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Carolina *Volleyball Review*

USA Volleyball believes that volleyball has so many positive things to offer those who participate. First, and most importantly, whether one is a gifted athlete or a recreational player, volleyball is FUN!

From the Top:

I want to welcome everyone to the 2015/2016 Carolina Region/USA Volleyball season! It is hard to believe that we are already at this point where the air is getting cooler and players are turning their attention back to the indoor game. I wish everyone good luck as you begin the process of selecting a club for the upcoming season. Some of you may already know which club you will participate with. Others are planning on trying out with multiple clubs and will make your selection later. Others, may still be searching for a club in your area. Whatever, your situation, the main key will be to pick a club where you can have FUN! This sport can be incredibly fun and rewarding in many ways. Choose the club/coach/teammates that can both bring out the best in you and foster a love of the game to last a lifetime. That has happened for those of us that have been involved with USA Volleyball for a long time, and I know it will happen for you.

The Region Board had a productive summer retreat. For the most part, there will not be a lot of changes that our members will notice. But, we hope that our desire to focus on Coaching Education over the next several years, will eventually impact all our coaches and players in a positive manner. Our hope is to offer more high-level coaching clinics, both through the USAV CAP Program and through our own Carolina Region Coaching Education Cadre that we plan to establish. Keep an eye out on our Coaches and Clinics section of the website for more as we develop our programs and offerings.



Good luck once again to all players and teams in the 2016 season. Hope to see you on the courts soon!

CEO Report

It is hard to believe we are approaching October already and another indoor Carolina Region season is around the corner! We are already accepting membership applications for the 2016 season and tournament directors are sending in their requests to host! It will be here before you know it!

We ended the 2015 season on another great note. Memberships grew once again as we ended with over 9000 members across all categories for the first time! We had over 680 teams playing in our tournaments, and the Junior Beach Tour was another great success. The game is growing in North Carolina, and we thank you for being a part of it!

The Board of Directors met in the early Summer to plan for next season and beyond. You should not see too many changes for the indoor season, but they did address the High Performance Program and Junior Beach Tour. See the article on

Page 7 for more on the HP Program. For the Junior Beach Tour, we will develop some written standards that hosts will need to agree to so that participants will have a better idea of what to expect when they play in a CR Junior Beach Tour event. We are also expecting at least one more of our Tour events to be a part of the USAV Junior Beach Tour in 2016!

Have a great 2016 season! Be sure to follow us on our social media outlets below to stay up to date with the Carolina Region!

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CarolinaRegionVB>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/CarolinaRegion>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/CarolinaRegion1>



Official Indoor Volleyball of the Carolina Region

Regional Achievements

Here's some accomplishments that Deserve Regional Recognition!

- **Julia Scoles**, Mooresville, (Carolina Juniors VBC) was selected for the USA Junior A1 National Training Team Program that trained at the High Performance Championships in Des Moines this summer.
- **Courtney Weber**, Charlotte, (Lake Norman VBC); **Rachel Budzinski**, Winston-Salem, (Piedmont VBC); **Zoe Dinkins**, Chapel Hill, (Triangle VBC); & **Quin Sutphin**, Fort Mill, (Carolina Union VBC) were selected for the USAV Youth National A2 Invitational Team Program training in Colorado Springs, CO.
- **Mackenzi Thornburg**, Timberlake, (NC Elite VBC); **Madison Crump**, Hickory, (Carolina Select VBC), **Hadden Lagarde**, Snow Camp, (Chapel Hill Area VBC), **Taylor Rowland**, Charlotte, (Lake Norman VBC), **Celeste Hall**, Cornelius, (Lake Norman VBC), **Lauren Janok**, Rougemont, (North Carolina Volleyball Academy), **Madison Dagenhart**, Statesville, (Sports Academy), & **Abigail Krueger**, Asheville, (Xcel Volleyball Performance) were selected for the USA Select National A2 Invitational Team Program training in Colorado Springs, CO.
- **Emily Ottley Barry**, **Eric Snyder** & **Paula Delano** received Carolina Region/USA Volleyball Prize packs from among all our Facebook Page fans! We randomly chose three followers to receive the Prize Packs after passing 2000 Page "Likes". Our next Prize pack level is at 2500 (2052 and counting). Go to our [Facebook page](#) today and "Like" us for a chance to win!

