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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*

## From the Top—Mike Spillman, President



It's hard to believe another Carolina Region Volleyball season is coming to a close. Congratulations to all players, coaches, officials, volunteers, staff and parents. Your combined efforts have made this another successful year. I thank

each of you for your participation and support. For many of us the gears never stop turning as we begin making preparations for next year and start transitioning to the outdoor season... although looking out the window I'm not confident spring has officially sprung.

I have two requests for the spring and summer. First, I urge you to play in at least one outdoor event. Our region offers many opportunities for players of all skill levels. You have your choice of sand or grass, doubles, triples or quads and if you need assistance selecting a tournament check out the region's website for tournament links (<http://www.carolinaregionvb.org/outdoor> and <http://www.carolinaregionvb.org/jrbeach>). One upcoming event to consider is the Bash Before the Clash held Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup> in Clemmons, NC (for more information see <http://ymcanwnc.org/>

*bash*). This is a charity grass triples tournament many players use to prepare for the Columbia Clash in South Carolina. This is also the first year that the total number of junior teams will outnumber the adults and tournament coordinators couldn't be happier. I thought this statistic was important enough to share in the newsletter confirming our juniors are becoming increasingly interested in the outdoor game. So juniors get signed up as soon as possible and get a head start on your competition. I predict this will be the best junior outdoor season we have ever witnessed.

My second request is equally important to our growth. Each year the region provides several opportunities for all of us to voice our comments, concerns and ideas. I want to assure you that each response received is considered as we discuss survey results during BOD meetings and retreats. Your unique perspective gives us a chance to test the pulse of the membership and the information you contribute is invaluable. So please take a few minutes to share your thoughts and help ensure our continued success.

Congratulations again to everyone for making this season one to remember.



## Officials Corner

*Marilyn Thompson*  
Officials Program Director



I want to start this article with a big thank you to all the adult officials that have worked this season. I know at times it was a thankless job but you continued to help each weekend. Without you and your supervision, this season would not have been successful.

Next I would like to say I hope that all of the players improved and had a good time playing competitive volleyball. I know it was a lot of time to spend but I hope you loved what you were doing.

As we wind down this season, I am going to take time to address the problem of teams officiating games. For the first time there were teams that were not capable of officiating on the stand or at the score table. This not only slowed the games a lot but it was frustrating when they had supposedly attended a clinic in person or had taken the clinic online. I plan to ask the junior advisory committee to institute a "can't ref, can't play" policy for next year. At the first report of a team being deficient in officiating, I will suggest they pay for another clinic or review the online courses. Everyone deserves a second chance. It is impossible to work with the first referee when there is an incompetent player at the score table. There were also cases where a coach would be at the table and be incapable of helping

the player keep score. Remember one adult must attend a clinic and be the one supervising the team during their work assignments. But, we had instances where the adult would tell the adult official that they had no clue how to keep score. This is just unacceptable. This is part of the responsibility of being a coach.

I know maybe this has been a negative article at the end of the season but not a weekend went by that I did not have at least one adult official telling me of a team or teams that could not properly fulfill their officiating duties. That makes the job of supervision even harder. My adult officials will never get rich officiating juniors. They do it for the love of the game. Our hope is that next year, all teams will take their officiating requirements seriously and support the sport in a new way—not just as players.

I hope all of you will take the article in the way it was meant so you will pay attention at the clinics next year knowing that you will be expected to fulfill your officiating duties. I truly feel that working hard at being a better official will help you become a better player also!

Have a great summer. I hope to see some of you on the beach tour.

## Regional Achievements



Here's some accomplishments that Deserve Regional Recognition!

