



FloridaVolleyball.org

# Vol-eNews

The official source for Florida volleyball news!



## September 2013: ISSUE 48

### CONTENTS:

- 🏐 Welcome Note from the Commissioner .....1
- 🏐 Letter from the Executive Director .....2
- 🏐 Club Highlight –Toreros Volleyball Club .....3
- 🏐 Fall League Volleyball Championships .....5
- 🏐 Annual Jr. Forum Meetings .....5
- 🏐 2012/2013 Florida Region Highlights .....6
- 🏐 Girls’ Junior Club Tryout Dates .....8
- 🏐 Florida Volleyball Festival – Daytona Beach, FL .....8
- 🏐 Florida Volleyball In The News .....9
- 🏐 Update From The Commissioner – Mary Andrew .....9
- 🏐 USAV Membership Renewal .....9
- 🏐 Membership Count Update .....10

### WELCOME NOTE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

The fall and winter seasons are upon us – boy the summer went fast! I am looking forward to our newest region event, the Fall Championships for teams under 14 years old. For all of those participating in fall mini-club, this is a great place to showcase your teams in an inexpensive one day quality Championship Event. We have offered inexpensive memberships for players wishing to participate in this event so check the web page and get your team registered. I know the staff has some great promotions planned for this event.

The high school season is well under way and we wish good health and good luck to all of our member players and coaches who are competing this fall.

Our region office is also preparing for the upcoming USAV competitive season. With so many of our region teams qualifying last season, it will be exciting to watch as all of the clubs work hard to provide a quality, enjoyable playing and competitive season for everyone. As with all sports and all seasons, there will be some changes on the horizon. We will be sending the forthcoming changes and the standard policies and procedures to the clubs through the upcoming forums and the new club information packet. Check out all the dates and information on the web page.

Good health and good luck to everyone as we begin our new competitive year! Please feel free to contact us with your suggestions and concerns at any time. Thanks for making the Florida Region the best in the USA!

Regards,

**Mary Andrew**  
Florida Region Commissioner



## LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome to September 2013!

The beach is closed for the season and indoor gyms across the state are now open for business. With high school and college court volleyball in full swing, your Florida Region staff is very busy finalizing plans for the 2013/2014 USAV indoor schedule of events for adults, juniors, coaches, and officials.

As usual, with progress comes change. We have a few staff changes to announce as we head into September:

- **Steve Benson** – Steve has transitioned to a new role as Sport Development Manager and will be responsible for helping the Florida Region continue to grow all areas of our sport along with overseeing our growing professional and HP programs. You can expect to see some new initiatives in the coming months as Steve assumes his new role.
- **Heather Cormier** – Heather has transitioned from Events Coordinator-Outdoor to Events Coordinator-Indoor and will be the primary point of contact for all indoor events. In her two years of service, Heather has been a great asset to our organization and we anticipate great things from her in her new role.
- **Krissy McKane** – Krissy will be departing later this month to pursue other opportunities. She has helped us through a strong period of growth, served as the editor of our Vol-eNews newsletter, and was instrumental in the success of our inaugural Florida WAVE pro teams. We wish her well in her future endeavors. She will be missed!

With the upcoming vacancy, we will be replacing our Marketing Coordinator with an Events Coordinator-Outdoor to help us manage the ever growing list of outdoor events that are taking place in the Florida Region. Additionally, we have an opening for an Administrative Intern in the Region Office to assist with administrative logistics and learn how a sports company functions. Information on these job openings is available on our Florida Region website or by contacting our Office Manager, Michele Sisser.

We look forward to a great 2013/2014 season and we welcome your comments and feedback to help us along the way.

We'll see you on the court very soon,

**Steve Bishop**, Executive Director  
Florida Region of USA Volleyball

E-Mail: [steve@floridavolleyball.org](mailto:steve@floridavolleyball.org)



[www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org)



### CLUB HIGHLIGHT – TOREROS 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 **Pedro Davilla** and **Toreros Volleyball Club** will be highlighted.

