



Ontario Volleyball Association



2021-22 Annual Report



www.ontariovolleyball.org





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Front cover: Steven Abrams and Jonny Pickett stand atop the podium with a gold medal at the 2022 Canada Summer Games.
Photographer: Derek Bottomley

Message from the President



Katie Hutchinson

OVA President

We knew this past year would be one of challenges, growth and realignment for the OVA. As we started to steady ourselves atop a rocky road to “a new normal”, the words cancel, postpone and forego have been replaced with pivot, adapt, and change. We are so grateful to those who continued to make volleyball happen in our communities despite the last year’s challenges. We began to see glimmers of our sport returning to full steam at the incredibly successful 2022 Ontario Championships. It felt like a homecoming as we reconvened together for the year’s marquee event.

We look forward to seeing all of you the same weekend at Enercare in 2023 for what is positioned to be the biggest OCs yet! We are excited to bring everyone together in Toronto to celebrate our sport. We are thrilled to announce that this event will coincide with the first-ever Sitting Volleyball Ontario Championship.

We saw Ontario athletes continue to perform at world-class levels. We all watched our indoor men’s and women’s national teams compete in VNL and the World Championships, where the women placed higher than ever, with 5 Ontario natives on their roster. We continued to build on past success on the sand with Ontario athletes competing, achieving exceptional results at the World Championships, Commonwealth Games and U19 Worlds.

We continue to see the impact the OVA can have on kick-starting an athlete’s volleyball journey, and we are so excited to see where these incredible athletes go next!

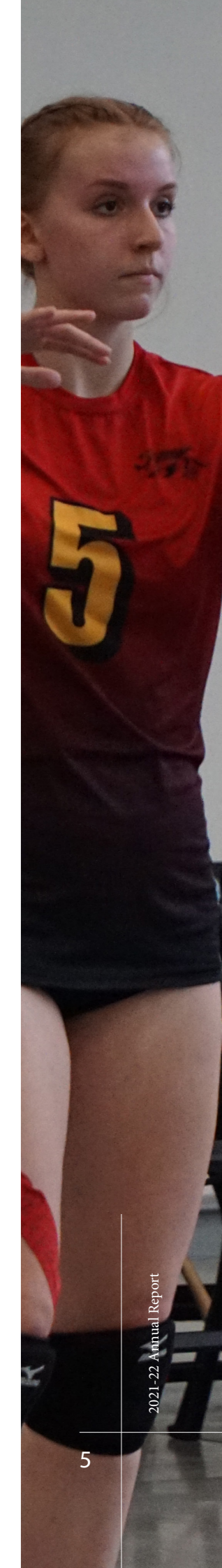
Looking forward, we know we are an association built on its membership and we succeed when you succeed. We are poised and ready to take on this next year to do just that. Learning that change is a necessary constant, we will take the past years’ learning and forge ahead to build a new post-pandemic version of the Ontario Volleyball Association.

We look forward to developing new innovative ways to deliver competition, engaging more meaningfully with the community (that’s you!) in the development of the sport we love and doing everything we can to provide safe, equitable and just experiences for our members. A deep commitment to SAFESport will guide decision-making to ensure we as an organization are “creating a culture where everyone can thrive”.

I have the deepest gratitude for all those who make the OVA possible, most notably the athletes, coaches, referees and community leaders who continue to dedicate their time, expertise and experience to the sport and are a crucial part of its continued growth. I wish you all a successful season and can’t wait to see what this year holds.

Board of Directors

- Katie Hutchinson, President
- Bridget Child, Vice-President Finance/Treasurer
- Daphne Choi, Vice-President Administration/Secretary
- Howie Grossinger, Director at Large
- Michael Amoroso, Director at Large
- Kelsey Orth, Director at Large
- Corinne Williams, Director at Large
- Danny Gosselin, Regional Council Director
- Victoria Altomare, Athletes Representative



People

The OVA will inspire continuous learning and improvement.

1. Inspire a culture based on quality and personal growth.
2. Increase education and development opportunities.

Fiscal 2022 Accomplishments

- Increased resources on Referee Engagement Centre
- Coach Development Webinar Series attended by 104 coaches
- Launched hybrid (online/in-person) clinic for 44 referees
- With Jumpstart support, sitting volleyball demos delivered for coaches and participants
- Athletes' Council planned resource sessions to be delivered
- 9 Learning Facilitators trained for advanced/development coach courses
- Advanced Development Coaches trained (7 indoor, 1 beach)
- 29 coaches obtained certifications by completing their evaluations
- 14 referees in total upgraded (4 provincial, 8 regional, 2 beach national)

Fiscal 2023 Goals

All Stakeholders

- Support the implementation of Long Term Development (LTD) Model 3.0 through the new Volleyball Canada learning management system
- Execute an all-encompassing communication strategy including educational resources for the Early Contact Initiative

Referees

- Promote Referee Engagement Centre
- Implement Anti-Racism training for all referees before the end of 2022 as part of the eligibility policy
- Develop Level 2 Referee course for virtual learning for launch Q1

OVA Staff

- Increase staff knowledge on diversity, equity and inclusion (seminars, training, policy development)

Coaches

- Deliver non-NCCP coach education activities virtually and in-person throughout the province
- Create Sitting Volleyball Referee and Coaching Development Videos
- Deliver the BIPOC Coach Upgrade through mentorship completing Jumpstart grant deliverables

Parents

- Deliver information resource sessions for Parents

Operations Excellence

The OVA will provide excellent customer service with a sustainable infrastructure.

1. Increase membership while delivering quality service.
2. Ensure systems and programs are sustainable.
3. Provide a safe sport experience.

Fiscal 2022 Accomplishments

- Adopted revised ONCA compliant by-laws with member-based voting structure, standing committees and athlete representation
- Launched inaugural Athletes' Council
- Standing Committees' terms of reference documents established
- Administered the distribution of \$612,000 of Ministry funding to Clubs
- Secured \$150,000 from Ontario Trillium Foundation to purchase 6 new court and net systems
- Secured grants from Canada Summer Jobs and Summer Experience Program
- Created Referee Eligibility Policy
- Concussion, Membership and LGBTQ2S policies approved
- Adopted Volleyball Canada independent intake process for Safe Sport incidents

Fiscal 2023 Goals

Human Resources

- Apply for Canada Summer Jobs and Summer Experience Program Grants
- Implement a safe return to office plan
- Review staff roles and responsibilities, specifically address:
 - Club Relations Role - redefine job responsibilities to include a component of club development support
 - Review Marketing and Communications staffing resources including grassroots and community outreach roles
 - Investigate contracting a marketing resource

Membership Relations

- Implement Referee Eligibility Policy
- Review Registration System and implement necessary upgrades including screening disclosure form
- Support Regional Council engagement and meetings
- Develop DEI training plan for all stakeholders

Fund Development

- Source funds to purchase additional sport court
- Develop, execute and evaluate Enercare plan to create financial resources (sponsorship, vendor space, advertising, fundraising, promoting volleyball, lottery)
- Successfully apply for Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative (OHPSI) for 2023-24 (beach & indoor boys) and petition CSIO to include indoor girls

Programs & Events

The OVA will offer inclusive, meaningful programming.

1. Deliver quality, fit for purpose, experiential programming for all ages and abilities.
2. Remove barriers to participation.
3. Support sport system alignment.

Fiscal 2022 Accomplishments

- Introduced Early Contact Initiative framework
- Launched 4v4 Ontario Championships with 42 teams
- Delivered adult and youth beach volleyball at Ashbridges Bay, London, Horseshoe Resort and Pickering
- Delivered a modified indoor competition season and multi-location Ontario Championships for 833 teams
- Delivered OVA Beach Tour and Ontario Championships for 438 teams
- 17U age division introduced on Beach Tour
- Delivered Ontario Summer Games with new combined indoor/beach competition
- Supported Sitting competition at Ontario Parasport Games
- Completed plan for upcoming season competition schedule and secure some facilities

Fiscal 2023 Goals

Sitting Volleyball

- Collaborate with ParaNetwork to promote sitting and recruit athletes
- Deliver Sitting competition calendar including inaugural Ontario Championships
- Hire a consultant/champion to lead the program development of sitting volleyball in Ontario
- Develop a Sitting Pathway

Beach Volleyball

- Bid on Ashbridges Bay Beach Volleyball property in Toronto to deliver leagues and provide court access to our clubs to deliver programming

Alignment with new LTD

- Implement and evaluate Early Contact Initiative (ECI) competitions and programming
- Review 15U-18U competition structure to LTD with Indoor Volleyball Development Committee (IVDC) and create a plan
- Beach collaboration with Indoor VDC about ECI model on the beach (Community Engagement)
- Deliver and evaluate Volleyball 4 Life programming and competitions

Large Events

- Deliver festival-style Ontario Championships at Enercare including Volleyball 4 Life events
- Deliver modified competition stream with two convention centre events
- Deliver the Hall of Fame and OVAtion Awards Banquet to highlight members

Athlete Development

The OVA will support the holistic development of athletes.

1. Provide a clear and comprehensive development pathway for all stages and abilities.
2. Support all athletes to reach their individual goals.
3. Continue to develop and share expertise.

Fiscal 2022 Accomplishments

- Secured OHPSI funding for indoor and beach volleyball
- Adapted and delivered OHPSI initiatives for indoor and beach volleyball
- Delivered Quest For Gold funding initiatives which included competition and training camps
- 1,046 athletes identified for development programs
- Team Ontario programming achieved 9,583 Training Days
- Partnered with Parasport Collective to formulate high performance sitting volleyball plan
- Ontario athletes attained 3 podium finishes at Canada Games

Fiscal 2023 Goals

Team Ontario/NextGEN

- Build an aligned and integrated sport science plan to support the long term development of athletes in Team Ontario programs
- Integrate and evaluate the use of Volleyball Canada Combines in the Team Ontario athlete identification process
- Start the 2025 Canada Games cycle by hiring head coaches for all teams
- Implement the alignment of OHPSI with the beach National Team Next Gen Summer Development program

Clubs

- Research Strength and Conditioning resources and programs for clubs and athletes
- Integrate Club Volleyball into the Athlete Development Pathway model
- Put in place a process to include club coaches in conversations around the development of players in Team Ontario programs

Community Engagement

The OVA will engage the volleyball community through ongoing collaboration.

1. Transparent, effective and consistent communication.
2. Develop channels for community input and feedback.
3. Facilitate an environment that shares best practices.

Fiscal 2022 Accomplishments

- Delivered 21 Town Halls to members
- Activated Team Ontario Beach International Mentorship Program
- Delivered Team Ontario Indoor Coach Preparation Program
- Wise Fund leadership program for 37 girls run
- Engaged with Regional Council and IVDC on various projects
- Referee mentorship program reactivated at provincials
- Referee Engagement Centre utilized by 381 referees
- New officiating Service Level Agreements negotiated
- Piloted newcomers program utilizing Parent and Player program
- Social Media followers increased 13%

Fiscal 2023 Goals

Outreach

- Deliver Wellness check on Club Leaders/Administrators - conversations of “what do you need from OVA?” dialogue
- Deliver 4-6 town hall sessions with relevant topics including Q&A opportunities
- Launch the Referee Recruitment Campaign
- Referee mentorship target – 10% of events
- Engage regions in the development of local coach and athlete development activities
- Develop a campaign to transition athletes to coach/referees (Coaches of Tomorrow)
- Activate the Athlete Council for the rollout of a leadership development initiative
- Deliver Girls in Sport Leadership fund program
- Create relationships with sports science practitioners
- Increase awareness of Athlete Development Pathways and Team Ontario Programs

Development & Innovation

The OVA will stay committed to advancement and adaptability.

1. Committed to an innovation mindset.
2. Build partnerships and business development opportunities to support the community.

Fiscal 2022 Accomplishments

- Developed modified competition models – convention centre and leagues
- Utilized online scheduling for beach and indoor
- Created integrated Ontario Summer Games competition
- Developed 4v4 competition stream
- Governance remodelled to meet legal obligations and address athlete representation

Fiscal 2023 Goals

- Implement and provide education on a video analysis tool at the club level for athlete development
- Utilize Advanced Event Systems (AES) for competitions
- Explore a plan to integrate Convention Centre events into the youth competition stream
- Deliver modified competition stream with two convention centre events and evaluate the viability of two-day festivals ongoing
- Investigate competition streams for indoor youth open and adult open

Governance Reform 2021-22

Over 2021-22, the Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA) undertook an extensive governance reform that was prompted by the coming into force of the Ontario Not-for-profit Corporations Act, 2010 (“ONCA”) in October of 2021. Significant changes to the OVA’s bylaws included the following:

The introduction of a member-based voting structure to replace the previous regional delegate-based approach.

A restructuring of the Regional Council that featured the creation of an elected Director, Regional Engagement position in place of the previously appointed Regional Council Director.

The introduction of Athletes’ Representative and an Athletes’ Council.

The formal addition of several committees of the Board to the by-laws.

At a Special Meeting of the Association’s membership in November 2021, new by-laws implementing these changes were approved by over 97% of the final group of regional delegates tasked with voting to implement these important reforms.

The first Annual General Meeting (AGM) governed by these new by-laws took place in December 2021. At that 2021 AGM, the membership elected a President (Katie Hutchinson) and a Director-at-Large (Howie Grossinger) for three-year terms. Three additional Board positions were acclaimed: the VP Administration/Secretary (Daphne Choi), the Director, Regional Engagement (Danny Gosselin), and the Athletes’ Representative (Victoria Altomare). These five directors joined Bridget Child (VP of Finance), and Directors-at-Large Michael Amoroso and Corinne Williams, each of whom were elected in 2020. Following the 2021 AGM, an additional Director-at-Large, Kelsey Orth, was appointed for a one-year term to bring the Board’s membership to a full nine members.

Alongside the changes to the Board, four additional committees – the Athletes’ Council, Governance Committee, Nominations Committee, and Regional Council were formally added to the Association’s by-laws, to join the Finance Committee. While these committees – other than the Athletes’ Council – did exist in some form prior to November 2021, formalizing their existence in the by-laws was necessary and desirable to promote greater transparency to the Association’s membership. These committees, through their inclusion in the by-laws, are accountable to the Board, and by extension, accountable to the volleyball community through its voting membership.

A three-year transition period was put into place to allow these new by-laws to be fully implemented. This was a necessary step to permit the extension of directors’ terms from two years to three. This decision to extend directors’

terms was made in the interest of improving year-to-year continuity with respect to governance and strategic oversight.

With all these reforms, the Association seeks to encourage a broader cross-section of the volleyball community to participate in the annual election cycle. Beyond that, the changes to the Board’s composition are intended to attract more independent directors to the Board in the longer term, which is vital for good governance and a stronger Association.