- The following players were named to the 2013 Under Armour Girls High School All-America Teams: First Team Selections: **Eve Davis** (Charlotte; Carolina Juniors); **Hayleigh Nelson** (Cary; Triangle VBC). Both players were also selected to play in the Under Armour Girls High School All-America Match at the KFC Yum! Center on December 14, 2012 in Louisville, Ky., in conjunction with the 2012 AVCA Annual Convention. **Suzie Pignetti** (Carolina Juniors) was the Head Coach of the East Team at that event. After the match, **Hayleigh Nelson** was selected as the Hardest Hitter among the Middle Hitters!
- **Amanda Wagoner**, Matthews, (Carolina Juniors VBC) was invited to train at the Girls' Select Holiday Camp which trained December 26-30, 2012 in Colorado Springs.
- **Cheyenne Wood**, Angier, (Triangle VBC) was invited to train at the Girls A3 Beach Holiday Camp which trained December 27-30, 2012 in Largo, FL.
- Two Coaches in the Carolina Region were honored recently with the AVCA Thirty Under 30 Awards. This award was created to honor up-and-coming coaching talent at all levels of the sport. To qualify for the award nominees had to be 30 years old or younger in 2012. Receiving the award were: **Tammi Fries** (Charlotte; Assistant Coach at Queens University and Club Coach at Carolina PEAK VBC); **Brian Rosen** (Charlotte; Coach at Charlotte Country Day School and Club Coach at Carolina Juniors). **Jeff Lennox** of Barton College (Wilson, NC) also received the award.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

# 2013 Carolina Region Jr Beach Tour Kicks Off in April

Mark Nalevanko  
Beach Director



**2012 Junior Beach Tour  
Photo of the Year**

Coming off a great 2012 season, the 3rd edition of the Carolina Region Jr Beach Tour kicks off on April 13th in Wilmington and continues with both sand and grass doubles events for 18U, 16U, 14U, and 12U across the state on each weekend culminating with the Championships on July 20th in Emerald Isle. Along the way, there will be several special events, including:

Carolina Open (May 18-19) in Raleigh/Cary

A USA Beach Junior Tour Grand Slam event. Participants that finish in the top 5 in their age division earn a free bid to the national championships in Milwaukee, WI (July 27-28) plus a chance at one of 3 travel stipends valued at \$400 each.

Carolina Challenge (June 8-9) in Wilmington

A special NC vs. SC event where teams from both regions compete in earning bragging rights as the best beach volleyball region in the Carolinas

ROX The Night (July 13) in Claremont (near Hickory)

A large grass tournament with both junior and adult divisions under the lights

With so much outdoor volleyball going on for juniors in the region we encourage those that want periodic updates sent to your email to join the **NC Junior Beach Volleyball e-Newsletter**. Simply go to [www.vh1vball.com/juniors.asp](http://www.vh1vball.com/juniors.asp) to sign-up. Complete tour schedule and registration info available at [www.carolinaregionvb.org/jrbeach](http://www.carolinaregionvb.org/jrbeach).

## High School Sand Volleyball Makes Its Debut This Spring

On Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, history was made! The first high school sand volleyball club competitions were held at parks in Raleigh and Cary. These competitions were part of an inaugural season of club sand volleyball involving 9 schools: 8 schools in the Triangle area (Apex, Athens Drive, Broughton, Carrboro, Cardinal Gibbons, Middle Creek, St. David's and Ravenscroft) and 1 school in New Bern (The Epiphany School). The goal is to establish the sport of sand volleyball at high schools eventually leading to the sanctioning of the sport by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association. The season runs from early March to mid-May with a playoffs scheduled on May 10-11 at Green Road Park in Raleigh. The expectation is that many more schools will join-in for the Spring 2014 season from various parts of the state too. Learn more about the initiative and how to join your school by checking out [www.nchssva.appspot.com](http://www.nchssva.appspot.com).



# CEO Report

*Kevin Wendelboe*

The 2013 indoor season is fast coming to a close! From all accounts, we have had another great season in the Carolina Region. We have had another tremendous year of growth in our junior girls program. We have 67 more girls teams than in 2012 and over 750 more junior girls playing. We have doubled the number of junior girls playing over just 5 seasons ago!

That growth wouldn't be possible without the clubs and tournament hosts! This year we offered an East and West division in all age groups for the first time. So far, all the feedback has been pretty positive on this change. The move had a secondary effect of helping us get new sites to host in the East as that is an area that is under-developed for tournament hosts. Hopefully, even more hosts will step forward in future seasons to help us continue to provide opportunities to play.

We will begin planning for 2014 shortly. We do plan to address the long-time problem of playing formats in the juniors. With the split in East/West we

might finally be able to solve this long-time problem!

Now that the indoor season is about over, it is time to take your game outside. The Junior Beach Tour has expanded and adults and juniors can find places to play every weekend across the state. We are truly fortunate to be able to enjoy this sport year round!

If you have not done it yet, be sure to subscribe to our various social media channels below to stay up to date with the Carolina Region!

Have a great Summer!

