

2023-24

Annual Report

ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION



Ontario Volleyball Association

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

A message from the OVA President, Katie Hutchinson



Dear OVA Community,

As President of the Board, I reflect with pride and excitement on our banner year as a volleyball community. This year, history was made on the world stage, with remarkable finishes by our homegrown Women's Beach Volleyball team of Brandie Wilkerson and Melissa Humana-Paredes winning silver at the Paris Olympics and the Women's Sitting Volleyball team bringing home bronze medals from the Paralympic Games. These achievements underscore Canada's growing presence in the international volleyball arena.

At home, our sport continues to reach unprecedented heights. We break records for participation both in indoor and beach year after year, and this year was no exception. The passion, commitment, and enthusiasm of athletes, coaches, officials, and families drive this growth. Thank you. Our volleyball community is thriving, and we are continuously inspired by the dedication we see at every level—from grass-

roots to high-performance. We continue to promote our new in-season marquee events, the 2-day Fall Classic, alongside our ongoing events, the Grand Prix and provincial championships. Our 4x4 program continues to grow as we see children looking to join the sport earlier than ever.

We are encouraged to see the growth in our officials as young people are inspired to take the stand and be behind the whistle. Officials are essential to our game, and the growth and development of our referees are truly testaments to the continued impact of the sport.

Looking ahead, we are excited to share the new initiatives and programs that will further expand our sport. We are committed to engaging new players, offering enhanced pathways for development, and growing our elite-level programs to nurture the next generation of champions.

Alongside this growth, we continue to work tirelessly to ensure safe sporting environments for everyone involved. The safety and well-being of our athletes and participants are paramount, and we are dedicated to setting the standard for a safe, inclusive, and supportive space. The OVA is proud to be a beacon of leadership in provincial sport, and we are steadfast in our commitment to fostering a culture where everyone feels respected and valued.

Thank you for being a part of this extraordinary journey. Together, we are building a stronger, more connected volleyball community that will continue to make waves on the world stage.

Yours in volleyball,
Katie

OVA Board of Directors

Katie Hutchinson
President

Christine Cook
Vice President,
Finance/Treasurer

Paul Bonfigli
Vice President,
Administration/Secretary

Howie Grossinger
Director at Large

Leigh Pearson
Director at Large

Michael Amoroso
Director at Large

Andrew Nichols
Director at Large

Danny Gosselin
Regional Council Director

Victoria Altomare
Athletes' Representative



Since 1929, the Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA) has been at the forefront of promoting, educating and ensuring the quality of the sport of volleyball in Ontario. As the official governing body for volleyball in the province, we are involved in every facet of the sport by offering programs at all levels for both indoor, beach and sitting volleyball. Over the years the game and sporting world has evolved and so too have the programs and services we offer, strongly reflecting our belief in "Volleyball for Life."

OVA programs and events are funded and supported by the Ontario Ministry of Sport, membership and user fees, municipalities, corporate partners, and fund raising activities.

Our Mission

The OVA is an athlete-centred association providing leadership and expertise in the growth, development and delivery of volleyball in Ontario.

Our Vision

To provide a fun, safe and rewarding environment through a commitment to Volleyball for Life.

Our Standards

We will:

Foster an INCLUSIVE community; Treat all people with DIGNITY and KINDNESS; Act with INTEGRITY; Utilize COLLABORATION to serve the OVA mission; Embrace INNOVATION with bold creativity; Challenge EXCELLENCE and continuous learning, always.

Partners & Sponsors

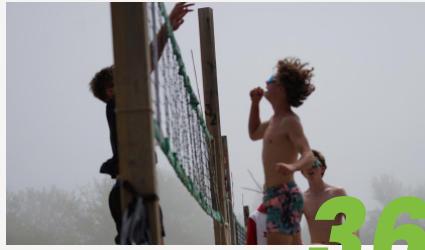




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INDOOR VOLLEYBALL

Indoor season, Ontario Championships, Medal Winners, Ken & Evelyn Award Recipients, Grand Prix All Stars, National Championships



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Beach Tour, Beach Ontario Championships, Beach Nationals, Ashbridges Bay Beach Volleyball, Youth Sanctioning & Satellite Service Providers



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HALL OF FAME

2024 OVA Hall of Fame and OVAtion Service Award winners

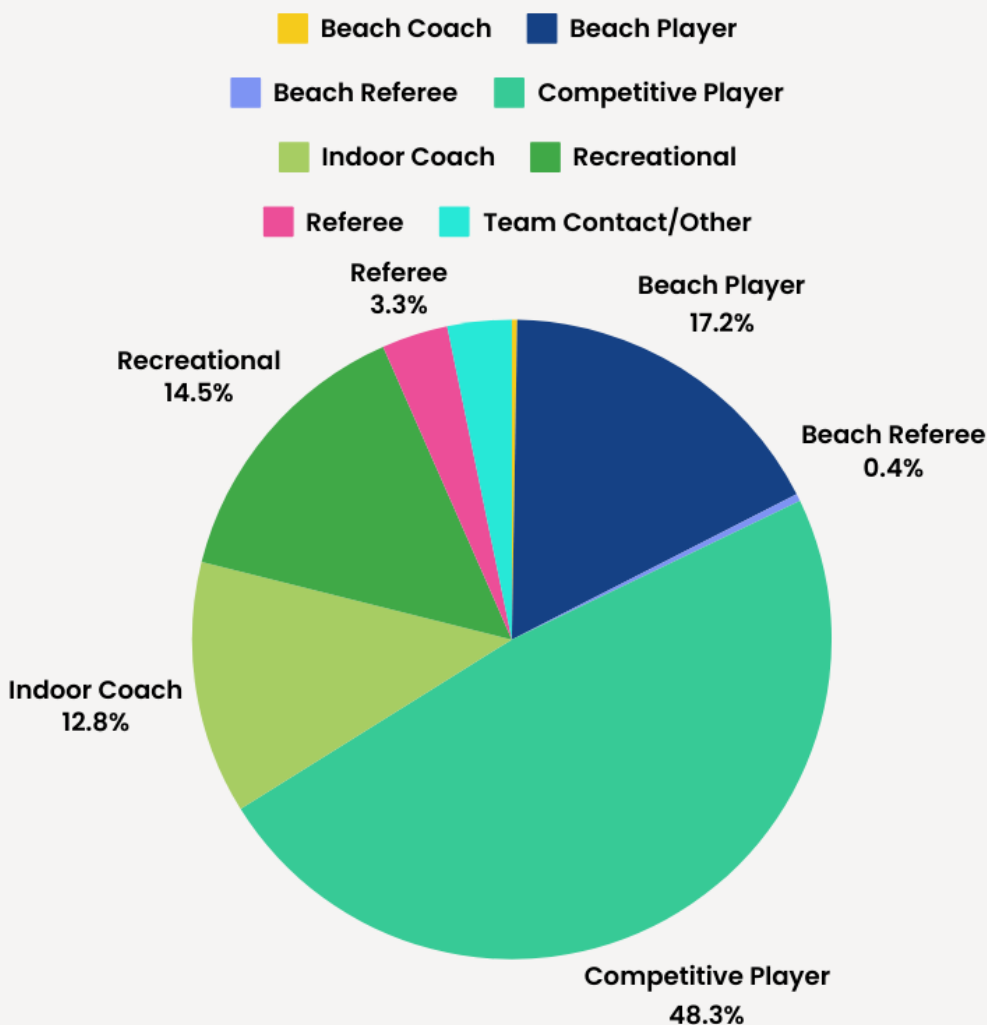


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FINANCIALS

THE OVA MEMBERSHIP

The 2023-24 OVA season saw a significant jump in its membership with a 12% increase. The membership is made up of 18,494 unique members who hold the following 25,702 roles:



The OVA Staff



Jo-Anne Ljubicic
Executive Director



Mylene Andrade
Membership Services
Coordinator



Alishia Lidums
Director of Volleyball
Operations



Carrie Campbell
Manager of Indoor
Programs



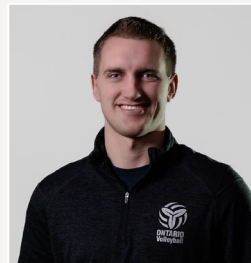
Suzanne Wallace
Manager of Beach
Programs



Kelvin Cheng
Manager of Operations



Michelle Kozlowskyj
Operations Coordinator



Mark Wiersma
Youth Competitions
Lead



Jacob Barker
Indoor Programs
Coordinator



Kerish Maharaj
Manager of Marketing,
Communications &
Community Outreach



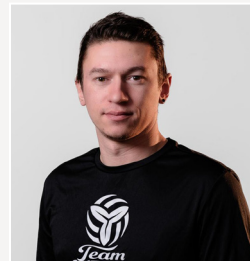
George Huffman
Communications
Coordinator



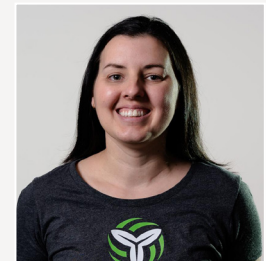
Dylan Brennand
Digital Media
Coordinator



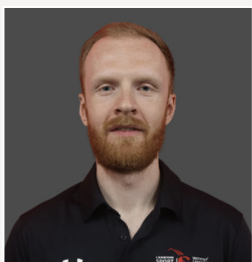
Louis-Pierre Mainville
Director of Athlete
Development



Oklend Llakaj
Athlete Development
Coordinator



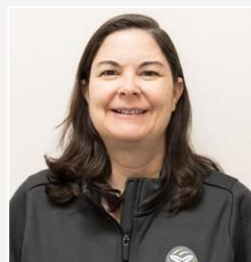
Lauren Sokolowski
Athlete Development
Coordinator



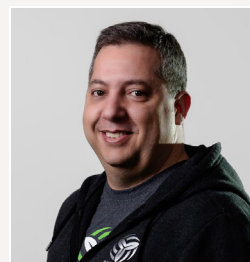
Matt Golas
Strength & Conditioning
Coach (CSIO Assigned)



Angie Shen
Senior Manager,
Coaching Culture &
Beach Development



Jennifer Harkness
Director of Finance &
Administration



Mario Rando
Accountant

STRATEGIC PLAN

Volleyball for Life

People

The OVA will inspire continuous learning and improvement.

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

Fiscal 2024 Accomplishments

All Stakeholders

- Hosted a symposium for the community in conjunction with VNL, 24 experts presented, and 109 coaches attended.
- Arm swing biomechanics clinic attended by 35 coaches and 98 athletes.

Athletes

- Recruiting information sessions hosted by the Athletes' Council.

OVA Staff

- All staff completed Abuse-Free Sport online course.
- Participated in Office Sport of Integrity Commission – Sport Environment Assessment, progressing on recommendations.

Coaches

- 4 Coach Developers trained.
- 3 Coach developer meetings held to ensure alignment and support.
- NCCP courses and evaluations completed by 1,369 coaches.
- Team Ontario Coach Summit with 90 participants delivered.
- Provided session for sitting leaders led by national team coach Nicole Ban.

Referees

- 325 referees were mentored.
- New referees certified; 308 indoor and 29 beach.

Club Leaders

- Delivered 5 town halls, topics included resources, policy updates and risk management.

Fiscal 2025 Goals

Athletes

- Info sessions provided by Athletes Council as requested.
- Deliver Volleyball Canada safe sport education program.

OVA Staff

- Identification of core team competencies and creation of individual learning plans.
- Implementation of Learning Management System to track learning results annually.

Coaches

- Training programs led by Nicole Ban and NCCP Coaching Athletes with a Disability Courses.
- Provide non-NCCP professional development opportunities.
- Regular collaboration among Coach Evaluators and Learning Facilitators.
- Annual training of 3 Master Coach Developers, 34 Qualified Coach Developers, and 9 Certified Coach Developers.
- Mentor 95 coaches through Team O program.

Referees

- Execution of Referee Retention Plan with Mentorship Program, training 5 new mentors and mentoring 10% annually.
- Continue Referee Uniform Rebate plan for up to 150 new referees.
- Maintenance of 550 active referees in Referee Engagement Centre.
- Training of 3 Sitting referees.

Club Leaders

- Investigation of tools or other programs to support club operations.
- Preparation and delivery of board orientation programs through the governance committee.

Fiscal 2024 Measures

- Total unique members of 18,494, an 12% increase (16,572 in 2022-23)
- Member roles of 25,702 is a 21.9% increase (21,076 in 2022-23)
- Coach 3,354, 42% increase (2,353 in 2022-23)
- Referees 956, 32% increase (724 in 2022-23)
- 541 referees on the engagement centre

Operations Excellence

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

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

Fiscal 2024 Accomplishments

Organizational Structure

- Planned staff restructure to add club services role and operational coordinator roles to address increased volume.

Membership Relations

- Revised and completed roll-out of eligibility requirements for person in authority roles.
- Supported Regional Council engagement and meetings – coaches and club leader survey released and actioned.
- Launched regional subsidy funding to support clubs and referees.
- Supported referee retention program with rate review and card tracking process.

Fund Development

- Received funding from OHPSI for sitting coach development.
- Received Quest for Gold direct funding for programming and coach development.

Governance

- Regional sub-committees the Coaching and Indoor Volleyball Development Committee members selected.
- Policies updated and approved – Reciprocation, Accessibility, Screening, Dispute Resolution, Team Ontario Selection, Privacy, Requirements for OVA Directors and Anti-Doping.

Referees

- Prepared online course for Level 2 Indoor and Beach referees.

Fiscal 2025 Goals

Organizational Structure

- Restructure staff to support club services.
- Add resources to competitions and communications departments to address growth.

Funding

- Apply for and renew Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative Indoor and Beach funding.
- Obtain Ottawa Tourism and Visit Mississauga funding for future events.
- Apply for Summer Experience Program and Canada Summer Jobs.
- Support Quest for Gold allocation and direct funding with information to the Ministry.

Governance

- Utilize regional structure to subsidize club initiatives.

Sport System

- Survey and address Club Leader needs and challenges.
- Define the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders.
- Implement enhancements to Membership Registration System, including club administration.
- Continue to execute Referee Retention Program with promotion, education and rate review.

Policies

- Promote and protect referees with Purple Card Policy.
- Update policies to meet Sport Recognition requirements.

Communications Tools

- Improve direct communication with members and the community.
- Investigate a Club Leader portal for resources.

Risk Management

- Support club operations with risk mitigation and growth.
- Modify Club Information Form for PIA compliance.

Fiscal 2024 Measures

- Member results from multiple program surveys: 93% to 98% plan to play next season
- Increased Contingency Reserve Fund, current balance \$1.8M
- Sport Recognition Policy compliance attained
- 100% compliance for Respect in Sport and Club Leader, Coach and Referee Membership Eligibility.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Volleyball for Life

Programs & Events

The OVA will offer inclusive, meaningful programming.

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

Fiscal 2024 Accomplishments

Sitting Volleyball

- Tournament hosted in Niagara.

Beach Volleyball

- Secured more courts at Ashbridges Bay Beach Volleyball property resulting in increased adult league participation and more club programming.

Alignment with New LTD

- Contracted Sport 4 Life and project kicked off for full competition structure review.

Delivery

- All indoor and beach events utilized online scoring systems.
- Supported delivery of Beach National Championships events.
- Supported 5 multicultural/LGBTQ2S+ events with OVA resources.

Large Events

- Delivered Ontario Championships at multiple venues.
- Delivered modified competition stream with two convention centre events for 252 teams.
- Delivered the Hall of Fame and OVA Awards Banquet to highlight members, 130 attended.

Partnerships

- Updated indoor hosting fee for youth competitions.
- Added and expanded use of quality venues for indoor competitions across the province.
- Secured further event days for Ontario Championships in 2024 and 2025 to accommodate growth.
- Extended facility booking for the 2026 Ontario Championships at Enercare to meet further anticipated number of teams.
- Supported 2 bid submissions for 14U Nationals 2026.

Fiscal 2025 Goals

Participation

- Plan and prepare to roll out a new competition structure for 2025-26 season.
- Create competitions for sitting volleyball, including Ontario Championships.
- Host high-level beach competitions in Ontario to inspire youth participation.

Delivery

- Improve user experience for online event scoring tools.
- Deliver quality convention centre events in Ottawa and Niagara Falls.
- Support delivery of Volleyball Canada Beach National Championships.
- Support 3-5 multicultural/LGBTQ2S+ and underrepresented group tournaments.
- Deliver 3 sitting volleyball tournaments.

Quality

- Improve hiring, training, and event delivery for beach events.
- Develop a 5-year plan based on Long Term Development 3.0 to enhance athlete experience for indoor youth competitions.
- Increase the fun factor of Beach Tour and Beach OCs with better branding and activities.
- Ensure all members have access to quality national event experiences through a dedicated working group.

Partnerships

- Build and maintain relationships with quality venues for competitions.
- Explore new partnerships with sport tourism groups.
- Secure hosts for Indoor Ontario Championships for 2027 and 2028.
- Secure contracts for future in-season convention centre events.

Fiscal 2024 Measures

- Indoor competitions: 614 tournaments, 25% increase; 5,595 regular season teams - 24% increase
- Two Convention Centre events at EY Centre and Niagara Falls Convention Centre
- Ontario Championships 1,050 of-age (1,083 total) teams - 17% increase
- Beach Tour Gold and Silver events increased by 13%, 5,460 total teams participated
- Beach Ontario Championships 706 teams - 21% increase
- Member results from multiple program surveys (91% to 98% recommend the OVA to a friend)

Athlete Development

The OVA will support the holistic development of athletes.

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

Fiscal 2024 Accomplishments

Pathways

- Delivered a sitting coaching clinic by Nicole Ban, Women's National Team Coach.
- Reviewed Team Ontario programs and adjusted target numbers
- Involved OUA coaches in Team Ontario programming.
- Invited former Team O athletes to be part of the Regional Program as coaches.
- Supported beach athletes to get international exposure through targeted OHPSI funding.

Quality

- Reviewed objectives of Team O Camps to align with LTD 3.0
- Hired full-time contractor for Strength & Conditioning.
- Restructured Senior Beach Coach role to develop an inquiry-based coaching culture throughout the Team Ontario pathway.
- Redesigned the coach selection process to align coach culture and LTD person pillar.

High Performance

- Review Team Ontario programs and updated delivery model to meet the needs of today's stakeholders.

Fiscal 2025 Goals

Pathways

- Assess Team Ontario indoor and beach programs for stakeholder needs.
- Deliver sitting volleyball provincial team program and support beach athletes to reach international levels.
- Create pathways for sitting volleyball and align indoor/beach pathways with National team programs.
- Explore alignment with OUA programs for indoor high performance pathway.
- Deliver Canada Games program with international training camp participation.
- Develop pathways for athletes to transition to coaching roles within Team Ontario.

Quality

- Align all programs and competition structures with LTD 3.0, focusing on the Person pillar.
- Develop a network of IST partners for sport science services and education.
- Support an inquiry-based coaching culture leveraging beach and indoor strengths.

High Performance

- Deliver a strategic plan for holistic athlete development.
- Develop a competition model for high-performing Learn to Compete athletes.
- Support Ontario coaches in accessing National Team opportunities.
- Explore and pilot individualized training plans for targeted athletes.
- Establish foundations for high performance programs through clubs.

Participation

- Update participation targets based on membership growth.
- Support volleyball development in First Nation communities.
- Increase beach volleyball participation through off-season training opportunities. clubs.

Fiscal 2024 Measures

- Boys 12U-15U, 71% growth; 16U-18U, 6% growth
- Girls 12U-15U, 63% growth; 16U-18U, 9% drop-off
(The Canadian Women and Sport Foundation reports 1 in 10 boys, 10% drop out by their late teens, and 1 in 3 girls 33%)
- Olympic Athletes: 33% from Ontario (Indoor 42%, Beach 100%, Sitting 17%)

STRATEGIC PLAN

Volleyball for Life

Community Engagement

The OVA will engage the volleyball community through ongoing collaboration.

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

Fiscal 2024 Accomplishments

Community Outreach

- Actioned follow-up items from club leader survey.
- Follow-up Club Leader and Coach survey issued and next steps initiated for the following season.
- Delivered 5 town hall sessions; 444 attendees and 498 views.
- Referee recruitment initiatives continue successfully - 308 new referees.
- Referee mentorship program – 6 mentors trained and 325 referees mentored.
- 541 referees utilized the referee engagement centre; 4,343 total views.
- Athletes Council expanded to 34 athletes and the council supported policy review and TORP coach selection.
- Communications expanded to include Storytelling initiatives.
- Increased awareness of Athlete Development Pathways with presence at major events.

Fiscal 2025 Goals

Communication

- Increase communication loops with Club Leaders through direct communication, committees, and town halls.
- Deliver impactful storytelling, by highlighting contributions of under-represented and diverse groups in volleyball.
- Create and deliver a social media strategy to support the coach culture shift.

Feedback

- Complete tasks from annual Regional Council club leader and Coach Sub-Committee surveys.
- Assess needs and resource requests from clubs and coaches.
- Utilize Regional Council for peer-to-peer sharing and feedback.
- Host open meetings and polls to gather athlete feedback for operating decisions.

Integration

- Schedule visits by senior staff and board members with club leaders.
- Assess the current high performance delivery model through focus groups with athletes, parents, and coaches.
- Run "Be A Ref" booth at events, targeting athletes for referee training.
- Develop a Coach Developer application and annual training process to meet the needs of Ontario NCCP development and support other provinces.
- Launch coach mentorship program supported by regional subsidies.
- Update the website with relevant documents and investigate creating a club portal.

Fiscal 2024 Measures

- 27% of followers over all OVA social media platforms.
- 21M impressions, 50% increase compared to 2022-23.
- 896K engagement; 37% increase compared to 2022-23.
- 4.7M video views (1.98M in 2022-23).

Development & Innovation

The OVA will stay committed to advancement and adaptability.

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

Fiscal 2024 Accomplishments

Partnerships

- Delivered CBC project to provide Youth Volleyball Channel with live stream and on-demand service:
 - 34 cameras provided to clubs
 - 572 events created
 - 150,000 views of the Ontario Championships.
 - Over 210,000 views for indoor and beach competitions.
- Created new partnerships with Yukon and Newfoundland coaches to participate in regional programming.
- Continued partnership with HUDL.
- Investigated Trainwave to provide mental performance support.

Adaptability

- All indoor and beach event results online, including new schedule templates created.
- Selected online tool to support referees' development.
- Consultant selected to investigate further competition streams opportunities.

Fiscal 2025 Goals

Mindset

- Focus on storytelling to convey messages of change, success, and evaluations.
- Shift from "delivering events" to "delivering experiences" with a focus on athletes.

Quality

- Collaborate with CBC for live stream and on-demand content, with subsidized cameras.
- Partner with Trainwave or similar for mental performance support for athletes and coaches.
- Create partnerships with other provinces for athlete development programs.
- Seek partnerships with service providers like Hudl and AWA to add value for clubs, coaches, and athletes.

OVA Business

- Implement an online 50/50 for club funding by F26.
- Explore new revenue opportunities through sport science services.

Adaptability

- Move Beach tour event registration online through MyTeam.Click.
- Utilize online tool SkillShark to track individual referee development and learning.
- Develop and launch an open marketplace website for OVA and non-OVA related programs to service all Ontarians from youth to masters.

Fiscal 2024 Measures

- Revenue increased 20%; \$9.8M compared to \$8.1M in 2022-23.
- Programming Revenue increased 23%; from \$6.5M to \$7.95M.



social media

ova_updates

Social Media Performance

21M impressions
896K engagements



Instagram

32.2K

Facebook

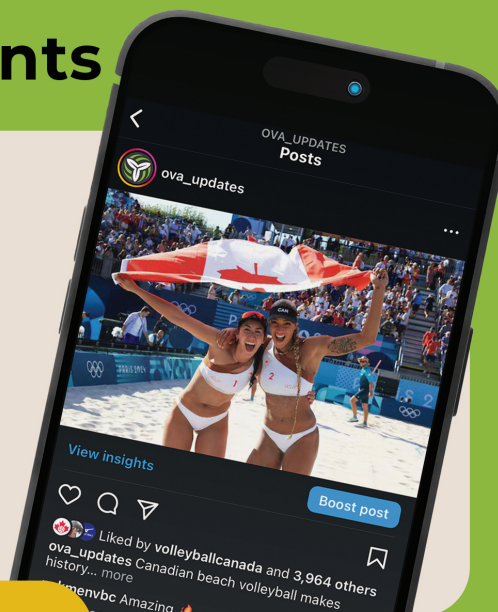
9.7K

TikTok

6.1K

YouTube

3.6K



**Over 10k followers
gained in 2024**

- ✓ 4.7 million video views
- ✓ 3,597 posts published across all platforms
- ✓ 10,606 clicks on posted links

From the OVA Athletes' Council

As Co-Chair of the Athletes' Council, we're excited to share the progress and contributions our council has made over the past year. In 2024, we welcomed 11 new members, bringing our team to 34 athletes strong. Together, we've worked to ensure that the voices of athletes are heard and considered in key decisions within the Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA).

Throughout the year, our council met to discuss how we can better represent athlete perspectives in OVA's policies and initiatives. This included attending other OVA committee meetings and offering feedback based on their experiences as athletes. One of our most impactful contributions was reviewing the draft of the upcoming tryout window policies, where the council made sure our feedback prioritized athlete welfare and fair opportunities.

Council also played an active role in the Team Ontario Regional Program (TORP) coach selection process, nominating coaches who have created positive, athlete-focused environments. It was important to us that the selection process reflected values that support athlete growth and well-being.

Additionally, the council identified a need for more guidance around the recruiting process, which can be overwhelming for many athletes. In response, we collaborated with Six Pack Recruiting to host two webinars in early December, where 102 athletes joined to learn about initiating contact with coaches, navigating recruitment challenges, and debunking common myths. Seeing the high level of engagement reaffirmed the importance of these discussions and resources.

It's been an incredibly rewarding year, and we're proud of what we've achieved. Our commitment to improving the athlete experience and having a voice remains strong, and we're looking forward to building on this momentum in the year ahead.

