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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:

Five...Four...Three...Two...One...

As we celebrate the New Year we also kick off the official start to the 2017 volleyball season. Only two short weeks into the calendar year and we already have a couple events under our belt. This is a perfect example of the frenzied pace required in order to satisfy the unprecedented demand for Carolina Region events. We are very fortunate to have such passionate leadership throughout our region. So if given the opportunity, please take the time to thank your coaches, club directors, officials, board members, regional staff and the countless parent volunteers for their services. Without your involvement, we have no region. You are truly what makes our association a success.

What are your volleyball resolutions for 2017? Work on fundamentals? Lead by

example? Win a championship? Be a better teammate? Try to pay attention when calling lines? Whatever your goals are for this year I wish you success. I personally plan on attending more tournaments. I have been amazed by the overall quality of play in our region and look forward to seeing volleyball's future stars develop their talents as they continue their competitive careers. If you see me, please feel free to say hello. I'll be "that parent" trying to keep their 3-year old off the court.



Here's to another fun, safe and successful volleyball season!!!



A Quick Note from the Ref Stand Marilyn Thompson, Officials Program Director

A new season is upon us and I am hoping it is your best one ever. I would like to make a few suggestions that will make each tournament a better experience for teams and officials.

Keeping score is a very important job. It can affect the game tremendously and I hope that all of you will take it seriously. There are modules online (volleyballreftraining.com) that you can study. Please practice so scoring does not affect the outcome of a set.

We are training many 16's-18's player officials to work on the weekends they are not participating. If you enjoy being an

official, please remember next year that we start training in November.

Work with the adult official to officiate the game correctly so other teams will be glad to see your team as the work team. All of you have had the situation of not enjoying the experience when certain teams are the work team. We do not want any of those experiences in 2017!

I truly hope that all of you will have a great experience this year. If you have trouble with any officiating team or are interested in becoming a professional referee, please feel free to let me know. My email address is officials@carolinaregionvb.org.

Regional Achievements

Here's some accomplishments that Deserve Regional Recognition!

- **Aisha Boyd (Durham)** was selected as the Recipient of the 2016 Bronze Whistle Award by the USA Volleyball National Indoor Officials Commission. The Bronze Whistle Award recognizes the most outstanding new Junior National referee from the current class of candidates at a Junior Volleyball Championship Event.
- **Sherry Fadool (Triangle Volleyball Club)** was honored at the Greater Raleigh Convention Bureau 2016 Annual Meeting as the recipient of the Thad Eure, Jr. Memorial Award for Triangle's contributions to Wake County Hospitality.
- **Sarah Billiard (Matthews, Carolina Juniors)** was named 2016-2017 Under Armor Second Team All-America by the AVCA.
- **Kalee Vandorhorst (Raleigh, Triangle VBC)** was named 2016-2017 Under Armor Third Team All-America by the AVCA.



Aisha Boyd—Bronze Whistle Honoree

CONGRATULATIONS!

2017 Beach Season Approaches

Mark Nalevanko, CR Beach Director



With some of the recent winter weather that hit the region still on the ground as I write this article, it may seem a little ironic to be thinking about the upcoming beach season but it's during this time of year that most of the planning and organizing for the next season happens. All the hosts on the Carolina Region Tour have already come together in selecting dates for their events and the [2017 edition of the Carolina Region Tour](#) (CR JBT) will be updated shortly on the region's website. Similar to years past, around 30 events will be available across the region from late March to early August, broken into 4 sub-regions: Eastern NC, Charlotte/Western NC, Triad, and Triangle. Some new changes for the upcoming season include the following:

- Categorization of each event as either a USA Junior Beach Tour Event (USA JBT) or a Standard Regional Event.
- 4 USA JBT events on the tour: One each in the 4 sub-regions



2016 CR JBT Champions –18's Division
Raquel Rooney/Avery Davis

[Championships](#) will be offered to both top finishers in Open and AA (if contested) divisions within any age group at any CR JBT event. The Region Championships will be adding AA bid divisions this year, which are offered to top finishers in AA playoffs, known as Silver playoffs in the past. Each event host will decide at his/her discretion whether an AA playoff is contested after pool play. Factors such as size of field, space and time available, and weather may all be part of the decision. The Open division playoffs, known as Gold Playoffs in the past, will continue to feature the top teams from each pool with bids to the Open bid divisions at the Region Championships offered.

As we approach the end of February and start of March, high schools across NC will start up another season of club beach volleyball. With 53 schools from across the state spread out over 6 conferences last year, the activities led by the [North Carolina High School Sand Volleyball Association](#) continue to increase each year with this year's state playoffs being held on April 28-29. It is hoped that one day beach volleyball will achieve varsity sport status similar to what's happened in states such as Arizona and Florida.

There are certainly a lot of opportunities ahead for sand aficionados in the Carolina area. If you haven't gotten involved, give it a try! You may find yourself finding a new passion in life.

**Keep up with Carolina Region Beach Events and
Link to Results**

Be sure to "Like" our Facebook Pages!

2017 Season— What's NEW?

The short answer is “Not much”! The Region Board did not feel the need to change too much with the policies and procedures that have been in place to date. The following are the major changes heading into the 2017 Season:

- ◆ An age group will now be assigned on each Sunday of the indoor season—including Regional Championship Event weekends. With the recent growth in the number of teams participating in the Carolina Region, we were running out of facilities and officials to cover the demand. Including Sunday tournaments, allows us to let more teams participate. The age groups will be rotated through their Sunday assignments to try to equalize it as best as possible.
- ◆ The Regional Championships will now be held on the same weekends as the East/West Championships. The top FOUR teams in the East and West rankings at the entry deadline (that qualify and submit an entry) will be chosen for the Regional Championships. All other teams that enter will still play for their respective East/West Championships.
- ◆ Teams may now play in two different tournaments on the same weekend if the age groups and the schedule allows it. With the addition of Sunday play, this has become a possibility and Board formalized that it would be allowed.
- ◆ The Board established minimum match guarantees for multi-day tournaments that the Region sanctions. Two-day events must provide a five match guarantee and three-day events must provide a seven match guarantee.
- ◆ Individuals that have reached their 16th birthday will be allowed to be a rostered Assistant Coach on a Junior team (at least 3 years younger). There are additional requirements for the individual and team in these cases. Contact the office with questions.
- ◆ SafeSport is now required for all Adults affiliating with a junior Club.



CEO Report Kevin Wendelboe

The 2017 Indoor season is underway! Unfortunately, we already had a major snow storm come through and cancel an entire weekend of events. Hopefully, that will be the only weekend affected by inclement weather this season! But, I would like to commend everyone for being patient while we waited to see how the system would develop. We had very view calls or emails into the office as the majority were waiting for the updates on the Tournament/Points System. We promise we will always keep that updated with the latest information, so always check their first for all tournament-related information.

Speaking of the Tournament/Points System, we have continued to make improvements to the site, both on the front-end and back-end. We are adding more and more information to the site among the various pages, and we have many more ideas for improvements in the future. Please continue to check it out and send us your suggestions on what else would be helpful to see on the

site. I can also say that we are in the early stages of a site re-design for our main website (carolinaregionvb.org). We hope to roll that out by next season. The new site will be mobile-friendly and we hope more useful for our members.

We are still receiving registrations for this season so it is a little early for totals, but I can confirm we have MORE teams registered already and more juniors registered than last season. We continue to grow and are thankful for all our members. Have a great season!

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