Standing Committees of the Board

Finance & Audit Committee

Bridget Child - Chair
 David Woods, CPA, CA - Past Chair
 John Nguyen, CPA, CA - Member at Large
 Jennifer Harkness, MBA - OVA Staff

Regional Council

Danny Gosselin - Regional Council Chair
 Tony Curciarello - Region 1
 Bryan Welsh - Region 2
 Tauri Caputo - Region 3
 Dwayne Cochrane - Region 4
 Katie Hutchinson - Region 5
 Shaun Illingworth - Region 6
 Alishia Lidums - OVA Staff

Athlete Council

Victoria Altomare - Chair
 Oklend Llakaj - OVA Staff

Nominations Committee

Corrine Williams - Chair
 Cathy O’Doherty - Member
 Eric McLoughlin - Member

Governance Committee

Daphne Choi - Chair
 Danny Gosselin - Director of Regional Engagement
 Anthony Fong - Member
 Paul Bonfigli - Member

OVA Board Committees

Human Resources Committee

Katie Hutchinson - Chair
Bridget Child - Member
Kelsey Orth - Member

OVA Operational Committees

History & Awards

Danny Gosselin - Board Member
Tauri Caputo - Regional Rep
Samara Sevor - Referee Rep
Brenda Willis - Member at Large
Kristine Drakich - Member at Large
John Nelson - Member at Large
Joely Christian-McFarlane - Member at Large
Chery Bennett - OVA Staff

Inclusion, Diversity & Equity Advisory Committee

Michael Amoroso - Co-Chair
Andrew Robb - Member
Bryan Fautley - Member
Ally Fast - Member
Jessi Satti - Member
Shanice Marcelle - Member
Jen Neilson - Member
Samara Sevor - Parent Rep
Hillary McGregor - Member
Kerish Maharaj - OVA Staff
Alishia Lidums - OVA Staff

Indoor Volleyball Development Committee

Bruce Stafford - Co-Chair
Paul Pavan - Co-Chair
Allison Haley - Member
Bo Brkic - Member
Brenda Willis - Member
Darren Ervine - Member
Judi Shum-Mousseau - Member
Sean Pellow - Member
Brett Hagarty - Athlete Rep
LP Mainville - OVA Staff
Alishia Lidums - OVA Staff

High Performance Committee

Shayne White - Member
Ian Eibbitt - Member
Corrine Williams - Member
Brian O'Reilly - Member
LP Mainville - OVA Staff
Angie Shen - OVA Staff

Referee Committee

Andrew Robb - Ontario Regional Referee Chair (ORRC)
Andy Cameron - Operations Chair
Jason Dodd - Programs Chair
Bob Rocque - Quality Assurance Chair
John Gillis - Beach Referees Chair
Al Tkachuk - Region 1 (West) Rep
Tony Curciarelo - Region 1 (East) Rep
Brian Rancourt - Region 2 Rep
Samara Sevor - Region 3 Rep
Lynn Watkins - Region 4 Rep
Jennifer Adams - Region 5 Rep
Irena Zamboni - Region 6 Rep
Alishia Lidums - OVA Staff
Kelvin Cheng - OVA Staff



Athlete Council Report

The athlete council is pleased to welcome 23 athletes to the athlete council! These athletes participate in club systems all across Ontario and represent age groups that span from U14 to current National team athletes. The athlete council met at the end of March to not only meet one another but to understand what was on the mind of our athletes. It became very apparent in our first meeting that the impacts of Covid-19 were still greatly felt and many of our athletes were hungry to learn about the rich programs OVA has to offer in a 'normal' year. Given that so many of our athletes have not experienced the full range of OVA indoor and beach programs due to Covid - 19, the council began an informal discussion about programs and ideas they were curious to explore. There was overwhelming interest in learning about opportunities to better understand recruiting at the college/ university level. There was also interest in looking at more high-performance opportunities that athletes could participate in.

Some ideas that athletes wrote about (taken directly from athletes writing):

- **Allow opportunities for athletes to learn about the recruiting process from the OVA instead of having to hire a recruiter.**
- **That thing that the ova was talking about a while back with a "champions league" with the top teams playing the occasional 5-set game to simulate university/pro.**
- **More recruiting camps/showcases for high-performance boys.**
- **More chances to grow in the volleyball community.**
- **More opportunities such as, tournaments, camps, programs.**

The council is scheduled to meet on November 20th to reflect on their summer participation in our OVA programs and to welcome conversations about their participation in a 'normal' club year. We look forward to working with these athletes during the 2022-2023 season!

Message from the Staff

Much of this past year's focus was aimed at getting our athletes, coaches, clubs and referees to be able to return to the court as close to a normal training and competition environment as possible. However, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, it was not possible to do in a safe as possible environment that fell within provincial guidelines for the first 6 months of the year. Frustrations were high at times, but we were determined to deliver and explored new opportunities to run events in unconventional formats and facilities for the indoor competition season.

Through multiple modifications to the indoor competition structure, from league play to a condensed season to securing convention centers, and finally delivering Ontario Championships, we would like to thank Clubs for their patience in utilizing their practice spaces to make the modified league structure for 4v4 to 16U possible and for stepping up to help deliver 17 and 18U indoor tournaments to service those athletes that may have spent their last year in club volleyball. It was amazing to watch the membership pull together and adapt to change so quickly and work so hard to give athletes the opportunity to play in whatever format the OVA was allowed to deliver.

Although the lockdown caused by the emergence of the Omicron variant and the lack of facility space had initially put a damper on having a "close to normal" season as we had hoped for, we were excited, relieved, and motivated at the response to the tournaments at the Niagara Convention Center and the hype leading up to the multi-city Ontario Championships. It was amazing for the morale of staff to see 833 teams on the court in action at RIM Park and Paramount Fine Foods in April 2022. This strong return to our sport continued through Spring and Summer with our increased participation in the weekly Beach Leagues, Beach Tour, and Beach Ontario Championships, Team Ontario programming and strong team performances in Beach Nationals, the Ontario Parasport Games, Ontario Summer Games, and Canada Games.

Since March 2020, we all know that the world came to a halt. Over the past two and a half years, membership has persevered and along with the staff, has adapted, switched gears and pivoted again when needed to create modified programming and events. We are finally in a space where we feel confident that we can forge ahead and deliver a full year of programming for 2022-23 and we cannot wait. We look forward to seeing more of all of you in person during the upcoming year with bigger and better opportunities through the new indoor competitions conference center events, the under-one-roof experience at the 2023 Indoor Ontario Championships at Enercare Centre, through Beach competitions and leagues and Team Ontario. We'll see you there!

OVA Staff

Jo-Anne Ljubicic, Executive Director

Operations Team

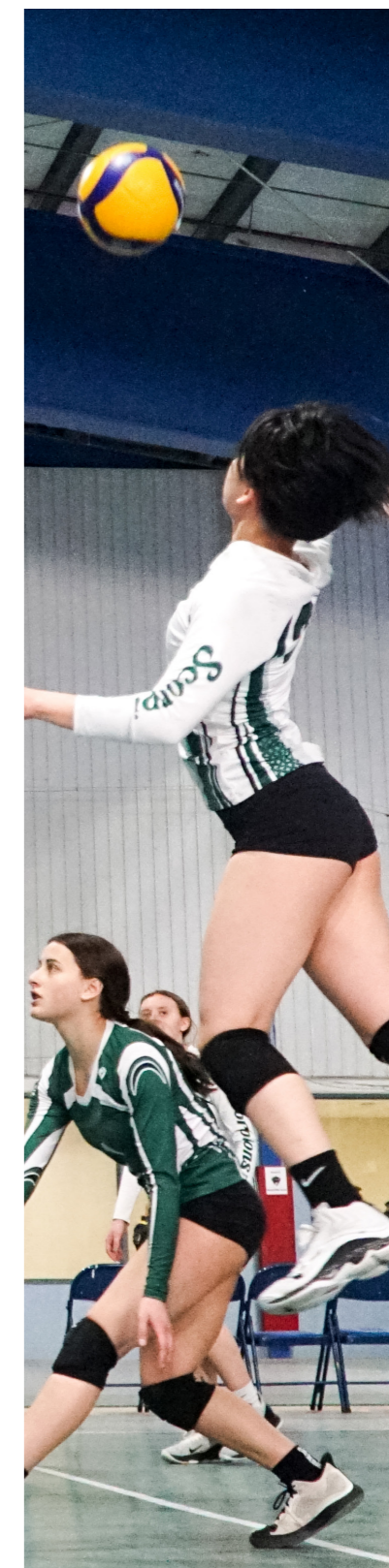
- Alishia Lidums, Director of Volleyball Operations
- Kelvin Cheng, Operations Lead
- Oklend Llakaj, Operations Coordinator
- Carrie Campbell, Manager of Indoor Programs
- Mark Wiersma, Youth Competitions Lead
- Jacob Barker, Indoor Program Coordinator
- Suzanne Wallace, Manager of Beach Programs
- Kerish Maharaj, Manager of Community Outreach & Grassroots Programs
- Dylan Brennand, Digital Media Coordinator
- George Huffman, Communications Coordinator

Athlete Development Team

- LP Mainville, Director of Athlete Development
- Angie Shen, Senior Beach Development Coach
- Lauren Breadner, Athlete Development Lead

Finance & Administration Team

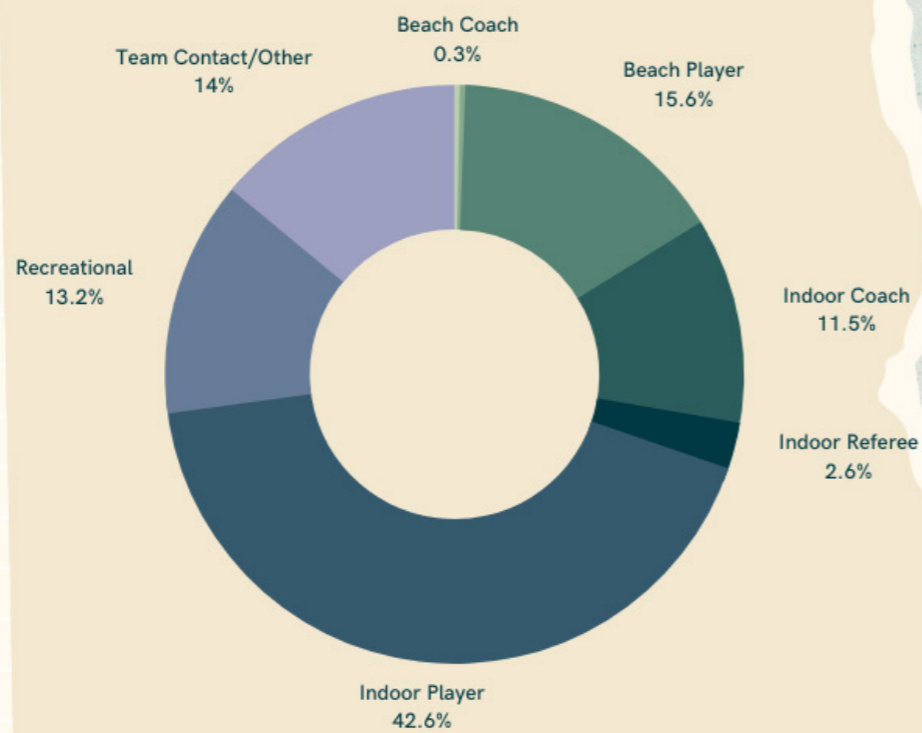
- Jennifer Harkness, Director of Finance & Administration
- Mario Rando, Accountant
- Chery Bennett, Member Services Coordinator



OVA Membership

There were **14,275** unique members in 2021/2022 - a 16% increase from pre-pandemic levels.

Although not visible on the chart, Beach referees accounted for 0.3% of the membership total.



YOUTH COMPETITIONS



**THIS YEAR
WE HAD**

10,983

Registered indoor players

79

Registered OVA clubs



98.4%
COMPLIANCE

Respect In Sport

Over the 2021-22 season, the OVA was not only focused on a safe return to the sport through COVID-19 policies and procedures but also on ensuring athletes had a safe environment to play, including conducting the Respect in Sport (RIS) audit.

By the 2022 Ontario Championships, the OVA membership achieved a 98.4% compliance rate. In total, 146 competitive players/recreational players didn't have a RIS number associated with their account and certificate numbers were obtained on-site at team check-in to ensure eligibility was met for participation.



\$ 150,000 OTF Grant Helps Revive the Indoor Competitions Model

Over the past 2.5 years of the COVID-19 pandemic, the OVA and its membership have witnessed the shuttering of gym doors across the province at an alarming rate and a slow re-opening to sport due to Government regulations and gymnasium closures.

With limited access to high school facilities over the course of the 2021-22 season, the OVA was unable to meet the demand for the delivery of indoor competitions and could not support its mission of the growth and delivery of volleyball in Ontario. That is where the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) and the Resilient Communities Fund (RCF) grant came into play.

The OTF is an agency of the Government of Ontario and one of Canada's leading granting foundations. OTF invests in community projects and partnerships to build healthy and vibrant communities and strengthen the impact of Ontario's non-profit sector.

The RCF supports non-profit organizations as they continue to recover and build resiliency due to the impacts of COVID-19. Funding helps rebuild the organization's capacity, enhance resiliency, and meet the changing needs of the community by adapting or adding new program delivery models.

The OVA knew it had to act and adapt its indoor competitions model to alleviate the reliance on high school gyms and expensive private facilities to ensure our sport could continue to play as well as to bring in rental income to help rebuild the Association post-pandemic. No longer could staff rely on high school permit offices to rent out high school gyms for up to 600 regular season events annually. Thus, the idea to deliver multiple tournaments under one roof using a convention centre delivery model was born.

The OVA applied for the RCF grant in December of 2021 and was notified in April 2022 that the Association was fortunate enough to secure a \$150,000 RCF grant to help rebuild and recover from the impacts of COVID-19. The grant has allowed the OVA to purchase six portable Sport Court and Spieth Anderson volleyball systems to deliver a re-imagined competition model with convention centre events in two locations for over 800 teams for the 2022-23 season and hopefully beyond.



The OVA is extremely grateful to the Ontario Trillium Foundation for their continuous support to the Association. These 6 new court and net systems will be in use at the pilot events in the 2022-23 competition season at the EY Centre in Ottawa, the Niagara Falls Convention Centre as well as at the Enercare Centre in Toronto for Ontario Championships 2023. The staff cannot wait to get back to what they love doing best, delivering indoor competitions to members from across Ontario.

- Alishia Lidums, OVA Director of Operations

Outside of the competition delivery, the purchase of six portable volleyball systems will also provide long term cost savings, alleviating the need to rent 6 systems annually for the Ontario Championships as well as generating rental income for the OVA. These cost savings and rental opportunities will assist the OVA in the COVID recovery efforts and fast-track the Associations return to operating at full capacity.

The OVA is committed to ensuring that this new equipment, as well as previously owned equipment, remains accessible for member Clubs over the course of the year. If you wish to enquire about using OVA equipment at your facility or for events, please email mwiersma@ontariovolleyball.org.

Ontario
Trillium
Foundation



Fondation
Trillium
de l'Ontario

An agency of the Government of Ontario
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario



Indoor Youth Competitions

The 2021/2022 season was the year of adaptation. Coming off a full year of cancellations due to the COVID-19 government regulations and lockdowns, the OVA staff were determined to run volleyball again, in whatever form was possible within the COVID environment.

The original plan was a normal season for all age divisions but as regulations continued to mount, the staff had to pivot. November 2021 began with the introduction of league play for the 4v4 to 16U divisions. Leagues consisted of a grouping of 6-8 teams playing a set number of matches over a 4-week period at club practices. League play allowed teams to access smaller facilities, keep gathering sizes within capacity restrictions, abide by government vaccination regulations and keep membership safe. The OVA Clubs pulled together and worked collaboratively to deliver league play in a fall and winter session.

The Tournament format was planned for the 17U-18U divisions. However, teams were asked to register for a weekend rather than a tournament day which allowed OVA staff to assign events to different locations to optimize available gym space. The venues that were used for these events were pre-booked at private facilities by the OVA. Although these unconventional facilities came at a larger cost, they were the only ones who were able to open their door to sport at that time.

As the regular season progressed, staff and Clubs were faced with major facility restrictions and regulations which forced the OVA to adapt yet again. In December of 2021, OVA staff held a town hall which reviewed the changes that staff hoped to implement moving into the new year. This included the introduction of one-day Convention Centre events at the EY Centre in Ottawa, (January 7-8 and January 14-16) and at the Niagara Falls Convention Centre (NFCC) (January 28-30). Although athletic facilities, community centres and school gyms were under heavy restrictions, convention centres had a different set of rules that the OVA could take advantage of to get membership playing once again. The convention centre model would allow for a total delivery of 144 teams per weekend. However, as COVID evolved, so did our plans.

As the Province faced a lockdown extending beyond the winter break, staff were forced to sacrifice the plans for the EY Centre and work with NFCC on securing new dates. Luckily, as trade shows were canceling their events, the OVA jumped at the opportunity to rent more weekend dates! In the end, staff were able to organize 4 weekends of competition at the NFCC and host tournaments for our TNS Boys/Girls, 15U Boys/Girls and 16U Boys/Girls on 12 OVA sport courts.

