



Elite Volleyball Prep Academy

NEWSLETTER

Volleyball News

Volleying for the Gold!



Last month was fantastic for our Elite volleyball teams! With the luck of the Irish on our side, we struck gold (and silver and bronze!) across five thrilling tournaments. Our athletes showcased not only their incredible skills but also their exemplary sportsmanship, making us incredibly proud!

As we march into the remaining tournament season, we feel the magic of St. Patrick's Day guiding us towards even greater achievements. The horizon is brimming with potential, and we can't wait to see the amazing feats our teams will accomplish next!



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Tournament Season.....1
- Tournament Pictures.....2-5
- Team Bonding.....6
- Skills Classes.....7
- Laila Edmondson National Anthem.....7
- Calendar of Events.....8
- Recruiting/Sports Performance9
- SportsEngine website9
- Elite Beach Tournament.....9
- Practice/Tourney Schedule.....9
- Meet the Coach10
- Athlete of the Month.....11
- Spirit Day12

Tournament Pictures!



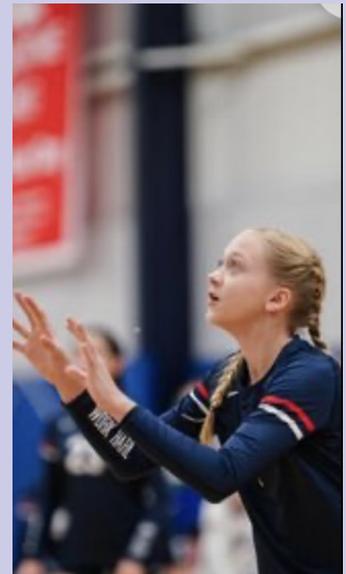
Tournament Pictures!



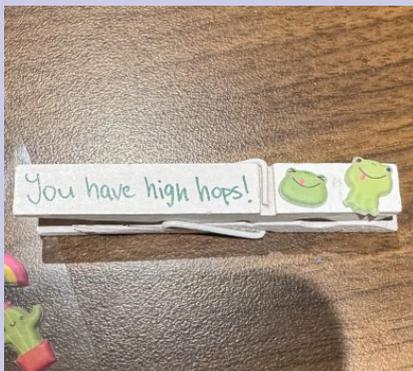
Tournament Pictures!



Tournament Pictures!



Team Bonding!



Skills Classes and Clinics

Sign up for skills classes and clinics before they're full! <https://www.elitevball.com/registerhere>

NEW SKILLS CLASSES NOW OPEN FOR ENROLLMENT

AFTER SCHOOL SKILLS	ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL	TUES./THURS. 3:15-5:15PM
ADVANCED SKILLS	CARDINAL MOONEY HS	SUNDAYS 12PM-2PM
DAYTIME SKILLS	ELLITE SOUTH -7172 15 th STREET E, SARASOTA	WED. 10AM-11:30AM
SETTER SKILLS CLASS	CARDINAL MOONEY HS	SUNDAYS 6:00-7:30PM

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SERIES WITH COACH SHEP AT THE MAC

SKILL ACADEMY AGES 13+ THUR 5:30-7:30 SAT 1:00-3:00	SKILL BUILDERS AGES 9-12 THUR 5:30-7:30 SAT 1:00-3:00
HOME SCHOOL COLLEGE PREP FOR GIRLS TUE 10:00-12:00	HOME SCHOOL ADVANCED SKILLS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL WED 12:00-2:00
HOME SCHOOL COLLEGE PREP FOR GIRLS WED 10:00-12:00	COLLEGE PREP FOR GIRLS 14+ TUE 10:00-12:00 SAT 3:00-5:00PM
ADVANCED SKILLS 11-14 SAT 3:00-5:00PM	

Laila Edmondson sang the National Anthem at Molten Pre-Qualifier!

On Friday, March 7th, Laila Edmondson, our talented Outside Hitter (OH) from the 15 Reds SRQ team, delivered a stunning rendition of the national anthem at the Molten Pre-Qualifier Volleyball Tournament. Her beautiful performance captivated the audience, who erupted in cheers and applause at the end. Laila's exceptional talent and poise set the perfect tone for an exciting day of competition.



What's next on the volleyball agenda?



