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October Issue | 2019

# 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:

Welcome to the 2020 Carolina Region/USA Volleyball season! It's hard to believe I am typing those words already. This summer has flown by it seems.

I hope you were able to enjoy the summer—perhaps playing some grass or sand volleyball! We had another great summer of volleyball action on our Junior Beach Tour. A season wrap-up and celebration of our Tour Season Honorees appears later in this newsletter.

I've enjoyed keeping up with our USA Volleyball National Teams this summer. Our Indoor Women's National team won the FIVB Nations League for the second consecutive season. Our Men's team was able to host the Finals of the FIVB Nations League and brought home the Silver medal. Both of our indoor national teams have qualified for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Both should be favorites to bring home a medal so stay tuned!

Americans are also doing well on the various Beach Tours. The team of Alex Klineman and April Ross won several events this summer and look to be one of our potential qualifying teams to the Olympics. Kerry Walsh Jennings is also in the mix to go

to her 5th Olympics. I can't wait until next summer to see how the Olympics turns out!

The USA Sitting teams also had a great summer with the Women winning Gold at the Parapan American Games in

Peru and our Men winning Silver at the same event. The Women's team still features our own, Heather Erickson (Fayetteville). She has become one of the best Sitting Volleyball players in the World!

As we turn to the upcoming Carolina Region season, be sure to take advantage of opportunities to learn from our staff about various aspects of region operations. We have several webinars and meetings scheduled for Club Directors, Tournament Directors, and Professional officials. These are opportunities to ask questions and learn before the hustle and bustle of the season gets started!

Enjoy the 2020 season!



## CEO Report

Welcome to the start of the Carolina Region 2020 Volleyball season. This is always an exciting time of year as the Middle and High School seasons enter the playoff phase, and we start looking at the club season winding up. Tournament season is approaching rapidly!

Before we look ahead to the 2020 season, I do want to reflect briefly on another outstanding year for the Carolina region in 2019. Our numbers in both members and teams grew once again in 2019 reaching all-time highs once again. We have grown our membership total year over year every season since 1998! Our club directors, coaches, tournament directors, and officials have always stepped up to meet the demand! Thank you to all of you for your support and desire to pass along the love of the sport to the next generation.

We do not have too many changes to go over for this 2020 season. The main new items are mentioned below (What's New for 2020). Be sure to review those so there are no surprises at the events!

The Carolina Region Board of Directors did make some changes to the Region Bylaws over the summer. The makeup of the board has changed slightly to reflect the changing dynamics within the region. Men's and Women's Player Reps have been replaced by two new Junior Reps—one from the East and one from the West. We will look to elect those reps in early January. Nominations for those positions are now being accepted through Dec 31. Contact me at the Region office if you have questions about those positions and want to run.

See you back on the courts soon!

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/CarolinaRegionVB>  
Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/CarolinaRegion>



## Regional Achievements

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

- **David Bryant** (Pinetops), **Chanel Davis** (Durham), **Glenn Horton** (Fuquay Varina), **Victoria Ivie** (Murphy), **Leann Madtes** (Raleigh), **Kennedey Paine** (Clayton), and **Robert Webb** (Chapel Hill) were all selected to work the 2019 Girls Junior National Championships in Indianapolis as Regional Officials.
- **Mitch Atkinson** (Granite Falls) worked as the First Referee for the Girl's 14 National Gold Medal match and **Frank Motondo Jr** (Burlington) worked as the Second Referee for the Girls' 15 USA Gold medal match at the 2019 Girls' Junior National Championships in Indianapolis.
- **Madelyn Wilson** (Apex; Triangle Volleyball Club) was awarded the Stuart Scott Courage Award.
- **Linda Lang** (Chapel Hill; Chapel Hill Area VBC) was recognized by the AVCA as the 13's Coach of the Year.
- **Callie Davis** (Hillsborough), **Betsey Smith** (Marietta), and **Kyle Smith** (Kernersville) earned their Junior National Certifications during the Girls Junior National Championships.

## What's New for 2020?

- ♦ Tie-Breaker sets have been eliminated from the East/West Championship tournaments. The overall Regional Championships are now the only tournament where an on-court tie-breaker may be used to determine playoff teams.
- ♦ Admissions may now be charged by hosts of our one-day events. The maximum charge is \$5 and only non-participant adults over 18 may be charged.
- ♦ Club-hosted Officials clinics for clubs with 6 or more teams will be limited to the 14 and under age groups only.

See our registration materials and website for more information.

## 2019 Girls' Junior National Championships- Dallas & Indianapolis

### Results for Carolina Region Teams

DIVISION	TEAM	FINISH
18 Open	Triangle 18 Black	45th of 48
18 National	Raleigh 17-K	47th of 48
18 American	Carolina Explosion 18	45th of 64
17 Open	Triangle 17 Black	30th of 36
17 National	NC Elite 17 Black	41st of 48
17 American	NC Elite 17 Cardinal	53rd of 64
16 USA	CJV 16 Rick	5th of 36
16 American	NC Elite 16 Black	62nd of 64
15 National	TRVC 15 Black	45th of 48
15 American	NC Elite 15 Black	53rd of 64
14 USA	Academy 14 Diamond	3rd of 36
13 Open	Triangle 13 Black	9th of 24
13 USA	Academy 13 Diamond	3rd of 24

## 2019 Boys' Junior National Championships-Dallas, TX

### Results for Carolina Region Teams

18 Open— CUVC 18 Boys Onslaught - 24th of 42





## 2019 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 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 2019 Robert L. Lindsay Meritorious Service Awards. All award recipients will be recognized in the 2020 digital 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.



