ONTARIO Volleyball

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been another remarkable year for the Ontario Volleyball Association, and I am proud to reflect on the progress we've made together as a community united by our passion for the sport.

Our Board of Directors remains steadfast in its commitment to advancing the OVA's strategic plan and ensuring that every decision aligns with our mission to strengthen volleyball across Ontario. Working together with our dedicated professional staff, the OVA continues to grow in both scope and capacity, adapting to meet the evolving needs of our members and athletes.

This past year, Ontario Volleyball continued its impressive growth trajectory, with record participation across all age categories and disciplines. As this growth stretches our existing capacity, the OVA took important steps to address these challenges through the Competition Restructure – Sport for Life project, ensuring opportunities for development across all stages of play. This project will modernize our competition framework but also foster an extraordinary level of community engagement. Our town hall discussions over the year contributed meaningfully to the development of this effort and the Board and OVA Professional staff look forward to sharing more details over the course of the upcoming year how we intend to build a more accessible and sustainable pathway for volleyball in Ontario.

Our commitment to competitive excellence remains stronger than ever. Through continued collaboration with event partners and municipalities, the Board continues to support hosting major events, including the expanded use of convention centres and the return to an unforgettable Ontario Championships, which remain a cornerstone celebration of our sport in this province. We will continue to provide these amazing "Festival" events which are always a highlight for athletes and their families.

A critical step forward this year was the full implementation of an independent Safe Sport solution, ensuring that all participants have access to a secure, transparent, and accountable process. While this topic is never easy, it is essential, and we take great pride in ensuring Ontario sets the national standard for athlete well-being.

To further support our expanding membership, the OVA also completed an internal staff restructure—strengthening our team with new positions in Club Services, Beach Events, and Communications. These additions will enhance our ability to deliver value, responsiveness, and consistent communication to all members of our volleyball community.

And, of course, we celebrate our athletes' remarkable achievements on the national stage. At the 2025 Canada Games, Ontario Volleyball proudly captured two gold medals (Women's Indoor & Beach) and two bronze medals (Men's Indoor & Beach), a reflection of the depth of talent and dedication of our athletes, coaches, and clubs.

As we look ahead, our Board remains deeply committed to growing the game, supporting our members, and ensuring volleyball continues to thrive across Ontario. Together with our incredible staff, clubs, coaches, referees, volunteers, and partners, we will keep building a community where every athlete has the opportunity to reach their potential and love the sport for life.

Sincerely,

Howie Grossinger

President, Ontario Volleyball Association

Howie Grossinger
President

Paul Bonfigli
Director, Governance & Administration

Christine Cook
Treasurer

OVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Director at Large

Margo Malowney
Director at Large

Michael Amoroso
Director at Large

Andrew Nichols
Director at Large

Sylvie Laperriere
Director, Regional Engagement

Victoria Altomare
Athletes' Representative

OVA STAFF

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

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Executive Director

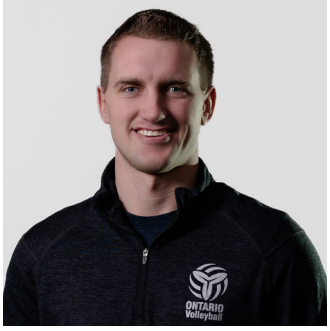
Jennifer Harkness
Director of Finance & Administration

Mylene Andrade
Member Services Coordinator

Mario Rando
Accountant

OPERATIONS

Alishia Lidums
Director of Volleyball Operations



Mark Wiersma
Manager of Indoor Competitions and Special Events

Jacob Barker
Indoor Programs Coordinator

Claire Melanson
Indoor Programs Coordinator

Suzanne Fogg
Manager of Beach Programs

Taylor Callow
Beach Events Program Coordinator

Kerish Maharaj
Manager of Marketing, Communications & Community Outreach

Dylan Brennand
Digital Media Coordinator

Antonia Bonaldi
Digital Content Coordinator

George Huffman
Communications Coordinator

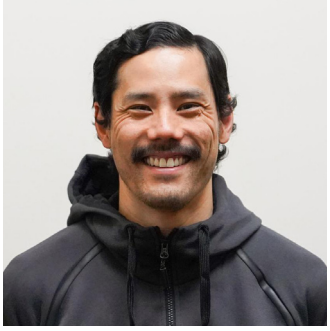
SPORT DEVELOPMENT

Louis-Pierre Mainville
Director of Sport Development & Technology

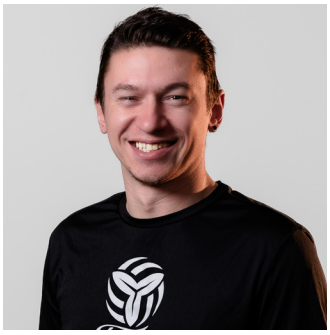
Kelvin Cheng
Manager of Operations

Carrie Campbell
Club Services Manager

Angie Shen
Senior Manager of Coaching Culture & Beach Development



Shunya Yamada
Operations Coordinator



Oklend Llakaj
Athlete Development Lead (Beach)

Lauren Sokolowski
Athlete Development Lead (Indoor)

Matt Golas
CSIO Assigned - Strength & Conditioning Coach

STRATEGIC PLAN : VOLLEYBALL FOR LIFE

FISCAL 2025 HIGHLIGHTS AND GOALS SUMMARY

OUR MISSION

The OVA is an athlete-centred association on 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 VALUES

Volleyball is FUN, INCLUSIVE and SAFE.
Volleyball for Life.

OVA 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.

PEOPLE

The OVA will inspire continuous learning and improvement.

1. **Inspire a culture based on quality and personal growth**
2. **Increase education and development opportunities**

Fiscal 2025 Accomplished

Athletes

- Information sessions and focus groups held for competition review.
- Safe Sport education delivered at Team Ontario.

Staff

- Safe Sport training completed.
- Leadership style assessments completed.

Coaches

- Athlete voice included at the Coach Summit.
- Sitting volleyball training delivered for 5 new coaches.
- Mentorship and club subsidy programs launched by the Regional Council.
- 95 coaches trained and mentored.

Referees

- 9 mentors trained; mentorship at 45 events.
- 658 referees engaged; 3,941 Rules R quiz attempts.

Measures

- Total unique members of 21,167, a 14.5% increase (prior year 18,494).
- Member roles of 26,266 are a 2.2% increase (prior year 25,702).
- Coaches 3,926, 17% increase (prior year 3,354).
- Referees 1,064, 11.3% increase (prior year 956).

Fiscal 2026 Goals

Athletes

- Information sessions and safe sport education.

Staff

- Training and personalized learning plans.

Coaches

- Relationship-based coaching culture, mentorship, symposiums, and certification programs.

Referees

- Retention and mentorship programs, training for sitting volleyball, and online education tools.

Club Leaders

- Town halls and resource support.

OPERATIONS EXCELLENCE

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

1. **Increase membership while delivering quality service**
2. **Ensure systems and programs are sustainable**
3. **Provide a safe sport experience**

Fiscal 2025 Accomplished

Funding

- Secured funding from Ottawa Tourism for major events.
- Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative (OHPSI), for beach and sitting volleyball delivered.

Sport System

- Utilized regional structure to subsidize clubs, coaches, and referees.
- Purple Card policy implemented and expanded to the beach.
- Club Memo of Understanding (MOU) and insurance enhancements for club directors launched for next season.

Organizational Structure

- Restructured staff – created Sport Development Team and added resources in club services, beach events, and communications.

Risk Management

- Transitioned from the Office of Sport Integrity Commissioner to an independent third-party for more timely and cost-effective discipline and complaints processing.
- Progressive carding sanction implemented for the competitive season.
- Registration system modified for Person In Authority compliance.

Measures

- Member results from multiple program surveys.
- 91% to 98% plan to play next season.
- Increased Contingency Reserve Fund, current balance $2.2M.
- Sport Recognition Policy compliance attained sessions and focus groups held for competition review.
- Safe Sport education delivered at Team Ontario.

Fiscal 2026 Goals

Funding

- Grants for sitting volleyball, OHPSI, and tourism/event support.

Governance

- Club grants and competitions review.

Sport System

- Learning Management System support, referee program enhancements.

Policies

- AI use, referee protection, and Sport Recognition compliance.

Structure & Communication

- Staff restructuring, improved member communication, and cyber risk mitigation.

Risk Mitigation

- Launch Club MOU and Directors & Officers insurance.

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

The OVA will offer inclusive, meaningful programming

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

Fiscal 2025 Accomplished

Participation

- Competition restructure review completed to address capacity concerns and recommendations received from Sport For Life.
- Sitting volleyball tournaments delivered.

Delivery

- Convention centre contracts for major events secured through 2032.
- National event bids are successful.
- Continued to deliver a successful modified competition stream with major events.

Quality

- Online scoring systems improved for both beach and indoor.
- Beach Tour and Ontario Championships upgraded with branding and fun zones.
- Indoor competition plan aligned with LTD 3.0.

Partnerships

- Ontario Championships host cities secured through 2029.
- Tourism partnerships re-engaged, exploring further opportunities.

Measures

- **Indoor competitions**
  743 tournaments, 21% increase
  6,784 regular season teams, 21% increase
- **Ontario Championships**
  1,241 of-age (1,256 total) teams increase, 18%
- **Beach Tour**
  Gold and Silver events increased by 45%
  7,915 total teams participated
- **Beach Ontario Championships**
  916 teams, 30% increase
- Member results from multiple program surveys
  94% to 99% recommend the OVA to a friend

Fiscal 2026 Goals

Participation

- Launch of sitting volleyball competitions and plan restructure of indoor events.

Delivery

- Enhanced scoring systems, three convention centre events, multiple Ontario Championships venues simultaneously, and nationals.

Quality

- Beach tour improvements, safety protocols, and national event access.

Partnerships

- Host city contracts, venue relationships, and long-term event planning.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The OVA will engage the volleyball community through ongoing collaboration

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

Fiscal 2025 Accomplished

Pathways

- Team Ontario programming reviewed and adjusted for stakeholder needs.
- Sitting pathway initiated, first Team Ontario Sitting Camp hosted.
- Delivered Team Ontario/Canada Games program with international training camp opportunity.
- Athlete-to-coach transitions supported.

Quality

- IST network building underway with athletic therapists across Ontario.
- Coaching culture supported via the summit and training camps.

High Performance

- Exploring targeted support for National Excellence Program bound athletes.
- Strength and Conditioning pilot successfully run.
- Club-based high performance delivery under discussion.

Pathways

- Beach off-season programs expanded.

Measures

- Boys 12U-15U, 33% growth and 16U-18U, 3% growth
- Girls 12U-15U, 63% growth and 16U-18U, 4% 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%)

Fiscal 2026 Goals

Pathways

- Alignment with national and university programs; sitting volleyball expansion.

Quality

- Integration of sport science, align programs to focus on person pillar and coaching culture.

High Performance

- Support for targeted athletes and coaches; club-based delivery.

Participation

- Review Team Ontario programs and increase beach with off-season training.

DEVELOPMENT & INNOVATION

The OVA will stay committed to advancement and adaptability

1. **Committed to an innovation mindset.**
2. **Build partnerships and business development opportunities to support the community.**

Fiscal 2025 Accomplished

Mindset

- Storytelling strategy embedded in media and reports.
- Social media guide developed to focus on delivering experiences for athletes, especially at major events.

Partnerships

- CBC livestream project expanded.
- Interprovincial scrimmages engaged for multiple Team Ontario programs.
- Hudl partnership renewed; others under review.

OVA Business

- Online 50/50 fundraising in development.
- Sport Science, strength and conditioning pilot launched

Adaptability

- Volleyball Connect website reviewed and updated
- Communiti APP launched and expanding in F26.

Measures

- Revenue increased 11% from $9.8M to $10.9M.
- Programming Revenue increased 12% from $8.2M to $9.2M.

Fiscal 2026 Goals

Mindset

- Shift from event delivery to athlete experience.

Partnerships

- Livestreaming, mental performance, and service provider collaborations.

Business

- Revenue generation via 50/50 and sport science services.

Adaptability

- Design and implement Digital strategy to optimize operations and enhance member service experiences, and promote the Volleyball Connect website, including registration services for clubs.

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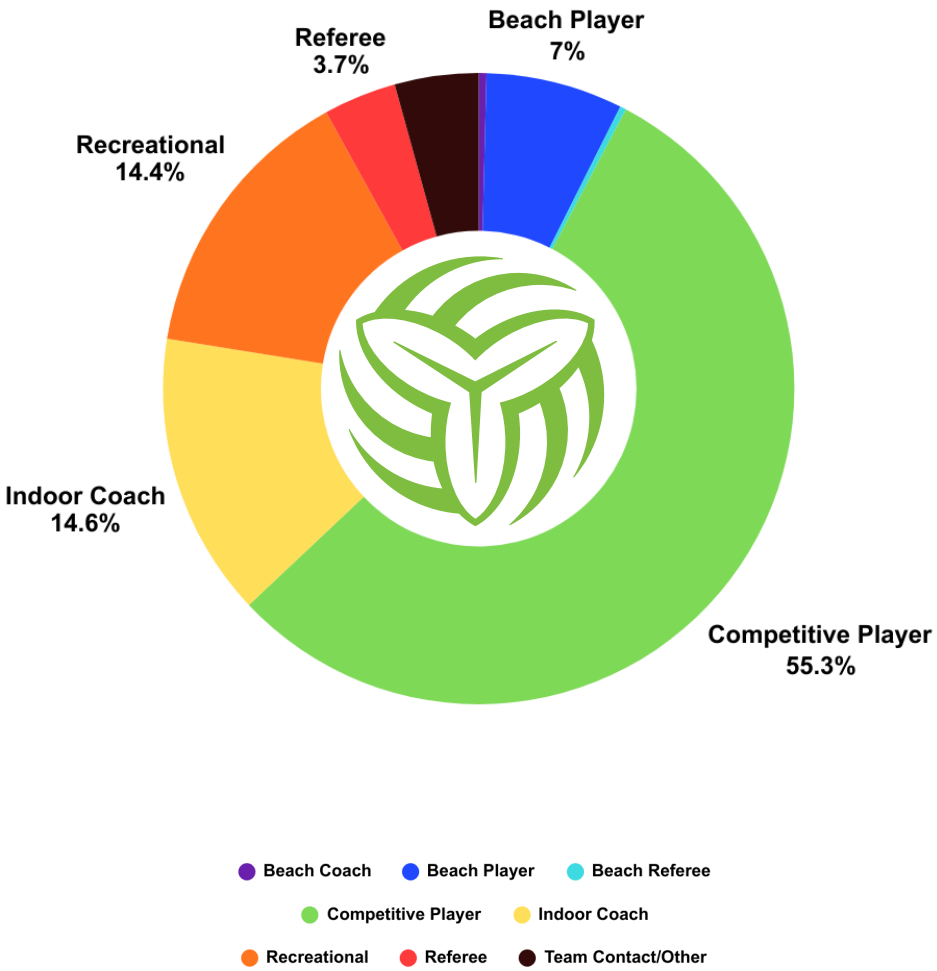
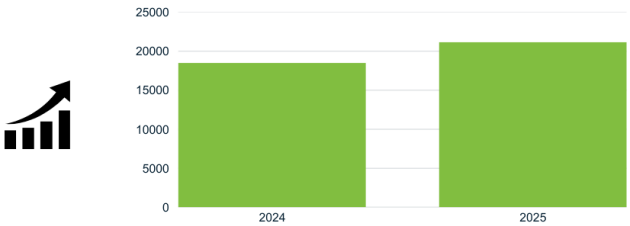
OVA MEMBERSHIP



The 2024-25 OVA season saw a significant jump in its membership with a 14.5% increase. The membership was made up of 21,167 unique members.



SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH & ENGAGEMENT

The Ontario Volleyball Association's digital footprint grew significantly this past season, focusing on amplifying club and member voices across the province. While total posts decreased by 29%, content quality improved, with more short-form videos and stronger storytelling.

Our follower base grew 40% to over 72,000, and post impressions rose 30% to more than 23 million, demonstrating greater reach and engagement per post. Likes and reactions saw a modest decline due to the shift toward sharing member-generated and highlighted athlete and community achievements. Link clicks increased by 40%, indicating higher audience engagement with programs, events, and OVA resources.

This year also saw expansion into new digital spaces, including the launch of OVA Threads and LinkedIn accounts, connecting with broader audiences from young athletes to industry professionals. By utilizing LinkedIn, the OVA was able to connect with 2,443 members through 19 posts, reaching 4,801 impressions. Moving forward, social media will remain a key tool to inform, celebrate, and inspire the volleyball community across Ontario.

METRIC	F2024	F2025	CHANGE
NUMBER OF POSTS	3,597	2,567	-29%
FOLLOWERS	51,600	72,150	+40%
IMPRESSIONS	21m	23.7m	+30%
ENGAGEMENTS	897k	694k	-23%
LINK CLICKS	5,606	7,857	+40%

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Ontario Volleyball Association

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LIVE STREAMING EXPANDS ACCESS AND ENGAGEMENT

This season, the Ontario Volleyball Association expanded access to volleyball through our live streaming partnership with Pixellot and CBC Community, allowing families and supporters to follow events they couldn't attend in person, including indoor, beach, and sitting volleyball competitions.

From September 2024 to August 2025, over 620 events were streamed, totaling more than 2,000 hours of live and recorded coverage—a significant increase from the previous season. Viewership grew alongside coverage, with 169,698 total views (up ~40%), 8,560 unique viewers (up 43%), and over 12,000 watch hours. Notably, 77% of views came via video-on-demand, showing fans revisiting matches to relive key moments and celebrate athlete achievements.

By expanding digital accessibility, the OVA strengthened community connections, increased athlete visibility, and highlighted the province's growing volleyball talent.

ATHLETE COUNCIL

During the 2024–25 season, the OVA Athletes' Council partnered with Six Pack Recruiting to deliver two well-attended virtual recruiting webinars for Ontario athletes. These sessions provided valuable education on the post-secondary recruiting process, including debunking common myths, emphasizing proactive athlete engagement, and offering practical next steps, along with live Q&A opportunities. The OVA thanks the Athletes' Council members for their commitment to supporting athlete development and for creating meaningful learning opportunities for our membership. We look forward to expanding the Council's impact and involvement across the Association in the 2025–26 season.

Jessica Andrews
Caleb Bosveld
Chelsea Chew
Nasif Chowdhury
Sarah Clarke
Caroline Dubrovski
Catherine Emer
Esther Han
Amanda Harnett
Cooper Jones
David Kiswa
Cameron Knifton
Owen Law
Asia Lucas
Julia Marks
Matthew McCarvell
Isabella Melchiorre
Kaiya Nesti
Aidan Schwarz
Christopher Tautrims
Delaney Watson
Zhifan Ye
Izaak Zabjek

INDOOR COMPETITIONS 2024–25

PARTICIPATION REACHES NEW HEIGHTS AGAIN!

Participation soared once again this 2024-25 season, culminating in a remarkable 743 regular season indoor events held across the province for 6784 teams - a 20% increase in competitions and teams compared to the 617 tournaments for 5617 teams in the 2023-24 season. Spanning 18 weekends from November to March, these regular season events kept Ontario buzzing with volleyball energy from start to finish.

To kick start the season, the OVA hosted the Fall Classic at the EY Centre in Ottawa on 24 courts for 88 teams in the two-day tournament for the top 24 teams in 16U and 18U Girls divisions and the top 20 teams in the 16U and 18U Boys divisions. Thank you to the EY Centre and Ottawa Tourism for their generous support through the Major Event Funding program to make the Fall Classic a resounding success.

Outside of the EY Centre, the 17UG Fall Classic for the top 24 teams was hosted by Halton Hurricanes and Defensa at Haber Recreational Centre and Corpus Christie Catholic High School in Burlington on Nov 2-3, 2024.

The 17UB Fall Classic for the top 20 teams was hosted by Guelph Youth Volleyball Club at Conestoga College and the University of Guelph on Nov 16-17, 2024.

Congratulations to the following teams for winning hardware at the 2024 Fall Classic events:

Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze
16UG Fall Classic	Leaside Sparks	Titans Khaos	Venom Vipers
17UG Fall Classic	Pakmen Gold Jeff	Hurricanes Category 7	Leaside Sparks
18UG Fall Classic	Phoenix Legacy	SC Bandits National Wolverines	Pakmen Gold Mike
16UB Fall Classic	Venom Black Mambas	Pakmen Gold Saad	FCVC Icarus
17UB Fall Classic	Pakmen Gold Jessy	Maverick Rangers	Durham Attack Blast
18UB Fall Classic	Pakmen Gold Omar	Pakmen Gold Jessy	MAC Titanium

Each weekend from November 2024 until the end of March 2025 saw 35 to 65 tournaments taking place across the province, utilizing a record 106 unique venues. To end the indoor regular season, the Grand Prix events were hosted across Ontario for the top 8 teams in age group and gender.

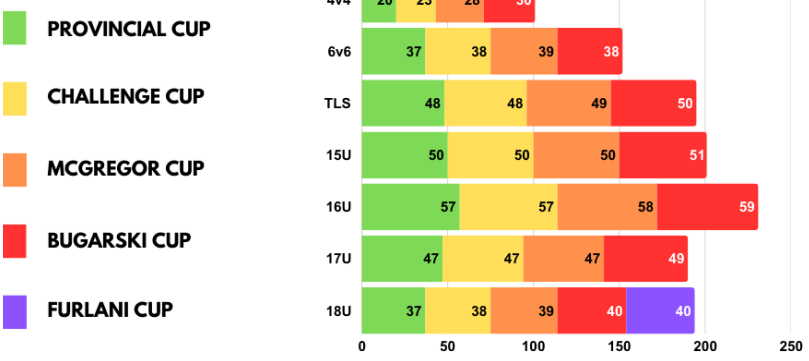
Congratulations to the top three teams in their performance at the various Grand Prix events:

Event	Gold	Silver	Bronze
16UG Grand Prix	Venom Vipers	Pakmen Gold	Leaside Sparks
17UG Grand Prix	Venom Vipers	Pakmen Gold Jeff	Hurricanes Category 7
18UG Grand Prix	REACH Harmony	Pakmen Gold Mike	Hurricanes Category 7
16UB Grand Prix	Venom Black Mambas	Pakmen Gold Saad	REACH Flow
17UB Grand Prix	Durham Attack Blast	Pakmen Gold Jessy	Maverick Rangers
18UB Grand Prix	Pakmen Gold Omar	KW Preds Invictus	Durham Attack Blast

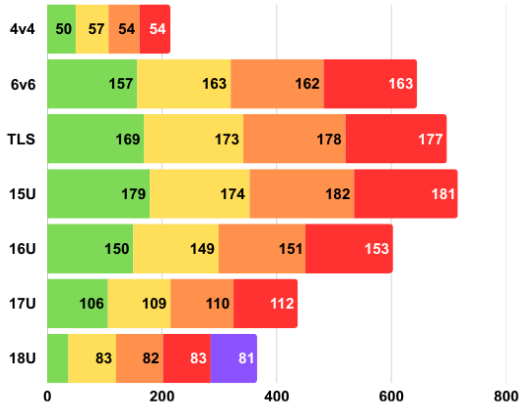
We extend our deepest thanks to all our host clubs, volunteers, venue partners and referees whose commitment and adaptability made this ambitious schedule a resounding success the past season.

NUMBER OF TEAMS PER AGE GROUP
2024–25 INDOOR SEASON

Boys Teams

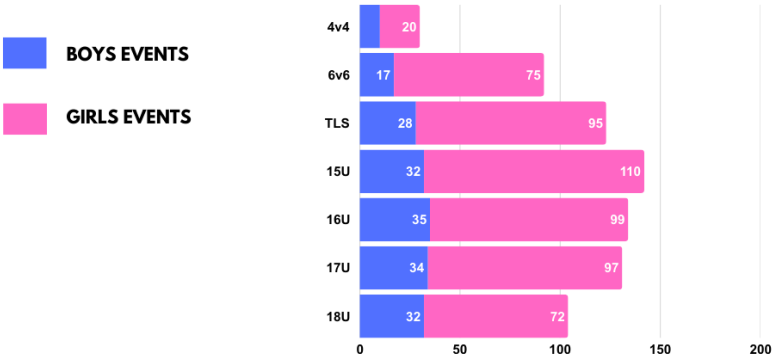


Girls Teams



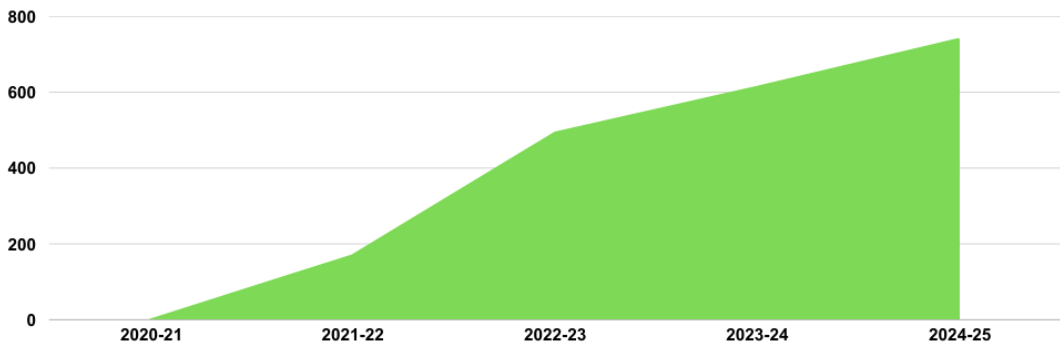
NUMBER OF EVENTS

Tournaments Per Age Group
2025



Total Number of Regular Season Tournaments
2020-2025

743 regular season tournaments were run in the 2024-25 indoor volleyball season.



BUILDING ON THE SUCCESS OF THE CONVENTION CENTRE MODEL

It is hard to believe that it has been five years since COVID-19 shuttered the world, and three years since the OVA introduced the Convention Centre Model for hosting large-scale events. Since its launch, we have heard loud and clear from our membership: you want bigger and better events in Ontario.

In response, the OVA Board of Directors posed a simple but powerful question to staff: “Can we do more?” The answer was a resounding “yes”.

OVA staff worked closely with the EY Centre in Ottawa and the Niagara Falls Convention Centre, while engaging in extensive discussions with the International Centre in Mississauga. Through ongoing negotiations and successful grant applications, the OVA extended contracts with the EY Centre and Niagara Falls Convention Centre and secured the International Centre as a partner through to 2032.