CONGRATULATIONS!

2015 Carolina Region Junior Beach Tour Championships

Mark Nalevanko, CR Beach Director

Congratulations to everyone that participated and an extra special congratulations to our 2015 Carolina Region Jr Beach Champions!

18U – Vanessa Richards/Brynn Carrick
16U – Sarah Gasper/Kara Adams
14U – Skylar Buckley/Logan Mosley
12U – Carson Elliott/Gracie Ballard

Full results from the event can be viewed at <http://www.usabeachranking.org/tournament.aspx?id=4030> .

We also recognized the following Carolina Region Junior Beach Tour season award winners:

Team of the Year (based on top 5 point-earning finishes as a team at Carolina Region Tour events):

18U - Raquel Rooney/Sarah Nacouzi
16U - Maddie Schider/Ellie Kohl
14U - Skylar Buckley/Logan Mosley
12U - Gracie Ballard/Carson Elliott

Defensive Players:

18U - Lauren Durham
16U - Sarah Gasper
14U - Jordan Gower
12U - Chase Teal

Offensive Players:

18U - Caitlyn Della
16U - Emily Durham
14U - Daniela MacDonald
12U - Riley Buckley

Congratulations again to all our winners. Thanks to all that participated in a CR Junior Beach Tour event in 2015. We currently have plans to standardize more tournament procedures and policies for Tour Events in 2016. We also anticipate at least one more North Carolina event being added to the USA Volleyball Junior Beach Tour! See you next year on the “Beach”!



Keep up with Carolina Region Beach Events and Link to Results

Be sure to “Like” our Facebook Pages!

www.carolinaregionvb.org/jrbeach

Recent Officials' Accomplishments

We are pleased to announce the newest Junior National Referees and National Scorer from the Carolina Region. Our Referees received their ratings (and Patch!) at the 2015 Girls' Junior National Championships in New Orleans, LA! National Scorers were rated during the Boys' Junior National Championships in Columbus, OH. Congratulations!

- * Aisha Boyd, Durham—Junior National
- * Joey Asis, Linwood—Junior National
- * Brian Webb, Kernersville—National Scorer



Aisha Boyd with CR Referee Chair, Ronnie Mutter



Joey Asis with Ronnie Mutter



Brian Webb with his new patch!



2015 Girls' Junior National Championships-New Orleans

Results for Carolina Region Teams

DIVISION	TEAM	FINISH
18 Open	Triangle 18 Black	34th of 36
18 National	CJV 18 Infinity	13th of 48
18 American	Brick City 18's Black	35th of 48
18 USA	Triangle 18 Blue	13th of 24
17 Open	Triangle 17 Black	15th of 36
16 National	Sandhills Lightning 16 Black	46th of 48
16 American	Apex Stars 16 Black	48th of 48
15 National	CJV 15 Blaze	43rd of 48
15 American	Lake Norman 15 Black	43rd of 48
14 National	CJV 14 Power	31st of 48
14 American	Lake Norman 14 Black	43rd of 48
13 National	Lake Norman 13 Black	43rd of 48
13 American	Sandhills Lightning 13 Black	46th of 48

2015 US Open Championships-Detroit, MI

Results for Carolina Region Teams

The Volley Llamas - Men's A—19th of 42



2015 Meritorious Service Award Winners

Each year, USA Volleyball presents Meritorious Service Awards to individuals and/or groups that provide outstanding contributions to the sport of volleyball across the country. Each Region is allowed to nominate and select up to five individuals or groups for this recognition each year. The Carolina Region is pleased to announce the following individuals as recipients of 2015 Robert L. Lindsay Meritorious Service Awards. All award recipients will be recognized in the 2016 USA Volleyball Guidebook. A listing of all previous winners of Carolina Region Meritorious Service Awards can be found on the Archives page on our website.