EVENT CALENDAR

Event	Date	Location
Spring Break (practice continues)	3/17-3/21	Manatee and Sarasota Counties
Advanced Player Development Clinic	4/5	Cardinal Mooney
Elite Invasion Beach Volleyball Tournament	4/6	UMR
End of Year Banquet and Celebration	5/10	Cardinal Mooney
Summer Camp College Prep	5/30-6/1	TBD
Summer Camp	6/2-6/5	TBD
Elite Tryouts	7/11-7/13	TBD



TOURNAMENTS RED TEAMS

Event	Date	Location
Tampa Slam	3/22-23	Fl St Fairgrounds
Big South 12s, 13s, & 14s	3/22-25	Georgia World Congress Center
Big South	3/28-30	Georgia World Congress Center
NE Qualifier 12s, 15, 16s	4/11-13	Pennsylvania Convention Center
NE Qualifier (13 Red and 14 Red SRQ only)	4/18-20	ICE at Gaylord National Resort
NE Qualifier 17s	4/18-20	Pennsylvania Convention Center
ASICS	5/2-4	OCCC



TOURNAMENTS RED TEAMS

Event	Date	Location
AAU FL State Championship	5/17-18	Wiregrass
Buccaneer Bash (13 Red SRQ & 14 Red)	6/7-6/8	Wiregrass
AAU Nationals	6/13-6/28	OCCC




TOURNAMENTS WHITE TEAMS

Event	Date	Location
Wiregrass Classic	3/7-8	Wiregrass
Tampa Slam	3/22-23	Fl St Fairgrounds
Ocala Winner's Circle	4/12-13	Ocala
ASICS	5/2-4	OCCC
AAU FL State Championship	5/17-18	Wiregrass
AAU Nationals	6/13-6/28	OCCC



TOURNAMENTS NAVY TEAMS

Event	Date	Location
March Mayhem	3/15-16	Fl St Fairgrounds
AAU Spring Fling	4/12-13	Game Point
ASICS	5/2-4	OCCC
AAU FL State Championship	5/17-18	Wiregrass

Recruiting and Sports Performance

Sports Performance - Total Athlete training program is available with Jason Riley. Click here for more information: [Sports Performance \(sportnigin.com\)](https://sportnigin.com)

Recruiting - Elite offers recruiting opportunities at the highest level with Coach Shepardson. Learn more about recruiting resources here: [Recruiting \(sportnigin.com\)](https://sportnigin.com)

SportsEngine, the Elite Website

Bookmark our website: <https://elitevball.sportnigin.com/home>



Elite's Annual Beach Tournament—April 6th! More info coming soon!



Practice Schedules/Calendar

Elite Practice Schedules. Please look on Elite website for up to date schedules: <https://elitevball.sportnigin.com/page/show/8667825-calendar#>

To find a specific team, scroll to the bottom of the page and check the box(es).

Tournament Schedule

The tournament schedule can be found here: [Tournament Schedule \(sportnigin.com\)](https://sportnigin.com)

Elite Sponsorship and Co-Marketing Opportunity

Know of an organization interested in sponsoring Elite? Our sponsorship opportunities offer businesses a chance to support the local community while gaining valuable exposure and return on investment. If you own a business or know someone who might be interested, please contact us at

ADMIN@ELITEVBALL.com to learn more.



Meet the Coaches!

We are excited to announce that our community of volleyball athletes at Elite is expanding, and so is our exceptional coaching team!

Each month, we will spotlight a few of our new coaches, giving you the opportunity to get to know them better!



MEET THE COACH

ASHLEY BEASLEY
HEAD VOLLEYBALL COACH

A fun fact about myself is that I have three dogs (a labradoodle and two maltipoos). They all were trimmed to have lion manes.



My favorite volleyball memory is from when I was a freshman in HS. I was a DS on the varsity team that first year I played. In one of the tournaments I'll never forget my dig that won the game winning point in the semifinals game. An outside hitter had a power hit. It was by great luck that my small platform was in the perfect position to dig it directly into the setters' hands, which then led to a perfect set. A powerful outside hit followed the set and the game was over! Although we lost the championship game, the team celebrated the season challenges that were overcome and the incredible strides.



My favorite coaching memory is when my team took the stage for second place at the largest regular season tournament, ASICS, in Orlando three years ago. We actually came so close to winning first after we barely lost the semifinals in three sets. That was my first year coaching, and for the majority of the girls, it was their first season playing. To witness the talent at the end of the season was and still is incredibly rewarding.

