



USA Volleyball

Junior High Performance

PRESS RELEASE----- JULY 1, 2003

Arizona High Performance Team Readies for Utah Tournament

The Arizona Region of USA Volleyball is proud to announce it's 3rd High Performance volleyball team that will compete against other High Performance teams from all over the country in the VolleyClassic to be held from July 23-27th in St. George, Utah.

The Arizona Region High Performance program is in its third year and one of only a handful of programs across the country. The team was picked from an open tryout held in March.

The High Performance Program is used as a pipeline for talent from the Regional level up through the National and eventually the Olympic level of USA Volleyball. USA Volleyball officials and Coaches will watch and track the teams competing in the VolleyClassic tournament to see if any of the participants might be Olympic material for the next quadrennial.

Arizona has elected to support only a girl's youth team in their third year, but is looking toward an HP camp next season that will identify these pipeline athletes at ages 14 and younger and perhaps expansion into a boys program as well.

The uniqueness of this HP offering from Arizona is its diversity. It truly is an Arizona team. Players from all geographical regions are representing Arizona in this illustrious event.

The Coach selected by USA Volleyball to head this third year is Glendale Community College Head Women's Volleyball Coach Lisa Stuck who coached last years team to their silver medal finish in the Park City VolleyClassic. Her assistants are; Molly West, the head volleyball Coach at Desert Vista High School and the Club Director and a Coach for the Arizona Foothills Volleyball Club who is in her third season with the Arizona High Performance program, Tricia Melfy, the new coach at Mesa Community College and director of the Eclipse Volleyball Club in Mesa, and Uyen (pronounced Wen) Cao, current assistant coach at Glendale Community College and 18's Coach for Arizona Grand Canyon Juniors Volleyball Club.

In the inaugural season, Arizona's High Performance team took third place in the first annual High Performance tournament held in Colorado Springs, Colorado. That team was coached by Scott Swanson who has since been named the head Coach at the University of Texas at El Paso.

This season, the team will compete against other High Performance programs from Wisconsin, Florida, Utah, Hawaii, California, Louisiana, Ohio, Massachusetts, North Carolina and New Mexico.

Practice for the HP team will begin July 10th at Mesa Community College with the schedule below. All practices will be held at Mesa Community College. **Media availability will be after the final practice of the day.** Photographers are permitted during practice. Please call Eric Hodgson to set up individual interviews with the athletes after practices. You may call them at their homes.

The team will leave July 22nd for St. George.

Contacts

Lisa Stuck- Head Coach of the 2003 Arizona H.P. team
623-845-3048

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Becky Hudson- Secretary to the Arizona Region Office
602-454-1367

Molly West- Assistant HP Coach
480-759-3699

Eric Hodgson- HP Director and Media Contact
623-878-8361 cell phone 623-703-0496

HP Athlete	Hometown	High School	Phone
Brooke Peugh	Glendale	Ironwood	623-487-9837
Margie Giordano	Glendale	Mtn. Ridge	602-978-0985
Aubrey Pancratz	Chandler	Corona Del Sol	480-940-8656
Nikki Kaminskis	Flagstaff	Flagstaff High	928-779-2124
Carolyn Bliss	Phoenix	Xavier	602-997-7432
Johanna Begay	Tuba City	Tuba City H.S.	928-283-6294
Kyra Thompson	Tucson	Catalina Foothills	520-577-7242
Kelsey Thomsen	Phoenix	Desert Vista H.S.	480-704-7377
Leah Lathrop	Phoenix	Desert Vista H.S.	480-704-0939
Brittney Nakamura	Mesa	Mesquite H.S.	480-892-6912
Andrea Ashkie	Pinon	St. Michael	928-725-2121
Joanna Mitchell	Tucson	Salpointe H.S.	520-327-4193

High Performance July 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 3-5:30 p.m. 6:30-8:30 p.m.	11 3-5:30 p.m. 6:30-8:30 p.m.	12 3-5:30 p.m. 6:30-8:30 p.m.
13 9 a.m.—Noon	14	15	16	17	18 3-5:30 p.m. 6:30-8:30 p.m.	19 3-5:30 p.m. 6:30-8:30 p.m.
20 9 a.m.—Noon	21	22 Depart Phoenix 8:00 a.m. for St. George, Utah	23 High Performance Tournament	24 High Performance Tournament	25 High Performance Tournament	26 High Performance Tournament
27 Depart St. George at 8:00 a.m. for Phoenix	28	29	30	31		

St. George VolleyClassic Tentative Schedule

Tuesday, July 22

Arizona HP team will arrive in St. George, Utah and check in. There will be technical meetings and tournament draw with the HP staff. Teams will be put in one of two pools and assigned a team number. (For example, team 3 in pool B is team B3) This will be preceded by a team bar-b-que.

Wednesday, July 23

Competition in pool play begins with 8:00 a.m. matches scheduled every two hours up until 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 24

Competition in pool play begins with 8:00 a.m. matches scheduled every two hours up until 8:00 p.m.

Friday, July 25

Competition in pool play begins with 8:00 a.m. matches scheduled every two hours up until 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 26

St. George VolleyClassic tournament begins at 8:00 a.m. The Championship match will be held at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 27

Arizona HP will check out of St. George, Utah and travel home.