Although our season was anything but predictable, staff were able to bring the game of volleyball back to members and still provide a base for Ontario Championships. We would like to thank all our club administrators, coaches, parents and athletes for their cooperation, commitment and flexibility to ensure that the 2021-22 season was able to happen.

Early Contact Initiative Roll Out

Although the 2021-22 season did not go as planned, the OVA still rolled out the Early Contact Initiative for the entry levels of youth competition. The OVA is proud to say that the Association is continuing its innovative ways and that Ontario is the only province in Canada that has implemented an Early Contact Strategy and broadened age eligibility to ensure athlete recruitment and retention is addressed by finding the best fit for each individual athlete not only physically, but mentally through a holistic approach.

To aid with the rollout of the ECI model, OVA staff created coaching resources to assist coaches with implementing proper seasonal planning, and "Find your Fit" tools along

with instructional videos to support club coaches in implementing the ECI model at the grassroots level.

In its first season, the OVA staff were ecstatic to see 42 teams participating in the inaugural 4v4 competitions. After a year of Clubs pulling together to deliver league play, athletes from 4v4 to TNS (previously 14U) came together in April to celebrate and play in their first-ever Ontario Championships events. Smiling faces and overjoyed kids were everywhere.

A full review of the ECI model was taken postseason in conjunction with the Indoor Volleyball Development Committee and modifications were put in place for the 2022-23 season to better service athletes and clubs. We look forward to being able to deliver tournaments for the 4v4 to Traditional Limited Specialized (TLS) teams in 2022-23.





Club Funding Support

On March 8, 2022, the Ontario Government announced \$20 million for Multi-Sport Organizations and the 63 recognized Provincial Sport Organizations to support their member community sport clubs that provide access to sports. This funding had to be distributed by May 31, 2022, and the amounts distributed to the Clubs have to be reported back to the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries by June 30, 2022.

The OVA has been given funding of \$612,000 from the Ministry that was distributed to OVA Clubs that were registered for the 2021-2022 season. This funding was to help OVA registered Clubs cover the additional costs of running sport programs during the pandemic. Due to the guidelines and timelines assigned by the Ministry, this funding only applied to OVA member Clubs for their operations over the 2021-2022 season.

The funding amount per Club was distributed based on the following:

- **\$1,000 per OVA Registered Club plus;**
- **Ontario Championships Travel Subsidy, if club/teams qualify;**
- **The balance of funds will be prorated based on the number of participating teams at Ontario Championships 2022.**

The OVA and its Clubs are grateful to the Ministry for its financial support to ensure Club operations could continue to rebuild due to the impacts of the pandemic.





Photographer: Brenden MacDonald (Explore Waterloo Region)



Overall experience was awesome. It felt like a championship tournament. You could feel the energy in the building.

“

2022 Ontario Championships

After an uncertain year due to COVID-19 shutdowns and regulations limiting sport, the Ontario Volleyball Association made the conscious decision to plan for Ontario Championships (OC's) with the hopes that regulations and shutdowns would lift after January 2022. It was a gamble, but it paid off. With four weeks of planning time, the staff managed to pull it all together.

In April 2022, for the first time in the history of the festival-style event, the OVA hosted 7 events at 2 separate locations: RIM Park in Waterloo and Paramount Fine Foods Centre in Mississauga (PFFC). It was amazing to be able to pull the events together on such short notice and to see the desire of so many teams to be back on the courts for the Ontario Championships! After 2 long years, we were back!

The Paramount Fine Foods Centre in the City of Mississauga saw the OVA set up 12 sport court systems on its indoor soccer pitch and hosted 3 events for 261 teams over 9 days of competition. The City of Waterloo warmly welcomed the OVA back for the 13th year at RIM Park over 12 days of competitions for 572 teams on 24 courts of play. In total, 833 teams between the 4v4 to 18U divisions played in Ontario Championships.

It was an amazing testament to the determination of the Clubs, their staff, athletes, referees, coaches, OVA staff and City staff and their communities to get back on the courts after two long years. Each city embraced the Association's members and stepped up to ensure the events could run. In total, 70 local community members were hired as tournament staff to help deliver Ontario Championships. City staff from Waterloo and Mississauga stepped up and put in many overtime hours to make the events safe and successful. Explore Waterloo and Tourism Mississauga who generously applied funding to lower facility costs to ensure the OVA could deliver the tournaments.

Additionally, other members of the volleyball community pulled together to deliver the Championships. There were 44 Referee Development Team members from Head Referees, Area Supervisors, Mentors and Assignors to keep the flow of the day moving. A big thank you to HTG Sports for being able to secure so many hotel rooms on such short notice and to work with the OVA to ensure the Clubs were able to have heads in beds in each host city to the tune of almost 11,000 hotel room nights in April. And finally, thank you to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport for the Quest for Gold funding that supported the delivery of Provincial Championships for 18U male and female athletes in a format similar to international competitions. It gave athletes a chance to experience a high-performance competition environment that is not available anywhere else in Ontario. This type of competition prepares athletes for success at the university and National Team level. The event was well attended by spectators and the facility was packed.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to slow down, the OVA is looking forward to planning the 2022-23 season where we will see a return to a tournament-based structure for all age divisions and will culminate the year at the Enercare Centre in Toronto to truly celebrate our sport. We can't wait to see you all there!



833

TEAMS

WATERLOO

RIM PARK	AGE DIVISON	TEAMS
EVENT 1	TNS GIRLS	109
	17UB	32
EVENT 2	16UG	108
	TNS BOYS	36
EVENT 3	15UG	108
	16UB	44
EVENT 4	4V4 GIRLS	25
	18UG	76
	18UB	34

MISSISSAUGA

PARAMOUNT FINE FOODS CENTRE	AGE DIVISON	TEAMS
EVENT 1	17UG	88
EVENT 2	4V4 BOYS	32
	6V6 BOYS	108
EVENT 3	15UB	36
	6V6 GIRLS	108



2022 OCs Award Winners

William McIntyre and Pascale Galarneau-Haley named Ken Davies and Evelyn Holick Awards Winners

Although the OVA had another modified season in 2021-22, we knew we still had to honour 18U athletes by working with membership to select two very deserving athletes to receive the highest awards for Ontario athletes.

For 2022, the OVA proudly announced William McIntyre (KW Predators) and Pascale Galarneau-Haley (Ottawa Mavericks) as the Ken Davies and Evelyn Holick Award winners. Both athletes have been outstanding representatives of volleyball throughout their club careers and are leaders on and off the court.

Both find joy in seeing the success of others and are the first to offer support and care for both the physical and mental health of teammates, friends, and those in their local communities. We wish Will and Pascale the best of luck as they continue to pursue their volleyball careers at the post-secondary level with McIntyre signing with the University of Waterloo and Galarneau-Haley with the Queen's Gaels.



2022 Championship All Stars

For 2022, the OVA did not select Grand Prix All-Stars. All-Star awards were selected by participating team coaches in the Division 1 Tier one matches and were handed out at the respective medal ceremony on day 3 of playoffs after the medal matches at the Ontario Championships.

18U Boys

Brady Paterson - KW Predators Ubuntu
 Zac Taylor - KW Predators Ubuntu
 Kaden Schmidt - Pakmen Gold Mike
 Nikola Mitrovic - Pakmen Gold Mike
 Owen Mellon - Pakmen Gold Mike
 Jalen Chan - Unity Bounce
 Nathan Peters - Ottawa Fusion



17U Boys

Tyler Hignett - Oakville Thunder Flash
 William Basilio - Pakmen Gold Jessy
 Andon Kiriakou - Durham Attack Fierce
 Arthur Richard - FCVC Hyperion
 Ty Strong - FCVC Hyperion
 Jack Curtis - Durham Attack Fierce



16U Boys

Chris Taurims - Pakmen Gold
 Tian Harcevic - Pakmen Gold
 Iannis Toma - KW Predators
 Ashton Fox-Kristensen - KW Predators
 Julien Tran - Maverick Volleyball
 Lucas Bouwers - Ancaster Lions



18U Girls

Anna Wilson - Halton Hurricanes
 Aliah Admans - Halton Hurricanes
 Lauryn Hovey - KW Predators Synergy
 Maddison Vang - KW Predators Synergy
 Paige Owen - MVC Everest
 Pascale Galarneau-Haley - Maverick Broncos



17U Girls

Lauren MacPhail - MVC Kilimanjaro
 Kathryn Beresford - Durham Rebels Fury
 Alexia Zaprianov - Halton Hurricanes
 Kiki Drozd - Halton Hurricanes
 Hannah Ropret - Pakmen Gold Kadeem
 Emma Glagau - Pakmen Gold Kadeem



16U Girls

Raquel Lalli - Halton Hurricanes
 Emma Buntic - Halton Hurricanes
 Maya Slavcev - KW Predators
 Jasmine Ellison - Titans Crius
 Mia Lemay-Evans - Northern Chill
 Fannie Gauthier - Northern Chill





Ontario Champions

Tier 1 Division 1

Boys

- 4v4 Boys/Co-ed - Pakmen
- 6v6 Boys - Pakmen Gold
- TLS Boys - Pakmen Gold
- 15U Boys - Pakmen Gold
- 16U Boys - Pakmen Gold
- 17U Boys - Durham Attack Fierce
- 18U Boys - KW Predators Ubuntu

Girls

- 4v4 Girls - Pakmen Gold
- 6v6 Girls - Halton Hurricanes Category 3
- TLS Girls - MVC Matterhorn
- 15U Girls - Pakmen Gold
- 16U Girls - Halton Hurricanes Category 6
- 17U Girls - Halton Hurricanes Category 7
- 18U Girls - Halton Hurricanes Category 8



Indoor National 2022 Medalists



Boys

Gold - Durham Attack Blast

Silver - Unity Bushido

Bronze - Pakmen Gold

14UB Ottawa

Gold - KW Predators Piranhas

Silver - Toronto Thunderbolts Smash

Bronze - Pakmen Gold

15UB

Gold - Pakmen Gold

Silver - Unity Blue

16UB

Silver - Pakmen Gold

17UB

Girls

Gold - Durham Attack Intensity

Silver - Halton Hurricanes Category 4

14UG Ottawa

Bronze - KW Predators Embrace

14UG Halifax

Silver - Leaside Surge

14UG Richmond

Gold - Pakmen Gold

Silver - Defensa Purple

Bronze - Leaside Bolts

15UG

Gold - Titans Crius

Silver - Halton Hurricanes Category 6

16UG

Gold - Halton Hurricanes Category 7

Bronze - MVC Kilimanjaro

17UG

Gold - KW Predators Synergy

Silver - MVC Everest

18UG





BEACH VOLLEYBALL

“

Always enjoy the beach, glad OVA continues to run a great season of tournaments!

OVA BEACH TOUR

The OVA Beach Tour was back for a full season in 2022. It saw its regular start in May and wrapped up with our traditional Beach Ontario Championships in July and August. It was great to see everyone out on the beach again as we had **3,420** teams participate throughout the summer months across 15 locations in Ontario.

This past summer the OVA introduced a 17U age division with great success and we plan on continuing to offer the age group as part of our regular schedule next season. Some other successes on the beach this past season included:

1,140 Teams in Satellite events

2,280 Teams at OVA staff delivered facilities

3,420 Total teams

Facilities

Fifteen locations/facilities were used in the 2021-22 season, including two NEW host cities!

- Ashbridges Bay (Toronto)
- Pickering
- London
- Barrie
- Milton
- Kitchener
- Leamington
- Tillsonburg *NEW
- Ancaster
- Cobourg
- Markham
- Ottawa
- North Bay
- Brampton
- Belle River *NEW

BEACH ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS

The OVA staff were ecstatic to bring back Beach Championships at Ashbridges Bay in Toronto. This year, there were two events split between the July 30/31 and August 6/7 weekends. The Championships were a great success that **438** teams competing over 2 weekends – a **24%** growth from Fiscal 2021! To help pull off the event, **57** OVA Beach referees were on site to keep the matches running smoothly

Division 1, Tier 1 Champions

Female

D.Wilson/V.Vargas
12UG Premier

A.Brenner/M.Gortnar
13UG Premier

S.Hancock/B.Pengelly
14UG Premier

A.Lonardi/T.Wilson
15UG Premier

C.Kok/R.Lalli
16UG Premier

S.Gilbank/O.Odigie
17UG Premier

M.McNabney/R.Lalli
18UG Premier

M.McNabney/K.Droz
Youth Premier

R.Sorra/M.Law-Heese
Adult Premier

Male

R.VanDasselaar/C.Bartels
13UB Premier

N.Hatvani/J.Chow
14UB Premier

C.Tang/Y.Elsayed
15UB Premier

P. Ocampo/W.Basilio
16UB Premier

D.Nikashov/Y.Brown
17UB Premier

E.Sachik/B.Davies
18UB Premier

A.Kiriakou/J.Svensden
Youth Premier

J.Binstock/I.Reka
Adult Premier



“

**Thank you for running the Beach Tour.
Excellent way for everyone to stay
conditioned and meet new volleyball
friends!**

“

Just thank you - I'm guessing it's a labour of love so thank you for providing that chance for our kids!



Katarina Drozd (pictured) stood on top of the podium at both Ontario Championships and at the Volleyball Canada National Championships.

BEACH VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

From August 19-21, 2022, the OVA staff and Beach Crew assisted Volleyball Canada with the delivery of Beach Nationals at Ashbridges Bay in Toronto. In total, 241 teams from across Canada participated in the event in 14U to 19U and Senior Men and Women's events. Twenty-three OVA referees were onsite officiating matches.

Ontario athletes had an impressive showing, earning **30** medals out of a potential 48 at the Toronto Nationals. In addition to the 30 teams that medaled, 4 Ontario athletes teamed up with a partner from outside of Ontario and finished on the podium. A list of gold medalists from the event can be found below. Congratulations to all athletes on a successful National Championships.

Gold Medalists from Ontario

Female

Hancock/Shaw
14UG Premier
Spanish Banks, BC

Hancock/Willmott
14UG Premier

Nastase/Lonardi
15UG Premier

McDermott/Ellison
16UG Premier

Drozd/Kok
17UG Premier

Sorra/McNamara
Senior

Male

Chung/Whiting
14UB Premier

Elsayed/Droppert
15UB Premier

Ocampo/Basilio
16UB Premier

Bourne/Pickering
18UB Premier

Toomes/Venning
19UB Premier

Schachter/Dearing
Senior

ASHBRIDGES BAY BEACH VOLLEYBALL

For the first time since the summer of 2019, the OVA was able to plan for a regular beach season at Ashbridges Bay in Toronto and at its satellite properties in London, Barrie and Pickering.

For the summer of 2022, the city of Toronto permitted courts on a pilot project where they offered courts to multiple user groups. The OVA was granted the use of 58 beach volleyball courts during the spring and summer seasons.

In total, 725 adult teams and 208 individuals played in the weeknight leagues in Toronto. It was great to see the increased participation over 2021 where we saw an increase of 32% for fall participation and a 105% increase in individuals signing up to play in the summer league.

This past year, corporate rentals returned at Ashbridges and 20 various groups utilized the OVA beach courts. A notable group that rented a record number of courts; the TDSB junior and senior tournament which used 41 courts and had 158 teams in the tournament!

Outside of corporate rentals, there were 5 youth sanctioned camps and events held on the OVA beach court from May to August 2022 for a total of 1818 participants across all groups.

The Canada Summer Jobs grant was obtained for two of our full-time seasonal staff members who were responsible for daily net setup and league delivery at Ashbridges. Additionally, the OVA was successful in obtaining a Summer Experience Grant to help pay for an Ashbridges Bay Beach Volleyball Social Media Coordinator to help elevate the beach leagues and tournaments over the spring and summer months. Obtaining these grants was critical in keeping operational costs down while the Association continues to try and rebuild after the last 2 summers of cancelled or modified programming.





