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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 sincerely hope everyone reading this article is having a wonderful summer filled with sun, fun and volleyball.

Yours truly actually dusted off the board shorts and played a sand event at Captain Bills a few weeks ago. It was great seeing some old faces as well as meeting a new generation of players.

There's not much to report from this end currently but I do want to congratulate and acknowledge all of the Board members and special guests who participated in this year's annual retreat-job well done. I honestly can't remember ever having more exciting topics to discuss. We will have a full run-down of what to expect for the 2014

season in the August/September newsletter. We hope the changes and updates we are putting in place will continue to help us manage our growth and allow everyone to enjoy this great sport even more.

Volleyball in the Carolina Region is healthy and growing, and as I've stated before in very capable hands of people who care deeply for the sport. So enjoy the remainder of outdoor season and don't forget the sunscreen!!!





## Officials Corner

*Marilyn Thompson*  
*Officials Program Director*

Work has already begun on the officiating program for next year. I hope all of you had a good experience this year and I look forward to working with you next year. I would like to invite any junior player (J6 or older) that wants to officiate for pay next year to get in touch with me now so I can start work on clinics and training. Please send me your name, address, email address, and age. Hopefully the clinics can be set up before the season starts so you can be rated and ready to work.

Thank you to the coaches that know how important the officiating aspect of the game has become. The emphasis on good officiating as well as good play is always evident from the well-coached

teams. It is a pleasure to work with teams that take officiating seriously and are proud to be known as a good officiating team.

Please feel free to get in touch with me with any concerns you have about the officiating program. I am always trying to improve the officiating not only of the juniors but the adult officials also. My email address is [officials@carolinaregionvb.org](mailto:officials@carolinaregionvb.org). I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Have a great summer and we will see you on the courts next year.

## Regional Achievements

**Here's some accomplishments that Deserve Regional Recognition!**

- **Taylor Rowland**, Charlotte, (Lake Norman VBC) was selected for the Future Select National Training Program Camp in Edmond (July 7-11, 2013).
- **Gabrielle Benda**, Raleigh, (Triangle VBC); **Calista Brown**, Summerfield, (Piedmont VBC); **Robin Cornel**, Raleigh, (NC Volleyball Academy); & **Casey Speer**, Durham, (Triangle VBC) were selected for the Girls' Youth A2 Invitational Training Program Camp in Colorado Springs (July 5-11, 2013).
- **Payton Carter**, Fort Mill, (Carolina Union VBC); **Alexandra Morrison**, Fort Mill (Carolina Juniors VBC); & **Carlie Redfern**, Harrisburg, (Carolina Union VBC); **Jocelyn Stoner**, Greensboro (Piedmont VBC); & **Khalilah Pitt** (Coach) were selected for the Girls' Select A2 Invitational Training Program Camp in Colorado Springs (July 5 –11, 2013).
- **Khalilah Pitt** (Coach) was selected as Associate Coach for the Girls' Future Select National Development Program Camp in Grand Rapids (June 29–July 2, 2013).
- **Vanessa Blas**, Concord (Carolina Storm VBC) & **Mallory Swarts**, Mooresville (Carolina Juniors VBC) were selected for the Girls' Select A3 Training Program Camp in Colorado Springs (July 12 –16, 2013).
- **Gabrielle Brown**, Summerfield (SportsPlex VBC); **Madison Crump**, Statesville (Carolina Juniors VBC); & **Khalilah Pitt** (Coach) were selected for the Girls' Future Select Development Program Camp in Colorado Fort Lauderdale (July 14–17, 2013).
- **Julia Kane**, Summerfield (Proehlfic Power VBC) was selected for the Girls' Select National Skills Program Camp in Fort Lauderdale (July 14 –17, 2013).
- **Allyson Davis**, Sanford (Brick City VBC); **Haley Radford**, New Bern (Coastal Plains VBC); & **Bethany Salapek**, Raleigh (NC Volleyball Academy) were selected for the Girls' Select National Skills Program Camp in Grand Rapids (June 29 –2, 2013).

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

# Biggest Junior Beach Season Yet

Mark Nalevanko, CR Beach Director

Since the last newsletter a lot has happened in the beach world for the region. April saw the kick-off of the 2013 Carolina Region Jr Beach season along with an inaugural HP Beach tryout. The inaugural high school sand volleyball club season came to an end on May 10/11 with individual and club playoffs contested in Raleigh. On May 10<sup>th</sup> the Broughton girls' team of Tiana Butler and Kati Smith and the Cardinal Gibbons boys' team of John Krawczyk and Sam Rosso won the individual best teams competition. On May



11<sup>th</sup> after a dedication ceremony which saw the naming of the sand courts at Jaycee Park in Raleigh in memory of

Rusty Lurwick, a long-time advocate and player of beach volleyball in the area (see photo), the club team from Epiphany (New Bern – see photo) outlasted an Apex club team in a closely fought contest (3 matches to 2).



Competition continued to heat up in May as the Carolina Grand Slam, the largest Junior Beach Volleyball event in NC and a stop on the USA Beach Junior Tour, was held in Raleigh over the weekend of May 18/19. 143 teams from 6 states battled it out to win bids for the national championships in Milwaukee, WI in late July.

At the time of this article's writing in early July, the 2013 Carolina Region Jr Beach Tour has gone through 3 months of competition with less

than a month left. While the official numbers won't be available until after the season concludes, the counts at this point in the season already show several new records including:

Over 1000 teams registered across the 15 contested events thus far. That's over 66 teams on average per event.

