



2022 AVP PRO BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOUR

Season Event #11 • Tour Series Event #5

Virginia Beach, Virginia • August 26 – 28, 2022

ABOUT THE TOURNAMENT – For the first time in over a month the AVP Tour is holding a Tour Series event, with this one in Virginia Beach, Virginia. This event is the 11th on the 16-tournament schedule that the AVP Tour has this year, and the fifth Tour Series one of the season. As well, the top four teams from this tournament will gain a berth into the season finale in Tavares, Florida from December 2-4. This marks the first return to Virginia Beach for the AVP since 2010. Also happening just down the beach is the 60th Annual East Coast Surfing Championships, the longest continually run surfing championship in the world. The AVP's season payout totals \$1,975,000 for the AVP, which is in its 39th season.

- The main draw will be a 24-team, double elimination format. Both genders had 15 teams which were granted entry directly into the main draw from having sufficient points (from the best four events points totals from their last six AVP and AVPNext tournaments). Each gender had one wildcard and the remaining eight teams come from an on-site qualifier, which will be a one-day single elimination event on Friday, August 26. The main draw begins on Saturday, August 27 and concludes on Sunday, August 28, and will be played on eight courts at the 5th Street and Atlantic Avenue. There will be a total of 31 men's qualifier matches, 13 women's qualifier matches, and 45 main draw matches in each gender. General admission is free each day. The championship matches will be around 3:30 pm ET for the women and 4:30 pm ET for the men.

- Live streaming of both stadium court and court 1 takes place on Saturday and Sunday on the AVP's YouTube channel (@avpbeach). Dave Shaw and Jacob Justice will handle the announcing duties.

VIRGINIA BEACH VALEDICTORIANS – Timothy Brewster and Kyle Friend are at the top of the class in Virginia Beach, well at least they are seeded first. This is the 7th time these two are playing together on the AVP Tour. Their first three events were on the Tour Series, where they placed seventh, second and then third. The duo's debut in Denver saw them seeded 14th, but they won three three-set matches en route to a seventh place finish. In Waupaca they didn't drop a set before the finals, losing in three sets when playing for the title. Then in Atlantic City they chalked up wins over the fourth and second seeded teams in placing third. In total, in their three Tour Series events, they have an 11-5 match record with 10 of the 16 matches going to a third set.

- The top of the women's seedings is once again Larissa and Lili Maestrini, who are married. The duo has dominated the Tour Series this season, as they have won all three of those events they have played so far, in Muskegon, Denver and Atlantic City. They have a 15-1 match record on the Tour Series, with 11 of their wins being sweeps. This is the fourth time they have been seeded first, as they were seeded first in each of their first three Tour Series tournaments as well. They have a 13-0 career match record against all the other teams competing in Virginia Beach, and have only lost a set in three of those matches (to Deahna Kraft / Allie Wheeler, Aurora Davis / Teegan Van Gunst and Brook Bauer / Katie Horton).

HOMETOWN HEROES –

- There are 19 men's players who list Virginia as their current residence:

Braydon Beckwith (Virginia Beach), Pat Cronshaw (Virginia Beach), Bryce Ernsberger (Virginia Beach), Brian Gilmore (Virginia Beach), Joey Gordon (Newport News), Hanson Hatcher (Virginia Beach), Jackson Herbert (Ashburn), James Knight (Suffolk), Ryan Ludvik (Virginia Beach), Jackson Newcomb (Chester), Luke Parks (Virginia Beach), Bradley Peters (Virginia Beach), Brett Rosenmeier (Virginia Beach), Carson Strawbridge (Virginia Beach), John Valeiras (Richmond), Gene Wade (Virginia Beach), Sean Wreggelsworth (Virginia Beach), Graeme Wren (Virginia Beach), Shawn Yoder (Virginia Beach)

- There are three men's players who currently live in a different state but lists their hometowns in Virginia:

Jeremy Ayers (Virginia Beach), Brandon Joyner (Chester), Derek Sullivan (Midlothian)

- Of the colleges known, there are four men's player who attended a college in Virginia:

Mark Burik (George Mason), Andrew Dentler (George Mason), Brandon Joyner (George Mason), Graeme Wren (Virginia)

- There are four women's player who lists Virginia as their current residence:

Rachel Allen (Virginia Beach), Jackie Jawitz (Arlington), Angela Rego (Virginia Beach), Kristen Tischler (Virginia Beach)

- There are no women's players who currently live in a different state but list their hometown in Virginia

- Of the colleges known, there are no women's players who attended a college in Virginia

SCHEDULE SNAPSHOT – The 2022 AVP schedule looks vastly different than years past in several regards. This season's slate has 16 tour stops, the most the AVP has had since 2009 (also 16 that year), and more than the past 3 years combined. While there have been several years with more men's events, the 16 women's tournaments has been surpassed just twice (18 in both 2007 and 2008). The 12 different states that the Tour is visiting is the most since the 2008 season (also 12 different states). Two tournaments will be held in November plus one in December, which marks a first for the AVP Tour, as previously October was the latest that an event has ever been held up to this point. Three locations are slated to have night sessions (New Orleans, Atlanta, and Phoenix). The combined total of \$1,975,000 in prize money also features the most the Tour has distributed since 2009. This season the AVP has stopped using freeze scoring on match points.

- The Tour is divided into four different classifications. One level is the Tour Series, which comprises seven different events in seven different states from June to November. These events will all have on-site qualifiers the day before the main draw begins. The Pro Series has five events from May through December. Unlike in years past, these tournaments will not have an on-site qualifier. Instead, the first two events will use AVPNext tournaments to round out the field, while the last three will rely on specific Tour Series tournaments to determine the final teams. The Gold Series, with three events, will be held in August and September. Each of the three will have a different manner of qualifying. Atlanta will use a Tour Series event, Manhattan Beach will have an on-site qualifier the day before, and Chicago will use an AVPNext tournament. The last type of event is the AVP championships, which will be held in Phoenix in September. Entry for the six-team draws will be based on the best two out of the three results in Gold Series events.

