



Florida Region (USA)  
**Vol-eNews**  
The official source for Florida volleyball news!



December 2010: ISSUE 15

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**WELCOME NOTE FROM COMMISSIONER**

Welcome to the 2011 USA Volleyball season in the Florida Region. Our season has kicked off well and we have already had boy's volleyball tournaments. Our members are registering and attending tryouts and we are in full swing in the office. Please check the boxes carefully when you register to make sure that you affiliate yourself with the correct club. Once you choose a club, we usually do not allow changes, so maintain an UNDECIDED affiliation until you make a formal commitment. However, if you find you have a problem or issue, please contact the Region Office and they will be glad to assist you.

As the season kicks off, make sure that each member keeps a membership card on their person. That way, if any questions arise concerning your membership, you can present your current membership card. The card can be printed from your record; just log into your membership account and print your card. Here's to a great 2011 season and I wish each and every one of you Happy Holidays.

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



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## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The 2010 high school volleyball season has come to an end and the FHSAA State Volleyball champions have been crowned. You will find a list of the winning teams and their coaches on page 6 of this edition and also on the Home Page of our Florida Region website. Congratulations to all of the high school teams and coaches that competed in the state championship tournament!

On the college scene we continue to see many of our Florida colleges having great success in the post-season. Here is a highlight on a few of them:

- Pasco-Hernando Community College (**Kim Whitney**) won the NJCAA DII National Volleyball Championship title! This is a first for PHCC.
- Clearwater Christian College (**Dr. Vickie Denny**) has won the NCCAA DII National Volleyball Championship title for the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row!
- University of Florida (**Mary Wise**) is heading into the NCAA DI National Volleyball Championship tournament ranked #1. (The Gators will play in Gainesville on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>)
- University of Tampa (**Chris Catanach**) has made it to the Elite 8 of the NCAA DII National Volleyball Championship tournament and will play on Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> in Louisville, KY for a chance to make it to the Final Four.
- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (**Joslynn Gallop**) has made it to the NAIA National Volleyball Championship tournament in Sioux City, Iowa. They play on Nov 30<sup>th</sup>, Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, & Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> in Pool A of the tournament.
- Florida State University (**Chris Poole**) and University of Miami (**Nicole Lantagne Welch**) have also made it to the NCAA DI National Volleyball Championship Tournament.
- Miami Dade College (**Kiko Benoit**) finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place at the NJCAA DI National Volleyball Championship tournament in West Plains, MO.

As college volleyball winds down this month, we will continue to make preparations for the 2010/2011 club volleyball season.

Call our Region Office if you need any assistance. We'll see you on the court very soon!

*Steve*

**Steve Bishop**, CYSA  
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## CLUB HIGHLIGHT – VOLLEYBALL INSTITUTE OF PALM BEACH

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 **Shanon Lewis** and **Volleyball Institute of Palm Beach** will be highlighted.



### Q: What would you consider to be your biggest accomplishments with volleyball?

**A:** I used to think it was all the awards, the scholarship to Louisville, but that all changed this past year. We had a young lady on our 18 and under team, who had never played club volleyball before; she was far behind in the basic skills needed to perform at the next level. She did not have a supportive parental system, in regards to playing volleyball, but she wanted to play in college like no other player I had ever seen. She had gotten a job so she could pay her team fees herself and we worked with her on her skills and helped her with the recruiting process. She went to a tournament that had a showcase prior to the start of competition and a coach saw her athletic ability and inquired about her. This player ended up getting a full ride to a DII school. When she called to let me know that she had signed and to thank us for helping achieve her goal, it was the first time I felt like we (VIP) had really helped someone who loves the game of volleyball as much as I do.

### Q: Tell us how you got started in volleyball?

**A:** 1984 was the summer between my 8<sup>th</sup> and freshman year in High School. It was also a summer Olympic year and the USA men's volleyball team won gold and our USA women's team took silver. I had been playing varsity volleyball already, but the Olympics put a whole new perspective and increased my passion for getting better and possibly playing in the Olympics one day. I was glued to TV and having to set my alarm and get up and watch at 3:00am. My life changed after the 1984 Olympics! I wanted to pass like Karch Kiraly and jump like Rita the Rocket – Crockett. I begged my parents to go to all the volleyball camps I could go to, IPFW and Arnie Balls camps, and Ball State camps. After my high school season was over my dad found an advertisement in the Fort Wayne paper and it was one line – Do you want to play volleyball in college? Call this number 219..... . We called and went to a meeting at IPFW and the rest is history. The club director Randy Litchfield had just graduated from Ball State where he was the setter for the men's team and had returned back to Fort Wayne to start a club. I remember him telling all of us that he had blown out his knee trying out for the 1984 Olympic team and I remember telling my dad that whatever it took to do what he did I wanted to do it too, just minus the busted knee.



