Adding Sand Volleyball to North Carolina High Schools

Proposed by

The Carolina Region of USA Volleyball & NC HS Sand Volleyball Association



Who is the Carolina Region of USA Volleyball?

* The Carolina Region is one of 40 Regions in the United States affiliated with USA Volleyball, which is the National Governing Body of the sport of volleyball in the United States.

The Carolina Region's Mission

- * The Carolina Region, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, is dedicated to developing and improving the sport of volleyball throughout the state of North Carolina from grassroots programs to elite by utilizing:
- (a) Coaching Education(b) Player clinics

 - c´) Facility improvements/development
 - d) Quality tournaments (e) Information services.

Annually, the Carolina Region offers the following:

- * At least 7 indoor tournaments for 500 men and women member players;
- * At least 7 indoor tournaments for 5000+ junior girls ranging in age from 10 to 18 years old;
- * Training and playing opportunities for 80 junior boys ranging in age from 10 to 18 years old;
- * At least 5 coaching education opportunities;
- * Officiating training and rating opportunities for both junior and adult officials at all sanctioned tournaments
- Sand volleyball for adults and juniors

The Popularity of Volleyball

- 800 million participants world wide
- 29 million in United States
- Includes indoor, sand, grass, sitting, deaf, etc.
- 217 nations member of FIVB
- 2nd most popular team sport in United States high schools after basketball

Growing Popularity of Sand Volleyball

- 2013 Sports & Fitness Industry Association's Topline Report
 - Since 2007 500,000 new participants in 13-25 year old female demographic alone
- Added as an Olympic Sport in 1996
- Most represented sport in world internationally
- Sand players Misty May-Treanor and Kerri Walsh are most recognizable figures in U.S. volleyball
- Currently there are five organizations offering professional tournaments around world

"Beach" Volleyball in North Carolina?

- Carolina Region's Junior Beach Tour instituted in 2011
 - * Held **30+** events in 2014. 1500+ teams.
 - * Events in Triangle, Wilmington, Triad, Charlotte, New Bern and others
 - * Hosted the Carolina Open (a USA Beach National Junior Tour event) with 139 junior teams competing, one of the largest on the entire national tour
 - Runs from April to end of July
 - * The NET: More and more Junior players looking to play outdoors



2013 Carolina Grand Slam Girls 16U Winners – Kylie Grandy/Genna Simpkins

NC High School Sand Volleyball

- NC High School Sand Volleyball Association (NCHSSVA)
 organized in Fall 2012 to promote and supervise club activity for
 the sport among high schools in North Carolina
- Inaugural HS Sand League in 2013 saw 9 schools participate with 2014 featuring **31 schools** (including several Triad, Charlotte, and Eastern NC area schools) and **over 500 participants**.
- For 2015 anticipating another huge jump in school participation.



2014 State Champions – Broughton (Raleigh)



2013 State Champions – Epiphany (New Bern)

Why Sand Volleyball? Why Now?

- Collegiate scholarship opportunities
- Title IX considerations
- Very low start-up costs compared to other sports
- Improved player development (sand volleyball is HUGE in developing all-around volleyball skills)
- Other states getting programs started in high schools (Arizona – sanctioned by High School athletic association, Southern California organized by AAU)

Collegiate Scholarship Opportunities

- * In January 2010, the NCAA approved Sand Volleyball as an emerging sport leading to more playing opportunities for high school athletes in 2012 and beyond.
- * We are lobbying NC NCAA institutions to add the sport for more playing opportunities.
- Over 40 college programs across US for 2014 Season
- * NCAA Championship Sport status possible as early as 2015/2016 season)



2013 Collegiate Championships – Gulf Shores, AL

Title IX Considerations

* The addition of one High School team could mean a dozen or more females participating in athletics

Low Cost Start Up

- Practice facilities at local parks (free or discounted)
- * Low cost uniforms (shorts and t-shirts)
- * Self-officiated sport

Improved Player Development

- * More contacts per player (2 vs. 6 on court)
- More movement per player
- * Improved "reading" skills on court
- * "If you want to become a better volleyball player, coach and play sand doubles."
- * ---John Kessel
 - USA Volleyball

More Specifics about NC HS Sand Volleyball Competition

- NCAA Sand Volleyball Rulebook already in place
- Seasons would be opposite indoor season
 - * Girls' & Boys' sand season would run in spring
- Tournaments typically run as multi-school invitationals (get in several competitions over a few hours resulting in fewer trips)
- Volleyball clubs already in place could supply coaches, players, tryouts, communication with parents and athletes, etc.

Costs to the High Schools

- * Transportation costs to tournaments (typically the responsibility of participants in club)
- * Uniforms
- * Coaching salary?? Mostly volunteer club sponsors for now.

Thank You for Your Consideration

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