



FloridaVolleyball.org
Vol-eNews
 The official source for Florida volleyball news!



THE SILVER EDITION

October 2011: ISSUE 25

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WELCOME NOTE FROM THE COMMISSIONER



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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



CLUB HIGHLIGHT – SUNCOAST 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 **Jeff Horr** and **Suncoast Volleyball Club** will be highlighted.

Q: Tell us how you got started in volleyball.

A: My passion for volleyball began in 1993, while student teaching. As a student teacher at Geneseo Central High, I served as the Assistant Volleyball coach.

After graduating from college and upon accepting my first teaching position, I took on the position of Middle School Volleyball Coach. A few years later moved up the ladder to Head Varsity Volleyball Coach.

I first began coaching club in 1997 and branched off on my own in 2005 to start up a competitive youth volleyball program. After a few years, we branched out to the high school program at the requests of our parents.



Q: How long have you been coaching volleyball?

A: 17 years

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

A: My biggest accomplishment is not any specific win, trophy or qualifying event. Rather, my biggest accomplishments are the relationships that I have developed with my coaches, parents, athletes, officials, and other people in the volleyball community.

Q: What are all the job titles you currently hold? How do you manage all of those responsibilities?

A: At Suncoast Volleyball Club, I am Club Director, Youth Coordinator and 13 National Head Coach. In addition, I am the Physical Education Teacher, Physical Education Department Head, and JV Volleyball Coach at the Out-of-Door Academy. However, the most important job title I have is husband and father to two and three year old children.

I manage these responsibilities by surrounding myself with a strong supporting cast. Over the last 6 years, many people have assumed leadership in our club, which has enabled us to grow without sacrificing the quality of our programs.



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

A: Our inaugural year was 2005, six years ago. We started with four teams and over the years have grown to 16 teams.

Q: What is your opinion on the growth of volleyball throughout the years, especially with the transition of sand volleyball becoming a college sport?

A: The growth of volleyball is exciting. The expansion of Sand Volleyball as a collegiate opportunity offers young women another means of taking their game to the next level and another opportunity for financial assistance.

Q: Does your club offer beach volleyball? If not, does it plan to add it in the future?

A: While we do not have a beach program, we have several coaches that provide beach training, with several of our athletes accomplishing great things this past summer.

In 2012, we plan to aggressively pursue a full-blown beach program to compliment our indoor program and assist those seeking college opportunities playing sand volleyball.

Q: Tell us about your “Volley Totz” program. What could the Florida Region do to better promote youth volleyball?

A: Our program is based on John Sample’s Volley Totz Program, which our coaches attended last May. We have started small to help us learn what works best for this age group. Currently we have 12 girls in our Totz program and the program continues to grow. We have received excellent feedback from parents and Totz. We look to expand our Totz program in the near future.

Our Volley Totz program is a blend of various skills necessary in volleyball. It mixes volleyball-related skills and movements and incorporates physical fitness into the program as well. Besides learning the fundamental skills of volleyball, the Totz participate in an obstacle course, scooter races and other fun conditioning activities.

The Florida Region could help by providing coaching clinics specifically geared towards children ages 3-8.



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

A: I feel we have a great balance between competitiveness and having fun. While we are a competitive volleyball club, we try to be a club that is about more than just volleyball. We have a great sense of community and family. Our club has been blessed with great parents, athletes and coaches.

We have always had a strong commitment towards our youth programs (10/12/13/14) and this has made for a nice transition for our athletes into our highly competitive high school program. Athletes that start with us - stay with us.

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

A: I look to the Florida Region for their continued leadership and more specifically, helping clubs to keep the cost of playing volleyball down without a loss in programs.

I look forward to more Florida Regional tournaments, perhaps in the Sarasota area.

I look forward to possibly, one day, having district championship tournaments, with the winners moving on to a state championship.

*Thanks Jeff for participating in the Club Highlight. The Florida Region wishes you and your club success in the 2011/2012 season! Stay tuned for next month's Club Highlight to learn about **Latoya Washington and Tallahassee Jrs. Volleyball Club.***

JAB ELECTION RESULTS

JAB Election results are confirmed. Congratulations to **Sam Skelton (Palm Beach Jrs.) & Rita Crockett (Rita Crockett Academy)**!

