added to even out playing brackets!

Just a reminder to all club coaches, you must be IMPACT certified (at a minimum) to compete in any USAV sanctioned event! If you are not IMPACT certified please visit our website, www.FloridaVolleyball.org, click on our Education page to view our upcoming IMPACT clinics.

MEMBERSHIP COUNT UPDATE

Our current membership count as of June 1st, 2010 is 8360 members. Our goal for this year is 10,000 members. Please let others in your area know about the playing, coaching, and officiating opportunities offered by USA Volleyball here in Florida.

BOARD/STAFF RETREAT

This year our board and staff retreat will take place on Jun 19-20. It is our annual planning meeting to go over the accomplishments for the year and plan the goals for next year. This annual planning retreat is restricted to Board members and Staff members only.

Members are encouraged to contact a Board member if they have any topics that they wish to be discussed or initiatives they wish to be pursued by the Region staff.

The email or phone numbers of the staff and board members are located on the website, www.FloridaVolleyball.org, under Staff/Board.

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FACEBOOK REMINDER

Come join our Facebook and get daily updates on what is happening in the world of volleyball. Help us reach our goal of 2,000 friends, we are so close! This is an easy way to remain in touch in the volleyball community.

We also give away prizes, weekly! Make sure to check out our Facebook daily so you don't miss out on the prizes.



REGION INFORMATION

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Board Members:

James Phillips, Commissioner
Shanon Lewis, Asst. Commissioner
Donna Beasley, Secretary/Treasurer
Terri Jimenez, Indoor Chair
Dave Carstenson, Outdoor Chair
Mike Gale, Official's Chair

Staff:

Steve Bishop, Exec. Director/President
Michelle Daniels, Registrar/Office Mgr.
Sara Hoffman, Events Coordinator
Kelly Corkhill, Marketing Coordinator
Michael Hertz, Official's Assignor
Wally Hendricks, Head Rater

Junior Admin Board (JAB) Representatives:

Rita Crockett, Lori Eaton, Mitch Sadowsky, Bryan Carver

Our mission is to aggressively promote the sport of volleyball throughout Florida and provide competitive playing opportunities for players of all ages.



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!