



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



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WELCOME NOTE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Members,

I hope that your season has been going as planned and that your teams are having fun at the tournaments in which they participated. I have had the pleasure of meeting many new faces and talking with many new players this season.

The indoor season is in full swing with the Girl’s BID championships coming up real soon and the Girl’s Regional Championships coming up in early May. We are seeing a huge increase in the number of teams participating in these tournaments and they should provide great competition and lots of fun.

The beach season is kicking off with lots of tournaments again this season which should provide our members with plenty of opportunities to play in the sand and sun.

I wish you all the best in the remainder of your indoor season and look forward to seeing you on the beach.

James Phillips
 Commissioner
 Florida Region of USA Volleyball, Inc.



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am very pleased to announce that our Region is continuing to grow and is setting the standard in numerous categories across the country. Our devoted Club Directors are doing a great job in their local communities and our dedicated Board continues to provide excellent leadership for the Florida Region. With everyone pulling in the same direction, we have accomplished many great things this year already.

Last month we held our inaugural FCVL Spring Exhibition Tournament in Ft. Lauderdale and received great feedback from the fans that enjoyed watching the college men play. We want to once again thank the Cloverleaf for hosting this inaugural event and we look forward to the 2012 event. Also, we held our first-ever FCVL Championships at UCF in March and crowned UCF as the League Champion. The competition was very good and we are expecting our men's league to grow from 6 to 10 teams in 2012, and we also hope to add a women's college club division to the FCVL.

In a few days we will host our 2011 Girl's Jr. Regional Bid Championships in Orlando. This event has grown by 12 courts and over 100 teams since last season, which is almost unbelievable. We will hand out 14 bids to the Girls' Jr. National Championships at the conclusion of the event and we are "on-deck" for as many as 6 more bids during the reallocation process.

Finally, our partnership with Exclusive Sports Marketing (Chris Colgan) is also going to the next level. We recently signed on the FBVT and SSOVA beach tours under our USAV umbrella and our 2011 beach tour schedule will grow from 11 stops to 26 stops this season. This growth will allow for our beach athletes to compete in quality USAV Dig the Beach events throughout the entire beach season and earn consistent ranking points along the way.

These are just a few of our great programs. Remember to regularly check our Region website (www.FloridaVolleyball.org) for the most up-to-date information.

Steve

Steve Bishop, CYSA
Executive Director/President
Florida Region of USA Volleyball, Inc.



CLUB HIGHLIGHT – ORLANDO VOLLEYBALL ACADEMY

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 **Yvonne Devlin** and **Orlando Volleyball Academy** will be highlighted.

Q: How long have you been coaching volleyball?

A: After working as a referee for 25 years, I began coaching volleyball 13 years ago.

Q: When did you get involved with volleyball?

A: I first became involved with volleyball in 1969 and played in college at UCF.

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

A: We started OVA in 1989 with 7 teams. This year OVA is fielding 38 teams with 408 players.

Q: When did you serve on the Florida Region Board of Directors? Tell us about your accomplishments as Commissioner?

A: I served on the Florida Region Board of Directors for 12 years, four as Commissioner and eight as Junior Coordinator. During my tenure, I brought in both Asics and 1st Place as sponsors in addition to being the first Commissioner to take the risk of conducting events at the Convention Center site.

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

A: Improvements would include advancements in online information exchange through newsletters and registration along with the awards banquet. Our club has reached the level of being nationally competitive in all age groups, not just one or two teams. Currently OVA shares the record of having the most teams to qualify for USAV Nationals in a single year.

Q: What would you attribute to your clubs success in the past years?

A: OVA's success is rooted in the commitment and quality of our coaches and athletes. Passion for the sport makes our teams compete within the Club with athletes and coaches challenging one another at every practice. Time management and advanced training methods are continually refined.



Q: Tell us about your Facility. What makes it stand apart from other facilities in the state of Florida?

A: OVA is fortunate to have a 92,000 square foot, all wood floor training facility in addition to ten outdoor sand courts for cross-training. Physical speed, agility and quickness training is also a regular component of the team's training regime.

Q: Tell us about your Beach Program.

A: Our ten sand courts are home to the ROX Junior Beach Series which are held nearly every weekend in the spring. We also have adult tournaments on Sundays. Several times each year we host college games as well.

Q: What does your club do to promote youth volleyball (11 and under)?

A: To promote initial interest in youth volleyball, we offer free clinics several times each year which are open to both boys and girls throughout the community. In addition, we offer camps and year round clinics for beginners through advanced players. Three years ago we began a "Mini-Club" season for younger girls that coincides with the high school season to keep the skill level of the young players up between club seasons.

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

A: At OVA, we believe in the "Golden Rule", in treating people how you would like to be treated. We strive to do everything the very best.

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

A: I look forward to the Regional High Performance Program being free to the top athletes, our best competing against the nation's best.