2022 AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour Schedule

Event Dates	Location	Tournament Format	Prize \$ - TV
May 6 - 8	Austin, Texas	16-team double elimination	\$125,000 – FS1 and Bally's RSN
	<i>Andy Benesh gets first career win (with Phil Dalhausser); Taryn Kloth and Kristen Nuss collect 2nd career win</i>		
May 27 - 29	New Orleans, Louisiana	16-team double elimination	\$125,000 – FS1 and Bally's RSN
	<i>Phil Dalhausser / Casey Patterson win in their first event together; Kelly Cheng / Betsi Flint win in hostile territory</i>		
June 10 - 12	Muskegon, Michigan	24-team double elimination	\$50,000
	<i>Dave Palm / Roberto Rodriguez win; Larissa Maestrini (with Lili Maestrini) gets first AVP win since 2009</i>		
July 1 - 3	Denver, Colorado	24-team double elimination	\$50,000
	<i>Andy Benesh wins again (with Miles Evans) while Larissa and Lili Maestrini get second consecutive title</i>		
July 7 - 9	Oshkosh, Wisconsin	24-team double elimination	\$50,000
	<i>Dave Palm / Roberto Rodriguez duplicate their feat in Muskegon; Carly Kan / Kaitlyn Leary both first time winners</i>		
July 8 - 10	Hermosa Beach, California	16-team double elimination	\$125,000 – FS1 and Bally's RSN
	<i>Theo Brunner / Chaim Schalk win long 3-set title match; Terese Cannon / Sarah Sponcil both first time winners</i>		
July 22 - 24	Atlantic City, New Jersey	24-team double elimination	\$50,000
	<i>Cody Caldwell and 40-year old David Lee win; 40-year old Larissa Maestrini and Lili Maestrini win for 3rd time</i>		
July 29 - 31	Ft. Lauderdale, Florida	16-team double elimination	\$125,000 – FS1 and Bally's RSN
	<i>Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb go 10-0 in sets; Tina Graudina wins in her 2nd AVP event ever with Hailey Harward</i>		
Aug 5 - 7	Atlanta, Georgia	16-team double elimination	\$300,000 – FS1 and Bally's RSN
	<i>Four 1st time winners (Paul Lotman, Miles Partain, Julia Scoles, Geena Urango) after lightning forces modification</i>		
Aug 18 - 21	Manhattan Beach, California	32-team double elimination	\$300,000–FS1, Bally's, Tennis Ch.
	<i>Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb repeat as MBO champs; Sarah Hughes and Kelley Kolinske first time MBO winners</i>		
Aug 26 - 28	Virginia Beach, Virginia	24-team double elimination	\$50,000
	<i>Just the second time since 2002 that the AVP has a tournament in Virginia (along with 2010 in Virginia Beach)</i>		
Sep 2 - 4	Chicago, Illinois	16-team double elimination	\$300,000–FS1, Bally's, Tennis Ch.
	<i>Chicago trails only Manhattan Beach on list of most frequented stops in AVP history; Gold Series event #3</i>		
Sep 23 - 24	Phoenix, Arizona	6-team double elimination	\$100,000 – FS1 and Bally's RSN
	<i>Only invitational on schedule; AVP last played in Arizona in 2009; inaugural AVP event in 1984 was in Arizona</i>		
Nov 11 - 13	Huntington Beach, California	24-team double elimination	\$50,000
	<i>Huntington Beach is fourth most frequented stop in AVP history; third California stop on 2022 Tour</i>		
Nov 18 - 20	Clearwater, Florida	24-team double elimination	\$50,000
	<i>Florida held second most AVP events behind California</i>		
Dec 2 - 4	Tavares, Florida	16-team double elimination	\$125,000
	<i>Latest date an AVP tournament has ever been held; replaces Atlantic City event scheduled for September</i>		

VIRGINIA BEACH HISTORY – This year marks just the fourth time that AVP has hosted a tournament in Virginia Beach. The others were in 2000, 2001 and 2010 (dual gender). The 2000 event marked the only domestic win of the year for Karch Kiraly, who won alongside Adam Johnson. In 2001 there was a driving rainstorm on Sunday. Aaron Boss and Colin Smith both won their first career titles, and they did so after losing a match Sunday morning then won three straight matches that day to capture the title. As a historical note, the 2001 Virginia Beach open was the last AVP event which wasn't a dual-gender event as all of the tournaments since then have featured both men's and women's divisions. In 2010 Virginia Beach hosted both men's and women's events. Matt Fuerbringer and Nick Lucena won the men's title, which marked the only AVP event in 2010 that Phil Dalhausser and Todd Rogers did not win (they did not compete in Virginia Beach, and there was one event in which no winner was ever determined as the finals were cancelled due to weather). On the women's side, Jennifer Kessy and April Ross claimed the title, during a span which saw them win four consecutive AVP events. In addition to those tournaments, the only other time that the AVP had an event in the state of Virginia was in February 1996, when the men had an indoor event featuring four teams in Fairfax. Karch Kiraly and Kent Steffes defeated Adam Johnson and Jose Loiola in that event.

Here are the AVP tournaments held in Virginia Beach:

MEN			
Year	1st	2nd	3rd / 4th
2000	Adam Johnson / Karch Kiraly	Brent Frohoff / Larry Witt	Canyon Ceman / Mike Whitmarsh
2001	Aaron Boss / Collin Smith	Ian Clark / Adam Jewell	Albert Hannemann / Sean Scott
2010	Matt Fuerbringer / Nick Lucena	John Hyden / Sean Scott	Bill Strickland / Aaron Wachtfogel
			Lee LeGrande / Franco Nieto Scott Ayakayubby / Eduardo Bacil [3rd] Jeff Nygaard / Matt Olson

WOMEN			
Year	1st	2nd	3rd
2010	Jennifer Kessy / April Ross	Nicole Branagh / Misty May-Treanor	Angie Akers / Tyra Turner
			Rachel Scott / Elaine Youngs

VIRGINIA BEACH SAND BITS – Out of the 110 men's players competing, five players have yet to turn 21 (of the ages known), with the youngest being 17-year old Zephyr Dew, 18-year old Thomas Hurst and 19-year old Adam Hartmann. There are three players who are at least 40 years old, with the oldest being 53-year old Gene Wade and 45-year old Jon Mesko. Alex Amylon (5'8") and Diego Perez (5'11") are the shortest players here (of the heights known) while the tallest are 6'11" Alexander Russell and three 6'8" players (Mischa Fretstaetter, Michael Groselle and Brian Miller). A total of 24 players are making their pro beach volleyball debuts, while two have played in at least 100 events (Avery Drost and Jon Mesko). There will definitely be a first-time winner this weekend, as just one men's player here has ever won on the AVP Tour as Cody Caldwell won a Tour Series event in Atlantic City last month. As for partnerships, 33 of the 55 are playing together for the first time, and just two partnerships have competed at least eight times prior to Virginia Beach (Avery Drost / Chase Frishman and Jacob Landel / Lev Priima).