The OVA extends its sincere thanks to Ottawa Tourism, the EY Centre, Visit Mississauga, the International Centre and the Niagara Falls Convention Centre for their continued partnership and support. Their granting programs and willingness to collaborate with a nonprofit sport organization have made the dream of accessible, large-scale, high-quality events a reality for Ontario’s volleyball community.

SPORT FOR LIFE COMPETITION REVIEW 2024–25

The 2024–25 season marked a major milestone for Ontario Volleyball as the organization partnered with Sport for Life to conduct its first full review of the youth indoor competition structure in over a decade. With participation growing 68% since 2020 and more than 1,000 age-division teams competing at the 2024 Ontario Championships, the review aimed to ensure that Ontario's competition model continues to serve the evolving needs of athletes, clubs, and communities across the province.

Sport for Life

Collaboration and Member Engagement

The heart of this process was the collaboration of Ontario's volleyball community. Nearly 1,800 members contributed their perspectives through surveys, focus groups, and workshops. Parents represented the largest respondent group, followed by coaches, athletes, and referees, ensuring every layer of the sport was heard. Participants reflected all levels of play, from Trillium to Premier, and from 13U to 18U.

Beyond the survey, engagement extended through targeted sessions with athletes, club leaders, referees, and coaches, as well as consultations with the Indoor Volleyball Development Committee, Volleyball Canada, and the Regional Council. This extensive feedback provided a clear picture of the system's strengths, challenges, and opportunities.

Findings and Recommendations

The final recommendations from Sport for Life reflected several key priorities to guide the modernization of Ontario's youth competition structure:

- Building scalable systems that can accommodate continued growth, including the creation of distinct competition streams to various needs.
- Expanding the convention centre and Championships festival models to deliver high-quality, community-driven experiences.
- Strengthening support systems for clubs, coaches, referees, and administrators to ensure consistent standards and improved collaboration.
- Embedding equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility (EDIA) principles in every aspect of competition planning.

These priorities will help the OVA sustain growth while maintaining fairness, accessibility, and developmentally appropriate opportunities for all participants.

Next Steps

The final report, presented in August 2025, outlined a phased implementation plan to modernize Ontario's youth competition framework. A working group has been established to guide this process, ensuring changes are introduced thoughtfully and with ongoing input from clubs, coaches, referees, and regional representatives.

The OVA extends its sincere appreciation to Sport for Life for their partnership and expertise, and to the many community members who contributed their insights. The level of engagement across Ontario's volleyball community was exceptional and instrumental in shaping the path forward. Together, we have laid the groundwork for a modern, inclusive, and sustainable competition structure. The OVA looks forward to building on this momentum as we move into the next phase of implementation.

SURVEY SAYS_

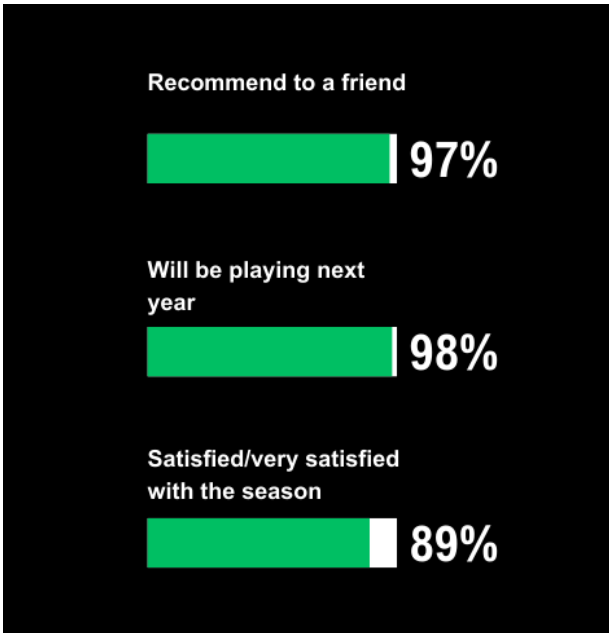
OVA has a huge role in making all the tournaments happen, and it is a huge undertaking I can only imagine. Finding venues and hosts is a lot and YOU DO A GREAT JOB. I have also had to contact different people in OVA for situations, and I found their help VERY timely and useful - SO THANKS for that!

I feel the OVA runs a fantastic regular season program. As a team we are aware of our schedule many weeks in advance and the level of competition is normally right where we need to be.

I think all the events we attended this year went really well. I like that the OVA were updating events - location and divisions etc. two to three weeks in advance this year. It was great to know very early on where we were playing.

Very well organized and making sure teams only have 1 tournament further than 300km is greatly appreciated.

I was very satisfied with the OVA season this year because of the diverse location of tournaments, the cleanliness and good organization of the games and the positive energy found at all tournaments.



MEMBER SATISFACTION

2025 ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS

WATERLOO | OTTAWA

ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

The 2025 Ontario Championships marked another year of record participation and continued growth for the province's largest volleyball event. Over five weekends, 4,989 matches were played across seven separate events, reflecting the OVA's ongoing commitment to expanding opportunities in response to increasing demand. A record-breaking 1,256 teams participated—representing a 16% increase over 2024.

Returning to RIM Park in Waterloo, the Championships built upon previous successes by expanding both capacity and reach. To accommodate growth, Conestoga College served as a secondary venue for three weekends, hosting competitions alongside RIM Park. In total, 872 teams competed across 27 courts between the two facilities.

The Championships also strengthened their presence in Eastern Ontario. For the second consecutive year, two events were hosted at Ottawa's EY Centre, and for the first time, the University of Ottawa was added as a secondary location. Together, these venues welcomed 384 teams competing on 28 courts, representing the largest Ontario Championships footprint ever held outside the Greater Toronto Area. The OVA extends its thanks to Ottawa Tourism for its ongoing partnership and support in making this expansion possible.

Beyond competition, the OVA continued to elevate the athlete, coach, and spectator experience through several key enhancements. The CanuckStuff Clubhouse (Athlete Fun Zone) returned with expanded features, including carpeted lounge areas, ping pong tables, bead-making stations, OVA-branded games like regulation cornhole, interactive skills challenges, selfie areas, and a larger vendor marketplace. Across the five weekends in Waterloo, 11 vendors participated, including CanuckStuff, Mizuno Canada, Mikasa, Fotoreflections, Six Pack Recruiting, Rock & Ohm, One Team One Dream Sports Co., Jibz N Things, Ronin Volleyball, CanuckStuff Team Sales Promo, and Airtime Athletics.

Bolder branding brought the venues to life with large window graphics, floor decals, a 20-foot inflatable arch, and the debut of new OVA-branded courts featuring "ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL" baselines. At the EY Centre, an inflatable Tube Man and vibrant signage created a dynamic event atmosphere, complemented by on-court entertainment during the 18U Gold and Bronze medal matches, which featured live commentators, WeeStream coverage, DJ music, prizing tosses, and full player, coach, and referee introductions.

Facility upgrades also helped improve event operations and comfort. The OVA rented fieldhouse carpeting at RIM Park to reduce debris and enhance play conditions, while off-duty police officers were brought in to assist with traffic management. Meanwhile, theme days, coordinated Hawaiian shirts, and matching team outfits added community spirit and energy across the weekends.

"Getting together with many teams all under one roof creates excitement and a certain atmosphere you can't replicate anywhere else. It's great to watch teams you may not get to see in the regular season including being able to watch the "top dogs" battle it out - extremely good gameplay!"

At the EY Centre, a smaller vendor presence included CanuckStuff, Ottawa Sports Photography, and Six Pack Recruiting. The OVA also partnered with The Snowsuit Fund and Tim Hortons for an on-site Smile Cookie fundraiser, raising over $9,000—enough to provide 180 new snowsuits to children in need, showcasing the strong community spirit of OVA members.

Technology once again played a key role in enhancing access and engagement. In partnership with CBC Sports, the OVA utilized Pixellot camera systems to livestream matches province-wide, recording 162,476 Views views from 8,125 unique users for a total playtime of 11,657 hours. The 18U Division 1 finals were streamed live on the OVA's YouTube channel, attracting 14,635 views and delivering over 2,000 hours of total watch time across the 6 18U Division 1, Tier 1 gold and bronze medal matches.

The success of the Championships was made possible through the dedication and hard work of an outstanding workforce. At RIM Park, 20 court systems were expertly installed by the KW Predators and later removed by the University of Waterloo Volleyball. In Ottawa, members of the Ottawa Mavericks took on the significant task of assembling and dismantling 24 court systems. During the events, a total of 108 event staff filled 372 shifts, contributing to 2,427 work hours across the events in Waterloo and Ottawa. Their efforts ensured seamless operations—from coach check-ins and information services to awards presentations and logistical coordination.

On the officiating side, 375 referees contributed to the delivery of high-quality matches across all weekends. The Referee Development Team (RDT), comprising 57 senior officials, played a vital role in mentorship and professional development, ensuring consistency and excellence across all levels of play.

As the OVA reflects on the 2025 Ontario Championships, the outcomes extend well beyond the results on the court. The event showcased record participation, elevated experiences for athletes and families, and meaningful community engagement. The addition of new branding elements, upgraded facilities, themed experiences, and enhanced award presentations—including the striking new OVA green Mikasa Ball centerpiece—helped make the Championships more professional, interactive, and visually striking, leaving a lasting impression on participants and spectators alike.

The OVA extends sincere appreciation to its event partners and sponsors—CanuckStuff, Mikasa, Mizuno, Hudl, HTG Sports, Six Pack Recruiting, Explore Waterloo Region, the City of Waterloo, and Ottawa Tourism—for their continued collaboration and support in delivering this premier provincial event.

The 2024–25 indoor season set a new benchmark for participation, innovation, and engagement, reinforcing the Ontario Championships as a cornerstone of volleyball in the province and a reflection of the OVA's commitment to excellence in sport delivery.

> "The atmosphere and energy that runs through the entire tournament was amazing. I miss it as soon as it is over, can't wait for next year!"

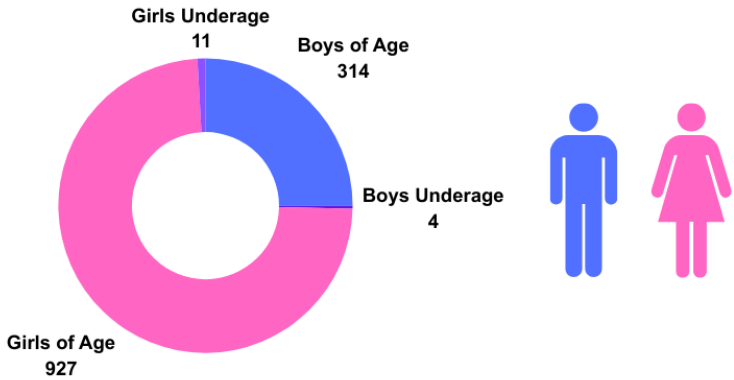
"Great work everyone, best year I have been to yet. Thank you for creating this awesome experience for our athletes."

My daughter played her first season, and she and the rest of the family have fallen in love with the sport. Looking forward to next season!

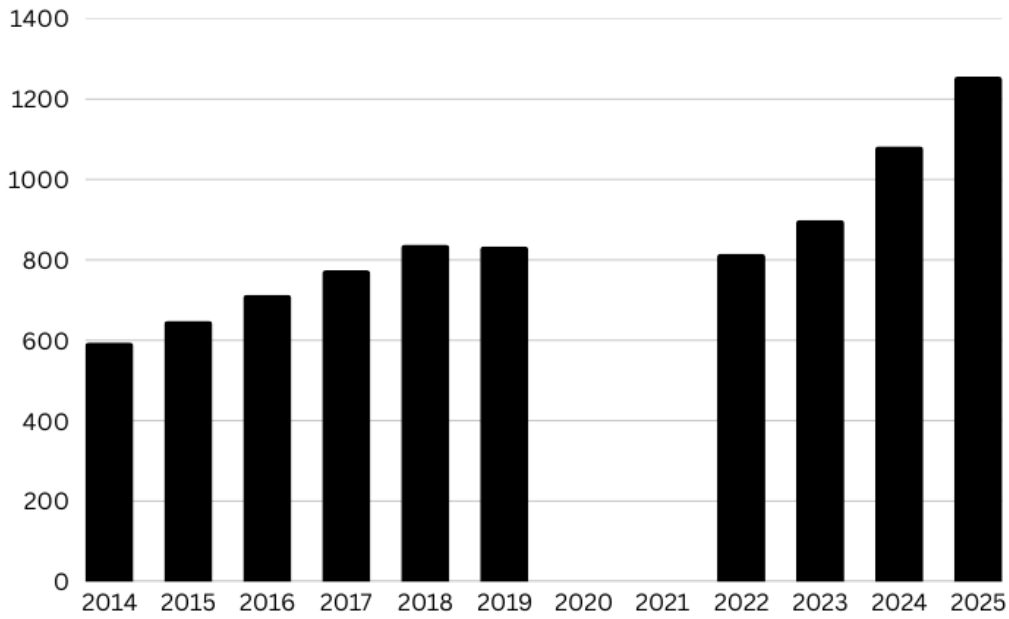
ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS NUMBER OF TEAMS
2025

1 2 5 6 Total Teams

Teams by Gender



ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS TOTAL NUMBER OF TEAMS
2014–2025



DIVISION MEDALISTS – GIRLS

2025 ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS

Category	Division	Gold	Silver	Bronze
4v4	**D1 T1**	**Caspian Vortex Blue**	**Caspian Vortex Yellow**	**Pakmen Diem**
	D1 T2	Thundercats Sonic Blast	LVC Fire Mania	Markham Revolution Force
	D2 T1	Synergy Dynamite White	E381 Blue	FCVC Pine
	D2 T2	EVP Golden Eagles	Georgetown Impact Pop	Toronto Thunderbolts Flash - Peter
6v6	**D1 T1**	**Titans Omega**	**Durham Attack Spirit**	**Leaside Strikers**
	D1 T2	EVP Eagles Rise	Caspian Warriors	FCVC Evergreen
	D1 T3	Humana Heat	Thundercats Eclipse	Maverick Hawks
	D1 T4	Storm Typhoon	MVC Blackcomb	Titans Nova
	D2 T1	Hummingbird Sapphire	Peterborough Thunder Vortex	Niagara Rapids Rumble
	D2 T2	Phoenix Embers	Smash Raiders Strikers	Milton Edge Firestorm
	D3 T1	Synergy Tsunami	Norfolk Chaos Frost	Oakville Thunder Blast
	D3 T2	MVC Whitecaps	41SIX Heat	Venom Copperheads
	D4 T1	Humana Embers	Titans Ares	Smash Raiders Reach
	D4 T2	Durham Attack Dynamite	Milton Edge Strikers	Toronto Thunderbolts Flash - Eric
	D5 T1	Venom Pythons	Milton Edge Thunder	41SIX Stars
	D5 T2	Ottawa Fusion Red - Amy	Storm Surge	Brant Tornadoes Fury
	D5 T3	Titans Mayhem	Smash Raiders Potatoes	Northern Chill White Squall

Category	Division	Gold	Silver	Bronze
TLS	**D1 T1**	**Leaside Dash**	**MVC Matterhorn**	**Pakmen Gold Andrew**
	D1 T2	Titans Eclipse	Maverick Outlaws	Venom Valor
	D1 T3	Georgian Cubs Attackers	Defensa Chris-Lana	PVC Power
	D1 T4	Durham Rebels Falcons	Storm Fire	Leaside Flash
	D2 T1	KW Preds Fierce	Defensa Maddison	Durham Attack Adrenaline
	D2 T2	Oakville Thunder Bolts	Titans Zeus	Reach Excel
	D3 T1	Smash Raiders Counter Attack	Humana Inferno	Grimsby Vipers Momentum
	D3 T2	North Bay Jr. Lakers Drip	Durham Rebels Bounty	Kingston Rock Turquoise
	D4 T1	Wildcats Black Caracals	Norfolk Chaos Ice	Unity Elite
	D4 T2	Barrie Elites Force	Synergy Remix	Belleville Ravens Fire
	D5 T1	E381 Borac	Stratford Swat	Altitude Alpine
	D5 T2	Norfolk Chaos Rockets	Lakeside Kascara	Galaxy Quasars
	D6 T1	Galaxy Flares	Wildcats Red Caracals	Brant Storm
	D6 T2	Ottawa Valley Vikings Legends	North Bay Jr. Lakers Wave	Kingston Rock Topaz
15U	**D1 T1**	**FCVC Aspen**	**Halton Hurricanes Category 5 - Denyse**	**Durham Attack Hydra**
	D1 T2	Storm Avalanche	MVC Revelstoke	Defensa Jesse
	D1 T3	Niagara Rapids Riptide	South County Bandits Huskers	Hummingbird Ignite
	D1 T4	FCVC Kouri	Durham Attack Fury	EVP Eagles Energy
	D2 T1	Titans Valkyrie	Grimsby Vipers	Niagara Athletics Aces
	D2 T2	FCVC Sycamore	Scorpions Venom	MVC Vesuvius
	D3 T1	PVC Power	Durham Attack Cosmos	Humana Blaze
	D3 T2	Bounce Electric	Synergy Reign	Rose City United Red Rampinelli
	D4 T1	Unity Eclipse	Waterloo Tigers Pink	Waterloo Tigers Havoc
	D4 T2	Maverick Raiders	Ancaster Lions	PVC Bolts
	D5 T1	Galaxy Nova	Scorpions Vipers	Toronto Thunderbolts Flash
	D5 T2	Orillia Suns Fusion	Norfolk Chaos Dash	Peterborough Thunder Derecho
	D6 T1	Lakeside Ikul	Lakeside Vortex	Barrie Elites Twisters
	D6 T2	West Elgin Warriors	Unity Elite	Wildcats Black Leopards

Category	Division	Gold	Silver	Bronze
16U	**D1 T1**	**Pakmen Gold**	**Venom Vipers**	**South County Bandits Nationals Spartans**
	D1 T2	Storm Blizzard	Scorpions Dynamite	Lakeside Walezi
	D1 T3	Storm Ice	Halton Hurricanes Category 6	Smash Raiders Blaze
	D1 T4	Kingston Rock Sapphire	Venom Velocity	Northern Chill Black Cyclones
	D2 T1	Ottawa Valley Vikings Marauders	Milton Edge Platinum	Caspian Sharks
	D2 T2	Durham Rebels Galaxy	EVP Reign	Leaside Voltage
	D3 T1	Kingston Rock Periodt	MVC Helicon	Brant Tornadoes
	D3 T2	PVC 3D Gems	Markham Revolution Lightning	Phoenix Odyssey
	D4 T1	North Bay Jr. Lakers Oceaners	Toronto Thunderbolts Smash - Cyrus	Toronto West Wings
	D4 T2	Maverick Diamonds	E381 Zenum	Scorpions Onyx
	D5 T1	Waterloo Tigers Apex	Wildcats Cheetahs	Lakeside Billao
	D5 T2	Superior North Giants	Milton Edge Blackout	LRV Misfits
17U	**D1 T1**	**Durham Attack Intensity**	**Halton Hurricanes Category 7**	**Storm Tornado**
	D1 T2	Smash Raiders Boom	MVC Kilimanjaro	Titans Arson
	D1 T3	Niagara Rapids TNT	KW Preds Embrace	Caspian Surge
	D1 T4	Leaside Aquila	Phoenix Talons	Peterborough Thunder Vortex
	D2 T1	Stratford Stingers Jolt	Leaside Dynamite	Titans Oceanus
	D2 T2	Pumas Smashers	Reach Dynasty	Milton Edge Rush
	D3 T1	Markham Revolution Hurricanes	Twin Bridges Thunderbolts	Belleville Ravens Rage
	D3 T2	St. Thomas Express Bullets	Milton Edge Steel	41SIX Thunder
	D4 T1	Stratford Stingers Hornets	Niagara Rapids Invasion	Toronto West Ravens
	D4 T2	Ancaster Lions Rampage	PVC 3D Royals	West Elgin Warriors

Category	Division	Gold	Silver	Bronze
18U	**D1 T1**	**Phoenix Legacy**	**Pakmen Gold Mike**	**Reach Harmony**
	D1 T2	Maverick Broncos	Leaside Bolts	Durham Rebels Smash
	D2 T1	Defensa Geoff	Milton Edge Force	Georgian Cubs Major
	D2 T2	Chatham Ballhawks Defend	Titans Spartans	Thundercats Rise
	D2 T3	Durham Rebels Strike	Belleville Ravens Rise	Maverick Colts
	D2 T4	Kingston Rock Diamond	Leaside Inferno	Shockwave Elite
	D3 T1	Georgetown Impact Empire	LVC Inferno	Ancaster Lions Attack
	D3 T2	Durham Attack Elevate	Jr. Gryphons Heat	Twin Bridges Thunderstorm
	D3 T3	E381 Avala	Grimsby Vipers Strike	Georgetown Impact Resistance
	D4 T1	Vaughan Legends	Bluewater Ballistix Bombers	Maverick Palominos
	D4 T2	Toronto West Kiwis	LVC Misfits Purple	Wildcats Lynx

DIVISION MEDALISTS – BOYS

2025 ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS

Category	Division	Gold	Silver	Bronze
4v4	**D1 T1**	**Kinetika Motion Yellow**	**Toronto Thunderbolts Flash - Shihua**	**Pakmen Bonney**
	D1 T2	Toronto Thunderbolts Smash	KW Preds Gamma	KW Preds Beta
	D1 T3	Milton Edge Snipers	Toronto Thunderbolts Flash - Peter	MAC Copper
6v6	**D1 T1**	**Venom Mayhem**	**Kinetika Force**	**Halton Hurricanes Category 3 - Phil**
	D1 T2	St. Thomas Express Engineers	Thundercats Reign	Titans Strikers
	D1 T3	Pakmen Black Jay	Caspian Knights	41SIX Crush
TLS	**D1 T1**	**Venom Havoc**	**Toronto Thunderbolts Smash - Felix**	**KW Preds Altius Strong**
	D1 T2	Venom Ryujin	Pakmen Black Kadeem	Ottawa Fusion Purple - Adam
	D1 T3	Maverick Bandits	Reach Sky	Flames Sparks
	D1 T4	41SIX Knights	Barrie Elites Bombers	Storm Lightning
	D2 T1	Chatham Ballhawks Jump	Barrie Elites Avengers	Unity Tigers
	D2 T2	Sky Volley - Michael	ALVC Pride	KW Preds Citius
15U	**D1 T1**	**Pakmen Gold Kadeem**	**MAC Steel**	**Maverick Chargers**
	D1 T2	Venom Pythons	Milton Edge Thunder	41SIX Stars
	D1 T3	Ottawa Fusion Red - Amy	Storm Surge	Brant Tornadoes Fury
	D1 T4	Titans Mayhem	Smash Raiders Potatoes	Northern Chill White Squall

Category	Division	Gold	Silver	Bronze
	D2 T1	Titans Eclipse	Maverick Outlaws	Venom Valor
	D2 T2	Georgian Cubs Attackers	Defensa Chris-Lana	PVC Power
16U	D1 T1	Pakmen Gold Saad	Venom Black Mambas	Reach Flow
	D1 T2	Niagara Rapids Shockwave	MAC Platinum	Maverick Longhorns
	D1 T3	Titans Behemoth	Phoenix Wildfire	Ancaster Lions Impact
	D1 T4	Maverick Toros	Chatham Ballhawks Breakout	Defensa Rob
	D2 T1	Flames Blue	Ottawa Fusion Purple - Kevin	Barrie Elites Galaxy
	D2 T2	LVC Fire Vortex	PVC 3D Steel	Pumas Voltage
17U	D1 T1	Pakmen Gold Jessy	Maverick Rangers	Durham Attack Blast
	D1 T2	Thundercats Bushido	Niagara Rapids Fire	Kingston Rock Onyx
	D1 T3	Storm Riptide	Maverick Riders	Barrie Elites Blizzard
	D1 T4	Sky Volley - Greg	Ancaster Lions Steelcats	Flames Inferno
	D2 T1	Chatham Ballhawks Rise	Toronto West Golden Eagles	Thundercats Havoc
	D2 T2	Barrie Elites Frost	Markham Revolution Revs Dilraj	Vaughan Legends
18U	D1 T1	KW Preds Invictus	Pakmen Gold Jessy	Pakmen Gold Omar
	D1 T2	MAC Titanium	Storm Voltage	Niagara Rapids Alliance
	D2 T1	Bluewater Ballistix Platinum	Barrie Elites Phoenix	Chatham Ballhawks
	D2 T2	Ancaster Lions Apex	LVC Fire Detonate	Maverick Pacers

EVELYN HOLICK & KEN DAVIES MEMORIAL AWARD WINNERS 2025

Ken Davies Memorial Award Winner 2025: Daniel Lewis, Pakmen Volleyball Club

The Ontario Volleyball Association was proud to present the 2025 Ken Davies Memorial Award to Daniel Lewis of Pakmen Volleyball Club, recognizing his exceptional leadership, athletic excellence, and commitment to community service.

Daniel has been a steady and inspiring presence within the Pakmen program since his early days as a 12U athlete. As a setter and team captain, he has guided his teams to multiple national medals and earned individual honours including 17U Nationals All-Star and Grand Prix All-Star selections from 16U through 18U. His athletic journey has also included participation in several Team Ontario programs and the National Excellence Program, reflecting his dedication to continuous growth and performance.

Beyond his on-court accomplishments, Daniel exemplifies the values of mentorship and service. He has dedicated countless hours to coaching house league programs, supporting younger athletes, and volunteering in his community. His contributions extend to his church, where he assists with nursery care, youth service trips, and leadership programs, and to his school, where he serves as a Physical Education Teacher's Aid.

Respected by teammates, coaches, and opponents alike, Daniel leads with humility, purpose, and integrity. His achievements and character embody the true spirit of the Ken Davies Memorial Award. As he continues his volleyball career at the University of British Columbia, the OVA congratulates Daniel on this well-deserved honour and looks forward to his continued success both on and off the court.

Evelyn Holick Award Winner 2025: Sydney McDermott, Pakmen Volleyball Club

The Ontario Volleyball Association was honoured to present the 2025 Evelyn Holick Award to Sydney McDermott, recognizing her outstanding achievements, leadership, and unwavering dedication to the sport of volleyball.