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**Q: Tell us about your playing and coaching experiences in college?**

**A:** I played at the University of Louisville in Kentucky and I was the assistant women's and head men's coach at Tri-State University in Indiana.

**Q: What is one thing you took away from coaching at the collegiate level?**

**A:** Contacts, lots and lots of contacts, and I learned a lot in regards to creating a team that works together towards a common goal. In club and high school, you really don't have the choices in regard to the team dynamic as you do when you coach and recruit for college. I also had the privilege to be at a university with both men's and women's volleyball programs, so the interaction between the two is also something that provides a completely different dynamic to the programs.

**Q: What do you like to do when you are not coaching?**

**A:** I like snorkeling, reading and traveling, although, since starting a beach program, snorkeling and traveling has kind of been put on the backburner.

**Q: Tell us about your beach program.**

**A:** Living on a farm in Indiana did not give me many opportunities to play beach volleyball while I was growing up. Although we had 101 lakes in our county, none of them had a sandy beach with a beach volleyball net. I grew up in a gym, playing volleyball with socks and shoes. I played in a couple tournaments in Mishawaka and up and down the Michigan side of Lake Michigan summers between college and afterwards, but I was not a big fan of the sand. Being of Irish decent, I get overheated and was unable to perform to my satisfaction. I got 2<sup>nd</sup> in a couple tournaments but I always felt like I was playing in mud. Give me a hard court and shoes!

Last year, when we were just talking about forming VIP, my partner, Dave Saenz, who is from California and grew up playing on the beach, brought up the beach opportunities in Florida. We discussed the pros and cons of starting a beach program and the pros outweighed the cons and we went for it and it was spectacular! Our first tournament saw one of our 16 and under teams in finals of the club division. Our boys and girls got better each week and continued to get medals and the season highlight was our 14 and under girls' team winning the National Championship.

**Q: What is Sitting Volleyball?**

**A:** Sitting volleyball is a Paralympics sport that provides a volleyball opportunity to disabled athletes, as well as, another training tool for able bodied athletes. VIP has been working with USA Paralympics Volleyball staff to start a men's and women's team in South Florida, in hopes that other clubs in the Florida Region will do so as well. We are working with the local VA and other organizations regarding getting the word out, as well as sponsoring our athletes to attend a couple of local tournaments. We hope that we can provide some kind of athletic outlet to our injured men and women who have come back from Iraq or Pakistan with injuries. If anyone is interested in starting a



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league, or knows of someone who is disabled and may want to play in their area, they can contact me at 954-304-6630.

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

**A:** I would brag about the staff, parents and players that have chosen to be a part of the VIP family. We really have a great bunch of people involved with our program.

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

**A:** We have already expanded with our sister club, VIP 127, which is in Michigan. But really we just look to provide our customers with a quality product in the hopes that the players will continue to play and love volleyball throughout their lifetime and maybe even give back to the sport by becoming a coach or an official.

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

**A:** The continued growth of the sport. The more people we introduce to this wonderful game, the better!

*Thanks Shanon for participating in the Club Highlight. The Florida Region wishes you and your club success in the 2011 season! Stay tuned for next month's Club Highlight to learn about **Russel Williams** and **Longwood Volleyball Club**.*

### COACHES EDUCATION WEEKEND

The Florida Region is offering one scholarship for a coach to attend a CAP Level I or CAP Level II Course at the Coaches Education Weekend. The Coaches Education Weekend will be offered January **7-9, 2011**, in Leesburg, FL and will take place at Lake-Sumter Community College.

The **CAP Level I** Course is open to ALL Coaches. The **CAP Level II** class is open to all previously accredited Level I coaches for initial Level II accreditation or to previously accredited Level II coaches who wish to re-accredit.

\*An **IMPACT Clinic** will also be held on Friday, January 7, 2011, but is not eligible for a scholarship.

**CAP Schedule:**

Saturday, January 8, 2011

8:00a - 8:00p - CAP I & CAP II (9:00p - 11:00p – Coaches Reception, Location TBA)

Sunday, January 9, 2011

8:00a - 4:00p - CAP I & CAP II

**NOTE: To be eligible for the contest, please register by the deadline, December 15, 2010. To register, [click here](#). The drawing and notification will take place no later than December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010.**



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## GOLD SEAL CLUBS

Congratulations to the first Gold Seal Clubs for the 2010/2011 season!