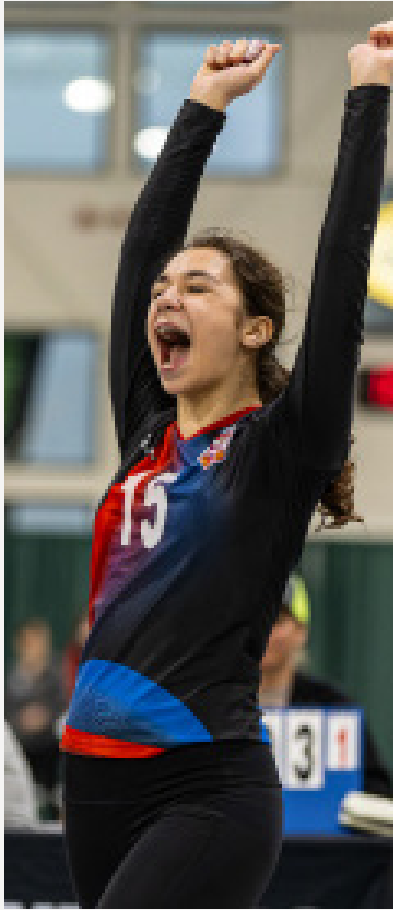
Sincerely,

Victoria Altomare and Oklend Llakaj

Co-Chairs, OVA Athletes' Council

Athletes' Council Members

Aidan Schwarz, Amanda Harnett, Ashley Wu, Asia Lucas, Caleb Bosveld, Cameron Knifton, Caroline Dubrovski, Catherine Emer, Chelsea Chew, Christopher Tautrims, Cooper Jones, David Kiswa, Delaney Watson, Esther Han, Heidi Yang, Isabella Melchiorre, Izaak Zabjek, Jaylyn Warren, Jessica Andrews, Julia Marks, Kaiya Nesti, Mackenzie Carriere, Makenna Gillick, Matthew McCarvell, Naiyah Reece, Nasif Chowdhury, Olivia Alton, Owen Law, Paxton Ruel, Rennick Koskela, Sarah Clarke, Sophia Collazos, Tori Welch, Zhifan Ye



PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

Images in this annual report were taken by the following:
 Kha Vo, Courtney Caird, Owen Price,
 Claire Hannusch, Jay Buck, Sam Cleary,
 Antonia Bonaldi, Mike Martin

Indoor Volleyball

A YEAR OF RECORD-BREAKING VOLLEYBALL

The 2023-2024 Indoor Volleyball season was one for the books, kicking off with the high-energy Fall Classic at the EY Centre in early November. This event set the stage for an unforgettable season, filled with excitement and momentum, leading to the largest Ontario Championships the OVA has ever seen.



Participation reached new heights this season, with a 24% jump in regular season events, totaling 614 tournaments. Spanning 17 weekends from November to March, these tournaments kept the province buzzing with volleyball excitement. On any given weekend, between 30 and 60 tournaments were happening across Ontario, utilizing 104 venues hosted by 53 clubs. We are incredibly grateful to all our hosts for their dedication and effort in making this ambitious schedule come to life.

An exciting aspect of this growth was the increased opportunities for new officials. With so many tournaments, more referees were able to step onto the court and build their skills, making each event stronger and creating a promising pipeline for the future of officiating in Ontario.

At the peak of the season stood the Ontario Championships, where records were shattered once again. Seven events were held over 5 weekends, a deviation from the original plan put in place at the beginning of the season. A total of 1,083 teams competed with a 17% increase in age-division teams that reflected the sport's growing appeal. Initially, there were only 6 events scheduled between two cities, but by November 2023, the OVA staff realized just how much the sport had grown. For the first time ever, the sheer volume of teams could not fit into the planned venues. Thanks to our longstanding partnership with the City of Waterloo, the OVA pivoted quickly, utilizing Conestoga College, adding a 7th event, and moving the 17U Boys from Ottawa back to RIM Park for an unforgettable final weekend.



Returning to RIM Park in Waterloo after being at the Enercare Centre in Toronto in 2023, the Championships also made history by hosting two events at Ottawa's EY Centre for the first time since the festival style Championships began. This marked a significant milestone—the first time the Ontario Championships took place east of the GTA—highlighting the rapid expansion of volleyball in Region 6. We could not have achieved this without the tremendous support from Ottawa Tourism, which played a vital role in making it all possible.

Off the court, the OVA was committed to enhancing the event experience for both athletes and spectators. The Athlete Fun Zone became a hub of excitement, featuring large-format games, testing stations for Team Ontario athletes, selfie stations, and vendor halls. The Canuckstuff booth was a popular stop for families eager to pick up OVA and Championship merchandise, all contributing to the vibrant atmosphere.

Technology played a starring role in bringing the action to a wider audience. With the help of CBC, the OVA continued to utilize Pixellot cameras to livestream matches, allowing fans to watch live or catch replays through CBC Connect. This season saw over 150,000 views of Ontario Championship matches, including 815 unique streamers of the 18U Finals, providing greater access to the sport than ever before.

The 18U Division 1 semis and finals matches were given extra attention with music playing during warmups, participating teams were introduced for spectators, and free t-shirts were tossed to enthusiastic crowds.

Behind the scenes, the OVA leaned heavily on local community members to make the Championships run smoothly. From coach check-ins to information booths, medal ceremonies and score sheet runners, the success of these large-scale events was made



possible by the dedication of the 165 event staff members who stepped into the 316 staff shifts.

On the officiating side, 325 referees ensured matches ran without a hitch. This was also a teaching environment as 44 senior referees from across Ontario stepped in as Referee Development Team members to provide mentorship and oversight, contributing to the overall quality of the competition.

Emotions ran high throughout the Championships, with 18U athletes tearing up as they played their final OVA matches, and younger players wide-eyed with excitement as they entered the arena for the first time. This blend of joy, nerves, and nostalgia highlighted the powerful sense of community that volleyball brings to Ontario.

As the final whistle blew, and the 2024 Ontario Championships came to a close, the volleyball community reflected on a season filled with pride, challenges overcome, and memories made. It was not just about the competition, it was a celebration of the dedication and spirit that defines volleyball in Ontario, and the bonds it forges between players, families, and fans alike.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our partners—Canuckstuff, Mikasa, Mizuno, Hudl, HTG, Six Pack Recruiting, Explore Waterloo Region, the City of Waterloo and Ottawa Tourism. Their contributions were vital in making this season a resounding success.

The 2023-2024 Indoor Volleyball season was a pivotal chapter in the story of volleyball in Ontario. Fueled by growth, community spirit, and unforgettable moments, we look forward to building on this momentum and continuing to shape the future of volleyball in our province.



SURVEY RESPONSES

This was an absolutely amazing experience for my son. This was his first year playing OVA and he had a blast. It was great to see players from all teams hanging out together in the fun zone. Cheering each other on when they didn't have a game.

I've been to different Championships for different sports. Volleyball's Ontario Championships is the best. And it's not even close. Props to all of you for organizing.

Again, all Officials and Supervisors were very friendly and explained rule interpretations very well. I do not believe I have ever coached at the Ontario Championships and had a bad experience with the way it was run. Thanks OVA for another AMAZING Ontario Championships see you again next season.



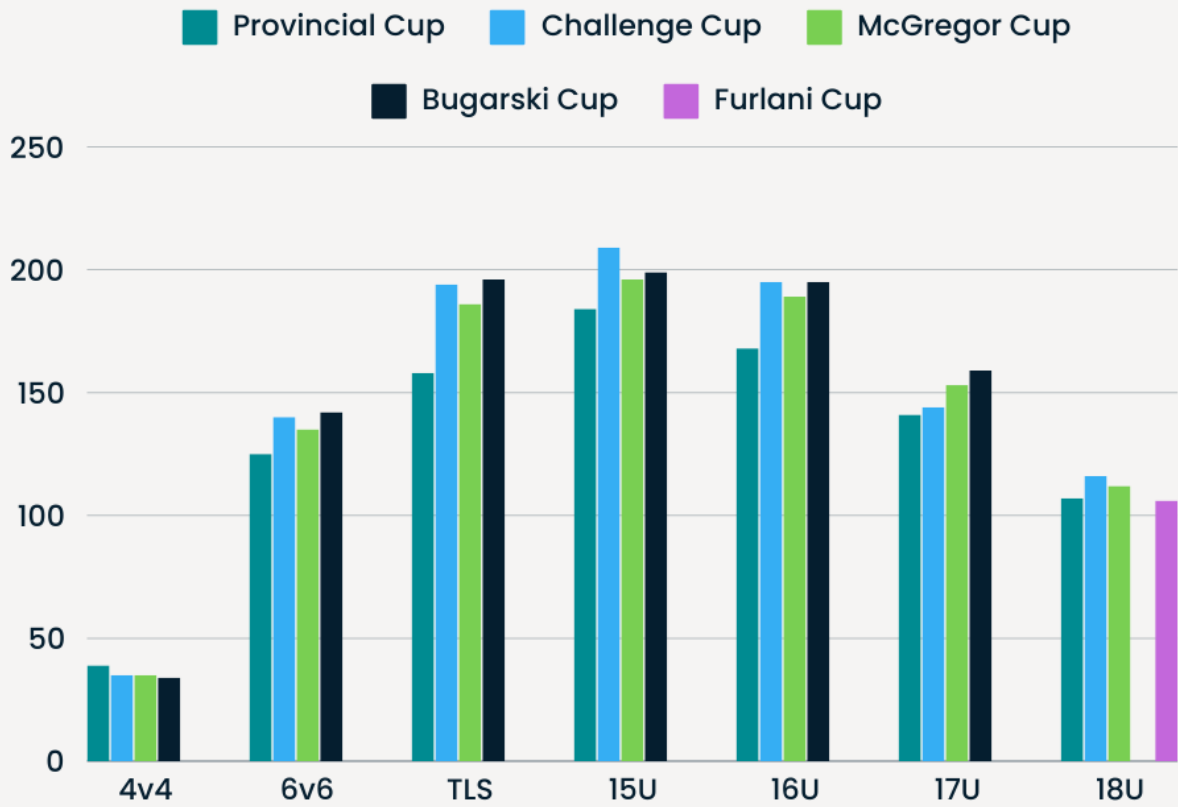
“

Thank you to everyone who puts in all the work to make these events happen. It is truly an amazing experience for all involved and it is truly appreciated the work that goes in. Thank you for your time and making these championships happen.

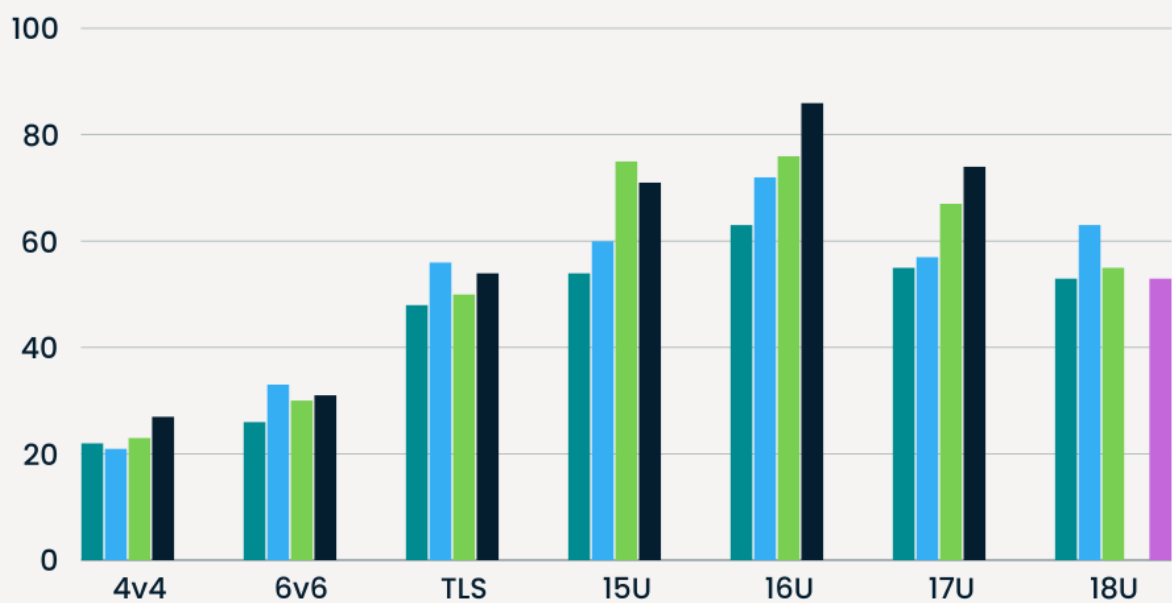
Really appreciate everyone's commitment to player development and experience. Coming to a weekend tournament, even if our team wasn't that good, we still played lots of games which is amazing. Parents comments were there is always an opportunity for any team to medal and parents and players didn't really care which division or tier. Thank you OVA. See you next year again.

Of course, the tournament is incredibly well run. You also do an amazing job of posting pictures and videos. Makes the kids day when they have their pic on the insta or website. Very well done.

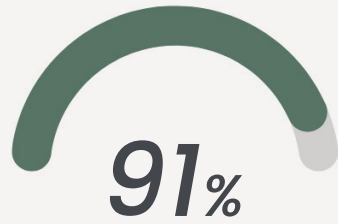
Number of Teams Per Age Group 2023-24 Regular Season



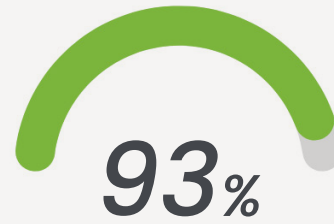
GIRLS



BOYS



Of survey respondents planned on playing next season



Of survey respondents would recommend playing in the OVA to a friend

77,000 steps

taken by one staff member over 2 days of setup at the EY Centre in Ottawa which equates to 58km walked.



9,680 gallons

of water used to fill up the plastic drums holding up the net systems. That's the equivalent of 33 hot tubs!



5,000 metres

of court tape used.

316

Event Staff shifts filled across all OC's locations.



12,894 matches

played in regular season tournaments.

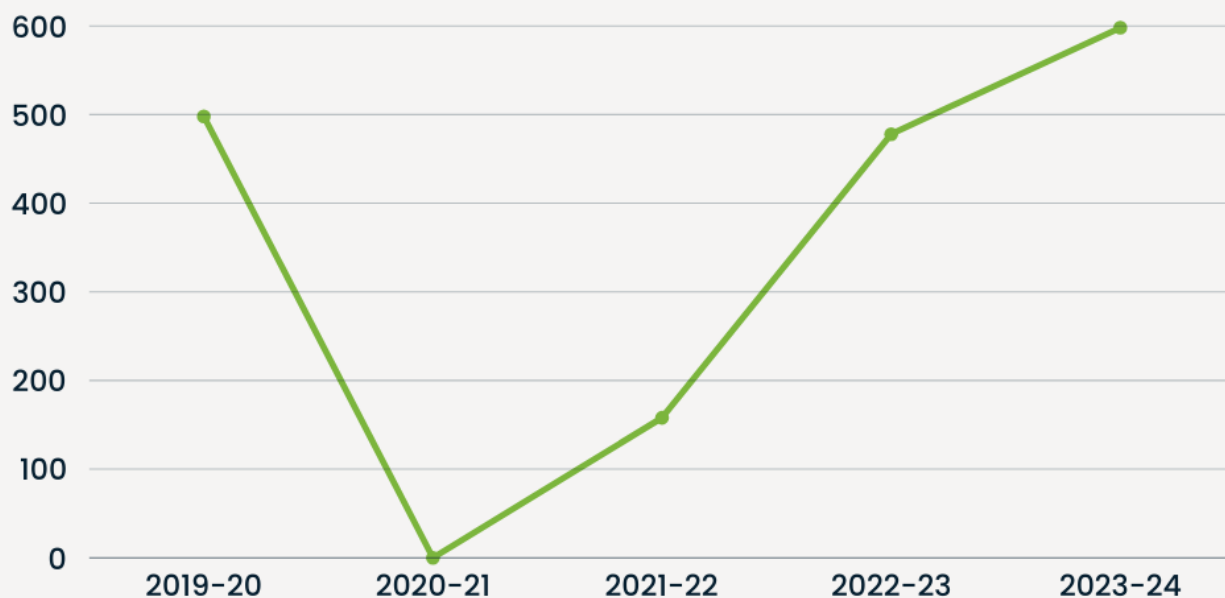
20,410

room nights booked between both RIM Park and EY Centre Ontario Championships.

150,000

views of Ontario Championships matches on CBC Connect.

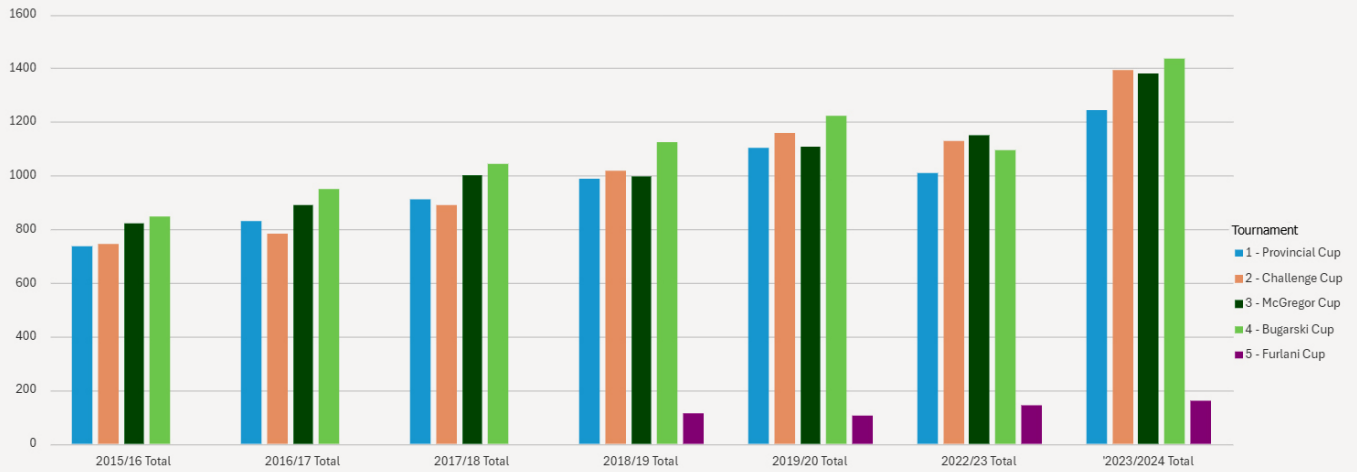
Total Number of Tournaments 2019–2024 Regular Seasons

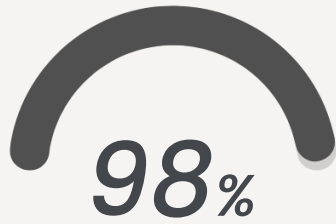


This graph is a clear representation of the tenacity of the Ontario Volleyball community. While only a few sanctioned “Indoor Friendly” events were run during the COVID-19 pandemic (2020-21 and start of 2021), we were able to get back to pre-pandemic targets in our first regular season back and in 2024, exceed those numbers. A remarkably quick comeback for this sport thanks to the drive of the volleyball clubs in keeping their networks engaged and ready for return.

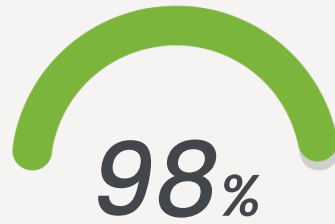


Total Number of Teams 2019–2024 Regular Seasons





Of survey respondents will be playing at the 2025 Ontario Championships

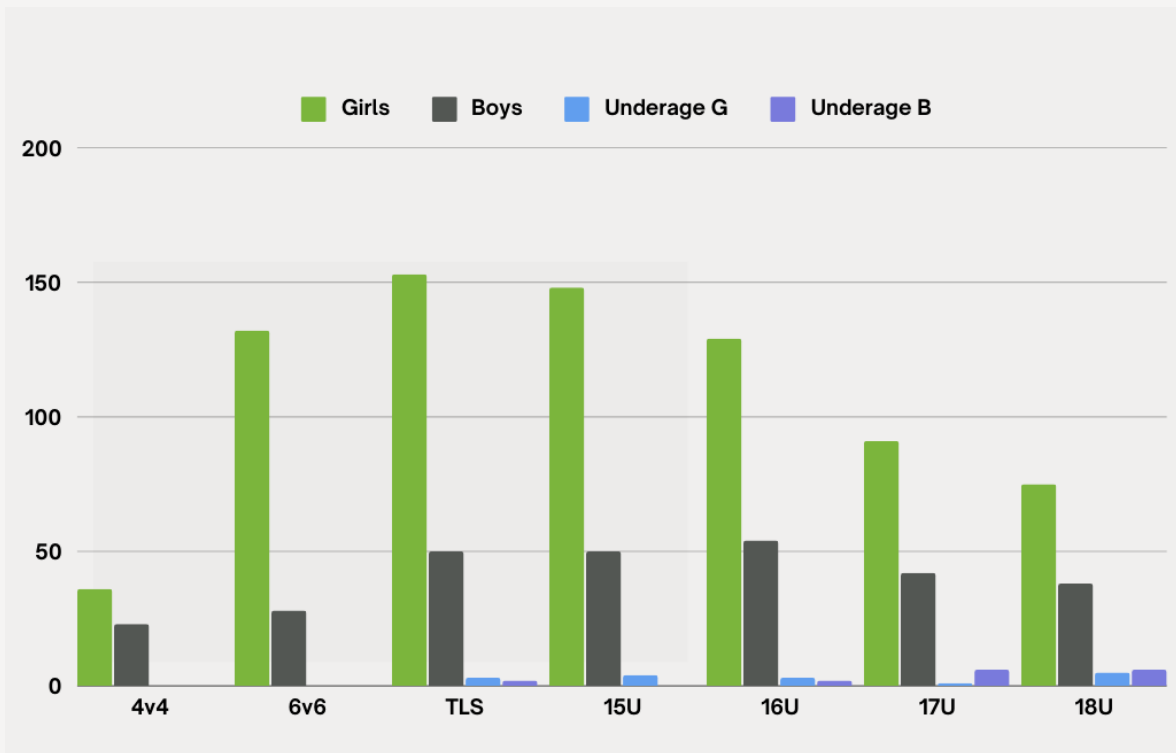


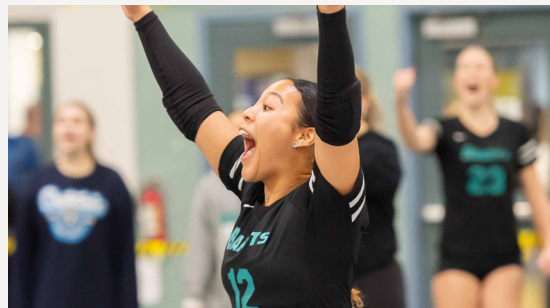
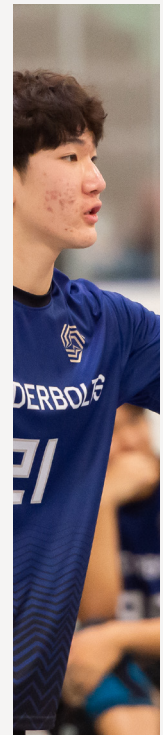
Of survey respondents would recommend playing at the Ontario Championships to a friend

2024 Ontario Championships By the Numbers

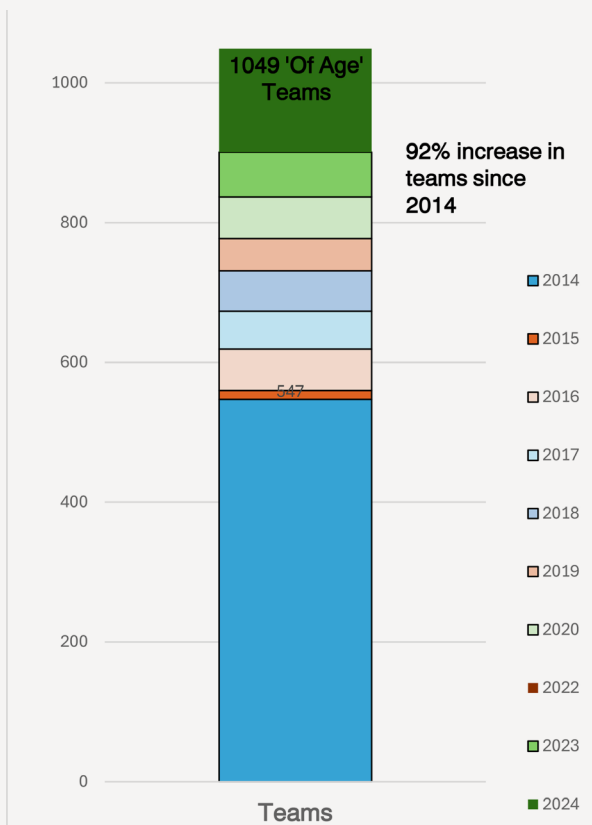
$$1,049 + 33 = 1,082$$

Of Age Teams Underage Teams Total Teams





Total Number of Teams 2014-2024 Ontario Championships



Division Medalists - Girls

2024 ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS

CATEGORY	DIVISION	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
4v4 Girls	D1	Caspian Coyotes Blue	EVP Cullis	Pakmen Vukovic
6v6 Girls	D1	Pakmen Gold Andrew	KW Predators Phantoms	Halton Hurricanes Cat. 3 Sasha
	D2	Markham Revolution Rush	Scorpion Stingers	Norfolk Chaos Blast
	D3	Leaside Strikers	FCVC Lorax	PVC Voltage
	D4	Niagara Rapids Summit	Stratford Stingers Queen Bees	Grimsby Vipers Vortex
	D5	Durham Rebels Rey	Northumberland Breakers Sharks	Georgian Cubs Cubbeez
TLS Girls	D1	Halton Hurricanes Cat. 4 Mee	FCVC Mahogany	Durham Attack Hydra
	D2	MVC Fuji	Smash Raiders Dynamite	Defensa White
	D3	Pakmen Bud	Niagara Rapids Riptide	Caspian Crush
	D4	Venom Cobras	6UP Revolution	Wildcats Leopards
	D5	Ottawa Valley Vikings Settlers	St. Thomas Express Velocity	Unity Resilience
15U Girls	D1	Venom Vipers	SC Bandits National	Pakmen Gold Arjun
	D2	Lakeside Walezi	Ottawa Valley Vikings Marauders	Venom Velocity
	D3	Maverick Stampede	Georgetown Impact Attack	Durham Rebels Rise
	D4	Durham Attack Infinity	HVC Chaos	Wildcats Cheetahs
	D5	REACH Aces	Steel City Ignite Flames	Niagara Rapids Rampage
16U Girls	D1	Pakmen Gold Jeff	Durham Attack Intensity	Halton Hurricanes Cat. 6
	D2	E381 Ada	Kingston Rock Black Kelly	Leaside Dynamite
	D3	Thundercats Nexus	Northern Chill Blue Vortex	EVP Cullis
	D4	Grimsby Vipers Apex	Georgetown Impact Blaze	Unity Tenacity
	D5	Superior North Volleyball Club	Ancaster Lions Richard	Steel City Ignite Blaze
17U Girls	D1	Phoenix Legacy	SC Bandits National Alex	REACH Harmony
	D2	Unity Shock	Ancaster Lions Attack	Chatham Ballhawks Attack
	D3	Galaxy Rockets	Peterborough Thunder White Dale	Caspian Lightning
18U Girls	D1	Leaside Wildfire	Phoenix Legacy	Pakmen Gold Mike
	D2	Northern Chill Subzero	Chatham Ballhawks	St. Thomas Express Golden Spikes
	D3	Stratford Stingers SWAT	Lakeside Upanga	MVC K2



Division Medalists - Boys

2024 ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS

CATEGORY	DIVISION	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
4v4 Boys	D1	MAC Copper 'M'	Toronto Thunderbolts Smash	MAC Copper 'A'
6v6 Boys	D1	Pakmen Gold Carol	Venom Havoc	KINETIKA
TLS Boys	D1	Durham Attack Chaos	Venom Hydra	Pakmen Gold Hakeem
	D2	Venom Ryujin	T-West Dragons	Pakmen Gold Carol
15U Boys	D1	Venom Mambas	Pakmen Gold Nathan	Pakmen Black James
	D2	Niagara Athletics Apex	LVC Fire Blaze	Chatham Ballhawks Climb
16U Boys	D1	Unity Bushido	Maverick Longhorns	Pakmen Gold Jessy
	D2	Twin Bridges Thunderbolt	SKY Volley Sunshine	Phoenix Kryptonite
17U Boys	D1	KW Predators Invictus	MAC Iron	Pakmen Gold Omar
	D2	Thundercats Ronin	Bluewater Ballistix	Maverick Marshalls
18U Boys	D1	Pakmen Gold JS	Halton Hurricanes Cat. 8 Stef	KW Predators Legacy
	D2	SKY Volley Hurricane	Ottawa Fusion Purple Remi	Unity Valour





2024 Ontario Championships

EVELYN HOLICK AND KEN DAVIES MEMORIAL AWARD WINNERS



The Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA) celebrated its outstanding youth athletes by announcing the 2024 recipients of the prestigious Evelyn Holick Award and Ken Davies Memorial Award: Sarah Bumstead from KW Predators Strive and Chris Tautrimis from Pakmen Gold.