Sydney's volleyball journey began at the age of nine and has taken her from school teams and local house leagues to representing Ontario and Canada on the national stage. Her impressive resume includes participation in Team Ontario Elite, the U19 Team Canada Training Group, the National Excellence Program, and NexGen Beach.

A proven competitor, Sydney is a three-time provincial champion, a Grand Prix All-Star, and has already competed at the adult beach level—a remarkable accomplishment for a then 16-year-old athlete. Her next chapter will take her to Kansas State University, where she will continue her volleyball career at the NCAA level.

Beyond her athletic accomplishments, Sydney is equally committed to giving back to the volleyball community. She dedicates her time to mentoring and coaching younger athletes through Synergy Spikes, Pakmen Camps, school programs, and Leaside Volleyball Club, inspiring the next generation of players with her passion and leadership.

Sydney McDermott represents the very essence of the Evelyn Holick Award—a true ambassador for the sport who leads with integrity, humility, and excellence both on and off the court. The OVA congratulates Sydney on this well-deserved recognition and looks forward to seeing her continued success in the years ahead.

GRAND PRIX ALL STARS 2025

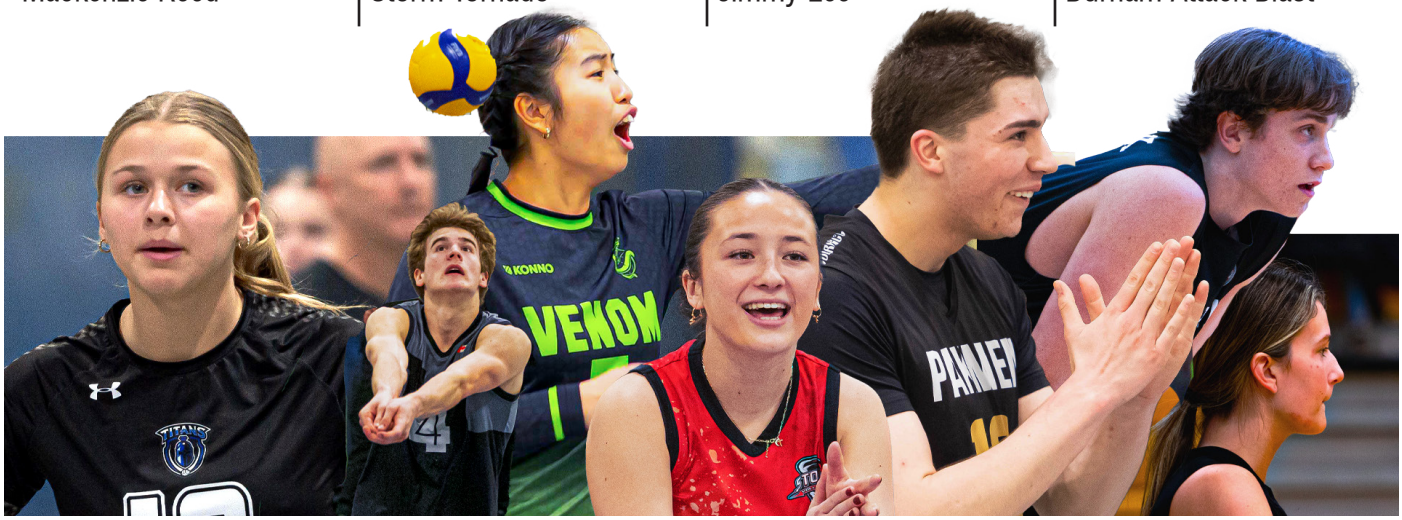
All Star Selections were made at the Grand Prix for the 16U-18U athletes and were highlighted as the OVA Grand Prix All Stars at the Ontario Championships. Congratulations to the following athletes that earned the title of Grand Prix All Star in 2025:

18U Grand Prix All Stars

Girls		Boys	
Alyssa Flack	Pakmen Gold Mike	Matthias Cooper	MAC Titanium
Roselle Mo	Reach Harmony	Seifelden Shaheen	Maverick Mustangs
Dara Obeid	Halton Hurricanes Category 7 - Jessie	Cameron Hutt	KW Preds Invictus
Megan Hunter	Reach Harmony	Daniel Lewis	Pakmen Gold Omar
Arianna Lonardi	Reach Harmony	Parker Ocampo	Pakmen Gold Jessy
Olivia Pasternak	Pakmen Gold Mike	Jamin Ekhaguere	Thundercats Bushido
Eva Lin	Reach Harmony	Justin Jamieson	Durham Attack Blast

17U Grand Prix All Stars

Girls		Boys	
Sophia Phng	Venom Viper	Seth Clubine	Durham Attack Blast
Zahahra Edwards-Wyllie	Durham Attack Intensity	Will Clarmo	Pakmen Gold Jessy
Dara Obeid	Halton Hurricanes Category 7 - Jessie	Cooper Spehr	Pakmen Gold Jessy
Isabella Zylbering	Halton Hurricanes Category 7 - Jessie	Tristan King	Maverick Rangers
Kristen Huebel	Storm Tornado	Aleksa Rakic	Pakmen Gold Jessy
Alexandra Brenner	Pakmen Gold	Mason Lange	FCVC Hyperion
Mackenzie Reed	Storm Tornado	Jimmy Lee	Durham Attack Blast



16U Grand Prix All Stars

Girls		Boys	
Sophia Phung	Venom Vipers	Julian Josephs	Venom Black Mambas
Bridget Gilday	Leaside Sparks	Sean Jin	Pakmen Black James
Li-Na Leuangthong	Storm Blizzard	Brendan McCausland	FCVC Icarus
Sophia Nepszy	SC Bandits National Spartans	Pavraj Nijjar	Pakmen Black James
Katie Laskowsy	Titans Khaos	Justin Feng	Reach Flow
Izabela Sajda	Titans Khaos	Nathan Gallagher	Scorpions Apex
Francesca Antony	Leaside Sparks	Alby Paltado	Venom Black Mambas

ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS HOST CITY SELECTION

2027–2029

Over the course of the 2024-25 season, the OVA undertook a comprehensive RFP process to select host cities for the Indoor Ontario Championships for 2027–2029. Following proposal reviews, site visits, and analysis of projected team growth through 2029, the OVA made history by selecting three host cities for the first time ever: Mississauga, Ottawa, and Waterloo.

	Waterloo RIM Park/Conestoga College/Kitchener Indoor Recreation Complex	**Ottawa** EY Centre	**Mississauga** International Centre
2027	5 events (4 weekends)	2 events	2 events
2028	5 events	4 events	-
2029	5 events	3 events	3 events

Thanks to the generous support of Visit Mississauga and Ottawa Tourism through their Major Event Funding Programs, the City of Waterloo, and Explore Waterloo Region, the OVA is well positioned to deliver the Ontario Championships for up to 2,000 teams by 2029 at some amazing venues

ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS QUICK FACTS

92,000 steps
Taken by an OVA staff during a 3-day stretch of set up of OCs.

10,560 gallons
of water used to fill the water barrels.

4,656 metres
of Sport Court tape.

108
unique event staff

357
event staff shifts

2,427
hours worked by hired event staff for OCs.

4,989
Ontario Championships matches

38,475
medals given out (both regular season and OCs).

If we laid them out it would be 15.39km which is just under 4 hours of walking.

23,783
room nights booked for the Ontario Championships.

$125,000
paid out to 101 Club Teams, that travelled more than 1,300 km (one-way), from the travel subsidy program

15,600
regular season matches

161,135 views
by 8,064 viewers on CBC Local.

504
hours of mentorship provided at Ontario Championships for the working refs.

MEMBER SATISFACTION

ONTARIO TEAMS SHINE AT 2025 INDOOR NATIONALS

Between the 14U National events and the National Championships in Edmonton, 250 Ontario teams represented the province on the national stage—accounting for just 14.8% of all participating teams. Despite this small proportion, Ontario teams delivered outstanding performances, capturing 19 of 42 Division 1, Tier 1 medals – that's 45% across all age categories. This strong showing reflects the depth of talent, quality of coaching, and dedication of Ontario's athletes, clubs, and support networks.

Nationals
Les Nationaux

DIVISION 1 TIER 1 MEDALISTS –

2025 INDOOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Category	City	Team	Medal
14UB	Ottawa	Venom Havoc	Gold
14UB	Ottawa	Pakmen Gold Carol	Silver
14UB	Winnipeg	Durham Attack Extreme	Silver
14UG	Ottawa	Pakmen Gold Andrew	Gold
14UG	Ottawa	Halton Hurricanes Category 4 Mee	Silver
14UG	Ottawa	Titans Eclipse	Bronze
14UG	Fredericton	Synergy Ultra	Silver
15UB	Edmonton	Pakmen Gold	Silver
15UG	Edmonton	Durham Attack Hydra	Gold
15UG	Edmonton	Halton Hurricanes Category 5	Bronze
16UB	Edmonton	Pakmen Gold	Gold
16UB	Edmonton	Venom Black Mambas	Bronze
16UG	Edmonton	Leaside Sparks	Silver
16UG	Edmonton	Venom Vipers	Bronze
17UB	Edmonton	Pakmen Gold Jessy	Silver
17UB	Edmonton	Durham Attack Blast	Bronze
18UB	Edmonton	Pakmen Gold Omar	Gold
18UG	Edmonton	Phoenix Legacy	Gold
18UG	Edmonton	REACH Harmony	Bronze

STRENGTHENING CLUB SUPPORT AND SYSTEM ALIGNMENT

A New Role to Serve Ontario's Clubs

The 2024–25 season marked an important step forward for the Ontario Volleyball Association with the introduction of the Club Services Manager role. This position was created to advance OVA's strategic goals of sharing best practices, strengthening system alignment, and ensuring sustainable programming across the province.

Carrie Campbell transitioned from the Indoor Competitions and Special Event Manager into this newly created position.

In its inaugural year, the focus was on discovery and collaboration. Through town halls, one-on-one meetings, and regional conversations, the OVA gathered insights into club priorities and challenges while building stronger connections across committees.

The Club Services Manager served as an active bridge between the Regional Council, Indoor Volleyball Development Committee (IVDC), and Coach Development Committee, ensuring that club perspectives informed key policy and program decisions. This collaborative approach proved especially valuable during consultations on the Sport for Life indoor competition restructure process and the annual tryout window, where member feedback helped refine timelines, policies, and communication strategies to better serve athletes, families, and clubs.

Growth and Quality

Club growth across Ontario continued this year, reflecting the province's rising interest in volleyball and the OVA's commitment to building a strong, well-supported club network.

For the 2025–26 season, ten new club applications were received, with five clubs granted official OVA status following a strengthened application and review process. This approach ensures that every new club enters the system aligned with OVA standards and prepared to deliver safe, high-quality programming.

Alongside this growth, the OVA maintained its focus on governance and accountability, overseeing policies related to insurance, membership, screening, and compliance. With participation at record levels, managing these systems and the evolving tryout process has become a year-round effort, ensuring fairness, transparency, and safety across all club environments while supporting a more sustainable and professional foundation for volleyball in Ontario.

BEACH COMPETITIONS 2024–25

A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR

The 2025 Ontario beach volleyball season set new benchmarks, underscoring a year of unprecedented growth and dynamic competition. With the OVA Beach Tour, Beach Ontario Championships (OC's), and Beach Nationals all surpassing previous participation records, the sport continues to prosper at all levels across the province.

Participation in the Beach Tour increased by 28% compared to the summer of 2024. A total of 7,915 teams competed in 160 Gold and Silver regular season tournaments, which was a 45% growth in the number of tournaments, showcasing the growing enthusiasm for beach volleyball in Ontario.

The OVA partnered with 17 local hosts to bring Gold and Silver tournaments to communities across the province, including Oakville, Toronto, Cobourg, Keswick, Milton, London, Windsor, Barrie, North Bay, Sudbury, Ottawa, Ancaster, Kincardine, Niagara, Pickering and Waterloo. Each location contributed a unique energy, fostering vibrant and welcoming environments for both players and spectators. The dedication and exceptional hospitality of our Beach Tour 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 429 referee assignments were issued, an increase of 14% from 2024. To account for an increase in tournaments and participation numbers, two Level 1 clinics were hosted in Toronto and London, leading to 32 newly certified beach referees.

Following the success of the MyTeam.Click (MTC) pilot in 2024, the platform was rolled out to all locations and events for the 2025 season. MTC was also utilized for registration, payment, playdown checks, seeding, court maps, and all operational needs on-site. Considering feedback from hosts, players and parents, staff will work closely with the developer over the upcoming year to make the platform even more powerful for the 2026 beach season.

OVA GRAND SLAM

JUNE 21-22 | ASHBRIDGES BAY

Temperatures soared to record highs down at the beach during the OVA Grand Slam over the June 20/21 weekend, but the scorching sand didn't slow down the players as fans and fellow athletes were treated to some top-level action across Ashbridges Bay, especially on the feature court.

In the men's division, the pair of Liam Espedido and Markus Law-Heese were on a different level all weekend, not dropping a set en route to a 21-14, 21-18 victory in the gold medal game.

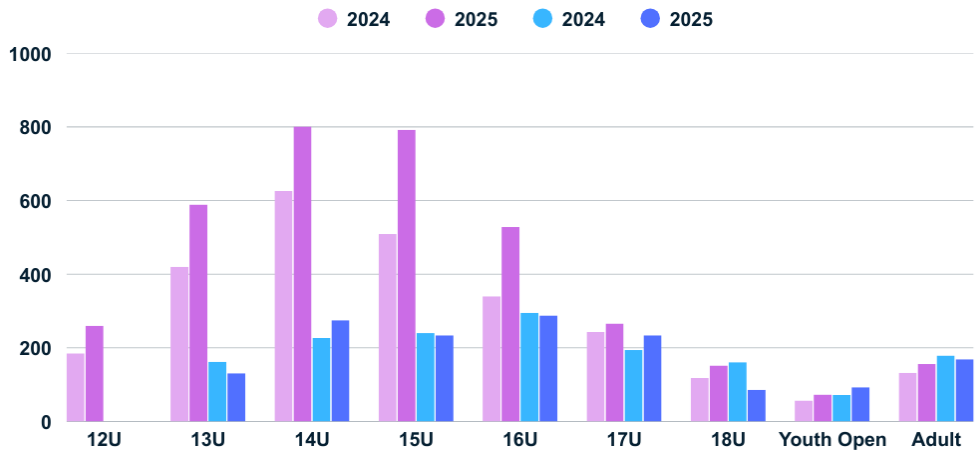
The women's bracket was dominated by another pair of Canada NextGen athletes as Marie-Alex Belanger and Lea Monkhouse cruised to a 21-15, 21-11 victory. The pair had been far and away the best team on the beach over the two days, not dropping a set and winning 15 of their 18 sets by at least 5 points.

Congratulations to the winners below that went home with a total prize purse of $15,000.

	Adult Female	Adult Male
Gold	Lea Monkhouse/Marie-Alex Belanger	Markus Law-Heese/Liam Espedido
Silver	Taija Thomas/Rhea Khol	Steven Abrams/Tynan Gannett
Bronze	Calinda Kok/Katarina Pantovic	Robert Kemp/Cameron Chadwick

NUMBER OF TEAMS

BEACH TOUR



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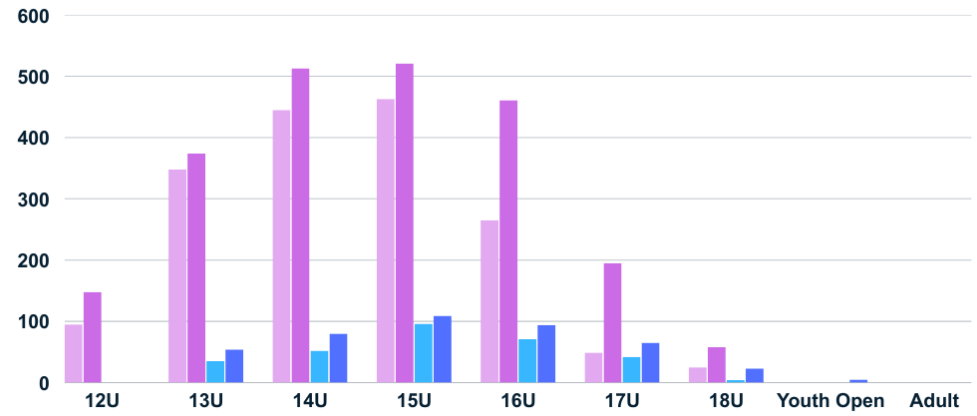


The number of teams competing on the OVA Beach Tour in 2025 increased 25% compared to the previous season, jumping from 4160 total teams to 5198.

BEACH ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025

The 2025 OVA Beach Ontario Championships (OCs) were held over two weekends at Ashbridges Bay in Toronto (August 2-3 and 9-10), and it marked the grand finale of the season. Participation surged by 30% compared to 2024, with 1,832 athletes (916 teams) competing for provincial titles.

The Championships were bigger and better this year as we continued to build on the athlete experience with new branding, a fun zone and for the first time ever, a feature court for both weekends featuring a DJ booth to pump up the atmosphere at the beach! Beach OCs also featured Crazy Hat Day and Hawaiian Shirt Theme Days to make the event more fun and engaging for all participants down at Ashbridges Bay.

Weekend 1: August 2-3

The opening weekend of the OVA Beach Ontario Championships set the tone for the event under perfect volleyball conditions across 98 courts at Ashbridges Bay. Spectators gathered to watch the younger divisions showcase impressive skills of the next generation of elite beach athletes, with the Adult Open adding a seasoned flair.

In the women's final, Mikayla Law-Heese and Ruby Sorra navigated a tough road to the final to triumph over Calinda Kok and Katarina Pantovic in an exhilarating match. Jaeya Brach and Devin Corah came back after dropping the opening set to take home the bronze.

On the men's side, the top 2 seeds met in the final with Markus Law-Heese and Liam Espedido securing gold after an uber competitive contest against Cameron Chadwick and Robert Kemp. In the bronze medal match, Anthony Degirolamo and Gregoir Mercier-Noël defeated the persistent duo of David Chaput and Cameron Mcgregor to claim the last spot on the podium. Both victorious teams were awarded $5,000 in prize money for their outstanding performances.

Weekend 2: August 9-10

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 98 courts at Ashbridges Bay, while battling the blazing sun and relentless heat.

In the Youth Open female bracket, Arianna Lonardi and Renee Shaw captured gold, while Joei Wilson and Zoe Dirisio claimed silver, and Annie Zheng and Tony Wilson secured bronze. On the men's side, Jaiden Dixon-Beason and Mason Begg earned gold, with Ian Johnson and Robbie Fay taking silver, and Rutger Huntley and Conor Dorsey rounding out the podium with bronze.

A special thank you is extended to the OVA Beach Crew, Referees, and Volunteers and Medical Staff for their hard work in ensuring a smooth and successful 2025 beach season.

Jason Senechal Memorial Award Winner 2025: Matthew McCarvell

The Ontario Volleyball Association was proud to present the 2025 Jason Senechal Memorial Award to Matthew McCarvell, recognizing an athlete who truly embodies the values of honour, fair play, and sportsmanship. Unlike other OVA awards, this distinction is uniquely meaningful as it is peer-nominated by fellow competitors from across the OVA Beach Tour, making it a powerful reflection of the respect Matthew has earned from his peers.

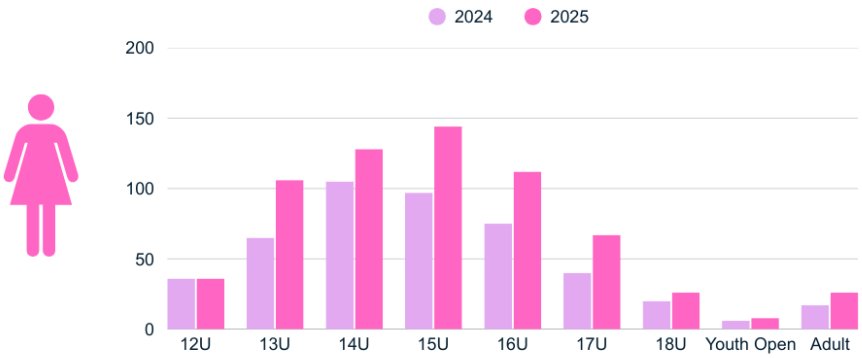
Established in memory of beach athlete Jason Senechal, who tragically passed away during an OVA Beach Tour event, the award celebrates Jason's enduring legacy both on and off the court. It recognizes athletes who mirror his character, integrity, and passion for the sport. Past recipients of this prestigious honour include Canadian National Team athletes such as Sam Schachter and Lauren Wong.

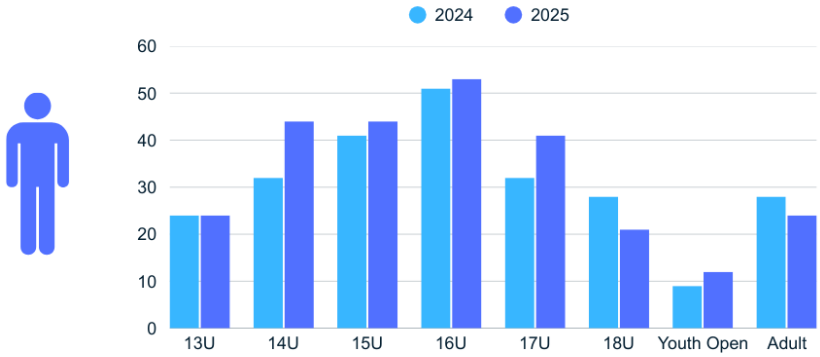
A cornerstone of Team Ontario's beach program since 2021 and a varsity athlete at Dalhousie University, Matthew McCarvell has distinguished himself as one of the province's most dedicated and accomplished young beach volleyball athletes. A two-time Canadian National Beach Volleyball Champion, he has demonstrated excellence at the highest level of competition while remaining grounded in the values that define the Jason Senechal Award.

Beyond his competitive success, Matthew is widely respected as a leader and mentor within the volleyball community. As a member of the Ontario Volleyball Athlete Council, he consistently advocates for athletes and prioritizes strong relationships, positive team culture, and personal growth alongside performance. His commitment to giving back is evident through his coaching and mentorship of younger athletes at camps and within club programs, where he fosters environments rooted in respect, inclusion, and a love for the game. Matthew's impact extends far beyond the scoreboard, and his selection as the 2025 Jason Senechal Memorial Award recipient is a fitting tribute to both his character and his contributions to Ontario volleyball.

BEACH ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS NUMBER OF TEAMS

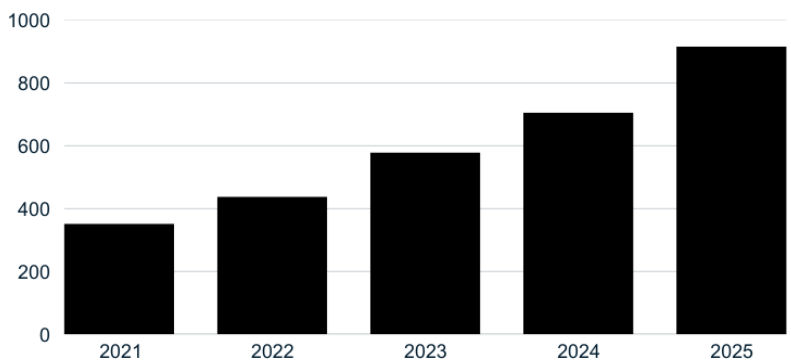
2025





BEACH ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS TOTAL NUMBER OF TEAMS

2021–2025



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Teams in 2025

Beach Ontario Championships experienced a 30% growth over 2024 with 916 teams competing over 4 days of competition.

SURVEY SAYS...

Super fun day- really appreciated the work that went into it. I love the Instagram presence and all the pictures of the kids enjoying.

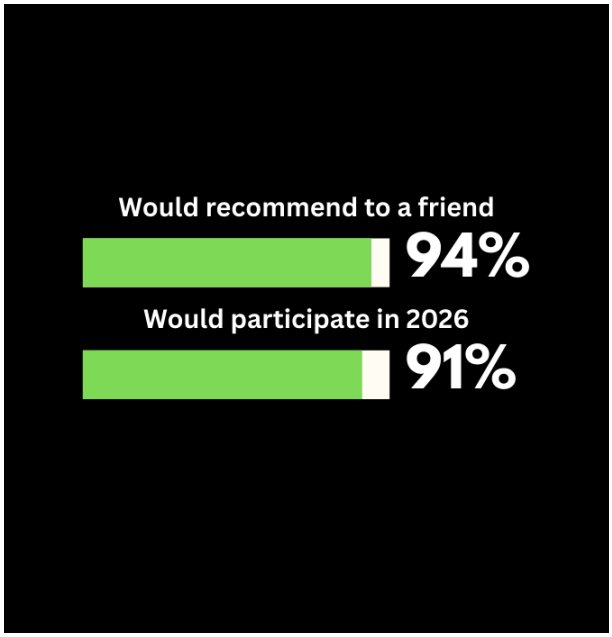
The atmosphere, the courts were great, the music was good, the speed of posting pictures and results. The medals were great.

Our first year and loved it! Thank you to everyone who made it possible!

Everyone has a blast. The music. The laughs. The sportsmanship. Seeing parents and kids from other teams- it's awesome.

The atmosphere amongst players and parents. I love the players refereeing themselves. I like the comradery, the helpfulness of opposing parents. After a busy court season, it felt much more relaxed and fun for our athletes. If we parents have to spend all summer driving to more tourneys, give us the sun and beach too!

Just the great vibe every tournament. We had our wins and losses this season. But there were very few that me and my partner were upset. Games were much more upbeat, exciting, and respectful.



