

# Match Point

Vol. 1 Issue 1 May 2, 2022

A San Diego/Seaside Volleyball Club Publication

## Important Dates

### San Diego Girls

- 5/7: 14s Local Open Tournament
- 5/14-15: 15s/16s/17s PVL Championship
- 5/14-15: 17s/18s SoCal Championship
- 5/15: HS Local Tournament
- 5/21-22: 12s/13s PVL Tournament
- 5/21-22: 15s SoCal Championship
- 5/21: 12s Local Tournament
- 5/22: HS Club Local Tournament
- 5/28-30: PVL Memorial Day Tournament
- 5/28-29: 12s SoCal Championship
- 5/28: 14s Open Local Tournament
- 6/4-5: 12s/13s PVL Championship
- 6/11-12: 16s SoCal Championship
- 6/11: 14U SoCal Cup Championship
- 6/18-26: AAU Jr. Nationals
- 6/19-26: Volleyball Festival

### Seaside Boys

- 5/14: 14s SoCal Cup
- 5/21: 18s/17s SoCal Cup
- 5/22: 16s/15s SoCal Cup
- 5/28: 18s/17s SoCal Cup
- 5/29: 16s/15s SoCal Cup
- 6/4-5: 14s SoCal Championship
- 6/11: 16s/15s SoCal Cup Championship
- 6/12: 18s/17s SoCal Cup Championship
- 6/17-19: SoCal Showcase
- 6/27-7/1: AAU Boys Nationals

## REINTRODUCING OURSELVES

At San Diego/Seaside Volleyball Club, our goal is help our athletes excel at and develop a life-long love of the sport, and to teach our athletes to have a strong sense of respect for themselves and others. In these pages you will find people and stories of our athletes doing just that, learning life through volleyball. So, say hello to *Match Point*, our new newsletter!

*Match Point* will be released digitally every other month beginning with this edition. For our first edition, we decided to start at our roots and reintroduce you to important members of our staff. We have some new faces around here and we wanted to take this opportunity to share who we are and what we are about.

In each edition, you can expect to find at least one page each for San Diego and Seaside on what is happening with our teams. In true San Diego/Seaside fashion, we will share as much as we can about all our teams, that means both locals and travel. You can also find fun stories about our teams and athletes.

We know we can't cover everything in a newsletter, so we will be sending out a smaller digital version when the need arises to help keep everyone informed.

Our club has many amazing coaches and athletes and we are excited to share what you are all up to in these pages.



16-Drea at the Las Vegas Classic



# The Club



1988 18-1 Bronze Team

San Diego Volleyball Club began in 1986 when Dick Templeman and Dave Whittaker took their initial teams to the Junior Olympics in Minneapolis. Thirty-seven years later, after numerous building changes and coaching turnover, SDVBC is now San Diego/ Seaside Volleyball Club with 16 girls' travel teams and eight boys' travel teams. But getting to this point has been a long journey.

In 1987 Whittaker and Templeman brought in John Cook as the Club's head coach, who had an impressive overall record of 162-18 in his six years as the head coach at Francis Parker High School. In 1988, Cook's SDVBC 18-1 team took third at nationals. In a short time, Cook's career led him to coach at the collegiate level, where he found much success as the head coach at the University of Nebraska. Cook was later inducted into the AVCA Hall of Fame in 2017.

Taking the mentorship and lessons learned from Cook, Whittaker continued to build on the Club's successes. Whittaker coached the 18-1 girls for ten years and the 18-1 boys for three years. For five of the years, Whittaker's team was in the top 10 in the nation, including winning a national championship and earning third in the nation. San Diego Volleyball Club was on the map and a nationally recognized club.

From the start SDVBC was forced to turn away numerous boys and girls trying out for the extremely limited number of travel team spots available each season. After 2-3 years of watching talented, heartbroken players walking out the door, Dave created the Local Program, which remains one of the Club's signature programs to this day. The program does not require a tryout, meaning no one is cut from a team. It gives the SDVBC Local teams the opportunity to play against other clubs in the San Diego area, rather than traveling throughout the state and country. The SDVBC Local Program still serves as a cornerstone of the greater San Diego volleyball community by making the sport/competition accessible for players of all experience levels.

*"We didn't interrupt,  
we kept it going."*

Since its founding, SDVBC had practiced out of Mission Bay and Francis Parker High Schools. As the Club grew, the space needed to expand as well. Along with a basketball organization and another local volleyball club, SDVBC moved to what is now Alliant International University. But after trying to make it work, it was time to move into a space solely for San Diego Volleyball Club.