Sarah Bumstead's volleyball journey began at age six, and she quickly became an integral part of the KW Predators. Known for her exceptional athletic ability, Sarah also took on leadership roles within the club, mentoring younger players and contributing to community service initiatives, such as the Predators' Christmas Food Drive and working at local food banks. Her dedication to fostering a positive team environment extended beyond the court, as she ensured that team activities—like warm-ups and cool-downs—were collaborative. Sarah is currently attending Marist University in New York State, where she is continuing her volleyball career, and building on her impressive achievements, including representing Team Ontario and being recognized as an OVA All-Star.

Chris Tautrimis was honored with the Ken Davies Memorial Award for his exceptional leadership and sportsmanship throughout his volleyball career. He demonstrated remarkable versatility in both indoor and beach volleyball, leading his teams to numerous provincial and national championships. His ability to create a strong team dynamic earned him respect from teammates and coaches alike. Additionally, Chris played an active role in the OVA Athlete Council, where he focused on enhancing the athlete experience and promoting a culture of inclusivity within the sport. He is currently continuing his volleyball journey at Queen's University.

Both athletes were celebrated during the Awards Ceremony on April 19 at RIM Park, as part of the 2024 Ontario Championships. Their dedication to excellence in volleyball and their contributions to their communities made them exemplary representatives of the values upheld by the OVA.

GRAND PRIX ALL STARS

All Star Selections were made at the Grand Prix for the 16U-18U athletes and were highlighted as the OVA Grand Prix All Stars at the Ontario Championships. Congratulations to the following athletes that earned the title of Grand Prix All Star in 2024:

16U GIRLS

Alexandra Brenner	Pakmen Gold Jeff	Left Side
Logan Hamilton	Pakmen Gold Jeff	Right Side
Kate Chipman	Pakmen Gold Jeff	Middle
Kylie Mills	Durham Attack Intensity	Setter
Maria Titianu	Barrie Elites Lightning	Libero
Sophia Phung	Venom Vipers	Left Side
Rachel Ricketts	SC Bandits National Jade	Middle

16U BOYS

Connor Gunn	Pakmen Gold Jessy	Left Side
Antoine Coulombe	Lynx	Right Side
Cooper Spehr	Pakmen Gold Jessy	Middle
Jonathan Chow	Unity Bushido	Setter
Davis Hinshelwood	Pakmen Gold Jessy	Libero
Jamin Eckhaguere	Unity Bushido	Left Side
Artin Bahrami	Unity Bushido	Libero

17U GIRLS

Alyssa Flack	Pakmen Gold Mike	Left Side
Ana Nastase	Pakmen Gold Mike	Right Side
Ella Hope	KW Predators Momentum	Middle
Megan Hunter	REACH Harmony	Setter
Athalia Duong	Phoenix Legacy	Libero
Toni Wilson	Venom Vipers	Left Side
Eva Lin	REACH Harmony	Left Side

17U BOYS

Matthias Cooper	MAC Iron	Left Side
Cristiano Sanguilano	Pakmen Gold Jessy	Right Side
Aiden VanDenHuevel	KW Predators Invictus	Middle
Daniel Lewis	Pakmen Gold Omar	Setter
Davis Hinshelwood	Pakmen Gold Jessy	Libero
Toby Snider	KW Predators Invictus	Left Side
Tyson Cassonne	KW Predators Invictus	Right Side

18U GIRLS

Trinity Shadd-Ceres	KW Predators Strive	Left Side
Logan King	Leaside Wildfire	Right Side
Ella Piskorz	Leaside Wildfire	Middle
Avaya Maga	Halton Hurricanes Cat. 8	Setter
Jasmine Ellison	Leaside Wildfire	Libero
Elodie Lalonde	Maverick Broncos	Left Side
Charlotte Ross	Smash Raiders Velocity	Middle

18U BOYS

Christopher Tautrimis	Pakmen Gold JS	Left Side
Noah Nsolo	Maverick Mustangs	Right Side
Matthew Siebenga	KW Predators Legacy	Middle
Tian Harcevic	Pakmen Gold JS	Setter
Parker Ocampo	Pakmen Gold Jessy	Libero
Jimmy Gill	Halton Hurricanes Cat. 8	Left Side
Jeremie Rainville	Maverick Mustangs	Left Side



Tier 1 Ontario Medalists

VOLLEYBALL CANADA NATIONALS

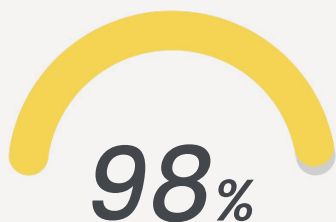
14UG (Ottawa)	Gold	Titans Hazard
	Silver	Halton Hurricanes Cat. 4 Mee
14UG (Richmond)	Gold	Durham Attack Hydra
	Silver	Synergy Genesis
14UG (Fredericton)	Silver	Durham Rebels Alliance
14UB (Ottawa)	Silver	Pakmen Gold
	Bronze	Durham Attack Chaos
15UG	Gold	Venom Vipers
	Silver	Halton Hurricanes Cat. 5 Ed
15UB	Silver	Pakmen Gold Nathan
	Bronze	Unity Impact
16UG	Gold	Pakmen Gold Jeff
	Bronze	Halton Hurricanes Cat. 6 Beth
17UG	Gold	Phoenix Legacy
	Silver	REACH Harmony
17UB	Gold	Pakmen Gold Omar
	Bronze	KW Predators Invictus
18UG	Gold	Halton Hurricanes Cat. 8 Peter
	Silver	Leaside Wildfire
	Bronze	Maverick Broncos
18UB	Gold	Pakmen Gold JS



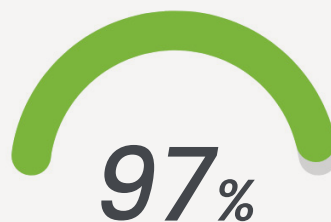


Beach Volleyball

A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR



Of survey respondents would recommend playing in the Beach Tour to a friend



Of survey respondents are planning to return for the 2025 beach volleyball season

The 2024 Ontario beach volleyball season set new benchmarks, underscoring a year of unprecedented growth and dynamic competition. With the OVA Beach Tour, Beach Ontario Championships, and Beach Nationals all surpassing previous participation records, the sport continues to thrive at all levels across the province.

Participation in OVA Beach Tour events increased by 13% compared to the summer of 2023. A total of 5,460 teams competed in 110 Gold and Silver regular season events, showcasing the growing enthusiasm for beach volleyball in Ontario.

The OVA partnered with 13 local hosts to bring Silver events to communities across the province, including Oakville, Brampton, Toronto, Cobourg, Keswick, Milton, London, Windsor, Barrie, North Bay, Sudbury, Ottawa, and Ancaster. Each location contributed a unique energy, fostering vibrant and welcoming environments for both players and spectators. The dedication and exceptional hospitality of our Silver event hosts played a crucial role in the success of the season, ensuring all events were well-organized, enjoyable, and safe.

In addition to the local hosts, OVA's Beach Referee team, led by Kelvin Yee, stepped up to meet the growing demand. A total of 377 referee assignments were issued, averaging an impressive 4.7 events per referee. To support referee development, seven mentorship clinics were held throughout the summer, providing opportunities for referees to refine their skills and elevate the quality of officiating.

A notable innovation for the 2024 season was the pilot of MyTeam Click (MTC), an online scoring and scheduling tool designed to streamline event logistics. Initially rolled out at select events in Toronto and Cobourg, MTC received positive feedback from athletes, parents, and staff. The app facilitated faster team check-ins, improved real-time updates, and minimized delays caused by missed announcements or waiting for pool sheets. As OVA prepares for a broader rollout of MTC in 2025, staff will work closely with the platform's developers to address minor technical glitches and enhance the user experience.

The 2024 OVA Beach Ontario Championships (OCs), held over two weekends at Ashbridges Bay (August 3-4 and 10-11), marked the grand finale of the season. Participation surged by 21% compared to 2023, with 1,412 athletes (706 teams) competing for provincial titles.

Beach Tour Survey Quotes



The overall experience was super positive and our daughter truly enjoyed playing and learning. The level of play was great!

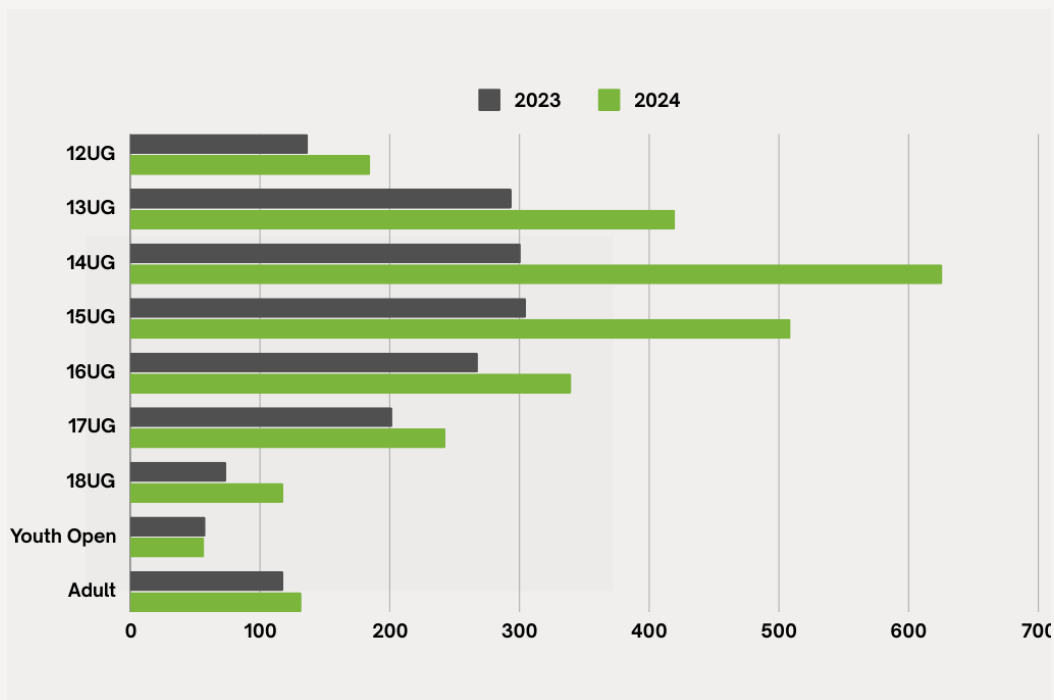


Loved the Online scoring system. You should extend this to all locations! A very cool tool!

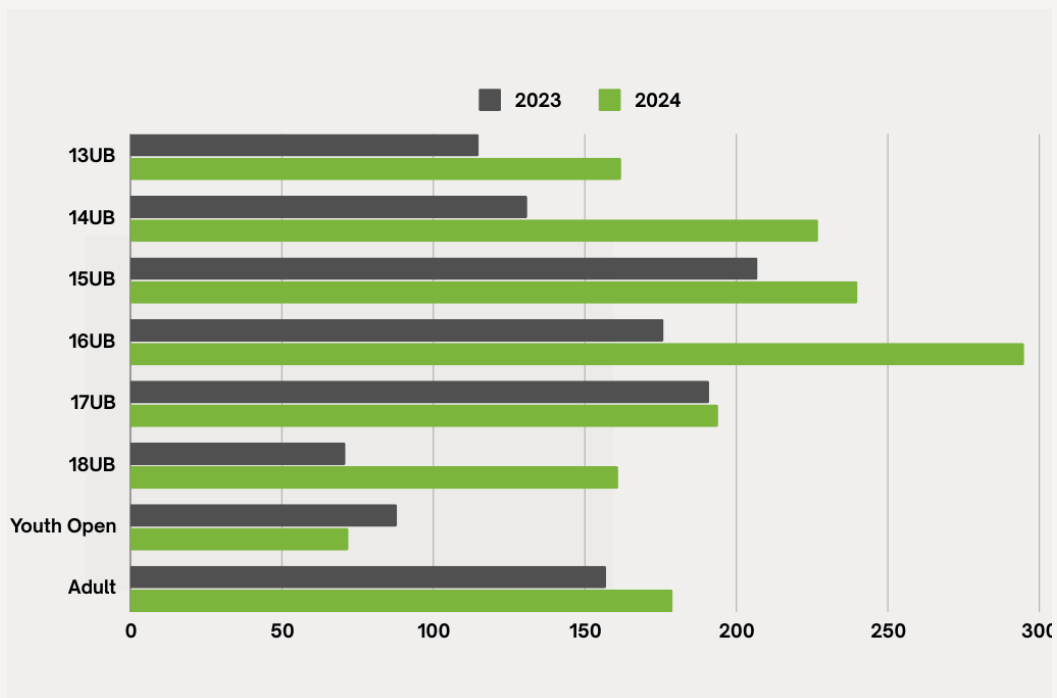


Very social for the kids and seeing them grow their community of support and make lifelong friends. Parents are fun too.

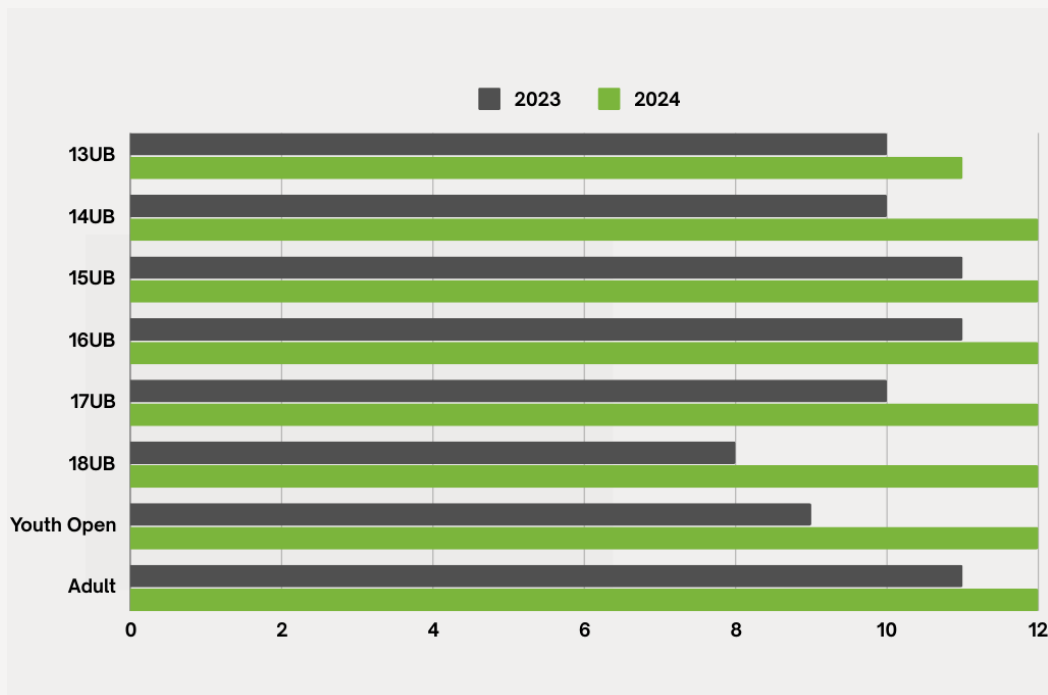
Number of Teams Per Age Group



The number of teams competing on the OVA Beach Tour in 2024 increased 44% compared to the previous season, jumping from 2893 total teams to 4160.



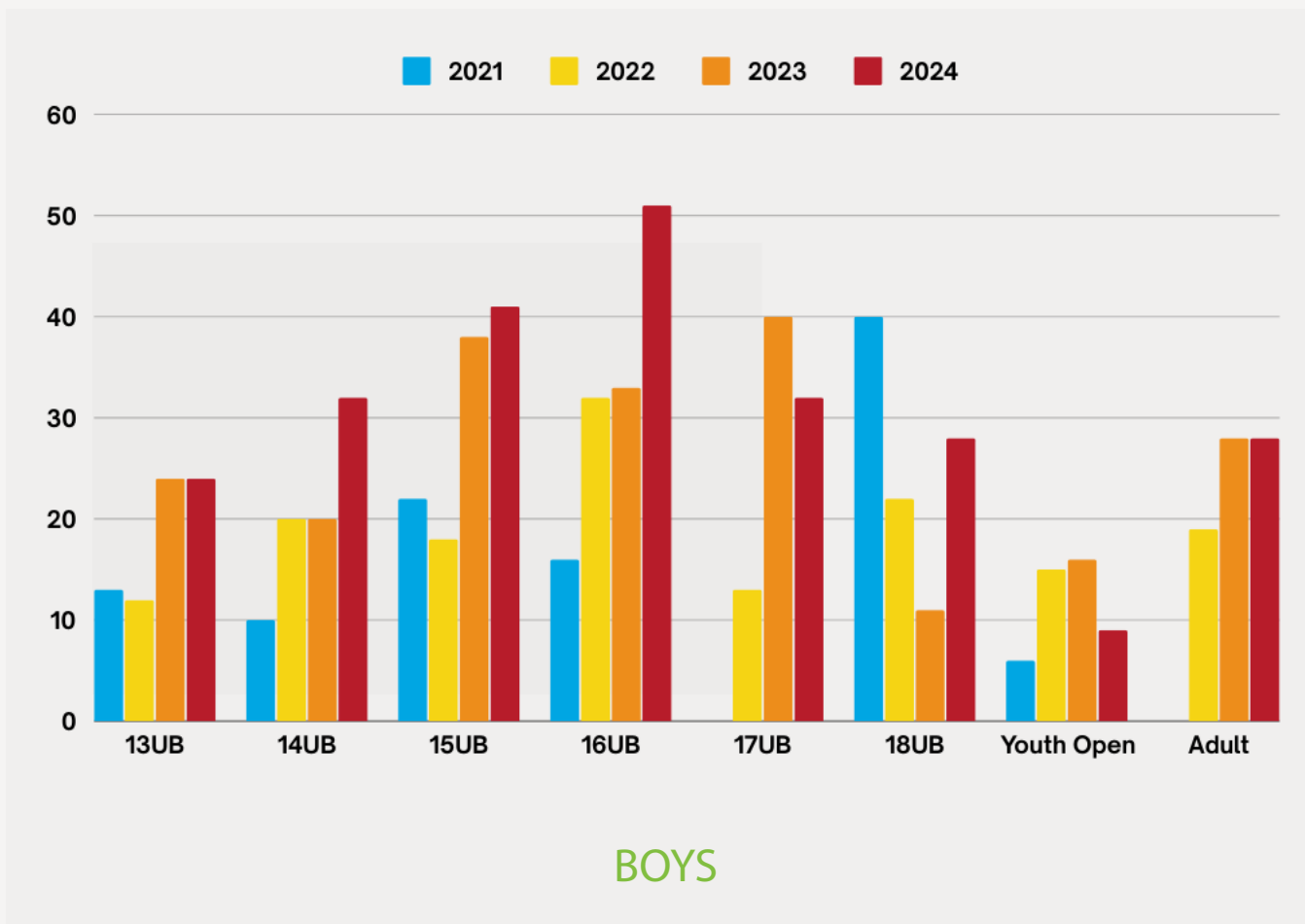
Number of Tournaments Per Age Group

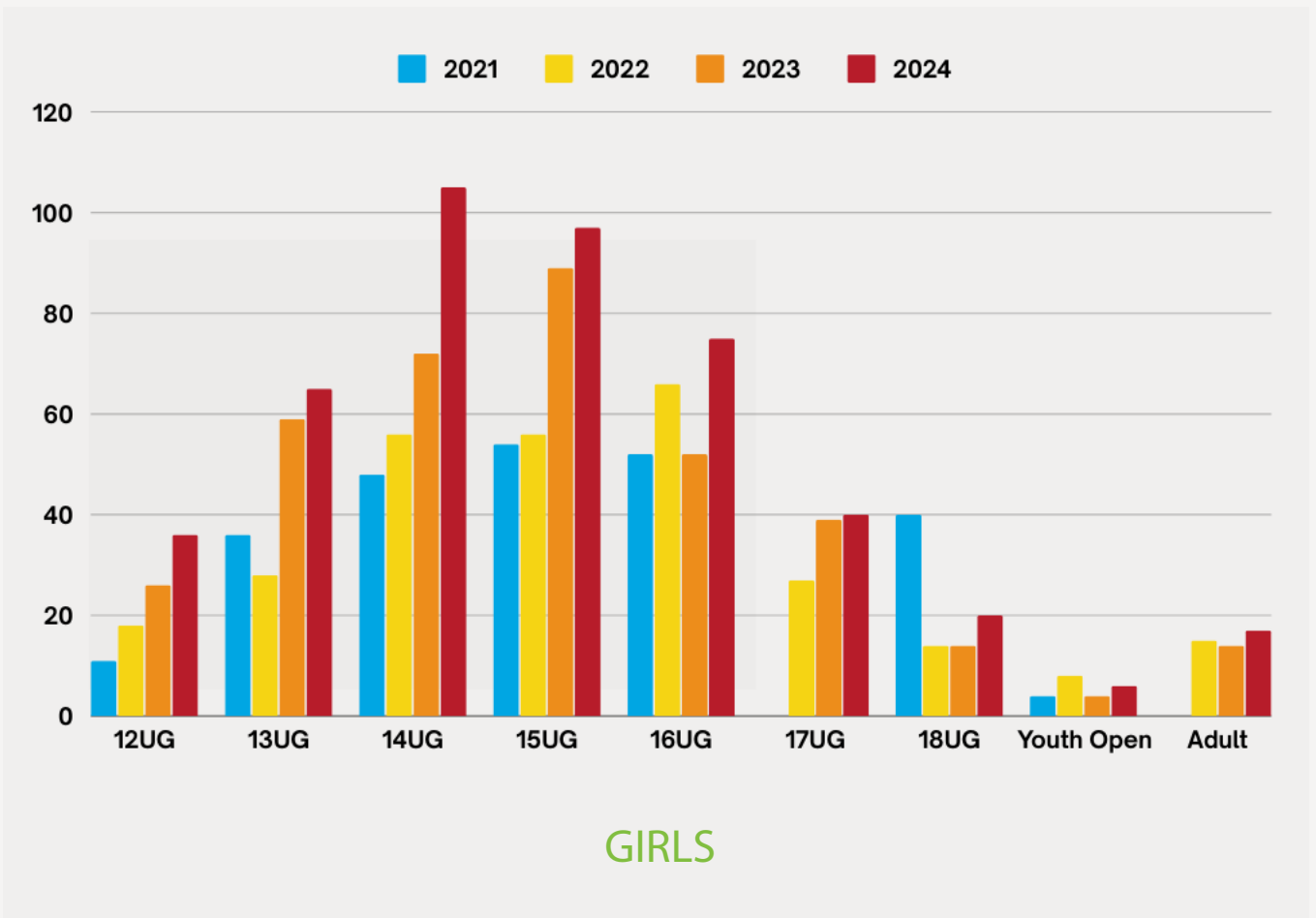


BEACH ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS

4-YEAR PARTICIPATION GROWTH

A record number of teams competed at the 2024 Beach OC's with 706 teams over 2 weekends. An increase of 22% from 2023 (579 teams).







BEACH OC'S: EVENT 1

The first weekend of the OVA Beach Ontario Championships unfolded under the intense summer sun across 93 courts at Ashbridges Bay.

In the women's final, the formidable duo of Lea Monkhouse and Marie-Alex Bélanger triumphed over Abbey Thorup and Jaeya Brach in an exhilarating match on the feature court in front of the boardwalk. On the men's side, Jonny Pickett and Markus Law-Heese secured gold after a thrilling contest against Max Losier and Robert Kemp. Both victorious teams were awarded \$4,000 in prize money for their outstanding performances.

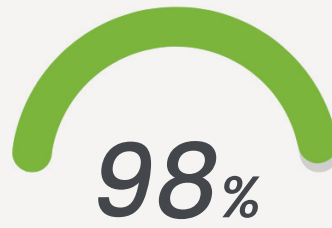
BEACH OC'S: EVENT 2

Following the excitement of the adult division, the second weekend shifted focus to Ontario's up-and-coming youth talent. The Youth Open (20U) and other age divisions competed across 87 courts at Ashbridges Bay, delivering thrilling matches throughout.

In the Youth Open female bracket, Arianna Lonardi and Ofure Odigie captured gold, while Sophie Hancock and Kiera Cornman claimed silver, and Autumn Mikel and Emma-Joy Cudmore secured bronze. On the men's side, Andrew Kerkhoff and Brayden Oldham earned gold, with Brecken Morrison and Christopher Tautrimis taking silver, and Conor Dorsey and Jack Svendsen rounding out the podium with bronze.

During this event, the prestigious Jason Senechal Award was presented to Conor Dorsey, recognizing his outstanding contributions and achievements in beach volleyball. A key player in Team Ontario's beach program and a Cambrian College athlete, Conor has competed internationally on the FIVB Beach Pro Tour. He recently secured first place at the NORCECA U23 trials with partner Aiden Hilkwitz and competed at the FIVB Futures event in Halifax, NS. The award, presented by Gale Senechal, mother of the late Jason Senechal, added a poignant touch to the occasion.





Of survey respondents would recommend playing at the Beach Ontario Championships to a friend



A special thank you is extended to the OVA Beach Crew, Referees, and Volunteers for their hard work in ensuring a smooth and successful 2024 beach season.