Volleyball For Life Leagues

For the summer of 2022, all league operations and management operated out of the OVA office for the season under the "Volleyball for Life" stream, to incorporate youth and adult leagues in a recreational format.

Leagues were able to operate at all 3 locations (Horseshoe, Pickering, London) for spring and summer leagues. The following teams were registered at each location

78

Horseshoe Valley Resort

60

London

54

Pickering





2022 Ontario ParaSport Games

Up to August 2022 programming for children aged 8-16 with disabilities had not yet returned as sport programs in children's rehab centres were still not allowed because of the health vulnerability of the participants. As a result, OVA staff focused on adult-inclusive participation for the remainder of the year, with the goal of having adult teams participating in the 2022 Ontario ParaSport Games in Mississauga.

In total, there were 5 teams, each with a minimum of 3 persons with a disability always on the court that took part in the one-day tournament.

Congratulations to all teams that participated in the Games.

Final standing of the Games were as follows:

- Team Niagara
- Team Durham
- Golden Eagles
- Toronto Servers
- Team Wendy

A review of the tournament of the ParaSport Games can be found on the OVA's YouTube Channel:

youtu.be/lu36oGbkslo

The Games were a great opportunity to continue discussions about the development of sitting volleyball across the province as many key players were in attendance. Joe Millage from ParaSport Ontario who has been a champion and promoter of the sport found time to sit down with OVA staff to have a valuable in-person discussion to aid in planning for the 2023-2024 season and for the development of the sitting high-performance branch of the OVA.



Sitting Volleyball Demos

Outreach demo sessions and coach training also took place in Petawawa, Windsor and Niagara (as part of the Canada Games). In total, **32** persons took part in coach training and approximately **180** youth took part in demo sessions across the province, thanks to the Canadian Tire Jumpstart grant. The Jumpstart Grant was aimed to reduce the cost of participation of youth and with disabilities to return to sitting volleyball once their schools and rehabilitation centres were cleared to do so.

The OVA is grateful for the continued partnership, support and resources of ParaSport Ontario, the Jumpstart Community Relief Fund and the Ontario male and female members of the National Sitting Volleyball Teams in their continued effort to help grow sitting volleyball in Ontario.

THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS



Newcomers Program

In March 2022, the Commonwealth Games Association of Canada's SportWORKS program contacted us to pilot our first Newcomers Volleyball Program at the Downtown Hamilton Family YMCA. The program took place from April 9th to May 14th and targeted girls ages 10-12 and ages 13-15. There were 41 participants, and the program took the approach of a Parent and Player program and included mini-tournaments, which was well received by the families. McMaster University has agreed to partner with the YMCA to continue this program as part of the University's outreach for hosting the 2023 and 2024 Volleyball USports Finals.

Community Events

With the OVA's new strategic plan, there is a focus on "engaging the volleyball community through ongoing collaboration". Last year, OVA staff were able to work with the Toronto and Mississauga Nepalese Volleyball Community by assisting them with hosting their return-to-play tournaments on May 22nd and August 27th. Both tournaments featured teams from across Canada and the United States. The OVA's support included lending tournament hosts volleyballs, antennas, score cards and assisting with sourcing referees. OVA staff is working with the Nepalese Volleyball Community to create a formal partnership to start grassroots programming, introduce their members to our GTA clubs and connect them to similar volleyball organizations, namely, INDOCAN and the Bangladeshi Sports Association, all with the goal of helping them share resources, experiences, and opportunities.

For the first time, OVA staff was able to cover the annual 9-man Canada Day Weekend Tournament in Mississauga. The history of 9 Man, although partially known in the OVA Community, does not get the recognition it deserves as an established form of volleyball in the Ontario and Canadian landscape. The board members and past executive members of the 9 Man Association were able to furnish us with videos, pictures, and other records of their history with a view to bringing to light their extensive contribution to volleyball in Ontario, as many of their members are/have also been OVA members.

If you are belong to, or are aware of more community driven volleyball initiatives like these in Ontario please contact kmaharaj@ontariovolleyball.org to share your story and find ways that we can support each other, reduce barriers to play and provide more opportunities for our sport to grow.

Town Halls

The OVA continued to host virtual town hall meetings to continue keeping the membership informed and up to date with the latest developments that impacted volleyball operations due to the ongoing pandemic.

In total, there were 21 Town Halls held by OVA staff during the fiscal year that not only discussed COVID-19 regulations and modified play but was also used as a tool to communicate virtually with large groups of members on different programs and services from Team Ontario programming to Rowan's Law regulation updates.

The online meetings were well-attended and allowed members to ask the staff questions at the end of each presentation. There were cumulatively **12,237** members attending live or watching the recorded sessions on the OVA YouTube channel after the fact.

The OVA is immensely grateful for the memberships' cooperation for participating in these meetings and the staff will continue to use this medium in its communication efforts.

Grassroots Return to Play

From September to December 2021, the reintroduction of grassroots indoor programs was very slow due to the lack of gym space while still under pandemic restrictions. In contrast, Spring and Summer programs had a very large intake, comprising of 85% of the participant numbers, with beach volleyball programs alone making up 70% of the year's participants.



INCLUSION, DIVERSITY & EQUITY ADVISORY

This year the Inclusion, Diversity & Equity Advisory Committee (IDEAC) continued to contribute to the review of OVA policy through a systemic racism lens and updated the LGBTQ+ policy for the Association. Through the internal review, it was determined that the Association would like to hire a consultant to complete a thorough review of all policies, procedures, and the current Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) system. The Board of Directors approved funding to hire a consultant and after a thorough RFP Process, the Korn Ferry Agency was hired. They will conduct an audit and assist with filling any gaps that emerge from that research. This project was launched in September 2022 and the participation of the entire OVA population, including the OVA Board, staff, and membership, is targeted to be engaged in February 2023. This process will gather valuable feedback that will guide all aspects of the governance of the sport, making it more equitable and accessible for all Ontarians.

Outside of policy and procedures, the IDEAC wanted to highlight the voices of those not currently involved in the OVA to create new partnerships and to help the sport grow. Through new partnerships, the OVA worked to reduce barriers to entry for coaches, referees, and athletes of marginalized populations within our sport. OVA staff created informative videos surrounding the 9-man movement, the Nepalese Volleyball Community in Ontario, and sitting volleyball at the 2022 ParaSport Games to continue to educate all stakeholders regarding diversity, equity and inclusion topics in volleyball.

Unfortunately, the Canadian Tire Jumpstart grant for the BIPOC coach mentorship pilot program intended for 2022 was postponed due to covid regulations and closures and will be rolled forward into the 2023 season instead.

As part of the recommended actions by the Committee, the OVA was able to support and give a larger audience to pockets of volleyball communities within Ontario that, although not currently members, still play a very important and active role in the development of volleyball in the province to traditionally underserved communities. Support was given specifically in the form of marketing, the sharing of equipment at no cost, and assistance with tournament management. The relationships built were a mutually beneficial educational experience for the OVA and we look forward to continuing to improve these partnerships across the province. One of these said partnerships was the newcomers pilot program done in partnership with the Commonwealth Games of Canada. It gave the OVA the opportunity not only to serve and inspire a new population through our sport but actively gather data to refine into a larger newcomer's program that the OVA can develop.



ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

Athlete Development

The fall of 2021 saw high performance programs come back on a more regular basis after a long break due to the pandemic. Our OVA Athlete Development staff was finally able to plan for full in-person programming. Adjustments were made to the regular Team Ontario programs to offer more training opportunities and make up for all the cancellations of the previous two years. In fiscal 2022, we were able to provide 9583 total training days to young Ontario volleyball players.



Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative Program

The Team Ontario Elite program ran for the first time since the international trip was cancelled in March 2020. This program is supported by the Canadian Sport Institute of Ontario (CSIO) through the Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative program (OHPSI). Throughout the fall and winter, athletes received additional support in the area of strength & conditioning, mental performance and nutrition. They participated in two weekend camps in the fall followed by a week-long training camp during March Break. The athletes had the opportunity to train in the men's and women's National Team training centres in Gatineau and Richmond. Working with the National Staff in their environment was an eye opening experience that helped athletes prepare for the next stage of their high performance career. The OVA is thankful for the support of the CSIO and is looking forward to running more OHPSI programming in 2023.

Quest For Gold

The OVA would not be able to provide the quality of programming within Team Ontario without the support of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) and their Quest For Gold program. This funding allows Provincial Sport Organizations like the OVA to support emerging athletes with the potential of representing Ontario and Canada internationally. Indoor and beach athletes alike benefited from this funding this year through subsidized participation costs and program enhancements. New in 2022, the Quest For Gold funding also supported the 18U boys & girls Ontario Championship Division 1 event which represents the pinnacle of our OVA indoor season. On behalf of all the athletes, coaches and parents who were helped directly or indirectly by this funding, the OVA would like to thank the MTCS for their investment and continued support.





Team Ontario Fall Training

In the summer of 2021, all in-person indoor programs were cancelled at the last minute, and it left all players from Team Ontario Red & Black very disappointed. We started the new year with the objective of finding other opportunities for these players to train with Team Ontario. In October of 2021, all players who missed out on Team Ontario during the summer were invited to participate in a weekend training camp in Markham. Athletes received Team Ontario gear and trained in four on-court sessions with our program coaches. Additionally, a group of setters from both Team Ontario boys and girls programs participated in a series of weekly setter training sessions in Hamilton. It was a nice consolation for the athletes and the coaches who had missed out on their summer experience.

Team Ontario Athlete Identification

The 2022 athlete identification process was the biggest in recent memory with a large number of athletes wanting to get back to high performance programs. With fewer tournaments played during the season, our staff had to come up with innovative solutions to meet the challenge. We chose to use a hybrid process with an online portion combined with in-person assessments of skill and physical abilities. Interested players registered in the GMTM online platform and submitted game play videos. Team Ontario coaches reviewed each application and attended Ontario Championships to confirm their evaluations and get everyone's physical testing results at the Volleyball Canada Jump Off station. A total of **1,046** registered athletes between indoor and beach volleyball were evaluated and considered for a spot on Team Ontario.

We spoke a lot about how much training was missed by athletes during the pandemic but there is another group of highly passionate people that also missed out greatly; coaches. Many coaches who were selected to Team Ontario in 2020 & 2021 didn't get the chance to get on court and that's why we did everything we could to provide them with coaching opportunities. As always, Team Ontario coaches did an excellent job in 2022 and for that, the OVA would like to thank them.

Between indoor and beach programs, we were able to count on 15 mentor coaches, 28 head coaches, 30 assistant coaches, 38 regional/tall maples coaches and 15 guest coaches to deliver Team Ontario programs to youth athletes in 2022. The dedication of these individuals and their commitment to excellence is unparalleled. The OVA is grateful for all their hard work and for everything they have done to support the Team Ontario mission. Thank you coaches and see you in the gym in 2023!



250
14U Athletes

546
15U, 16U, 17U
Athletes

230
18U & 19U
Athletes



Team Ontario Beach Tryout

A number of athletes who registered for the athlete identification process were invited to the in-person selection camp for Team Ontario beach. The tryout was held in Toronto at the end of May. Over 80 promising beach players participated in the camp that consisted of one day of training and one day of in-competition evaluations during an OVA Beach Tour event at Ashbridges Bay. A total of 66 athletes were invited to join one of the Team Ontario Beach programs for the 2022 summer.



Volleyball Canada Combine

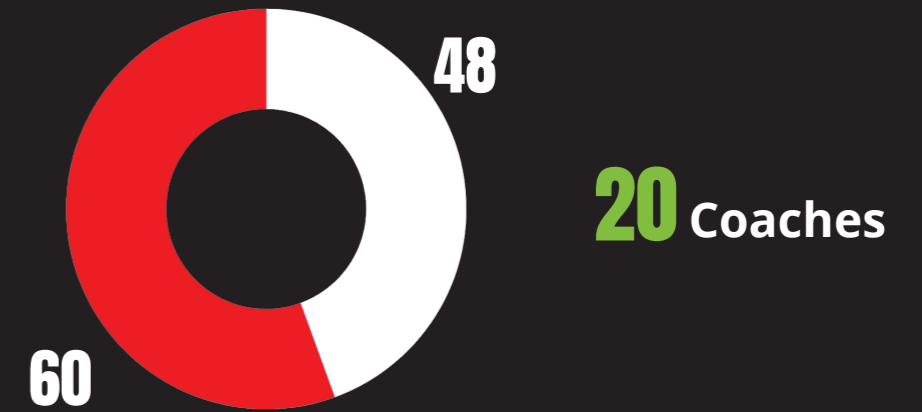
In the fall of 2021, the OVA partnered with Volleyball Canada to run the first ever pilot of the Volleyball Canada Combine which aims at creating a database of players from across the country for the purpose of player identification for the National Team programs. The event took place in Vaughn in November and saw 147 athletes of various age groups go through a series of standardized physical tests. Over 10 volunteers from our OVA community helped make this event happen. The OVA looks forward to hosting more Combines and helping Ontario athletes find out how they compare to other players their age from across the country.

TEAM ONTARIO INDOOR SUMMER PROGRAMS

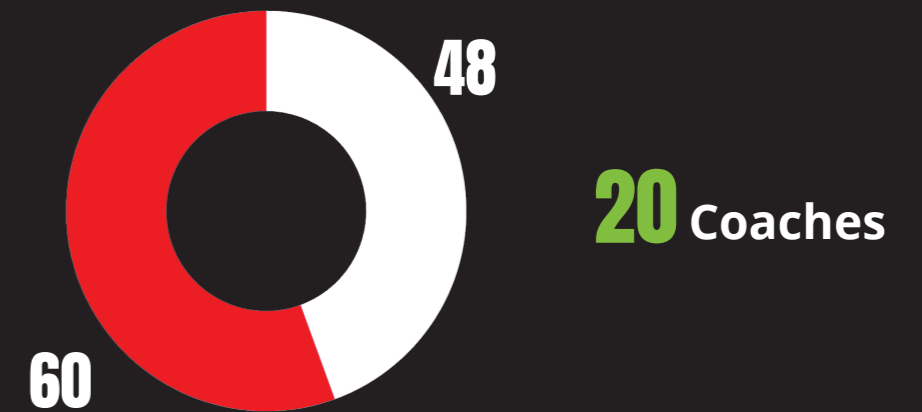
For the first time since the summer of 2019, the OVA was able to run our indoor Team Ontario programs in-person in July. Athletes were selected in May and were given a physical training program to follow in June to prepare for their camp. They gathered at various locations throughout the province in July and got to develop their skills both on and off the court. Athletes were supported with technical & tactical coaching, mental performance, nutrition and strength & conditioning. They were led by an excellent group of head, assistant and mentor coaches who worked hard to deliver the best Team Ontario training possible.



TEAM ONTARIO BLACK



TEAM ONTARIO RED



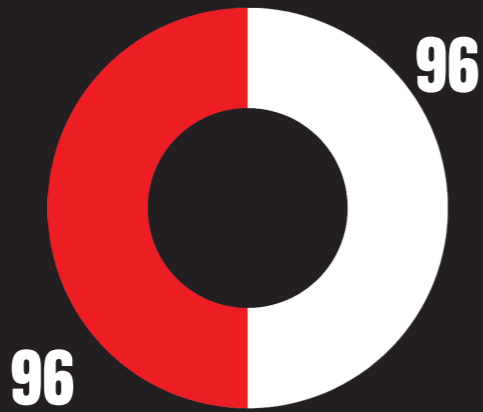
NORTH BAY
Nipissing University

Girls Boys



REGIONAL PROGRAM

GUELPH
University of Guelph

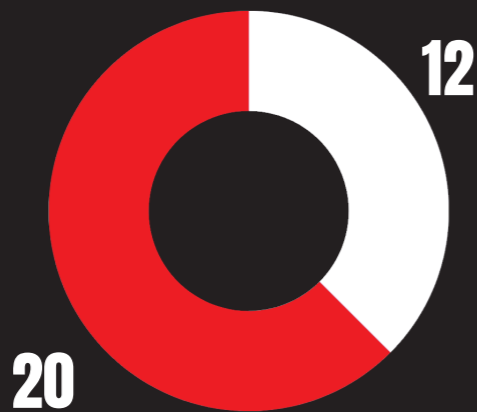


38 Coaches



TALL MAPLES

LONDON
Western University



7 Coaches

Girls Boys

Team Ontario Cup

A number of athletes who registered for the athlete identification process were invited to the in-person selection camp for Team Ontario beach. The tryout was held in Toronto at the end of May. Over 80 promising beach players participated in the camp that consisted of one day of training and one day of in-competition evaluations during an OVA Beach Tour event at Ashbridges Bay. A total of 66 athletes were invited to join one of the Team Ontario Beach programs for the 2022 summer.