After years of searching for a permanent home for the Club, Whittaker found the building the Club is located in now. Obtaining permits and designing every inch of the building, he turned it into a world-class establishment. For the last 17 years, SDVBC has called our current facility home.

But the story doesn't end there.

Around the same time SDVBC settled into its current premier facility, Fred Featherstone, founder of Seaside Boys Volleyball Club was looking for a facility to call home. What began as simply renting court space eventually led to the merger of the two clubs. Seaside would be the boy's side of the Club, while San Diego would remain the girls' side. The Club's colors and naming mechanics would stay the same. For the last 15 years, this is how it's been. And yet this is still not the end of the story.



2022 15-Jeff pregame huddle

After weathering the storm of 2020 when COVID-19 shocked the world, San Diego/Seaside Volleyball Club continued to be a cornerstone of the community and a place of joy for players and coaches alike amidst an ever changing world of uncertainty. Always open to growth and expansion in support of the mission, the Club welcomed an influx of new players and coaches when its neighbor, Epic Volleyball Club, shut their doors in 2021. With two communities coming together, the Club has been buzzing with activity and excitement ever since.

San Diego/Seaside Volleyball Club has five and a half courts that are used every day of the week, including Sundays. Between practices, tournaments, and camps, the Club is full of life and shows no signs of stopping or going away anytime soon.

In an ever-changing world, San Diego Volleyball Club has remained constant for almost 40 years. There have been challenges along the way, but Whittaker didn't let those things be the end-all, instead, he ebbed and flowed and has made this Club his life for everyone to enjoy.



# The President



## DAVE WHITTAKER *Club President*

It all started at the beach, Mission Beach to be exact. When Dave Whittaker moved there in the late 70's, he discovered volleyball and couldn't get enough. He surrounded himself with friends who shared his passion, taught him the game, and challenged him to be a better player. They all played on the one volleyball court that existed in Mission Beach at the time until the net was stolen. Dave replaced the net, and the Mission Beach volleyball community continued to expand with more players and even more talent.

The top players dominated the one court they had so Dave, tired of seeing great players standing on the sidelines, began to build additional courts in the area. Buying the poles, nets, and hooks, attending city council meetings, and getting approvals to build, he created the first set of courts in Mission Beach. That was

1978. Two years later, the Olympic mens and womens volleyball teams decided to move its headquarters to San Diego. It was then that Dave began to get good at volleyball because he was playing with and against the best of the best in the nation.

As his passion for the sport continued to grow, he began coaching various players and groups, and hosting tournaments at the beach. Dave hosted over 100 rated beach tournaments, including one of the first professional volleyball tournaments with a cash prize, the 1982 \$2000 Mission Beach Open. He also served on the California Beach Volleyball Association (CBVA) board of directors for a number of years.

The clear next step for Dave was expanding his expertise to indoor volleyball. In 1984, he became the assistant coach at San Diego State University to learn more about indoor volleyball and coached there for two years. Once he knew everything he could about volleyball, he had the opportunity to be the head coach at Mission Bay High School, where he coached for 13 years. While he was there, Dave was asked if he wanted to coach a 14-1 club volleyball team, he said yes, and that year San Diego Volleyball Club (SDVBC) was born.

That first 14-1 girls team Dave Whittaker coached consisted of 7th and 8th graders, as well as two fifth graders because they

didn't have enough players to fill out a roster. They played in six tournaments before they won a game. Yet, they made it to the Junior Olympics. In the bottom bracket, they won and as Whittaker remembers it, "you would've thought we won the world championship."

As the Club grew in those early years, Dave and Dick Templeman, SDVBC co-founder, brought on John Cook as the Club's first head coach. Cook had an impressive record as a high school coach, and continued to reach great heights in his career after SDVBC including finding much success as the head coach at the University of Nebraska and being inducted into the AVCA Hall of Fame.



1996-97 18-1

Taking the mentorship and lessons learned from Cook, Whittaker continued to build on the Club's successes. Whittaker coached the 18-1 girls for ten years and the 18-1 boys for three years. For five of the years, Whittaker's team was in the top 10 in the nation, including winning a national championship in 1991 and earning third in the nation in 1997. In 1999

Dave became the club president.

Through all the years of indoor volleyball, Dave never left the beach volleyball world. On the professional beach circuit, Dave was a rated player for 16 years and played in over 100 rated tournaments. In the early 1990s, Dave was a coach for the USA Men's Beach Volleyball Team. His teams won Gold in 1991 and 1992 in Japan. To this day, Dave continues to play beach volleyball on a regular basis and can often be found swimming out at Mission Beach.