2024 Beach Volleyball

MEDAL WINNERS



GRAND SLAM

	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
FEMALE	L.Monkhouse/M.Belanger	M.Law-Heese/R.Sorra	A.Thorup/S.Hladyniuk
MALE	J.van Geel/Z.van Geel	M.Losier/R.Kemp	S.Abrams/J.Pickett

BEACH ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS – BOYS

	DIVISION	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
13UB	Premier Championship	N.Ljubicic/N.Ivkovic L.Frketich/C.Pietryszyn	L.Arminio/T.Mancini L.Louie/E.Koo	L.Cheung/N.Menendez E.Wong/W.Reed
14UB	Premier (T1) Premier (T2)	J.Plechowski/A.Nat A.Bickell/M.Miller	G.Purkis/M.Vargyas J.Yu/J.He	R.Elliott/S.Hameed J.Nguyen/A.Sharma
15UB	Premier (T1) Premier (T2) Championship (T1) Championship (T2)	M.Rodriguez/J.Low-Ring D.Reynolds/B.Lau D.Wu/J.Li L.Mislang/K.Andani	A.DiGregorio/K.Morse E.DesRosiers/T.McIntosh E.ODonnell/M.Lorincz N.Simpson/E.Sikma	A.Hum/M.Rajtar E.Salyga/J.Kozik S.Hildebrand/J.Liberty C.Tseng/Z.Kim
16UB	Premier (T1) Premier (T2) Championship (T1) Championship (T2)	A.Rakic/M.Panasiouk M.Matejka/A.Allen N.Rodrigues/S.LeMay C.Chen/M.Samson	C.Sangiuliano/R.Whiting H.Morrow/S.Lukowski G.Goodwin/A.Asselstine G.Teague/T.Kurhan	O.McKenzie/S.Clubine D.Peralta/D.Yang F.Dempsey/D.Khan A.Arora/R.Davis
17UB	Premier (T1) Premier (T2)	B.Lyons/Y.Elsayed A.Skopek/N.Rous	C.Linskill/H.Heider C.Mcvean/S.Burigana-Marcus	A.Rakic/M.Panasiouk R.Buchanan/M.Lafond
18UG	Premier (T1) Premier (T2)	C.Linskill/H.Heider R.Koskela/M.Fitzgerald	C.Tang/C.Tsilimos C.Crooks/M.Korman	Y.Elsayed/B.Lyons A.Carmichael/A.Szarka
Y.O.	Premier	A.Kerkhoff/B.Oldham	B.Morrison/C.Tautrim	C.Dorsey/J.Svendsen
Adult	Premier (T1) Premier (T2)	J.Pickett/M.Law-Heese B.Kerkhoff/R.Venning	M.Losier/R.Kemp E.Sachik/B.Davies	J.van Geel/Z.van Geel B.Morrison/C.Tautrim

BEACH ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS – GIRLS

	DIVISION	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
12UG	Premier	O.Turner/H.Yuan	L.Gilday/K.Deuster	P.Woods/A.Grover
	Championship	R.Labonte/A.Miller	S.Vervoorn/S.Medina	A.Weir/S.Gifuni
	Challenger	O.Rodrigues/K.Kosturik	J.Stewart/M.Therriault	E.Scott/N.Blake
13UG	Premier (T1)	S.Abdelrazak/K.Kottoor	D.Wilson/M.Lange	J.Chu/C.Cheam
	Premier (T2)	J.Alves/S.Dwyer	N.Haddad/C.Hill	K.Cooper/K.Deuster
	Championship (T1)	M.Cachuela/C.Calzada Braud	M.Buzali/M.Slaz	P.Horvath/L.MacIntosh
14UG	Championship (T2)	L.Weiner/Q.Gordon	K.Mihalic/B.Di Giacomo	L.McCabe/C.Fitzgerald
	Premier (T1)	S.Abdelrazak/Z.Biss-Mantziounis	D.Wilson/S.Patel	K.Maars/A.Goela
	Premier (T2)	P.Carter/A.Posthumus	G.McKaig/N.Guy	J.Juan/J.Dosanjh
15UG	Championship (T1)	K.Sinclair-Killackey/T.Chowdhury	C.Pastor/A.Jia	C.Calzada Braud/R.Ruiz
	Championship (T2)	K.Jia/E.Labrie-Sharif	C.Pooran/N.Pooran	S.Mackie/N.Levit
	Challenger (T1)	C.Kribs/L.Brygidyr	G.Galaites/C.Whiting	C.Evans/H.Claus
16UG	Challenger (T2)	A.Ballance-Hinch/A.Wimmer	J.Galipeau/J.Draayer	H.DeMedeiros/C.Rayes
	Trillium (T1)	R.Yang/C.Ye	M.Filice/N.Caterini	L.Weiner/Q.Gordon
	Trillium (T2)	A.Xu/N.Simpson	M.Stewart/D.Bondy	S.Salter/R.Menard
17UG	Premier (T1)	H.Hage/M.McCann	M.Gortnar/E.Mikina	S.Rath/A.Cheong
	Premier (T2)	S.King/B.Royston	P.Denton/N.Lulic	N.Lielmanis/S.Tusek
	Championship (T1)	A.Kulchyski/A.Young	L.Gray/M.McCoshen	K.Watkins/S.Meyer
18UG	Championship (T2)	T.DeBruyn/P.McCrimmon	R.Yigit/O.Mohadeb-Garfunkel	M.Dann/M.Crivoi
	Challenger (T1)	A.Iacolino/E.Hammond	S.Gatto/E.Mori	E.Yoon/T.Mengher
	Challenger (T2)	K.Vadovic/I.Graham	C.Duggan/E.Johnson	H.Peddle/P.Taylor
Y.O. Adult	Premier (T1)	T.Slean/H.Schad	M.Boutanos/K.Chipman	A.Brenner/A.Cosgrove
	Premier (T2)	E.Murphy Ives/Y.Dimitrova	A.Dedman/A.Elattar	D.Braumberger/Z.Chavarria Bonhomme
	Championship (T1)	L.Evans/G.Sharkey	H.McLennan/H.Hashemzaei	B.Barbosa/J.Cameron
17UG	Championship (T2)	S.Henderson/T.Schulze	E.Culin/E.Scott	M.Anderson/N.Naylor
	Challenger (T1)	A.Murray/S.Mafrici	E.Young/D.Chios	S.Giacinti/N.Lovie
	Challenger (T2)	K.Keirstead/M.Schotsch	E.Settino/A.Strachan	E.Lockhart/I.Dinis
18UG	Premier (T1)	A.Lonardi/S.Henson	R.Shaw/T.Wilson	S.Zabjek/E.Spence
	Premier (T2)	K.DiGregorio/A.Zheng	B.Pengelly/C.Frost	S.Bates/T.Schulze
	Championship (T1)	A.Brain/L.Brain	L.Moncada/S.Charnet	S.Botha/G.Cartwright
Y.O. Adult	Championship (T2)	C.Balderian/M.Riolino	R.Lane/R.Walsh	A.Teixeira/A.Vladic
	Premier (T1)	K.DiGregorio/T.Drozd	S.Zabjek/E.Spence	R.Shaw/T.Wilson
	Premier (T2)	C.Seeley-Baechler/L.Milohnic	I.Melchiorre/E.Wang	S.Will/V.Will
Y.O. Adult	Premier	A.Lonardi/O.Odigie	S.Hancock/K.Cornman	A.Mikel/E.Cudmore
	Premier (T1)	M.Belanger/L.Monkhouse	J.Brach/A.Thorup	C.Kok/D.Roskic
	Premier (T2)	T.Treskounov/B.Woolley	L.Essenpreis/K.Lahey	C.Simmonds/K.Ilewellyn



BEACH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2024 Beach Nationals in Toronto showcased youth age groups from 14U to 18U and the Senior division, spanning an impressive 102 courts at Ashbridges Bay. A total of 312 teams competed, with Ontario well represented, accounting for 56% of the teams (174 in total) and winning 43 out of the 82 available medals (52%).

The Senior event featured a \$25,000 prize purse, with Ontario's Mikayla Law-Heese and Ruby Sorra triumphing in the Women's Division. The duo of Lea Monkhouse and Marie-Alex Bélanger (QC) took second place, while Molly McBain and Amy Ozee secured third.

In the Senior Men's Division, Ontario's Robert Kemp and Max Losier struck gold, improving on their third-place finish from the previous year. Rivest/David took silver, and Law-Heese/Pickett earned bronze.

Ontario teams made a remarkable showing at the Nationals, with several teams finishing first in their respective categories, proudly representing the province. Congratulations to all of the Ontario teams for their exceptional performances!





MEDALISTS

	TIER	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
14UB	T1		Lackovic/Samson	Huntley/McKenzie
14UB	T2	Vargyas/Purkis	Elsayed/Wallace	
14UG	T1	Abdelrazak/Kottoor	Biss-Mantziounis/Spehr	
14UG	T4	Oke/Chzyk	Whiting/Mark	
15UB	T1	Low-Ring/Rodriguez	Morse/DiGregorio	
15UG	T1		Hage/McCann	Gortnar/Mikina
15UG	T2		Royston/King	
15UG	T3		Provost/Meredith	
15UG	T4		Earthy/Todd	
15UG	T5	Hammond/Lacolino	Bittman/Oke	
16UB	T1			King/Lange
16UB	T2	Wisco/Farbman		
16UB	T3		Hatvani/Ma	
16UB	T4		Lendt/Wysocki	
16UG	T1		Schad/Houben	Huebel/Reed
16UG	T2		Fogarty / Wojnicki	
16UG	T3		Jancevski/Paterson	
17UB	T1	Elsayed/Lyons	Linskill/Heider	Rakic/Panasiouk
17UB	T2	Lafond/Buchanan		
17UB	T3		Skopek/Rous	
17UG	T1	Henson/Wilson	Flack/Zia	Hutchison/Mark
17UG	T2		Penny/Crowley	
17UG	T4	Webb/Balderian		
18UB	T1	Charbonneau/Ocampo		Droppert/Kuhner
18UG	T1		Lonardi/Shaw	
18UG	T2	Drozd/DiGregorio		
Senior (M)		Losier/Kemp		Law-Heese/Pickett
Senior (W)		Law-Heese/Sorra		McBain/Ozee



ABBV

ASHBRIDGES BAY BEACH VOLLEYBALL

The Ontario Volleyball Association saw another banner year at the Ashbridges Bay Beach Volleyball League (ABBV) over the 2024 season. As North America's largest beach volleyball league, ABBV continues to cater to all levels of play, from beginners to competitive athletes, in a variety of formats.

In 2024, ABBV saw strong participation across all seasons:

344
SPRING TEAMS

A 4.3% increase from 2023.

127
SPRING INDIVIDUALS

A 13% decrease from 2023.

510
SUMMER TEAMS

Matched 2023 success.

129
SUMMER INDIVIDUALS

A 61% increase from 2023.

114
FALL TEAMS

A 22.6% increase from 2023.



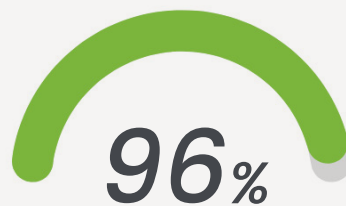
“

The good vibes and being at the beach! People were awesome, the number of courts were great, the music was always good!



95%

ABBV participants would recommend the league to affiliates



96%

ABBV participants were satisfied with the league overall.

YOUTH SANCTIONING AT ASHBRIDGES BAY

In 2024, youth sanctioning programs at Ashbridges Bay reached full capacity for both Tuesday and Thursday clinics (4-6 p.m.) and day camps held throughout July and August. These programs were organized under the Ontario Volleyball Association's umbrella and were supported by member clubs (see adjacent list) and affiliates.

The total number of participants in the youth sanctioning programs was 2,352, marking a 17.4% increase from the 2,004 participants in 2023. This growth highlights the expanding interest and engagement in youth beach volleyball across Ontario.

Clubs & Affiliates

Leaside Volleyball Club
Phoenix Volleyball Club
41Six Volleyball Club
Galaxy Volleyball Club
Northern Elite
Compete Academy
Shockwave Volleyball Club

SATELLITE SERVICE PROVIDERS

Horseshoe Resort – OnPoint Beach Volleyball

OnPoint Beach Volleyball served as the programming provider for both adult and youth activities at Horseshoe Resort during the 2024 season.

Youth programming took place on Mondays and Tuesdays, offering a league with 18 teams and training sessions for 41 individual participants. Adult leagues were held on Wednesdays and Thursdays, with 21 teams competing across both evenings.

Pickering – Team 12 Training (T12)

Team 12 Training, a specialized provider of youth beach and indoor volleyball programs in the Durham region, delivered the following for the 2024 season:

T12 Elite Beach Team

Three groups of athletes trained twice weekly in 90-minute sessions, with a total of 71 athletes participating.

T12 Ladder League

20 participants joined, along with athletes from the Elite Program.

T12/Knockaround Tournaments

Five Friday tournaments were held, with team participation ranging from 9 to 24 pairs.



GRASSROOTS PROGRAMS

In 2023-2024, the Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA) experienced significant growth in its grassroots programs, SPIKES (indoor and beach) and Smashball. Participation increased by 36.1%, with a remarkable 144.7% rise in dedicated coaches for children in the under 11 programs. This growth was driven by heightened engagement in indoor volleyball, while beach volleyball maintained its strong presence. The number of grassroots coaches in SPIKES and Smashball programs grew from 223 in 2023 to 322 in 2024, reflecting the success of OVA-led initiatives.

A key development this past year was the involvement of competitive athletes aged 16-18, who gained coaching experience while being mentored by their club coaches. This initiative fostered mentorship and skill-sharing, contributing to the long-term development of grassroots volleyball.

Additionally, the OVA expanded its reach into Northern Ontario with the launch of new programs in Sioux Lookout. This extension brought volleyball to more remote communities, providing increased opportunities for young athletes and coaches. These efforts demonstrated the OVA's commitment to growing the sport across all regions of the province, particularly in areas lacking club-driven programs.

In 2023-2024, the following clubs offered SPIKES or Smashball programs:

Barrie
Brampton
Brantford
Cambridge
Etobicoke
Milton
Mississauga
Niagara
Ottawa Valley
Sarnia
Sioux Lookout

Many of these club-led grassroots programs operated at full capacity year-round, with waiting lists for families eager to join. For those interested in starting a grassroots volleyball program or expanding opportunities in their communities, please contact Kerish Maharaj at kmaharaj@ontariovolleyball.org to explore how the OVA could support further growth of the sport.



SITTING VOLLEYBALL

The OVA has actively contributed to the growth of Sitting Volleyball in Ontario throughout 2024. At the annual Active Living Conference, hosted by Variety Village, we showcased sitting volleyball to adaptive Physical Education and Recreation programs from Ontario colleges. Our panel, which featured wheelchair basketball and sledge hockey, resonated with the participants, and four colleges—Niagara College, Durham College, Canadore College, and Cambrian College—expressed interest in launching their own extramural sitting volleyball programs.

We also conducted an introduction to sitting volleyball at Garrison Petawawa, engaging over 500 military personnel and their families. This event was co-funded by ParaSport Ontario, and our weekly program participants from Toronto, led the demonstration alongside Joe Millage.

In another promotional effort, OVA supported the National Sitting Volleyball Team in delivering a demo at Variety Village with visiting Toronto Raptors players, marking a major step forward in raising awareness of the sport. OVA also hosted the inaugural Variety Village Classic on January 28th, 2024, which showcased the highest level of competition in the GTA with five teams participating. The tournament was widely praised for its inclusivity and livestream coverage.

Additionally, the OVA provided High Performance Sitting Volleyball Coach training with Nicole Ban, coach of the Women's National Team, whose sessions inspired new and existing coaches as well as athletes in our community program.



Significantly, we forged a key partnership with Durham College, which will lead the administration of sitting volleyball for OCRA (Ontario Colleges Recreation Association) in 2024-2025. This will mark the first time that a disability sport is organized and run competitively by Canadian colleges and universities!

We also attended the 2024 ParaSport Ontario Annual Awards, where OVA was recognized for its commitment to creating equal opportunities in sports for persons with disabilities, particularly in livestreaming sitting volleyball games and pioneering its inclusion in post-secondary institutions. As part of the awards, Durham College announced their first sitting volleyball athlete, Ashley Milage, and formally revealed plans for the OCRA program.

Lastly, along with Darek Symonowicz, the OVA delivered Sitting

Volleyball sessions to various age groups during the University of Guelph's Multi-Sport Camp in July and August, expanding the sport's reach to young athletes.



A Bright Future for Sitting Volleyball

The major initiative this last fiscal year was the “Volleyball For All” program, launched by ParaSport Ontario and the Ontario Volleyball Association. This program aims to make volleyball an inclusive sport for athletes of all abilities through Sitting Volleyball. This program has not only met but exceeded its goals, building a robust network of ambassadors and successfully engaging diverse communities across Ontario.



Building a Team of Ambassadors

The initial goal was to recruit and train six (6) ambassadors to promote Sitting Volleyball. The project has exceeded expectations by training and qualifying 16 ambassadors, including national team athletes and even the 2024 Paralympic Bronze Medalist – Jolan Wong. Ambassadors like Jolan and Darek Symonowicz who have played in many international competitions for clubs and country, are leading ambassadors, who are spreading the love for Sitting Volleyball in places like Thunder Bay, Ottawa, and Southern Ontario – as well as advising the OVA on developing its high-performance pathway for the sport.

These ambassadors are more than just players; they are role models, helping individuals with disabilities engage in a sport that is often inaccessible. Their training, provided by the OVA and ParaSport Ontario, includes hands-on coaching and certification to ensure quality instruction and future leadership.

Creating Inclusive Events

The program has also made strides in organizing events, in addition to weekly training sessions and established competitive tournaments, which have been livestreamed for the first time this year, we have hosted a three-day Variety Village event for Toronto District School Board students with special needs. Over 1,400 students had the chance to participate in Sitting Volleyball, modified for accessibility using lightweight beach balls and latex free Mikasa balls. Teachers, staff, and students were overwhelmingly positive about the experience, with several schools planning to integrate Sitting Volleyball into their physical education programs.

In addition, the first ever Variety Village Classic was hosted in January 2024 and an Olympic Celebration Tournament and watch party in August 2024 were hosted as part of our support for the Paralympic Games with our Women’s National Team. In total, 48 persons participated in these competitive tournaments.

Growing a Movement

This initiative is not just a local affair. With more than 2,000 participants, including youth and adults, Sitting Volleyball is spreading across Ontario. Events like the Guelph Gryphon Camp and Police-supported Games for children with disabilities are pushing the boundaries of accessible sport.

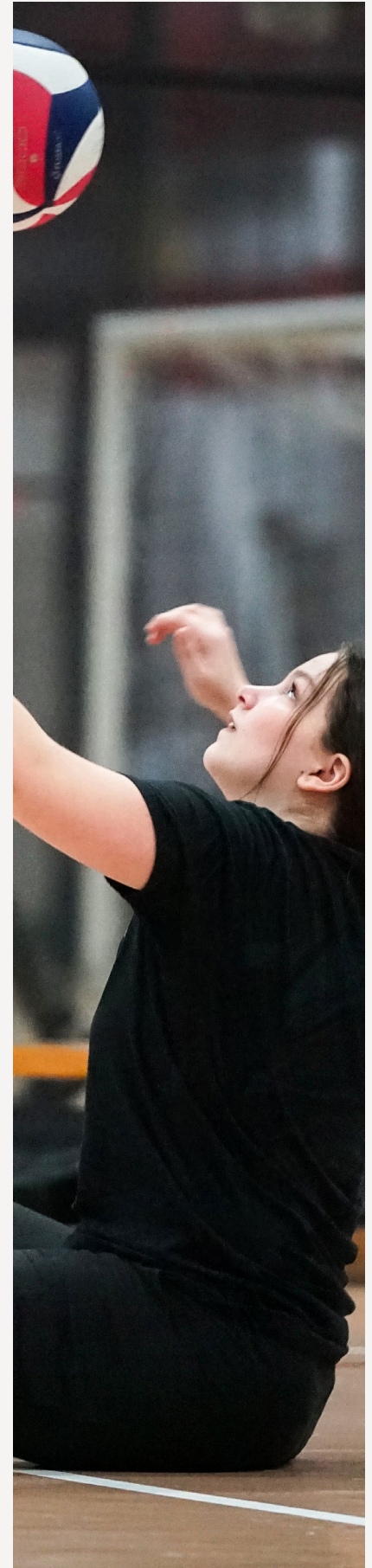
Looking forward, partnerships with institutions like Durham College and Ontario Tech University are taking Sitting Volleyball to the varsity level starting in the 2024/25 season.

The program's ambition to integrate adaptive sports into academic environments is a testament to its broader vision for inclusivity in sport. In March 2025, Durham college is set to host the first Post Secondary Sitting Volleyball tournament in Canada. This is the first for any disabled sport would be organized for athletes in colleges and universities in Canada!

The program has also received significant support from sponsors and partners, including the Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility, McDonald's, and the Durham Attack Volleyball Club.

This support goes beyond funding and human resource development. We are developing new training materials and lesson plans to further expand the reach of Sitting Volleyball at the grassroots level. In addition, our partnerships with OPSHI/CSIO, ParaSport Ontario, and Volleyball Canada have allowed us to advance our longer-term goal of building a high-performance pathway for sitting volleyball. A special thank you to Nicole Ban and Heidi Peters of the Women's National Team for sharing their knowledge in person at the HP Sitting Coaching Clinic at Variety Village in March 2024. This saw 15 coaches in Ontario trained on sitting volleyball delivery – moving from community coaching towards high performance coaching.

The Sitting Volleyball initiative is more than just a sport; it represents a movement toward inclusivity and accessibility in athletics. It's breaking down barriers and showing that with passion, leadership, and community support, volleyball truly can be for all.



CHAMPIONING SITTING VOLLEYBALL

"There's no doubt that volleyball is a massive international sport," says Joe Millage, the OVA's Sitting Volleyball Developer.

"Para Volleyball (sitting volleyball) is big too, a Paralympic sport that demonstrates amazing athletic ability, focused team play and includes the world's tallest athlete Morteza Mehrzadselakjani who at eight-feet-one-inch is the second tallest man in the world."

Canada is strong in Para Volley, the women's team was seeded as number one in the world going into the 2024 Paris Paralympic Games - ultimately winning the bronze medal. The men's team is strengthening, ranked 13th internationally, and moving up after a strong performance in China this year.

At the provincial level, Ontario is represented by seven players on the national teams. More importantly, thanks to the continuing direction and support from the Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA), program guidance from ParaSport® Ontario (PO), Brock Niagara Penguins and Variety Village, there are grassroots programs providing recreational opportunities where everyone is welcome to try the sport. In the coming year there will be more programs launched across the province.

Through OVA and PO support, and the use of a world class facility at Variety Village, more than 1,000 players participated in games and practice sessions last year, welcoming everyone from beginners to high-performance athletes. Every-BODY is welcome.

One of those players is para-athlete Ashley Milage. Ashley started into Para Volleyball as a youngster through a program at Grandview Empowered Kids in Durham. She found a sport that she could enjoy with her sisters and friends (all abilities are welcome at sitting volleyball sessions). Now a university student, PO is working with Ashley to encourage Toronto Metropolitan University to enlist an extramural team to participate in its developmental events. "Ashley gets as much joy out of sport as any athlete I have ever worked with," says coach Joe Millage.

Nasif Chowdhury has always loved sport and was a strong player on his high school volleyball team. Nasif, a lower limb prosthesis-wearer except when he's on the sitting volleyball court, was introduced to the parasport version of volleyball at a program at Holland Bloorview Kids Rehab Hospital. Nasif adopted quickly to the sitting game and his hard work and talent have earned him a roster spot on the Canadian Team, and he's now an ambassador for the game too.

This year, with the support from the Province of Ontario's Ministry for Seniors and Accessibility and its Enabling Change program, PO is preparing a team of ambassadors to introduce and grow the game further, all across the province.

For more information, contact Joe Millage at info@parasportontario.ca.







ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

Team Ontario Regional Program

The Team Ontario Regional Program (TORP) brought together athletes from across Ontario for a week-long overnight camp designed to introduce them to high-performance training and instruction. Held from July 28 to August 4, the camp welcomed 120 female athletes and 72 male athletes, each eager to elevate their skills in both indoor and beach volleyball.

The goal of the camp was to expose a broader pool of athletes to the concepts and training methods used at the high-performance level, fostering a more skilled and competitive group of volleyball players throughout the province. Athletes were coached by both their regional coaches and provincial mentor coaches, ensuring that instruction was consistent and aligned with the OVA's development goals.

The camp was not just about skill development on the court. The program featured 8 hours of indoor volleyball and 8 hours of beach volleyball, with additional sessions dedicated to essential off-court topics. Athletes participated in workshops on Safe Sport, strength and conditioning, nutrition, and leadership—all designed to provide a holistic approach to their development as both athletes and individuals.

Coaches also benefited from the camp's structure, with 32 coaches taking part in the program. Supported by 4 indoor and 2 beach mentor-coaches, they worked closely with athletes, ensuring consistent high-performance training. These mentor coaches played a vital role in guiding the co-coaches and fostering a collaborative learning environment for athletes and coaches.



The culmination of the camp was the athletes' participation in the Ontario Summer Games in London, ON, where they competed in both beach and indoor volleyball. The event highlighted the skills they had developed over the week, with 207 matches held over three days—144 on the beach and 63 indoors.

The competition was fierce, and every medal match ended in a close 3-set battle, highlighting the balance and high level of competition among the teams. Gold, silver, and bronze medals were awarded to both girls' and boys' teams, rounding out a week of growth, camaraderie, and meaningful competition.

By the Numbers

192

Athletes

207

Total Matches

16

Training Sessions

32

Coaches leading 10 female teams and 6 male teams.

6

Mentor Coaches



Team Ontario Elite

Throughout the 2023-2024 season, a group of selected Team Ontario athletes trained during the fall and winter as part of the Team Ontario Elite program. The group was composed of 30 female athletes and 29 male athletes from clubs across Ontario. The Team Ontario Elite program provides an opportunity for athletes to train in a high-performance environment, with integrated support services including athletic therapy, nutrition sessions, and strength and conditioning.

During March Break, the program concluded with the selection of 16 female and 16 male athletes for specialized training camps. The boys trained at the National Team Training Centre in Gatineau, Quebec, while the girls held their camp at Canada Games Park in St. Catharines. Both camps featured notable guest coaches, with Dan Lewis from the Team Canada coaching staff leading sessions for the boys and Sandra Lamb from the Women's National Team working with the girls. Athlete feedback highlighted these sessions as standout moments, underscoring the significant impact both coaches made during the camps.

The athletes' feedback also revealed the other aspects of the camp that were important and memorable to them: the chance to connect with peers from different clubs, the high quality of the coaching, and the challenge of stepping out of their comfort zones to try new skills and strategies.

The week of training culminated in intersquad scrimmages, where the athletes displayed the progress they had made. The boys' camp held competitive intersquad matches, while the girls' camp featured a special All-Star scrimmage. This event added an extra level of challenge and excitement, as current athletes competed against former Team Ontario members and players from USport and CCAA, elevating the level of play and prestige.



