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◦ April Issue | ◦ 2020

# Carolina Volleyball Review

## From the Top:

Jim Ross

*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!*



Wow! What a 2020 Carolina Region/USA Volleyball season! What started out with so much expectation, fun, and excitement, ended suddenly with a global pandemic unlike any we have ever experienced. The Carolina Region had to take the unprecedented action to cancel an entire regular

season tournament weekend and both of our Regional Championship Events weekends. We have also had to cancel events on our Junior Beach Tour through April 30 as of now. This was certainly not the way we envisioned this season going! We know there is disappointment in the sudden cancellation of the season. Our high school senior players, many of which have been playing Carolina Region for many seasons, do not get to end their careers on the court. New players to our organization do not get to experience the thrill of playing for a Regional Championship. National-level teams have lost opportunities to play in large Qualifiers or in front of college scouts. Beach players have seen the first month of the junior Beach Tour cancelled. No one could have foreseen an event like this. Ultimately, the safety and security of our players was paramount to these decisions. The Region and USA Volleyball made these difficult decisions to protect our members.

As this pandemic has progressed, it does appear our decisions were warranted.

Many clubs and facilities are hurting financially in these uncertain times. We want you to know, the Carolina Region is here for you. Please reach out to the region office if you are struggling financially due to the cancellations. We're gathering this information for USA Volleyball. Many NGB's are lobbying Congress to have Sports Organizations included in any relief legislation. The Youth sporting industry has a multi-billion dollar impact and we're hopeful Congress will recognize the pain these cancellations have caused. We will treat this information confidentially and be able to pass along any help we've been made aware of.

Stay safe this summer and we hope to see you next year for a FULL season of Carolina Region Volleyball!

### COVID-19 RESOURCES

[CDC Coronavirus Page](#)

[USAV Family Resources Page](#)

[Drills to do at Home](#)

# 2020 NC Volleyball Hall of Fame Inductee Announced

The North Carolina Hall of Fame is pleased to announce that Joe Sagula is the first person in the Coach category to be inducted into the Hall. Our 2020 Inductee is the current Head Coach at the University of North Carolina.

Due to the timing of the vote and the desire to have Coach Sagula recognized in front of his team, school administrators, and fans, he was officially inducted at the UNC Alumni Match on October 27, 2019.

Coach Sagula has been coaching for 40 seasons (30 at UNC), has 14 NCAA tournament appearances, 11 Conference titles, is a 9-time Conference Coach of the Year, and is in the top 15 in all-time NCAA Division 1 victories.

The Hall of Fame is also pleased to announce that the 2006 CJV 18 Slam team has been installed as the first team in the Hall's Court of Honor. CJV 18 Slam was the first CR junior team to win a National Championship by winning the 18 National Division at the 2006 USAV Junior National Championships.



The North Carolina Volleyball Hall of Fame was established in 2013 to honor those that have helped promote the sport of volleyball in the state. For more information on the Hall and these inductees, visit its page on the web—

<https://www.carolinaregionvb.org/nc-volleyball-hall-of-fame/>

## CEO Report Kevin Wendelboe



What started out as a record-breaking season has ended in a way none of us expected. We registered 915 Juniors teams this season (growth of 40 teams!). More than 9300 Juniors joined us to play this season (growth of 300+)! Tournaments were going well with inclement weather not an issue for the first time in several seasons. Then March arrived and a global pandemic none could have imagined swept the world. We were in a situation that we had never been in before and couldn't plan for. After much deliberation, the Board decided to cancel the March 14-15 weekends. Only a few days later, the Regional Championship weekends were cancelled. It turned out to be the right call, as the very next day USA Volleyball decided to cancel all USAV-sanctioned events across the entire country through the end of March (now extended to April 30). We appreciate the support and patience everyone has provided during these trying times. We had over 800 tournament entry refunds to process as a

result of these cancellations. Those have now been processed and sent out to all clubs.

This season will definitely cause us to rethink some things for future seasons. We'll be stronger as clubs and a region for going through this. We'll get through this together and rejoin on the courts soon.

Thanks for your continued support of volleyball in NC. This is a great sport for a lifetime!

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



## New Partnership Provides Good Info for Clubs and Athletes

The Carolina Region partnered with the America Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) this season to bring valuable tips and information to Clubs, Athletes, Coaches, and Parents. Each week this season, we have posted both an Educational and Recruiting Tip of the Week from the AVCA. Some examples of topics include: What makes D1, DII, DIII unique; Training the Mental Side of the Game; I Committed and the Coach Left. Now What?; Financial Aid Offers-Verbal Commitments; and many more.

We were able to hold a Coaches Panel for parents on February 28 that was well received. The AVCA has also provided an interactive map of all schools in the state and surrounding area. Check out the page on our website to view all the benefits of this relationship!