MEMBER SATISFACTION

DIVISION MEDALISTS – GIRLS

2025 BEACH ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS

Category	Division	Gold	Silver	Bronze
12U	**Premier**	**L.Houben/H.Bartlett**	**C.Brenner/K.Greaves**	**A.Di Salvo/G.Khoury**
	Championship	O.Carney/F.Quiros	C.Du/S.Sun	P.Lang/E.Harris
	Challenger	K.He/D.Cai	K.Sun/A.De Freitas	C.Atchison/R.Mancuso
13U	**D1 T1**	**M.Steinmann/J.Xu**	**L.Gilday/H.Yuan**	**K.Deuster/O.Turner**
	D1 T2	K.Anderson/L.Maldonado	K.Tsai/S.Phung	S.Hipolito/O.Reuvers
	D2 T1	O.Magarvey/L.Furtado	R.Bellchamber/M.Jarabe	L.Mazahreh/O.Martin
	D2 T2	A.Kucharski/M.Butler	E.Duggan/C.Moorhouse	Earnshaw/Brinkman
	D3 T1	P.Kittask/D.Poag	G.Mckenzie/S.Robb	K.Greaves/A.Di Salvo
	D3 T2	S.Milligan/A.Ranu	E.Bowes/D.Fagon	K.Dang/O.Vergara
	D4 T1	D.Dogru/M.Ashcroft	B.Arcila/I.Gillis	C.Lee/C.Lee
14U	**D1 T1**	**S.Abdelrazak/K.Kottoor**	**O.Chung/D.Wilson**	**S.Shen/X.Wei**
	D1 T2	J.Alves/T.Chowdhury	I.Chiu/C.Chevalier	Q.Howell/S.Johnston
	D2 T1	E.Labrie-Sharif/A.Gavva	M.Kostecki/M.Slaz	R.Colla Oliveira/M.Sowunmi
	D2T2	I.Julongbayan/B.Song	A.Culin/S.Gore	L.Mccabe/C.Fitzgerald

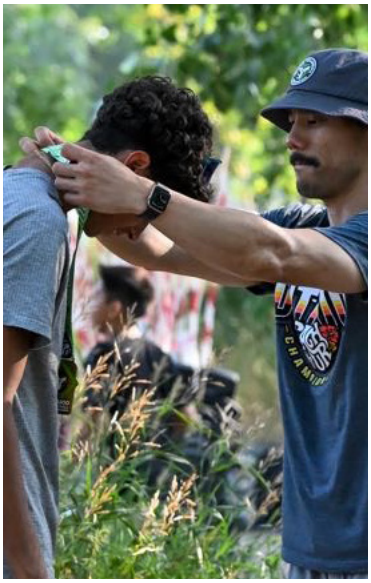
Category	Division	Gold	Silver	Bronze
	D3 T1	E.Pluimers/K.Windsor	B.Kazimierczak/K.Konkol	G.Jackman/S.Kohler
	D3 T2	L.Robinson/A.Livingstone	S.Maric/C.Steyners	C.Cadieux/N.O'grady
	D4 T1	M.Viray/J.Zhou	O.Friesen/A.Figueroa	C.Gao/E.Liang
	D4 T2	R.Chiu/A.Kirk	L.Yusuf/A.Gabriel	V.Dewey/E.Luong
15U	**D1 T1**	**A.Young/V.Vargas**	**S.Abdelrazak/Z.Biss-Mantziounis**	**O.Chung/K.Kottoor**
	D1 T2	K.Nguyen/A.Szymanowski	J.Dosanjh/I.Savescu	M.Cachuela/S.Randhawa
	D2 T1	D.Polasek/E.Schad	E.Stankova/S.Mckinnon	G.Hallman/A.Pressey
	D2 T2	M.Tsen/S.Tong	A.Petican/P.Petican	O.Mscichowski/V.Villa
	D3 T1	C.Whiting/C.Dietz	O.Harvey/A.Nianzou	Q.Howell/S.Johnston
	D3 T2	H.Claus/C.Evans	A.Xu/N.Simpson	L.Abualia/M.Tran
	D4 T1	L.Payne/D.Paponette	M.Lin/L.Muinuddin	H.Peddle/P.Taylor
	D4 T2	N.Griffiths/A.Lamanna	D.Luo/V.Lu	M.Mcgahon/L.Lewis
	D5 T1	E.Pluimers/K.Windsor	N.Li/N.Li	A.Moussadji/E.Moussadji
	D5 T2	E.Humanski/S.Deshpande	R.Katschio/A.Clark	L.Choy/L.Tsang
16U	**D1 T1**	**L.Arseneault/E.Mikina**	**H.Hage/M.Mccann**	**M.Gortnar/A.Kasprzak**
	D1 T2	A.Thibeau/N.Lulic	R.Provost/T.Meredith	S.Gatto/E.Hammond
	D2 T1	L.Soulliere/L.Godfrey	T.Debruyn/P.Mccrimmon	J.Ouellette/H.Triff
	D2 T2	A.Grieve/E.Card	G.Orlicki/M.Costa	M.Earthy/S.Palmer
	D3 T1	L.Brygidyr/C.Kribs	G.Hallman/A.Pressey	E.Culin/E.Scott
	D3 T2	B.Bullock/A.Adamo	H.Veljanovski/C.Pumford	A.Adema/S.Solomon
	D4 T1	E.Moua/S.Rocca	V.Burton/P.Taylor	E.Martins/S.Suzuki
	D4 T2	G.Zhou/N.Chen	H.Hawkins/K.Elmy	B.Reeves/A.Parish
17U	**D1 T1**	**H.Schad/T.Slean**	**S.Bates/C.Frost**	**H.Hage/M.McCann**
	D1 T2	A.Elattar/A.Dedman	S.Mastronardi/S.Mastronardi	I.Larabie/A.Floras
	D2 T1	H.Hashemzaei/H.Mclennan	J.Warren/Z.Edwards-Wyllie	E.Burke/N.Lulic
	D2 T2	L.Warrilow/J.Clark	L.Kupka/D.Britto Silva	C.Bernard/E.Grayson
18U	**D1 T1**	**K.Digregorio/Z.Dirisio**	**H.Schad/T.Slean**	**M.Dioso-Lopez/T.Wilson**
	D1 T2	B.Webb/D.Aniolowska	K.Martin/A.Ersu	O.Woolley/S.Wojnicki
Youth Open	**D1 T1**	**A.Lonardi/R.Shaw**	**J.Wilson/Z.Dirisio**	**A.Zheng/T.Wilson**
Adult	**D1 T1**	**M.Law-Heese/R.Sorra**	**C.Kok/K.Pantovic**	**J.Brach/D.Corah**
	D1 T2	A.Grewal/A.Ozee	A.Lonardi/M.Slapnicar	H.Bellai/K.Urbanovich

DIVISION MEDALISTS – BOYS

2025 BEACH ONTARIO CHAMPIONSHIPS

Category	Division	Gold	Silver	Bronze
13U	**Premier**	**E.Onate/J.Yu**	**M.Tang/H.Hakrama-Salas**	**T.Chang/J.Cheeseman**
	Championship	M.Ljubicic/C.Perri	S.Gabanzo/L.Denarda	K.Mathur/B.Mathur
14U	**D1 T1**	**N.Ljubicic/N.Ivkovic**	**L.Arminio/T.Mancini**	**J.He/J.Fao-Anan**
	D1 T2	A.Kavanagh/S.Kavanagh	R.Song/B.Lee	L.Ke/A.Wang
	D2 T1	M.Skopek/A.Rahman	E.Boychuk/E.Jennings	H.Zhang/A.Aydiner
	D2T2	O.Wong/G.Ou	A.Holden/K.Robichaud	L.Chauder/M.Kranenburg
15U	**D1 T1**	**G.Lisikh/J.Plechowski**	**A.Nat/Y.Elsayed**	**G.Purkis/M.Vargyas**
	D1 T2	O.Row/S.Gies	J.He/J.Fao-Anan	N.Mckenzie/K.Huntley
	D2 T1	EN.Chan/N.Ojero	C.Nguyen/L.Le Quéré	K.Grifa/R.Jeffery
16U	**D1 T1**	**Z.Mcgrath/J.Lopez**	**A.Pook/M.Rajtar**	**M.Kolodziej/M.Zorzetto**
	D1 T2	H.Bonney/I.Snisar	E.Desrosiers/T.Mcintosh	S.Moore/E.Bourne
	D2 T1	N.Gallaugher/D.Vandenheuvel	J.Hwang/J.Josephs	B.Young/N.Chan
	D2 T2	E.Balanza-Webster/N.Luong	R.Gangwar/A.Modi	K.Hager/N.Banerjee

Category	Division	Gold	Silver	Bronze
17U	**D1 T1**	**C.Gunn/B.Charles**	**B.Kim/A.Allen**	**T.King/O.Tremblay**
	D1 T2	K.Morse/J.Hoff	N.Truong/G.Teague	C.Hand/A.Macneil
	D2 T1	C.Gibson/J.Lopez	D.Yang/J.Dafe	R.Kobe/E.Saunders
18U	**D1 T1**	**A.Rakic/M.Panasiouk**	**M.Begg/R.Reed**	**I.Johnson/R.Fay**
	D1 T2	S.Garvey/R.Huntley	R.Kobe/E.Saunders	R.Koskela/G.Goodwin
Youth Open	**D1 T1**	**J.Dixon-Beason/M.Begg**	**I.Johnson/R.Fay**	**R.Huntley/C.Dorsey**
Adult	**D1 T1**	**M.Law-Heese/L.Espedido**	**C.Chadwick/R.Kemp**	**A.Degirolamo/G.Mercier-Noël**
	D1 T2	J.Jouan/Y.Elsayed	L.Dallan/T.Engel	N.Losier/A.Mesgar



NATIONAL BEACH CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2025 Beach Nationals in Toronto showcased youth age groups from 14U to 18U, Youth Open and the Senior division, spanning an impressive 101 courts at Ashbridges Bay. A total of 331 teams competed, with Ontario well represented, accounting for 53% of the teams (176 in total) and winning 60 out of the 92 available medals (65%).

The Senior event featured a $26,000 prize purse, with Ontario's Molly McBain and Kelsey Veltman triumphing in the Senior Women's Division. The British Colombia duo of Akash Grewal and Amy Ozee took second place, while Ontario's Mikayla Law-Heese and Ruby Sorra secured third.

In the Senior Men's Division, Ontario's Dylan Devesceri / Rouzbeh Rahnavard took home gold and De Greeff/Gannett took silver.
Ontario teams made a remarkable showing at the Nationals, with 11 teams finishing first in their respective age divisions, proudly representing the province. In total, Ontario athletes took home 31 golds, 20 silver and 9 bronze medals across all age divisions and tiers. Congratulations to all of the Ontario teams for their exceptional performances!

DIVISION MEDALISTS –
2025 BEACH NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Category	Tier	Name	Medal
14UB	1	Droppert/Geddes	Gold
14UB	1	He/Fao-Anan	Silver
14UB	2	Arminio/Mancini	Bronze
14UG	1	Wilson/Lange	Gold
14UG	1	Rutter/Sinclair-Killackey	Silver
14UG	2	Gilday/Simmonds	Gold
14UG	2	Turner/Zeng	Silver
14UG	3	Ng/Muinuddin	Gold
14UG	3	Worobec/Dick	Silver
14UG	4	DiPaulo/Mahoney	Gold
14UG	5	Levit/Konovalova	Gold
14UG	5	Holliday/Macintosh	Silver
15UB	1	Lisikh/Plechowski	Gold
15UB	1	Wallace/Lackovic	Silver
15UB	1	Purkis/Vargyas	Bronze
15UB	2	Hannah/Dayao	Gold
15UG	1	Biss-Mantziounis/Spehr	Gold
15UG	1	Vargas/Young	Silver
15UG	1	Abdelrazak/Kottoor	Bronze
15UG	2	Maars/Goela	Gold

Category	Tier	Name	Medal
15UG	3	Cressman/Juan	Silver
15UG	3	Morden/Whiting	Gold
15UG	3	Evans/Claus	Silver
16UB	1	McGrath/Lopez	Gold
16UB	2	Morse/DiGregorio	Gold
16UB	3	Hammell/McManus	Silver
16UB	4	Green/Ford	Gold
16UB	4	Johnston/Antler-Lake	Silver
16UG	1	Gortnar/Kasprzak	Gold
16UG	1	Hage/McCann	Silver
16UG	1	Mikina/Arsenault	Bronze
16UG	2	Meyer/Tusek	Silver
16UG	4	Chios/Peneva	Gold
16UG	5	Nagel/Reeves	Gold
16UG	6	Egan/Edwards	Gold
16UG	6	McLean/Millar	Silver
16UG	7	Di Mira/Cunha	Gold
17UB	1	Gunn/Charles	Silver
17UB	1	King/Tremblay	Bronze
17UB	3	Scott/Morrow	Gold
17UB	4	Wiersma/Kaminski	Gold
17UB	4	Nicholas/Smith	Silver
17UG	1	Boutanos/Chipman	Gold
17UG	1	Bates/Frost	Silver
17UG	2	Martin/Brydges	Gold
17UG	2	Woolley/Wojnicki	Silver
17UG	3	Morden/Hartley	Gold
17UG	4	Mastronardi/Mastronardi	Gold
18UB	1	Adams / Moses-Yi	Bronze
18UB	2	Buchanan/Lafond	Gold
18UB	2	Forte/Carr	Silver
18UG	1	Shaw/Wilson	Gold
18UG	2	Will/Will	Gold
Youth Open (M)	1	Droppert/Heider	Gold
Youth Open (M)	1	Johnson/Fay	Silver
Youth Open (M)	1	McCarvell/Morrison	Bronze
Youth Open (W)	1	Chestak/Dioso-Lopez	Gold
Adult (M)	1	Rahnavard/Devesceri	Bronze
Adult (W)	1	McBain/Veltman	Gold
Adult (W)	1	Law-Heese/Sorra	Bronze

ASHBRIDGES BAY BEACH VOLLEYBALL

The Ontario Volleyball Association marked another standout season in 2025 at the Ashbridges Bay Beach Volleyball League (ABBV). As North America's largest beach volleyball league, ABBV continues to deliver high-quality programming for players of all skill levels—from recreational participants to competitive athletes—across a diverse range of formats.

The 2025 season saw an overall 8.05% increase in team registrations, growing from 969 teams in 2024 to 1,047 teams. This included notable growth in several divisions, such as Men's 2s (+23.8%), Coed 2s (+52.7%), Intermediate 4s (+10.6%), Intermediate 6s (+13.8%), and Recreational 6s (+9.9%). While some divisions, such as Women's 2s, were paused for the season, overall participation continued to rise, with 4,854 players registered—an increase of 356 participants compared to 2024.

These results reflect the continued popularity of ABBV and its role as a premier destination for beach volleyball in Ontario, offering accessible, community-driven competition throughout the spring to early fall.

Spring

The Spring season saw significant growth across several key metrics, highlighting the continued momentum of the program. The number of registered teams increased by 19.1%, rising from 344 in 2024 to 410 in 2025, while overall participation (excluding Mix & Match events) surged by an impressive 20.24%, reaching 713 athletes. Participant feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with 97.32% indicating they would recommend the program to a friend, underscoring the program's strong community engagement and quality experience for players at all levels.

Mix & Match League

Although we saw a decrease of 81 participants (36%) in Mix & Match Programming due to offering only 1 season in the spring, we were able to increase summer team registrations to increase overall participant rates at the beach.

Summer

Summer leagues demonstrate steady growth and strong participant satisfaction throughout the 2025 season. The league saw a 2.7% increase in team registration, growing from 510 teams in 2024 to 524 in 2025, along with a 1.65% rise in total participation, reaching 2,452 athletes. Participant feedback remained overwhelmingly positive, with 98.2% indicating they would recommend ABBV to a friend and 97.1% expressing interest in returning next season, reflecting the league's continued success in delivering a high-quality and engaging experience for all players.

Fall

The 2025 Fall League at Ashbridges Bay saw participation stabilize following several years of growth. A total of 113 teams took part, compared to 148 teams in 2024, representing a 23.6% decrease in team entries. Despite this, overall participation remained strong, with 496 athletes registered—just a 1.7% decrease from the previous year—reflecting continued interest and engagement in the league's month-long fall season.

YOUTH SANCTIONED CAMPS

The 2025 Ashbridges Bay Youth Sanctioned program experienced strong participation, welcoming over 2,140 youth athletes across 8 clubs. This highlights the Ontario Volleyball Association's commitment to providing meaningful opportunities for young athletes to develop their skills, foster teamwork, and experience the excitement of competitive beach volleyball in a supportive environment.

Participating Clubs

Phoenix Volleyball Club
Shockwave
Northern Elite
Galaxy Volleyball Club
416 Volleyball Club
Land and Sand
Compete

PICKERING

The Pickering Beach location saw continued development in 2025, with several important upgrades and partnerships helping to maintain its value as a key OVA beach venue. While there was no weekday service provider at the facility this season, OnPoint Beach Volleyball successfully delivered five OVA Beach Tour Silver events on weekends, welcoming a total of 87 teams. The site also received improvements, including a top-up of sand, installation of new net posts, and refreshed perimeter meshing. Looking ahead to 2026, the OVA aims to expand usage of the facility, with a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) planned for a service provider during the offseason.

HORSESHOE VALLEY

Horseshoe Beach continued to thrive in 2025 under the management of OnPoint Beach Volleyball as the site's service provider. The venue hosted a wide range of programming, including adult recreational leagues with 33 teams and youth clinic and training nights that engaged 68 participants. Horseshoe also served as a key stop on the OVA Beach Tour, hosting 12 Silver events that attracted 267 teams throughout the season. To support high-quality play, the courts received a sand top-up at the start of the year, ensuring excellent conditions for athletes and participants.

ONPOINT ATHLETICS

INCLUSIVITY & ADAPTIVE SPORT

2025 was a landmark year for the expansion of Sitting Volleyball and inclusive programming across Ontario. Building on partnerships with ParaSport Ontario, Durham College, Ontario Tech University, and other community organizations, the OVA increased both participation and awareness of adaptive volleyball at the recreational, collegiate, and high-performance levels.

Program Growth & Highlights

- Over 100 athletes and volunteers participated in the Sitting Volleyball competition at the 2025 Ontario Parasport Games at Brock University.
- Canadian women's sitting volleyball athlete and ParaSport Ontario ambassador Jolan Wong received Pembroke's Key to the City on October 13, 2025.
- The Renfrew County District School Board introduced Sitting Volleyball in 15 schools through a project led by Jolan Wong, with equipment support from the OVA and ParaSport Ontario.
- The OVA partnered with Durham College and Ontario Tech University to host the first Ontario Post-Secondary Sitting Volleyball Invitational, featuring teams from U of T, Humber, McMaster, Waterloo, and Durham.
- Community demonstrations at Variety Village, The Good Games, and other regional events expanded adaptive volleyball visibility across Ontario.
- Free Sitting Volleyball sessions at Durham College engaged over 200 students and staff, delivered in collaboration with ParaSport Ontario.
- The inaugural Team Ontario Sitting Camp was held at Durham College in June 2025.
- The OVA helped coordinate the Variety Village Multi-Sport Tournament, featuring four Sitting Volleyball teams and open play sessions for participants and families.

Durham College & Ontario Tech Host First Sitting Volleyball Invitational

On March 6, 2025, history was made at Durham College and Ontario Tech University. For the first time, Ontario post-secondary institutions hosted a Sitting Volleyball Invitational, bringing together student-athletes from across the province. Teams from U of T, Humber, McMaster, Waterloo, and Durham battled on the court, while Brock and Niagara worked to support teams that were short players by joining their rosters.

Students packed the stands, cheering for post-secondary teams who were training over the course of the academic year and competing in Sitting Volleyball at this level for the first time. Coaches noted how quickly the athletes adapted, and the competition revealed the sport's potential at the collegiate level. Media coverage, shared videos, and photos amplified the event's reach, sparking conversations across campuses with plans for expansion in 2026.

The Invitational doubled as the launchpad for Team Ontario Sitting, OVA's newest high-performance pathway. By embedding Sitting Volleyball into the education system, OVA and its partners are creating sustainable pipelines for growth. Durham College has already committed to hosting again in 2026, ensuring that the legacy of this first tournament will only continue to grow with the strong partnership between the Colleges/Universities, ParaSport Ontario and the OVA.

Sitting Volleyball at the Ontario Parasport Games

The air was electric at Brock University on June 1st, 2025, as the Ontario Parasport Games hosted its Sitting Volleyball competition. Athletes, coaches, and families filled the venue, cheering as Ontario's top community teams went head-to-head in matches that proved both thrilling and inspiring.

The results told a new story for adaptive sport: for the first time, the podium featured no current national team athletes. Team Aria struck gold, Dorset Park took silver, and Team MQ claimed bronze—a sign that the sport is growing stronger at the grassroots level.

Beyond medals, the Games highlighted the inclusivity of volleyball. Over 100 athletes and volunteers took part, while CBC Connect livestreams brought the action to thousands more across the province. For many spectators, it was their first time witnessing Sitting Volleyball—and the energy of the matches left a lasting impression. In addition, the gold medal team was comprised of 100% newcomers to Canada.

Congratulations to all teams that competed in 2025. The final standings for the Games were:

- Team Aria
- Dorset Park
- Team MQ
- Durham College
- Killer Bees
- Durham Attack

The Parasport Games were more than a competition; they were a declaration that volleyball in Ontario truly is for everyone, regardless of ability.

Niagara 2025

Ontario Parasport Games

Jeux Parasport de l'Ontario

GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT

The Ontario Volleyball Association's achievements this year are deeply rooted in the strength and dedication of its member clubs. Across the province, these clubs form the foundation of the volleyball ecosystem by nurturing young athletes, supporting families, and providing inclusive environments for players of all ages and abilities. From first touches in Smashball programs to the transition into development and house leagues, OVA clubs are where passion for volleyball begins and community bonds are built.

Their efforts extend beyond indoor competition, helping to grow the province's thriving beach and sitting volleyball programs. On the sand, OVA clubs cultivate a new generation of athletes who learn teamwork, resilience, and sportsmanship in Ontario's signature summer sport. In sitting volleyball, clubs are breaking barriers by creating accessible and inclusive spaces for athletes with disabilities to play, compete, and represent their communities with pride.

As the OVA continues to expand participation and promote excellence, the leadership and volunteerism of our member clubs remain the heartbeat of volleyball in Ontario - driving growth at every level and ensuring the sport's future stays vibrant, inclusive, and united.

In 2025, Ontario Volleyball's Grassroots programs i.e. Spikes, Spikes on the Beach, and Smashball experienced another year of growth, both in participation and coach involvement.

The OVA supported a total of 2,822 youth participants in grassroots programs in the 2025 season, an increase from 2,352 in 2024. In addition to growing participation, coach involvement saw a marked improvement. The number of coaches rose from 322 in 2024 to 386 in 2025, demonstrating a deepening commitment to quality instruction and mentorship within communities.

Grassroots programming was offered in more locations, including Barrie, Brampton, Brantford, Cambridge, Creemore, Etobicoke, Milton, Mississauga, Niagara, Ottawa Valley, Pembroke, Sarnia, Sioux Lookout, and Parry Sound.

These initiatives continue to play a critical role in the volleyball ecosystem by introducing kids to the sport in a fun, inclusive, and supportive environment - ensuring the future of volleyball in Ontario is bright, connected, and community-driven.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & SOCIAL IMPACT

Grassroots volleyball reached new communities and age groups in 2025 through innovative partnerships and grant-supported programs. By integrating volleyball into schools, camps, and community centres, the OVA extended access to children and families who might otherwise be excluded from organized sport.

These programs showcase volleyball's potential to break down barriers to participation—social, economic, and geographic—and affirm the OVA's mission to make volleyball accessible to

Jumpstart Grant Brings Smashball and Sitting Volleyball to Toronto Communities

Thanks to a Canadian Tire Jumpstart grant and partnership with Toronto Community Housing (TCH), over 60 youth from high-priority Toronto communities experienced Smashball and Sitting Volleyball for the first time.

Led by former Team Ontario Beach coach Willians Herrada, camp and weekday sessions introduced new skills through fun, jamboree-style play that built teamwork, confidence, and joy. Parents and community leaders saw kids—many new to sport—develop pride, connection, and enthusiasm.

This initiative highlighted volleyball's power to break down barriers, create safe, positive spaces, and strengthen communities through grassroots sport.

Heatwave for SickKids Returns to Ashbridges and GTA

The OVA was proud to support the return of the SickKids Heatwave charity volleyball events by loaning equipment, providing prizing and promoting the tournaments to OVA members through advertising and marketing channels. For the OVA, Heatwave represents the heart of volleyball's reach beyond the lines of the court. By supporting events like this, we demonstrate that our sport can do more than engage athletes — it can inspire communities to come together in support of children's health. Each serve and spike contributes to a larger story about hope, wellness, and the positive power of sport.

Building Inclusive Sport:
Partnership with Our Spectrum Sports and Pride Capital

Following initial outreach at the 2024 Ontario Championships, the OVA and Our Spectrum Sports launched weekly training sessions in spring 2025, culminating in a tournament that welcomed six adult beginner teams from Cambridge, Kitchener, and Waterloo. The event celebrated safety, support, and belonging—showing that everyone has a place in volleyball.

Meanwhile, Pride Capital, Ontario's most active LGBTQ2S+ volleyball league, joined the Fall Classic at the EY Centre to connect with Ottawa members and contributed to the Ontario Volleyball Connect (OVC) pilot, helping ensure LGBTQ2S+ visibility within the sport's digital ecosystem.

These partnerships reaffirm the OVA's belief that diversity, equity, and inclusion are essential to volleyball's growth and impact across Ontario.

Ontario Volleyball Connect:
A Digital Transformation for Volleyball in Ontario

March 2025 marked a major milestone for the Ontario Volleyball Association with the official launch of Ontario Volleyball Connect (OVC)—a game-changing digital platform designed to modernize how volleyball is delivered, discovered, and managed across the province.

Developed through extensive consultation with clubs, program providers, and administrators, OVC was created to serve as both a discovery tool for families and athletes and a management system for organizations. Parents searching for youth programs, adults looking for leagues, and providers aiming to grow their reach can now connect in one centralized hub—open to both OVA and non-OVA members.

The platform's integrated tools streamline every aspect of program delivery, including:

- Customizable registration forms and digital waivers
- Automated waitlists and payment processing
- Built-in communication and notification features
- Marketplace visibility for OVA and non-OVA programs alike

Through these features, OVC delivers significant administrative time savings, enhances participant communication, and simplifies the registration process for families.

Within just six weeks of launch, OVC became Ontario's most-visited volleyball website, surpassing the OVA's main site in Google search rankings. Early adoption exceeded expectations, with dozens of clubs and independent providers joining during the pilot phase. Feedback from administrators highlighted improvements in efficiency and reach, while users praised the platform's ease of use and accessibility.

Beyond its immediate success, OVC represents a long-term investment in accessibility, transparency, and operational efficiency. By reducing administrative burdens and broadening the sport's digital reach, OVC is strengthening member engagement and expanding opportunities for growth at every level of the game.

The platform is a commitment to ensuring that volleyball in Ontario is easier to access, easier to manage, and easier to grow.

ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT

TEAM ONTARIO Volleyball

QUEST FOR GOLD

The Ontario Volleyball Association extends its sincere gratitude to the Ministry of Sport for its continued support through the Quest for Gold program. This investment has been instrumental in advancing opportunities for both athletes and coaches across Ontario.

With Quest for Gold support, the OVA strengthened the Canada Games program, expanded international development through March Break Beach training activities, and provided direct athlete assistance to participants in the Women's National Excellence Program. Funding also supported coach development and enhanced training environments, ensuring Ontario athletes and coaches are prepared for success at the highest levels.

The OVA is proud to acknowledge that the success of our programs is made possible through this partnership, and we thank the Ministry for helping Ontario athletes and coaches reach new heights.

Ontario

ATHLETE IDENTIFICATION & SELECTION

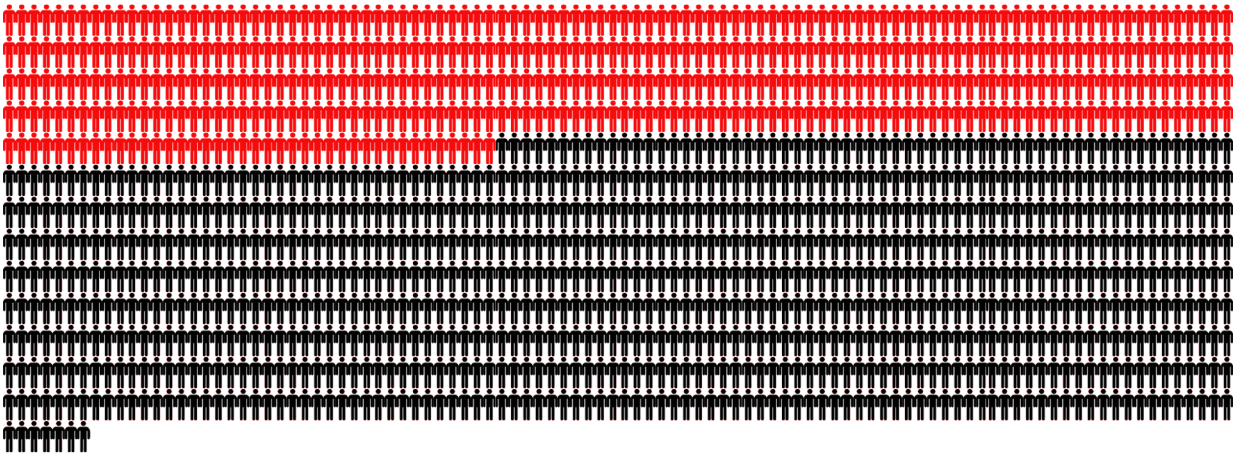
The 2025 Team Ontario athlete identification process combined an extensive online application system with in-person evaluation at RIM Park and the EY Centre during the Ontario Championships. This approach ensured that athletes from across the province were able to participate, regardless of location. The process supported both indoor and beach programs, broadening the reach of Team Ontario identification across disciplines.

The application closed on March 2, 2025, with Team Ontario coaches beginning evaluations of submitted videos. In total, more than 40 coaches contributed to the process, reviewing 1,307 applications and providing a thorough, province-wide identification effort.

At Ontario Championships, these evaluations continued courtside as coaches assessed athletes in live competition. More than 1,200 athletes completed physical testing on site Ontario Championships, measuring height, standing reach, spike touch, and attack velocity.

By early May, 436 athletes were selected for Team Ontario's 2025 indoor and integrated programs. For beach, 74 athletes were invited to the in-person identification camp and 42 were ultimately selected for programming opportunities.

This process reflects both the scale and quality of the Team Ontario pathway, ensuring a comprehensive evaluation that provides opportunities to a wide pool of athletes while building strong rosters for each program.



Athlee selected to Team Ontario programming

TEAM ONTARIO REGIONAL PROGRAM

The 2025 Team Ontario Regional Program (TORP) brought together 192 athletes (72 boys and 120 girls) for a week of high-performance training and competition. The program ran from June 29 to July 5 at the University of Guelph and featured five days of training followed by the Team Ontario Regional Cup.

Athletes participated in a balanced schedule of indoor and beach volleyball, with four on-court sessions in each discipline. Training was complemented by nine off-court sessions that addressed a broad range of topics, including strength and conditioning, leadership, safe sport, team bonding, and pathways to post-secondary volleyball.

The program also included the annual Goose Chase scavenger hunt, designed and led by Team Ontario coaches as a team-building activity. The week concluded with the two-day Team Ontario Regional Cup, where athletes applied training concepts in a competitive environment. Over the course of the event, 53 matches were played, providing a meaningful opportunity for athletes to compete and test their development from the week.

None of this would be possible without the leadership of 32 team coaches and 4 mentor coaches, who guided athletes both on and off the court. Together, they created an environment that pushed athletes to grow as players and as people, capturing the spirit of what it means to be part of Team Ontario.

TEAM ONTARIO REGIONAL PROGRAM ROSTER

Girls

Salma Abdelrazak	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Sophia Alfieri	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Olivia Anthony	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Hannah Aoun	South County Bandits
Ruby Appel	Leaside Volleyball
Laikyn Aspin	North Bay Jr. Lakers Volleyball
Lily Ballinger	Lanark United Volleyball Club
Malin Beaver	Georgetown Impact
Ariana Bettinson	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Mya Bezzoubkin	South County Bandits
Serena Bourbara	EVP - Elite Volleyball Player Inc.
Sarah Buchanan	Chatham Ballhawks Volleyball Club
Maria Castillo	Grimsby Volleyball Association
Nicole Cerovac	Mountain Volleyball club
Cara Violet Cheam	Titans Volleyball Association
Stefanie Chyzyk	Maverick Volleyball Club
Abby Coles	Forest City Volleyball Club
Rafaela Colla Oliveira	Durham Rebels Volleyball Club
Emily Cox	Storm Volleyball
Lauren Cutaia	Defensa Volleyball Club
Ella Czerczak	Titans Volleyball Association
Claire Dearden	Defensa Volleyball Club
Emma Demarchi	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Gracie Denouden	Georgian Cubs Volleyball Club
Rafael Devries	Mountain Volleyball club
Lily Dick	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Alyssa Donaldson	Mountain Volleyball club
Charlotte Dwyne	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Aubrey Evans	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Chloe Farrell	Durham Rebels Volleyball Club
Paige Fauser	Titans Volleyball Association
Chloe Ferreira	Storm Volleyball
Clare Fitzgerald	Maverick Volleyball Club
Lily Gascon	Superior North Volleyball Club
Kristal Gaudet	Kingston Rock Volleyball Club
Amelia Gavva	Storm Volleyball
Emmerson Graham	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Natalie Haddad	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Addyson Harney	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Lauren Hartleib	Waterloo Volleyball Club
Naomi Hartley	Kingston Rock Volleyball Club
Rachel Higuchi	Ottawa Fusion Volleyball Club
Peyton Horvath	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Chloe Hou	Forest City Volleyball Club
Quinn Howell	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Alexandra-Rose Igbinovia	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Sophia Iliadis	Durham Rebels Volleyball Club
Melania Ivanov	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Mia Ivanov	Maverick Volleyball Club
Gracie Jackman	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Malia Jefferies	Titans Volleyball Association
Eliana Jin	Storm Volleyball
Shae Johnston	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Raenee Jones	Durham Rebels Volleyball Club
Raequel Jones	Durham Rebels Volleyball Club
Zunairah Khan	Milton Youth Volleyball Club
Jade King	Maverick Volleyball Club
Sierra Kohler	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Katrina Kottoor	Leaside Volleyball
Elise Labrie-Sharif	Storm Volleyball
Amelie Latour	Georgian Cubs Volleyball Club
Khloe Le	Thundercats Volleyball
Emma Lee	REACH Volleyball Club
Mia Lemke	Centre Hastings Volleyball Academy
Layla Lester	Hummingbird Volleyball Club
Sophia Li	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Jasmine Liang	REACH Volleyball Club
Sharon Liao	Titans Volleyball Association
Mae MacFarlane	South County Bandits
Lilly Macintosh	Mountain Volleyball club
Hala Mahfouz	Defensa Volleyball Club
Sophie Marshall	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Sienna Maytham	South County Bandits
Edith Mekontchou	Mountain Volleyball club
Layla Merella	Synergy Volleyball
Laure Miller	Georgian Cubs Volleyball Club
Alexa Mills	Durham Rebels Volleyball Club
Rachel Modopoulos	Titans Volleyball Association
Avaleen Moore	Superior North Volleyball Club
Sophie Nalezny	Mountain Volleyball club
Emma Nikolsky	Thundercats Volleyball
Olaedo Obute	Forest City Volleyball Club
Nefes Oner	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Vivian Osborne	Maverick Volleyball Club
Lauren Paiva-Schill	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Kylee Peng	Storm Volleyball
Victoria Penner	North Bay Jr. Lakers Volleyball
Ava Peterson	Superior North Volleyball Club
Isabella Policelli	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Anezka Rabano	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Teagan Rozema	Ottawa Valley Vikings
Katie Rutter	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Keelan Ryan	Georgetown Impact
Eliza Rybiak	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Fabienne Rycombel	Forest City Volleyball Club
Kiera Seto	Pioneers Volleyball Club
Lilly Shulman	Thundercats Volleyball
Spencer Simmonds	Leaside Volleyball
Kayleigh Sinclair-Killackey	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Iyla Soal	Georgetown Impact
Willow Sparling	Chatham Ballhawks Volleyball Club
Rowen Stinson	Oakville Thunder Volleyball Club
Yara Stuart	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Azura Taha	Mountain Volleyball club
Spencer Thomson	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club

Zoe Troutko	Thundercats Volleyball
Skye Trussell-Whiteley	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Katy Tsang	REACH Volleyball Club
Norzin Tsatultsang	Leaside Volleyball
Victoria Vezina	Maverick Volleyball Club
Claire Wang	Leaside Volleyball
Lilli Weiner	Leaside Volleyball
Elin Welsch-Opati	N/A
Hannah Wilbee	Forest City Volleyball Club
Kingsley Windsor	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Katrina Wraight	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Sophia Zeng	Storm Volleyball
Ava Zhao	Leaside Volleyball
Bella Zhao	Leaside Volleyball
Victoria Zhao	Storm Volleyball

Boys

Alex Ager	Titans Volleyball Association
Xavier Aubertin	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Teo Barbulovich-Nad	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Logan Carpenter	Titans Volleyball Association
Michael Chen	REACH Volleyball Club
Peyton Chik	N/A
Tim Costen	Maverick Volleyball Club
Brendan Deacon	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Travis Dickie	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Isaac Dugal	Ottawa Fusion Volleyball Club
Adam Eissa	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Luc Erclik	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Blake Ewert	Guelph Youth Volleyball Association
Leopold Fay	Superior North Volleyball Club
Liam Finch-Noyes	Venom Volleyball club
Caden Flores	Maverick Volleyball Club
Carson Gatien	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Miguel Gauthier	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Anthony Golovin	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Mateus Gomes	Maverick Volleyball Club
Carter Green	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Keyes Huntley	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Miles Hutchinson	Maverick Volleyball Club
Shun Kong	Milton Youth Volleyball Club
Christopher Kupsta	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Zander Lackovic	Mountain Athletic Club
Spencer Lafrance	Maverick Volleyball Club
Jason Laliberte	Peterborough Thunder Volleyball Club
Enoch Li	Mountain Athletic Club
Sean Li	Venom Volleyball club
Jack Liefl	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Gabriel Lisikh	Pakmen Volleyball Club
WIlliam Maguire	Maverick Volleyball Club
Randall Marsh	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Matteo Mastroianni	Chatham Ballhawks Volleyball Club
Nate McKenzie	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Peter McNair	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Pedro Mendonca	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Mark Miller	Forest City Volleyball Club
Cameron Mills	Maverick Volleyball Club
Lucas Morgan	Niagara Athletics Volleyball Club
Abtin Movashehi Asr	Venom Volleyball club
James Murray	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Arjun Nat	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Drew Neagle	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Daniel Pathan	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Jacob Plechowski	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Hudson Prior	Maverick Volleyball Club
Jeevan Puri	Mountain Athletic Club
George Purkis	Forest City Volleyball Club
Warren Rees	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Monty Reid	Peterborough Thunder Volleyball Club
Paxton Ruel	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Hunter Salo	Phoenix Volleyball
Oscar Taht	Milton Youth Volleyball Club
Dante Thibodeau	Sarnia Twin Bridges Volleyball Club
Braxton To	Maverick Volleyball Club
Ty Tran	Sarnia Twin Bridges Volleyball Club
Benjamin van Balen	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Miklos Vargyas	Forest City Volleyball Club
Jayden Vu	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Graydon Wallace	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Miles Wang	Ottawa Fusion Volleyball Club
Ryan Wong	REACH Volleyball Club
Gary Xu	Venom Volleyball club
Bennett Yates	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Shing Hei Yeung	Thundercats Volleyball
Joshua Yim	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Keyaan Zakaria	Maverick Volleyball Club
Isaiah Zanoria	Sarnia Twin Bridges Volleyball Club
Roy Zhuang	Thundercats Volleyball
Kevin Zou	Halton Region Volleyball Club

Coaches

Aya Utahara	Oliver Sant
Bart Nagel	Nicolas Lafleche
Calogero Coccaro	Matthew Stechnicki
Carrie Welsh	Kyle Johnston
Chris Jephson	Ken Gadsdon
Erich Shih	Jakob Magolan
Iliana Schlechta	Ishmael Kotey
Isabella Melchiorre	Naseem Boutanous
John Curtis	Ethan Rosenbloom
Julia Curtis	Christian Abrams
Kathryn Jung	Bruce Ashfield
Kevin Leung	Jackson Ohrling
Michael Tuck	N/A
Milan Ivanisevic	Andrew Mallory (Mentor)
Riley Vandenborn	Corinne Williams (Mentor)
Shun-Yan Labey	Colin Walker (Mentor)
Sudheer Joshi	LP Mainville (Mentor)
Tania Polcyn	
Teagan Adamo	
Tyson Roffey	

Team Ontario Regional Program Boys All-Star Team

For the first time, a TORP Boys All-Star Team was created to extend development opportunities for athletes. With the Canada Cup hosted in Ontario, this unique initiative provided an additional pathway for athletes to represent the province.

From the Regional Cup, 14 athletes were selected based on their skill, ability to adapt to new systems, and demonstration of teamwork, communication, and leadership. The team was guided by TORP mentor coaches Corinne Williams and Andrew Mallory.

Athletes gathered in St. Catharines on July 22 for two team practices before entering competition. The event was positioned as a learning opportunity, allowing athletes to test the skills and tactics introduced at TORP in a new environment. Facing older opponents with more training experience, Team Ontario delivered a strong performance, finishing 14th in the White Division.

Congratulations to Paxton Rule for being named a Canada Cup White Division Maple Award Winner.

Logan Carpenter	Titans Volleyball Association
Isaac Dugal	Ottawa Fusion Volleyball Club
Luc Erclik	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Liam Finch-Noyes	Venom Volleyball club
Miguel Gauthier	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Zander Lackovic	Mountain Athletic Club
Drew Neagle	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Jacob Plechowski	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Hudson Prior	Maverick Volleyball Club
Paxton Ruel	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Benjamin van Balen	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Miklos Vargyas	Forest City Volleyball Club
Graydon Wallace	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Kevin Zou	Halton Region Volleyball Club

Coaches

Corinne Williams	Head Coach
Andrew Malloy	Assistant Coach

TALL MAPLES

Tall Maples offers an environment for athletes who meet physical criteria aligned with high-performance volleyball. Standing reach and the ability to play above the net are used as indicators of long-term potential.

The camp was held at Western University in London and brought together 38 athletes and 10 coaches for six days of training. The design blended indoor and beach sessions to encourage transfer of learning and broaden perspective. On-court work emphasized technical development and exploration of different positions, while off-court sessions focused on preparation and recovery.

Many of the athletes play as middles in their club environments, but at camp, they were assigned to other positions. This gave them experience with skills like serve receive, defense, and ball control, while also increasing their responsibilities in decision-making and movement. For coaches, it provided valuable insight into how tall athletes might adapt to different roles, and for athletes, it highlighted new ways their physical strengths could be applied in the game. Some athletes continued their development over the summer by joining Team Ontario beach full-time training sessions.

TALL MAPLES ROSTER

Girls

Dilinna Anombem	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Grace Longe	41SIX Volleyball Club
Julianna Pach	Belleville Ravens Volleyball Club
Lilly Lewis	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Mc-eden Nyamano	Titans Volleyball Association
Natalie Yule	REACH Volleyball Club
Nya Pollmann	Titans Volleyball Association
Olivia Bittman	Maverick Volleyball Club
Payton Wilson-Reitknecht	N/A
Sofia Moneta	Maverick Volleyball Club
Zara Madhani	Titans Volleyball Association

Coaches

Jason Marchant
Jessica Curtis
Louise Smith
Samantha Warner
Thea Ziesmann

Boys

Anshul Modi	Milton Youth Volleyball Club
Ben Shapero	Leaside Volleyball
Carter Oudman	St. Thomas Express VC
Cédric Guilbeault	Maverick Volleyball Club
Davide Guiducci	Leaside Volleyball
Finley Anderson	Peterborough Thunder Volleyball Club
Jhevon Hazel	Hummingbird Volleyball Club
John Dakin	Leaside Volleyball
Josh Woods	Region 1
Lincoln Rock	St. Thomas Express VC
Matthew Grant	SKY Volley
Paul Poot	Venom Volleyball club
Seth Booy	Bluewater Ballistix
Spencer Gies	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Sullivan Stryker	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club

Coaches

Benoit Jolicoeur
Blake Belcher
Jason Marchant
Jonathan Loos
Sean Kohler

Tall Maples Canada Cup Team

With the Canada Cup hosted in Niagara, the OVA had a unique opportunity to create a competitive pathway for Tall Maples athletes. During the Team Ontario selection process, 12 female athletes were identified for their skill and physical attributes and invited to represent Ontario on a Tall Maples team at the Canada Cup.

After six days of training at the University of Western Ontario, the team gathered in Niagara two days prior to the tournament for additional training and scrimmages against other provincial teams. This preparation provided direct exposure to high-level competition and helped athletes apply their skills in a competitive environment.

During the tournament, the team faced strong opposition. While results were modest, the focus remained on learning, adaptability, and long-term development. Athletes were challenged to play different positions and roles as tall athletes, reinforcing lessons from camp and preparing them for future stages of the pathway.

Congratulations to Jolie Liu for receiving a Maple Award at the Canada Cup, recognizing her outstanding performance and dedication.

Addison Archer	Altitude Volleyball Club
Ania Nesti	Superior North Volleyball Club
Audrey Moore	Kingston Rock Volleyball Club
Cecilia Cunha	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Emma Pinchin	Belleville Ravens Volleyball Club
Ezrie Burke	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Gwenyth Cox	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Jolie Liu	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Mackenzie Kane	Titans Volleyball Association
Miranda Zhao	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Norah Dingman	Unity Volleyball
Qadira Shakespeare	Storm Volleyball

Coaches

Natasha Spalling
Thea Ziesmann

Coupe Canada Cup

TEAM ONTARIO INDOOR

The Team Ontario White, Red, and Black programs offer athletes enhanced training and competition experiences that support their continued development. These programs bring together Ontario athletes who demonstrate strong skill, commitment, and a drive for growth, focusing on learning and high-performance habits. Competition serves as an extension of training, giving athletes the chance to apply what they have learned in a competitive setting. While results are often strong, the emphasis remains on process over outcomes.

TEAM ONTARIO WHITE

From July 15–26, Nipissing University in North Bay hosted the Team Ontario White program, welcoming 60 female and 48 male athletes supported by 18 coaches. Over the 10-day camp, athletes took part in on-court training and classroom sessions focused on strength and conditioning, nutrition, team building, and video analysis.

The program culminated with the Team Ontario Cup (July 23–26), live-streamed on Hudl, where athletes showcased the skills they developed throughout camp. A highlight for many was the balance of competition and camaraderie, with team-bonding activities such as an air band contest, Goose Chase scavenger hunt, and a beach day that brought energy and fun to the high-performance experience.

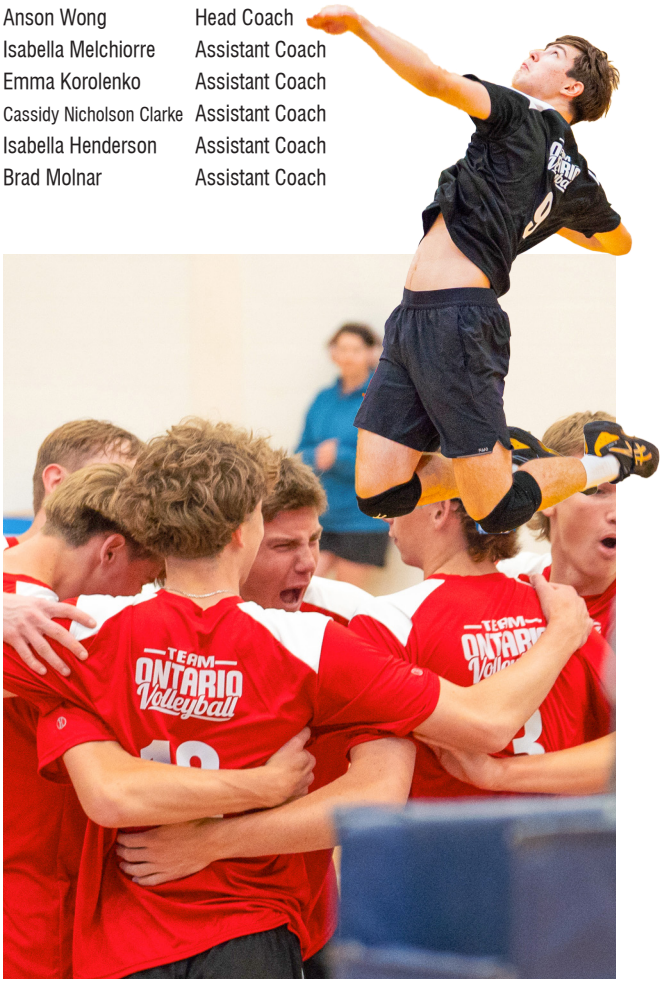
Girls Roster

Grace Archibald	Maverick Volleyball Club
Phoenix Baatje	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Zadie Biss-Mantziounis	Leaside Volleyball
Mila Bokan	South County Bandits
Peyton Brooks	Forest City Volleyball Club
Ariana Burlacu	Storm Volleyball
Elodie Card	Titans Volleyball Association
Paige Carter	Leaside Volleyball
Peighton Carter	Durham Rebels Volleyball Club
Hannah Chitiyo	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Jaslyn Chu	Synergy Volleyball
Olivia Chung	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Adriana Craciun	Lakeside Volleyball Club
Tori D'Angela	Mountain Volleyball club
Izabella DiStefano	South County Bandits
Brinley Evans	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Crystal Ezenwa - Onwuanagbule	Pioneers Volleyball Club
Kara Fennema	Brant Youth Volleyball Club
Abbey Fraser	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Lily Fullarton	Mountain Volleyball club
Jacqueline Galipeau	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Vivian Gilmour	Maverick Volleyball Club
Maddy Hall	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Norah Higgins	Mountain Volleyball club
Sava Kovinjalo	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Camden Kribs	Unity Volleyball
Amalia Kuric	DVBC - (Defensa Volleyball Club)
Mackenzie Lange	Forest City Volleyball Club
Alora List	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Mila Ljubičić	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Lilianna Locklin	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Sofija Lukic	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Ainsley MacDonald	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Mackenzie Masters	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Morgan McDonald	Titans Volleyball Association
Gisele McKaig	Forest City Volleyball Club
Audrey McKenzie	Oakville Thunder Volleyball Club

Sophie McKinnon	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Yolana McNeilly	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Iris Michell	Centre Hastings Volleyball Academy
Gabrielle Mielko	Titans Volleyball Association
Kyla Morden	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Kinlee Nguyen	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Leila Pasic	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Breya Peters	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Quinn Reid	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Samantha Santiago	Unity Volleyball
Grace Sevitti	Mountain Volleyball club
Elena Stankova	Leaside Volleyball
Alexandra Steele	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Ellie Stewart	Storm Volleyball
Claire Tutching	Leaside Volleyball
Ameek Ubhi	Mountain Volleyball club
Lauren Valeriote	Forest City Volleyball Club
Vivian Vargas	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Avery Vickers	REACH Volleyball Club
Chelsea Whiting	Maverick Volleyball Club
Eve Wilgosh	Ottawa Fusion Volleyball Club
Lily Wittig	Forest City Volleyball Club
Alina Zakaznikov	Pakmen Volleyball Club

Coaches

Nancy Dool-Kontio	Head Coach
Michelle Lange	Head Coach
Jenn Kelly	Head Coach
Curtis MacPherson	Head Coach
Anson Wong	Head Coach
Isabella Melchiorre	Assistant Coach
Emma Korolenko	Assistant Coach
Cassidy Nicholson Clarke	Assistant Coach
Isabella Henderson	Assistant Coach
Brad Molnar	Assistant Coach



Boys Roster

Thomas Adolph	Maverick Volleyball Club
Matthew Almashni	Venom Volleyball club
Liam Bendavid	Venom Volleyball club
Connor Bourque	Venom Volleyball club
Noah Cartwright	Mountain Athletic Club
Cameron Chu	Venom Volleyball club
Christian Collinson	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Ethan Craig	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Finn Crix	Leaside Volleyball
Jack de Vries	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Eoin DesRosiers	Forest City Volleyball Club
William Downey	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Justin Feng	REACH Volleyball Club
Matthew Foulds	Superior North Volleyball Club
Maxwell Gardiner	Maverick Volleyball Club
Cameron Gibson	Unity Volleyball
Cole Heynen	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Jaden Hoff	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Sean Jin	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Cameron Johansen	Phoenix Volleyball Club
Sebastien King	Maverick Volleyball Club
Bradey Lau	Venom Volleyball club
Jordon Li	REACH Volleyball Club
Ian Lin	REACH Volleyball Club
Daniel Marukhnyak	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Sean Mcgoey	Titans Volleyball Association
Trace McManus	Forest City Volleyball Club
Samuel C Moore	Forest City Volleyball Club
Pavraj Nijjar	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Maks Nylen	Titans Volleyball Association
Alby Paltado	Venom Volleyball club
Odin Pleau	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Andrew Pook	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Amin Qureshi	Maverick Volleyball Club
Merek Rajtar	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Lorik Rochefort	Maverick Volleyball Club
Cooper Schofield	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Artem Tarasov	Unity Volleyball
Devan Tarrant	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Keane Thompson	Maverick Volleyball Club
Logan Thuillard	Maverick Volleyball Club
Tyus Welch	Maverick Volleyball Club
Noah White	Forest City Volleyball Club
Aiden Wiersma	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Michael Wittemund	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Ryan Bernard	N/A
Yuemo Houehje	Titans Volleyball Association
Marco Zorzetto	Mountain Athletic Club
Micah Zwiers	Maverick Volleyball Club

Coaches

Robin Kidd	Head Coach
Jacob Barker	Head Coach
Eli Merriam	Head Coach
Jordan Timpson	Head Coach
Mia Kurtz-Favero	Assistant Coach
Lori Spoltore	Assistant Coach
Denis King	Assistant Coach
Craig Oakey	Assistant Coach

TEAM ONTARIO RED

The Team Ontario Red Girls program held its training camp at Conestoga College from July 13–22, working alongside Team Ontario Black. Sixteen athletes and three coaches completed a blend of 13 on-court and 8 classroom sessions focused on technical, tactical, and performance development, with support from mentor coach Dustin Reid.