*"I've done volleyball 24 hours a day, every day, seven days a week, my whole life."*

Dave has made San Diego/Seaside Volleyball Club his life and his passion for his work is evident. Dave has rolled with the punches for the last 37 years, gained national recognition, and created a lasting legacy in the San Diego volleyball community.



# The Directors



**DANIELLE LAMB**  
*San Diego Director*

Danielle comes to San Diego Volleyball Club from Epic Volleyball Club. Coming from the financial side in the administration world, Danielle is now the San Diego Director.

This will be Danielle's 22<sup>nd</sup> season coaching. Danielle has been coaching club volleyball since 1999. She also has one year of experience as an assistant coach at Cuyamaca College. Danielle spent two years coaching at the high school level as the junior varsity coach at Francis Parker High School.

She is the head coach for the 17-1s this season. Her team won the 2022 Las Vegas Classic in February and has continued their success through the end of the season.

She attended Wm. S. Hart High School in Newhall, CA. She was a three-year varsity player and All-League selection in 1995. She was also a three-year varsity swimmer and won a CIF title in 1996.

*"I enjoy the opportunity to introduce kids to the sport and help them find their passion."*

Danielle attended college at Christian Heritage College. Her first year she was named Rookie of the Year and her team won the NCCAA National Championship. Her senior year, the team won the NCCAA title again and she was named an NCCAA Academic All-American and was placed on the NCCAA All-Tournament Team.

She is married to Steve Lamb, who also coaches at SDVBC. In her spare time she likes to hike and read.



**RUSS BIRD**  
*Seaside Director*

Russ is an integral part of our Seaside/SDVBC coaching family. He has been coaching for Seaside/SDVBC since 2009 and has coached a variety of Black travel teams as well as being involved in all aspects of our local programs. He has been taking Seaside teams to the Junior Nationals since 2010 and in that time has won two medals and has two 5th place finishes.

*"I love introducing kids to the sport and then seeing them get hooked for life."*

Russ has been teaching and coaching in Poway Unified School District since 1989, including two years at Poway High School where he helped the boys win two CIF Championships. He also worked as an assistant coach for the San Diego Spikers, a women's professional volleyball team back in the early 90s.

Russ is currently an eighth grade science teacher at Mesa Verde Middle School and the Seaside Boy's Club Director. Russ was a college player at San Diego State University in the early 80s and on the AVP Beach tour from 1989-1993. Russ still loves to play beach volleyball. His last rating was a B which he was able to get with his son Bennett.

In the summer of 2016 Russ was able to play in a beach tournament with each of his three children, one thing off his bucket list. In his free time he loves to stand up paddle surf and golf with his brother Mike.

*Jump Start*

May 2 - Jump Start **Session 4**

June 13 - Jump Start **Session 5**

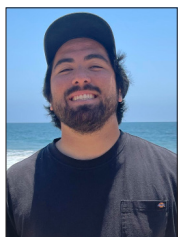
June 21 - 23 Jump Start **Camp I**

June 28 - 30 Jump Start **Camp II**



# The Coaches

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Alex Buchanan



Alisyn Johnson



Andrea Richardson



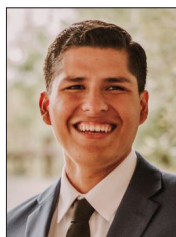
Arianna Mariotti



Becky Senger



Bert Novicio



Braylan Marquez



Casey Donnelly



Cassidy Atchinson



Chris Muscat



Connor Bentley



Crystal Cuevas



Dave Claycomb



Dave Stuart



David Chau



Evan Humphrey



Garrett Payne



Hailey Henderson



Hannah Cordon



James Owens



Jeff LePere



Jenn Brigham



Kacie Benson



Katie Barton



Kim Bird



Kris Pua



Kristen McMenemy



Lindsey Guinto



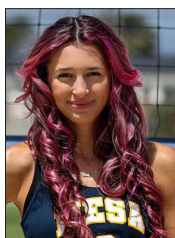
Lindsey Olhausen-Scott



Lisa Reis



Natalie Cuevas



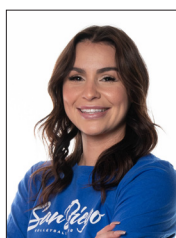
Olivia Ostler



Roxanne Hamilton



Shawn Back



Sien Gallop



Steve Lamb



Todd Goodwin



Troy Lake



Tyler Fernandez



Tyler Spratt





# Girls Updates

## 17-DANIELLE WINS GOLD AT LAS VEGAS CLASSIC



17-Danielle celebrating their win at the Las Vegas Classic

San Diego Volleyball Club sent 11 clubs to Las Vegas for the Las Vegas Classic in February. **17-Danielle** won their division with an impressive 7-3/17-9 record, while 18-Lindsey finished the weekend 7-1/14-2 to finish in 5<sup>th</sup> place.