*Thanks Yvonne 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 **Greg Villareal** and the **Miami Matadors Volleyball Club**.*

WHAT'S NEW ON THE WEB

Check out what's new on the Florida Region website! **John Kessel**, USAV Managing Director of Regional Services, has been writing and sharing inspirational and motivational blogs about his experiences with the game of volleyball. His blogs can be found at www.FloridaVolleyball.org under "Grow the Game Blog Entries" found on our home page.



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. Registration for this event is now closed and this is going to be the biggest Bid Championships thus far! We have 276 teams signed up to compete for a Bid to the National Championships. Admission for fans/spectators is \$5 per day. We will also offer a two-day pass on Saturday for \$10.

Wave Assignments (FINAL) - As of March 15, 2011

AM Wave: 12u, 16u, 17u, 18u

PM Wave: 13u, 14u, 15u

Team Check-In Information:

Date: Friday, April 8, 2011

Location: Double Tree Resort (Host Hotel)

Time: 7:00pm to 10:00pm



IMPORTANT: Bring Notarized Medical Release Forms for every player participating in the Bid Championships! Also, all players and coaches are required to have a copy of their USAV membership card and/or photo ID for roster checks.

OTHER EVENT INFORMATION

This year, we have teamed up with **Orlando Convention** to help you make the most of your time in Orlando. Available discounts include restaurants, golf, attractions, nightlife, shopping and much more. Each listing offers detailed information and discount coupons that can be printed. They can also make your dinner reservation and book your group dinner party or event.



Just click on the golden ticket to:

- *Purchase, discounted attraction tickets!*
- *Receive, discounts to fantastic restaurants and make dinner reservations!*
- *Enjoy complimentary cocktails at some of Orlando's best nightlife!*
- *Play great golf at a discount!*
- *Shop at Orlando's most exclusive stores and outlets with discounts!*
- *Rent cars and make use of other great services all with fantastic discounts!*

Be sure to check out the coupons available and call Orlando Convention at **(407) 248-8629** if they can help you in any way!



2011 USAVFL DIG THE BEACH SERIES TOUR STOP

Pack up those sweaters and dust off those swimsuits because it's time to hit the beach! The sun is hot and the action on the beach is going to be even hotter! The Florida Region together with Dig The Beach has put together another season of outdoor competition that you'll find nowhere else but here on our own Florida beaches!!

April 9-10 – Fort Lauderdale

May 21-22 – Siesta Key

June 4-5 – Fort Myers

June 11-12 – Siesta Key

June 25-26 – Fort Lauderdale

July 9-10 – Siesta Key

July 23-24 – Fort Lauderdale

September 10-11 – Miami Beach National Championships



For more information and to register, please visit www.digthebeach.com. You must have a current USAV membership to participate in the following tournaments. See you on the beach!!

FIESTA ON SIESTA KEY

Fiesta on Siesta Key

The **Fiesta on Siesta Key** College Club Championships will be held **April 16-17** in Siesta Key. This is the largest collegiate sand volleyball tournament around with over 20 teams scheduled to compete. One of those teams competing will be the University of Florida. They are ranked #1 in both the AVCA and *Volleyball Magazine* polls. Other noteworthy Florida schools scheduled to compete include USF, UCF & Miami. You won't want to miss it!!

For more information, visit www.fiestaonsiestakey.com.

OUTDOOR SUMMER MEMBERSHIP

The Florida Region has added a new **Outdoor Summer Membership** option, effective March-August. The Outdoor Summer Membership costs \$15 and is available for all Junior Boys & Girls who are interested in participating in any USAVFL Dig the Beach Events this summer (does not include National Competition). For more information on the memberships offered by the Florida Region, visit www.FloridaVolleyball.org.