- Of the ages known, there are three teenagers in the field of 74 women with the youngest being 14-year old Sarah Wood and 17-year old Ashley Pater and high school junior Alexa Fernandez. The two oldest players are 40-year old Larissa Maestrini and 40-year old Angela Smith. Bethany Salapek (5'3") and Katie Lindstrom and Jade Race (both 5'4") are the shortest competitors of the heights known, while at the other end of the spectrum are Falyn Fonoimoana and Kathryn Hogan (both 6'4"). There are 17 players who are making their pro beach volleyball debuts, while two women's players have played more than 100 events previously and they are on the same team (Larissa Maestrini and Lili Maestrini). Larissa Maestrini is the all-time FIVB wins leader (62) and has the most AVP wins in 2022 of any player here (three, along with Lili Maestrini), with all three of those coming on the Tour Series. Carly Kan and Kaitlyn Malaney won the other Tour Series event, in Waupaca, and those four players are the only ones who have previously won a title on the AVP Tour. Of the 37 women's tandems, 21 of the teams are playing alongside each other for the first time and just one other tandem has played more than eight times prior to Virginia Beach (Larissa and Lili Maestrini). Larissa / Lili along with Kan / Malaney are the only two teams in the field which have previously won a title on any pro beach tour.

RELATIVELY SPEAKING – Larissa and Lili Maestrini, who are partners on the court and the top-seeded women's team, are married. Brett and Dan Gould are twin brothers who are playing on the same team.

FAMILIAR FACES – Although it's been 12 years since the AVP has played in Virginia Beach, there are still some competitors in this year's event who played in 2010. On the men's side there are six players; Jeremy Ayers (placed 57th), Shane Donohue (placed 41st), Avery Drost (placed 41st), Brian Gilmore (placed 41st), Jon Mesko (placed 25th) and Gene Wade (placed 57th). None of the women competing this year played in the only previous AVP women's event here in 2010.

GOOD ON SAND AND SURF – Kamryn Johnson, who plays beach volleyball at Stetson, is playing in the qualifier. While that will be her focus, she might have one eye on the East Coast Surfing Championship going on adjacent to the AVP event. In both 2015 and 2017, Johnson won the championship in her age group in that surfing contest.

DIVERSIFICATION – There have been six Pro and Gold Series events thus far, and a different women's team has won each time while five different men's teams have won (Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb are the only team to win multiple times). Phil Dalhausser has been on the winning team twice. On the Tour Series, three different men's teams have won the four titles (Dave Palm / Roberto Rodriguez won twice), and Andy Benesh has won both a Pro Series title as well as a Tour Series event. On the women's side Larissa and Lili Maestrini have won three Tour Series titles, with the other title going to Carly Kan / Kaitlyn Malaney.

2022 QUALIFIER LIST – In on-site qualifiers for both the men and women, all top-seeded qualifier teams have advanced to the main draw. So far three men's and two women's qualifier teams have been one match win away from reaching the semifinals. Here's a look at the teams who have qualified this season and how they finished in the main draw:

AUSTIN - Men (qualifier in Panama City, Fla.)

Caleb Kwekel / Marty Lorenz (2nd in QT) – 13th
 Mark Burik / Dave Palm (3rd in QT) – 13th
 Raffe Paulis / Jeff Samuels (5th in QT) – 13th
 Lev Priima / Silila Tucker (5th in QT) – 13th
Burik replaced by Roberto Rodriguez in MD

NEW ORLEANS - Men (qualifier in San Antonio, Texas)

Noah Dyer / Chase Frishman (2nd in QT) – 7th
 Skylar del Sol / Andrew Dentler (3rd in QT) – 5th
 Lev Priima / Silila Tucker (3rd in QT) – 13th
 Dave Palm / Roberto Rodriguez (5th in QT) – 13th
 Cody Caldwell / Adam Roberts (5th in QT) – 13th
Caldwell / Roberts replaced a MD team

MUSKEGON - Men (on-site qualifier)

Kyle Friend / Brandon Joyner (#1 QT seed) – 13th
 Christian Honer / David Vander Meer (#3) – 17th
 TJ Jurko / Dylan Zacca (#4) – 9th
 Nolan Albrecht / Tomas Goldsmith (#6) – 17th
 Devon Bruki / John Schwengel (#7) – 17th
 Bradley Connors / Brett Greiner (#8) – 13th
 Mark Bucknam / Jake Fleming (#12) – 17th
 Frank Field / Tyler Penberthy (#15) – 17th
Jurko / Zacca 2 MD losses were to #1, #3 seeds

DENVER - Men (on-site qualifier)

Travis Mewhirter / John-Michael Plummer (#1 QT seed) – 5th
 Caleb Kwekel / Max Martin (#2) – 17th
 Brian Miller / Raffe Paulis (#4) – 17th
 Angel Dache / Alex Diaz (#5) – 17th
 TJ Jurko / Dylan Zacca (#7) – 17th
 Gage Basey / Lars Basey (#14) – 17th
 Jeffrey Houghton / Trenton Sellers (#22) – 17th
 Jordan Hoppe / Diego Perez (#41) – 9th
2nd time since 2015 a seed 41st or lower advanced

WAUPACA - Men (on-site qualifier)

Devon Burki / John Schwengel (#1 QT seed) – 17th
 Gage Basey / Ryan Smith (#4) – 13th
 Nolan Albrecht / Kevin Knight (#5) – 9th
 Kevin Coyle / Daniel Leathers (#8) – 13th
 Lars Basey / Ian Carlson (#10) – 17th
 Zephyr Dew / Kacey Losik (#15) – 9th
 Jordan Hoppe / Diego Perez (#19) – 17th
 Guille Jimenez / Tyler Penberthy (#27) – 5th
Basey brothers split but still both qualified

AUSTIN - Women (qualifier in Panama City, Fla.)