Team Ontario Indoor Girls

In July, Team Ontario returned to Nipissing University in North Bay to host all indoor Team Ontario girls' programs. Each camp provided athletes with valuable training and competitive experiences. Nipissing feels like a second home for our athletes, coaches, and staff, thanks to the familiarity and relationships that have been built over the years.

Team Ontario White

The Team Ontario White Girls camp took place from July 16 to 27, involving 60 athletes and 10 coaches from various regions of Ontario. Over 12 days, the athletes engaged in 11 on-court sessions focused on skill development and gameplay, complemented by 16 classroom sessions. These classroom sessions covered a variety of topics, including strength and conditioning, nutrition, and team building, with engaging activities like an air band competition and a goose chase scavenger hunt. The camp culminated in the Team Ontario Cup, held from July 24 to 27, where teams participated in four pool-play games followed by playoffs. Matches were live streamed via Hudl, allowing family and friends across the province to follow the action.

Team Ontario Red

Simultaneously, the Team Ontario Red Girls camp ran from July 14 to 22, hosting 32 athletes and 6 coaches. This camp featured 12 on-court sessions that included skill development, gameplay, and scrimmages against the Team Ontario Black program. In addition to gameplay, athletes participated in 8 classroom sessions covering video review, match planning, and leadership topics, particularly focusing on women in sport. Dustin Reid, from Toronto Metropolitan University, the camp's guest coach, contributed his expertise to both athletes and coaches throughout the camp. Following their training, the Team Ontario Red Girls team traveled to Calgary to compete in Volleyball Canada's Canada Cup.

Team Ontario Black

The Team Ontario Black Girls camp also took place from July 14 to 22, with 27 athletes and 6 coaches participating. This program featured 14 on-court sessions, including skill development and scrimmages with the Team Ontario Red Girls team. The Team Ontario Black girls also engaged in 12 classroom sessions, focusing on team building, positional training, and strength and conditioning. A standout moment for this team was their bonding day, a day spent outside competing in lawn games. The camp also welcomed guest coaches such as Paul Funk from the University of Guelph, Mark LaRoche from Nipissing University, and Lisa Watson from KW Preds Volleyball.

Together, these camps at Nipissing University fostered skill development, teamwork, and camaraderie among young athletes, preparing them for the competitive challenges ahead at both the Team Ontario Cup and the Canada Cup.

By the Numbers

119

Athletes

22

Coaches

37

On-Court Training Sessions

36

Classroom Sessions

14

Team Ontario Cup Matches

24

Canada Cup Matches



“

“This was such an amazing experience. I learned so many new things on the court and gained insight about myself as an athlete during the mental performance classroom sessions. Most importantly, I made bonds and lifelong friendships throughout this experience.”



Team Ontario Indoor Boys

In July, Conestoga College in Kitchener, Ontario, served as the host for both Team Ontario Indoor boys' programs for the second year.

Team Ontario White

The Team Ontario White Boys camp took place from July 16 to 27 and attracted 48 athletes and 8 coaches from across the province. During the camp, the athletes participated in a comprehensive training program that included 15 on-court sessions and 9 classroom sessions. These classroom activities covered a range of topics, including strength and conditioning, mental performance, and video review, all aimed at enhancing the players' skills and understanding of the game. A notable highlight of the camp was a team-building barbecue organized by the coaches, which brought the whole group, coaches and athletes alike, closer together.

Following the training sessions, the Team Ontario Cup competition was held from July 24 to 27, featuring pool play matches followed by playoffs. Matches were streamed live on YouTube, allowing friends and family to support the athletes remotely. Athletes and coaches experienced playing best of 5 matches, exposing them to competing at the next level.

Team Ontario Red

Meanwhile, the Team Ontario Red Boys camp ran from July 14 to 22, attracting 32 athletes and 6 coaches. This camp focused on skill development, gameplay, and scrimmages, consisting of 12 on-court sessions complemented by 11 off-court classroom sessions. Topics in the classroom included strength and conditioning, and match planning. After concluding their camp, the Team Ontario Red Boys traveled to Calgary for the Canada Cup competition, where 28 athletes competed supported by 5 coaches.

By the Numbers

80

Athletes

14

Coaches

27

On-Court Training Sessions

20

Classroom Sessions

8

Team Ontario Cup Matches

13

Canada Cup Matches



Canada Cup

On July 23, athletes from the Team Ontario Red Girls, Team Ontario Black Girls, and Team Ontario Red Boys headed to Calgary to compete in the Canada Cup, training at the 7 Chiefs Sportsplex upon arrival.

Team Ontario Red Girls featured 15-16-year-old athletes competing in Division 1, going up against the best 17-18-year-old players from other provinces. Despite the age difference, these athletes displayed remarkable determination and a competitive spirit throughout the tournament, knowing they were facing some of the toughest teams in the country. While the final rankings were secondary to their growth, Team Andrew earned a memorable victory against the Team Canada U17 program, a major highlight of the event. In the end, Team Kevin finished in 12th place with a 1-5 record, and Team Andrew in 17th place with a 1-4 record. Their performances reflected their resilience and commitment to competing at the highest level. Suki Salter and Grace Patterson were recognized with Maple Awards by their coaching staff for their outstanding contributions.

Team Ontario Black Girls and Team Ontario Red Boys were led by the 2025 Canada Games coaches, using this competition as an opportunity to see their athletes perform in high-pressure situations. These programs are part of the ongoing process that will lead to Team Ontario competing in the Canada Games next year. The focus was not on winning but on ensuring that every player received a fair amount of playtime, allowing for growth and giving the coaching staff the chance to learn more about the athletes. The Team Ontario Black Girls were divided into Team John and Team Amy. Team Amy finished 6th with a 4-2 record, while Team John placed 11th with a 4-3 record, both competing in the top division. Spencer Danielsen and Lauren Essenpreis were awarded Maple Awards for their performances.

Similarly, the Team Ontario Red Boys split into Team Ontario James and Team Ontario Matt. Both teams competed in the top division, with Team Ontario Matt finishing 6th with a 3-4 record and Team Ontario James ending in 11th place with a 2-4 record. Josh LaFleche and Parker Ocampo were awarded Maple Awards by their coaching staff.





Athlete Identification

The Team Ontario Athlete Identification process grew yet again, with a record-breaking 1,169 athletes submitting applications between January and March 2024, hoping to be selected for a Team Ontario program. The increasing numbers highlight the growing aspirations of athletes dedicated to representing their province in the sport they love. Out of these applicants, 671 athletes expressed interest in the Team Ontario Beach programs, including 236 males and 435 females.

During March and April, Team Ontario coaches reviewed video applications from athletes. To help in their decision-making, more than 50 coaches were present at the Ontario Championships to observe athletes in person and assess their performances directly.

At the Ontario Championships in April, the Athlete Development team conducted physical testing for over 1,100 athletes across seven events held at RIM Park in Waterloo and the EY Centre in Ottawa. Athletes were tested on standing reach, spike touch, attack velocity, and height measurements, with this data contributing to the selection process for all Team Ontario programs. In addition to identifying top talent, these sessions provided athletes the opportunity to achieve personal bests, with many experiencing “ah-ha!” moments during the spike touch and attack velocity tests. The testing stations were open to non-applicants, offering valuable coaching insights into the technical aspects of physical performance and emphasizing the importance of pushing oneself and competing.

1,169

Athletes identified for Team Ontario programs

Team Ontario Beach

Team Ontario Beach Selection Camp

In late May 2024, Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA) hosted an invite-only selection camp for 75 athletes at Ashbridges Bay, aiming to identify top talent for the Team Ontario Beach 2024 program. The camp brought together 43 girls and 32 boys for intensive in-person evaluations. By the end of the camp, 42 athletes were selected to join the program, either in the Full-Time Training Group (FTG) or the Camp-Based Beach Training program. This tryout provided an opportunity to recognize and foster Ontario's top beach volleyball talent, setting the stage for their continued development.

Winter Year-Round Group (FTG & Integrated) Summary

The Winter Year-Round Beach Training program ran from November to April, offering over 500 hours of training for 18 athletes aged 16-18. Athletes trained at Volleyball Canada's Beach High Performance Training Centre, refining their skills and preparing for future trials and international competition. Coaches from Team Ontario guided athletes, supported by an Integrated Support Team (IST) that included strength coaches, a dietician, and a physiotherapist.

Indoor on the Beach Program

The Indoor on the Beach program provided 100+ hours of training for local adult groups and OVA indoor teams, focusing on team-building and improving skills in a sandy environment. It helped players enhance ball control, jumping power, and endurance while preparing for indoor tournaments. Teams could also work with Provincial Beach Coaches for mentorship.

Drop-In Beach Training

The Drop-In Beach Training program offered 200+ hours of flexible training for athletes aged 13-18, from beginners to advanced. Led by Provincial Beach coaches, these sessions focused on skill development, physical literacy, and confidence-building in a fun, supportive setting, helping athletes maintain their connection to beach volleyball while complementing indoor training.



MARCH BREAK CAMPS

During March Break 2024, the OVA organized two distinct beach volleyball camps, each catering to athletes with different development needs. One group of targeted high-performance athletes traveled to Costa Rica for an intensive training experience, while another group attended a camp in Florida open to athletes seeking to develop their beach volleyball skills. Both camps offered unique learning environments, with Costa Rica focusing on international competition preparation and high-performance development, while Florida provided a balanced approach of skill-building and family-friendly experiences. These camps allowed athletes to enhance their skills in diverse ways while enjoying the sunny climates and building memories on and off the court.

Costa Rica Camp Coaches

Ashley Nixon
Eddie Coleman
Laura Condotta

Florida Camp Coaches

Cicero Oliveira
Curtis Macpherson
Derek Dedman
Jason Marchant
Oklend Llakaj
Rian Lenarduzzi
Samantha Warner

Tall Maples & Beach Super Camp

The Tall Maples Program (40 athletes) and Team Ontario Beach Camp (45 athletes) came together at Western University for a week of training.

Tall Maples

Athletes (22 female, 18 male) received 10 hours of indoor and 8 hours of beach training, alongside sessions on nutrition, strength, and athlete pathways, including a practical grocery store visit to apply healthy choices.

Beach Camp

Provincial beach athletes (25 female, 20 male) participated in 10 beach training sessions and 6 classroom sessions, focusing on self-evaluation, mindset, and managing the demands of a beach volleyball career.



Targeted Support Teams

The Team Ontario Targeted Support Program helps beach volleyball athletes develop through personalized support and teamwork, with guidance from an Integrated Support Team (IST), including coaches, strength experts, dieticians, and therapists. Supported by OHPSI and CSIO, the program prepares athletes for international competition.

In 2024, the program supported two athlete pairs—Cudmore/Mikel (women's) and Hilkowitz/Dorsey (men's)—who made their international debuts at FIVB Futures events in the Czech Republic and Halifax. The program also included coach mentorship to enhance both athlete and coach development.

By focusing on holistic support and strong partnerships, the program fosters growth and prepares athletes for future success.

Summer Full-Time Training Group

The Team Ontario Beach Full-Time Training Group, supported by the Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative (OHPSI), provided a focused environment for Ontario's beach volleyball athletes in 2024. Running from June to August, the program helped athletes improve skills, conditioning, and mental resilience.

Athletes trained 4-5 days a week with Team Ontario coaches, completing 36 on-court sessions, 18 strength and conditioning sessions, and weekly yoga. Additional support from a sport dietician and athletic therapist helped maintain wellness and build healthy habits.

The program also exposed athletes to international training methods, preparing them for long-term development and future success.



TEAM ONTARIO ROSTERS

Indoor Boys Teams

Team Ontario Elite

Aiden Mckay	Halton Region
Alexandre Falardeau-Mercier	Niagara Rapids
Andrew Voorn	REACH
Ben Warren	Phoenix
Blake Scatcherd	FCVC
Carson Francis	Mavericks
Chris Tautrims	Pakmen
Christopher Hoffman	REACH
Daniel Lewis	Pakmen
Edson Cheng	REACH
Étienne Grenier	Maverick
Iannis Toma	KW Predators
Jakob Curtis	KW Predators
Jeremie Rainville	Maverick
Jimmy Gill	Halton Region
Kevin Li	REACH
Marc-Andre Lihet	Pakmen
Marcellus Robinson	FCVC
Matthew McCarthy	Halton Region
Matthew McCarvell	Pakemn
Matthias Cooper	MAC
Nathan Onlock	REACH
Nicholas Adams	Maverick
Nikola Bilic	MAC
Noah Nsolo	Maverick
Philip Dahl	Maverick
Tian Harcevic	Pakmen
Tristan Hassell	Pakmen
William Brewer	Halton Region

Coaches: Allison Gray, Chris Ling, Dave McIntyre, David Ta, Kelly McGuire, Lynn Thomson, Matt Harris, Ryan Leknois

Team Ontario Red

Aiden Vandenheuvel	KW Predators
Andrew Droppert	KW Predators
Ben Karmazyn	Pakmen
Benjamin Moses-Yi	Leaside
Brendan Lyons	Pakmen
Carson Francis	Maverick
Cole Wiersma	Niagara Rapids
Connor Spencer	Ottawa Fusion
Cooper Spehr	Pakmen
Daniel Lewis	Pakmen
Deng Yout	Ottawa Fusion
Gavin Everett	41SIX
Ian McQueen	Niagara Rapids
Jasper Thomson	Ottawa Fusion
Jonah Ragaisis	Maverick
Joshua Lafleche	Maverick
Justin Jamieson	Durham Attack
Marcus Barrett	Leaside
Mason Lange	FCVC
Mathieu Joli-Coeur	Kingston Rock
Nicholas Trikoupis	MAC
Parker Ocampo	Pakmen
Seifeldin Shaheen	Maverick
Toby Snider	KW Predators
Tristan Hassell	Pakmen
Troy D'Cunha	Pakmen
Will Clarmo	Pakmen
William Gimbert	Maverick
Cameron Hutt	KW Predators
Jamin Ekhuagere	Unity
Tyson Cassone	KW Predators
Devon Oliver	Unity

Coaches: Gerry DeGirolamo, Tom Ellison, Jordan Timpson, Ian Eibbitt, James Gravelle, Matt Harris



Team Ontario White

Adam Lundy	Unity
Aiden Wiersma	Niagara Rapids
Aleksa Rakic	Pakmen
Andreas Allen	Phoenix
Artem Tarasov	Unity
Benjamin Charles	Milton Edge
Bryce Kim	Unity
Camden Courteaux	Twin Bridges
Cameron Gibson	Pakmen
Charlie Wisco	Kingston Rock
Connor Gunn	Pakmen
Daniel(Hongyu) Yang	KW Predator
Davis Hinshelwood	Pakmen
Eric Lapner	Maverick
Ethan Baxter	Durham Attack
Findley Baerg	Twin Bridges
Fisher Cation	Maverick
Gavin Goodwin	KW Predators
Griffin Brown	Maverick
Harrison Robinet	KW Predators
Isaac Archibald	Maverick
Jakob Anderson	Peterborough Thunder
James Dafe	Bluewater Ballistix
Javen Kang	Unity
Jimmy Lee	Durham Attack
Jordan Low-Ring	Pakmen
Julius Greenstein	Pakmen
Liam Masters	Peterborough Thunder
Lucas Gonano	Titans
Luke Armstrong	Pakmen
Massimiliano Riolino	Pioneers Volleyball Club
Matthew Felker	Pakmen
Max Luo	Unity
Mikai Fenske	Storm
Nicholas Hatvani	Unity
Olivier Tremblay	Northern Chill
Owen Mckenzie	Durham Attack
Reed Fulsom	Pakmen
Sean-Patrick Sawyer	Bluewater Ballistix
Spencer Ham	Pakmen
Stefan Lukowski	Phoenix
Thomas Huang	Toronto Thunderbolts
Tristan King	Maverick
Vishahgan Anandaraj	REACH
William Halloran	Peterborough Thunder
William Pelton	Durham Attack
Xavier Albrecht	Maverick

Coaches: Ariel Castromayor, Elijah Merriam, Gilles Landry, Kelly McGuire, Marko Milenkovic, Mia KurtzFavero, Ryan Leknois, Stefan Pernu



Indoor Girls Teams

Team Ontario Elite

Alexis Miller	Halton Region
Alyssa Flack	Pakmen
Ana Stojanovic	FCVC
Breanna Gordon	Titans
Charley McDonald	Maverick
Charlotte Ross	Smash Raiders
Ella Hope	KW Predators
Emma Buntic	Leaside
Esther Wildeboer	Ottawa Fusion
Eva Lin	REACH
Evelyn Sharpe	Titans
Faith Hughes	Phoenix
Julia Liu	Maverick
Katerina Iliopoulos	Leaside
Kylie Savin	Pakmen
Lauren Pankratz	Leaside
Leonora Barbulovich-Nad	Titans
Maya Slavcev	KW Predators
Megan Hunter	REACH
Mia Lemay-Evans	Northern Chill
Morgan Li	Synergy
Omosefe Osaghae	Barrie Elites
Payton Gaylor	Synergy
Sadie Bird	Kingston Rock
Sera Leung	Titans
Sloane Fortin	Smash Raiders
Sofia Zabjek	KW Predators
Sol Henson	Phoenix
Sophie Jewell	Leaside
Toni Wilson	Phoenix

Coaches: Matthew Schnarr, Natasha Spaling, Andrew Mallory, Jenny Pellegrino, Megan Kalbfleisch, Mel Smyth

Team Ontario Black

Aris Dhanoa	Leaside
Aurora House	FCVC
Carinthia Parry	Pakmen
Cassidy Frost	Halton Region
Claire Fan	REACH
Claire Neagle	Barrie Elites
Dasia-Marley Smith	Titans
Ella Umar	KW Predators
Eva Génier	Maverick
Georgia Cartwright	Leaside
Giselle Wong	Leaside
Isabella Gancevich	KW Predators
Jasmine Chrétien	Maverick
Jessica Elford	Durham Rebels
Jessica Muir	Scorpions
Lauren Essenpreis	SC Bandits
Léa Pendergast	Maverick
Libby Dougherty	KW Predators
Logan Hamilton	Pakmen
Maija Nepszy	SC Bandits
Maya Boutanos	Pakmen
Maya Slavcev	KW Predators
Natasa Ljubicic	Halton Region
Roselle Mo	REACH
Spencer Danielsen	Durham Rebels
Talia Tsarfati	KW Predators

Coaches: Megan Kalbfleisch, Mel Smyth, Lexi Pollard, Jennifer Neilson, Amy Wilson, John Nguyen

Team Ontario Red

Fanenter Akende	FCVC
Adelaide Cosgrove	Titans
Anisa LaPointe	SC Bandits
Arwin Shattuck	Halton Region
Beatrice Pengelly	Halton Region
Camille Carrothers	Smash Raiders
Daven Braumberger	Maverick
Elizabeth Soboleva	REACH
Estelle Buist	Defensa
Gaby Sharkey	Storm
Grace Paterson	SC Bandits
Isabella Zylbering	Halton Region
Josephine Dufour	Ottawa Fusion
Julia Hunter	Titans
Kate Mathieu	FCVC
Mackenzie Reed	Storm
Madisyn Clipperton	Georgetown Impact
Makenna McCann	SC Bandits
Makenna Watson	KW Predators
Morgan Gemmell	KW Predators
Olivia Kalbfleisch	Barrie Elites
Rachael Ricketts	SCBandits
Sienna Jancevski	SCBandits
Sophia Nepszy	SCBandits
Suki Salter	Leaside
Taylor Schulze	Halton Region
Yvona Dimitrova	Pakmen
Zaharah Edwards-Wyllie	Titans
Zara Chavarria	Durham Attack
Bonhomme	
Kylie Mills	Durham Attack
Mya Balfe	Northern Chill
Payton Dolyny	Fort Frances High School

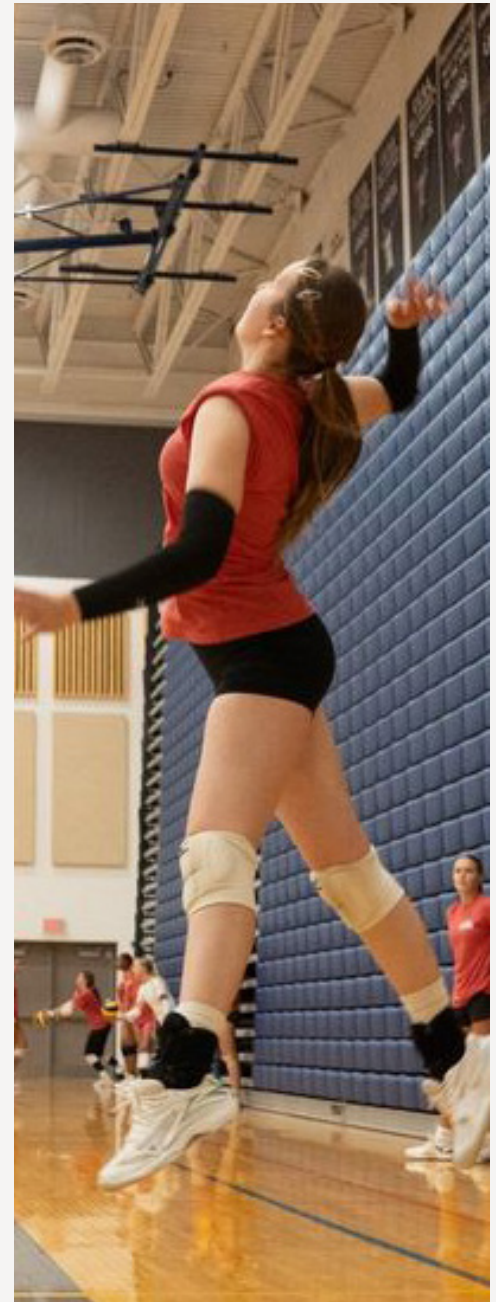
Coaches: Andrew Mallory, Kevin Sherriff, Nancy Dool-Kontio, Jennifer Kelly, Sergio Chuy, Rebekah Hara



Team Ontario White

Abigail Thompson	Storm	Kaitlyn McLean	Pakmen
Addison Farrell	Durham Rebels	kellyn mbonjo	Maverick
Addison McLachlin	Defensa	Leah MacPhail	Durham Rebels
Ailish Grieve	Titans	Lily Arseneault	Pakmen
Alexis Cheong	Venom	Lily Soulliere	SC Bandits
Amelie Parkin	Titans	Li-Na Leuangthong	Storm
Anna Kasprzak	Pakmen	Louise Laustsen	Scorpions
Ava Kellar	Durham Rebels	Mae Boban	Superior North
Avery Bradish	FCVC	Milena Gortnar	Pakmen
Bailey Royston	Barrie Elites	Natasha Winsor	Maverick
Bianka Chuy	FCVC	Norah Dingman	Unity
Bronwyn Voit	Defensa	Olivia Anandarajan	Venom
Carys Middleton	Venom	Quinn Brydges	Maverick
Cassidy Warren	Northern Chill	Reese Wilson	Milton Edge
Catu Pallant	Defensa	Riley Hamilton	Maverick
Charlie Visser	Defensa	Rose Cockburn	Durham Rebels
Charlotte Roberts	Halton Region	Sara Suzuki	Scorpions
Danika Cleary	Storm	Sarah McNamara	Barrie Elites
Elaina Grover	Durham Attack	Sarah Nickson	Halton Region
Emeris Bouwmeester	Pakmen	Sophia Crifo	Titans
Emery Stapleton	SC Bandits	Sophia Testa	FCVC
Emily Pop	Leaside	Sophie Rath	Halton Region
Emma Mitsku	Barrie Elites	Sophie Thomas	KW Predators
Emma Yeung	Venom	Stella Smith	Leaside
Enna Dumitriu	Venom	Sydney Rocca	Pakmen
Grace Tong	Leaside	Taylor Bjorndahl	Durham Rebels
Hannah Hage	SC Bandits	Victoria Serrano	Titans
Isabella Colle	SC Bandits	Winji Magdi	FCVC
Izabela Sajda	Titans		
Jenny Duan	Leaside		
Jordan Dickhout	Halton Region		
Kaitlyn Lam	Leaside		

Coaches: Anson Wong, Chris Ling, Christina Stratford, Curtis MacPherson, Emma Korolenko, Jeff Farrell, Katia Tyndall, Michelle Lange, Zandra Bear-Lowen



Regional Program

Boys

Aaryan Habib	Markham Revolution	Matthais Robinson	LVC Fire
Adam Chow	REACH	Matthew Foulds	Superior North
Aidan Collins	Maverick	Maxwell Gardiner	Ottawa Fusion
Alessio Leri	KW Predators	Merek Rajtar	KW Predators
Alex Hum	KWPredators	Nathan Ramjass	Barrie Elites
Amin Qureshi	Maverick	Nathan Spence	Maverick
Andrew Ashfield	Maverick	Nithan Prakash	Milton Edge
Andrew Pook	KW Predators	Noah Gardon	Milton Edge
Armaan Kaushal	Markham Revolution	Noah White	LVC Fire
Austin Kwon	Halton Region	Odin Pleau	KW Predators
Benjamin Wang	REACH	Owen Denbak	Niagara Rapids
Brayden Lucas	LVC Fire	Owen Leahey	Maverick
Brody Sinclair	Stratford	Robbie Whitelock	Pakmen
Bruno Azevedo	Halton Region	Samuel Moore	FCVC
Caleb Greene	Durham Attack	Sean Wu	Markham Revolution
Cédric Larouche	Northern Chill	Sebastien King	Maverick
Charles Loblirin-Amurao	Titans	Seth Cooper	MAC
Chimaobi Charles	Pakmen	Shane Bowes	Halton Region
Christian Samoy	Scorpions	Steven Itterman	LVC Fire
Colin Jones	Niagara Rapids	Tanner Hart	Halton Region
Connor Bourque	Venom	Thomas Adolph	Maverick
Daniel Tan	Unity	Thomas Lipsett	Maverick
Derek Wu	REACH	Trace Mcmanus	FCVC
Devan Tarrant	Pakmen	Tudor Vlad	REACH
Ethan Craig	Halton Region	Tyson Denison-Gillis	Venom
Ethan Luis-Gaudet	KW Predators	Tyus Welch	Maverick
Evan Hodgins	Northern Chill	William Downey	Phoenix
Finn Crix	Leaside	Wylan Yee	REACH
Greg Kao	Northern Chill	Zachary Mcgrath	Pakmen
Greydon Jones	Halton Region		
Jacob Harrison	Scorpions		
Jaden Hoff	Niagara Rapids		
Jordon Li	REACH		
Karsen Morse	Titans		
Keane Thompson	Maverick		
Kian Dezfulian	Pakmen		
Leo Fay	Superior North		
Liam Samson	MAC		
Logan Brooker	Barrie Elites		
Logan Flear	Barrie Elites		
Mac Adams	Barrie Elites		
Maksim Rybiak	Northern Chill		
Marco Zorzetto	MAC		

Coaches: Andrew Tauhid, Benoit Jolicoeur, Blake Belcher, Craig Oakey, Denis King, Elaine Pilgrim-Susi, Jonathan Loos, Kevin McKee, Kyle Johnston, Lori Spoltore, Marc Wilson, Oliver Sant