#### **Q: Tell us how you got started in Volleyball?**

**A:** We are originally from Puerto Rico, as everyone knows, volleyball is one of the most popular, intense and passionate sports played in Puerto Rico. I was introduced to the game at an early age and wanting to fit in the “Cool” crowd, back in the late 70’s I started playing at my school’s elementary team (mini team). I continued to play club and school volleyball throughout my senior year in high school. In the late 80’s I played four years in college for the Interamerican University. Those experiences as a player lead me to develop fervor for coaching.

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

**A:** I have been coaching volleyball for 25 years. In 1989 I held my first varsity high school and club head coach positions. From that point on my coaching path has guided me to instruct and coach at all levels of the game, from mini volleyball at club to University of Puerto Rico, professional leagues at Puerto Rico and UNICAJA Armeria in Spain, and head coach for the Puerto Rico’s Youth National Team.

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

**A:** Presently I am the Head Coach for Winter Park High School’s Boys program, only boys coach at Winter Park that bring the boys to win District, Regional’s and take them to State Tournament. In addition I am the Head Coach at Celebration High School’s Ladies Program. Last but not least, I am the Technical Director for Toreros Volleyball Academy.

Additionally, I am the former Head Coach at Bishop Moore High School, Longwood Volleyball Club and OVA/Gold Volleyball Club. I was voted the Best Boys Volleyball Coach for Orange County and Best Girls Volleyball Coach in Osceola County in 2012.

Juggling various hats simultaneously can be challenging but all three have a common final goal - the growth of volleyball in Florida at the youth level. That common goal helps organize and manage action plans, which makes it simple.

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

**A:** In the USA, my biggest coaching achievement is winning the 1999 16’s & under USA Volleyball Boys Junior National Championships. At international level is winning a Gold Medal at the NORCECA Junior Championships.



At college level is winning a Conference Championship for the University of Puerto Rico, Carolina Campus. One of the biggest satisfaction as a coach is watching my former players become coaches, guide high school and club players to continue their playing career to college and for some of them to the professional level.

**Q: What is your opinion on the growth of boys' volleyball throughout the years?**

**A:** The growth of boys' volleyball in Florida has a steady pace since the late 90's. In order to continue growing we need to have more schools sponsoring boys' volleyball programs we need more counties in the state sanctioning high school volleyball. The only way this is going to happen is if we approach and submit petitions to each individual county school board to sponsor boys' volleyball. Once we have the majority of counties sponsoring boys' volleyball at the high school level, we can focus on getting the boys' volleyball at the middle school level. When boys' volleyball is solidly establish in middle and high school, more boys will get interested to play in the region. We would put ourselves in a better position to compete against the top clubs in the nation.

**Q: What are your future plans with your club teams?**

**A:** Our future plans with our club teams are to maximize the opportunity to attend the USAV National Tournament in all age divisions and be impact teams in Florida.

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

**A:** We are the most passionate players and consistently the most competitive 14s & under boys teams for past two seasons.

**Q: Do you recall any memorable stories with Toreros Volleyball Academy?**

**A:** Definitely has to be when on our very first year of opening the Academy we took our Boys 14U to participate at the Florida Bid Tournament in Daytona and finished in second place. To make this experience even better my oldest son Tristan played with this team and I got the opportunity to teach, coach and celebrate with my son, such a big accomplishment not only for the academy and team but also for my family.

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

**A:** Our club success comes from the players' commitment to work hard to become better volleyball players, it comes from the trust players and parents put on our coaching staff, from a great administration staff and from our coaching staff dedication and experience.



# Vol-eNews FloridaVolleyball.org

The official source for Florida volleyball news!



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

**A:** I look forward for Florida Region to continue growing, expanding and exposing the game of volleyball focusing in the younger ages adapting a youth program similar to the USTA reaching out to our youth at school and community level.