JAB ELECTION RESULTS:

Sam Skelton - 30 Votes

Rita Crockett - 23 Votes

Jessica Lamm - 9 Votes

Latoya Washington - 7 Votes

Tim Harris - 7 Votes

Eric Praetorius - 5 Votes

Allan Rubenstein - 4 Votes

John Babbitt - 3 Votes

Max Lacombe - 2 Votes

Please submit any questions about the election to vote@floridavolleyball.org.



PROFESSIONAL VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE – TEAM FLORIDA WAVE

We are excited to announce the launch of the **Florida Region's FIRST Women's Indoor Semi-Pro Volleyball Team!** The Board of Directors has approved partial funding for this endeavor and you will have a chance to be a part of history by attending the first **Team Florida Wave** tryout on December 9 & 10 in Orlando, FL. The tryout is in conjunction with our annual Education Weekend. (Stay tuned for more info on location and times!)

Post collegiate athletes will be given primary consideration; however, any athlete that has graduated high school and did not play volleyball in college may attend the tryout. NOTE: Athletes currently participating on a college volleyball team are not eligible to attend the tryout.

In the first year the season will begin in January, 2012, and extend through May, 2012, playing in several exhibition matches and a league championship. Athletes will be expected to attend practice twice a month in the Central Florida area.

Team Florida Wave will participate in the USAV Semi-Pro Volleyball League and will compete against women's college teams, Puerto Rico and teams across the potential league from California, Colorado, Texas, Wisconsin, Iowa, Utah and Illinois.



against women's pro teams from other semi-pro country. Other teams will come from Arizona, Ohio, Minnesota,

Team Florida Wave will also have the opportunity to compete at juniors events in exhibition matches and while there will be able to sign autographs and take pictures with the junior teams.

Other opportunities and benefits include:

- Playing under the direction of Nick Cheronis – former assistant coach for UF
- Outfitted by the official apparel partner
- Lodging, airfare & meal costs covered when representing team
- Percentage split of prize money won
- Featured as an indoor pro volleyball player with the Professional Volleyball League (PVL)
- Traveling across the U.S.

If you have any questions concerning Team Florida Wave, please contact Krissy McKane @ Krissy@floridavolleyball.org.



USAV RULE CHANGE

There is a new rule change that will affect all USAV clubs in the 2011/2012 season: there can be up to two (2) Liberos on each roster. Please see the specific wording below taken directly from the [USA Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations](#).

19.1.1 Each team has the right to designate from the list of players up to two (2) specialized defensive players: Liberos.

19.1.2 All Liberos must be recorded on the score sheet before the match in the special lines reserved for this.

19.1.3 One Libero designated by the coach before the start of the match will be the starting Libero. The Libero on court is the Acting Libero. If there is another Libero, he/she will act as the second Libero.

19.1.4 Only one Libero may be on court at any time.

19.1.5 The Libero cannot be either team captain or game captain at the same time as performing the Libero function.

In addition, the Florida Region has voted to institute a new rule change allowing Liberos to serve in the 2011/2012 season.

If you have any questions regarding the new rule changes, please contact the Official's Coordinator, [Sue Wainio-Oato](#).

TIMEOUT NEWS BULLETIN



Take a look at our first junior news bulletin called **TIME OUT!** This bulletin was created to keep our athletes, coaches and parents updated on the *hot topics* for each month. We will be emailing you a copy each month as well as posting it on the Florida Region website. We hope you enjoy the first edition of **TIME OUT!**

[**CLICK HERE TO READ THE LATEST ISSUE!**](#)



GIRL'S JUNIOR CLUB TRYOUT DATES

This year, the earliest date for girl's junior tryouts (ages 10U – 14U) is Thursday, **September 1st**. The earliest date for girl's junior tryouts (ages 15U – 18U) is Sunday, **November 20th**. Any club found to be holding tryouts prior to these dates will be subject to fines and/or penalties! Please make sure that you sanction your USAV tryouts at least 30 days in advance so it can receive an event sanction number and a USAV certificate of insurance. Please contact **Steve Benson**, Events Manager, @ SBenson@FloridaVolleyball.org if you have any questions.