Carly Kan / Kaitlyn Leary (2nd in QT) – 13th
 Jessica Gaffney / Molly Turner (3rd in QT) – 9th
 Toni Rodriguez / Savvy Simo (3rd in QT) – 7th
 Aurora Davis / Teegan Van Gunst (5th in QT) – 9th
 Carly Skjodt / Geena Urango (5th in QT) – 9th
Skjodt / Urango replaced a MD team

NEW ORLEANS - Women (qualifier in San Antonio)

Jessica Gaffney / Molly Turner (1st in QT) – 9th
 Toni Rodriguez / Savvy Simo (3rd in QT) – 5th
 Brook Bauer / Katie Horton (3rd in QT) – 9th
 Mackenzie Ponnet / Chelsea Rice (5th in QT) – 9th
 Macy Jerger / Abby Van Winkle (5th in QT) – 13th
 Megan Gebhard / Kahlee York (5th in QT) – 13th
Last 2 teams replaced MD teams

MUSKEGON - Women (on-site qualifier)

Ashley McGinn / Sarah Wood (#1 QT seed) – 13th
 Makenzie Griffin / Eunyce Vercosa (#2) – 17th
 Tambre Nobles / Melissa Powell (#3) – 17th
 Jenna Johnson / Raelyn White (#5) – 13th
 Kaeli Crews / Lexie Hamilton (#7) – 17th
 Denise De Vine / Anna Dunbar (#9) – 17th
 Kylie Bryan / Jessica Jendryk (#11) – 17th
 Kylie Deberg / Kahlee York (#13) – 17th
14-year old Wood youngest to ever qualify

DENVER - Women (on-site qualifier)

Brook Bauer / Katie Horton (#1 QT seed) – 13th
 Tiffany Creamer / Megan Gebhard (#2) – 17th
 Josephine Kremer / Payton Rund (#5) – 17th
 Iya Lindahl / Tessa Van Winkle (#6) – 17th
 Olivia Beyer / Maria Kliefoth (#9) – 17th
 Kaylie McHugh / Kristi Tekavec (#14) – 17th
 Charlie Ekstrom / Amy Ozee (#20) – 17th
 Taylor Nutterfield / Avery Poppinga (#23) – 13th
Two teams seeded 20th or lower advance for the first time since Manhattan Beach 2019

WAUPACA - Women (on-site qualifier)

Denise De Vine / Angela Rego (#1 QT seed) – 17th
 Kelly Bryan / Jessica Jendryk (#2) – 13th
 Sarah Senft / Hannah Wentland (#3) – 17th
 Kristein Heldt / Jessica Horwath (#4) – 17th
 Julia Borges / Ainsley Patrick (#5) – 17th
 Amy Ozee / Maria Whalen (#6) – 5th
 Kaeli Crews / Abbie Hughes (#7) – 7th
 Parker Bracken / Hannah Brister (#9) – 17th
The top 5 QT seeds did not have to play in QT

2022 QUALIFIER LIST cont'dATLANTIC CITY - Men (on-site qualifier)

Michael Groselle / Nathan Yang (#1 QT seed) – 13th
 Max Martin / Dylan Zacca (#2) – 9th
 Bradley Connors / Brett Greiner (#5) – 13th
 Nolan Albrecht / Tomas Goldsmith (#6) – 17th
 Guille Jimenez / Tyler Penberthy (#8) – 17th
 Nathaniel Miller / Garrett Peterson (#10) – 17th
 Christian Honer / Ben Vaught (#13) – 17th
 Spencer Loch / Alex Ukkelberg (#14) – 17th

Just 2 of 26 QT matches went to a third set

MANHATTAN BEACH - Men (on-site qualifier)

Marty Lorenz / Adam Roberts (#1 QT seed) – 9th
 Travis Mewhirter / John-Michael Plummer (#3) – 17th
 Peter Connole / Silila Tucker (#4) – 17th
 Michael Groselle / Nathan Yang (#7) – 25th
 Kevin Coyle / Alex Ukkelberg (#21) – 25th
 Ric Cervantes / Jonah Seif (#27) – 17th
 Devon Burki / Shane Cervantes (#40) – 25th
 Frank Field / Tal Shavit (#47) – 25th

Cervantes brothers on different teams advance

ATLANTIC CITY - Women (on-site qualifier)

Tiffany Creamer / Kristi Tekavec (#1 QT seed) – 13th
 Kathryn Hogan / Bree Scarbrough (#2) – 17th
 Heather Friesen / Agniesszka Pregowska (#3) – 17th
 Iya Lindahl / Tessa Van Winkle (#4) – 13th
 Amy Ozee / Mariah Whalen (#5) – 7th
 Julia Colina / Regan McGuire (#6) – 17th
 Tambre Nobles / Eunyce Vercosa (#9) – 17th
 Avery Poppinga / Sara Putt (#10) – 17th

Just 1 of the 20 QT matches went to a third set

MANHATTAN BEACH - Women (on-site qualifier)

Kimberly Hildreth/Karolina Marciniak (#1 QT seed) – 7th
 Molly Turner / Torrey Van Winden (#2) – 7th
 Brook Bauer / Katie Horton (#3) – 17th
 Katie Spieler / Carly Wopat (#4) – 25th
 Cecilia Agraz / Tano Stephens (#9) – 25th
 Megan Gebhard / Kate Reilly (#10) – 25th
 Maria Clara Salgado / Abby Van Winkles (#21) – 25th
 Audrey Nourse / Nicole Nourse (#27) – 25th

Nourse twins advance

AUSTIN ANALYSIS – The first day of the AVP season opener in Austin was a bit of a surprise, as despite the numerous new pairings all 24 matches between the two genders were all won by the teams with the better seedings. There was quite the divergence in the two genders' winning teams though. On the women's side, Taryn Kloth and 5'6" Kristen Nuss won (who last year became the shortest women's player to win an AVP event since 5'6" Barbra Fontana won an AVP event in August 2001 in Manhattan Beach). On the men's side, the first domestic team ever to play in which both players were at least 6'9" tall paired up for the first time and won the title (Andy Benesh and Phil Dalhausser).

- Especially with the start to the tournament which saw no upsets on Friday, and with #1 seeds winning five of the prior six AVP events, it seemed quite likely that top-seeded Melissa Humana-Paredes and Sarah Pavan were on course to winning in Austin. The pair lost just one set in reaching the title match, and would face Kloth and Nuss, who were playing their third match of the day in the Texas heat, which saw the heat index over 100 degrees. The youngsters took an 18-13 lead before the Canadian pair closed the gap to 20-18, but Kloth and Nuss prevailed 21-18. In the second set Kloth and Nuss scored five straight points early and cruised to a 21-13 win for their second career victory.

- The top four men's seeds advanced to the semifinals for the first time since Austin 2017 (since then the AVP had 29 tournaments without that happening). Benesh and Dalhausser lost just two sets en route to winning the title, the first ever for Benesh. Dalhausser won an AVP season opener for the ninth time in his career (most ever by any player) and got his 60th career AVP title. And his success in Texas continued, as he has won seven of the nine times he has played an AVP event in Texas, with a 42-4 match record (winning 38 of the last 39). Chase Budinger and Troy Field, also a team playing together for the first time, had swept all four opponents leading up to the championship match. In the first set of the title match, Budinger and Field held a 19-17 lead, but Benesh had one block and Dalhausser had a pair of blocks in closing out the set on a 4-0 run.