**Dan Colleran** —Dan began his affiliation with the Carolina Region as the father of kids playing in the Region. This sparked an interest in helping the sport grow in North Carolina. In 2011, the Region had an opening on the Board at the Treasurer position and Dan volunteered to fill it. He served as Treasurer for the next two terms, and then he ran and was elected as Secretary in 2018. He served as Secretary until 2019 when a job relocation out of state required him to step down. During his time on the board, the Region saw membership growth of over 3% annually.



**Gary Foster** — Gary has been an official with the Carolina Region for over 15 years. He works most every weekend during the season. Just two seasons ago, he worked more tournaments than any other Carolina Region official. He has been slowed by injuries recently and is recovering, but still willing to serve the sport.



**Carla Hoover** — Carla served as Director at the Greensboro SportsPlex for multiple years. The Greensboro SportsPlex has been a huge supporter of Carolina Region volleyball for many years. They always run multiple tournaments on most every weekend for the Region. Carla has moved on to a new position with the City of Greensboro. We appreciate all she has done to provide a place to play for North Carolina volleyball players.



## 2019 Junior Beach Wrap-Up

Mark Nalevanko, CR Beach Director

As we head into Fall, another Carolina Region Junior Beach Tour (CR JBT) is in the books. The tour remains one of the largest USAV region-organized tours with around a dozen hosts pulling together to manage 35 events with close to 1300 participating teams. It's truly a unique opportunity for organizers, players and families in and around our Carolina Region. On behalf of the Region, I want to extend a special THANK YOU to all that have played a role in the success of this tour!

At the CR JBT Championships in mid-July, we announced the following 2019 player awards, which recognize the best offensive and defensive player per age group involved in the CR JBT as voted on by hosts and coaches present at the Championships.

Age Group	Offensive	Defensive
12U	Sally Perez (Apex)	Addison Barbee (Albemarle)
14U	Ellie Sampson (Cary)	Forbes Hall (Greenville)
16U	Lillie Seymour (Cedar Point)	Zoe Crow (Trentwoods)
18U	Gabi Bramante (Apex)	Lauren Della (Cary)

Additionally, the following teams were crowned winners at the culminating Championships events for the 2019 CR JBT.

Age Group	Open Division (July 13)	AA Division (July 20)
12U	Ava Brovet/Katie Raymer	Evan Tucker/Michael Ratajesak
14U	Sloane Woolwine/Lena Cosgrove	Ella Wadsworth/Brooke Zub
16U	Elizabeth Fonvielle/Ayla Johnson	Anna Bayes/Mackenzie Davis
18U	Lauren Della/Gabi Bramante	

Several teams also participated at the USAV-organized National Beach Championships, which were held in Manhattan Beach, CA over July 18-23. Participants in the top divisions had to qualify in order to participate. Top finishers involving players from NC included:

- 12U – Sally Perez/Sydney Muffler (9<sup>th</sup> out of 30 teams)
- 14U – Ellie Sampson/Riley Cutler (5<sup>th</sup> out of 52 teams)
- 16U – Chase Teal/Lauren Wilcock (9<sup>th</sup> out of 69 teams)
- 18U – Gabi Bramante/Lauren Della (9<sup>th</sup> out of 61 teams)
- Boys 16U—Collin Register /Maxwell Cashion (9<sup>th</sup> out of 31 teams)
- Boys 18U—Collin Register /Daniel Ellison (9<sup>th</sup> out of 20 teams)

Congratulations to all of the aforementioned players and teams for their accomplishments this past season!

Well, that's a wrap for the 2019 beach season. Planning for the 2020 season is already underway. Announcements will be forthcoming as we start the New Year. Stay tuned by joining the [Carolina Region Jr Beach Tour mailing list](#).



# Carolina Region Junior Beach Tour Pictures

## 2019 Junior Beach Championship Winners



**12 Champs—Ava Brovet/Katie Raymer**



**14 Champs-Sloane Woolwine/Lena Cosgrove**



**16 Champs-Elizabeth Fonvielle/Ayla Johnson**



**18 Champs-Lauren Della/Gabi Bramante**

## 2019 Junior Beach Season Honorees



**12 Offensive—Sally Perez**



**12 Defensive—Addison Barbee**



**14 Defensive—Forbes Hall**



**14 Offensive—Ellie Sampson**



**16 Offensive—Lillie Seymour**



**18 Defensive—Lauren Della**



**18 Offensive—Gabi Bramante**

## A Lifetime of Service Marilyn Thompson

One of the most dedicated volunteers to the Carolina Region since our inception has recently retired as the Officials Program Director. Marilyn Thompson has been serving the sport of volleyball since 1982!

Marilyn volunteered with the Carolina Region in many ways. She has been on the Board of Directors as a Player Rep. She served as the Scorer Chair for 17 years. She was a player and referee.

In 2008, Marilyn was hired by the Region as its first Officials Program Director. She led that program through much growth while recruiting, training, and developing officials to work our growing number of events.

Marilyn received the Region's Meritorious Service Award in 1983 and 1986.

We thank Marilyn for her outstanding service and wish her a well-deserved rest!



## 2019 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 26, 2019** 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 10, 2019** (after the North Carolina State Championships for public High Schools on November 9, 2019).

### 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 6:00 pm THURSDAY following the initial tryout dates: **FIVE DAYS—Oct. 31, 2019 at 6:00 pm** after the FIRST Tryout Period begins for the **U12, U13, and U14** age groups and **FOUR DAYS—Nov. 14, 2019 at 6:00 pm** 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 five 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.

Families—please see our [Info letter on the Club Tryout process](#) on our website before tryouts!