Following camp, 14 athletes advanced to the Canada Cup at Brock University (July 23–27). Competing in the White Tier 2 Division, Team Ontario Red delivered an impressive performance—finishing pool play 2–1, defeating Team BC in the quarterfinals and Team Alberta Blue in the semifinals, and ultimately earning silver after a hard-fought 3–1 final against Team Alberta Black.

Congratulations to Stella Smith for receiving the Team Ontario Red-White Division Maple Award at the Canada Cup.

Girls Roster

Anja Bogdanovic	Scorpions Youth Volleyball Club
Avery Bradish	Forest City Volleyball Club
Alexis Cheong	Venom Volleyball club
Elaina Grover	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Ella Hammond	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Louise Laustsen	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Annabelle Marcuzzi	Lakeside Volleyball Club
Sarah McNamara	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Catu Pallant	Mountain Volleyball club
Amelie Parkin	Titans Volleyball Association
Sophie Rath	Leaside Volleyball
Sydney Rocca	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Stella Smith	Leaside Volleyball
Alexis Spehr	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Sophia Testa	Forest City Volleyball Club
Charlie Visser	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club

Coaches

Kevin Sherriff	Head Coach
Christina Stratford	Assistant Coach
Katia Tyndall	Support Coach

Boys Roster

Andreas Allen	Thundercats Volleyball
Ethan Baxter	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
William Clarmo	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Jamin Ekhaguere	Thundercats Volleyball
Julius Greenstein	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Julian Josephs	Venom Volleyball club
Bryce Kim	Thundercats Volleyball
Tristan King	Maverick Volleyball Club
Jimmy Lee	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Parker McLeod	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Misha Panasiouk	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Aleksa Rakic	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Massimiliano Riolino	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Sean-Patrick Sawyer	Bluewater Ballistix
Seifeldin Shaheen	Maverick Volleyball Club
Olivier Tremblay	Northern Chill Volleyball Club

Coaches

Tom Ellison	Head Coach
Chris Ling	Assistant Coach
Gilles Landry	Assistant Coach
Pylyp Harmash	Support Coach

TEAM ONTARIO BLACK

The Team Ontario Black Girls program also trained at Conestoga College from July 13–22. Sixteen athletes and three coaches prepared with 14 on-court and 10 classroom sessions, supported by mentor coach Dustin Reid. At the Canada Cup, Team Ontario Black competed in the Red Tier 1 Division and proved themselves as one of the top teams in the tournament. After finishing pool play with a 3-1 record, they advanced with a decisive quarterfinal win over Team Nova Scotia and followed up with a semifinal victory against Team Quebec Elite. In the championship match, Team Ontario Black battled hard but ultimately fell 3-0 to Team BC Selects, bringing home a well-earned silver medal.

Congratulations to Kylie Mills and Fanenter Akende for being named to the Canada Cup All Star Team and to Bea Pengelly for receiving a Maple Award for embodying the spirit of the sport through positive leadership, sportsmanship, and team-first values.

Girls Roster

Fanenter Akende	Forest City Volleyball Club
Mya Balfe	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Daven Braumberger	Maverick Volleyball Club
Camille Carrothers	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Alyssa Cerovac	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Zara Chavarria Bonhomme	Titans Volleyball Association
Mia Crawford	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club
Layla Gonsalves	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club
Julia Hunter	Titans Volleyball Association
Kylie Mills	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Beatrice Pengelly	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Charlotte Roberts	Leaside Volleyball
Taylor Schulze	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Elizabeth Soboleva	Storm Volleyball
Emery Stapleton	South County Bandits
Makenna Watson	Kitchener Waterloo Predators Volleyball Club

Coaches

Jenny Pellegrinio	Head Coach
Lexi Pollard	Assistant Coach
Katie Hutchinson	Support Coach

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES – SLOVENIA

This summer, the Team Ontario Red Boys and the Canada Summer Games Girls programs travelled to Maribor, Slovenia, for an international training camp at the Dras Training Centre from July 14–24. The centre provided a complete training environment, with four courts, a weight room, classroom spaces, and on-site accommodation.

The purpose of the trip was to expose athletes to international volleyball, where the level of play and style of training differ significantly from what they experience in Ontario. Athletes also had the opportunity to adapt to travel, new routines, and to compete against strong opponents.

For the boys' program, Slovenia replaced their traditional Ontario training camp. Before departure, the group trained at Humber College from July 12–14 with four on-court and six classroom sessions. Once in Slovenia, 16 athletes and four coaches completed nine on-court sessions and six classroom sessions on video review, team building, and post-secondary pathways. Competition included matches against a U.S. U18 club, the Slovenia U18 National Team, and Slovenia's U18 club champions, followed by an intersquad game.

Beyond training, the boys had the chance to experience Slovenian culture, touring Maribor and traveling to Ljubljana to watch Canada's Senior National Team battle Ukraine in Volleyball Nations League play. After the match, they met the National Team athletes and staff on court, creating a highlight memory of the entire trip.

NATIONAL EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

Volleyball Canada's National Excellence Program (NEP) is a high-performance training program for Canadian male and female athletes in grades 10-12. The program aims to develop athletes for the national senior team and professional leagues through technical and tactical skill development, sport science exposure, and holistic training. Athletes apply through the GMTM online platform by uploading basic physical testing data, a highlight video, and full game footage. If selected, athletes attend an in-person tryout camp where NEP Coache make final team selections.

For the 2025-26 season, 11 Ontario athletes were selected for the NEP. The girls program trained out of Women's Training Centre at the Richmond Oval in BC and the boys trained at Centre Sportif de Gatineau, QC.

Girls Roster

Ana Nastase
Ella Hope
Lea Pendergast
Maya Bukovcan
Sofia Zabjek
Sydney Bell

Boys Roster

Daniel Lewis
Connor Spencer
Aiden Vandenheuvel
Parker Ocampo
Carson Francis

ONTARIO ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE

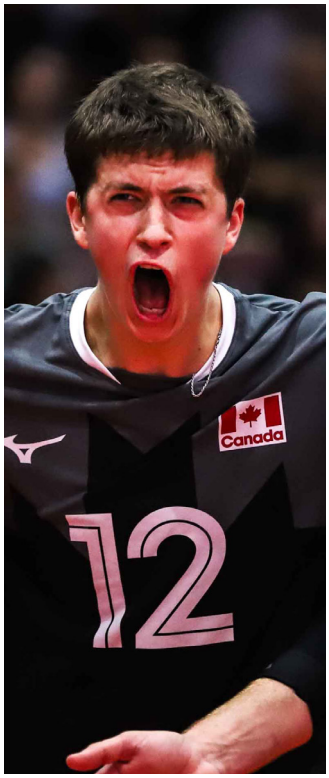
INDOOR

WOMEN

Senior Team	NextGen	U21	U19
Jazmine White	Viktoria Wahlgren	Emma Buntic	Sydney Bell
Katerina Georgiadis	Maddy Saris	Claire Carter	Maya Bukovcan
Julia Murmann	Delaney Watson	Logan King	Eva Genier
Jessica Andrews		Élodie Lalonde	Sol Henson
Anna Smrek		Julia Liu	Eva Lin
Andrea Mitrovic		Ella McVittie	Ana Nastase
		Ella Piskorz	Kylie Savin
		Leonora Barbulovich-Nad	Ana Stojanovic
		Lael Harrison	Sofia Zabjek
		Esther Wildeboer	Jasmine Chrétien

MEN

Cory Schroenherr	Cole Duncanson	Daniil Hershtynovich	Daniel Lewis
Jackson Young	Cory Schroenherr	Andon Kiriakou	Jordan Low-Ring
Isaac Heslinga	Erik Slksna	Trent Cherewaty	Stone Riley
Daenan Gyimah	Brendan Mills	Quintin Greenidge	Carson Francis
Xander Ketrzynski	Kaden Schmidt	William Basilio	Parker Ocampo
Justin Lui	Tomas Sorra		Aiden Vandenheuvel
Jordan Canham	Jordan Canham		Mathieu Joli-Coeur
			Justin Jamieson
			Marcus Barrett
			Mason Lange



BEACH

WOMEN

Senior Team

Brandie Wilkerson
Heather Bansely
Melissa Humana-Paredes
Sophie Bukovec

NextGen

Lea Monkhouse

Summer Development Program

Abbey Thorup
Brooke Woolley
Calinda Kok
Emma Glagau
Emma Kunaus
Emma-Joy Cudmore
Kaylee Glagau
Ofure Odigie

MEN

Sam Schachter
Jonathan Pickett
Martin Licht
Steven Abrams

Cameron Chadwick
Cameron McGregor
Colin Lash
Robert Kemp
Rouzbeh Rahnavard

SITTING

WOMEN

Senior Team

Jolan Wong

MEN

Nicholas Aldrich
Jesse Buckingham
Joshua Daley
Bryce Foster
Kyle James Hall
Johnathan La Porte
Dariusz Symonowiczs
Andrew Tucker

JESSICA ANDREWS: FROM TALL MAPLES TO TEAM CANADA

Jessica Andrews' volleyball journey reflects the strength and alignment of Ontario's athlete development pathway. A middle blocker from Guelph, Ontario, Jessica began her high-performance journey in the Tall Maples program in 2018, identified for her standout physical potential at a young age.

She went on to win provincial and national titles with the KW Predators, and in 2019 represented Ontario on Team Ontario Red, earning a silver medal at the Canada Cup. The following year, she advanced to Team Ontario Black and Team Ontario Elite, before joining Volleyball Canada's National Excellence Program in 2021, where she continued refining her game against the country's top youth talent.

In 2022, Jessica represented Ontario at the Canada Summer Games in Niagara Falls, helping her team to a 6th-place finish before continuing her development at Bowling Green State University (NCAA), where she has since earned All-MAC honours.

Her dedication and progression culminated in 2025, when Jessica made her senior international debut for Team Canada as a middle blocker in the Volleyball Nations League (VNL).

Jessica's path, from early identification in Tall Maples, through the Team Ontario and National Excellence programs, to representing Canada on the world stage, exemplifies how Ontario's integrated development system supports athletes in reaching the highest levels of the sport.

YEAR–ROUND BEACH DEVELOPMENT

Ontario beach volleyball athletes trained during both the summer and winter seasons. The winter season served as a true off-season, with the period used to consolidate technique, build a physical foundation, and establish daily habits that carry into the competitive summer. This structure counters the usual Canadian volleyball system, where athletes are in competition most of the year, with the indoor competitive season in the winter and beach competitive season in the summer.

Two program options supported different levels of commitment. Full-time athletes trained exclusively on the beach, with regular on-court sessions, strength and conditioning, and performance support. Integrated athletes balanced indoor and beach commitments, managing their training load while transferring skills between disciplines. Programming emphasized continuity through weekly S&C touchpoints, consistent technical themes, and regular check-ins on recovery, nutrition, and mindset.

Seventeen athletes took part in the 2024–25 year-round program, including 2 female full-time athletes, 9 female integrated athletes, and 6 male integrated athletes. This smaller, focused group ensured that Ontario athletes dedicated to beach had access to high-quality training environments in the off-season, setting them up for steady progression and stronger transitions into the summer months.

Girls Roster

Ariel Fogarty	Barrie Elites
Isabelle Larabie	KW Predators
Lexi Black	KW Predators
Maeve Suddergaard	Milton Edge
Morgan Hutchison	Durham Rebels Volleyball Club
Nina Lulic	Mountain Volleyball Club
Nolyn Houben	Barrie Elites
Riley Hiemstra	Oakville Thunder
Sonia Wojnicki	Titans Volleyball Association
Claire Simmonds	
EJ Cudmore	

Boys Roster

Eli Trotter	Leaside Volleyball Club
Filip Mlcek	41SIX Volleyball Club
Fraser Dempsey	Titans Volleyball Association
Miles Leung	Durham Attack
Richie Donchev	Durham Attack
Robbie Whitelock	Pakmen Volleyball Club

Coaches

Ben Moffat	Cicero Oliviera
Eddie Coleman	Oklend Llakaj

BEACH DROP-IN PROGRAM

The Drop-In Program allowed athletes to stay connected to beach volleyball through the winter on a flexible, as-needed basis. Sessions were offered for athletes from 13U through 18U, providing age-appropriate training opportunities across all groups.

By the Numbers

- 129 unique athletes participated
- 234 total attendances
- 141 training days delivered (November–May)

INDOOR ON THE BEACH

Indoor on the Beach gave indoor teams and community groups access to a beach training environment during the off-season, with optional support from a Team Ontario coach at the Beach Volleyball Centre, at Downsview Park in Toronto.

By the Numbers

- 8 unique groups participated
- 32 total attendances
- 156 training hours offered

INTERNATIONAL MARCH BREAK TRAINING CAMPS

March Break provided Ontario athletes with two distinct international training opportunities, each aligned to different stages of readiness. Both camps were designed to build independence, reinforce core beach skills, and connect athletes more closely to the provincial pathway. Training combined technical work, physical preparation, and habits for recovery, nutrition, and daily independence, while offering valuable exposure to international play.

SPAIN

Three teams (2 female athletes and 4 male athletes) trained at the Spanish Federation's international centre, supported by coaches Eddie Coleman and Ben Kerkhoff. Over the course of seven training sessions and 10 hours of on-court work per gender, the group trained alongside delegations from four other countries. Athletes also gained eight hours of competition through participation in the Youth Nations Cup. The camp mirrored the day-to-day rhythm of international volleyball, strengthening partnerships and creating connections across borders. The collaboration also set the stage for future exchanges, including a planned follow-up camp in Toulouse in 2026.

COSTA RICA

Ten athletes (7 female, 3 male) trained outdoors in the heat and wind under provincial coaches Oklend Llakaj and Ben Moffat, with S&C support from Matt Golas. The group completed seven training sessions and nine total hours of on-court work per gender. The camp emphasized core skill development, physical preparation, and daily independence.

For many athletes, it was their first international training experience. Families who traveled with the group also had the chance to combine development with shared time together. The camp concluded with participation in the one-day Caribbean Open tournament, which featured six hours of competition and three to four matches per team.

SUMMER TEAM ONTARIO BEACH PROGRAM

Forty-two athletes took part in the Team Ontario Beach Summer program. Twenty-three trained full-time in Toronto, while nineteen joined through the camp-based stream.

FULL-TIME TRAINING

The full-time group trained four times per week on sand, supported by a comprehensive high-performance program that included strength and conditioning, yoga, therapy services, and ongoing work in nutrition and mental performance. The structure emphasized consistency, giving athletes a rhythm of training and recovery similar to what they will encounter in international environments.

By the Numbers

42 athletes identified for Team Ontario Beach Summer Programming:

- 23 Full-Time Training Group (FTG) athletes
- 19 Camp-Based athletes
- Gender breakdown: 22 females, 20 males.
- 14 Female FTG athletes
- 8 Female Camp-Based athletes
- 9 Male FTG athletes
- 11 Male Camp-Based athletes

12 coaches supported the athletes throughout the summer.

CAMP-BASED TRAINING

The camp-based stream athletes trained at home during the week, then on Fridays sessions were held at Ashbridges Bay. Also, a week-long training camp at Western University in London was provided. The London camp combined 20 hours of on-court training with off-court workshops on scouting, nutrition, and fueling, highlighted by a practical grocery store visit and smoothie competition. Beyond volleyball, the camp emphasized preparation, recovery, and independence to help athletes manage themselves at the next level of beach training and competition.

Athletes carried these experiences into Provincials and Nationals, where preparation routines and recovery strategies supported performance at the season's peak event.

Beach TEAM ONTARIO

TEAM ONTARIO BEACH SUMMER ROSTER

FULL-TIME TRAINING GROUP

Girls

Ailish Grieve	Titans Volleyball Association
Ania Nesti	Superior North Volleyball Club
Anna Kasprzak	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Audrey Moore	Kingston Rock Volleyball Club
Cassidy Frost	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Ezrie Burke	Barrie Elites Volleyball Club
Grace Hallman	Oakville Thunder Volleyball Club
Gwenyth Cox	KW Predators Volleyball Club
Kate Chipman	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Maya Boutanos	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Milena Gortnar	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Nina Lulic	Mountain Volleyball Club
Sophie Meyer	Titans Volleyball Association
Stella Bates	Smash Raiders Volleyball Club

Boys

Bruno Azevedo	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Darian Rhoden	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Eli Trotter	Leaside Volleyball Club
Gavin Goodwin	KW Predators Volleyball Club
Karsen Morse	Titans Volleyball Association
Richard-Alexander Donchev	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Ryker Kobe	KW Predators Volleyball Club
Tanner Hart	Halton Region Volleyball Club
William Pelton	Durham Attack Volleyball Club

Coaches

Angie Shen	Jordan Timpson
Ben Kerkhoff	Kelly McGuire
Ben Moffat	Kevin McKee
Cicero Oliveira	Oklend Llakaj
Eddie Coleman	Thea Ziesmann
Jacob Nowak	Tia Miric

CAMP-BASED TRAINING GROUP

Girls

Cassidy Warren	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Dahlia Polasek	Scorpions Volleyball Club
Ella Hammond	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Finley McKie	Titans Volleyball Association
Holland Cavan	Maverick Volleyball Club
Jenny Duan	Leaside Volleyball Club
Karissa Martin	Maverick Volleyball Club
Lauren Valeriote	Forest City Volleyball Club

Boys

Benjamin Charles	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Bryce Kim	Thundercats Volleyball Club
Connor Gunn	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Daniel Yang	KW Predators Volleyball Club
Hudson Johnston	Bluewater Ballistix Volleyball Club
Iain Brown	Leaside Volleyball Club
James Dafe	Bluewater Ballistix Volleyball Club
Olivier Tremblay	Northern Chill Volleyball Club
Owen McKenzie	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Trace McManus	Forest City Volleyball Club
Tristan King	Maverick Volleyball Club

BUILDING RELATIONSHIP SKILLS FOR LONG-TERM SUCCESS

A key focus of Ontario's beach volleyball programming this season was helping athletes develop the relationship skills essential to success in the sport. Success in beach volleyball depends not only on technical ability but also on the strength of the partnership, the ability to communicate, resolve conflict, adapt together, and build trust over time. These skills were intentionally built into programming through initiatives such as the Targeted Support program and the Team Funding Grant.

The impact of this focus was clear. Five teams, three female and two male, committed to their partnerships from the start of the season, remained together, and all earned Tier 1 medals at Nationals. This consistency shows how investing in relationship skills supports performance outcomes and demonstrates the value of deliberately developing these abilities over a full season.

Two of these teams also received Team Funding Grants that supported travel to Calgary for training and competition, where they were able to apply and strengthen their partnership skills in a new environment.

By focusing on partnerships as well as athletes, OVA is building the foundation for long-term success in beach volleyball.

Notable Results from Team Ontario Athletes

Beach Ontario Championships

Place	Team	Division
Bronze	A. Kasprzak / M. Gortnar	16UG D1T1
Silver	S. Bates / C. Frost	17UG D1T1
Gold	C. Gunn / B. Charles	17UB D1T1
Silver	B. Kim / A. Allen	17UB D1T1
Bronze	T. King / O. Tremblay	17UB D1T1

National Beach Championships

Place	Team	Division
Gold	A. Kasprzak / M. Gortnar	16UG D1T1
Gold	M. Boutanos / K. Chipman	17UG D1T1
Silver	S. Bates / C. Frost	17UG D1T1
Silver	C. Gunn / B. Charles	17UB D1T1
Bronze	T. King / O. Tremblay	17UB D1T1

TEAM ONTARIO SITTING VOLLEYBALL

In June 2025, the Ontario Volleyball Association hosted its first-ever Team Ontario Sitting Volleyball Camp at Durham College. Over four days, 14 athletes with varied experience levels took part in five on-court training sessions focused on skill development, tactics, and competition, complemented by off-court sessions on team culture and high-performance habits. This inaugural camp marked the launch of a structured provincial pathway designed to support athletes from grassroots entry through to national team opportunities.

The camp was led by Nicole Ban, Head Coach of the Canadian Women's Sitting Volleyball Team, with mentorship from national team athletes Jolan Wong and Anne Fergusson. Funding support from the Canadian Paralympic Committee and the Government of Canada made the initiative possible.

The camp created an inclusive entry point for athletes with disabilities, combining mentorship from experienced players with national-level expertise. It provided early talent identification opportunities and showed how provincial programming can expand sitting volleyball by increasing access, connecting athletes with role models, and bridging grassroots participation to high-performance. The initiative also set the stage for future growth, including the first Ontario Sitting Volleyball Provincial Championship planned for 2026.

2025 TEAM ONTARIO COACHES SUMMIT

What Happened

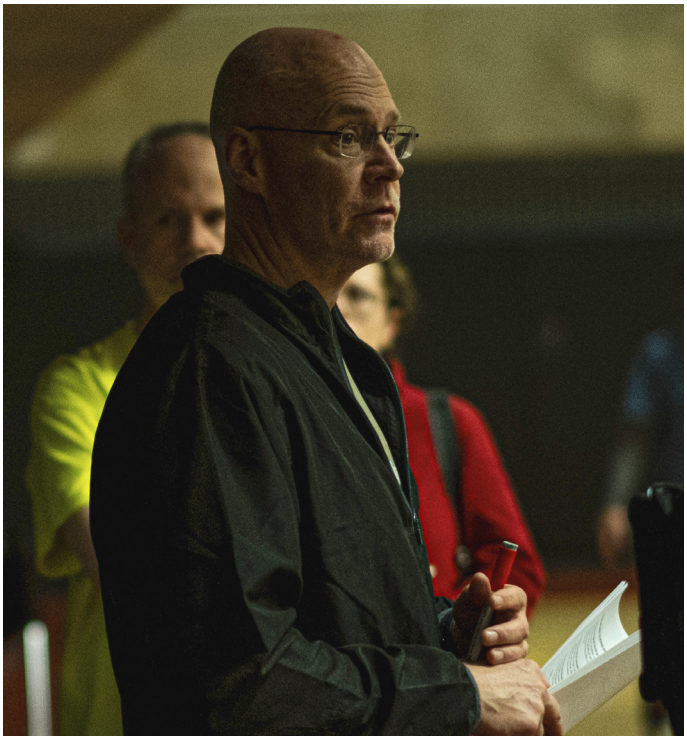
The 2025 OVA Coach Summit took place in Kitchener on the first weekend of May, bringing together 76 coaches from across all Team Ontario programs. Over two days, coaches engaged in 12 sessions covering a variety of topics, with a strong emphasis on interaction, relationship-building, and shared learning.

Program-specific guiding principles were introduced and discussed for Team Ontario - Beach, Tall Maples, Regional Program, White, Red, and Black programs. Coaches also heard from keynote speaker Marke Freeman, who returned for a second year and delivered another impactful presentation, and from Max Gratton, who provided an athlete's perspective on the coaching process. Coaches were intentionally mixed across disciplines to encourage the exchange of ideas and build stronger connections across the Team Ontario system.

Why It Matters

The Summit reflected the OVA's commitment to building a connected and aligned coaching community across Ontario. By introducing shared guiding principles and beginning the development of common learning outcomes, the Summit laid the groundwork for continuity across programs and a more consistent athlete experience.

Mentorship was another key feature, with experienced coaches from beach, indoor, and sitting volleyball supporting program staff before, during, and after the event. Their involvement helped extend learning beyond the Summit itself, reinforcing collaboration in planning, training, and competition environments. Cross-discipline collaboration also created opportunities for indoor coaches to attend international beach events, an important entry point to international contexts given Ontario's greater access to beach competitions abroad.



HIGHLIGHT: COACH WELLNESS & SUPPORT

Supporting coaches is vital to athlete success. Coaching is itself a high-performance pursuit, requiring technical, tactical, physical, and emotional resilience. At the 2025 Coach Summit, the OVA emphasized coach wellness alongside development, ensuring coaches could model and sustain the same performance habits instilled in athletes.

Focus areas included:

- Recognizing and managing burnout and stress
- Travel and performance nutrition
- Physical recovery strategies for long coaching days
- Mental health e-learning and holistic recovery approaches
- Links between technical coaching and physical performance skills

Coaches also received a tailored strength and conditioning program to help manage the physical demands of coaching, reinforcing the belief that coach readiness equals athlete readiness.

STRENGTHENING ATHLETES THROUGH SPORT SCIENCE

During the 2024–2025 season, the Ontario Volleyball Association advanced its sport science programming in ways that set us apart nationally. We remain the only provincial volleyball association in Canada with an on-staff strength and conditioning coach, embedded in our environment through the Canadian Sport Institute of Ontario (CSIO), allowing us to integrate high-performance support directly into our programs.

This year, more than 480 athletes and 96 coaches across Team Ontario benefited from expanded strength and conditioning, nutrition, and recovery resources. Importantly, our reach also extended to the community level, where over 100 athletes engaged with new opportunities designed to build daily habits that support long-term development.

Guided by Volleyball Canada's Long-Term Development model, OVA programming provides stage-appropriate education on strength and conditioning, therapy, nutrition, and mental performance. By exposing athletes to evidence-based practices at every stage, we are preparing them not only to succeed in high-performance volleyball, but also to build skills that carry into healthy, sustainable participation in sport.