#6 Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss def. #1 Melissa Humana-Paredes / Sarah Pavan 21-18, 21-13 (:42)

#1 Andy Benesh / Phil Dalhausser def. #4 Chase Budinger / Troy Field 21-19, 21-18 (:52)

NEW ORLEANS NOTATIONS – The big storyline about the AVP Tour returning to New Orleans for the first time since 2016 was the connections to the area, especially on the women's side. Four of the 32 women's players had competed in beach volleyball at LSU, including both players on the second-seeded tandem of Taryn Kloth and Kristen Nuss.

- None of the men's teams competing in New Orleans had ever won an AVP title together, so it came down to individual experience. And the team with the most experience (both in terms of age and AVP titles) was the tandem of Phil Dalhausser and Casey Patterson, who were seeded first and playing together for the first time as well. The duo was the sixth oldest to ever play in an AVP main draw, but they were the strongest on Sunday when it mattered the most. In the semifinals and championship match on Sunday, Dalhausser had 10 blocks and five aces, while Patterson had 55 kills and 26 digs. The duo outlasted third-seeded Taylor Crabb and Taylor Sander in three sets after the Taylors won the first set and led 17-15 in the second set.

NEW ORLEANS NOTATIONS cont'd

- The partisan crowd got what it wanted with former LSU stars Taryn Kloth and Kristen Nuss advancing to the championship match. However the team across the net, Kelly Cheng and Betsi Flint, was seeded first for a reason. Cheng and Flint played a nearly flawless match, as Cheng hit an outstanding .720 (20 kills in 25 attempts with just 2 hitting errors) and Flint hit .533 with eight digs. Uncharacteristically, Kloth had just one block in the match and Nuss only six digs. Cheng / Flint took a 4-3 lead in the first set and didn't trail in the match after that point.

#1 Phil Dalhausser / Casey Patterson def. #3 Taylor Crabb / Taylor Sander 17-21, 21-19, 15-13 (1:07)

#1 Kelly Cheng / Betsi Flint def. #2 Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss 21-15, 21-15 (:37)

MUSKEGON'S MEMORIES – The AVP Tour was making history with its first ever Tour Series Event in Muskegon, Michigan. But on the first day that history was overshadowed by a 14-year old. Sarah Wood, at the age of 14 years, 1 month and 16 days old, became the youngest player (male or female) to advance from the qualifier into an AVP main draw, beating the previous mark by over two years.

- The men's championship match featured two teams that reached the title match undefeated, but not without some serious tests. Second seeded Evan Cory / Billy Kolinske won four matches, three of them in three sets, to reach the finals. Across the net was ninth-seeded Dave Palm / Roberto Rodriguez, who had teamed up this season only due to a late injury to Palm's partner before the season opener. Palm and Rodriguez won a pair of three-set matches, and in the title match were playing their fourth straight match against a team seeded fourth or better. Palm and Rodriguez won the first set handily, 21-14, then held off Cory and Kolinske 26-24 in the second to capture the title. In that second set neither team led by more than two points and there were 16 ties. Palm had seven blocks in the match.

- The women weren't done making history in the qualifier. Larissa and Lili Maestrini, the top seeds in the event, won the title and in doing so make Larissa the first woman at least 40 years old to win a domestic event since 2009. The couple achieved the mark by beating seventh-seeded Julia Scoles and Geena Urango as Lili had four blocks and Larissa added 13 kills and 14 digs. Urango, who had five aces in the semifinal match, was unable to register any in the finals.

#1 Larissa Maestrini / Lili Maestrini def. #7 Julia Scoles / Geena Urango 21-17, 21-16 (:46)

#9 Dave Palm / Roberto Rodriguez def. #2 Evan Cory / Billy Kolinske 21-14, 26-24 (:48)

DENVER DOCUMENTED – The AVP Tour played at altitude for the first time since 2008 with a Tour Series event in Denver. And just like the towering Rocky Mountains in the backdrop, the top teams were able to peak with their performance as the number one seeds won in both genders. That was a bit of a surprise as early on the results indicated something very different. On Saturday, there were 36 main draw matches for each gender. The men had 11 upsets and 19 three-set matches, while the women had 12 upsets and 18 three-set matches. But in the end, the top teams prevailed.

- Andy Benesh was seeded number one and was the tallest (tied) player in the event at 6'9". He was also playing his fourth AVP tournament of the year with a fourth different partner. Joining him on the sand this event was Miles Evans, who had previously advanced to one AVP semifinal in his career (second in Hermosa Beach 2019 with Ryan Doherty). The duo suffered a loss in the first round, then had to win six straight elimination matches to reach the championship match, which they won. In that stretch of must-wins, they beat Phil Dalhausser, won in the rematch against the team which defeated them in the first round, and beat the number three and four seeds in the semis and finals. Across the net in the finals were Evan Cory and Billy Kolinske. Kolinske and Evans had been teammates for 30 international events. Benesh had four blocks and three aces in the title match, while Evans had 23 kills and 15 digs, while Cory had 13 kills and 12 digs and Kolinske had five blocks.

- Larissa and Lili Maestrini, the top seeds in the event, continued to live up to their billing. Although they weren't immune to the upset bug, losing to the 13th-seeded team, they rebounded with consecutive wins over the teams seeded second and third to reach the championship match. The semifinal was a rematch of the Muskegon championship match against Julia Scoles and Geena Urango, and it did not disappoint, with Larissa and Lili winning 18-16 in the third set. In the finals they faced a team playing for just the second time on the AVP Tour, Carly Kan and Kaitlyn Leary. Larissa and Lili trailed just once in the match, at 1-0 in the second set, cruising to a second consecutive title. Larissa had eight digs and two aces while Lili was outstanding all round, hitting .600 (18 kills with just three hitting errors) and adding three blocks and two aces. Kan had 12 kills, six digs and one block while Leary had eight kills.

#1 Larissa Maestrini / Lili Maestrini def. #7 Carly Kan / Kaitlyn Leary 21-13, 21-13 (:33)

#1 Andy Benesh / Miles Evans def. #4 Evan Cory / Billy Kolinske 22-20, 21-17 (:47)

WAUPACA'S WONDERMENTS – For the first time since 1988 the AVP had concurrent events. And for the Tour Series event in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, it was also concurrent with the Waupaca Boatride Tournament, one of the world's largest outdoor volleyball tournaments, as this one consisted of 348 grass courts for a four-day event. Both the men's and women's winners began the tournament seeded number one and ended up taking home the title.