IMPORTANT REGION EVENT DATES

Grass Volleyball Challenge Event, October 22

- o Winter Springs, FL
- o More info coming soon!

Grass Volleyball Challenge Event, November 12

- o Fort Myers, FL
- o More info coming soon!

Coaches and Official's Education Weekend, December 9-11

- o Location: TBD
- o IMPACT/CAP I & II/Beach IMPACT/BCAP
- o Official's Training Clinic

2012 Girls' Jr. Regional Qualifier, April 28-29

- o Orange County Convention Center – Orlando, FL
- o Teams wanting to compete for a national bid

2012 Regional Awards Ceremony, May 18

- o Double Tree Resort – Orlando, FL

2012 Girls' Jr. Regional Volleyball Championships, May 19-20

- o Orange County Convention Center – Orlando, FL

2012 Boys' Jr. Regional Volleyball Championships, June 9-10

- o Location: TBD
- o

To view the 2012 Indoor Tournament/Event Schedule [Click Here!](#) If you have any questions, please contact Steve Benson @ sbenson@floridavolleyball.org.



2012 CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS

We've received some great volleyball photos but we still need a few more to finish up the calendar! Please send in your best indoor volleyball pictures, as well as a photo supporting breast cancer awareness to use for the month of October. You can submit your photos to Krissy@FloridaVolleyball.org. (Please submit high resolution photos only.)

****The deadline to submit your photos is October 15!****

USAV MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

- Lakeland setter, **Alex Taylor**, was named the **AVCA Player of the Week** on Sept. 19. The AVCA, or American Volleyball Coaches Association, only picks one athlete per week for the entire state. Taylor has 193 assists in nine games played for Lakeland (7-2) and is averaging 9.65 assists per game. She also has 63 digs, seven kills and seven aces.
- **Foluke Akinradewo** from Plantation, FL, was honored as part of The U.S. Women's National Volleyball Team when they were selected as USA Today's Athletes of the Week ([click here for USA Today article](#)) after the team won its sixth **NORCECA Women's Continental Championship**.
- Beach player, **Mark Vanzwieten** from Pompano Beach, FL, has been nominated by USAV to represent the United States at the **2011 Pan American Games** on Oct. 16-22 in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.
- Congratulations to the **PrepVolleyball Top Senior Aces: Jordan Burgess** (3rd), **Sarah Burrington** (15th) and **Mackenzie Dagostino** (49th) in the 2012 recruiting class.
- North Florida Volleyball Academy standout and Chiles High School Senior, **Blyss Harkness**, has committed to the **Florida State University Sand Volleyball Team**. Congratulations!
- Former OVA Libero, Freshman **Madison Monserez**, shows her defensive skills for the **UF Gators** with 46 digs and two service aces in 35 sets.



If you or someone you know is making headlines, please let us know by contacting Krissy@FloridaVolleyball.org.
You could see your name in the next issue of Vol-eNews!

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

The **Spectator/Fan Membership** option is available for \$25 and includes a full year, NON-PLAYING membership with secondary insurance, entrance into all Florida Region hosted tournaments and a USAV Florida Region gift. This membership option is ideal for those members that plan on attending more than one USAV Event this year.

There is a new **FREE** membership for all youth who are 8 years old and under. This is a limited membership and must be upgraded to play in any qualifier or national competition. If you have any questions, please contact MSisser@FloridaVolleyball.org.



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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL REMINDER

It's that time again! Membership Renewal time is here for all current and future USAV members. You will notice on your membership cards that it expires October 31st, 2011. You can now renew your membership by visiting our website and logging into your account. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at (352)742-0080 or MSisser@FloridaVolleyball.org.

MEMBERSHIP COUNT UPDATE

Please let others in your area know about the playing, coaching, and officiating opportunities offered by USA Volleyball in the Florida Region. We met and last year's goal of 10,000 members and look forward to meeting our new goal of 12,000 members!

REGION INFORMATION

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



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