INTEGRATED SUPPORT STAFF

High-performance sport requires a team behind the team. To support more than 480 athletes, the OVA engaged 19 IST members: 10 athletic therapists, 2 student therapists, 1 physiotherapist, 2 dietitians, 1 mental performance consultant, 2 strength and conditioning coaches, and 1 registered nurse. Their work ensured athletes could handle high training loads while reducing injury and burnout risks.

Nutrition — Fueling sessions for indoor athletes, hydration and recovery education for beach athletes, hydration testing at Ontario Championships, and interactive activities like a smoothie competition.

Therapy — Centralized and decentralized care, including in-sand support for beach athletes and daily camp coverage for indoor programs.

Strength & Conditioning — Training across sand, weight room, and classroom settings, plus the launch of Team Ontario's first S&C program for Sitting Volleyball at Durham College.

Mental Performance — Resilience, leadership, and cohesion sessions with Canada Games athletes, supported by daily check-ins during camp.

IST STAFF

Athletic Therapists

Alice Sobiesiak
Briar Alderdice
Jackie Ngo
Jennifer Martins
Maddy Serpa
Nyah Davidson
Rachel Murphy
Raelynn Jalbert
Samantha Raymond
Vanessa Agar

Student Therapists

Angelina Krasevich
John (Brad) Francis

Physiotherapist

Candice Wong

Registered Dieticians

Holly Pitters
Rebecca Ourique

Strength & Conditioning Coaches

Matt Golas
Phillipe Alabastro

Registered Nurse

Jordan Schantz

Mental Performance Consultant

Jason Boivin

COMMUNITY INITIATIVE: STRENGTH & CONDITIONING FOR CLUB ATHLETES

In October 2024, the OVA launched its first remote strength and conditioning program to expand access across the province. The program provided affordable, structured training for athletes and teams without regular S&C support, while also extending year-round resources to Team Ontario athletes.

Two program streams offered monthly training plans aligned with the OVA calendar, plus education sessions on recovery, load management, and preparation. Over eight months, the program engaged 108 athletes, averaging 59 active subscribers each month.

TEAM ONTARIO STRENGTH & CONDITIONING PILOT PROGRAM

This summer, Team Ontario launched its first Strength & Conditioning Pilot Program, marking an important step in expanding athlete support beyond technical and tactical training. The goal was to test a model focused on physical development, particularly during the key growth years of puberty when gains in strength, muscle mass, and power accelerate.

Fourteen athletes (7 boys and 7 girls, ages 13–16) were selected for the four-month program. The launch on June 1 at the Canadian Sport Institute Ontario included classroom education, a movement assessment, physical testing, and a kitchen workshop led by dietitian Rebecca Ourique, where athletes learned to prepare healthy meals for performance and recovery.

Over the summer, athletes worked remotely with Sport Science Lead Matt Golas, connecting monthly to reflect, plan, and adjust training phases around their schedules. The program concluded on September 28 at CSIO, where athletes re-tested physical abilities and reviewed their progress.

The outcomes were remarkable. Across just four months, athletes made measurable progress in nearly every physical category; jumping higher, moving faster, and building stronger, more resilient bodies ready for high-performance volleyball. Their results show the power of structured off-season training and the lasting value of investing in physical development early in an athlete's journey.

Summary of Results

6% increase in vertical jump height

9% improvement in reactive strength

57% increase in upper body strength

38% increase in push-up performance

4% increase in spike touch reach

ST.JOHN'S
2025
JEUX DU
CANADA
GAMES

The Canada Summer Games is the country's largest multi-sport event and a key steppingstone in the development pathway for high-performance athletes. For many, it represents the highest level of competition where they can wear the Ontario crest and test themselves against the best in the nation. The experience gained here is an important milestone in their athletic careers and a proud moment in their journey. As the top domestic competition for Team Ontario athletes, the Games provide a unique opportunity to perform on a national stage while being immersed in a true multi-sport environment — one that mirrors the scale, spirit, and community of international events.

For Ontario's volleyball athletes and coaches, the 2025 Games in St. John's, Newfoundland, showcased the culmination of months of preparation, teamwork, and commitment to excellence, resulting in unforgettable memories and a historic showing for the province.

INDOOR TEAMS

The road to the 2025 Canada Summer Games in St. John's, Newfoundland, represented more than a year of preparation and growth. Ontario's athletes and coaches followed a carefully designed pathway of training camps, professional development, fundraising clinics, and competitive experiences — all rooted in the OVA's commitment to athlete-centred programming and holistic development. This structured and intentional approach ensured that every participant was physically, mentally, and emotionally prepared to perform on the national stage. The program culminated in a proud finish for Team Ontario, with the women's indoor team capturing gold and the men's team earning bronze — a testament to the dedication, teamwork, and excellence that define Ontario Volleyball.

PREP CAMP

December 2024

The journey began with a December training camp at the Athlete Institute in Orangeville, where 31 female and 24 male athletes were introduced to the Canada Games program. Over several days, athletes took part in on-court sessions, classroom workshops, and physical testing focused on skill development, strength and conditioning, team culture, and the expectations of a multi-sport competition. The camp laid the foundation for the months ahead, giving athletes a clear understanding of the standards and commitment required to represent Ontario at the Games

COACH PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

December 2024

At the same time, Ontario's six Canada Games coaches embarked on their own professional development journey at the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. The event offered access to world-class coaching education, exposure to high-performance NCAA environments, and opportunities for the Ontario staff to align their collective vision for the year. This investment underscored the OVA's emphasis on continuous learning and ensured that Ontario's Canada Games teams were guided by knowledgeable, inspired leaders.

FUNDRAISING CLINICS

March 2025

In March, the program shifted toward fundraising, while also providing value to the volleyball community. Four athlete clinics were held in Hamilton and Orangeville, welcoming 144 participants and raising over $6,000 in support of the Canada Games program. Seven Team Ontario coaches volunteered their time to run skill sessions and share training and performance resources. These clinics reflected the OVA's values of community connection and giving back, while also generating meaningful support for the program.

ATHLETE SELECTION

Spring 2025

Spring marked the formal selection process. On the boys' side, athletes were evaluated through a combination of video submissions and in-person assessments at Ontario Championships. Twenty-two athletes advanced to the July training camp for final roster selection. For the girls, twenty-eight athletes attended a two-day tryout at Mohawk College, with sixteen selected to form the training group. This stage of the process was comprehensive, transparent, and designed to ensure that athletes were assessed fairly across multiple contexts.

TRAINING CAMP 1
July 2025

In July, the boys' team gathered at Conestoga College for a focused training block featuring 12 on-court sessions and classroom workshops designed to refine team systems and finalize the roster of 12 athletes. Meanwhile, the girls embarked on an extraordinary development opportunity — a two-week international training camp in Maribor, Slovenia. Competing and training abroad provided invaluable experience, exposing athletes to diverse playing styles and reinforcing the OVA's athlete-centred approach to growth and learning.

The girls' program used Slovenia as the first of two training camps leading into the Games. Sixteen athletes and four coaches completed 10 on-court sessions focused on skills and team tactics, along with eight classroom sessions on video analysis, mental performance, and team bonding.

The team faced strong international competition, taking on Slovenia U18 and Croatia U21. They celebrated victories over Slovenia U18 and one of their matches against Croatia, gaining valuable experience against different styles of play. Away from the court, the girls enjoyed time together exploring Maribor, racing down the Pohor Jet toboggan, indulging in gelato outings, and even exchanging training shirts with their Croatian opponents, moments that strengthened team spirit and friendships.

TRAINING CAMP 2
August 2025

In August, both teams came together at Queen's University in Kingston for their second training camp. Each program trained with sixteen athletes, twelve rostered and four alternates. The boys completed fifteen on-court sessions, while the girls completed thirteen. Both groups worked with mental performance coach Jason Bovin to strengthen resilience, leadership, and cohesion. Competition included scrimmages against Team Quebec, U SPORTS athletes, and internal matches, while team-building activities rounded out the camp environment. The camp fostered resilience, leadership, and team chemistry — essential ingredients for success on the national stage.

CANADA SUMMER GAMES

August 2025

On August 17, Team Ontario set off for St. John's and the 2025 Canada Summer Games. The girls opened their tournament with a confident 3–1 win over British Columbia before dropping a narrow five-setter to Alberta. They rebounded with a sweep of Nova Scotia to finish second in their pool. In the quarterfinals, they overcame Quebec in four sets, then battled Saskatchewan in a nail-biting semifinal where three sets went to extra points. Ontario prevailed, setting up a rematch with Alberta in the gold medal final. Ontario started strong with a two-set lead. They dropped the third, but closed the door in the fourth, capturing the title of 2025 Canada Summer Games Champions, which broke Ontario's 20-year drought, winning the provinces first Canada Games gold since 2005. For her leadership and performance, Alex Brenner carried the Thank You banner at the Closing Ceremony alongside athletes from other sports, a fitting honour for an unforgettable week.

The boys' team also made their mark on the competition. They swept through pool play undefeated, including a thrilling five-set victory over Manitoba and commanding wins over New Brunswick and Alberta. After a quarterfinal win over BC, they met Manitoba again in the semifinals, only to fall 0–3 to a team that came very well prepared. Ontario regrouped quickly, however, sweeping Quebec in the bronze medal match to secure third place and a spot on the podium.

From the very first December training camp to the final points scored in St. John's, the 2025 Canada Summer Games journey was a testament to perseverance, teamwork, and the relentless pursuit of excellence. For Ontario's athletes and coaches, the medals and accolades were sweet, but the experiences, friendships, and lessons forged along the way will last a lifetime.

Girls Roster

Alexandra Brenner	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Jasmine Chretien	Maverick Volleyball Club
Eva Genier	Maverick Volleyball Club
Ella Hope	KW Predators Volleyball Club
Kristen Huebel	Storm Volleyball
Megan Hunter	REACH Volleyball Club
Roselle Mo	REACH Volleyball Club
Ana Nastase	KW Predators Volleyball Club
Dara Obeid	Halton Region Volleyball Club
Sophia Phung	Venom Volleyball club
Ana Stojanovic	Forest City Volleyball Club
Natalie Wahlgren	Halton Region Volleyball Club

Coaches

Jennifer Neilson	Head Coach
John Nguyen	Assistant Coach
Megan Kalbfleisch	Assistant Coach
Terry McMahon	Indigenous Apprentice Coach

Support Athletes/Staff

Mackenzie Reed	
Ania Magier	
Kate Mathieu	
Liv Kalbfleisch	
Jason Bovin	Mental Performance Coach

Boys Roster

Marcus Barrett	Leaside Volleyball
Matthias Cooper	Mountain Athletic Club
Justin Jamieson	Durham Attack Volleyball Club
Mason Lange	Forest City Volleyball Club
Daniel Lewis	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Brendan Lyons	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Ian McQueen	Niagara Rapids Volleyball Club
Parker Ocampo	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Toby Snider	KW Predators Volleyball Club
Cooper Spehr	Pakmen Volleyball Club
Aiden Vandenheuvel	KW Predators Volleyball Club
Deng Yout	Ottawa Fusion Volleyball Club

Coaches

Ian Eibbitt	Head Coach
Matthew Andrews-Harris	Assistant Coach
James Gravelle	Assistant Coach

Support Athletes/Staff

Jordan Low Ring	
Tristan Hassell	
Mathieu Joli-Coeur	
Jonah Ragasis	
Jason Bovin	Mental Performance Coach
Gerry Degiorlamo	Support Coach
Jimmy El-Turk	Guest Coach
Shayne White	Guest Coach

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

Ontario's beach volleyball teams shone brightly at the 2025 Canada Summer Games in St. John's, Newfoundland, earning medals in both the men's and women's events — a first in provincial history. The women's duo of Emma-Joy Cudmore and Ofure Odigie, coached by Ben Kerkhoff, dominated the field, going undefeated and capturing gold with a decisive straight-sets victory in the final. On the men's side, Gavin Deep and Aiden Hilkowitz, guided by Kelly McGuire, showcased resilience and competitive grit, storming back after dropping the opening set in the bronze medal match to claim the next two and secure their place on the podium.

Women's Roster

Emma-Joy Cudmore
Ofure Odigie

Men's Roster

Aiden Hilkowitz
Gavin Deep

Coaches

Ben Kerkhoff

Coaches

Kelly McGuire

PREPARATION & TRAINING

Preparation for the Games was intentional, immersive, and designed to mirror the realities of elite international competition. In July, Ontario's beach teams travelled to Calgary for a high-performance training camp, combining daily practices with competition at the Calgary Open. The camp simulated the demands of multi-day tournaments and exposed athletes to the rhythms of travel, environmental adaptation, and structured routines for recovery and performance.

FACING ADVERSITY IN ST. JOHN'S

The Games themselves provided a high-performance environment unlike any other. Athletes lived in the Games Village, worked with support services, and competed as part of Team Ontario in a setting that mirrors international and Olympic events. The Games presented challenges that tested every athlete's adaptability. Wildfires across Newfoundland and Labrador forced the postponement of matches at Paradise Park, with smoke conditions prompting delays and restricting access to essential personnel only. Despite shifting schedules, reduced spectators, and heightened safety protocols, Ontario's athletes and coaches remained focused and composed. Their ability to adjust under pressure was a true reflection of the preparation and mental resilience instilled throughout the program.

Amid uncertainty, the beach volleyball competition became a showcase of perseverance and professionalism. Both Ontario teams rose to the occasion, turning adversity into opportunity and delivering performances that underscored the strength and depth of Ontario's development system. The women's undefeated gold-medal run, and the men's hard-fought bronze were defining moments — not only for the athletes but for the entire OVA community by demonstrating the strength of the province's development pathway in beach volleyball.

A HISTORIC MILESTONE FOR TEAM ONTARIO

Together, Ontario's indoor and beach volleyball teams demonstrated the province's strength across all disciplines, with each program contributing to a multi-faceted display of talent, preparation, and high-performance excellence on the national stage.

Team Ontario Volleyball achieved a historic milestone, earning medals in all four volleyball events for the first time in provincial history. The indoor women's team captured gold, ending a 20-year drought, while the indoor men's team earned a hard-fought bronze. On the sand, the women's team went undefeated en route to gold, and the men's team staged a thrilling comeback to secure bronze. This unprecedented sweep showcased the skill, resilience, and determination of Ontario's athletes, as well as the depth and strength of the province's indoor and beach volleyball programs. Beyond the podium, the Games provided invaluable experiences — testing athletes at the highest national level, fostering leadership, and creating memories that will last a lifetime — underscoring Ontario Volleyball's commitment to excellence, development, and opportunity across all levels of the sport.

ADVANCING COACHING CAPACITY THROUGH CANADA GAMES PREPARATION

Ontario's approach to coach development was central to its success at the 2025 Canada Games. Coaches Ben Kerkhoff and Kelly McGuire were supported through a structured preparation process designed to strengthen their capacity to coach the person, not just manage training plans. The goal was to equip them to guide athletes through the human side of performance in high-pressure environments, a focus that contributed to Ontario's podium finishes in St. John's.

Preparation centered on performance coaching: supporting athletes' decision-making, relationships, and independence under pressure. Throughout the season, both coaches received targeted mentorship in managing performance environments and navigating the interpersonal dynamics that influence outcomes. They completed their advanced development coach certification and gained valuable experience through assignments at international competitions. Ben served as lead coach for Canada at the U23 NORCECA Continental event, while Kelly joined the coaching team at the U21 World Championship. These roles gave both coaches the chance to apply their learning in high-level settings that mirror the demands of the Canada Games.

By combining mentorship, applied international experience, and ongoing certification, Ontario built coaching capacity that directly supported athletes at the Games. The results, a women's gold and a men's bronze, demonstrated the impact of investing in coaches who are prepared to develop athletes both as performers and as people.

The Aboriginal Apprentice Coach Program (AACP) is a national initiative through Canada Games Council, Aboriginal Sport Circle and the Coaching Association of Canada that enables each province and territory to send two coaches of First Nations, Métis or Inuit ancestry to the Canada Summer Games in apprenticeship roles. These apprentices complete training through the National Coaching Certification Program and gain hands-on experience on multi-sport Games staffs, helping build Indigenous coaching capacity at the national level.

ONTARIO'S INDIGENOUS APPRENTICE COACH BRINGS NEW PERSPECTIVES TO TEAM ONTARIO

Terry McMahon from Fort Frances served as Ontario's Indigenous Apprentice Coach for women's volleyball at the 2025 Canada Summer Games in St. John's. He immediately made an impact with the coaching staff and the athletes, making great relationships and bringing a new perspective to the group. His role allowed him to observe all aspects of team preparation and contribute where needed. He credited the AACP with elevating his coaching path and sees it as providing inspiration and tangible development opportunities to Indigenous youth and coaches in his home community.

"The experience was incredible. Seeing that many talented Indigenous athletes in one space, it was inspiring. And our coaching staff keeps in touch today. It's the kind of bond you don't lose, and it's been great to have those connections within the national volleyball community. Kids from where I'm from don't always think it's attainable to reach this level. If they see someone from their own community here, maybe that inspires them to go for it."

Terry McMahon
Apprentice Coach, Team Ontario (Canada Games)

"I think having any coach on staff who gets to learn from their experiences and their opportunities, and another voice in the gym, is always super positive. Terry's made such great connections with the girls—they love having him around, and we love what he contributes to the team dynamic. I think it's super cool that we can learn from him and he gets a chance to learn from us as well. We're all part of the greater Team Ontario, and getting to know him as a person and a coach has been such a privilege for us."

Megan Kalbfleish
Assistant Coach, Team Ontario (Canada Games)

YOUTH ONTARIO ATHLETES AT INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

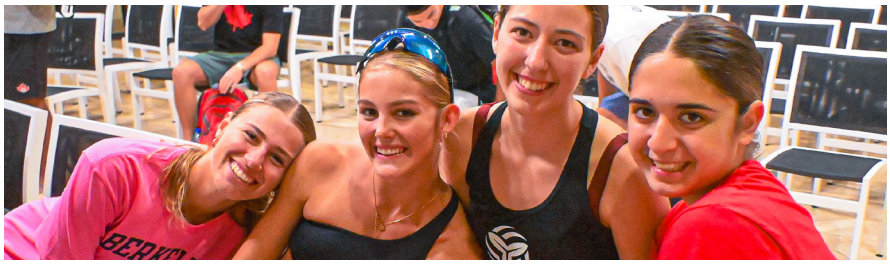
Ontario athletes gained valuable international experience this past year, competing at NORCECA events and World Championship qualifiers. These opportunities marked important first steps on the international stage, with strong performances supported by OVA, Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative (OHPSI), and Team Ontario coaches.

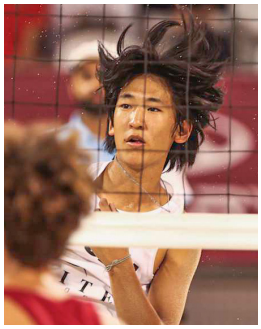
In October 2024, Maya Boutanos and Kate Chipman, along with Cole Linskill and Hank Heider, made their international debuts at the U23 NORCECA in the Dominican Republic, where both teams secured their first wins.

In the summer of 2025, Nolyn Houben and Claire Neagle also debuted at the U23 NORCECA, while EJ Cudmore and Sophie Hancock captured silver.

Weeks later in the Cayman Islands, AJ Fogarty and Bailey Royston recorded their first international victory with a seventh-place finish, while Houben and Neagle added a ninth-place result.

In July, Sophie Hancock and Ruby Cochrane won bronze at the U18 NORCECA World Championship Qualifier, earning a spot at the 2025 Beach World Championships in Doha. They were joined by Bryce Kim and Misha Panasiouk, who secured silver on the boys' side.





ONTARIO ATHLETES ON INTERNATIONAL PODIUMS

NORCECA Beach Volleyball Continental Tour
Punta Cana (October 2–4, 2024)

Kaylee Glagau & Amy Ozee
Silver

Rouzbeh Rahnavard & Tynan Gannett
Bronze

NORCECA Beach Volleyball Continental Tour
Honduras, Puerto Cortés (October 18–20, 2024)

Kaylee Glagau & Amy Ozee
Gold

NORCECA Beach Volleyball Continental Tour
Bonaire (November 1–3, 2024)

Jake MacNeil & Arran Chambers
Silver

Martin Licht & Luke de Greeff
Bronze

Anna Licht & Dana Roskic
Silver

NORCECA Beach Volleyball Continental Tour
San Salvador (November 8–10, 2024)

Jake MacNeil & Arran Chambers
Gold

Martin Licht & Luke de Greeff
Bronze

Anna Licht & Dana Roskic
Silver

Kaylee Glagau & Amy Ozee
Bronze

NORCECA Beach Volleyball Continental Tour
Paramaribo (July 25–27, 2025)

Emma Glagau & Kaylee Glagau
Bronze

FIVB Beach Pro Tour Elite16
Montréal (August 13–17, 2025)

Melissa Humana-Paredes & Brandi Wilkerson
Gold

NORCECA Beach Volleyball Continental Tour
Manzanillo (August 29–31, 2025)

Cameron Chadwick & Robert Kemp
Silver

Mikayla Law-Heese & Darby Dunn
Silver

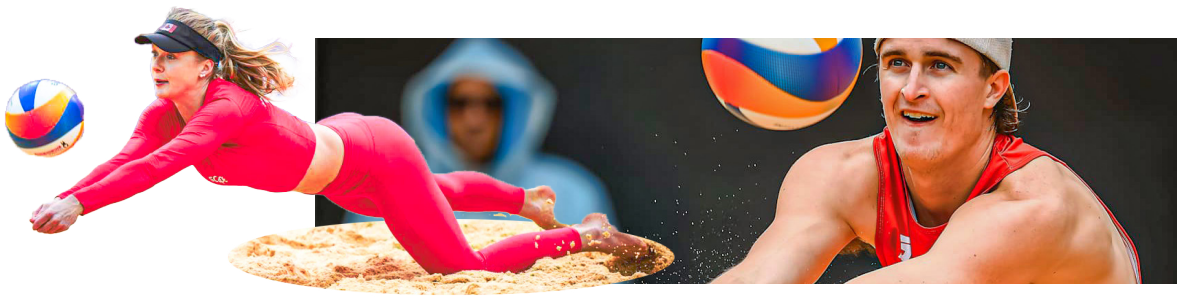
FORMER TEAM ONTARIO ATHLETES BREAK THROUGH ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE

Two Team Ontario alumni made major strides on the international beach volleyball circuit in 2025, highlighting the pathway from provincial development to the highest levels of the sport.

Lea Monkhouse qualified for her first Beach Pro Tour Elite16 Main Draw in Montreal, marking a milestone in her steady rise on the international scene. Now a member of Canada's 2025 NextGen National Team, Monkhouse has been building toward this moment since her early years in the Team Ontario Full-Time Training Group and Targeted Support program (2015–2019). Along the way, she earned silver at the 2017 Canada Games, competed at the 2019 U21 World Championships, and secured her first national team carding in 2020.

Johnny Pickett also celebrated a breakthrough season, pairing with Olympian Sam Schachter to compete on the Beach Pro Tour. The duo earned multiple top-10 finishes and a year-end ranking just outside the global top 70, capped by a 13th-place finish in his first Elite16 Main Draw appearance in Montreal. A former member of the Team Ontario Targeted Support program, Pickett placed 17th at the 2019 U21 World Championships, won gold at the 2022 Canada Games, and was carded as a national team athlete that same year.

The Ontario volleyball community congratulates Lea Monkhouse and Johnny Pickett on these accomplishments and celebrates their progression from Team Ontario athletes to members of Canada's NextGen National Teams. We are proud to have been part of their journey and wish them continued success as they pursue their careers on the international stage.



SARAH PAVAN RETIRES AFTER A REMARKABLE CAREER

In October 2024, Ontario's own Sarah Pavan — beach volleyball Olympian, 2019 World Champion, and one of the most accomplished Canadian volleyball players in history — announced her retirement from the national team, marking the close of an extraordinary 30-year journey in the sport.

Born and raised in Kitchener, Ontario, Sarah's story began on the court at age 10. By 16, she had already made history as the youngest woman ever selected to Canada's National Indoor Team. Her brilliance continued at the University of Nebraska, where she captured the 2006 NCAA Championship title, received the AVCA National Player of the Year award in 2006, earned four First Team All-American honours, was named the ESPN Academic All American in 2007 and 2008 before graduating with a 4.0 GPA in Biochemistry — a rare combination of athletic and academic excellence.

Following her collegiate success, Sarah's professional career spanned Europe, South America, and Asia, where she became a two-time Brazilian Superliga Champion, competed in the CEV Champions League Final Four, FIVB Club World Championship silver medalist, and Best Opposite award winner. Pavan was a professional player for more than a decade in Europe, South America, and Asia before she boldly transitioned to beach volleyball in 2013, beginning a new chapter that would define her legacy on the international stage.

Representing Canada, Sarah became a two-time Olympian (Rio 2016, Tokyo 2020) and amassed 27 international medals, including gold at the 2019 FIVB World Championships and two Commonwealth Games titles (Gold Coast 2018, Birmingham 2022). Her success helped elevate Canadian beach volleyball to global prominence and inspired generations of young athletes to dream big.

Reflecting on her retirement, Sarah shared:

"Volleyball has always been so much more than a sport to me. It has been my social circle, my safe space, my classroom, my vehicle of self-expression, my career, and my first love."

The Ontario Volleyball Association is deeply proud of Sarah's achievements and her role in shaping the sport's future in Canada. Her commitment, leadership, and pursuit of excellence set a standard that will continue to inspire athletes across Ontario and beyond.

Congratulations, Sarah, on an incredible career and legacy in the world of volleyball.

COACH DEVELOPMENT

INTERNATIONAL COACHES SYMPOSIUM

From June 6–8, 2025, Ontario Volleyball hosted the 6th annual International Coach Symposium in conjunction with Volleyball Nations League matches in Ottawa. The symposium brought together more than 100 coaches from across the country for a program combining on-court demonstrations, classroom workshops, and opportunities to connect with peers.

Over the weekend, coaches attended seven on-court sessions and eight classroom workshops covering a wide range of technical and professional development topics. International presenters included Giovanni Guidetti, who focused on blocking and defense, and Ferhat Akbas, who shared perspectives from his work with the Japanese National Team. Canadian experts also contributed, with Lionel Woods presenting on roster building, Matt Krueger on motor learning and adaptive systems in volleyball, and Doug Reimer on serve receive and performance. A panel discussion featuring U SPORTS coaches Kristine Drakich, Mark Dodds, and Doug Reimer provided further opportunities for knowledge exchange.