- Dave Palm and Roberto Rodriguez earned their top seed partly due to winning together in Muskegon. In the Waupaca Open, the duo lost just one set while advancing to the championship match. On the other side of the net was sixth-seeded Timothy Brewster and Kyle Friend, who were perhaps more impressive in their run to the finals, having swept all four matches and winning each set by an average score of 21-15. Palm / Rodriguez seemed destined to cruise to another title, winning the first set 21-16 behind the strength of Palm's five blocks in the set. The second set was a game of runs, as both teams had early 4-0 runs, then both teams exchanged 5-0 runs. Palm added another six blocks in the set but Brewster / Friend, playing together for just the second tournament, withstood six match point tries to win the set and force a tiebreaker. In the third set the four players combined to have 24 kills and just one hitting error, and Palm / Rodriguez prevailed 15-12, with Palm ending with 12 blocks and Rodriguez with 29 kills and 18 digs. Brewster finished with 25 kills and 17 digs, while Friend had 17 kills and three blocks.

- The best two teams on Friday morning, number one-seeded Carly Kan / Kaitlyn Leary and second seeds Katie Dickens / Jennifer Keddy, found themselves the top two teams on Saturday afternoon when it was time for the title match. Both teams, however, took a difficult route, as an early morning loss for both pairs on Saturday meant they had to play four matches that day including the finals. Dickens / Keddy had two leads in the entire championship match, at 1-0 to start each set. Outside of that, the finals were mostly error-free, with the four athletes combining for 62 kills and just five hitting errors in the match. Kan was a difference-maker, with 19 kills, eight digs and three aces, while Leary had 13 kills. Dickens had 12 kills and eight digs, while Keddy had 18 kills and just one hitting error to go with a service ace.

#1 Carly Kan / Kaitlyn Leary def. #2 Katie Dickens / Jennifer Keddy, 22-20, 21-16 (:38)

#1 Dave Palm / Roberto Rodriguez def. #6 Timothy Brewster / Kyle Friend 21-16, 26-28, 15-12 (1:07)

HERMOSA BEACH'S HAPPENINGS – In Hermosa Beach the men saw players win who hadn't won since 2018 and 2019, while both of the champions on the women's side were first-time AVP winners. The fans in California, seeing their first AVP tournament of the year in the state, were treated to a pair of three-set finals, something that has happened just once prior in the 22 previous tournaments (including Tour Series), as it also happened in Atlanta 2021.

- In the first round of the men's tournament, there was just one upset in the eight matches. But was it ever a big one. The 16th-seeded team, Jake Dietrich / Hagen Smith, who gained entry into the tournament based on CBVA results, knocked off top-seeded Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb. In the second round Dietrich and Smith upended eighth-seeded Billy Allen / Jeremy Casebeer in a round that saw seeds two, four, six and eight all sent to the contender's bracket. Theo Brunner / Chaim Schalk, the second seeds, were able to rebound from the loss to advance to the title match, meeting up with fifth-seeded Taylor Crabb / Taylor Sander, who had lost just one set en route to the finals. This was the 12th time Schalk had ever played against Crabb, with Crabb winning 10 of those meetings. The two Schalk wins, though, have both come in AVP finals after Brunner and Schalk won in three sets for the Hermosa Beach title. Brunner had 20 kills and three blocks while Schalk had 22 kills and 13 digs, with both players hitting at least .500. Crabb had 25 kills, 11 digs and two aces, and Sander had 12 kills and three blocks.

- In 34 women's events leading up to New Orleans earlier this year, just once did the championship match pit the top two seeds. Excluding the Tour Series events, Hermosa Beach marked the second straight time the top two tandems met for the title. Both of the teams in Hermosa Beach were undefeated in matches leading up the finale, but they both required a third set several times in order to stay in the winner's bracket. This match between #1 Terese Cannon / Sarah Sponcil and #2 Kelly Cheng / Betsi Flint came with some emotions, as Cheng and Sponcil had been teammates for 10 AVP events and 25 FIVB tournaments, including placing ninth in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Cannon was playing in her first ever AVP championship match and Flint was looking to defend her Hermosa Beach title, having won in 2019 the last time the AVP played here. Cannon / Sponcil held a slim 7-6 lead in the first set before scoring six straight points to take control. In the second set Cheng and Flint had their only lead of the match at 2-1. In the match Cannon had seven kills, no hitting errors and six blocks, while Sponcil had 17 kills, 15 digs and two aces. Cheng had 12 kills and one block while Flint had seven kills and 14 digs, but the team committed 13 hitting errors compared to just two by their opponents.

#1 Terese Cannon / Sarah Sponcil def. #2 Kelly Cheng / Betsi Flint 21-12, 21-15 (:36)

#2 Theo Brunner / Chaim Schalk def. #5 Taylor Crabb / Taylor Sander 22-20, 24-26, 15-9 (1:14)

ATLANTIC CITY'S ACHIEVEMENTS – What is becoming more frequent on the AVP Tour is having players who have turned 40 winning the title, especially on the men's side. In Atlantic City there was a first for the Tour, an event in which both a men's (David Lee) and women's (Larissa Maestrini) champion were at least 40 years old. That feat was made all that more impressive given the high heat (in the air and on the sand). In the qualifier there were a combined total of 46 matches, and just five of them went three sets. But it was a different story in the main draw, as of the 90 combined main draw matches, 33 required a tiebreaker.

ATLANTIC CITY'S ACHIEVEMENTS cont'd

• Cody Caldwell and David Lee were playing together for the first time ever. Caldwell entered this tournament having won four AVP main draw matches in his short career. In Atlantic City the duo went 6-0 in matches, including defeating seeds two, three, four and five. They needed a third set in three of their wins, but as the 10th seeds manage to pull off five upsets in winning the title. Their opponents in the championship match, Avery Drost and Chase Frishman, were considerably more experienced, as this was their 17th overall tournament together. But a loss on Saturday meant the duo had to play four matches on Sunday, against seeds one and three followed by a 1:28 minute semifinal before the title match. The championship match saw very few hitting errors, as all four players hit at least .563. The big difference in the match was the serving of Caldwell (six aces) and Lee (three aces).

• Larissa and Lili Maestrini, the top seeds in the event, continued their roll in the Tour Series, capturing their third title in as many events. The duo has a 15-1 match record on the Tour Series and have lost just six sets total. The finals was a rematch from a Sunday morning match against Aurora Davis and Teegan Van Gunst. Davis and Van Gunst suffered both of their losses against the top seeds, going 4-0 in all other matches. In the championship match, Larissa had 12 kills in 15 attempts with no hitting errors, and added eight digs. Lili had a pair of blocks and seven digs to go with her 14 kills. Davis had 10 kills and nine digs plus a pair of aces, while Van Gunst had 10 kills, one block and one ace.