[AVCA/CR Educational & Recruiting Insights Page](#)

## Referee Accolades

Referees are essential to the smooth operation of our Volleyball tournaments. We grew by 40 teams this season, which means we need more referees to work our events. For the 2020 season, we have 189 officials on our roster including 54 new officials. Please thank an official the next time you see one at an event. These individuals are giving up a weekend to help kids enjoy the sport and it is often a thankless task. Below are recognition for our officials that have received new referee certifications this season.

### Junior Regionals

Rachel Ardekani  
Lauren Bedard  
Jordyn Bruno  
Vivian Camplin  
Ceci Carter  
Daniel Ellison  
Mia Fresina  
Sarah Harrington  
Sarah Heffner  
Grace Kim  
Brook Lankford  
Lorin Lathan  
Bre Martin  
Amanda Ress  
Rosalie Richey  
Kelsie Rouse  
Heather Spell  
Destiny Stewart  
Leah Travis

### Provisional 1

Reagan Avery  
Raymond Banner Jr  
Dallas Buckley  
Kevin Bumgarner  
Curtis Chalmers  
Lori Diggs  
Morgan Flores  
David Greenlee  
Emma Guentner  
Zia Hamilton  
Tracy Herring  
Trevor Hewitt  
Elly Hicks  
Janna Howell  
Randy Johnson  
Katherine Johns  
Ally Jones  
Duane Linnens  
Pa Lor  
McKenzie Miller  
Dawon Millwood  
Ricky Moore  
Shantel Moore  
McKenzie Norris  
Derek Nunn

### Erin O'Donnell

Raven Oates  
Owen Perkins  
Kaylin Privette  
Dustin Rhodes  
Madison Riggs  
Bailey Rose  
Kaitlin Sexton  
Jessica Sosa  
Hannah Stroot  
Michael Wallace  
Crystal Weeks  
Sherita Wells  
Morgan Wright

### Provisional 2

Jennifer Craft  
Kaleigh Craft  
Sherman Stinson

### Regional 1

Karen Ellis  
Mackaulie Prescott  
Vedat Yuce

### Regional 2

Ritchie Buffkin

# 2020 Junior Beach Tour

## Mark Nalevanko, CR Beach Director



Hard to believe but the 10th edition of the Carolina Region Jr Beach Tour has begun. We were able to get one event in before the Coronavirus crisis hit, and we're hopeful we will be able to get more events in this summer. The tour has grown immensely since its 1st year, which fielded a handful of events and a couple hundred teams. Now the tour annually has 30+ events from March to early August with 1200+ teams participating all across the state.

Some highlights for the upcoming tour season include:

- All tour events have **results entered in the [USAV Beach Ranking system](#)** with participants earning points in the process.
- **Open and AA divisions/bids per age division.** In order to better support the growth of interest in the sport, events featuring 2 divisions during registration or 2 playoff brackets for an age group (Open -aka Gold - and AA - aka Silver) will offer bids to top finishers in each of those sub-divisions for the regional championships. Additionally, some events may be categorized as Open or AA only tournaments. This is at the discretion of each tournament host based on their space and time restrictions in order to accommodate.
- **2 events on the tour** are classified as **Beach National Qualifiers (BNQ)**. Each BNQ will offer up to 4 bids per age division to the Open (top) division at the [National Beach Tour](#) Championships which will be held in Huntington Beach, CA over July 18-21.
  - ◊ [April 25-26 - Charlotte Open \(Now Cancelled due to Coronavirus\)](#)
  - ◊ [May 16-17 - Carolina Grand Slam \(Apex/Cary area\)](#)
- **Tour-wide use of Bracket Pal.** Based on feedback from participants and openness by the hosts, Bracket Pal will be used whenever possible for tournament registration and management by each of the tour hosts.
- **4 events (1 per sub-region) called Beach Regional Qualifiers/Premier Tour Events** that will offer bids to the top 3 teams (3<sup>rd</sup> place is contested) in each age division to the American Division for the girls and the Open Division for the boys at the National Beach Tour Championships. Additionally, the top 4 players in the Region per age group according to the National Beach Ranking system as of July 1st who do not have a bid to Nationals already, will be offered one for the Regional Open division.
- **[Regional championships](#)** on Sat, July 11 (Open bids only) and Sat, July 18 (AA bids with potential remaining space opened to non-bid teams on a first-come, first-serve basis)

[CLICK HERE FOR THE COMPLETE TOUR SCHEDULE](#)



We encourage all junior players from seasoned beach players to those just testing the sport out for the first time to get involved by participating in any of the events held across the region. You may find yourself hooked before you know it!