The symposium also included a unique athlete component. In partnership with Region 6, 64 athletes were given the opportunity to train on the VNL match court. Four training sessions, each 90 minutes in length, sold out in six minutes. Led by Team Canada and Team Ontario coach Matt Harris, the sessions included a Team Canada warm-up, skill development drills, and a ticket to attend a VNL match.

The 2025 International Coach Symposium provided coaches and athletes with a high-quality learning environment and direct exposure to international volleyball, reinforcing Ontario Volleyball's commitment to development at all levels of the sport.

NCCP COACH TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION

In 2024–25, the OVA continued to strengthen its coaching pathway through the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP), providing training and evaluation opportunities across multiple contexts.

The OVA also welcomed new leaders into the coaching development system. Colin Walker joined as a Development Coach Workshop Learning Facilitator. Brad Graham took on the role of Advanced Development Workshop Learning Facilitator, and along with Vishnu Persaud and Jos Nederveen, became part of the Advanced Development Evaluator team.

These additions strengthen the network of facilitators and evaluators across the province, ensuring that Ontario coaches continue to have access to high-quality training and support.

258 Coaches Trained

25 Workshops

17 Development Coach Workshops → **197** Coaches Trained

7 Adv. Development Coach Workshops → **54** Coaches Trained

1 Adv. Beach Coach Workshop → **7** Coaches Trained

55 Coaches completed their formal evaluations

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Another busy and successful year! The growth in volleyball across Canada and in particular in Ontario has been off the charts. I seem to be saying that each and every year. It's a great thing, but it's also a challenge. We have over 850 certified refs, with a waiting list of still a couple hundred and we are doing our best to keep up. We don't have an issue necessarily with certifying referees, but we also need mentoring so that they are not left on an island by themselves. It's challenge, but something that we really need to brainstorm.

We started off the year with a successful coach/referee symposium that took place back in October at U of T. Although we only had a few coaches present, we had almost 40 senior level referees present. I have already been in talks with Guy Bradbury and Humber College to host during the 2025/26 referee/coach symposium at the Humber Cup on September 27. We will already have coaches present from the OCAA and OUA. The plan is to open it up to all referees as there are a few new rule changes that will be taking affect at the OUA and OCAA level. At this time, the new rules will not be adopted by Volleyball Canada at the youth level.

The RRC's can utilize their ODF to help cover the cost of referees travelling in from out of town or those that would be staying at a hotel.

Congratulations to all travelling referees that represented Ontario on the National and International stage. A Full listing of assignments is listed further down in the report under the "National & International Representation: Ontario on the Global Stage" reoprt.

Key Highlights from 2024-25

- 2 New Indoor National Referees. Congratulations to Kennedy Ramsden and Ryan McDoom on their exceptional performance on the National stage in Edmonton.
- 6 New Regional Referees - Congratulations to Scott Burrows, Denise Grummett, Andrew Advincula, Huw Davis, Brian Fu and Brad Salatino
- 16 referees from all 6 region's representing the province at the Canada Cup. Thanks to Samara Sevor and Terry Sonoda who were also part of the RDT.
- Congratulations to Renzo Milan who has received the VC Referee Award of Distinction.
- A huge congratulations to Vince Enright who was inducted intto the Ontario Hall of Fame…well deserved!
- Congratulations to Dean Oberle, who received the Official's Award of Merit, posthumous, that was presented to his brother Don.
- We allso recognized another referee who we lost back in October 2024, Denise Klenk was a National referee both Indoor and, on the Beach, and is greatly missed.
- Beach Nationals was another huge success this summer. Big shout out to Kelvin Yee who organized and lead the troops as the Referee Supervisor. He put in countless hours to ensure we had the right mix of referees considering it was the same weekend as the Canada Summer Games in Newfoundland and the Elite 16 event in Montreal. Thanks to all of the referees from across the country and the RDT's that made the event a memorable one.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire Provincial Committee members and the OVA staff for all their hard work and support over the years. It's hard to believe that I have been on the committee since 2004!

Special thanks to Kelvin Cheng, who really has been my right hand over the years. I appreciate all that you have done. Also, a big thank you to Alishia Lidums who has done tremendous work for the OVA. Both have been strong contributors and supporters of the amazing referees we have here in Ontario.

The sport continues to grow each and every year which is a great thing, but it also has its challenges, as we try to keep up with this rapid growth. It's a blessing and a curse, but I think we are up for the challenge.

I wish Martin Kersten's, the new Chair, and the rest of the committee members all the best for the upcoming season and years to come.

With gratitude,

Andrew

REFEREES

Refereeing in Ontario continues to expand alongside the rapid growth of volleyball participation across the province. With more than 850 certified referees and a waiting list of several hundred more, the demand to officiate reflects both the popularity of the sport and the essential role referees play in ensuring quality competition. Certification remains strong, but the focus now extends to mentoring and providing ongoing support so that referees are well-prepared and connected, rather than working in isolation.

This past year, the referee portfolio was moved into the broader Sport Development portfolio, creating new opportunities for collaboration between athlete, coach, and referee development staff. This integration strengthens alignment across all areas of the game and supports a more holistic approach to developing the volleyball community in Ontario.

While rapid growth presents challenges, it also points to an exciting future. With a strong base of certified referees, high interest in the pathway, and greater collaboration across development areas, Ontario is well-positioned to continue building a sustainable and robust officiating system to meet the needs of the sport in the years ahead.

850+

Certified Referees

Referee Committee 2024-25

Andrew Robb	ORRC
Tony Curciarello	Region 1 Chair
Al Tkachuk	Region 1 Chair
Brian Rancourt	Region 2 Chair
Samara Sevor	Region 3 Chair
Lynn Watkins	Region 4 Chair
Jennifer Adams	Region 5 Chair
Irena Zamboni	Region 6 Chair
Kelvin Yee	Beach Chair
Jason Dodd	Programs Chair
Bob Rocque	Quality Assurance Chair
Andy Cameron	Operations Chair

STRENGTHENING THE BASE

A major focus this year was the recruitment and training of new referees, building the foundation of Ontario's officiating community. The results highlight the strength of these efforts:

32 Level 1 Clinics ➤ **395** New Referees

4 Beach Clinics ➤ **36** New Referees

By investing in Local referee development, Ontario continues to grow a strong pipeline of officials and ensure that the sport's rapid growth is supported by well-prepared referees at the grassroots level.

PROVINCIAL UPGRADE PROGRAM

In 2025, the Provincial Upgrade Program supported 47 referees in achieving their Level 2 Indoor (Provincial) certification. This milestone demonstrates the strength of Ontario's officiating development pathway and the commitment of referees to advancing their skills. With support from regional leaders and mentors, these officials are now prepared to contribute at higher levels of competition and meet the growing demands of the sport.

Region 2

Abigail Crewson, David Crewson, Cristina Makitalo

Region 3

Kim Dewar, Scott Elliott, Ken Gadsdon, John Hong, Chantal Lapierre, Jovan Lukic, Bowen Ma, Marialaura Marin, Ryan Meade, Carra Myers, Alero Ogbeide, Audrey Ouellet, Petar Petkovic, Shanti Sapkota, Paul Wilkinson

Region 5

Ethan Dinh, Mike Dunne, Tynan Gannett, Stephen Han, Louis Kau, Shakira Pasit, Aleks Todorov, Mia Wong, Gang Xu

Region 6

Jeshan Anandarajan, Marian Corak, Emily Cottreau, Lydia Evequoz, Peter Gilbert, Elle Mouratidis, Paula Andrea, Pereira Lopez, Zachary Shewan, Alexandre Sollars

NEW INDOOR REGIONAL REFEREES

This year, six officials advanced to Level 3 Regional Referee certification: **Scott Burrows**, **Denise Grummett**, **Andrew Advincula**, **Huw Davis**, **Brian Fu**, and **Brad Salatino**. Their achievement strengthens Ontario's officiating capacity at higher levels of competition and highlights the ongoing growth of the referee pathway across the province.

NEW INDOOR NATIONAL REFEREES

Ontario is proud to recognize the achievement of two referees who earned their Level 4 National Referee certification this year: **Kennedy Ramsden** and **Ryan McDoom**. Their accomplishment reflects the strength of Ontario's officiating pathway and the dedication required to reach the highest levels of refereeing in Canada.

SENIOR REFEREE SYMPOSIUM

On October 27, 2024, the OVA hosted its first Senior Referee Symposium at the University of Toronto Athletic Centre. The event brought together 42 referees at Level 3 and above, alongside varsity coaches, to focus on officiating at the post-secondary level.

The symposium aimed to go beyond rules and regulations by fostering dialogue between referees and varsity coaches, strengthening cohesion and mutual understanding. The program included:

- Presentations on OUA and OCAA regulations and upcoming rule changes, supported by video review and Q&A.
- International referees sharing their experiences from FIVB and NORCECA events, providing global context to the work of Ontario officials.
- A joint session with varsity coaches, who shared program perspectives and expectations of referees, building stronger coach-referee relationships.

This new initiative marked an important step in enhancing collaboration between Ontario's officiating community and the post-secondary volleyball system, reinforcing the OVA's commitment to continuous development and connection at all levels of the sport.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION

CCAA Championships

Jennifer Adams
R1 | Women's Bronze
Khan Vu
Women's Championships Referee Team
David Williams
Men's Championships Referee Team

U SPORTS Championships

Jason Dodd
R2 | Women's Bronze
Andrew Robb
R2 | Women's Gold
Chris Goetz
Women's Championships Referee Team
Samara Sevor
R1 | Men's Bronze
Andy Cameron
R2 | Men's Gold

Canada Summer Games

Kennedy Ramsden
R1 | Men's Gold (Indoor)
Ryan McDoom
R1 | Women's Bronze (Indoor)
Niv Nadarajah
R1 | Men's Gold (Beach)
Melanie Dussiaume
R1 | Women's Bronze

Canada Cup

Hosted in Ontario with 16 referees from across all regions

Samara Sevor & Terry Sonoda
Referee Development Team members

BEACH NATIONALS: LEADERSHIP IN ACTION

Under the leadership of Kelvin Yee, Beach Nationals was a resounding success. Despite overlapping with the Canada Summer Games and Elite 16, Kelvin ensured seamless coordination, optimal referee deployment, and a memorable experience for all involved.

His efforts exemplify the kind of leadership that drives our programs forward—quiet, relentless, and deeply impactful.

INTERNATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS

Samara Sevor	Women's U21 World Championship (Indonesia) | R2 - Gold, Women's U23 Pan Am Cup (Mexico), League One Volleyball (Louisville, Atlanta, Houston, Wisconsin) | 10 matches and R1 in league finals
Jason Dodd	Boys' U17 World Championship, Boys' U19 World Championship
Andy Cameron	Volleyball Nations League (Brazil), Women's World Championship (Thailand), League One Volleyball (Salt Lake City, Atlanta, Austin) | 10 assignments
Andrew Robb	Volleyball Nations League (Ottawa & Quebec), Women's U23 Pan Am Cup (Mexico), League One Volleyball (Houston, Atlanta, Salt Lake City) | 5 assignments
Omid Mojtahdi	FIVB Elite 16 (Montreal), U21 World Championship (Mexico)

RECOGNITION & LEGACY

Renzo Milan
VC Referee Award of Distinction

Vince Enright
OVA Hall of Fame Nominee

Dean Oberle
Official's Award of Merit (Posthumous)

Denise Klenk
In Memoriam

2025 REFEREE DEVELOPMENT TEAM MEMBERS

The OVA's commitment to nurturing referee talent was further demonstrated by the involvement of 57 referees who worked as Referee Development Team (RDT) members at Indoor Ontario Championships 2025. 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.

Area Supervisors

Huguette Mankala
Dario Zamboni
Elias Soueiti
Erica Menchetti
Erick Mompoint
Brian Rancourt
Chris Vail
Sue Leknois
Vince Birstonas
Patrick Corriveau
Luc Chayer
Khan Vu
Dimitri Magirias
Hollie Roy
Brittany Saunders
Brad Moyer
Sue Burns
Teresa Vizzari
Ryan McDoom
Brad Graham
Vince Enright
Andy Woo
Brad Girardo
Kelvin Yee
Dave Williams
Mike Trotter
Marrick Yee
Kennedy Ramsden
Samara Sevor
Angelo Messina
Terry Sonoda
Irene Barras

Head Offical

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

Assignors

Dave Lo
Irene Barras
Kelvin Yee

Mentors

Luc Chayer
Patrick Corriveau
Dale Huddleston
Erica Menchetti
Huguette Mankala
Guy Bradbury
Lino Condotta
Deb Hartnett
Terry Sonoda
Michael Brandreth
Jennifer Adams
Kelvin Yee
Jason Dodd
Andy Cameron

REGIONAL COUNCIL REPORT

During the last year, the Ontario Volleyball Association's (OVA) Regional Council served as a primary point of contact for the OVA Board of Directors and management, acting in an advisory capacity to ensure decisions and the OVA strategic plan address regional issues and facilitates communication across the province.

Last season, the council focused on funding opportunities for membership, collaborating on development initiatives like the Sport for Life indoor competition review and provided key input on policies.

The council oversees the work of subcommittees such as the Indoor Volleyball Development Council and the Regional Coach Development Subcommittee, which provide focused advice on specific initiatives.

Key Highlights from 2024-25

- Tryout window data collection
- OVA Coach Development Subsidy Program & Mentorship Program
- Funding for new Referee uniform rebates
- Providing feedback to Sport for Life for the indoor competition review

Regional Council Members

Council Members	Region
Tony Curciarello	Region 1
Bryan Welsh	Region 2
Tauri Caputo	Region 3
Dwayne Cochrane	Region 4
Katie Hutchinson	Region 5
Shaun Illingworth	Region 6

Indoor Volleyball Development Council (IVDC) - Regional Council Subcommittee

Name	Club/Team	Committee Position
Corinne Williams	KW Preds VC	Chair
Tauri Caputo	Smash Raiders VC	Member
Andrew Robb	Ontario Referee Chair	Member
Neil Bolton	41SIX VC	Member
John Child	Leaside VC	Member
Derek Dedman	Maverick VC	Member
Matt Somerville	Kingston Rock VC	Member
Sylvie LaPerriere	North Bay Lakers VC	Member
Carrie Campbell		OVA Manager of Indoor Programs
LP Mainville		OVA Director of Athlete Development
Mark Wiersma		OVA Youth Competition
Jo-Anne Ljubicic		OVA Executive Director

REGIONAL COUNCIL COACHING SUBCOMMITTEE: DRIVING STRATEGIC IMPACT

The 2024–25 season marked the launch of the Regional Coach Development Subcommittee (RCDS), created to provide regional input into coach development priorities across Ontario. Established in late fall 2024, the RCDS advises the Regional Council on how to allocate funds to support coach development initiatives, ensuring that investments reflect the distinct needs and contexts of Ontario's six regions. Its first initiatives, introduced in January, were the Coach Support & Networking Program and the Club Coach Development Subsidy, both designed to strengthen grassroots coaching growth and make professional development more accessible and regionally relevant.

Regional Council Coaching Subcommittee Members

Council Members	Region
Louise Smith	Maverick VC
Jason Marchant	Oakville Thunder VC
John Curtis	Superior North VC
Jennifer Kelly	Niagara Rapids VC
Jessilyn McCash	Waterloo Tigers VC
Sudheer Joshi	Hummingbird VC
Mike Wakayama	Pioneers VC
Derek Dedman	Maverick VC
Danny Gosselin	Vision VC

COACH SUPPORT & NETWORKING PROGRAM

Launched mid-season, this program connected coaches with experienced advisors for mentorship in specific areas. With 22 advisors registered and 14 matches made, the program provided both financial support for tutorship and valuable opportunities for coach-to-coach learning.

CLUB COACH DEVELOPMENT SUBSIDY

Introduced in January, this subsidy offers funding to clubs to offset the costs of delivering coach development activities. While no clubs accessed the program during its launch window, it is positioned to support development initiatives in the upcoming season.

REFEREE UNIFORM REBATE

To help reduce financial barriers for new officials, the OVA continued its Referee Uniform Rebate program in 2024–25, providing up to $100 per referee toward the cost of required uniforms. A total of 149 applications were received, with 129 approved, including 22 new beach referees, representing a 31% increase from the previous season. In total, $12,706 was distributed to support new referees as they entered the system and completed their certification.

INCLUSION, DIVERSITY & EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (IDEAC) REPORT

This year, the OVA's Inclusion, Diversity & Equity Advisory Committee (IDEAC) continued its mission to make volleyball in Ontario more accessible, welcoming, and representative of the province's diverse communities. Guided by a commitment to build relationships before recognition, the OVA strengthened partnerships that remove barriers and celebrate belonging.

The most significant milestone was the launch of Ontario Volleyball Connect (OVC), a new digital platform designed to make it easier for athletes, families, and community providers to access and deliver programs. OVC has become a bridge connecting underrepresented groups to volleyball opportunities across the province, developed in consultation with 2SLGBTQIA+, Indigenous, and adaptive sport partners.

This approach was mirrored in community partnerships throughout the year:

Grassroots outreach in partnership with Toronto Community Housing and Jumpstart introduced Smashball and Sitting Volleyball to youth in priority neighbourhoods.

Collaborations with Our Spectrum Sports and Pride Capital created inclusive spaces for 2SLGBTQIA+ adults to play safely and confidently.

In adaptive sport, Sitting Volleyball reached new heights through the Ontario Parasport Games and the province's first post-secondary invitational at Durham College.

OVA also deepened its relationship-first approach with Indigenous communities by supporting the Masters Indigenous Games, partnering with local leaders in Sault Ste. Marie to launch new grassroots and coach development programs, and working alongside the Aboriginal Sport Circle to ensure cultural relevance and trust. These efforts build on long-standing ties with the North American Indigenous Games and community-led tournaments such as those hosted by the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

Through these actions, the OVA reaffirmed that inclusion is not an initiative—it's the foundation of how we grow the game. Whether online through OVC or on the court through community partnerships, volleyball in Ontario is evolving into a sport where everyone truly belongs.

Inclusion, Diversity & Equity Advisory Committee (IDEAC)

Name	Club/Team	Committee Position
Kerish Maharaj	OVA Staff	Co-Chair
Michael Amoroso	OVA Board of Directors	Co-Chair
Andrew Robb	Ontario Referee Chair	Member
Ally Fast	Niagara Penguins/ Brock University	Member
Jessy Satti	Pakmen VC	Member
Jen Neilson	York University	Member
Kelly Deuster	Parent Rep.	Member
Gursimran Deol	Former Athlete	Member

Awards & History Committee

Name	Committee Position
Howie Grossinger	Chair (Appointed by Board)
Margo Malowney	Board Member (Appointed by Board)
Tauri Caputo	Regional Rep. (Appointed by Board)
Kennedy Ramsden	Referee Rep. (Appointed by Referee Chair)
Brenda Willis	Honourary Life Member
Kristine Drakich	Member at Large
John Nelson	Member at Large
Joely Christian-Macfarlane	Member at Large
Jo-Anne Ljubicic	OVA Executive Director
Mylene Andrade	OVA Staff
George Huffman	OVA Staff

OVATION BANQUET AND HALL OF FAME 2025

On May 31, the Ontario Volleyball Association hosted the 2025 OVAtions Awards Banquet and Hall of Fame Induction at the Ajax Convention Centre, celebrating the outstanding achievements and lasting contributions of Ontario's volleyball community.

The evening brought together athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and families for a night of connection and celebration. Laughter, applause, and heartfelt stories filled the room as generations of volleyball builders stood side by side to honour excellence, leadership, and passion for the game.

More than just an awards ceremony, the OVAtion banquet reflected the spirit of our community—where the past, present, and future of volleyball come together as one family. The OVA extends its deepest gratitude to all Hall of Fame inductees and award recipients for their continued dedication to growing the game in Ontario.

Congratulations to the Hall of Fame Class of 2025 and all Service Award Winners!

2025 Hall of Fame Inductees

Builder
Kerry MacLean
Paul Pavan

Athlete
John Barrett
Margo Malowney
Stacey Jiggins (Gordon)

Coach
Tim Louks

Referee
Vince Enright

2025 Service Awards

Recognition Award
Sarah Bacchus
Zandra Bear-Lowen
Greg Bell
Meaghan Boat Smith
Zachary Bush
Amanda Cameron
Scott Coulthard
TJ Cox
Brad Douglas
Alain Dube
Jeff Farrell
Jody Fedak
Lindsay Felker
Melanie Felker
Jerry Francis
Jason French
Denis Gaboury
Nicole Girard
Kevin Graham
Allison Gray
Craig Hill
Allison Ireland
Mairi Jappy
Patrick Johnston
Denis King
Nicholas Krawchuk
Jelle Kooijman
Olivier Lacasse
Andrea Lackvic
Joe Lackvic
Gilles Landry
Julianna Marfisi
Michael Martin
Jamie Mastorakos
Erica Meagher
Jessica Meggit
Patti Meggit
Taylor Morrison
Karen Murray
Nicole Myslivecek
Mike Ongley
Nandish Patel
Sally Plows
Paul Podstawka
Brett Potvin
Felix Potvin
Mitch Proteau
Jason Ray
Iliana Schlechta
Gurb Singh
Tim Silcox
Jason Slattery
Louis Smith
Sean Spanton
Julie Stempski
Christina Stratford
Laura Tuepah
Tiee Wong
Tuck Yiong
Becky Zeeman

2025 Service Awards

Achievement Award
Judi Shum-Mosseau
Mark Armitage
Wally Verschoor
Wayne Felker

Diane Wood Achievement Award
Elias Souetti
Francois St. Denis
Greg Skotnicki

Female Development Coach of the Year
Elaine Pilgrim-Susi

Male Development Coach of the Year
Shane Whalen

Mike Bugarski Coach of the Year
Peter Wong

Sandy Silver Coach of the Year
Anne Grover

Official's Award of Merit
Dean Oberle

Scarborough Solars Award
Cameron Chadwick
Madeline Pelosi
Markus Law-Heese

CARRIE CAMPBELL: CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

Carrie Campbell's journey with the Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA) began over two decades ago, when she first joined the organization part-time on the OVA Beach Tour. Her strong work ethic, organizational skills, and passion for the sport quickly stood out, leading then–Executive Director Dianne Wood to hire her full-time as an Indoor Program Coordinator.

Since then, Carrie has played a pivotal role in shaping youth competition programs and events across the province. Her steady leadership, deep understanding of the volleyball community, and unwavering commitment to quality have guided her team through years of growth and change. She help build the sport by helping to introduce the festival style Ontario Championships at RIM Park in 2008 and successfully navigated challenges like the pandemic, launching new league models, developing the Early Contact Initiative with the IVDC and introducing live results services such as TIMU and AES to elevate the competition experience for athletes, coaches, and families alike.

Carrie's ability to adapt, lead with empathy, and continuously seek improvement has left a lasting mark on the OVA. As she transitions into her new role as Club Services Manager, there's no doubt she will continue to drive progress, build strong relationships, and support clubs across Ontario with the same dedication and care that have defined her career and will continue to shape the future of the OVA.

She is an irreplicable member of the OVA family with the natural ability to light up our work environment and bring the best out of those around her. Thank you, Carrie, for your 20 years of dedicated service to the Ontario Volleyball Association, and for the countless ways you have helped volleyball in Ontario grow and thrive.

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THE CITY OF Waterloo

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MIZUNO

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hudl

PARASPORT ONTARIO

SIX PACK RECRUITING

Jumpstart
Giving kids a sporting chance.

communiti

Timu.ca
Mobile eScoreboards

FINANCIALS

Statement of Financial Position

August 31,2025

CURRENT				
Cash	$	**2,124,317**	$	2,704,449
Short-term investments		**96,000**		62,000
Accounts receivable		**227,339**		237,942
Interest receivable		**5,163**		4,198
Harmonized sales tax recoverable		**134,954**		98,703
Prepaid expenses		**749,514**		305,229
		3,337,287		3,412,521
CAPITAL ASSETS		**615,012**		237,449
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS		**461,146**		466,193
DEPOSITS		**22,024**		22,024
	$	**4,435,469**	$	4,138,187

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS				
CURRENT				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$	**1,228,143**	$	1,327,691
Deferred revenue		**289,805**		336,315
		1,517,948		1,664,006
DEFERRED REVENUE		**2,202**		4,202
		1,520,150		1,668,208
NET ASSETS				
Contingency reserve fund		**2,214,317**		1,843,103
Payable to members fund		**701,002**		626,876
		2,915,319		2,469,979
	$	**4,435,469**	$	4,138,187

Statement of Revenues and Expenditures

Year Ended August 31,2025

REVENUE		
Programs - tournaments, fees and other	**$ 8,838,847**	$ 7,948,082
Memberships	**1,065,578**	873,833
Grants - Government of Ontario	**389,418**	387,537
Sponsorships	**188,858**	155,144
Investment income	**168,225**	205,858
Grants - Other	**127,012**	122,278
Other income	**54,503**	39,034
Grants - Trillium Fund	**22,236**	22,236
Fundraising	**9,144**	8,473
Publication sales	**1,006**	1,688
	10,864,827	9,764,163
EXPENDITURES		
Programs	**9,185,355**	8,234,038
Administrative salaries and benefits	**493,135**	431,632
Other administrative costs	**489,170**	678,797
Special events	**116,428**	86,701
Amortization of capital assets	**84,949**	64,452
Communications	**79,067**	77,047
Meetings	**29,605**	34,109
Publication costs	**15,904**	10,968
	10,493,613	9,617,744
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES FROM OPERATIONS	**371,214**	146,419
PAYABLE TO MEMBERS FUND		
Officials' development income	**164,032**	143,520
Regional memberships	**116,829**	116,773
Region 6 legacy income	**26,833**	48,950
Regional expenses	**(67,584)**	(73,255)
Officials' development expenses	**(165,984)**	(126,405)
	74,126	146,419
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES	**$ 445,340**	$ 256,002

ABOUT THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This Annual Report provides an overview of the Ontario Volleyball Association's progress, achievements, and strategic priorities throughout the 2025 fiscal year. It highlights key milestones across participation, competitions, Team Ontario, safe sport, and organizational development, offering members a transparent look at the work being done to support volleyball at every level across the province.

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