#1 Larissa Maestrini / Lili Maestrini def. #5 Aurora Davis / Teegan Van Gunst 21-16, 21-15 (:47)

#10 Cody Caldwell / David Lee def. #4 Avery Drost / Chase Frishman 21-15, 21-18 (:51)

FORT LAUDERDALE'S FEATS – Friday's play began with 15 consecutive sweeps between the two genders, but the day ended with seven of the last nine matches going to a third set. The men saw the top four seeds all advance undefeated into the winner's bracket semifinals, which is somewhat of a rarity that it also happened in Austin, marking just the first time since 2017 that it has happened twice in a season. In the fourth Pro Series event of the year, both genders saw the fourth different winning team of 2022.

• The men's championship match in Fort Lauderdale was rare in that it was the top two seeds battling for the title, something that had happened just twice in the previous 31 events (excluding Tour Series) before this one. The top seeds, Theo Brunner and Chaim Schalk, entered the match having won nine consecutive AVP matches including four against teams seeded fifth or better. Their opponents, second-seeded Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb, had won six of their last seven matches, with the only loss coming to Brunner and Schalk in Hermosa Beach. The first set was tight, with Bourne / Crabb winning 23-21, but in the second set Bourne and Crabb did not have a single hitting error while cruising to a 21-14 win. For the match, Bourne had 14 kills and six blocks, while Crabb had 10 kills and eight digs. Brunner had 13 kills and three blocks, and Schalk had a double-double with 11 kills and 11 digs.

• The women had had two straight Pro Series events with the top two seeds in the championship match, but in Fort Lauderdale it was the complete opposite. In fact, the combined seeds of the teams (19) was the highest ever for a women's title match on the AVP Tour. Either team winning would be just the sixth time an AVP event was won by a team seeded eighth or lower. All four players had played at Southern Cal, and this match in particular meant a certain household was getting a trophy regardless of the result, as Hailey Harward and Julia Scoles are roommates. As the eighth seeds, Harward was teaming with Tina Gaudina, who was playing in just her second AVP event ever. And while this was their first pro tournament as partners, they entered the tournament on a 30-match winning streak when the pair played together at USC in 2022. Scoles and Geena Urango, seeded 11th, had dropped a match on Friday which sent them to the contender's bracket. That meant that in the heat of Florida, they had to win four straight elimination matches to reach the finals. The title match ended up being their sixth consecutive three-set match, and Gaudina and Harward claimed the title. Gaudina had 16 kills, nine digs and six blocks, while Harward had 20 kills and 17 digs. Scoles, facing heat exhaustion, had seven kills and two aces while Urango took 48 swings, getting 16 kills and 16 digs.

#8 Tina Gaudina / Hailey Harward def. #11 Julia Scoles / Geena Urango 19-21, 21-15, 15-6 (1:03)

#2 Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb def. #1 Theo Brunner / Chaim Schalk 23-21, 21-14 (:53)

ATLANTA'S ACCOLADES – Atlanta was a tournament of firsts. On Friday around 5:15 pm, lightning moved into the area, halting play, with heavy rains following shortly thereafter. The venue was cleared and competition resumed at 8:00 pm, but with the decision to only play the first round of the winner's bracket (and not the second round as scheduled). Due to that, Saturday's play began much earlier, at 10:00 am. On Saturday, a bit after 7:30 pm, lightning struck again, along with a steady rain, and after about an hour and a half wait it was decided to postpone play until Sunday. Because of the number of matches still to play the AVP had a first (or at least in a long while); changing the format of a match in a main draw once it has started. There have been other instances of qualifier matches changing, or even main draw changing from a double elimination to a single elimination, but this was the first in anyone's memory that during a main draw the scoring format had changed. The third round of the winner's bracket, as well as the seventh and fifth place matches, were all changed to one set to 28 points. The end result of all this was another first, well, four firsts to be exact. Each of the four winners were first time AVP champions.

ATLANTA'S ACCOLADES cont'd

• Trevor Crabb had guaranteed a victory, but his younger brother Taylor sent him home with a ninth place finish, his worst AVP placing since June 2018 in New York City (also ninth place). Top-seeded Theo Brunner and Chaim Schalk looked poised to collect their second win of the season despite an early loss which sent them to the contender's bracket, as they hadn't lost a single set from that point in reaching the championship match for the fourth time in their seven events together. On the other side of the net were a pair of players competing in an AVP finals for the first time, Paul Lotman and Miles Partain. The nerves were apparent as Lotman and Partain had six hitting errors and three service errors in a first set won by the number one seeds 21-17. Whatever adjustments were made after that set clearly worked, as the sixth-seeded duo had just two hitting errors and one service error in the next two sets combined. Partain became just the second player, male or female, to win an AVP event before turning 21, as he was 20 years, 6 months, 22 days old and only Scott Ayakutubby (twice in 1984) had won at that young an age. Lotman finished with 12 kills and two blocks, while Partain had 27 kills (and a .512 hitting percentage) and 16 digs. Brunner had 19 kills and three blocks and Schalk ended with five kills and eight digs.

• Top seeds Terese Cannon and Sarah Sponcil looked much more like the team that won in Hermosa beach than the team that finished in ninth place in Fort Lauderdale. The duo hadn't lost a single set in reaching the title match, and had the advantage in playing two women who had never experienced a victory on the AVP Tour. The seventh-seeded Julia Scoles / Geena Urango duo mirrored what the men's underdogs had done; lost a second round match but then did not drop a set in reaching the finals. Scoles / Urango took the first set but then in the second set had just six kills compared to four hitting errors. The third set was tight, with Scoles / Urango taking a lead at 4-3 that they would not relinquish, but Cannon / Sponcil fought off three match points before falling 16-14. Scoles had 15 kills and two blocks and Urango had 14 kills and 14 digs, while Cannon notched 21 kills and five blocks and Sponcil had 15 kills and 16 digs.

#7 Julia Scoles / Geena Urango def. #1 Terese Cannon / Sarah Sponcil 21-17, 12-21, 16-14 (1:05)

#6 Paul Lotman / Miles Partain def. #1 Theo Brunner / Chaim Schalk 17-21, 21-14, 15-9 (1:07)

MAGICAL MANHATTAN BEACH – In a year of 16-team and 24-team draws, the 2022 Manhattan Beach Open stands out (among other reasons) as the only one on the schedule with 32 teams in the main draw. Including the on-site qualifier, 100 men's teams battled for a spot on the pier, the biggest draw since 2019, while 67 teams were competing on the women's side. The second of three Gold Series events, this tournament also had huge implications for the AVP Championships at the end of September.