- \* **Cape Coast Volleyball Club** – Connie Denaburg
- \* **Central Florida VBC** – Carlos Pizarro & Gilda Grau
- \* **Club Storm of Tampa** – Vicky Page & Dave Wolcott
- \* **Doral Volleyball Academy** – Leonardo Rivera
- \* **Fort Myers Fusion** – Wynn DePasquale & Steve Harrell
- \* **Gainesville Juniors** – Chad Davis
- \* **NPower Volleyball** – AnnMarie Blair
- \* **Pinellas Heat Elite** – Terry and Barb Small
- \* **South Florida Heat VB** – David Monk
- \* **Jacksonville Juniors Volleyball** – Adis Imamovic & Gail DeLisle
- \* **North Florida Volleyball Academy** – Rita Buck-Crockett
- \* **St. Augustine Volleyball Association** – Taylor Mott
- \* **St. Pete Volleyball Club** – Mark & Courtney Draper
- \* **Suncoast Volleyball Club** – Jeff Horr & Scott Montgomery
- \* **Tallahassee Jrs. Volleyball Club** – Latoya Washington
- \* **USA South Volleyball** – Landon Thomas
- \* **West Pasco Volleyball Club** – Jason Kucera



## FHSAA STATE VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the following teams and coaches for winning the FHSAA State Volleyball Championships!

- (Class 6A) **H.B. Plant High School**, Tampa (Head Coach: Leanna Prida-Taylor)
- (Class 5A) **East Lake High School**, Tarpon Springs (Head Coach: Terry Small)
- (Class 4A) **Cardinal Gibbons**, Ft. Lauderdale (Head Coach: Kathryn Farland)
- (Class 3A) **Berkeley Preparatory School**, Tampa (Head Coach: Randy Dagostino)
- (Class 2A) **The First Academy**, Orlando (Head Coach: Michele Moreman)
- (Class 1A) **Warner Christian Academy**, South Daytona (Head Coach: Vanessa Tress)

## HIGH PERFORMANCE ALL-STAR TRYOUTS



Tryouts for the 2011 High Performance (HP) All-Star Program are now posted. There will be four tryouts around the state of Florida. Interested athletes are only required to attend one of the four tryouts.

### Regional HP Tryouts

- Jan 28** – Daytona Beach (Girls & Boys)
- Feb 25** – Jacksonville (Girls)
- Mar 18** – Ft. Lauderdale (Girls & Boys)
- Mar 25** – Tampa (Girls)

**NOTE:** The age definition for HP candidates are as follows: **Girls**-1991 & above, **Boys**-1992 & above. For more information regarding HP, contact Sara Hoffman (HP Program Assistant) at [Sara@FloridaVolleyball.org](mailto:Sara@FloridaVolleyball.org).



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## COACHES ONLINE APPLICATION FOR HP

All USAV coaches interested in coaching the 2011 High Performance teams must submit an online application. The 2011 USAV High Performance Championship will take place in Tucson, AZ from Jul 26-30, 2011. The training camps for both boys and girls are tentatively scheduled for Jun 3-5, 2011 (Boys & Girls) in Orlando. To be considered, follow the link on the Region website. The deadline to apply is **December 17, 2010**. Please contact Sara Hoffman, at [Sara@FloridaVolleyball.org](mailto:Sara@FloridaVolleyball.org), if you have any questions.

**NOTE:** The Florida Region requires that all coaches are either IMPACT or CAP certified before they begin working with players in tryouts.

## FLORIDA FEST BOYS' BID TOURNAMENT

Join us at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Florida Fest Boys' Bid Tournament in Daytona Beach! The Florida Fest, in conjunction with the Daytona Beach 100 Girls' Volleyball Tournament, is one of the few mixed gender events in the USA under one roof. In 2010, the event awarded 4 bids!



This year, The Florida Fest Boys' Bid Tournament will once again be held at the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach from January 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011. *Register early to reserve your spot!*

### 2011 Entry Fees:

Regular \$500 (Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> – Jan. 6, 2011) Late \$600 (After Jan. 6, 2011)

For more information, please visit [www.FloridaFest.org](http://www.FloridaFest.org).

## 2011 REGIONAL RANKING TOUR



Visit the Florida Region website, [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org), for more event info.

## NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



The NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championship is a premier event that provides student-athletes an once-in-a-lifetime experience. This year, the Championship will be held December 16 & 18 in Kansas City, Missouri at the Sprint Center. The Championship will be hosted by the University of Missouri, Kansas City and the Kansas City Sports Commission.

Visit our website, [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org) and click on the NCAA Logo for more information.