“

You gave us back a different person! Sure, our daughter got great touches and an on-court volleyball experience like none she has ever received, but even better yet, she came back with greater levels of confidence, strategies to continue to strengthen her mental resiliency, and an even greater desire to be a leader on her team.



Tall Maples

Tall Maples ran in conjunction with the Team Ontario Beach Super Camp in London this year. This program combines both indoor and beach volleyball in one great learning opportunity. The athletes who are selected based on their above average physical attributes got to participate in court sessions both in the gym and on sand. Off-court, they participated in mental performance and nutrition sessions led by sport science experts who work with the Team Ontario beach athletes. Since the inception of this training camp in 2016, nearly 15% of the Tall Maples athletes have gone on to play on other Team Ontario programs further up our high performance pathway. This year's group won't be the exception. We look forward to seeing where volleyball will take these gifted athletes in the future.

ROSTERS

REGIONAL PROGRAM

Boys

Adam Bertovic	Christian Ermacora	Keshav Padum	Owen Crofton
Aengus Adams	Cole Stephens	Kian Khademi	Parker Piper Martin
Aidan Campbell	Connor Gunn	Kyle Thornborrow	Pascal Morin
Aleksa Rakic	Daniel Liu	Leland Smith	Reed Fulsom
Alessandro Moretta	Davis Hinshelwood	Liam Doran	Remy Wilson
Alex Gaston	Diego Peralta	Liam Moynihan	Richard Reinders
Alex Niu	Elijah Lim	Luca Dumbrava	Rory Turner
Alexander Chung	Erben Prime	Malcolm Bruce	Sebastian Pena
Alexander Mei	Eric Lapner	Marcus Barrett	Seth Clubine
Andrew Rocheleau	Evan Scott	Mason Lange	Seth DuChene
Antonio Coca	Grayson Comeau	Mason Wen	Shaoming Wu
Arjun Goela	Griffin Brown	Mason Zhang	Taylor Whelan
Artem Tarasov	Harrison Robinet	Mateo Castano	Thomas Huang
Ben Cushing	Hunter Li	Matthew Felker	Tristan King
Ben Dickens	Ian Case	Matthieu Danbrook	Troy Moua
Benjamin Sanecki	Isaac Archibald	Max Fitzgerald	Tyler Bae
Blake Peters	Jackson Findlay	Michael Wittemund	Will Clarmo
Brendon Fu	Jacob Jones	Misha Panasiouk	William Pelton
Bryce Kim	Jameson Seo	Nathan McCarthy	William Gasparotto
Campbell Harmsworth	Jasper Tullett	Nico Hoey	William Bedard
Carson Chin	Jim Lee	Noah Shefa	William Halloran
Carter Staresinic	Jonah Dekker-Bauer	Owen McKenzie	Zachary Scoular
Charlie Phoenix Mcvean	Joshua Mok	Owen Busby	Zachary Sabourin
Chase Reimer	Kai Nickel	Owen Maloley	Zhendong Yang

Girls

Abigail Sharrard	Isabella Sooley	Sarah Molnar
Abigail Faris	Isabella Foote	Sonia Olar
Ada Ersu	Isabella Cianci	Sophie Hartley
Adelaide Cosgrove	Isabelle Aubin	Stella Bates
Alexa Carating	Jade Abi	Taylor Slean
Amy Renshaw	Jasmine Ming	Taylor Namtzu
Ana Stojanovic	Jolie Liu	Tessa Smith
Angela Abboud	Julia Istratescu	Tessa Caruso
Angelina Hofmann	Julia Hunter	Vienna Wei
Anisa Versi	Kaleya Ilao	Vienna Ballance-Hinch
Anisa Lapointe	Kate Chipman	Zara Chavarria Bonhomme
Aurora Grenier	Katelyn Sagriff	Zile Eglitis
Ava Lukey	Kristen Huebel	Zoe Horton
Ava Floras	Kylie Mills	
Ava Chung	Lara Uler	
Avery Rutledge	Layla Sevor	
Avery McKay	Logan Hamilton	
Beatrice Pengelly	Mackenzie Reed	
Braelyn Loftus	Mackenzie Carriere	
Brooke Gunter	Maija Nepszy	
Calleigh Councillor	Maili Jutila	
Chloe Kim	Makayla Patterson	
Chyanne Jephson	Makenna Watson	
Claire Neagle	Marija Jurcic	
Dalia Dixon	Marisa Carinci	
Dara Obeid	Marli Aitken	
Dasia Smith	Maya Boutanos	
Daven Braumberger	Melia Piercey	
Ella Yap	Mia Dosen	
Ella Harrow	Mya Campigotto	
Ella Finochio	Mya Balfe	
Ellery Williamson	Myah Dellemonache	
Emery Stapleton	Nadia Cucuz	
Emery Morden	Natalie Wahlgren	
Emma Underwood	Nola Ma	
Emmanuelle Murphy Ives	Olivia Woolley	
Evelyn He	Payton Dolyn	
Evyn Paroshy	Peyton Vale	
Gabrielle Sharkey	Reagan Cameron	
Hailey Ayre	Roselyn Chamberlin	
Hannah Schad	Sadie Lupton	
Isabella Zylbering	Sara Williams	

Coaching Staff

Boys

Kevin Savoury
Allison Gray
Eli Merriam
Gita Ljubicic
Tristian Reid
Jacob Winkler
Tim Silcox
Denis King
Jordan Timpson
Zachary Ferguson
Ariel Castromayor
Tony Hage
Camilo Chacon
Erin Carter
Tommy Pham
Mia Kurtz Favero

Girls

John Curtis
David Tiet
Jenn Kelly
Marc Ferretti
Angeline Sloan
Christina Stratford
Cory Sloan
Iliana Schlechta
Erica Meagher
Dan Bainard
David Reed
Kaly Soro
Scott Naish
Daphne Choi
Cassidy Nicholson-Clarke
Carrie Welsh
Brendan Mills

TEAM ONTARIO BLACK

Boys

Adam Snider
 Andre Harris
 Arthur Richard
 Ashton Fox-Kristensen
 Ben Kuhner
 Caleb Huot
 Carter Sedgewick
 Chris Tautrims
 Cole Crowder
 Danilo Borcic
 Darren Chiang
 Gavin Deep
 Ian Kennedy
 Iannis Toma
 Jaiden Beason
 Jared Kuiken
 Jason Heidbuurt
 Jeremie Rainville
 Jon Droppert
 Jordan Ku
 Joshua Beuck
 Justice Smith
 Keegan Ryan
 Kevin Li
 Kye Young
 Leo Gao
 Logan Hand
 Lucas Genier
 Marc Lihet
 Matthew McCarvell
 Matthew Siebenga
 Michael McAlpine
 Michael Rendulic
 Nathan Gibbons
 Nigel Mason
 Nolan Reed
 Oliver Toomes

Coaching Staff

Owen Atherfold
 Owen Pickering
 Quinn Foley
 Quinn Taylor
 Ray Liu
 Toby Nessel
 Trent Cherewaty
 Ty Strong
 Tyler Gibson
 Wes Long
 Will Basilio
 Matt Harris
 David Gross
 Brad McClure
 Haiqi Liu
 David Ta
 Gilles Landry
 Cam Branch
 Michael Amoroso
 Ryan Leknois

Girls

Abby Smith
 Alexandra Roberge
 Alexandra Schultz
 Alexia Zaprianov
 Alexis Miller
 Allison Van Zeumeren
 Alyssa Flack
 Ana Nastase
 Angelika Vidmar
 Anna Marie Horvat
 Audrey Bélanger-Griffith
 Ava Vos
 Avangelina Cvetan
 Avaya Maga
 Brea De Souza
 Brooke Woolley
 Carina MacKinnon
 Charlotte Ross
 Cooper Jones
 Daragh McIntosh
 Darcie Buchanan
 Emma Buntic
 Faith Hughes
 Giselle Wong
 Hope Simpson
 Jasmine Ellison
 Jennifer Wu
 Julia Melnyk
 Juliana Miecz
 Kameryn Vanwallegham
 Kathryn Beresford
 Katrina Morse
 Kennedy Llewellyn
 Lael Harrison
 Lauren Pankratz
 Lauren Wittchen
 Leah Burrell
 Lexi Nicholson-Clarke
 Lou Theriault
 Mackenzie Leu
 Madeline Pelosi
 Madison Seo
 Madison Shular
 Maryn Petrie
 Mia Lemay-Evans
 Mikayla Wong
 Nadalina Jelcic
 Niki Assady Nazary
 Ofure Odigie
 Olivia Melnik
 Payton Gaylor
 Rayanna Amos-Ross Fisher
 Samantha Roberts
 Sarah Bumstead
 Selin Eran
 Sloane Fortin
 Sophie Jewell
 Sophie Miller
 Sophie Sommerfeldt
 Toni Wilson

Coaching Staff

Amy Wilson-Hands
 Elaine Pilgrim-Susi
 Jeff Farrell
 John Nguyen
 Kevin Sherriff
 Lisa Watson
 Michael Ongley
 Prateek Yadav
 Robin Kidd
 Sarah Moss
 Sean Pellow

TEAM ONTARIO RED

Boys

Adam Hendry
 Agampreet Minhas
 Aiden McKay
 Alexandre Falardeau-Mercier
 Andrew Droppert
 Andrew Voorn
 Austin Wilson
 Ben Clark
 Benjamin Clark
 Brecken Morrison
 Brendan Chan
 Brock Mackenzie
 Cameron Hedderson
 Chris Hoffman
 Christian Patterson
 Cole Wiersma
 Daniel Lewis
 Declan Dunn
 Ethan Naccarato
 Grant Haley
 Hale Abbott
 Jacob Long
 Jakob Curtis
 Jimmy Gill
 Jordan Wright
 Joshua Lafleche
 Julien Tran
 Justin Holland
 Kai Taylor
 Lucas Bouwers
 Luke Paul
 Marcellus Robinson
 Matthias Cooper
 Nathan McCuaig
 Nathan Onlock
 Owen Kenney
 Parker Ocampo
 Reece Witen
 Robbie MacWilliam
 Sasha Thiessen
 Tian Harcevic
 Toby Snider
 Tristan Hassell
 Troy D'Cunha
 Tyson Cassone
 Tyson Parashyniak-Doll
 Vitorio Forte
 Will Brewer

Coaching Staff

Brad Douwes
 Chris Ling
 François Marfo
 Jelle Kooijman
 Jon Orrett
 Kelly McGuire
 Lynn Thomson
 Shayne White
 Thomas Ellison

Girls

Abbey Whittington
 Aleksandra Bonfigli
 Alexis Labrecque
 Arianna Lonardi
 Athalia Duong
 Calille Pottinger
 Carrie Grainger
 Chelsea Chew
 Claire Fan
 Ela Low-Ring
 Ella Dunbrack
 Ella Hope
 Emma Perreault
 Eva Lin
 Georgia Cartwright
 Haley Gortmaker-Carroll
 Isabella Gancevich
 Jasmine Chrétien
 Jessica Schmid
 Julia Curtis
 Julia Santos
 Kailie Sutherland
 Kate Fischer
 Kate Quemby
 Katerina Iliopoulos
 Katherine Demers
 Keira Elliott
 Keira Mackenzie
 Kenzie Lahey
 Khasana Gordon
 Kristina Elias Chereque
 Kylie Savin
 Lara Askovic
 Lauren Jansen
 Libby Dougherty
 Lillian Mereszak
 Lola Kenney
 Lyndsay Boon
 Maia Duong
 Maia Peterson
 Maya Purkis
 Megan Chiang
 Mia Ladd
 Mia McCabe
 Milena Chimilovski
 Natasha Bakes
 Nicole Milosevic
 Paige Strong
 Perry Attwell
 Renee Shaw
 Roselle Mo
 Ruthie Zhang
 Sera Leung
 Sofia Zabjek
 Sol Henson
 Spencer Danielsen
 Talia Tsarfati
 Tatiana Drozd
 Taylor Rocca
 Valerie Bidal
 Andrew Carrasco
 Jenny Pellegrino
 Julia Wiercigroch
 Karen Lee
 Katie Hutchinson
 Lionel Woods
 Mel Smyth
 Melissa Ignacio
 Paul Funk
 Sergio Chuy
 Tammy Dibbits
 Veronica Derylo

Coaching Staff

TEAM ONTARIO ELITE



Alexander Ko



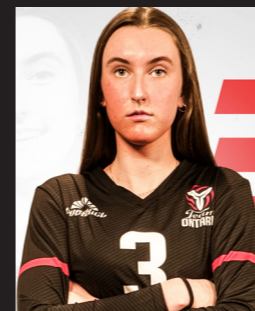
Brady Paterson



Cole Francis



Izaak Zabjek



Abby Delamere



Audrey Odigie



Christine Hachokake



Delaney Watson



Jackie Lu



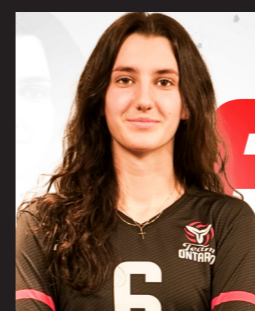
Jacob Nowak



Jon Droppert



Lazar Paroski



Ella Piskorz



Giulia Chimilovski



Jessie Buck



Kennedy Stevens



Michael Hickey



Miguel Dumetz



Nathan Peters



Nikola Mitrovic



Lauren Perugini



Mackenna Knox



Maddison Vang



Olivia Zhu



Owen Mellon



Reed Venning



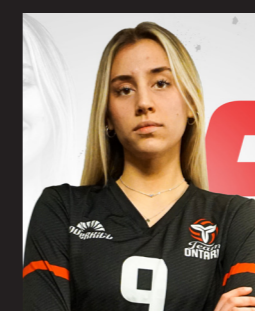
Taydon Shantz



William McIntyre



Paige Owen



Pascale Galarneau-Haley

Coaching Staff

Boys

LP Mainville
Danny Gosselin

Girls

Nathan Janzen
Larissa Byckalo

TALL MAPLES

Boys

Blake Scatcherd
Gavin Goodwin
Jasper Thomson
Josh Sanecki
Joshua Fraser
Luc Allison
Matthew McCarthy
Owen Lunn
Owen McDonald
Rennick Koskela
Riley Orr
William Dalziel

Girls

Aidann Dieleman
Alexandra Brenner
Alexandra Dumitru
Ania Magier
Aris Dhanoa
Avery Bradish
Ella Umar
Emily Weatherson
Ezrie Burke
Isabella Colle
Kate McCance
Keely Lloyd
Madisyn Clipperton
Makayla Downey
Makenna McCann
Morgan Gemmell
Rachel Meagher
Sienna Spence
Sydney Bell

Coaching Staff

Nancy Dool-Kontio
Sylvie Laperriere
Andrew Mallory
William Mousseau
Shane Christopher
Cole Gordon
Chris Lawson