• The women's championship match pitted former teammates against each other. Second-seeded Sara Hughes / Kelley Kolinske battled #3 Kelly Cheng / Betsi Flint for the title just one day after Cheng / Flint sent Hughes / Kolinske to the contender's bracket. Flint and Kolinske had won two AVP titles and two FIVB titles when they were partners, while Cheng and Hughes had one AVP championship to their credit. The first set looked every bit like a match between familiar foes, with Hughes / Kolinske winning 21-18, but then Cheng / Flint responded with a dominant 21-11 set two win. Cheng / Flint looked poised to win the MBO title as they led 13-10 in the third set, but Hughes and Kolinske managed to score five straight points to claim the title. Hughes ended with nine kills and nine digs, while Kolinske had 20 kills, nine digs and a block. Cheng contributed 11 kills, eight digs and two aces, and Flint had 20 kills, 14 digs and one ace.

• For just the second time in Manhattan Beach Open history (for which seeds were known), the top two seeds played in the championship match, as the other time was in 2006. Top seeds Theo Brunner / Chaim Schalk marched into the championship match undefeated, and were playing for the title for the fourth straight time on the AVP Tour. Tri Bourne and Trevor Crabb, seeded second, had won in Fort Lauderdale but then placed ninth in Atlanta. They too were undefeated in Manhattan Beach entering the finals as they looked to successfully defend their 2021 MBO title. This match belonged to last year's winners, as Bourne and Crabb cruised to a sweep, giving Crabb his third consecutive MBO plaque, the first time a men's player had accomplished that since 2006-08 (Phil Dalhausser and Todd Rogers). Bourne had 12 kills, nine digs, two aces and a block, while Crabb had 14 kills, eight digs and two blocks. Brunner had 10 kills and three blocks, and Schalk had seven kills and four digs.

#2 Sara Hughes / Kelley Kolinske def. #3 Kelly Cheng / Betsi Flint 21-18, 11-21, 15-13 (:58)

#2 Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb def. #1 Theo Brunner / Chaim Schalk 21-17, 21-14 (:50)

IRONMAN AWARDS – Prior to this weekend there have been 10 AVP tournaments, and since two were overlapping, the most any one player could have played is nine so far. Evan Cory and Billy Kolinske are in sole place atop the list of tournaments played as partners (eight times), but will not be competing together this weekend. Individually, Avery Drost and Logan Webber have both played nine times so far, the most of any players, but only Drost will be competing this weekend.

• On the women's side Larissa and Lili Maestrini, the winners in Muskegon, Denver and Atlantic City, will be competing for the 10th time this year, the most of any women, and all as partners. They are a full two tournaments ahead of the next competitors, as 13 women have played in seven AVP events so far this year. Team-wise, Larissa and Lili have played eight times as partners, and two teams have played seven times previously; Aurora Davis / Teegan Van Gunst and Deahna Kraft / Allie Wheeler, both of whom are playing in Virginia Beach.

THE STATE OF THE STATES – The 110 men's players currently live in 23 different states and Canadian provinces, with 29 from California, 19 from Virginia and 16 from Florida. Three of the players are originally from outside of the United States, Piotr Marciniak from Poland, Alexander Russell from British Columbia, Canada and Jake MacNeil from Ontario, Canada. Out of the 55 men's partnerships, 30 of them have both partners living in the same state, meaning 25 live in different states. Ten of the 16 teams in the main draw before the qualifier live in the same states.

- The 74 female players currently live in 16 different states. Florida leads the pack with 18 players, followed by California with 16 and North Carolina with 10. Between the men and women, a total of 27 states and Canadian provinces are represented here. Seven women were born or raised outside of the U.S, including Julia Borges (Brazil), Anyla Kryeziu (Kosovo), Larissa Maestrini (Brazil), Lili Maestrini (Brazil), Karolina Marciniak (Poland), Andrea Nucete-Elliott (Italy) and Agnieszka Pregowska (Poland). Just over half of the teams (19 of 37) have both partners living in the same state, with just eight of the top 20 seeded teams living in the same state.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS – There is one player here who will have a birthday during the three-day event, as Christopher Vaughan turns 29 on Saturday.

INTERNATIONAL UPDATE –

- Here is a look at AVP players / teams which have been in the semifinals of an FIVB event this year:

MEN

Andy Benesh / Miles Evans – Silver Medal – Songkhla, Thailand – April 17

Miles Evans / Logan Webber – Silver Medal – Rhodes, Greece – May 22

Theo Brunner / Chaim Schalk – 4th place – Rome, Italy (World Championships) – June 19

WOMEN

Kelly Cheng / Betsi Flint – 4th Place – Rosarito, Mexico – March 27

Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss – Gold Medal – Coolangatta, Australia – April 3

Zana Muno / Toni Rodriguez – Bronze Medal – Coolangatta, Australia – April 3

Sara Hughes / Kelley Kolinske – Gold Medal – Itapema, Brazil – April 17

Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss – Gold Medal – Kusadasi, Turkey – May 22

Terese Cannon / Sarah Sponcil – Bronze Medal – Kusadasi, Turkey – May 22

Melissa Humana-Paredes / Sarah Pavan – Gold Medal – Jurmala, Latvia – June 5

Sara Hughes / Kelley Kolinske – 4th Place – Jurmala, Latvia – June 5

Jessica Gafney / Molly Turner – Bronze Medal – Klaipeda, Lithuania – June 5

Sophie Bukovec / Brandie Wilkerson – Silver Medal – Rome, Italy (World Championships) – June 19

Megan Kraft / Savvy Simo – Gold Medal – Balikesir, Turkey – June 19

Brook Bauer / Katie Horton – Silver Medal – Balikesir, Turkey – June 19

Megan Kraft / Emily Stockman – Gold Medal – Bialystok, Poland – June 26

Brook Bauer / Katie Horton – 4th Place – Bialystok, Poland – June 26

Corinne Quiggle / Sarah Schermerhorn – Silver Medal – Espinho, Portugal – July 17

Madelyne Anderson / Molly Turner – Gold Medal – Ciro Marina, Italy – July 17

Melissa Humana-Paredes / Sarah Pavan – Gold Medal – Birmingham, England (Commonwealth Games) – August 7

Kelly Cheng / Betsi Flint – Gold Medal – Hamburg, Germany – August 14

NEXT UP – The AVP will have the third and final Gold Series tournament in Chicago September 2-4. A Labor Day fixture, the \$300,000 payout for a 16-team draw will solidify the teams that earn berths into the AVP Championships in Phoenix at the end of September.