Greg Fletcher – Greg was a tireless supporter of volleyball in the Carolina Region for many years. He loved being a volleyball referee and would travel throughout North Carolina and the country to work. It was a rare weekend during the volleyball season that Greg couldn't be found refereeing. We lost Greg too early in 2014, but the Region is proud to honor Greg posthumously with a Meritorious Service Award.

Mike Spillman – Mike is the current President of the Carolina Region Board of Directors. He has served on the Board for many years, first as the Men's Player Representative and was elected President in 2012. Mike began his involvement with the Carolina Region as a Junior player, one of the earliest Junior Boys players in the Region. Mike has been passionate about promoting volleyball to Adults and Boys in particular.



Betsey Wells – Betsey worked in the Region Office for six years as the first paid Administrative Assistant. She aided countless parents and members with annual membership inquiries and tournament information. She was always a friendly voice on the line whose main goal was to help our membership. Betsey is also a volleyball parent, raising two daughters who played Carolina Region volleyball.

High Performance Program To see Different Focus in 2016

The Carolina Region Board of Directors came out of their summer retreat with the goal of providing more Coaching Education opportunities in the Carolina Region over the next several seasons. Over the last few seasons, the High Performance Program has seen a drop off of participation at the Player Clinics and in the number of athletes trying out for Travel Teams. This decline has impacted the level of the teams and led to the board wanting to redirect the focus of the program. The goal of the HP Program has always been to raise the level of play across the board in the Region, and the board feels the best way to do that is to provide more high-level training to all our coaches at the grass roots level. The Region hopes to improve Coaching Education opportunities by:

- ◆ Offering a USAV CAP Level 1 clinic during the 2015/2016 season
 - ◆ The Region is subsidizing 25% off initial CAP registration for CR members and CR Coaches will be eligible for another 45% rebate once they complete their certification AND give one local outreach clinic in their area.
- ◆ Offering a USAV CAP Level I/II clinic during the 2016/2017 season
- ◆ Developing a Coaching cadre made up of college coaches and CR Coaches that are already in the USAV National Pipeline. This cadre of coaches will be available to give coaching and playing clinics at the local level across the state.

We will announce details of the above programs on our website and Social Media as they are finalized. **NOTE:** Although the focus of the HP Program may be changing somewhat, we are not stating that Player Clinics will end or even that we won't form HP Travel Teams in the future. We plan to offer a limited number of player clinics in 2016 after the bulk of the Indoor season has completed and depending on the talent level that shows at those clinics, we may still put together travel teams. Regardless, once we begin building the Coaching Education opportunities in the Region, we will look at offering more Junior Player clinic opportunities as well.

2015 Junior Club Tryout Important Dates

Tryouts:

There will be TWO announced Girls' tryout periods that clubs are encouraged but not required to adopt. (1) The FIRST tryout period will begin on **Saturday October 24, 2015** for the following age groups: **U14, U13, and U12**. (2) The SECOND tryout period for the **U15, U16, U17, and U18** age groups will begin **Sunday, November 8, 2015** (after the North Carolina State Championships for public High Schools on November 7, 2015).

Signing Dates:

Players have the right to attend more than one club's tryouts. The Carolina Region **requires** that clubs adopt a signing date of **NINE DAYS (Nov. 2, 2015)** after the FIRST Tryout Period begins for the **U12, U13, and U14** age groups and **EIGHT DAYS (Nov. 16, 2015)** after the SECOND Tryout Period begins for the **U15, U16, U17, and U18** age groups. Clubs must hold an offer open to a player to join a particular team in the club or the club in general until the respective age group signing date. If a player commits by the signing date, clubs must honor their commitment or the club may be considered to have violated the RVA/USAV Code of Conduct. *Players may voluntarily commit to a club at any time following the club's tryouts, but should not be pressured to do so.* For tryouts held just before or after the signing date, clubs should give a minimum waiting period of seven days before requiring a player to commit to their club. The Carolina Region **requires** all clubs to use the Carolina Region *Letter of Commitment* when accepting players into their clubs. This form should not be sent to the Carolina Region, but kept on file with the club should any question arise about a player's commitment to a club or a club's commitment to a player.