GOLD SEAL CLUBS

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

- * **Black Creek VBC** – Jason Berry & Amy Walker
- * **Brandon Extreme VBC** – Shannon Talmadge
- * **Cape Coast VBC** – Connie Denaburg
- * **Central Florida VBC** – Carlos Pizarro & Gilda Grau
- * **Club Storm of Tampa** – Vicky Page & Dave Wolcott
- * **Doral VBA** – Leonardo Rivera
- * **Fort Myers Fusion** – Wynn DePasquale & Steve Harrell
- * **Gainesville Juniors** – Chad Davis
- * **Gold Coast VBC** – Lori Eaton
- * **Jacksonville Juniors Volleyball** – Adis Imamovic & Gail DeLisle
- * **Manatee Area VBC** – Nancy Cothron
- * **Miami Select VBC** – Charles Albano & Alvaro Sanchez
- * **Naples Juniors** – Rich Hubbard & Ann Fredette
- * **North Florida Fusion** – Doug Wohlstein & Casie McCalister
- * **North Florida Pirates** – Brian Smith
- * **North Florida VBA** – Rita Buck-Crockett
- * **NPower Volleyball** – AnnMarie Blair
- * **Orlando Gold VBC** – Tom Snodgrass & Ashley Schinzing
- * **Pinellas Heat Elite** – Terry and Barb Small
- * **Sham-Roxz VBC** – Joe Keenan
- * **Sonshine VBC** – Randy Stone
- * **South Brevard Spirit VBC** – Bonnie & Joe Priester
- * **South Florida Heat VB** – David Monk
- * **St. Augustine Volleyball Association** – Taylor Mott
- * **St. Pete VBC** – Mark & Courtney Draper
- * **Suncoast VBC** – Jeff Horr & Scott Montgomery
- * **Synergy VBC** – Bryan Carver & Jessica Ballinger
- * **Tallahassee Jrs. VBC** – Latoya Washington
- * **Tampa Bay Raptors** – Madeilynann & Mark Mitchell
- * **Treasure Coast VBC** – Blair Wickstrom
- * **Tribe Volleyball** – Dean Barboza & Albert Sturgeon
- * **USA South Volleyball** – Landon Thomas
- * **Vision VBC** – Stephanie Wyatt & Melody Read
- * **West Pasco VBC** – Jason Kucera





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FLORIDA REGION AWARDS CEREMONY

The Florida Region Awards Ceremony will take place on May 6, 2011, at the [Double Tree Resort - International Drive](#). This is a time to recognize those that have gone above and beyond to make our Region better. Many thankless hours go into coaching a team, running a club, attending clinics, getting certified, planning events, and contributing to the sport of volleyball. The Guest Speak is David Benzel, creator of Growing Champions for Life. Buy your tickets online today at www.FloridaVolleyball.org.

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: David Benzel



GIRL'S JR. REGIONAL VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

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

We expect this year's event to be one of the largest yet with over 400 teams so keep in mind that all teams must register through AES by April 7th to be guaranteed a spot!

Wave Assignments (TENTATIVE) - As of Mar 30, 2011

Note: Waves will be finalized by April 15, 2011

AM Wave: 10u, 11u, 15O, 16O, 16C, 17O, 17C, 18u

PM Wave: 12u, 13O, 13C, 14O, 14C, 15C

Admission for fans/spectators is \$5 per day.

We will also offer a two-day pass on Saturday for \$10.

The host hotel will be the newly renovated Double Tree Resort on International Drive, located 1 mile from the playing site. Room rates for the Double Tree Resort are \$89. **NOTE: Our block expires on Apr 7, 2011!**

Visit www.FloridaVolleyball.org for more information on prices and event registration.





FCVL SPRING EXHIBITION & LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Four men's collegiate club teams competed at the first FCVL Spring Exhibition Tournament in Ft. Lauderdale on Mar. 19 & 20. FIU, UF, FSU & Miami Dade College competed amidst 180 junior girl's club teams at the Cloverleaf Tournament hosted at the Broward County Convention Center. UF ended up taking home the gold after defeating FIU, but not before drawing in hundreds of spectators and fans.



The FCVL Men's College Club

Championships were held the next weekend where 5 collegiate club teams battled it out in a one-day event at UCF. The results are as follows: 1st - UCF, 2nd - UF, 3rd - UM, 4th - USF, 5th - FGCU, 5th - UF B.

"This will happen again," said Steve Bishop about the tournament's future. "It will have to

wait until next season because indoor volleyball is almost complete with the NCVF Championships in a few weeks, but we will definitely be having more of these".

The 2011 NCVF Championships will be held April 7-9 in Houston. The NCVF has attracted a record, 336 teams slated to compete in nine divisions: five for the men and four for the women. The growth within the NCVF and the continual support that regions have established are prime examples of an increase in popularity of collegiate club volleyball and men's volleyball in particular.

For more information on the NCVF Championships, visit www.FloridaVolleyball.org.

2011 USA VOLLEYBALL FLORIDA REGION CALENDAR



You can now order your 2011 USAV Florida Region Calendar!! The calendar features Florida Region members playing indoor, beach and grass volleyball. Devoted to Florida Volleyball, the calendar includes full color, high resolution photos and sells for a new low price of **\$10** (plus S&H). All calendar orders will be shipped out within 2 business days. Proceeds support the Florida Region Scholarship Funds.

**** Order yours online today-Limited Quantity! ****



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MEMBERSHIP COUNT UPDATE

Our current membership count as of April 1st, 2011 is **9,310** 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 in the Florida Region.

REGION INFORMATION

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Shanon Lewis, Asst. Commissioner
Donna Beasley, Secretary/Treasurer
Mary Andrew, Indoor Chair
Kendra Vanzwieten, Outdoor Chair
Darin Clark, Official's Chair

Staff:

Steve Bishop, Exec. Director/President
Vacant, Registrar
Vacant, 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

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



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