Largest single tournament record – Carolina Grand Slam with 143 teams

6 players invited to the elite A2 HP Beach Camp in California (most ever for region thus far)

U19 – Cheyenne Wood, Julie Newell, Christina Vucich

U17 – Katja Ehlers, Margot Ruffieux

U15 – Bethany Salapek

One team accepting an invitation by the region to participate in the HP Beach Championships (the most selective Jr Beach Tournament in the country)

U17 – Genna Simpkins/  
Kylie Grandy  
(see photo – winners of 16U in Carolina Grand Slam)



Additional players invited to A3 and A4 HP beach camps

The aforementioned HP beach events along with the Carolina Region Jr Beach Championships in Emerald Isle, NC and USA Beach Jr Tour Championships in WI will all be held during the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of July. Stay tuned for an update on these events as part of the next newsletter.

Keep up with Carolina Region Beach Events and Link to Results

Be sure to "Like" our Facebook Pages!

[www.carolinaregionvb.org/jrbeach](http://www.carolinaregionvb.org/jrbeach)

## Recent Officials' Accomplishments

We are pleased to announce the newest National Referees from the Carolina Region. Both received their ratings (and Patch!) at the 2013 Girls' Junior National Championships in Dallas, Texas! Way to go, guys!

- \* Tony Hill, West End—National
- \* Alston Cleary, Raeford—Junior National

Also, Brian Webb (Kernersville) was selected as the R1 for the first-ever Girls 11 and under National Championship match in Dallas! Congratulations!



Tony Hill with CR Referee Chair, Ronnie Mutter



Al Cleary with Ronnie Mutter



Brian Webb in action during Championship match!

## CEO Report

It is hard to believe but we are just about to hold the 2013 Junior Beach Regional Championships. It seems like the indoor season has only just ended and already the outdoor season is winding down too! Part of that is a reflection of where we live. We are generally blessed with good weather in April and can begin the outdoor season early. With the growth of the outdoor game in our Region, the lines between seasons will blur more and more!

Speaking of the Junior Beach Tour—it has been a tremendous success. It has grown tremendously the last three years and we are now needing courts more and more similar to the indoor game. Already two new outdoor facilities have gone up this summer and I anticipate seeing more courts go up around the state in years to come!

The Region Board of Directors met in June to begin planning for 2014 and beyond. There were many great discussions and we are continuing to make

improvements to the junior programs. We will have a complete accounting of the changes to implemented in 2014 with the next newsletter—but I think most people will be happy with them!

Have a great rest of the summer!

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

## 2013 Girls' Junior National Championships-Dallas, TX

### Results for Carolina Region Teams

DIVISION	TEAM	FINISH
18 Open	Triangle 18 Black	27th of 32
17 National	CJV 17 Rage	10th of 48
16 National	CJV 16 Infinity	18th of 48
16 American	ECJVC 16 Black	19th of 48
15 National	CJV 15 Heat	43rd of 48
15 American	XVP 15N Kelly	5th of 48
14 National	XVP 14N Tiffany	26th of 48
14 American	CSVB 14 Open	13th of 48
14 USA	ECJVC 14 Black	13th of 24

## 2013 US Open Championships-Louisville, KY

### Results for Carolina Region Teams

International Jammers—Men's AA—22nd  
6packanyone? - Men's BB—28th of 68



Official Apparel Provider for the Carolina Region High Performance Program

<http://www.vbsuperstore.com/>

## 2013 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 2013 Robert L. Lindsay Meritorious Service Awards. All award recipients will be recognized in the 2014 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.



**Pamela Dickenson** – Pam served on the Region Board of Directors from 2003 – 2012. She began as Women’s AA Representative and when the Board restructured in 2006, she became the Women’s Players Rep. Pam has been an indoor and outdoor player in the Region for many years.

**Sheila Holloway** – Sheila served as the Carolina Region High Performance Director from 2008 - 2012. She brought many changes to the Program and helped push the program to reach more areas of the state. She also helped form new junior clubs and helped form some adult teams.

**Mark Nalevanko** – Mark has been instrumental in the growth of junior beach volleyball in the Carolina Region. He helped establish the Carolina Region Junior Beach Tour and currently serves as the Region Beach Director. In 2013 Mark successfully established, promoted, and grew a High School Sand Volleyball Club program in North Carolina that is already quite popular and looking to expand in 2014.



**Rita Stubbs** – Rita is the founder and Club Director for Club Red VBC out of Raleigh. Rita served as the Junior Player Rep in the 2010/2011 season and served on the Region Board as Secretary for one year. Rita was involved in the Region High Performance Program and ran several tournaments for the Region.



## Jenna Hinton Awarded Outstanding Program Director by USA Volleyball

The Carolina Region's own Jenna Hinton (Louisburg, Triangle Volleyball Club) was awarded the 2013 USA Volleyball Junior Assembly Service Award for Outstanding Program Director during the 2013 Annual Meetings of USA Volleyball in Louisville, KY.

Jenna has an extended history with Carolina Region Volleyball and the promotion of the sport in North Carolina. She was a 2008 Carolina Region honoree of the USAV Robert L. Lindsay Meritorious Service Award for her work with the Carolina Region High Performance Program and junior Coaching. She has been a long-time Tournament Director for the Region.

Her newest endeavors involve the promotion of Sitting Volleyball to those with disabilities.