BEACH

Boys

Aiden Hilkwitz
Andon Kiriakou
Andrew Ivanovski
Benjamin Kuhner
Brecken Morrison
Brett Bachman
Chris Tautrims
Colin Deighan
Conor Dorsey
Daniel Nikashov
David Newton
Dejan Ljubcic
Eric McClean
Gavin Deep
Harrison Wilson
Jack Barrett
Jack Svendsen
Kyle Perreault
Luca Stojanovic
Marc Lihet
Matt Mowbray
Matthew McCarvell
Oliver Toomes
Samuel Logodin
Simon Bourne
Simon Hubbard
Tian Harcevic
Yahia Elsayed

Girls

Abby Smith
Addison Hannivan
Ally Hannivan
Alexandra Miller
Alexandra Kiriakou
Amélie Sabourin
Anna Istratescu
Autumn Mikel
Autumn Wilmott
Brooke Woolley
Burkleigh Smith
Calinda Kok
Claire Simmonds
Darcie Buchanan
Elodie Lalonde
Emma Kunaus
Emma-Joy Cudmore
Kennedy Llewellyn
Lauren Essenpreis
Maddie Law-Heese
Margaret Yan
Marina Slapnicar
Renee Myny
Sarah Harland
Sarah Incitti
Sarah Gilbank
Sol Henson
Sophie Hancock
Tatiana Drozd
Thea Spasic
Thea Ziesmann



Coaching Staff

Andrew Kos
Angie Shen
Ashley Nixon
Bonnie Tran
Cicero Oliveira
Eddie Coleman
Jasmine Safar
Jason Marchant
Jeff Farrell
Laura Condotta
Madeleine Garneau
Oklend Llakaj
Stephane Vlachos
Veronica Derylo
Amanda Harnett



NIAGARA
2022

JEUX DU
CANADA
GAMES

INDOOR

Boys

Brady Paterson
Brendan Mills
Cory Schoenherr
Daniil Hershtynovich
Dennis Cota
Devin Cooney
Fehin Awobodu
Izaak Zabjek
Jasraj Nijjar
Kaden Schmidt
Matthew Rugosi
Matthew Tautrimis
Miguel Dumetz
Nathan Peters
Nikola Mitrovic
Owen Mellon
Quinn Levinson
William McIntyre

Girls

Alexia Lemay-Evans
Audrey Goddard
Ava Ebert
Claire Carter
Delaney Watson
Ella McVittie
Ella Piskorz
Holly Biasi
Jessica Andrews
Kaity Doyle
Kate Lamothe
Kennedy Millin
Lauren MacPhail
Lauryn Hovey
Maddison Vang
Victoria Herrington
Victoria Potvin

Coaching Staff

Boys

Frank St-Denis
Matt Ragogna
Danny Gosselin

Girls

Jimmy El-Turk
Matthew Schnarr
Natasha Spaling

BEACH

Boys

Steven Abrams
Jonathan Pickett

Girls

Emma Braticevic
Sophia Hladyniuk

Coaching Staff

Boys

Andrew Kos

Girls

Jason Marchant



Team Ontario athletes at the Red & Black camp at Nipissing University.



The Ontario Summer Games take place every two years and 2022 was Games year. Indoor and beach volleyball was on the program. The two disciplines were combined to create a fun and innovative new type of competition for the athletes of the Team Ontario Regional Program. Following their training at the University of Guelph, all athletes and coaches were transported to Mississauga for the start of the Games. The competition took place over 3 days. During the first two days, athletes spent one day on sand and one day indoors. Athletes accumulated points through all the matches they played and those went towards the ranking for the third day's playoffs. On day 3, all teams showed up at the indoor volleyball venue to compete for a spot on the podium. The event was widely popular and attracted many spectators. Athletes and coaches really enjoyed their experience at the Games and the OVA is grateful for the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries for organizing this event.



ONTARIO SUMMER GAMES



**Mississauga
2022**

Ontario
Summer Games
Jeux d'été
de l'Ontario



The kids had a ton of fun, they all improved, they met new friends, they got exposed to things they might not otherwise have been, and they all might just love this game a little more after this week. Thank you so much for your leadership and communication leading up to and throughout the games.



CANADA SUMMER GAMES



The Canada Summer Games were scheduled for August 2021 in Niagara, but the event was postponed as a result of the pandemic. The event was held in August 2022 and Ontario was well-represented in both indoor and beach volleyball.



Indoor Volleyball

The indoor teams were selected following a 2-day tryout camp at Mohawk College in May. From there, the teams met online a few times to prepare for their summer training camp. Everyone gathered at Niagara College on July 10th for the first training camp that led into the Canada Cup. The tournament was held in Calgary in July with squads from other provinces and territories and allowed our teams to prepare for the Games in a highly competitive setting. The second training camp took place in Hamilton in August and led directly into the Canada Summer Games. Athletes and coaches proudly represented Ontario and fought hard throughout the competition. The boys' team won bronze while the girls' team placed 6th.

Photographers: Ashley Buston-White (pg. 72); Brad Demers (pg. 73 Left and right).

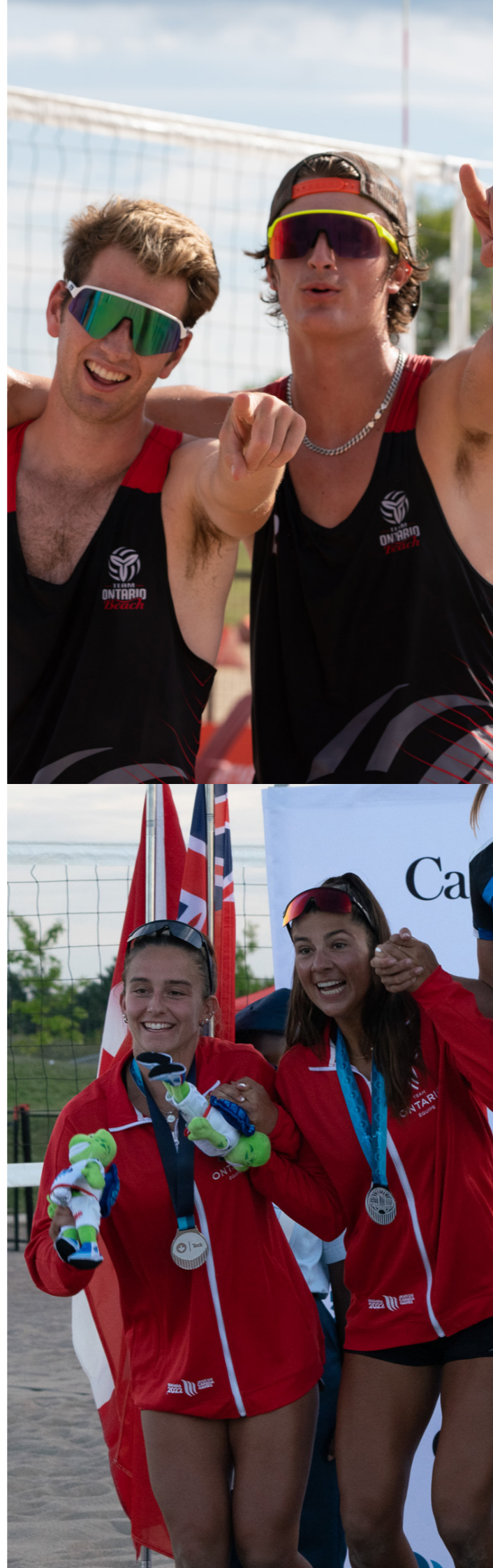
Beach Volleyball

On the beach, teams had to qualify for the Canada Games through a trial process. The qualification tournament took place in June at Ashbridges Bay. Teams competed over two days for a spot in the famous multisport Games. Emma Braticevic and Sophia Hladyniuk earned the Canada Games berth on the female side while Johnny Pickett and Steven Abrams did the same on the male side. Athletes trained throughout the summer and participated in a unique training camp at the USAV beach training center in Chula Vista, California. The Ontario teams dominated the Canada Games competition on home court in Niagara, and both finished on the podium. The boys pair won gold the girls pair got silver, thus extending a long winning tradition for Ontario in beach volleyball at the Canada Games.

Top image: Johnny Pickett and Steven Abrams.

Bottom image: Emma Braticevic and Sophia Hladyniuk.

Photographer: Derek Bottomley



TEAM ONTARIO BEACH

Team Ontario Beach Fulltime Training Group (FTG)

FALL - WINTER - SPRING

Team Ontario beach athletes who train year-round transitioned to the indoor beach courts at Volleyball Canada's high performance facility early in the fall of 2021. They got access to on-court training 4 days a week and were supported with in-person strength and conditioning services 2 days a week. Athletes visited with their sport dietician during the fall and worked with their mental performance coach on a regular basis.

When pandemic restrictions and lockdowns were put back in place in the winter of 2022, the group adapted to not lose the gains they had made. The coaches ran virtual training series on core strength and load management. That allowed them to connect with the athletes and keep them engaged with their training. The goal was to have the athletes prepared to hit the courts as soon as the lockdowns were lifted.

That moment came in February when the group was able to resume their on-sand training as well as their strength & conditioning, nutrition and mental performance training 4 days per week. February is also when the Team Ontario beach coaches selected for the summer programs started shadowing the program's senior coaches to prepare for their roles. The program ran full steam until the start of the summer season.

SUMMER

As soon as the weather allowed, the athletes were back outdoors training at Ashbridges Bay. The 2022 program had 21 male and 21 female athletes. They were supported by 11 coaches and sport science service providers who did their best to create an environment that would help them prepare for national and international performances. Athletes trained 4 times per week on top of competing in weekly OVA beach tour events. At the beginning of July, all FTG athletes attended the Team Ontario Beach Super Camp in London where they got to experience what it is like to be a National Team athlete and be in a training environment 24 hours a day.

Prior to Nationals, the group participated in a second camp in Goderich. During that camp, teams were given a lot of independence to simulate a tournament scenario in which they had to organize their practice time and prepare for matches. Pairs had to work together to plan their training sessions. Athletes also participated in a practice planning workshop where they were led through the process of planning an effective practice for themselves. That camp was designed to help athletes prepare for the level of independence they will be required to have as National Team players.

The FTG athletes finished their Nationals preparation with a viewing of the movie *The Peaceful Warrior* at the Fox Theatre in Toronto and with some friendly matches against teams from Alberta and British Columbia. The Team Ontario athletes collected 5 gold medals, 3 silver medals and 1 bronze medal at Nationals in divisions from 14U to Senior.



Truly this is by far the best program that any of our kids have been a part of and we have had kids competing at a provincial and national level for the last 7 years

Camp-Based Program

Ontario is a large province which makes it difficult for some athletes to get access to full time training in Toronto. Our Athlete Development staff created the camp-based program to give those athletes a chance to enhance their regular beach training with Team Ontario level support in skill development, mental performance, nutrition and strength & conditioning. There were 17 athletes in this program who participated in a week-long camp in London in early July. They returned to training in their region and got back together for a second development opportunity at the Horseshoe Valley Resort during the first week of August.

Winter Drop-In Program

Our Athlete Development staff was able to bring back the winter drop-in beach training program this year. This program allows indoor players who have an interest in beach volleyball to keep up with their beach skills during the winter in order to be ready once the summer comes around. It is also a place for players to try the beach discipline for the first time ahead of the summer beach season. This year, the program ran in March and April and was offered twice a week. Athletes and parents alike expressed appreciation for the quality of the training. A total of 33 athletes participated in the sessions during the spring. The program will be back in 2023 through a much longer period of time to allow even more athletes to participate.

FIVB Age Group World Championships

Ontario saw many of its athletes and coaches participate in the FIVB Age Group Beach Volleyball World Championships in Phuket, Thailand during the fall of 2021. This highlight beach volleyball event allowed 8 athletes from the U19 age group and 4 athletes from the U21 age group to gain international experience. All participating Ontario athletes moved on to the playoff rounds. The best result was achieved by Ruby Sorra and Emma Glagau with a 5th place finish in the U19 division. The pair achieved that level of performance despite being younger than most of their opponents. The athletes were supported by 4 Team Ontario coaches during the championship. These events are great opportunities for coaches to get exposed to international competition and grow their ability to support Team Ontario athletes back home.



Sensational Year for Emma Glagau & Ruby Sorra

The beach volleyball pair of Emma Glagau and Ruby Sorra had a breakthrough season in 2021-22. It started with a world-class performance and a 5th place finish at the 2021 FIVB U19 Beach World Championship in Phuket, Thailand. Following this event in the fall of 2021, the girls came back home and continued their beach volleyball training in Toronto throughout the winter. In early 2022, the pair participated in the National Team NORCECA trials and outperformed some NextGen National Team athletes to clinch one of the 2 spots reserved for Canada. This 2nd place result earned them the right to attend their first continental tournament in the spring. Emma and Ruby did not waste any time. A few weeks later, the team participated in a Senior NORCECA event in Cuba and made it to the finals. They lost to the Cuban Olympic team and won their first international silver medal. The 16- and 17-year-old trained with the Canadian National Team during the summer and won the qualifying event for the 2022 FIVB U19 Beach World Championship. They earned a spot in an age group World Championship for a second year straight. The event was scheduled for September 2022. Everyone is proud of the two who came up through the OVA indoor and beach competition structures and we look forward to seeing them represent Canada and Ontario in the future!

MARCH BREAK BEACH CAMP

With international travel becoming more accessible in the spring of 2022, the Team Ontario beach coaches organized a winter training camp at Hermosa Beach in California. The goal of the camp was to maximize opportunities to train outdoors in the winter in preparation for the summer season. The coaches guided athletes through a series of on and off-court activities that helped them develop a discovery mindset and improve their self-evaluation skills. The athletes got to work with various international coaches including Brazilian coach Adriano Ticão and Anna Collier, American Olympic coach. The Team Ontario athletes also had a chance to train alongside some of the NextGen National Team athletes as they were having a training camp in the same location.



I presented today to the 12-14U teams at my club and it went really well! I had a lot of engagement from the girls and positive feedback from them, along with others who were on call, at the end of the presentation. Thank you for an amazing program and some great knowledge I was able to pass on



WISE Fund Grant

The OVA received a WISE fund grant in 2021 from Canadian Women in Sport to support the development of young female leaders. OVA staff ran a program from October 2021 to February 2022 with the help of some female mentor coaches from the community. The goal of the Leadership Program was to inspire and educate the next generation of female volleyball leaders by promoting gender equity and encouraging female opportunities in the OVA.

In total, 37 girls participated in the program. They attended 4 presentations in the fall: Authentic Leadership, Value Based Leadership, Communication as a Lead and OVA Leader Opportunities. During the last presentation, it was encouraging to hear the athletes express their interest in pursuing coaching and refereeing positions within the OVA after their 18U season.

From January to February 2022, following the presentations, the athletes involved delivered a leadership presentation to the next generation of young female athletes within their club to instill leadership lessons and experiences in the younger players. It was encouraging to hear feedback that the younger athletes were engaged, asking questions and eager to learn more about becoming female leaders in the volleyball community.

A touch point call was held in February 2022 to follow up with the athletes from the program to hear how their presentations went and to see if they had any questions, wanted to share best practices, etc. A discussion on 'Next Steps' occurred, and OVA staff found out that out of the group of girls:

62% want to become coaches

20% want to become referees

15% are already beginning their coaching journey with their club

3% want to get involved as a club manager/administration role



**FEMMES ET SPORT CANADA
CANADIAN WOMEN & SPORT**



ONTARIO ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE

Volleyball Nations League

There were many Ontario athletes representing Canada on the international stage this year, including at the 2022 Volleyball Nation's League (VNL) tournament. VNL features the best 16 women's team and 16 men's teams in the world and both the Men's and Women's National teams qualified to participate in this respected tournament.

This year there were 8 male and 6 female athletes from Ontario that wore the Maple Leaf proudly on their chest as they competed for Canada at the VNL. The exciting new VNL format had teams competing in two pools of eight teams with the top eight teams per gender moving to the final knockout phase of the competition.