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## GIRL'S JR. REGIONAL BID CHAMPIONSHIPS



The 2011 Girl's Jr. Regional Bid Championships will take place April 9-10 at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. Only teams that have registered to attend the 2010 Girl's Jr. National Championships (JNC) by April 1st, 2011 are eligible to attend this event. This tournament is for girl's junior teams, age's 12U-18U, trying to earn a bid to the 2011 Jr. National Championships in Atlanta, GA. All teams must register through AES (Advanced Events Systems.com). The host hotel is The Double Tree Resort in Orlando and the discounted room rate of \$89 is now available. Visit the Florida Region website for more information on hotel pricing and event registration

## 2011 REGIONAL AWARDS CEREMONY

**Thank you to our 2010 Guest Speaker, Don Yaeger!** The Regional Awards Ceremony is a time to give back to the ones that make the Florida Region the best that it can be. Without you, our members, the Florida Region would not be where it is today! Start thinking about someone you would like to nominate for one of our many awards. Nominations for the 2011 Regional Awards Ceremony will begin in January 2011!

### 2011 Regional Awards Ceremony Information

**Date:** Friday, May 6, 2011

**Location:** [Double Tree Resort - International Drive](#)

(Rooms: Ontario & Michigan Banquet Halls)

**Time:** 6:30p Reception, 7:00p Ceremony Begins

**Cost:** \$10 per person in advance (Age 13 & Above), \$15 at the door\*

Food & drinks will be provided, Cash bar will be available

**Dress Code:** Business Casual to Business Standard

**Guest Speaker:** TBA

\* Tickets will go on sale NLT April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011

Check out last year's award recipients by visiting our website, [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org).

## GIRL'S JR. REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2011 Girl's Jr. Regional Volleyball Championships will be held May 7-8, 2011, at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. This tournament is for girl's junior teams, ages 10U-18U. No bids will be awarded at this event.

The host hotel will be The Double Tree Resort on International Drive, located 1 mile from the playing site. Room rates for the Double Tree Resort are \$89. Visit [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org) for more information on prices and event registration.





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### FLORIDA COLLEGIATE VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE (FCVL)



The Florida Collegiate Volleyball League (FCVL) was formed to create more opportunities for men to play Club Volleyball at the collegiate level and eventually transition to being a scholarship sport in Florida. The FCVL is a member league of the National Collegiate Volleyball Federation (NCVF) and offers men's and women's college club volleyball competition for any 2 year and 4 year colleges located within the boundaries of the league.

Teams will compete in Conference play during the months of October, November, December, January, & February. The Conference Championships and League Championships will take place in March. The NCVF National Championships will take place in April.

Florida has 38 colleges that are eligible to participate in the FCVL. So far, the FCVL has signed on 9 clubs to participate.

#### North Florida Conference

Florida State University  
University of Florida  
University of Central Florida  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

#### South Florida Conference

Florida Gulf Coast University  
Florida International University  
Nova Southeastern  
University of Miami  
University of South Florida

All participating FCVL members would be required to have a USAV college membership in the Florida Region, potentially increasing the Region's membership each year as the league grows.

The FCVL will start in the Fall of 2010. For more information regarding the FCVL, or to sign up, please visit [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org) and click on the FCVL Logo located on the Home page.

### 2011 VOLLEYBALL CALENDARS

The Florida Region is excited to unveil our new 2011 Volleyball Calendars this month! The calendars feature snapshots of USAV members playing indoor and outdoor volleyball. The calendars will go on sale in mid-December and will cost \$10. All proceeds will support the USAV Scholarship Fund. Stay tuned for more information!



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## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

All USAV memberships from 2009/2010 expired 10/31/10. If you have not yet renewed your USAV membership for the 2010/2011 season, please renew by clicking on "Login" in the yellow box on the homepage. If you have forgotten your username and password, please contact the Florida Region office at (352) 742-0080 or email [info@FloridaVolleyball.org](mailto:info@FloridaVolleyball.org).

## MEMBERSHIP COUNT UPDATE

Our current membership count as of December 1st, 2010 is 6,257 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 in Florida by USA Volleyball.

## REGION INFORMATION

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### Board Members:

**James Phillips**, Commissioner  
**Shanon Lewis**, Asst. Commissioner  
**Donna Beasley**, Secretary/Treasurer  
**Terri Jimenez**, Indoor Chair  
**Kendra Vanzwieten**, Outdoor Chair  
**Doug Darling**, Official's Chair

### Staff:

**Steve Bishop**, Exec. Director/President  
**Kelly Mills**, Registrar  
**Sara Hoffman**, Events Coordinator  
**Krissy McKane**, Marketing Coordinator  
**Michelle Daniels**, Bookkeeper  
**Sue Wainio-Oato**, Official's Coordinator

### Junior Admin Board (JAB) Representatives:

**Rita Crockett, Lori Eaton, Mitch Sadowsky, Russel Williams**

## OFFICIAL FLORIDA REGION SPONSORS



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



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