*Thanks Pedro for participating in the Club Highlight. The Florida Region wishes you and your club success in the 2013/2014 season! Stay tuned for next month's Club Highlight to learn about **Manh Duong** and **Rivers Volleyball Club!***

## FALL LEAGUE VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Event:** 2013 USAV Fall League Volleyball Championships

**Age Divisions:** 8u/10u/11u/12u/13u/14u

**Date:** Oct 26, 2013

**Location:** The Big House Sports Complex

**Address:** 1544 Lane Park Cutoff Rd., Tavares, FL 32778

**Team Fee:** \$150 by Oct 1, \$200 After

**# of Courts/Teams:** 12-16 courts/48-64 teams

**Deadline to Register:** Friday, Oct 11, 2013 @ 5pm!



## ANNUAL JR. FORUM MEETINGS

Beginning in 2013, girl's indoor jr. club directors will no longer be required to attend an annual jr. forum meeting **unless you were a new club director in the 2012/2013 season and did not attend a district jr. forum meeting in August of 2012 (these club directors are required to attend the jr. forum meeting in November 2013).** Also, any new club director(s) of any club, no matter how many years the club has been active, must attend the jr. forum meeting in November 2013. The format of the new meetings has been changed to an educational/best practices format. The Florida Region staff will now prepare an annual written update and distribute that to all clubs via email and on this page of the region website. Note: Clubs that are required to attend and do not will incur a \$500 fine and will not be recognized as a USAV club in good standing until the fine has been paid in full. This is a standing mandate from the Florida Region Board of Directors.



### SCHEDULE

**Nov. 2, 2013**

West Palm Beach (Exact Location TBA)

Time: 9a to 4p

**Nov. 3, 2013**

Ocala, FL (Exact Location TBA)

Time: 9a to 4p

### SESSIONS AVAILABLE

- New Club Director Meeting
- Club Admin Training
- AES/WebPoint Training
- Branding/Marketing/Promotions
- Bookkeeping/Accounting
- Risk Management
- Grass Roots Programming
- IMPACT Coaching Clinic



## 2012/2013 FLORIDA REGION HIGHLIGHTS

### MEMBERSHIP & OPERATIONS

- Presented 40 awards and \$7,500 (\$500 donated by Florida Hand Therapy & Rehab) in scholarships to H.S Seniors at the 2013 Florida Region Awards Ceremony in April
  - **Sinjin Smith** served as the Guest Speaker of the event
- Monthly Newsletter (Vol-eNews), as of Oct 2013, in its 50th issue
- Sanctioned 190 events with 43 of those events managed by Region Staff
- Launched an intern program to assist the events department
- Florida Region Staff Tenure
  - **Steve Bishop** (Executive Director) – 8 years
  - **Michele Sisser** (Registrar/Office Manager) – 2 years
  - **Steve Benson** (Events Manager) – 2 years
  - **Heather Cormier** (Events Coordinator) – 1 year
  - **Krissy McKane** (Marketing Coordinator) – 3 years
  - **Sue Wainio-Oato** (Officials Coordinator) – 2 years

### EDUCATION

- Annual Education Weekend offering IMPACT, CAP I, CAP II, Beach IMPACT, BCAP, National and Regional Officials Clinics held in January
- 17 Region Indoor IMPACT Courses offered around the state of Florida
  - Trained over 40 coaches
- 3 Regional Beach Coaching Clinics offered around the state of Florida
  - Trained over 15 coaches

### INDOOR

- Sent a delegation of 7 teams (84 athletes, 21 coaches, & 5 staff) to Ft. Lauderdale, FL for the 2013 USA Indoor HP Championships in July
  - Team Florida Girls' National Select (GNS) went undefeated with a record of 8-0 & won a Gold Medal, led by head coach **Isaac Raphael** (Bethune-Cookman University)
  - Team Florida Boys' International Youth (BIY) won a Bronze Medal, led by head coach **Sergio Rios** (Warner University); this marks the first time a medal has been won by any Team Florida boys' team since their addition to the HP Program in 2007
- ASICS sponsored over \$73,000 in apparel to outfit the entire HP Delegation; ASICS has been the Official Outfitter of the Indoor HP All-Star Program since 2006
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Volleyball branded all of the apparel and gear – an \$11,000 contribution
- **Steve Bishop** was elected by his constituents in Louisville, KY, as the first president of the Premier Volleyball League (PVL)



# Vol-eNews

FloridaVolleyball.org  
The official source for Florida volleyball news!