17-Danielle had a slow start to the weekend but came together when they needed to.

“We sat down and had a team meeting Saturday night and talked it out with everybody. What do you guys need out of everybody? What do you need to make it work for us? We got a second chance.”

How SDVBC made it work was by playing with relentless energy. The effort came from everywhere: **Kassandra Nall**, **Juliana Van Ommerring** and **Makena Heidemann** at the net, **Claire Nordeen** on sets, and **Analiese Gagliano** on defense.

“(Energy) was something we’ve been working on trying to instill in them,” **Lamb** said, “that we’re not the most physical team at work but it’s the passion we bring. How hard do they want it? How

hard do you want to work for it. We’ve been working on staying disciplined, trusting each other on the court.”

**18-Lindsey**, on the other hand, went undefeated until the last day of play. Making their way into the Gold Bracket playoffs after cruising through the tournament, they lost in the first round of the bracket.

## ROCKING AND ROLLING AT RED ROCK RAVES

Heading to Las Vegas San Diego sent every travel team except the 18s to compete in the Red Rock Raves at the beginning of April.

Split over two weekends with the 17s, 16s, and 15-Bert competing in weekend one, San Diego brought home four top-20 finishes.

**13-Becky** stole the show with a 5-3/12-6 record for a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish. They sailed through their first five matches with ease before getting held up by ACT VBC **13-Corey** in their final match before the playoff round. In the Gold Bracket, **13-Becky** won their first match 25-23 and 25-21 before dropping the second match.

**14-Shawn** finished with a 7-2/14-6 record to finish in 15<sup>th</sup> place. They went undefeated on day one and were stopped by SF Elite **14-Christina** for their only loss of the weekend. Bouncing back and winning the final game of the day, they found themselves in the Silver Bracket for playoffs. They defeated Dig This! 27-25 and 25-21 to win the bracket.

In the first weekend, **16-Ari** boasted the best record, 8-1/16-4. After playing a third set in game one, they faced a tough OK Charge **16 National** team. That game was their only loss of the weekend and **16-Ari** went in to win six straight matches.

## PVL UPDATES

On Saturday March 12, our **14-Tyler** team went 1-2 in pool play finishing in a three-way tie for 2<sup>nd</sup>. After pool play they won all three of our crossover/seeding matches. **14-Troy** went 2-1 at the MD1 Event March 12.

At PVL Tournament 3, **13-Becky** went 5-2/10-7 over the weekend. Beginning day two with a 2-1 record, **13-Becky** won two more games to make the Silver Playoffs. Facing Rancho Valley **13Premier** in the first round, **13-Becky** won 25-20, 19-25, 15-11. They had a rematch against their only loss of the weekend, Mid City VBC **13-1**, in the next round. In the end, it was Mid City who won the rematch. **13-Becky** finished the weekend in 26<sup>th</sup> place.



14-Troy at the MD1 Event on March 12



## 18S UPDATE

At the SCVA 18s National Qualifier Tournament, **18-Lindsey** finished in a four-way tie for 5<sup>th</sup> place in the Liberty Division. After starting the tournament 3-0, they finished the final two days with a 3-2 record. **18-Lisa** competed in the American Division where they went 3-5 overall.

At the USAV Girls 18s Junior National Championships, 18-Lindsey and 18-Lisa competed in the 18 Patriot Division. 18-Lindsey went undefeated on the first day of pool play and lost their final match of pool play in a close third set battle on day two. Moving into bracket play, they lost two matches to finish the weekend with a 5-3/11-7 record.

18-Lisa had a slow start to their pool play, going 1-2 on day one. Bouncing back on day two, 18-Lisa went 3-0 to make bracket play where they lost a close one to La Jolla 18-1 to finish with a 4-3/10-9 record.

18-Lindsey finished 13<sup>th</sup>, while 18-Lisa finished in 37<sup>th</sup> place.



18-2 Lisa at USAV Girls Jr. National Championships

## WINDY CITY RECAP

San Diego sent three teams to the 2022 Adidas Windy City National Qualifier, 17-Danielle, 16-Ari, and 15-Bert.

**17-Danielle** faired the best boasting a top-five finish with a 6-2 record. Winning the first game and dropping a close second, they went on a four-game win streak to make the Gold Playoffs. In the playoffs, they won game one and dropped game two to the undefeated Seal Beach 17-Black.