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

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

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



## Carolina Region Adult High Performance Program

The Carolina Region is considering joining the USAPVL next season and would like to have both a men's and women's team. We are exploring what this would entail and part of the consideration is gauging the interest level. Post-collegiate athletes who are interested in participating in the PVL should contact Chuck McCracken, Director of High Performance ([hp@carolinaregionvb.org](mailto:hp@carolinaregionvb.org)) and let him know of your interest. Stay tuned for more details!



The USA Premier Volleyball League (PVL) is a professional volleyball league made up of teams from among the 40 Regional Volleyball Associations across the United States. The PVL is an adult High Performance initiative based on the USA Volleyball Region system, but operates under a professional sports model. The USA PVL is sanctioned by USA Volleyball (USAV) and will offer tournament play, PVL Conference Championships and a national championship event each year.



# High Performance Update-Chuck McCracken



There are 3 levels in the process of making the Carolina Region High Performance Team.

- **Level 1** is the entry level and is open to anyone who wants to participate (no invitation needed). This includes:

Optional training clinics (general and position specific).

These clinics are teaching environments and there are no formal evaluations done at the clinic (so players trying new techniques are not afraid to make errors). Since it is a learning environment we expect you to make mistakes because you are trying new things. Errors will not be held against anyone; however, bad attitudes, lack of hustle, etc. will not help you get invited. Future Level 1 Clinic(s):

Sunday, April 14th, Xcel Sportsplex, Hendersonville.

2013 Carolina Region High Performance tryouts (See HP Clinic schedule on website for updated info):

TBA, Charlotte area

TBA, Raleigh area

Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, TBA, Greensboro

Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, Xcel Sportsplex, Hendersonville

- **Level 2** is a training group of approximately 36 players in each of the age groups:

Junior

Youth

USA Select

Future Select

This level is by invitation and will take place in May. A player may receive an invitation as a result of:

Performance at a Level 1 clinic (no formal evaluation is done here).

Performance at a Regional HP Tryout.

Performance at a National HP tryout (based on recommendation of evaluators to the National program).

Performance at prior year National High Performance or Carolina Region High Performance (based on recommendation of coaching staff).

- **Level 3** is a smaller training group selected from the Level 2 training group. It consists of the players selected for the Carolina Region High Performance team to the National HP Championships and their alternates. This group will be between 18-24 players (we train more than just the team since players may have injuries, become sick or encounter another reason that they are not able to go to the Championships and we need the player replacing them to be prepared).



Official Apparel Provider for the Carolina Region High Performance Program

# Carolina Region High Performance Coaches Program

There are 3 levels in the Carolina Region High Performance Coaches Program.

- ◆ Level 1 is the entry level and is open to anyone who wants to be considered for participation. (Interested coaches should send a letter of interest and a resume to [hp@carolinaregionvb.org](mailto:hp@carolinaregionvb.org)). Accepted coaches will serve as Assistant Court coaches at:
  - ◇ Optional training clinics (general and position specific).
    - ◆ These clinics are teaching environments and there are no formal evaluations done at the clinic (so players trying new techniques are not afraid to make errors).
  - ◇ Carolina Region High Performance tryouts:
- ◆ Level 2 is a chance to work with a training group of approximately 36 players in each of the age groups (boys and girls): Junior, Youth, USA Select, and Future Select.
  - ◇ This level is by invitation and will take place in May. Accepted coaches will serve as Assistant Court Coaches, Court Coaches, or Lead Coach.
- ◆ Level 3 is a chance to be one of the coaches working with a smaller training group selected from the Level 2 training group as well as a coach of a Carolina Region High Performance team. We plan to have a Head Coach, Assistant Coach and an Apprentice Coach for each team.



## 2013 Meetings

The Carolina Region has two upcoming meetings that the Carolina Region membership is invited to attend:

- \* Junior Advisory Board (JAB) - The JAB is comprised of each Junior Team Rep in the Region. It usually meets annually in person to help the CR Board with the planning of the Junior Division. The next meeting of the JAB is Sunday, May 5, 2013. The meeting will be from 9 am—12 noon and will be held in the Pinehurst Room at the Koury Convention Center in Raleigh.
- \* Annual Meeting—The Annual Meeting of the Carolina Region will be held from 1—4 pm on May 5, 2013 in the Pinehurst Room at the Koury Convention Center.

Please contact the Region Office if you have questions about these meetings.