- Launched Florida's first men's indoor pro team (Florida WAVE), led by Head Coach **Steve Benson**, and won the Gold Medal and the \$6,000 prize purse at the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Men's PVL Championships in Reno, NV in June
- The Men's Florida WAVE won the 85<sup>th</sup> Men's US Open National Championships in Louisville, KY in May
- The Women's Florida WAVE, led by Head Coach **Nick Cheronis**, won the Silver Medal and the \$6,500 prize purse at the 2013 Women's PVL Championships in Louisville, KY in May
- ASICS sponsored over \$33,000 in apparel to outfit both the men's & women's Florida Wave teams
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Volleyball branded all of the apparel donating over \$3,900 in branding services
- 38 teams participated in the Florida Region Boys' Jr. Regional Volleyball Championships at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL
- The Girls' Jr. Regional Qualifier hosted 333 teams in a 2 day event at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando where 30 teams were awarded bids
- The Girls' Jr. Regional Volleyball Championships hosted 309 teams in a 2 day event at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL
- Florida Region Club Directors **Connie Denaburg** (Cape Coast VBC) & **Rich Hubbard** (Naples Juniors) were inducted into the Florida Region Hall of Fame
- A record number of Florida teams (50 girls teams and 19 boys teams) attended the 2013 USAV Junior National Championships
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place Finishes: OVA 11 Asics (11 Patriot), Tribe 13 Rox (13 National), Ocala Power 16 Rox (16 National)
- **Danny Mahy**, USA South Coach and Assistant Coach at Florida Gulf Coast University, was named to the "Thirty Under 30" list as announced by the AVCA for the second time in 3 years
- The Indoor Region Ranking system boasts a 93.1% accuracy rate using the new ranking system implemented in 2011

## OUTDOOR

- Managed the largest beach volleyball tour in the country, Dig the Beach
- Approximately 2400 teams signed up over the course of 8 tour stops this past summer
- SSOVA, a USAV affiliate tour, provided 8 more playing opportunities for adults & juniors around the state of Florida
- Launched the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Rox Florida Beach HP All-Star Championships in Deerfield Beach, FL
  - 40 Florida boys & girls teams attended



# Vol-eNews

FloridaVolleyball.org  
The official source for Florida volleyball news!



- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Finishes: 12U – **Madison Bobes & Paige Duffack**, 14U – **Christine Jarman & Ava Richards**, 16U – **Charlotte Earnhart & Nikki Esposito**, 18U – **Macie Tendrich & Beth Shoaff**, Boys – **Devin Decker & Brandon Lozano**
- Jr. King & Queen of the Beach Results: **Queens** - 12U – **Mariah Walker**, 14U – **Emma Strong**, 16U – **Courtney Krause**, 18U – **Kaylee Anderson**, **Kings** - 16U – **Ryan Dunnington**, 18U – **Jake Cibula**
- Colleges in attendance: FIU, FAU, & Stetson
- Rox Volleyball outfitted the entire Beach HP delegation to the tune of over \$6,800
- Florida Region Member **Brooke Sweat** won a Bronze Medal at the FIVB Berlin Grand Slam in Germany
- Presented 20 junior beach athletes with High Point Awards for their participation in the 2013 Rox Jr. Series of the Florida DTB Tour.

## GIRLS' JUNIOR CLUB TRYOUT DATES

The earliest date that a USAV sanctioned tryout in the Florida Region may be held for junior female athletes, 15 years old & up, is **November 17th!** Any club found to be holding tryouts prior to this date 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. If you have any questions, please contact [SBenson@FloridaVolleyball.org](mailto:SBenson@FloridaVolleyball.org).