A quote I live by is:
Joshua 1:9
Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

ELITE VOLLEYBALL



MEET THE COACH

LORI BARTON
HEAD VOLLEYBALL COACH

A fun fact about myself is that I lived in China for a year teaching English after I graduated college. I was able to travel all over Asia and then into Europe which was one of my favorite adventures ever. Also I got engaged outside of the Eiffel Tower.



I have played volleyball since the age of 5, here in Sarasota county. I attended Epiphany Catholic School and started on the Epiphany team as a fifth grader then I went to Venice High School, and I started on the high school team as a freshman playing with my sisters. That was probably the most fun I've ever had, besides meeting my best friends in college, who were all on my volleyball team.

A quote I live by is: What YOU allow will continue.

ELITE VOLLEYBALL



Athlete of the Month Spotlight

Each month, we will proudly recognize an athlete who embodies the spirit of Elite. This month, we are thrilled to announce that **Alexandra Tarantik**, a remarkable 9-year-old student from St. Martha Catholic School, has been named our Athlete of the Month! Alexandra, who is in the 3rd grade, is not only an exceptional volleyball player but also a bright and dedicated student.

As a key member of the Elite 10 Navy Team, coached by Lori, Alexandra consistently demonstrates her skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship on the court. Her passion for volleyball and her commitment to excellence make her a standout athlete and an inspiration to her peers. Congratulations, Alexandra! We are so proud to have you as part of our Elite family.



ATHLETE OF THE MONTH

ALEXANDRA TARANTIK

ELITE VOLLEYBALL

How would your family describe you?

I think my family would describe me as dedicated, eager to learn, and wicked smart! (as my dad says). I think they would also say I can be a little bit stubborn at times as well, because I can get frustrated at times if I don't get things correct right away. That's why I love practice so much!

Do you have any hobbies or interests outside of volleyball?

I have been dancing for 5 years and I am on a competitive dance team at Stage Door Studios, so when I'm not practicing/competing with my volleyball team I am practicing/competing with my dance team. I also like to play tennis with my dad. He acts like he's my coach even though he hasn't coached before, but I still love him. I really love school and learning new things, especially reading. My mom calls me a bookworm, and always catches me reading my books after I'm supposed to be sleeping.

What would you do if you saw a teammate struggling?

First, I would cheer them on and support them through whatever was happening. Then I would ask them if they needed help or if there was anything I could do to get them through their tough situation.

Why are you so passionate about playing volleyball?

From the first time I stepped on the court at 7 years old with Coach Nick I really just loved hitting the ball around and bumping the ball to myself up and down the courts. Coach Nick told my parents that I was a natural and saw great potential in me. That made me feel really good, so I continued to practice almost every day. As I got better, the more fun volleyball became, and I really looked forward to competing against other teams when I was old enough.

What do you look for in a great coach?

I want someone that makes playing and practicing volleyball fun. I also enjoy working hard to get better, so I like a Coach to be disciplined, tough, and competitive. Coach Nick, Coach Tiago, and Coach Lori have really made volleyball my favorite sport to play, and I hope to be on Coach Perry's team one day when I get older.



🤍❤️🏐 Elite Spirit Day at Peach Cobbler Factory! 🤍❤️🏐

We are thrilled to celebrate the success of our inaugural Elite Spirit Day at Peach Cobbler Factory in Bradenton on March 1, 2025!

A huge thank you to all the Elite families who came out to enjoy delicious desserts while supporting Elite Volleyball. Thanks to your participation, 20% of all proceeds from the day were donated to support Elite's programs and events.

We are excited to announce the recipients of the \$500 scholarship:

- Brinkley Bard (13 Red)
- Bailey Netrefa (12 Red)

We extend our gratitude to the Lehan family, proud Elite volleyball parents and owners of Peach Cobbler Factory, for hosting this wonderful event. Your generosity and commitment to our athletes help keep our programs affordable and impactful. Thank you for making a difference!



Do you own a business and wish to host our next Elite Spirit Day?

All proceeds donated to Elite will help benefit future programs and events.

Please email your business information to Jgilmour@elitevball.com.

Your support helps fund essential programs like Sports Performance for our athletes!

If you haven't already done so, please join our **BAND** to stay updated on all communications and upcoming events: <https://band.us/n/a2a9A4dfh946y>

Not seeing Elite communications? Check your spam folder and make sure you're receiving emails from our Elite email address : Admin@elitevball.com



If you'd like to share pictures for inclusion in the next newsletter, please email them to:

jgilmour@elitevball.com

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