



## FOR THE PARENTS

### OCTOBER 2023

We call it the “Murky Crystal Ball.” In this issue, we unravel the myth of “volleyball whisperers” - club directors and coaches who claim to know talent when they see it. Before tryouts get underway, discover the red flags surrounding “Talent Identification” and the reality of youth athletes making it to the collegiate level, the pros, or even the Olympic stage. We also talk with experienced parents who’ve supported their own children through the club volleyball in the AZ Region. Get their helpful tips and tricks before tryouts!

# NEWSLETTER



FINDING A VOLLEYBALL CLUB CAN SEEM OVERWHELMING AT FIRST - EVEN IF YOU’VE ALREADY PLAYED CLUB AND YOU’RE LOOKING FOR A NEW PROGRAM. IN THIS ISSUE OF “COVERING THE COURT”, COMMISSIONER HAROLD CRANSWICK PROVIDES AN EASY-TO-FOLLOW DECISION MAKING GUIDELINE ON CHOOSING THE BEST VOLLEYBALL PROGRAM FOR YOUR FAMILY. BE SURE TO CHECK OUT IMPORTANT ADVICE “BEFORE” YOU SIGN THE CONTRACT.



The Arizona Region of USA Volleyball had a thrilling experience at the USA Volleyball All-Star Championship this summer. Our incredible High Performance program, led by Ron Pelham, earned the “Region Cup!” Be sure to check out this newsletter online to learn more about the program and how your child can tryout next summer!



Volleyball has no age limit! This fall’s newsletter discusses everything *parents* need to know from A to Z for their tweens and teens. But we’ve also got opportunities in our **Adult** and **Officials** programs. You love the game. You know the game. And we’d love to have *you* play a meaningful role in the game with us this season. Please visit our website to find out more!



# “Tuesday’s Practice”



What exactly should your child be doing in volleyball practice? Cardio workouts? Plyometrics? Or *learning the game*?

The Arizona Region’s Director of Coaching Education, Eric Hodgson, writes a heart-felt apology to coaches and parents for the cycle of ineffective training.

“We have talked to coaches about the number one factor of a good practice, athlete engagement, which is often crippled with boring rote drills, too much talking, players asked to shag balls while their teammates are in a drill and an overall malaise of a practice without a focus or attention to pushing athletes past their comfort zones.”



The *Science of the Game* is well known. Find out what the Arizona Region of USA Volleyball is doing so your club’s coaches have the tools and resources to provide your child worthwhile training.



READ THIS  
NEWSLETTER  
ONLINE

[WWW.AZREGIONVOLLEYBALL.ORG](http://WWW.AZREGIONVOLLEYBALL.ORG)

Utilized and not used. The Arizona Region is committed to your child’s safety. Our staff define “exploitation” and how to identify it. We also spell out the *standards for protecting minor athletes*. All of these important updates can be found in our online newsletter.

[www.azregionvolleyball.org](http://www.azregionvolleyball.org)