Girls

Abbey Fraser	MVC	Emma Moussadji	Titans	Peighton Carter	Pakmen
Addisyn Posthumus	Leaside	Erin Fresco	MVC	Peyton Brooks	FCVC
Aisha Alvi	Leaside	Erin Fulsom	Smash Raiders	Peyton Petican	Smash Raiders
Alex Mohart	MVC	Esme Harris	Pakmen	Quinn Reid	MVC
Alexandra Steele	Pakmen	Eve Herbert	Maverick	Rae Robertson	Storm
Alexis Spehr	Pakmen	Fallon Fulcher	KW Predators	Reese Fitzgibbon	Smash Raiders
Allie Convery	Smash Raiders	Gabi Valdivieso	Maverick	Renaef Stefels	Niagara Rapids
Alora List	Barrie Elites	Gabrielle Mielko	Pakmen	Rylie Organ	Chatham Ballhawks
Amalia Kuruc	Pakmen	Gisele Mckaig	Chatham Ballhawks	Samantha Santiago	Unity
Amélie Aubin	NBYVC Lakers	Grace Archibald	Maverick	Sara Finotti Do	Titans
Angela Zhang	Synergy	Grace Hallman	Oakville Thunder	Nascimento	
Ania Nesti	Superior North	Grace Sevitti	Defensa	Sarah Masters	Peterborough Thunder
Anjna Goela	FCVC	Grace Shi	Halton Region	Sava Kovinjal	Pakmen
April Hofland	Orillia Suns	Gracie Reeve	Grimsbys Vipers	Scarlett Martin	KW Predators
Ariana Burlacu	Storm	Haley Claus	Storm	Scarlett Rossi	FCVC
Arianna Chen	Pakmen	Iris Michell	Belleville Ravens	Serena Warren	Superior North
Arielle Moussadji	Titans	Izabella Distefano	SC Bandits	Shyla Patel	EVP Canada
Aubrey Petican	Smash Raiders	Jacqueline Galipeau	Niagara Rapids	Sofija Lukic	Pakmen
Audrey Mckenzie	Milton Edge	Julia Gilbank	Synergy	Sophie Buttaro	Defensa
Ava Peterson	Superior North	Juliet Wilson	Defensa	Sophie Mckinnon	Pakmen
Ava Renshaw	Barrie Elites	Kaia Wong	Storm	Taylor Osborne	Georgian Cubs
Avery Vickers	REACH	Karli Maars	FCVC	Tessa Yang	Leaside
Breya Peters	MVC	Katelyn Tucker	NBYVC Lakers	Tori D'Angela	MVC
Briar Gemmill	KW Predators	Keira Shiryaev	St. Thomas Express	Veronica Baier	MVC
Brielle Vandenberg	Durham Attack	Kenda Sabljak	Defensa	Violet Sloan	Maverick
Brooke Clubine	Durham Attack	Kendall Cressman	KW Predators	Vivian Gilmour	Maverick
Brynn Sudds-McDonald	Maverick	Kinlee Nguyen	Waterloo	Vivian Vargas	Pakmen
Callista Sarmiento	Pakmen	Kyla Morden	KWPredators	Yolana Mcneilly	KW Predators
Camden Kribs	Unity	Lauren Baxter	Durham Attack	Zadie Biss-Mantziounis	Pakmen
Caraghan Casey	Durham Rebels	Lauren Valeriote	FCVC		
Ceanna Jeffrey-Cote	Titans	Liliana Suppa	Durham Rebels		
Charisse Pau	Titans	Lilianna Locklin	KW Predators		
Chelsea Maslen	Maverick	Lily Fullarton	EVP Canada		
Chelsea Whiting	Ottawa Valley Vikings	Lily Mills	FCVC		
Chloe Mccabe	Stratford	Lily Wittig	FCVC		
Claire Bradstock	Durham Rebels	Macie Barlow	Northern Chill		
Claire Moncada	Georgian Cubs	Maddy Hall	Niagara Rapids		
Claire Tutching	Leaside	Madelyn Brassard	Superior North		
Daria Giurgean	Scorpions	Maïka Vaillancourt	Maverick		
Eleanor Baur	Maverick	Maya Oates	Durham Rebels		
Elena Stankova	Pakmen	Mckinley Kelly	Halton Region		
Elizabeth Mcqueen	Niagara Rapids	Mila Ljubicic	Smash Raiders		
Ella Winegarden	Smash Raiders	Miranda Laing	Defensa		
Ella-Grace Hoang	Synergy	Morgan Mcdonald	Titans		
Ellie Stewart	Storm	Nancy Wang	Maverick		
Elodie Card	Titans	Narin Han	Pakmen		
Emily Schad	Peterborough Thunder	Olivia Tatham	Leaside		
		Paige Carter	Leaside		

Coaches: Amanda Fong, Anna Scarfe, Aya Utahara, Bradley Molnar, Calogero Cocco, Carrie Welsh, Cassidy Nicholson-Clarke, Chris Jephson, Daniel Goyes, Isabella Henderson, Jamie Spencer, Jasmine Safar, Jessica Curtis, John Curtis, Kathryn Jung, Sarah Whitlock, Tania Polcyn, Thea Ziesmann, Tiffany Tenn, Tyson Roffey



Tall Maples

Boys

Aiden Asselstine	KW Predators
Alexander Hannah	Durham Attack
Andrew Lock	MAC
Ante Blazanin	41SIX
Cooper Schofield	Pakmen
Curtis Belcher	Halton Region
Eli Trotter	Leaside
Elliott Langley	LVC Fire
Ethan Matthews	MAC
Graham Teague	Georgina Riptide
Grayson Comeau	Maverick
Greyson Detlor	Guelph Youth Volleyball
Iain Brown	Phoenix
Jonathan Crisan	KW Predators
Logan Carpenter	Titans
Luc Erclik	Pakmen
Matthew Grant	SKY Volley
Varin Padroo	Halton Region



Girls

Abena Baisie	Caspian Sport Club
Alexie Houle	Northern Chill
Annie Beveridge	Leaside
Arshpreet Cheema	Thundercats
Audrey Moore	Kingston Rock
Breanna Sloetjes	FCVC
Carolyn Barbe	Maverick
Claire Stevens	Durham Rebels
Emma Pinchin	Belleville Ravens
Finley McKie	Titans
Geri O'Reilly	41SIX
Kadynce Lamont	MVC
Kayce Hebert	Chatham Ballhawks
Mackenzie Kane	Titans
Makenna Maxton	Superior North
Nora Dunbrack	Durham Attack
Penny Ingram	KW Predators
Phoenix Baatje	Orillia Suns
Rachel Meagher	Titans
Teagan Munro-Houlton	Milton Edge
Teghan Meredith	Chatham Ballhawks
Zoe Thake	Smash Raiders



All Coaches: David Reed, Iliana Schlechta, Louise Smith, Milan Ivanisevic, Ryan Fong, Sean Kohler



Beach Teams

FTG

Aaron Berthelot
 Aengus Adams
 Alexander Carmichael
 Alexander Szarka
 Brecken Morrison
 Carter Crooks
 Kian Khademi
 Matthew McCarvell
 Michael Korman
 Michael Sim
 Silas Carr
 Stefan Lukowski
 Vitorio Forte
 Aris Dhanoa
 Beatrix Webb
 Ezrie Burke
 Georgia Cartwright
 Hannah Schad
 Kaia McLean
 Kate Chipman
 Maeve Suddergaard
 Maya Boutanos
 Nina Lulic
 Olivia Woolley
 Portia Petherick
 Riley Hiemstra
 Sarah Botha
 Sonia Wojnicki
 Sophie Hancock
 Stella Bates
 Zoe Dirisio

Coaches: Becky Dorsey,
 Cicero Oliveira, Eddie
 Coleman, Jason Marchant,
 Laura Condotta, Matt Golas,
 Nolan Shapcott, Oklend
 Llakaj

Camp-Based

Adrian Skopek
 Gavin Goodwin
 Jackson Gauvin
 Mekhi Fitzgerald
 Milan Safa
 Rennick Koskela
 Tristan King
 Cassidy Myslik
 Elisabeth Spence
 Ella Hammond
 Ella Harman
 Nolyn Houben
 Vienna Wei

Coaches: Ashley Nixon, Derek
 Dedman, Kelly McGuire, Luka
 Senk, Samantha Warner, Ben
 Moffat, Ben Kerkhoff

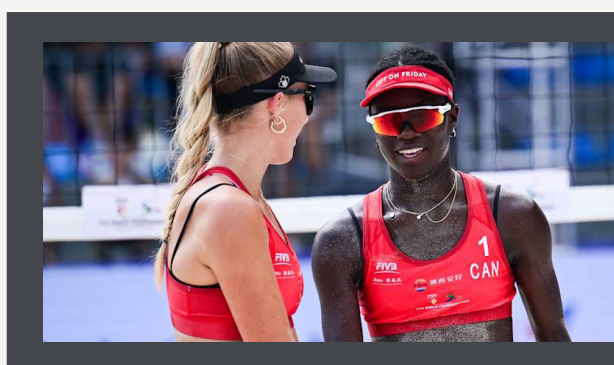
Targeted Support

Aiden Hilkowitz
 Connor Dorsey
 Autumn Mikel
 EJ Cudmore

Year Round Training Group

Alex Szarka
 Beatrix Webb
 Burkleigh Smith
 Calinda Kok
 Claire Simmonds
 Ella Harman
 Emma-Joy Cudmore
 Hannah Schad
 Kennedy Llewellyn
 Leah Moore
 Marina Slapnicar
 Mikey Dioso-Lopez
 Nolyn Houben
 Sarah Botha
 Sonia Wojnicki
 Vienna Wei
 Yanislav Volchenko
 Zile Eglitis

Coaches: Angie Shen, Cicero
 Oliveira, Eddie Coleman, Jason
 Marchant, Oklend Llakaj



FIVB U19 World Championships

Brecken Morrison/Chris Tautrimis
 Calinda Kok/Ofure Odigie
 Sophie Hancock/Ruby Cochrane

Coaches: Andrew Kos, Eddie
 Coleman, Oklend Llakaj

Paving the Way for High-Performance Para-Athletes

On March 3rd, 2024, OVA hosted a one-day sitting volleyball clinic led by Nicole Ban, Head Coach of the Women's Sitting National Team that won bronze at the Paris Paralympic Games. The event marked the first significant step toward creating a provincial high-performance pathway for para-athletes in Ontario, with the ultimate goal of developing athletes for national team competition.

A total of 12 coaches attended the session, which was structured to introduce them to both the technical aspects of sitting volleyball and the broader vision for creating a high-performance pathway for para-athletes. These coaches will play an instrumental role in expanding sitting volleyball programs in Ontario, helping to build the foundation of a provincial pathway that aligns with the Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative (OHPSI) program requirements.

This clinic is only the beginning of a larger movement to establish a structured pathway for para-athletes in sitting volleyball. As we look ahead to 2025, this initial effort will serve as the foundation for a more robust program aimed at developing high-performance athletes in Ontario. The support from trained coaches will be crucial in creating opportunities for athletes with disabilities to participate in the sport and progress toward national and international competition.



Team Ontario Coach Summit

The 2024 Team Ontario Coach Summit, held May 4-5 at Conestoga College, brought together over 90 coaches and guests for a weekend dedicated to collaboration, skill development, and shared learning. This summit aimed to create a quality environment for coaches to connect with one another, explore key teaching concepts, and solidify the learning objectives that would guide their coaching throughout the summer. The event was designed with one goal in mind: to develop a unified Team Ontario coaching culture that enables coaches to better serve the athletes who participate in our programs.

Coaches engaged in live demonstrations, hands-on activities, and round-table discussions that reinforced technical skills and coaching strategies. They worked side by side, learning from each other's experiences and fostering a sense of belonging that extended well beyond the weekend.

Marke Freeman: A Keynote That Left an Impact

The summit opened with an inspirational keynote by Marke Freeman, whose presentation resonated deeply with the attendees, kicking off a weekend of meaningful reflection, dialogue, professional growth and the importance in developing a strong team culture. Her focus on athlete wellness and personal development offered practical insights that coaches could implement immediately, while also challenging them to think critically about their broader coaching philosophies.



SPORT SCIENCE

OVA Partners with CSIO

In 2024, OVA established a groundbreaking partnership with the Canadian Sport Institute Ontario (CSIO) to further strengthen its sport science initiatives. Following the departure of OVA's Sport Science Lead, the organization turned to CSIO to fill the role. The new Sport Science Lead, provided by CSIO, now works full-time within OVA and Team Ontario programs. This arrangement allows the Sport Science Lead to benefit from CSIO's extensive expertise and network while being fully immersed in OVA's environment, enabling them to deliver more tailored and effective training to athletes and coaches.



The sport science curriculum played a key role in shaping athletes' high-performance habits across Team Ontario programs. Reaching over 482 athletes, the curriculum combined in-person training, remote programming, athlete testing, and educational tools to improve physical preparation and performance.

Aligned with Volleyball Canada's long-term development (LTD) model, it provided athletes with a clear roadmap for growth. The curriculum covered essential areas like speed, strength, power, mobility, nutrition, hydration, sleep, and structural tolerance.

It also supported coaches by enhancing their understanding of how physical conditioning impacts technical performance, helping them bridge the gap between skill development and athletic ability.

As the sport science curriculum and strength and conditioning programs continue to evolve, OVA is focused on sharing this expertise with the broader volleyball community. By expanding access to the knowledge, tools, and confidence needed for effective physical training, OVA aims to empower more athletes and coaches. The goal is to ensure that the benefits of strength and conditioning reach more members, fostering growth and development across all levels of the sport.



Beach Programs: Strength and Conditioning

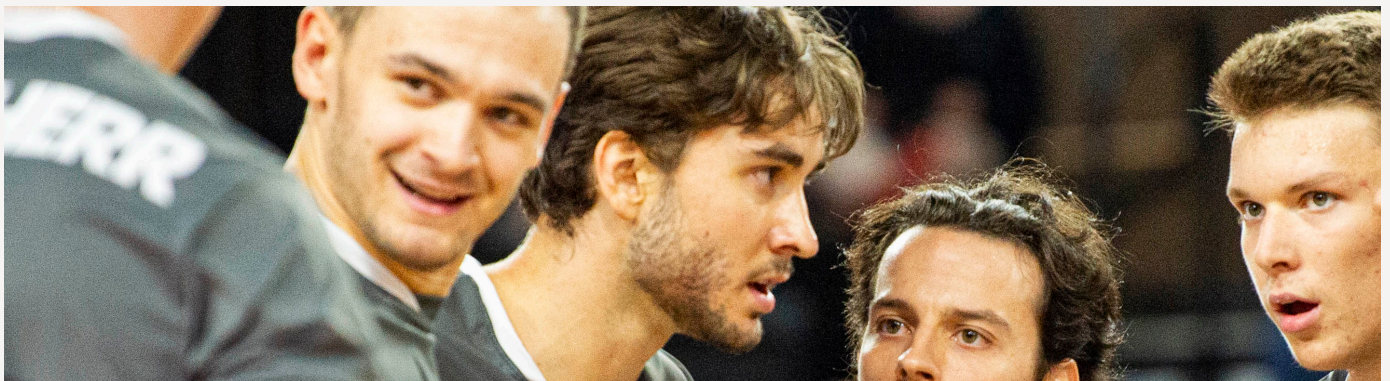
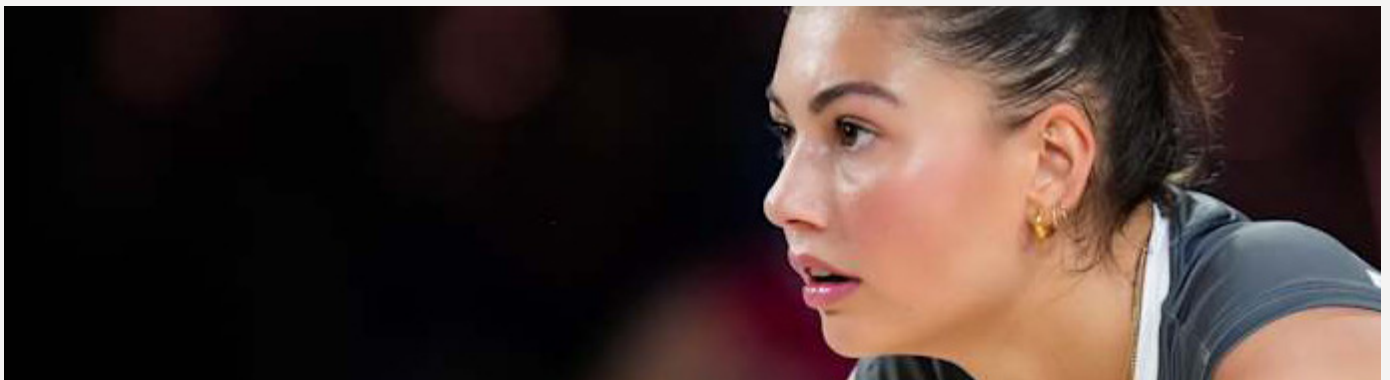
This summer, Team Ontario beach athletes underwent a comprehensive strength and conditioning program, including pre- and post-season testing. Athletes learned about periodization, rest and recovery, and proper movement techniques, gaining insights into how training loads and decisions impact performance. The program also included hydration testing to raise awareness of optimal habits.

Four athletes received targeted support, with testing aligned to National Team standards, leading to significant improvements and a smoother transition to the National Team program. Overall, athletes gained a better understanding of their bodies' performance, leaving more equipped to manage training and recovery.

Indoor Programs: Building Foundations for Physical Development

The sport science curriculum supported hundreds of decentralized athletes through summer camps, helping them understand how training impacts their bodies. Athletes participated in weight room and classroom sessions, focusing on physical development fundamentals and the physical development pyramid. These sessions encouraged athletes to critically assess their training plans and recovery, laying a strong foundation for their growth in the Team Ontario pathway and upcoming club seasons.





NATIONAL TEAMS



Senior Women's Indoor Team

With 5 Ontario athletes on the roster, the Sr Women's team had a strong showing at Volleyball Nations League. Jazmine White, Layne Van Buskirk, Andrea Mitrovic, Shainah Joseph, and Julia Murmann represented Ontario with pride, wearing the Canadian flag on their jerseys. Canada needed to edge ahead of Netherlands in VNL rankings to put the team in contention for a position to qualify for Paris 2024. Unfortunately, Team Canada experienced a gut-wrenching loss to the Netherlands that ended their Olympic qualification run. However, Team Canada bounced back and won their last match against France to finish off their 2024 VNL run with record of seven wins and five losses.



U17 NORCECA Qualifier

In September, Volleyball Canada requested the Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA) to help assemble a roster of U17 female athletes for the 2023 NORCECA Continental Championships in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, scheduled from November 19-27, 2023. This event was an incredible opportunity for a group of young Ontario athletes and coaches to experience competing at an international event.

The team, which included 10 Ontario athletes, finished the tournament with a 4-1 record, defeating Dominican Republic to capture a bronze medal, which qualified Canada for the 2024 U17 FIVB World Championships. Megan Hunter was recognized as the tournament's top setter.



"This is an opportunity for athletes to experience international competition early in their pathway journey. I am excited to work with coaches, Amy Wilson, John Nguyen, and Brett Hagarty, who are excellent role models and have invested in their coaching journey through the OVA provincial team system."

- Dawna Sales, Volleyball Canada Director of Athlete and Coach Pathways



U17 Women's World Championships

From August 17 to 24, the U17 national team represented Canada in Lima, Peru, with a roster featuring six athletes from Ontario. The team began with pool play, finishing 4th in their group. As all teams advanced to the playoffs, Canada faced tough competition, suffering defeats against Italy in the Round of 16, and Puerto Rico in the first classification playoff.

Team Canada found a chance for redemption in the lower bracket. They secured their first victory against the Dominican Republic, winning decisively 3-1. The team's momentum continued as they defeated Egypt in a thrilling five-set match, concluding their tournament on a high note. Ontario athlete Ana Stojanovic made a significant impact, leading the team with an impressive total of 90 points throughout the tournament helping Canada to a 13th place finish.



Men's National Team Programs



Ontario Athletes Shine on the International Stage

The 2023-2024 season saw significant success for Canada's men's national volleyball teams, with Ontario athletes playing a crucial role in various national team programs. A total of 25 athletes from Ontario were selected to seven different programs: Senior National Team, Next Gen, U23, U21, U19, U17, and the National Excellence Program (NEP). These athletes demonstrated their skills on the global stage, contributing to the overall success of Canadian volleyball.



Canada's Road to Paris 2024: A Historic Moment

One of the most significant accomplishments of the year was Canada's qualification for the 2024 Paris Olympics.

In the Olympic Qualifying Tournament (OQT), Canada emerged as the surprise contender in a highly competitive pool that included volleyball powerhouses Poland and Argentina. The Canadians got off to a remarkable start, defeating the Netherlands and Argentina and pushing Poland to the limit in a five-set thriller. With a 5-2 record, Canada secured a second-place finish in their pool, punching their ticket to Paris. Stephen Maar, a key player from Ontario, reflected on the team's effort:

"It's the highest-level tournament in the world, and all the pools were difficult. If you're not playing great, you're not winning." Despite the challenges, the team's strong performance ensured their place among the world's best in Paris.

Arthur Szwarc and Danny Demyanenko, the latter making his Olympic debut, were integral to the team's success. Demyanenko, who has been a member of Volleyball Canada's national team since 2012, described qualifying for the Olympics as the highlight of his career so far. This accomplishment marked a significant milestone for Canadian volleyball, and Ontario athletes were at the heart of it all.

At the 2024 Paris Olympic Games, Canada's men's volleyball team competed against the world's best teams. The roster featured 5 Ontarians: Stephen Maar, Arthur Szwarc, Justin Lui, Danny Demyanenko and Xander Ketrzynski. While the team fought hard and displayed moments of brilliance, they ultimately finished 10th in the overall standings. Despite the challenges, the tournament provided invaluable experience and reaffirmed Canada's place on the Olympic stage.

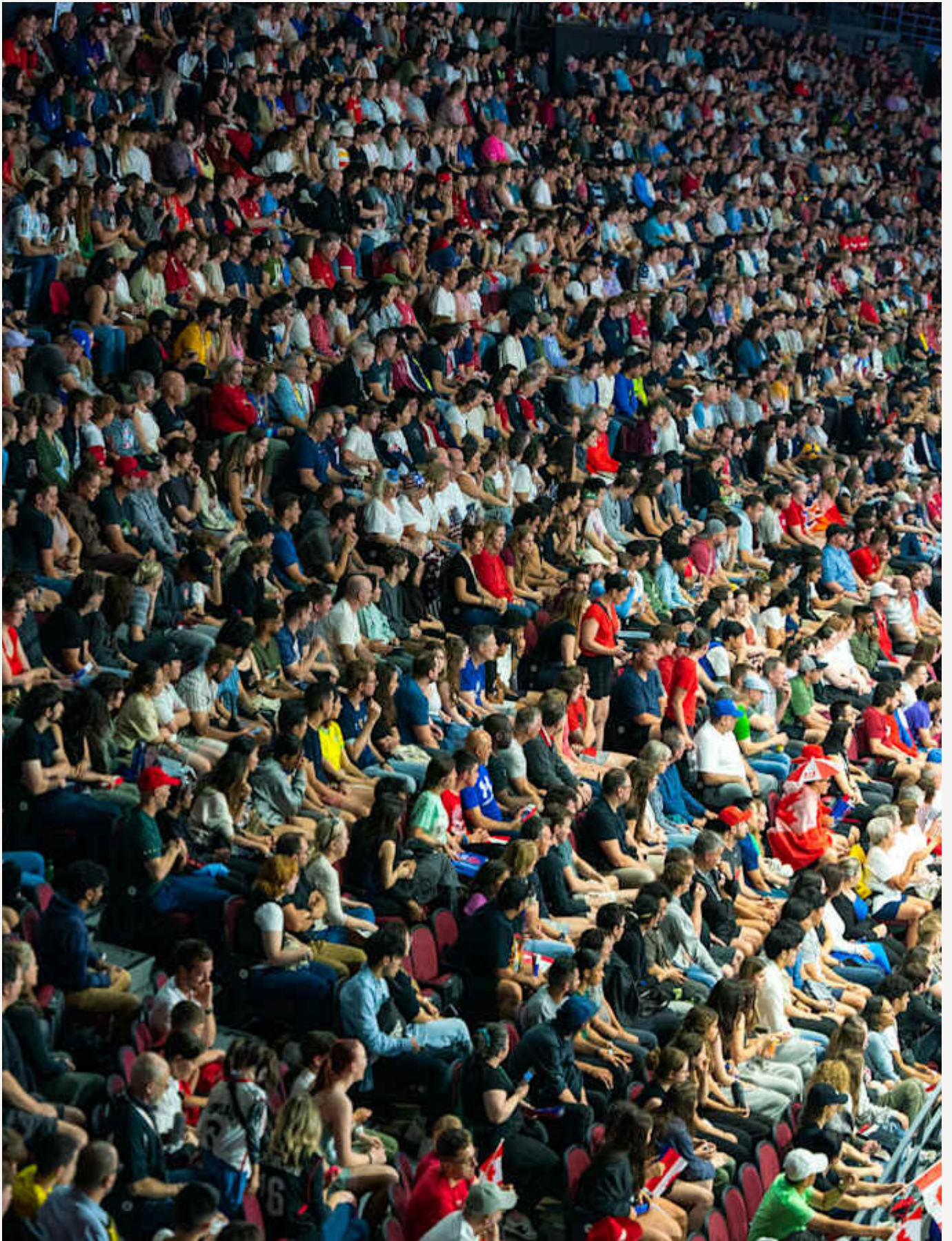


Volleyball Nations League: Building Momentum

The Volleyball Nations League (VNL) was another highlight of the season, with both senior and Next Gen athletes participating in the tournament. Canada delivered impressive performances, including victories over powerhouse teams such as Brazil and the United States. One of the most memorable moments came when Canada swept Brazil 3-0 in week three of the VNL in Manila, Philippines. Ontario athletes were instrumental in these victories, proving their ability to compete at the highest level.

Canada also qualified for the final phase of the VNL, ending their campaign with a strong showing against some of the top teams in the world. The team's matches at the Arena at TD Place in Ottawa were especially significant, as they drew record-breaking crowds, with over 7,000 spectators attending the match against the United States. This level of support highlights the growing popularity of volleyball in Canada, with Ontario athletes playing a key role in the team's success.





The Volleyball Nations League stop at TD Place in Ottawa brought a packed house each game to watch the home team compete against the best in the world.

