



## Press Release: Ohio Valley Region Teams Shine at USA Volleyball All-Star Championships

**Des Moines, IA – July 21, 2024** – The Ohio Valley Region (OVR) teams delivered outstanding performances at the USA Volleyball All-Star Championships, showcasing their talent and dedication on a national stage.

**17U Girls: National Division Champions!** The 17U Girls team, coached by Haley Eckerman from Kent State University, demonstrated exceptional skill and teamwork throughout the competition. They achieved an impressive record of 8-1 for the week and emerged as the champions, winning the National Division GOLD Bracket Championship. **OVR athlete, Cara Richter was named All-Tournament Team Captain. OVR athletes, Sydney Geselbracht, Ali Strange and Claire King joined her on the All-Tournament Team.**

**19U Boys: National Division Silver Bracket Winners** The 19U Boys team, coached by Nathan Matthews from Wittenberg University, also had a commendable week, finishing with a 6-2 record. Their hard work and determination earned them 7th place overall.

**15U Girls: National Division Silver Bracket Winners** Under the coaching of Tyson Norton from the University of Akron, the 15U Girls team delivered a strong performance, finishing the week with a 5-3 record. Their efforts secured them 7th place overall.

**17U Boys: National Division Bronze Bracket Winners** The 17U Boys team, coached by Eric Santiago Garcia from Mount St. Joseph University, showed resilience and competitive spirit. They finished the week with a 3-5 record, earning 11th place overall.

Special recognition goes to Jaime Peterson, who assisted both girls' teams, and Brad Brinkerhoff, who assisted both boys' teams. We thank all the coaches for their invaluable support and contributions to the teams' successes.

Additionally, we extend our heartfelt thanks to our All-Stars Program Director, Glenn Freed, for his unwavering commitment and dedication to the program. His leadership and passion have been instrumental in the success of our teams.

We also want to express our gratitude to our sponsor, Mizuno, for outfitting our teams. Their support and high-quality gear have played a crucial role in our athletes' performance and comfort throughout the championships.

“We are incredibly proud of all our teams for their remarkable performances at the USA Volleyball All-Star Championships,” said Brian Hofman, Commissioner of the Ohio Valley Region. “Their hard work, dedication, and sportsmanship are a testament to the strength and unity of our region.”

The OVR continues to foster talent and provide opportunities for athletes to compete and excel at the highest levels. Congratulations to all our teams, coaches, and supporters for an unforgettable championship experience.

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