Region 6 co-hosted VNL for the 3rd time in Ottawa. The Canadian Men's National Team competed in their fourth Volleyball Nation's League (VNL) tournament this year. Led by new Head Coach at the time, Ben Josephson, the Canadian roster had a fresh look due to a large amount of athlete retirements following the Olympics in 2021. Long time National team athlete from Aurora Ontario, Stephen Maar, stepped up for the challenge and provided leadership to the new athletes in the program on and off the court. Unfortunately, the new Canadian team was no match for more experienced countries and finished 15th in the tournament. The Canadians will look to use this experience as a lesson for their new and young athletes as they prepare for international matches in the future.



Alongside the event, a program of volleyball legacy activities was run to help expose and grow the sport in the region. A school day program introduced elite volleyball to hundreds of elementary and middle school students. An official's development program supported growing the official ranks, and the 3rd International Coaching Symposium brought varsity, college and club coaches together to hear from a program of elite international coaches. A tremendous Region 6 volunteer base made sure everything was top notch. The region is anxious to do it all again in 2023!

For the second year in a row, the Canadian Women's National Team qualified to participate in the VNL. The Canadian team is consistently proving that they are an up-and-coming force on the international stage. The Canadians were fortunate to have pool play matches on home soil in Calgary, AB. Playing in front of the home crowd, the team had an amazing victory over world #4, Turkey, in a very tight four set match. Led by Scarborough native and long-time National team athlete, Jennifer Cross the Canadian team made it out of the first round of the VNL for the first time in program history. The Canadians would ultimately place 12th in the tournament, the highest finish the women's team has ever placed. The Canadian team battled against many difficult opponents including the VNL champions, Italy, learning many lessons along the way that will aim to improve their preparation for future international tournaments. The future is bright for this team and the Ontario athletes upon it!

Top image: Julia Murmann

Left image: Sophie Bukovec and Brandie Wilkerson at the 2022 Beach Volleyball World Championships in Rome.

National Team Athletes

Indoor

Senior Men

Stephen Maar
Arthur Szwarc
Jordan Canham
Danny Demyanenko
Xander Ketrzynski
Justin Lui
Brandon Koppers
Samuel Cooper
Marc Wilson

NextGen Men

Jordan Pereira
Tomas Sorra
Erik Sikсна
Cory Schoenherr
Cole Duncanson
Michael Donovan
Jackson Young
Isaac Heslinga
Brendan Mills

U21 Men

Daniil Hershtynovich
Brendan Mills
Cory Schoenherr
Kaden Schmidt
Jasraj Nijjar

Senior Women

Jennifer Cross
Jazmine White
Andrea Mitrovic
Julia Murmann
Allysa Fitterer
Arielle Palermo
Katerina Georgiadis
Layne Van Buskirk

NextGen Women

Melissa Langedger
Hannah Duchesneau
Laura Madill
Sadie Dick
Savannah Davison

U21 Women

Mady Saris
Tara Garvey
Sullie Sundara
Lauryn Hovey
Ava Ebert
Jessica Andrews
Jenna Pollock
Grace Melnick
Viktoria Wahlgren

U19 Women

*Megan Hawkins Elodie Lalonde
*Ella Piskorz Yitong (Julia) Liu
*Kaiya Tyson Sydney McDermott
Ava Connelly Charley McDonald
Katarina Drozd Lauren Perugini
Breanna Gordon
Sophia Henson *Competed at the Pan Am Cup.
Logan King

Images (from top):

Jennifer Cross, Sam Cooper, Jenna Pollock, Cole Duncanson and the Next Gen Team lining up for the National anthem.



NORCECA Pan American Cups

Two younger Canadian rosters participated in NORCECA Pan American Cups this year. The U19 Girls National Team program competed in Tulsa, USA and the Senior Men's Team competed in Gatineau, QC. The Pan American tournaments are excellent opportunities for younger National team athletes to compete against other North American teams on an international stage.

Volleyball Canada hosted the Men's Pan American Cup in August at the Centre Slush Puppie in Gatineau, QC. The format of the international tournament had two pools of four competing against each other followed by the playoffs. The Canadian team had eight out of fourteen athletes hailing from Ontario. This program was very successful at this tournament winning two out of three pool play matches to send them to the playoff bracket where they were able to play for the gold medal. The Canadians ended up winning the silver medal against Cuba. This tournament posed as an opportunity to compete against some highly skilled, talented teams for some of our high-scoring Ontario athletes; Jordan Canham, Cole Ketrzynski and Xander Ketrzynski.

The U19 Girls National Team travelled to Tulsa Oklahoma for the NORCECA Pan American Cup in July. The team participated in two weeks of training in Calgary, Alberta with a much larger group of athletes before being selected to represent Canada at this event. There were 3 Ontario athletes appointed to represent Canada in Tulsa along with 9 other athletes from across the country. The Canadian team were up against seven other North American countries. The Canadians battled in their pool play matches being led by Ontario athletes Megan Hawkins and Ella Piskorz in attacks. The team placed third which afforded them a trip to the playoffs where they, unfortunately, lost in four sets to a talented Dominican Republic team leading to their 6th place finish overall. This was the first international tournament for most of the young athletes on the Canadian roster which provided them with lessons they will be able to apply during their next performance on an international stage with Team Canada.

Left image: The U19 Women's team lines up for the National anthem

Top-right image: Xander Ketrzynski

Bottom-right image: Justin Lui



Beach

Summer NextGen

Ava Mann
 Becky Tresham
 Emma Glagau
 Jamie Santer
 Kate Clermont
 Kaylee Glagau
 Laura Condotta
 Ruby Sorra
 Cameron Chadwick
 Mateusz Wlodarski
 Jonathan Pickett
 Max Losier
 Martin Licht
 Pierce Johnson
 Steven Abrams
 Trent Ketrzynski

NextGen Program

Samuel Schachter
 Samuel Pedlow
 Daniel Dearing
 Jake MacNeil
 Liam Kopp
 Alina Dormann
 Amanda Harnett
 Anna Feore
 Anna Licht
 Sophie Bukovec

Senior Program

Melissa Humana-Paredes
 Sarah Pavan
 Brandie Wilkerson
 Heather Bansley



On the Podium



Gold



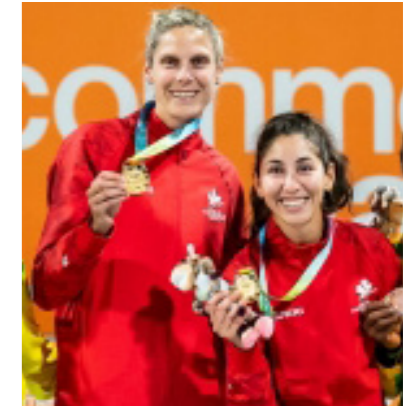
Sophie Bukovec / Brandie Wilkerson

NORCECA Continental Tour
 Aguascalientes, Mexico
 April 24, 2022



Melissa Humana-Paredes / Sarah Pavan

FIVB Elite 16
 Jurmala, Latvia
 June 5, 2022



Melissa Humana-Paredes / Sarah Pavan

XXII Commonwealth Games
 Birmingham, England
 August 7, 2022

Silver



Melissa Humana-Paredes / Sarah Pavan

FIVB World Tour Finals
 Cagliari, Italy
 October 10, 2021



Jake MacNeil / Alexander Russell

FIVB Futures
 Coolangatta, Australia
 April 2, 2022



Emma Glagau / Ruby Sorra

NORCECA Continental Tour
 Varadero, Cuba
 May 8, 2022

Silver



Sophie Bukovec / Brandie Wilkerson

FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships
Cagliari, Italy
June 19, 2022



Daniel Dearing / Sam Schachter

XXII Commonwealth Games
Birmingham, England
August 7, 2022

Bronze



Alina Dormann / Amanda Harnett

FIVB Futures
Songkhala, Thailand
April 17, 2022



Ruby Sorra / Shanice Marcelle (BC)

NORCECA Continental Tour
Aguascalientes, Mexico
April 24, 2022

Right image: Alina Dormann and Amanda Harnett competing on the FIVB Beach Pro Tour.



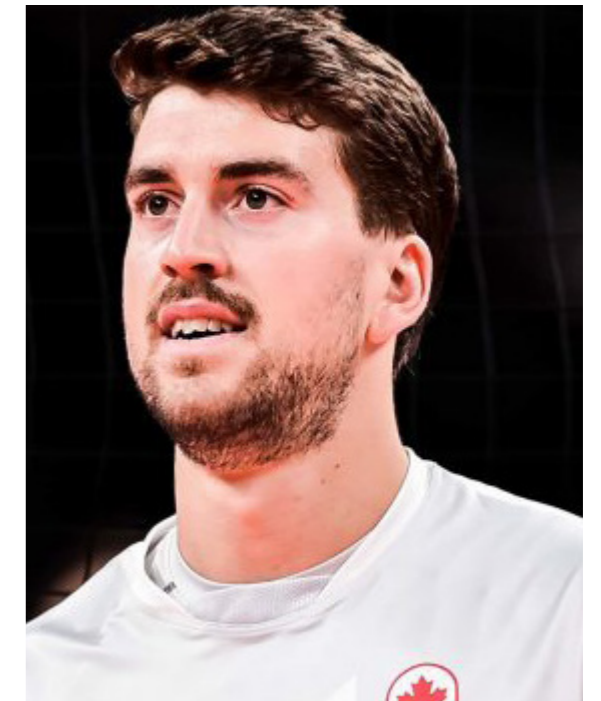
Commonwealth Games

Canada was represented by four Ontario beach volleyball athletes at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, England. The Canadians pairs achieved a double podium in the prestigious event. Sarah Pavan and Melissa Humana-Paredes defended their 2018 title by winning women's gold while Samuel Schachter and Daniel Dearing finished 2nd with a silver medal.



World Championships

Ten Ontario athletes represented Canada at the 2022 FIVB Beach World Championship in Rome, Italy. On the men's side, the pair of Samuel Schachter and Daniel Dearing achieved the best Canadian result with a 17th overall rank. The highlight of the event came from the pair of Sophie Bukovec and Brandie Wilkerson who offered an inspiring performance and made it all the way to the final. The pair lost the final in a tight match to finish 2nd in the World. The team of Sarah Pavan and Melissa Humana-Paredes finished 5th. Congratulations all for a great performance.



Two-time Olympians Heather Bansley and TJ Sanders announced their retirement as players in 2022.

Bansley stepped out of the sand after competing in back-to-back Olympics and dedicating more than a decade to representing the maple leaf on the world stage. The Waterdown, Ontario native had an impressive international career which included a stint at No. 1 rank in the world ranking in 2018 with then-partner Brandie Wilkerson. She also earned Canada's best-ever finish in women's beach volleyball at the Olympics with a fifth place at both the 2016 and 2020 Games. Bansley was an example of hard work and excellence on the Beach Tour and earned the admiration of people around the world for her performances. In 2015, she was named the FIVB World Tour Best Defensive Player, an honour she earned again in 2016 and 2018.

TJ Sanders was inspired to pursue high level volleyball when he volunteered as a floor mopper during the 2007 FIVB World League event. At the time, the setter from London, Ontario could not have imagined he would be part of some of the best Canadian performances in men's volleyball. Some of his greatest memories with Team Canada include a bronze medal in the 2017 FIVB World League, a bronze at the 2015 Pan American Games and a best-ever seventh place finish at the 2014 World Championships. Despite his great international success as a national team and professional player, he could not be prouder of his contribution to Canada's Olympic Games success. In 2016, he helped the team qualify for the Olympic Games for the first time in 24 years and did it again in 2020 after coming back from a serious injury.

Both Bansley and Sanders have expressed how thankful they are for the support of many great coaches and mentors along the way. The OVA would like to express how thankful we are for their contribution to volleyball in Canada and for the countless young players they've inspired through their great performances. Best of luck to both of them as they move into a new stage of their career and step into different roles within the Canadian volleyball community.

Sitting Volleyball

Men's National Sitting Program

Darek Symonowicz (Toronto)
 Nasif Chowdhury (Toronto)
 Andrew Tucker (Brampton)
 Bryce Foster (Thunder Bay)

Women's National Sitting Program

Anne Fergusson (Carleton Place)
 Jolan Wong (Petawawa)

Top image: Jolan Wong is a seasoned vet on the Women's Sitting team, involved since the squad's inception over a decade ago.



COACHING

1,778

Members registered as coaches

685

HEAD COACHES

1,093

ASSISTANT COACHES

Coach Development Webinar Series

In the fall of 2022, 104 coaches attended the Coach Development Webinar series. Presenters included Ashley Nixon, Brian Singh, Nathan Groenveld, Natasha Spaling, Dan Lewis, Ryan Ratuszniak and Daphne Choi.

Topics during the webinar series included managing team and athlete expectations, creating championship culture, tactical game-planning and match preparation, establishing an effective daily training environment, and drill design. Coaches who attended the webinar series received PD points for their NCCP certification management.

BY THE NUMBERS

339

Coaches trained through NCCP training

29

Coaches completed their Portfolio Observation and Evaluation and became fully certified

9

Learning facilitators were trained on the new delivery model for Development and Advanced Development Workshops

WORKSHOPS

10

Development coach Workshops
New online delivery model makes the course more easily accessible

7

Advanced Development Coach Workshops

1

Beach Advanced Development Coach Workshop



Team Ontario Coach Development

A lot of coach development was done within the Team Ontario programs in 2022, both in beach and indoor volleyball. As the programs grow and the athletes get better, more qualified coaches are needed to deliver the training. To ensure a quality training environment for athletes, all Team Ontario coaches must go through some training based on the program they work with.

Team Ontario Indoor Coach Preparation Program

84 coaches from the Team Ontario Red & Black, Tall Maples and Team Ontario Regional programs (TORP) participated in professional development sessions in May, June and July. This included:

- 5 sessions with high performance coach Brian O'Reilly around the conditions for quality
- 2 sessions with strength & conditioning coach Cameron Branch
- 2 sessions about the Team Ontario culture and principles of play
- 4 practice and drill planning workshops specifically for TORP coaches
- 2 sessions on Team Ontario beach principles of play for TORP coaches
- 2 sessions with the legend of coaching Jim Stone for the Canada Games girls coaching staff
- 3 days spent at the men's National Team training center for the Canada Games boys staff

Team Ontario Coach Development

Team Ontario Beach International Mentorship & Professional Development

Team Ontario Beach coaches were supported by experienced mentors and had several opportunities to be exposed to international events. The intention of mentoring coaches at these events is to broaden their understanding of the international pathway so that they develop a stronger awareness of where their athletes sit in their development journey.

Four Team Ontario coaches were mentored by OVA Senior Beach Development Coach Angie Shen at various international events throughout the year including:

Coaches were mentored at the following events:

- **Four coaches at U19 FIVB World Championships, Phuket, Thailand (Dec 2021)**
- **One coach at Hermosa Beach, California (Mar 2022)**
- **One coach at NORCECA, Varadero, Cuba (May 2022)**
- **One coach at FIVB Futures, Ios, Greece (June 2022)**
- **Four coaches at USAV National Team Development Program Training Camp (July 2022)**

Inquiry-Based Coaching

The coaching philosophy within Team Ontario Beach programs follow an inquiry-based approach. This type of coaching puts the athletes first and has them directing their own learning. Team Ontario Beach coaches were mentored throughout the year in this inquiry-based coaching approach with regular intervals of support from High Performance coach Brian O'Reilly. Eight coaches participated in a 3-day retreat in November 2021 and all 15 Team Ontario Beach coaches took part in a 2-day workshop in June ahead of the beach season. Coaches were also supported throughout the summer training activities such as during the Team Ontario Beach Super camp and the International Prep camp.





Andrew Robb
Ontario Regional Referee
Chair

Once again, we had an incredibly challenging year with the Covid-19 pandemic. This was evident with the number of Registered Referees we had in Ontario to pre-Covid levels. In the 2019-20 season, we had a historic 674 Registered Referees. In the 2021-22 season, that number dropped to 436. We have experienced the same results on the beach with numbers being down from pre-covid.