**16-Ari** finished the weekend 3-4 and made the Silver Playoffs, while the 15s made the Flight 4 Playoffs to finish with a 3-5 record.



## Boys Updates



14-Black at SoCal Cup #5



14-White at SoCal Cup #3

## 14S SOCAL CUP RECAP

The 14s have been competing in their SoCal Cup Series since January. Through six tournaments, each team has had its own highs and lows.

Coaches Troy & Roxanne helped **14-Black** who competed well in the #6 series at the AIM Sportsplex. They successfully implemented a serving strategy to Coach Conner's already dynamic attacking game that paid off with a 3-0/5-1 winning record on April 16th.

**14-Green** also went undefeated in the #3 series. After dropping the first set 25-13 to Balboa Bay 14Black, the boys of Seaside battled back to force a third set in a 25-21 fight. They won the third set 15-11. In a similar situation against their next opponent, Pulse 14-2, the boys once again had to bounce back after a 25-8 loss in set one. They won the next set 25-21 and sailed to a 15-8 finish. In their final match of the day, they sailed past WAVE 14-Nicole 2-0 to finish the day 3-0/6-2.

**14-White** went undefeated with a 3-0/5-1 winning record on March 12th. Back in February, 14-Black went 4-0/7-1 in dominating fashion. They defeated Coast 13-Bela 25-10 and 25-9 before taking on Pac6 14-A in a 25-15 and 25-18 victory.

The next 14s SoCal Cups will be May 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> with the championship scheduled for June 4-5<sup>th</sup>.



# Club Happenings

## Summer Camps

### Summer Kick-Off Camp June 13-16<sup>th</sup>

Girls: 9-11 am

Boys: 11 am-1 pm

### All Skills Camp I June 20-23<sup>rd</sup>

Girls: 9-11 am

Boys: 11 am-1 pm

### All Skills Camp II June 27-30<sup>th</sup>

Girls: 9-11 am

Boys: 11 am-1 pm

### Setting Camp July 5-7<sup>th</sup>

Girls: 9-11 am

Boys: 11 am-1 pm

### Mid-Summer Skills Camp July 11-14<sup>th</sup>

Girls: 9-11 am

Boys: 11 am-1 pm

### All Skills Camp III July 18-21<sup>st</sup>

Girls: 9-11 am

Boys: 11 am-1 pm

### Middle & Grade School Camp July 25-28<sup>th</sup>

Girls: 9-11 am

Boys: 11 am-1 pm

### High School Warm Up Camp July 27-29<sup>th</sup>

Girls: 1-3 pm

### All Skills Camp IV Aug. 1-4<sup>th</sup>

Girls: 9-11 am

Boys: 11 am-1 pm

### Summer Close Out Camp Aug. 8-11<sup>th</sup>

Girls: 9-11 am

Boys: 11 am-1 pm



Beginning June 13th and running through August 11th, we've got camps lined up including **Summer Kick-Off Camp**, four **All-Skills Camps**, **Setting Camp**, **Middle and Grade School Camp**, and of course, the **Summer Close-Out Camp**. For **girls camps**, register on our website and for **boys camps**, please use the registration link on our website.

In addition to our camps, we also have our **Late Spring Workouts** for boys! Beginning May 23rd 14s and high school players are welcome to join with no tryout necessary. The 14s (8th grade and younger) workout time is 5:30-7:20 and the high schoolers (9th-12th grades) will be 7:30-9:20. Age groups are based on grades entering Fall 2022. We also will be offering our **Boys Summer Locals Program**.

The fun doesn't stop there! Starting the first week in July, all girls are welcome to join either our **Girls Summer Locals Program** or **Girls Summer High School Program** with no tryout necessary! All practices and tournaments are held at San Diego Volleyball Club. Players will practice together and then be formed into teams based on their level of play. We also have our **Girls Summer Weekly Workouts** for players who are aiming to make one of our travel teams and/or their high school volleyball team in the fall! Age groups are based on grades entering Fall 2022.

For those with 0-1 year of experience, we have our **Jump Start Summer Camps** beginning June 21st. Jump Start Camps are designed for new players in 2nd-6th grades to expand their knowledge and develop a love for volleyball. Proper technique, high-quality repetitions, and a fun time are the keystones to Jump Start.

## SAVE THE DATE!

San Diego Volleyball Club  
Girls **15s-18s** Travel Team Tryouts

### JULY 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>

Registration and payment required before arrival.  
More details coming soon.

*\*12s, 13s, 14s will be in October.*