ONTARIANS ON NATIONAL INDOOR ROSTERS

Senior National Team

Men

Danny Demyanenko, Xander Ketrzynski, Justin Lui, Stephen Maar, Arthur Szwarc

Women

Jazmine White, Layne Van Buskirk, Andrea Mitrovic, Shainah Joseph, Julia Murmann

NextGen

Men

Jordan Canham, Isaac Heslinga, Daenan Gyimah, Jackson Young

Women

Delaney Watson, Mady Saris, Jess Andrews

U23

Men

Maxime Gratton, Cory Schoenherr

U21

Men

Trent Cherewaty, Quintin Greenidge, Daniil Hershtynovich, Jared Kuiken, Brady Paterson

Women

Claire Carter, Megan Hawkins, Ella McVittie, Ella Piskorz, Delaney Watson
Training Roster: Charley McDonald, Lauren Perugini

U19

Men

Tyson Cassone, Aiden Vandenheuvel

Women

Maya Bukovcan, Sydney Bell, Faith Hughes, Sofia Zabjek





U17

Men

William Clarmo, Cooper Spehr

Women

World Championships: Alexandra Brenner, Ella Hope, Megan Hunter, Dara Obeid, Ana Stojanovic, Ellery Williamson

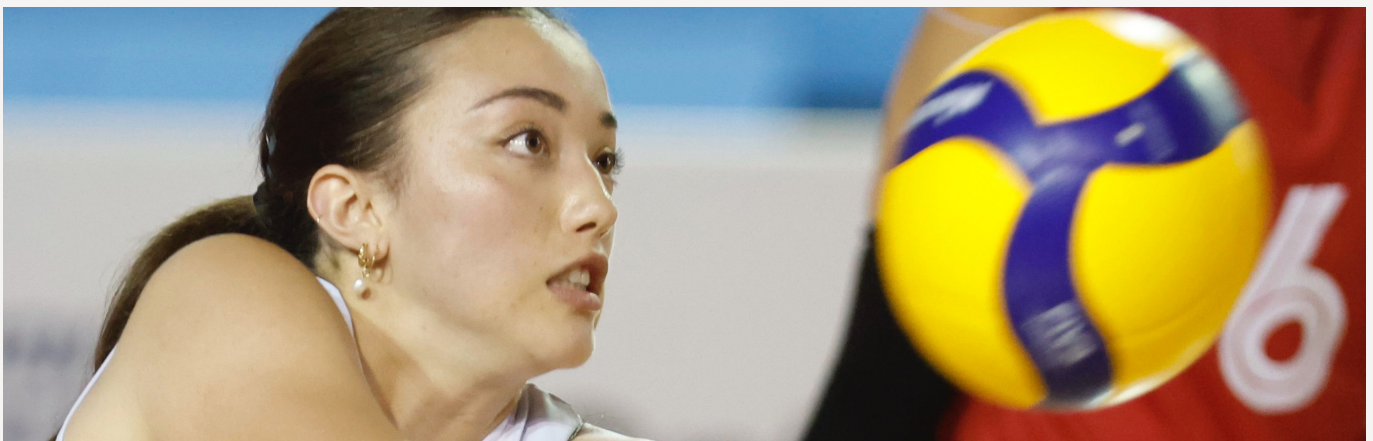
NORCECA Qualifier: Megan Hunter, Ella Hope, Dara Obeid, Dasia Smith, Kate Chipman, Alexia Cornea, Beatrice Pengelly, Maya Boutanos, Logan Hamilton, Natalie Wahlgren, Maija Nepszy (Alternate), Ellery Williamson (Alternate)

Canada Cup

Women

Canada Red: Laura Adel, Alexandra Brenner, Alexia Cornea, Ella Hope, Megan Hunter, Ania Magier

Canada White: Alyssa Cerovac, Kate Chipman, Dara Obeid, Ana Stojanovic, Natalie Wahlgren, Ellery Williamson





MAKING HER-STORY

Melissa Humana-Parades and Brandie Wilkerson claim Canada’s best volleyball finish at the Olympics

Their Paris 2024 silver medal is a proud and historic moment for both Canadian beach volleyball and Ontario, where the athletes developed their skills and passion. Their journey to Olympic success exemplifies the power of dedication, talent, and teamwork, serving as a powerful inspiration for women and girls across Ontario who aspire to excel in sports.

“What we often forget is the years of commitment and dedication that our athletes have given to the sport leading up to their Olympic debut. Both Melissa and Brandie have spent thousands of hours each year down at Ashbridges Bay or indoor beach facilities practicing and spent weekends competing in Ontario Volleyball events . While they now are located in California and have training camps all over the world, it is inspiring to reflect on their roots here in Ontario.”

- Victoria Altomare
Co-Chair, OVA Athlete Council

The OVA expresses heartfelt gratitude to the families of Melissa and Brandie for their support, which has been crucial to the athletes’ success. Thanks are also extended to their coaching staff for their expert guidance, as well as to the sponsors whose backing has provided essential resources throughout their careers. Special recognition is given to Volleyball Canada and the Canadian Olympic Committee for their dedication to the sport.

The OVA highlights the strong community spirit in Ontario, which has helped foster Melissa and Brandie’s achievement. The province’s involvement at all levels—schools, clubs, provincial teams, and universities—has played a significant role in their success.

The success of Melissa and Brandie, along with the rise of beach volleyball in Ontario, has inspired a growing interest in the sport, especially among young women and girls. Their Olympic silver medal is a reflection of the talent and determination nurtured in Ontario, and the OVA looks forward to the lasting impact their achievement will have on the volleyball community in the province.





ONTARIANS ON NATIONAL BEACH ROSTERS

Four other athletes from Ontario had the honor of representing Canada on Beach Volleyball’s biggest stage at the Olympic Games.

The Canadian men’s team, featuring Sam Schachter and Dan Dearing, demonstrated grit and perseverance despite an untimely injury cutting their journey short. “It’s super disappointing... but that’s part of sport,” Schachter shared after their withdrawal.

On the women’s side, Sophie Bukovec and three-time Olympian Heather Bansley competed in a tough pool under the Eiffel Tower. “This has been a magical experience,” Bukovec said, reflecting on the honor of competing alongside the world’s best.

Together with Melissa and Brandie, these four athletes have left an indelible mark on beach volleyball in Canada. Through their sportsmanship and dedication, they have inspired the next generation of athletes to pursue their dreams in this growing sport, showing that the Olympic stage is within reach for those willing to work for it.

Senior National Team

Women

Melissa Humana-Paredes, Brandie Wilkerson, Sarah Pavan, Sophie Bukovec

NextGen

Men

Dan Dearing, Sam Schachter, Jake MacNeil, Steven Abrams

Women

Heather Bansley, Anna Licht, Lea Monkhouse, Molly McBain

Summer Development Program

Men

Anthony DeGirolamo, Brendan Mills, Cameron Chadwick, Jonny Pickett, Kaden Schmidt, Martin Licht, Max Losier, Robert Kemp

Women

Abbey Thorup, Akash Grewal, Calinda Kok, Emma Glagau, Emma Kunaus, Grace Pyatt, Kaylee Glagau, Ofure Odigie, Sophia Hladnyiuk, Sydney McDermott





Paralympic Bronze Sets New Benchmark for Canadian Sitting Volleyball

In July 2024, the Canadian National Women's Sitting Volleyball Team earned a berth in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Their journey began at the 2023 World ParaVolley Sitting Volleyball World Cup held in Egypt, where the team advanced to the semifinals, securing their spot in the upcoming Olympics. This marked the third consecutive Games for the women's team, a testament to their growing strength and determination on the international stage.

Leading up to the Olympics, the team continued to build momentum, capturing a gold medal at the Dutch Tournament in July 2024. This victory further solidified their confidence as they prepared for the competition in Paris. The Canadian roster (12 athletes) included nine returning players, showcasing their experience. Among them was Anne Fergusson from Carleton Place and Jolan Wong from Pembroke, who represented Ontario with pride.

In Paris, the team demonstrated their experience and skill, achieving a historic bronze medal. In the decisive match against Brazil, Canada triumphed with a decisive 3-0 victory, marking the country's first podium finish in sitting volleyball. Canada earned some redemption in the win over Brazil after suffering a loss in the preliminary round. But that wasn't the only redemption after losing the bronze medal game to them at the 2020 Paralympics. Canada's win prevented Brazil from winning a third-straight bronze medal. The team concluded the tournament with a commendable 3-2 record.

The success of the Canadian National Women's Sitting Volleyball Team at the Paris 2024 Olympics served as an inspiration, not only to their supporters but to aspiring athletes across the nation.



ONTARIANS ON NATIONAL SITTING ROSTERS

Men

Nasif Chowdhury, Bryce Foster, Andrew Tucker, Nicholas Aldrich, Jesse Buckingham, Darek Symonowicz

Women

Anne Fergusson, Jolan Wong



Building a Stronger Coaching Community: OVA's 2023–2024 Efforts in Coach Development

Between September 1, 2023, and August 31, 2024, the OVA made significant strides in developing coaches at various levels. Through a series of workshops and evaluations, hundreds of coaches were trained and supported, helping to build a more robust coaching community across Ontario. The OVA has been focused on aligning coach development with best practices, ensuring that coaches receive consistent, high-quality training no matter where they are in the province.

In addition to delivering workshops, the OVA has strengthened its network of coach developers. Regular meetings with coach developers provided an opportunity for Master Coach Developers (MCDs) to lead development activities and align everyone on the same standards and goals. This effort is crucial as Ontario continues to see growth in volleyball participation, with a greater need for well-trained coaches to support athletes across all levels. The groundwork laid this year will help ensure that OVA's coaching network remains strong and responsive to the growing demands of the sport.



COACHING REPORT

1,152

Coaches registered for e-learning modules

168

Coaches trained through 14 Development Coach Workshops

61

Coaches registered for coach evaluation and observation

44

Coaches trained through 6 Advanced Development Coach Workshops

5

Coaches trained with 1 Beach Advanced Development Workshop

3

Coach developer meetings held to ensure alignment and support

Regional Council Coaching Subcommittee: Supporting Coaches

In the fall of 2023, the OVA established the Regional Council Coaching Subcommittee (RCCS) as part of its revised governance structure. Chaired by a representative from the Regional Council, the RCCS plays a critical role in shaping the future of coach development in Ontario. The committee’s main responsibility is to provide recommendations to the Regional Council on how to allocate regional funds to further coaching development.

Throughout the past year, the RCCS has met several times to define its priorities and scope. The committee has consulted with internal and external stakeholders to better understand the challenges faced by OVA coaches and gathered valuable insights through a summer survey sent to coaches. Moving forward, the RCCS will use the survey results to set goals and suggest investment strategies, ensuring the continued growth and support of coaches in the province.

Name	Committee Position
Louise Smith	Chair
Mike Wakayama	Member (Region 5)
Derek Dedman	Member (Region 6)
Jen Kelly	Member (Region 3)
Subheer Joshi	Member (Region 4)
John Curtis	Member (Region 1)
Danny Gosselin	Member (Region 2)
Jason Marchant	Member (Region 3)
LP Mainville	OVA Staff
Kelvin Cheng	OVA Staff



International Coaching Symposium

From June 7-9, 2024, the OVA proudly hosted the 2024 International Coach Symposium at the University of Ottawa, coinciding with the Ottawa stop on the 2024 Men’s Volleyball Nations League competition. This fifth edition of the symposium drew over 100 coaches from across Canada, offering a rich blend of on-court and off-court professional development sessions. The event marked several new milestones, including a half-day mental performance workshop led by Dr. Kyle Paquette and his team, and insightful panel discussions with both coaches and athletes from various sports.

The symposium featured a diverse range of topics through eight on-court and ten classroom sessions, delivered by 24 experts, the most in the event’s history. Notable presentations included Dr. Andrea Becker from the USA on “Elevating Performance: Considerations for the Mindful Coach”, Dan Lewis from Canada on “Process to Plan Practice Based on Video Analysis”, and Glenn Hoag from Canada reflecting on “Lessons Learned After 30 Years of Coaching”. Additionally, the attendees had the unique opportunity to witness Volleyball Nations League matches, including an exciting victory for Canada over the USA. The event’s success further cements the International Coach Symposium as a key event for professional growth and collaboration in the volleyball community.

“ The range of topics presented was diverse, and the presenters were excellent overall. Our group thoroughly enjoyed both the symposium and the Nations League matches. Your efforts on behalf of OVA were extensive, commendable, and much appreciated. ”
– Symposium Attendee

109
COACHES

24
EXPERTS

18
SESSIONS

ARM SWING CLINICS

A Unique Approach to Coach and Athlete Development

In September 2023, Ontario Volleyball, in collaboration with Region 3 and the Athlete Wellness Academy (AWA), hosted two innovative Arm Swing clinics in Hamilton. Held on September 30 and October 1, the clinics aimed to provide both coaches and athletes with a deep understanding of one of the most critical mechanics in volleyball: the arm swing. The event drew significant interest, with 35 coaches and 98 athletes participating, and all spots were fully booked shortly after registration opened.

The clinics were designed with a unique format that prioritized coach development before athlete training. Coaches attended a free clinic where they studied the mechanics of the volleyball arm swing, breaking it down into three essential components. The training included video analysis of professional athletes and live demonstrations, giving the coaches an in-depth look at the biomechanics behind a successful arm swing. This session was held at Hillfield Strathallan College in Hamilton, with the support of the Smash Raiders Volleyball Club.

What set this clinic apart was the innovative structure that allowed coaches to stay and observe the athlete clinic after their own training. During the athlete session, the coaches had the opportunity to see AWA experts applying the same techniques they had just learned, providing a direct connection between theory and practice. This format helped coaches consolidate their learning by observing how the arm swing was taught in real-time to athletes.

REPORT FROM THE REFEREE CHAIR



Andrew Robb, Provincial Referee Chair

It has been another outstanding year for Ontario volleyball, both on the indoor court and on the beach. The sport continues to experience rapid growth post-COVID, surpassing all expectations in terms of participation and development.

With nearly 800 certified referees across the province for both indoor and beach volleyball, we are still facing a shortage of approximately 100-150 referees to comfortably meet the demands of competitions throughout Ontario. Despite this, Ontario remains a national leader in producing exceptional referee talent.

At the 15U-18U Nationals in Edmonton, Ontario had an impressive representation with approximately 40 referees, including 10 members of the Referee Development Team (RDT). Also, in Ottawa, 24 referees and 8 RDT worked the event.

Thank you to the Regional Referee Committee for their tireless work across the province to not only recruit, but train and retain Ontario Referees.

FUTURE FOCUS

While this year has been exceptional, there remains much to be done. We currently have a waiting list of over 700 prospective Level 1 candidates, and we are committed to certifying as many as possible, alongside certifying new Clinicians in the coming year.

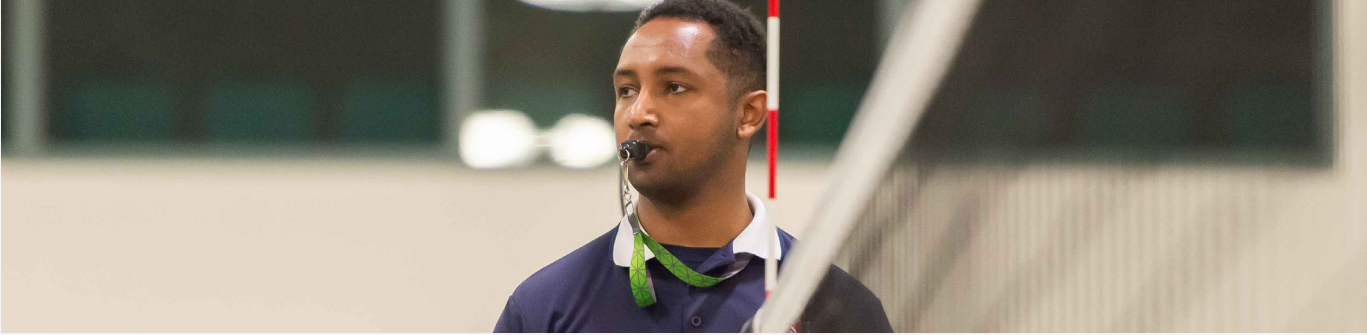
We are also focusing on creating more opportunities for referees to advance to the senior levels. The continued development of our referees is a top priority, and we are dedicated to providing the support and mentorship needed to grow the officiating community.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the entire Provincial Referee Committee and the Ontario Volleyball Association for their continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Robb

Name	Committee Position
Andrew Robb	Ontario Regional Referee Chair
Andy Cameron	Operations Chair
Jason Dodd	Programs Chair
Bob Rocque	Quality Assurance Chair
Kelvin Yee	Beach Referees Chair
Al Tkachuk	Region 1 (West) RRC
Tony Curciarello	Region 1 (East) RRC
Brian Rancourt	Region 2 RRC
Samara Sevor	Region 3 RRC
Lynn Watkins	Region 4 RRC
Jennifer Adams	Region 5 RRC
Irena Zamboni	Region 6 RRC



861

Indoor Referees registered

95

Beach Referees registered

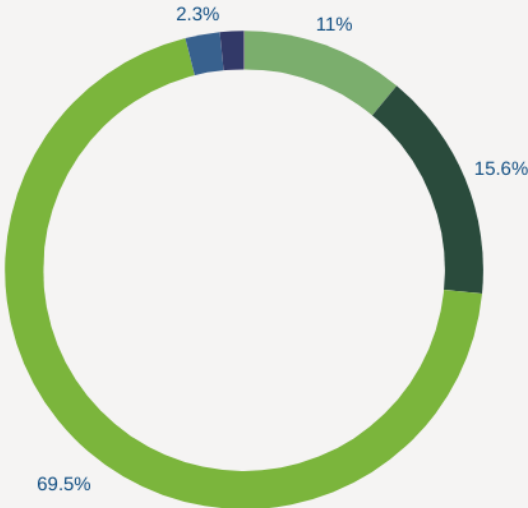
1,150

Rules R Quizzes completed last season

24,710

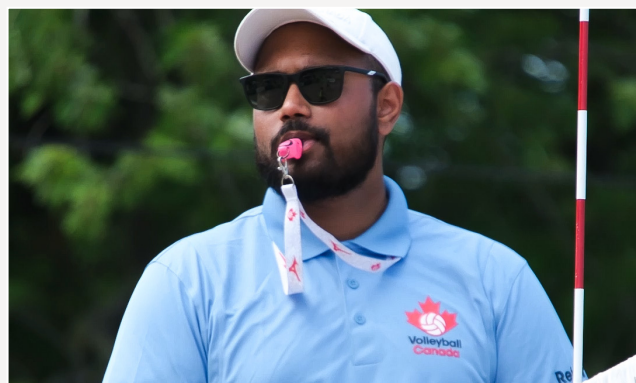
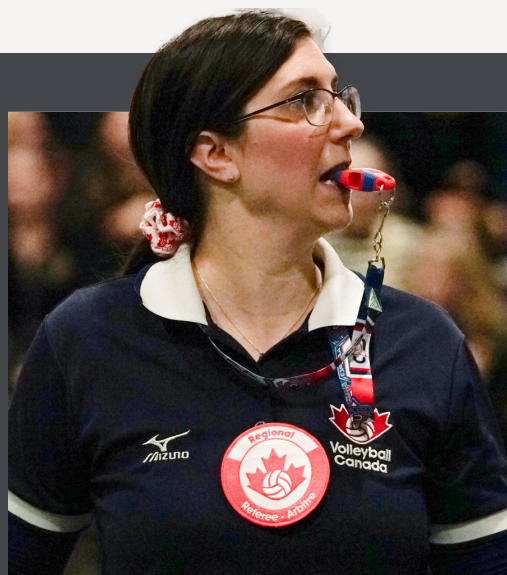
Ontario referees worked at 24,710 matches for regular season and Ontario Championships for Indoor and at another 108 tournaments in school boards and adult leagues around Ontario as well as 148 Beach tournaments in the 2023/24 season.

- UNIVERSITY
- COLLEGE
- OVA AGE CLASS
- HIGH SCHOOL
- JUNIOR HIGH



NATIONAL REFEREE CERTIFICATION

Region 2 proudly announced the certification of its first National referee, Hollie Roy. Hollie had an outstanding performance at the Volleyball Canada Nationals for her practical component and led her class with the highest mark on the exam.



NATIONAL BEACH REFEREE CERTIFICATION

Congratulations to Melanie Dussiaume and Niv Nadarajah for achieving their National certification on the beach.

NEW REGIONAL REFEREES

Ontario welcomed eight newly certified Regional Referees:

- Rheannon Demeter
- William Laycraft
- Patrick Krychowski
- Kelvin Lo
- Joseph Lau
- Sharon Sagloski
- Natasha Kuehnen
- Michael Cvitkovic



NEW PROVINCIAL REFEREES

Region 1

Craig Barclay

Region 2

Josée Beauchamp

Kari-Lyn Parent

Region 3

Dylan Van Doorn

Eric Forshaw

George Richard

Iliana Schlechta

Jennifer Cade

Leah Leung

Lexy Sevor

Madison Coolman

Nicholas Chen

Samantha Chan

Tom Kontio

Tyler Campbell

Elsa Donovan

Region 5

Howard Binstock

Hsu Hui (Anthony) Chien

John Lamanna

Mohsen Saghatforoush

Local Clinics

Last season, the OVA collaborated with Regional Referee Chairs to successfully deliver 24 local indoor clinics, resulting in a significant influx of new referees. A total of 308 referees were newly certified for the indoor game. On the beach side, Beach Referee Chair Kelvin Yee organized three Local Beach Referee Clinics in Toronto, London, and Sudbury, certifying 29 new beach referees.

National Competitions



**CANADIAN COLLEGIATE
ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION**



CCAA Nationals

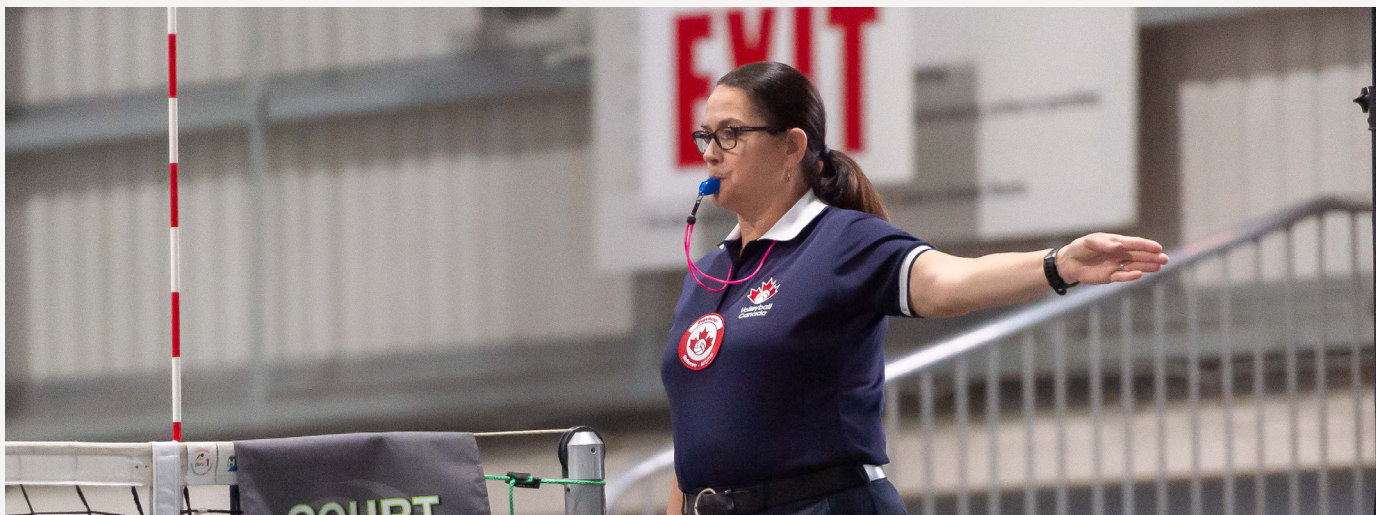
Ontario was represented by Jennifer Adams, who served as the first referee (R1) for the Women's Gold Medal match, and Patrick Corriveau, who officiated at the Men's Championships.

U Sports Championships

At the Women's Championship, Jason Dodd and Samara Sevor represented Ontario, with Sevor serving as the second referee (R2) for the gold medal match. At the Men's Championship, Chris Goetz made his U Sports Nationals debut, Andy Cameron was the second referee (R2) for the gold medal match, and Andrew Robb was also in attendance.

Canada Cup

Huguette Mankala and Brittany Saunders traveled to Calgary for the Canada Cup (July 24-28, 2024). Brittany Saunders officiated as the first referee (R1) for the Women's Gold Medal match, while Huguette Mankala was nominated as the second referee (R2) for the Men's Bronze Medal match.



Ontario Championships Coverage

A total of 325 individual referees worked over 4200 matches of the seven events between two host cities of Waterloo and Ottawa.

The OVA's commitment to nurturing referee talent was further demonstrated by the involvement of 44 referees who worked as Referee Development Team (RDT) members at OCs 2024. These individuals took on critical roles as Head Referees, Area Supervisors, Mentors, and Assignors at the Ontario Championships, contributing to the success of the event by providing mentorship and oversight, contributing to the overall quality of the Ontario Championships.





2024 Referee Development Team Members

Head Referee

Samara Sevor
 Andrew Robb
 Jason Dodd
 Chris Goetz
 Jennifer Adams
 Irena Zamboni

Assignors

David Lo
 Irene Barras
 Kelvin Yee

Mentors

Terry Sonoda
 Lino Condotta
 Deb Hartnett
 Bob Rocque
 Michael Brandreth
 Andy Cameron
 Jennifer Adams
 Jason Dodd
 Dale Huddleston
 Malcolm Mousseau
 Patrick Corriveau

Area Supervisors

Andrew Robb
 Andy Woo
 Brad Girardo
 Brad Graham
 Brad Moyer
 Brian Rancourt
 Brittany Saunders
 Chris Goetz
 Dario Zamboni
 David Gross
 Dimitri Magirias
 Elisa Soueiti
 Erica Menchetti
 Geoff Stuart
 Huguette Mankala
 Jason Dodd
 Kelvin Yee
 Kennedy Ramsden
 Khan Vu
 Luc Chayer
 Marrick Yee
 Martin Kerstens
 Mike Trotter
 Ryan McDoom
 Samara Sevor
 Teresa Vizzari
 Trevor Lall



International Assignments

Ontario Referees were busy travelling to international indoor competitions last year. The following referees proudly represented Canada on the stand at the following events:



Samara Sevor

Travelled to Lima, Peru for the U17 Women's World Championships where she was nominated and worked the gold medal match between Japan and China. Samara was also in Tegucigalpa, Honduras for the U17 Girls Continental Championships.

Jason Dodd

Travelled to Sofia, Bulgaria for the FIVB U17 World championships where he participated in the Referee course, which he passed and is now categorized as an FIVB referee.

Andy Cameron

Assigned in Japan for the Women's FIVB Road To Paris Volleyball Qualifier.

Andrew Robb

Travelled to Brazil for the Men's FIVB Road To Paris Volleyball Qualifier as well as worked at the VNL in Ottawa.