From a senior badge level standpoint, (level 3-5) we did not have much of a drop-off but experienced the loss from the level 1 and level 2 badges to the tune of a 35% drop in membership. This is a worrying stat as many of these referees work the bulk of the OVA indoor youth competition events.

With that said, last season we still managed to serve all members, and everyone came together. I am extremely proud of the referees stepping up to the plate and helping, working additional matches to ensure we had coverage at all the OVA league play matches, tournaments, and Ontario Championships.

We had over 250 referees at Ontario Championships that took place at both RIM Park and at the Paramount Fine Foods Centre in Mississauga respectively. Additionally, we had approximately 44 referees as a part of the Referee Development Team. We had an extraordinarily strong showing at Youth Indoor Nationals with a total of 31 referees, of which 3 were part of the National Upgrade Program.

I would really like to thank the amazing Provincial Referee Committee who worked tirelessly within their region to keep everyone engaged, while still being able to develop many of those referees.

Although we were unable to run as many clinics as we would have liked, we have done a genuinely impressive job creating our online Indoor Level 1 Clinic, which has been well received. We have also completed the Level 1 Online Clinic for our beach referees.

In Canada, we are seeing a drastic decrease in referees since the pandemic struck as they have moved on to other hobbies or quit refereeing. Knowing this and see the decrease in Ontario volleyball referees, the committee has worked extremely hard on the Recruitment Campaign. Posters were placed at Ontario Championships, and you will see the campaign really taking off in the 2022-23 season at all OVA events where posters will be hung, and information circulated on social media. We lowered the age of becoming a referee from 16 to 15 and this has really helped. We are targeting our OVA athletes to get involved in the sport that they love. They will have an opportunity to still play with the high school or club team but can have the ability to work on some OVA events when they are not playing.

We are continuing to invest in Ontario referees. It is important that once we have our new refs on board, they have had positive experiences. We are continuing with our mentoring program at many of the lower-age division tournaments. We have had great feedback from our referees on how invaluable it has been having our mentors and referee coaches at various events.

To go along with Recruitment, we understand how important it is to retain our referees. Therefore, our senior-level refs have been contacting the referees who either took a leave of absence the past couple of years or registered and chose not to work to check in. To see how we can assist in getting them back to refereeing. To oversee this aspect, we put together a Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee to tackle some of the issues we are facing to come out on the positive end in the next few years.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

445

Registered referees

44

New referees trained through 5 indoor Level 1 clinics and 1 beach Level 1 clinic.



STATS

250

Referees worked the Ontario Championships in Waterloo and Mississauga

44

Referees worked as Referee Development Team members in the roles of Head Referees, Area Supervisors, Mentors and Assignors during the month of April between Waterloo and Mississauga

32

Referees worked at indoor Nationals as 32 part of the Revenue Neutral Travel program and the National Upgrade Program

23

Beach Youth Nationals referees were from Ontario

3

Ontario beach referees were in leadership positions at the Youth and Senior Beach Volleyball Nationals. Eric Lawlor, John Gillis and Bob Rocque were Referee Supervisors



Program Development

The Regional Referee Committee developed the indoor and Beach referee clinic hybrid online/in-person model and 2022 was the first time the clinics were delivered using the model.



The online module has helped immensely. The material is presented in a very engaging and interactive way for the users. It also lets the candidates work at their own pace and leaves more clinic time for questions and on-court experience, which is invaluable. This module has changed the delivery of clinics for the better.

- Samara Sevor, Region 3 Regional Referee Chair

Mentorship Program

Although we did not have a traditional season and could not run the full mentorship program for the indoor referees, many referees participated in the mentorship program through Ontario Championships. This program is vital because mentorship is consistently one of the most requested types of support new referees ask for. Referees like to receive constructive feedback and improve on their game as well as feel that they are supported throughout the stages of their development and the program plays a big part in referee training and retention.

Referee Engagement Centre

The referee program continued to utilize the Referee Engagement Centre (REC) to communicate, engage and educate referees across Ontario regarding COVID-19 regulations, indoor competition program changes, training opportunities, etc. In total, 46 resources were posted and 381 referees were actively engaged with the system. We look forward to returning to the courts in fall 2023 and having more engagement with the referee membership as we make a full return to sport.

Service Level Agreements

As school boards across Ontario are looking to ensure they are receiving certified OVA refs to work their matches, the OVA has been busy working with partners to renew service contracts with the OCAA, CWOSSA, and the TDSB. Additionally, the OVA signed new service-level agreements (SLA) with the York Region Athletic Association and Ottawa Carleton Volleyball League for their leagues. The OVA has also been creating SLA's for tournaments hosted by Indigenous Sport and Wellness Ontario and LH Frechette PS. The OVA put a high importance on training our referees and ensuring that they are up to date on the newest sport information such as the latest science on concussions, safe sport training and anti-racism training.

The SLAs that are put in place guarantee that the referees assigned to work those events have completed all the necessary training and screening requirements to keep all participants safe.

UPGRADE PROGRAMS

Provincial Upgrade Program

Four candidates received their Provincial Upgrade Badges:

- Bernie Diesbourg
- Doug Yuen
- Rob Klassen
- Greg Albert

Regional Upgrade Program

Eight candidates received their Regional Upgrade Badges:

- Bryan Emonts
- Dario Zamboni
- Huguetta Mankala
- Kennedy Ramsden
- Nivethan Nadarajah
- Shannon Walters
- Sunny Ching
- Vince Birstonas

Beach National Upgrade Program

Kelvin Yee and Michael Zhang received their National Upgrade Program badges.



REFEREEING AROUND THE WORLD

Indoor Referee Major Assignments

Indoor referees have had a busy spring and summer in 2022 with quite a bit of national and international travel:

Samara Sevor

R1 Gold Medal Match
18U Women's World Championships
Durango City, MEX

R1 Gold Medal Match
USports Women's Championships
Calgary, AB

Major Referee
Canada Summer Games
Niagara, ON

Reserve Referee
VNL Men's Tournament
VNL Women's Tournament
Ottawa, ON
Calgary, AB

Andy Cameron

R2 Gold Medal Match
USports Women's Championships
Calgary, AB

VNL Men's Tournament
VNL Women's Tournament
Brasilia, BRA

Ali Sharifalam

Major Referee
CCAA Men's Championships
Quebec, QC

Jason Dodd

R1 Bronze Medal Match
USports Women's Championships
Calgary, AB

NORCECA Men's Pan American Cup
Gatineau, QC

Major Referee
Canada Summer Games
Niagara, ON

Mark Williamson

R2 Gold Medal Match
CCAA Men's Championships
Quebec, QC

R2 Gold Medal Match
Canada Summer Games (Men's)
Niagara, ON

Chris Goetz

R2 Bronze Medal Match
CCAA Women's Championships
Charlottetown, PE

R1 Gold Medal Match
Canada Summer Games (Men's)
Niagara, ON

Khan Vu

R1 Tier 1 Bronze Medal Match
Canada Cup (Men's)
Calgary, AB

R2 Bronze Medal Match
Canada Summer Games (Women's)
Niagara, ON

Kennedy Ramsden

R2 Tier 1 Gold Medal Match
Canada Cup (Women's)
Calgary, AB

R2 Bronze Medal Match
Canada Summer Games (Women's)
Niagara, ON

Andrew Robb

R2 Gold Medal Match
Women's Pan American Cup
Santo Domingo, DR

R1 Gold Medal Match
USports Men's Championships
Winnipeg, MB

Referee Supervisor
Canada Summer Games
Niagara, ON

VNL Men's Tournament
Gdansk, POL

Hollie Roy

R1 Tier 1 Bronze Medal Match
Canada Cup (Women's)
Calgary, AB

Shannon Walters

Major Referee
Canada Summer Games
Niagara, ON

Ryan McDoom

Major Referee
Canada Summer Games
Niagara, ON

Jennifer Adams

Major Referee
Canada Summer Games
Niagara, ON

David Williams

Major Referee
Canada Summer Games
Niagara, ON

Angelo Messina

Major Referee
Canada Summer Games
Niagara, ON





Beach Referee Major Assignments

Omid Mojtahedi

Gold Medal Match
National Team Qualifiers Toronto, ON

FIVB Pro Tour MEX

Dimitri Magirias

R1 Bronze Medal Match
Vancouver Open (Men's) Vancouver, BC

R1 Gold Medal Match
Beach Adult Nationals (Men's) Toronto, ON

Geoff Stuart

R1 Gold Medal Match
Vancouver Open (Women's) Vancouver, BC

R1 Bronze Medal Match
Beach Adult Nationals (Men's) Toronto, ON

Kelvin Yee

R2 Gold Medal Match
Vancouver Open (Women's) Vancouver, BC

R2 Gold Medal Match
Beach Adult Nationals (Men's) Toronto, ON

R2 Bronze Medal Match
Canada Summer Games (Men's) Niagara, ON

R1 Gold Medal Match
University/College Beach Championships (Men's) Toronto, ON

Michael Zhang

Beach Adult Nationals Toronto, ON

University/College Beach Championships

Vanessa Aune

R1 Gold Medal Match
University/College Beach Championships (Women's) Calgary, AB

Beach Adult Nationals Toronto, ON

Martin Kerstens

R1 Gold Medal Match
University/College Beach Championships (Women's) Calgary, AB

Beach Adult Nationals Toronto, ON

Melanie Dussiaume

Canada Summer Games Niagara, ON



HALL OF FAME SERVICE AWARDS

FURLANI LEGEND

Hernan Humana

BUILDER

Joely Christian

Lawrence Flynn

ATHLETE

Al Coulter

Halya Stefaniuk

TEAM

1975 SA Ukrainian Men's Team

1962 Settlement Club Team

REFEREE

Bob Rocque

COACH

John Jeffries

Lisa Eyles

OVATION AWARDS

'Diane Wood' Special Achievement Award

Bernie Diesbourg

Howie Grossinger

Janet Cairns

Susan Buckman

Achievement Award

Michael Smith

Larissa Byckalo

Jeffrey Miller

John Gillis

Andrew Foster

Irene Prime

Tom Kerkhoff

Recognition Award

Michelle Lange

Nancy Dool-Kontio

Sergio Chuy

Steve Simone

Peter Wehmyer

Mark Adamo

Alvisia Maga

Chris Goetz

Christine Chang

Jason Kerr

Mike Trotter

Craig Ryan

Gary Huang

Lauren Wong

Shana Baptista

'Mike Bugarski' Male Coach of the Year

Dave McIntyre

'Sandy Silver' Female Coach of the Year

Lisa Watson

Development Coaches of the Year

Tim Treacy (Male)

Margaret Sawicka (Female)

Official's Award of Merit

Dale Huddleston

Community Engagement Award

Leah Mousseau

Scarborough Solars Award

Anthony DeGirolamo

Sullie Sundara



@OVA_UPDATES

FOLLOWERS	19,808
ENGAGEMENTS	591,918
PUBLISHED POSTS	789



ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

FOLLOWERS	7,093
ENGAGEMENTS	73,285
IMPRESSIONS	886,904
LINK CLICKS	15,446
PUBLISHED POSTS	485



@OVA_UPDATES

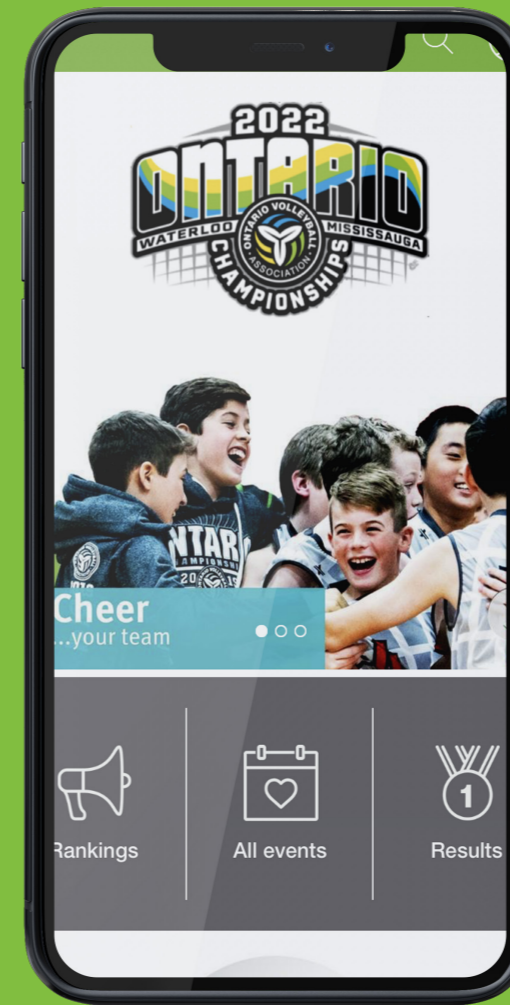
FOLLOWERS	7,102
ENGAGEMENTS	18,926
IMPRESSIONS	402,192
LINK CLICKS	3,880
PUBLISHED POSTS	413



ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

SUBSCRIBERS	2.7K
VEWS	82,825
IMPRESSIONS	686,981
WATCH TIME (HOURS)	4,853

SOCIAL MEDIA



OVACHAMPS APP

305.5K pageviews

78.5K sessions

17.2K unique sessions

2.8K downloads

LIVESTREAMING

WeeStream provided event livestreams of the Gold and Bronze medal finals for the 18U D1 T1 Ontario Championships and Adult (Men's & Women's) Beach Ontario Championships. The broadcasts on the OVA YouTube channel have a combined view count of over **17k**.

WEBSITE

2M pageviews

256.4K users

738.8K sessions

NEWSLETTER

23 Volleyball For Life newsletters were published in 2021-22.

286.3K opens

31.2K clicks

PARTNERS & SPONSORS

The Ontario Volleyball Association is proud and grateful to have the support of these organizations on our side. We thank you all for the dedication you have provided to help develop the sport of volleyball.



FINANCIALS

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Year Ended August 31, 2022

REVENUE	2022	2021
Programs - Tournaments, fees & other	\$ 4,142,506	619,744
Grants - Government of Ontario	1,126,582	663,237
Memberships	554,487	133,587
Grants - Other	225,185	114,905
Sponsorships	110,433	14,125
Other income	57,518	44,517
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	15,079	551,852
Publication sales	3,313	622
Fundraising	2,886	243
Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy	1,408	66,095
Grants - Trillium Fund	-	80,671
Investment income (Loss)	(51,105)	10,956
	6,188,292	2,300,554
EXPENDITURES		
Programs	5,050,247	1,492,533
Other administrative costs	773,036	362,968
Administrative salaries and benefits	328,777	328,097
Communications	43,617	69,900
Amortization of capital assets	41,551	41,551
Special events	23,213	20,271
Meetings	16,696	14,923
Publication costs	6,578	1
	6,283,715	2,330,244
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES FROM OPERATIONS	(95,423)	(29,690)
OTHER INCOME		
Debt forgiveness	-	20,000
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	(95,423)	(9,690)

Statement of Financial Position August 31, 2022

ASSETS	2022	2021
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 1,218,075	1,055,639
Investments	-	115,295
Accounts receivable	274,315	308,888
Inventory	-	4,318
Interest receivable	6,179	25,938
Harmonized sales tax recoverable	115,292	-
Prepaid expenses	224,032	167,850
	1,837,893	1,677,928
CAPITAL ASSETS		
INTANGIBLE ASSETS	-	9,000
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS	495,479	435,088
DEPOSITS	366,785	135,891
	2,834,087	2,445,905
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	647,933	344,519
Harmonized sales tax payable	-	1,471
Deferred revenue	252,789	120,084
Payable to members	419,632	368,675
	1,320,354	834,749
DEFERRED REVENUE	8,202	10,202
	1,328,556	844,951
NET ASSETS		
Contingency reserve fund	1,505,531	1,600,954
	2,834,087	2,445,905