## FLORIDA VOLLEYBALL FESTIVAL – DAYTONA BEACH, FL

This year the Florida Region will be hosting the **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Florida Volleyball Festival** in Daytona Beach, FL **Jan 3-5, 2014**. The events included will be as follows:

- Boys Pre-Q Tournament
- Girls Club Cup Tournament
- Adult Friday Night Series
- FCVL College Club Tournament
- Florida Region Coaching Clinics
- Regional Official's Clinic
- National Official's Clinic
- Boys Team Florida HP Tryout
- Florida WAVE Pro VB Tryout (M&W)



[www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org)

*Stay tuned for more info!*



## FLORIDA VOLLEYBALL IN THE NEWS

- **Florida Atlantic University Athletics** named **Brooke Kohler** as head coach of its sand volleyball program
- **Bethune-Cookman University** Head Volleyball Coach **Isaac Raphael** announced today that **Brittany Williams** has joined the Lady Wildcat program as an assistant coach. Williams comes to B-CU after two seasons at **South Carolina State** and replaces **Kisya Killingsworth**, who has been named the Head Coach at **Delaware State**.

## UPDATE FROM THE COMMISSIONER – MARY ANDREW

**Congratulations to all of the participants and award winners of the summer beach tour!** It was a great summer with only a few rain and storm issues and the staff did a great job of keeping the beach tournaments on go under the few harsh weather situations. Also a great big congrats goes out to all the players who trained and competed in the Florida Region Beach HP Program. I was there to watch as our best youth beach players trained and competed for three days in Deerfield Beach. It was an awesome experience.

The weekend after the HP Beach Program the Florida Region hosted the USA Indoor HP Championships in Ft. Lauderdale. This was a great event with two Florida Region Teams bringing home medals. One was a boys' team and one was a girls' team. The competition from international teams and USA teams was tough but all of the Florida Region teams had a good showing. Check the region web page for these details.

The region office is now preparing for the upcoming Fall Championships for all team under 14 years old as well as the Indoor Competitive season. USAV Membership registration is open on September 1st, but remember memberships from last season are good until October 31<sup>th</sup>. The forums have been moved to November and there will only be two of them for new club directors or those who have not attended the forums in the past two years. Experience directors will receive the region annual updates and new changes in a concise booklet from the region office.

Our region is striving to provide more opportunities to play our sport and to also streamline some of the paperwork issues of the past. Look for a new grass tour this winter and a change in the requirements for medical forms at the Regional Championships and the Regional Qualifier. We are listening to your suggestions and responding in ways to make volleyball more fun and more efficient for everyone.

## USAV MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

**September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013** marks the beginning of the 2013/2014 membership season for USA Volleyball. You can renew your USAV Membership by logging into your account and clicking "To Apply for Your Membership Click Here" located at the top of the screen. If you have any questions, please contact [Office@FloridaVolleyball.org](mailto:Office@FloridaVolleyball.org).



# Vol-eNews FloridaVolleyball.org

The official source for Florida volleyball news!



## MEMBERSHIP COUNT UPDATE

As of September 1, 2013, the Florida Region has **12,655** members. Thank you to all of you for supporting USA Volleyball...please let others in your area know about the playing, coaching, and officiating opportunities offered by USA Volleyball in the Florida Region.

## REGION INFORMATION

Florida Region of USA Volleyball, Inc.  
15010 US Highway 441  
Eustis, FL 32726

T: (352) 742-0080  
F: (352) 414-5304

E: [office@FloridaVolleyball.org](mailto:office@FloridaVolleyball.org)  
Web: [www.FloridaVolleyball.org](http://www.FloridaVolleyball.org)

### Board Members:

**Mary Andrew**, Commissioner  
**Doug Darling**, Asst. Commissioner  
**Donna Beasley**, Secretary/Treasurer  
**Sam Skelton**, Indoor Chair  
**Nancy Cothron**, Outdoor Chair  
**Darin Clark**, Official's Chair

### Staff:

**Steve Bishop**, Exec. Director/President  
**Steve Benson**, Events Manager  
**Michele Sisser**, Registrar/Office Mgr.  
**Krissy McKane**, Marketing Coordinator  
**Heather Cormier**, Events Coordinator  
**Sue Wainio-Oato**, Official's Coordinator

### Junior Admin Board (JAB) Representatives:

**Lori Eaton, Russel Williams, Rita Crockett, Carrie Prewitt**

## OFFICIAL FLORIDA REGION CORPORATE PARTNERS



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!



The Official Outfitter of the Team Florida Beach HP All-Star Program!

## OFFICIAL FLORIDA REGION BUSINESS PARTNERS