Beach Referee Travel & Significant Assignments

<p>FIVB World Beach Tour Futures - Halifax</p>	<p>Vancouver Open</p>	<p>FISU World Championships Beach Sports</p>
<p>Omid Mojtahedi Dimitri Magirias Michael Zhang Kelvin Yee (Lines) Niv Nadarajah (Lines)</p>	<p>Melanie Dussiaume (NUP Clinic) Michael Zhang Greg Thompson</p>	<p>Greg Thompson</p>
<p>VC High Performance Trials NORCECA</p>	<p>VC High Performance Trials FISU World Championships</p>	<p>VC High Performance Trials NORCECA Open & U23</p>
<p>Omid Mojtahedi Dimitri Magirias Melanie Dussiaume</p>	<p>Dimitri Magirias Martin Kerstens Geoff Stuart Sofia Chirila Khan Vu Niv Nadarajah Michael Zhang</p>	<p>Omid Mojtahedi Michael Zhang Rheannon Demeter Kelvin Yee Marrick Yee</p>
<p>Ontario Summer Games London</p>	<p>VC National Championships University/College</p>	
<p>Irene Barras Iliana Schlechta Doug Yuen Albino Pereira</p>	<p>Kimberly McTear Dwayne Ramage Chi-Wei Perng Gerardo Ramirez Albino Pereira Kelvin Yee Michael Zhang Sofia Chirila Andrew Advincula Geoff Stuart</p>	



Beach Ontario Championships
77 referees assigned with 104 medal matches across two weekend event.

VC Beach National Championships
24 Ontario referees assigned with 6 Referee Development Team Members



RULES R

In 2024, the OVA revamped its Rules R Platform under the leadership of Guy Bradbury, an OVA International Referee, President of the NORCECA Referee Commission, and member of the FIVB Rules of the Game Commission. As the creator of the Rules R Platform, Guy guided a working group of referees to review and enhance the module, developing 150 relevant questions. The team also examined the overall development and mentorship platform for Ontario referees, focusing on continual learning and fostering growth within the game.

As a result, the platform was updated with three new quizzes, covering OVA & Volleyball rules, general rules, and a post-secondary OUA/OCAA-specific quiz.

All Ontario referees are required to complete 10 quizzes throughout the season to remain eligible for assignments, including the Ontario Championships.

Referee Engagement Centre

Referee Engagement Centre – 541 referees were registered and engaged within the system, ensuring they were well informed about indoor competitions and training opportunities. There were 29 resources created this season which have had 4343 views. The system will continue to be updated annually to help with the continuous learning of OVA referees.



OUA Partner of the Year

In 2024, the Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA) was honored with the OUA Partner of the Year Award, recognizing the longstanding and successful partnership between the OVA and Ontario University Athletics (OUA). This award highlights the collaborative efforts in delivering top-tier referee services and the continuous exchange of best practices between both organizations, reinforcing their commitment to excellence in university sports.

Regional Council Uniform Rebate Grant

The Referee Uniform Rebate Program supported new Level 1 referees (both indoor and beach) who started officiating in the 2023-2024 season. Funded by the Regional Council, this program helped reduce financial barriers of entry associated with becoming a referee by providing funding towards the purchase of the required uniforms. Eligible referees who submitted successful applications received up to \$100, depending on the cost of the uniform items ordered.

For the 2023-2024 season, 98 referees received funding, and the total amount dispersed was \$9,700.

Mentorship Program

The OVA conducted 22 mentorship sessions during various regular season tournaments, contributing to the ongoing development of referees. A total of 325 referees were mentored during the Ontario Championships between RIM Park in Waterloo and the EY Centre in Ottawa, fostering a culture of continuous improvement.

Service Level Agreements

The OVA referees were in high demand throughout the year, with many school boards and leagues collaborating with the association to hire referees for their competitions. The OVA entered into new service level agreements with a variety of leagues, events, and school boards, strengthening the relationship between referees and these organizations.

City of Barrie Volleyball League
 Country Garden Private School
 Central Western Ontario Secondary Schools Association
 District 10
 District 4
 District 8
 Don Valley Community Hub
 Good Games
 Indigenous Sport & Wellness Ontario
 Kitchener Coed Volleyball League
 LANS Volleyball
 Linkup Volleyball
 Markham Sports Leagues
 National Capital Secondary School Athletic Association
 OCAA
 OFSAA
 Ottawa Carleton Volleyball League
 University of Ottawa
 OUA
 St. John's-Kilmarnock School
 St. Lawrence College
 Toronto District School Board - Elementary & High Schools
 Toronto Sparks Volleyball League
 Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
 Volleyball Pro Am
 Waterloo Catholic Elementary Schools
 Wellington Catholic Elementary
 Wilmot Ladies Competitive Volleyball League
 Waterloo Region District School Board
 York Region Athletic Association

OVA & CBC PARTNERSHIP ELEVATES VOLLEYBALL

The Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA) teamed up with CBC in a pioneering collaboration designed to transform the livestreaming of volleyball events across Ontario. This partnership introduced cutting-edge Pixellot camera technology, aimed at significantly improving both the quality and accessibility of live volleyball events through the CBC Sports Connect website and platform. This initiative not only amplified the reach of Ontario volleyball but also enhanced the viewing experience for fans and athletes alike.

As part of this groundbreaking initiative, the OVA received 34 Pixellot cameras, each equipped with a tripod setup, at a total investment of \$50,000. These cameras were provided free of charge to eligible clubs as part of a pilot program, with the first 34 clubs to apply receiving one camera each. The program is expected to be expanded to include additional clubs in 2025. CBC and OVA aim to support one camera per six teams, with a longer-term vision of one camera per 60 participants.

In addition to livestreaming capabilities, the partnership supports seamless video recording and uploading, allowing clubs to share content on CBC Sports Connect. Clubs without Wi-Fi were able to upload via ethernet, with other connectivity options available to ensure flexibility. Training and guidance were provided by CBC, ensuring that clubs can maximize the use of their cameras.

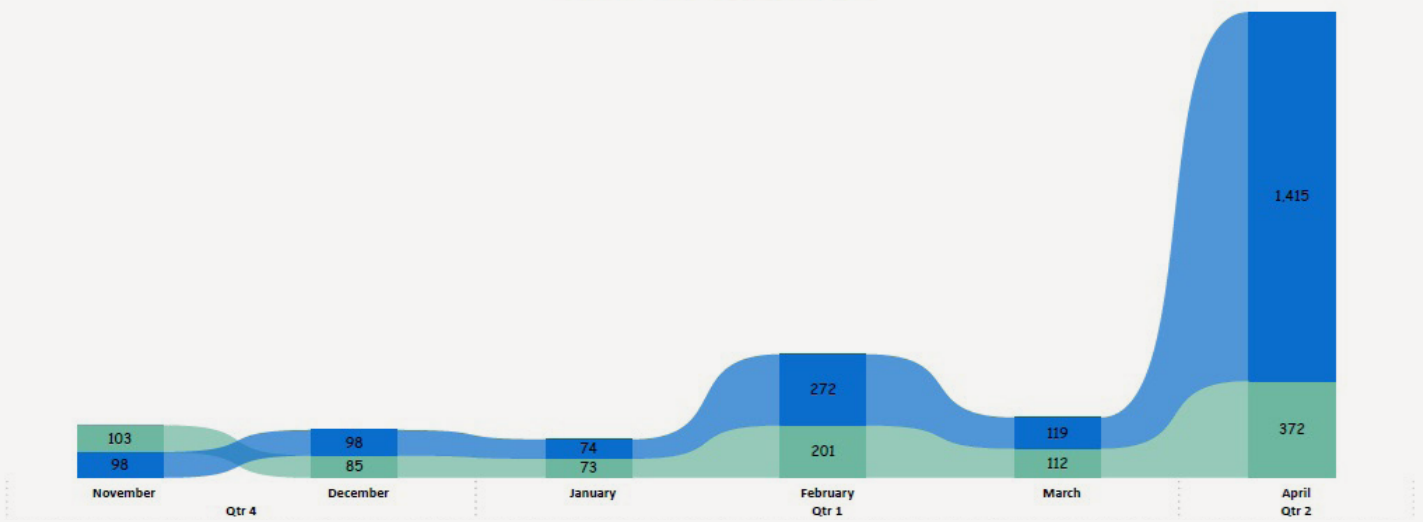
This partnership is an exciting leap forward for the OVA to continue to promote the sport and provide access to those that cannot attend matches in person. In the 2024 season, there were 572 events created on the Pixellot server with the Indoor Ontario Championships bringing in 208,675 views alone to fans and supporters across Ontario, while enhancing the visibility and accessibility of the sport.





Events And Production Hours

● Events ● Production Hours



SPORT & RECONCILIATION

In alignment with our commitment to supporting Indigenous communities, the OVA helped the Akwesasne Soaring Eagles as they worked to restart their club and grassroots programs following the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The OVA was proud to support the relaunch of their Smashball and Spikes programs, which resumed in October 2023, in collaboration with three elementary schools near the Akwesasne reserve. Additionally, Volleyball Canada contributed valuable equipment to the Akwesasne community in April 2023, further aiding in their development. Thank you to Allison and Dave Haley for supporting the coach training and grassroots programs.

Throughout September, in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, the OVA shared inspiring stories of Indigenous volleyball athletes and coaches who have made significant contributions to our sport. These stories highlighted the achievements of Adyson Wilson (TMU Women's Volleyball), Amy Wilson (recipient of the CAO Ontario Coaching Excellence Award), and Nikina Bear-Lowen (Gryphons Women's Volleyball).

Alongside efforts with Akwesasne, OVA representatives, including Kerish Maharaj and Oklend Llakaj, co-led the volleyball component of the Nunavut Sport Summit in Iqaluit, Nunavut. This three-day initiative involved introducing Smashball to the Territory, in collaboration with Nunavut based community coaches and teachers. The OVA team also worked closely with Team Nunavut coaches, strengthening the foundation for a long-term partnership with Volleyball Nunavut.

Furthermore, through our connection with Team Ontario coach Amy Wilson, the OVA was honored to support the Indigenous Sport & Wellness Ontario (ISWO) in hosting the All Nations Games, held from July 26-28 at York University. The OVA's contribution included providing referees and equipment for this prestigious event, which welcomed teams from around the world, including a Māori team from New Zealand.

In 2024, Matt Sommerville and Terry McMahon were selected to participate in the 2025 Canada Games Aboriginal Apprentice Coach Program (AAPC). They will join the Canada Games program as apprentice coaches with Ontario's indoor teams.

The AAPC, created by the Canada Games Council in partnership with the Aboriginal Sport Circle and the Coaches Association of Canada, provides opportunities for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit apprentice coaches from across Canada to be involved in the Canada Games.

The OVA supported their nominations and will provide mentorship and funding to help them complete their Performance Coach certification as part of their development.

Congratulations to Matt and Terry as they take this next step in their coaching journey!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Tournaments & Events

In 2024, the OVA was proud to partner with several key events, showcasing the Association's commitment to growing the sport of volleyball across diverse communities that do not compete in OVA competitions.

The Good Games, Canada's largest multi-sport festival, held their sanctioned beach volleyball event in downtown Guelph from July 6-7. This AVP-styled tournament featured a central court surrounded by patios, restaurants, and a vibrant beer garden, with the court built using Hutcheson Sand to create an exciting, fan-friendly atmosphere. The OVA supported the promotion of the event both through digital marketing and at the indoor Ontario Championships.

Continuing the support in the volleyball community, the OVA supported the promotions for the All Canadian Volleyball Tournament 2024, hosted by Gerry Dee, on Sunday June 9, 2024. This prestigious event featured Canada's top 16U and 17U female athletes, competing at the University of Toronto's Goldring Centre. The event showcased 42 athletes and 11 coaches from Ontario. Proceeds from ticket sales went to the OVA's Athlete Development Fund, ensuring continued support for the next generation of players.

In addition, the OVA continued to strengthen the relationship with the Nepalese Volleyball Community by supporting their annual North American Tournament on May 4, 2024, which brought together 11 teams from Ottawa, Alberta, Ohio, Boston, and beyond. The OVA contributed equipment and promotions in partnership with the Langhali Sport Club. Similar support was provided through equipment loans for their Labour Day 2024 weekend tournament.

We also extended our heartfelt condolences to the family of Joseph Fong, founder of the All Community Games (formerly the Chinese Games), which has run successfully for 16 years. The OVA has supported this inclusive event since its inception, and last fall, Mr. Fong collaborated with us to launch the youth volleyball program under The New Sing Fai Sports Club. The program, which ran weekly at Reesor Park Primary School, has had a positive impact on local youth. Mr. Fong's passing in January 2024 was a great loss to the community, and we honor his legacy of promoting sport and inclusion.

2SLGBTQIA+ Initiatives

In 2024, the OVA strengthened its commitment to fostering an inclusive and welcoming environment for all athletes. OVA staff met with Kyle Pelly, Executive Director of the OCAA, to discuss OVA policies on the inclusion and engagement of 2SLGBTQIA+ and Trans athletes. With an increase in the participation of athletes in transition in youth volleyball and trans athletes at the OCAA level, discussions were had on how both organisations can implement policies within our competitions and clubs to ensure that competitive volleyball remains an inclusive space for all.

The OVA collaborated with "Our Spectrum," a Kitchener-based organization serving the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, to deliver a trial coaching clinic during the Ontario Championships in April 2024. The overwhelmingly positive response from participants has led to ongoing support throughout 2024, with the OVA continuing to assist in the delivery of their weekly programs.

Feed the Dream

The OVA partnered with Sobeys for an exciting onsite activation during the July 20th Beach Tour stop in Toronto, which focused on supporting Canada's Olympic Beach Volleyball teams. Sobeys provided an opportunity for the public and OVA members to record messages of encouragement for our Olympic athletes. These messages were later broadcasted via the CBC during the event, amplifying the connection between fans and the athletes. In addition, Sobeys offered food samples to attendees. Coordination for this event involved collaborating with the Boardwalk Group, who oversee food and beverage marketing for the city in the Beaches, and we successfully received approval for Sobeys' activation, creating a memorable and engaging experience for all participants.



REGIONAL COUNCIL REPORT

The 2023-2024 season saw significant strides in improving communication, development, and support for clubs and coaches across the province.

Thank you to the following Regional Council members from across Ontario that have helped steer the direction of the Council and initiatives: OVA's Athlete Development Fund, ensuring continued support for the next generation of players.

As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering a collaborative and well-organized volleyball community, the Regional Council undertook several important initiatives:

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

Updated Governance Framework

We successfully revamped and approved the updated Regional Council Terms of Reference, alongside the Indoor Volleyball Development Council (IVDC) Terms of Reference and Coach Subcommittee Terms of Reference. An open call to members resulted in the appointment of highly qualified individuals to these subcommittees. The IVDC members for the 2023-24 season included:

- Corrine Williams (Chair), KW Predators
- Tauri Caputo, Smash Raiders
- Andrew Robb, Ontario Referee Chair
- Neil Bolton, 41SIX Volleyball Club
- John Child, Leaside Volleyball Club
- Derek Dedman, Maverick Volleyball

- Matt Sommerville, Kingston Rock
- Sylvie Laperriere, North Bay Lakers

Additionally, we extend our gratitude to the following members for their contributions to the Coach Subcommittee of the Regional Council:

- John Curtis, Superior North Volleyball Club
- Jennifer Kelly, Niagara Rapids
- Jason Marchant, Oakville Thunder
- Louise Smith, Maverick Volleyball
- Derek Dedman, Maverick Volleyball

IVDC Initiatives

The IVDC held four meetings this season, focusing on rule changes and leading the overhaul of the Tryout Window Policy and procedures for the 2024 season. Through regular email communication, members advised on adjustments to the Tryout Window and provided guidance on the 2024 survey for ongoing improvement.



Club Leader Engagement

In Fall 2023, the Regional Council enhanced engagement with Club Presidents through two Town Hall presentations. We also launched the Club Leader Annual Survey in early summer 2023, offering valuable feedback that led to several actionable initiatives for the 2023/24 season:

- Creation of a Club Leader Season Planning Checklist – Outlining due dates from MRS Registration to Respect In Sport to Tournament Registration deadlines and outlined full time staff responsibilities.
- Five Town Hall Sessions – Covering key aspects of club administration and indoor competitions.
- Revamp of the Club Resources Page – Centralizing resources on the OVA website for easier access for Club Leaders
- OVA Staffing Model Revamp – A new Manager of Club Services role, launching on September 1, 2024, to assist club leaders with navigating the NFP sport landscape and offer one-on-one annual consultations.

Regional Council Funding Programs

A major initiative this past season was the Regional Council Funding Program, which offered two grant opportunities:

Referee Uniform Rebate: Designed to support new Level 1 referees (indoor and beach), this program provided a \$100 rebate to offset uniform and entry costs, helping referees step into their roles amid increased participation of the sport and meet the demands of the growing number of OVA tournaments annually. In total, \$9,686 was distributed to 98 new local referees from across Ontario.

Club ONCA Rebate: This subsidy aimed to assist clubs with legal fees associated with ONCA compliance. Although only one club took advantage of this opportunity, it remains a valuable offering that clubs can apply for up until the end of October 2024.



Danny Gosselin, Regional Council Chair

Looking Ahead

As we move forward, the Regional Council is committed to addressing the feedback received from club leaders during the summer of 2024. Our priorities for the upcoming season include further enhancing the Membership Registration System (MRS), refining the Tryout Window, and collaborating with clubs to recognize and celebrate their volunteers. Additionally, we will continue to gather feedback on competitions and work on new initiatives to support club growth and operational efficiency.

I would like to thank the dedicated members of the Regional Council and IVDC, as well as all the club leaders, coaches, and volunteers, for their tireless efforts in making this season a success. Together, we are building a stronger volleyball community for all.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Gosselin



GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Changes

After completing a two-year term as Vice-President, Administration / Secretary and chairing the Governance Committee, Daphne Choi stepped away from the Association's Board of Directors in 2023. The Association thanks Daphne for her years of service with the Board.

Paul Bonfigli, previously a member of the Governance Committee, was elected in December 2023 to the VP Administration / Secretary position, and with that election, became Chair of the Governance Committee. Four additional members were appointed to the Committee in 2023-24:

- Danny Gosselin, Director, Regional Engagement
- Leigh Pearson, Director-at-Large
- Anthony Fong, Volunteer Member
- Dr. Crystal Forrest, Volunteer Member

By-Law Review

Since the 2021 approval of our revised by-laws by the Association's membership, we have committed each year to review the by-laws to ensure continued currency, so that they are reflective of best practices in governance.

At the 2023 Annual General Meeting in December 2023, the membership ratified several by-law amendments intended to maintain continued compliance with Ontario's Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010, as well as to better clarify rules on board composition, director eligibility, and financial signing authority.

Throughout the second half of 2023-24, we prepared additional draft amendments to the by-laws for presentation at the 2024-25 AGM.



Recommendations: OSIC Sport Environment Assessment

In June of 2024, the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner published a Sport Environment Assessment of the Association's policies and practices, the mandate of which was to identify whether there were indications of systemic discrimination, or in particular, anti-Black racism within the Association.

This Assessment – publicly available at sportintegrity-commissioner.ca/sea-index – did not find indications of anti-Black racism or systemic discrimination at the OVA. The Assessment did, nonetheless, recommend that the Association undertake a number of policy and governance improvements to demonstrate its continued commitment to anti-racism, diversity, and inclusion. To address this, the Governance Committee has established a plan, to be implemented over the next year, to review its policies and governance documentation with a view to incorporating those improvements.

Policy Updates

The Association, like all provincial sport organizations, is bound to comply with Ontario's Sport Recognition Policy (www.ontario.ca/page/sport-recognition-policy-provincial-and-multi-sport-organizations). In addition to setting out a framework of required policies and governance documentation, a key pillar of the provincial policy is the requirement to revise these policies at least once every three years. In addition, we regularly work with our national sport organization, Volleyball Canada, on policy development initiatives that affect all provincial and territorial volleyball association.

During the 2023-24 season, the following policies were updated:

- Accessibility
- Anti-Doping
- Dispute Resolution
- Privacy
- Reciprocation
- Screening

In addition, we introduced a new Board policy, Club Leader Requirements for OVA Directors, the purpose of which is to demonstrate our Directors' commitment to comply with the same training and disclosure requirement that the Association requires club leaders to follow. All Directors have since complied with this new policy.

This Committee commends OVA management and staff for proposing this policy to the Board and recognizing the importance of the Association's Board members to lead by example with respect to promoting safe sport.

Looking Ahead

In the winter of 2024, the Committee presented an ambitious plan to the Board of Directors that goes above and beyond meeting its legislated obligations to the province. The Committee, in the pursuit of better governance, continues to work on aligning with best practices such as those in the Canadian Sport Governance Code (<https://nso.olympic.ca/canadian-sport-governance-code>) and continually seeks to promote educational opportunities to the Board to further its knowledge of governance best practices.

2023-24 TOWN HALLS

To Engage Club Leaders on Indoor Competitions and Operations

During the 2023-24 season, five Town Halls were organized to maintain strong engagement between OVA staff and community club leaders. These sessions covered critical topics ranging from policy updates to risk management, ensuring clubs remained informed and connected.

Club Leader/Administrator Information Session

This session provided a comprehensive update on regional survey findings and the next steps led by Region 6 President and Regional Council Member, Shaun Illingworth. Key topics included competition reminders, upcoming convention centre events, the Ontario Championships, and administrative guidance such as club checklists, fees, and policy updates. Specific attention was given to the Coach and Club Leader Eligibility Policies, including screening reminders and updates to the Membership Registration System (MRS).

MRS Information Session

Jennifer Harkness, Director of Finance and Administration, led this presentation, which focused on navigating the Membership Registration System (MRS). Club leaders were guided through system requirements for clubs, staff, coaches, and athletes, with an open Q&A to address specific challenges faced by members.

Club Leader Town Hall: Club Resources & Policies

This session introduced new initiatives such as the CBC Pixellot Camera Pilot for 2024 and discussed the importance of storytelling from a club perspective. Shaun Illingworth returned to update attendees on the Club Leader survey findings, while additional resources were shared, including the ONCA By-law builder, club funding opportunities, risk management templates, and technical tools like seasonal plans, parent coach guidelines, and HUDL.

Risk Management Town Hall

An in-depth discussion on OVA's insurance coverage was provided by Gallagher Insurance, followed by a "How To" session for clubs on understanding their insurance responsibilities. The evening concluded with a Q&A addressing submitted questions on risk management.

Risk Management Part 2: Safe Sport Update

Volleyball Canada's Safe Sport team, led by Caroline Sharp and Julie Young, shared insights on the national progress in making volleyball a safer environment. Topics included the OSIC complaint process, key learnings from the past year, and best practices for adhering to the Rule of Two. The session concluded with an overview of ongoing efforts by Volleyball Canada and provincial organizations to enhance safety protocols.



HALL OF FAME & OVATION AWARDS



Janet Cairns
Builder



Guy Bradbury
Referee



Melissa Bartlett
Athlete



Paul Duerden
Athlete



Monica Lueg
Athlete



Andrej (Andy) Richters
Athlete



1993 Team Ontario Men
Team

Todd Boys, Andrew Brunton, Jeff Chung, Paul Duerden, Ryan Finch, David Kantor, Rob Mizak, Darryl Reid, Dustin Reid, Greg Stevenson, Geoff White, Travis Wintjes, Brenda Willis (Head Coach), Dave Preston (Asst. Coach), Jeff MacIntyre (Manager).



2005 Team Ontario Women
Team

Melissa Bartlett, Kate Eckhardt, Kristina Fabris, Ali Greey, Kaila Marie Janssen, Kacie MacTavish, Hayley Todd, Kim Todd, Racheal Urquhart, Caley Venn, Kelly Verboom, Michelle Wood, Joely Christian (Head Coach), Marilyn Douglas (Asst. Coach), Hoi Leung (Manager).

Recognition Award

Tessa Alyman
Gary Armstrong
Sarah Blunt
Dwayne Boecker
Carissa Chapman
Cory Ciacinti
Andrew Courchesne
Deb Hartnett
Aleksandar Ljubicic
Mee Luang-Asa
Kayde Marshall
Geoff Matheson
Alex Nedin
Joe Nezic
Dean Oberle
Elaine Pilgrim-Susi
Joe Prsa
Taylor Robertson
Matthew Schnarr
Mark Stevens
Dasha Ustinov
Chris Wilkins

Achievement Award

Robin Kidd
Malcolm Mousseau
Jenny-Lynn Pellegrino
Mike Slean
Robyn Stafford

Diane Wood Special Achievement Award

John Nguyen
Elias Soueiti

Mike Bugarski Male Coach of the Year

Jessy Satti

Sandy Silver Female Coach of the Year

Tori Crowley

Female Development Coach of the Year

Gita Ljubicic

Sylvia Jaksetic Female Referee of the Year

Kennedy Ramsden

Scarborough Solars Athletes of the Year

Robert Kemp
Maddie Seo

Ken Davies Memorial Award

Christopher Tautrimis

Evelyn Holick Award

Sarah Bumstead

Statement of Financial Position

August 31, 2024

	2024	2023 (Restated)
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 2,704,449	\$ 1,607,664
Short-term investments	62,00	-
Accounts receivable	237,942	478,907
Interest receivable	4,198	6,179
Harmonized sales tax recoverable	98,703	61,657
Prepaid expenses	305,229	296,943
	3,412,521	2,451,350
CAPITAL ASSETS	237,449	326,450
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS	466,193	498,203
DEPOSITS	22,024	22,024
	\$ 4,138,187	\$ 3,298,027
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,327,691	\$ 791,244
Deferred revenue	336,315	286,604
	1,664,006	1,077,848
DEFERRED REVENUE	4,202	6,202
	1,668,208	1,084,050
NET ASSETS		
Contingency reserve fund	1,843,103	1,696,684
Payable to members fund	626,876	517,293
	2,469,979	2,213,977
	\$ 4,138,187	\$ 3,298,027

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Year Ended August 31, 2024

	2024	2023 (Restated)
REVENUE		
Programs - tournaments, fees and other	\$ 7,948,082	\$ 6,478,900
Memberships	873,833	708,112
Grants - Government of Ontario	387,537	470,290
Investment income (loss)	205,858	111,578
Sponsorships	155,144	168,721
Grants - Other	122,278	141,967
Other income	39,034	29,803
Grants - Trillium Fund	22,236	22,619
Fundraising	8,473	4,528
Publication sales	1,688	1,268
	9,764,163	8,137,786
EXPENDITURES		
Programs	8,234,038	7,037,481
Other administrative costs	678,797	248,236
Administrative salaries and benefits	431,632	404,293
Special events	86,701	68,946
Communications	77,047	70,011
Amortization of capital assets	64,452	66,433
Meetings	34,109	43,547
Publication costs	10,968	7,686
	9,617,744	7,946,633
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES FROM OPERATIONS	146,419	191,513
PAYABLE TO MEMBERS FUND		
Officials' development income	143,520	125,123
Regional memberships	116,773	43,491
Region 6 legacy income	48,950	44,536
Regional expenses	(73,255)	(11,521)
Officials' development expenses	(126,405)	(103,968)
	109,583	97,661
	\$ 256,002	\$ 288,814



2023-2024