

## Huntington Beach – Sunday, May 19, 2024 – Women’s Championship Match

### 2:00 pm – #1 Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss vs #4 Melissa Humana-Paredes / Brandie Wilkerson

*NOTE: The notes below do not include events on the Tour Series unless specifically stated*

#### Head to Head

- These two teams are playing each other for the 12th time (and 4th time in an AVP finals)... Kloth / Nuss hold a 8-3 lead in the series, and 6 of the 11 meetings have gone to a third set... Kloth / Nuss have won all 3 times when they have played in a finals (in Chicago 2022 with Kloth / Nuss winning in three sets, in Atlanta 2023 with Kloth / Nuss winning in a sweep, and in Chicago 2023 with Kloth / Nuss winning in three sets)... Kloth / Nuss have won the last 5 meetings between the teams

Date	Tour	Tournament	Round	Winning Team	Seed	Losing Team	Seed	Score	Time
5/18/24	AVP	Huntington Beach Heritage Series	Winner 3	<b>Kloth/Nuss</b>	1	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	4	17-21, 21-19, 15-12	1:02
12/8/23	FIVB	BPT Finals Doha 2023	Winner 1	<b>Kloth/Nuss</b>	2	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	5	21-17, 21-14	0:36
9/3/23	AVP	Gold Series Chicago Open	Finals	<b>Kloth/Nuss</b>	1	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	3	21-14, 15-21, 15-8	1:17
8/6/23	AVP	Gold Series Atlanta Open	Finals	<b>Kloth/Nuss</b>	2	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	3	21-16, 21-12	0:47
8/5/23	AVP	Gold Series Atlanta Open	Winner 3	<b>Kloth/Nuss</b>	2	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	3	21-16, 21-17	0:48
7/29/23	FIVB	Elite16 Montréal	Winner 2	<b>Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson</b>	4	Kloth/Nuss	3	21-15, 14-21, 15-8	0:50
6/3/23	FIVB	Elite16 Ostrava	Winner 2	<b>Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson</b>	13, Q1	Kloth/Nuss	8	21-19, 13-21, 15-12	0:52
5/20/23	AVP	Pro Series Huntington Beach Open	Winner 3	<b>Kloth/Nuss</b>	2	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	3	21-18, 21-14	0:41
4/16/23	AVP	Pro Series New Orleans Open	Semis	<b>Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson</b>	2	Kloth/Nuss	4	16-21, 21-15, 15-13	1:00
9/4/22	AVP	Chicago Open	Finals	<b>Kloth/Nuss</b>	6	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	3	21-18, 17-21, 15-10	1:06
9/2/22	AVP	Chicago Open	Winner 2	<b>Kloth/Nuss</b>	6	Humana-Paredes/Wilkerson	3	21-18, 21-15	0:46

#### Title Tidbits

- These two teams are meeting for the title for the 3rd time in the last 4 AVP tournaments (excluding Tour Series)... the one exception was Manhattan Beach 2023 when both teams were competing overseas in Hamburg
- This will mark the 4th straight season that an AVP season opener has been won by one of these two teams... Kloth Nuss won in 2021 (in Atlanta) and in 2022 (in Austin) while Humana-Paredes / Wilkerson won in 2023 (in Miami)
- While this is the 4th time these teams have met in an AVP championship match, it is also the 3rd time that it is a rematch from earlier in the event... in Chicago 2022 Kloth / Nuss won in a sweep in bracket play and then won in 3 sets in the finals... in Atlanta 2023 Kloth / Nuss won both matches in sweeps... this year in Huntington Beach Kloth / Nuss won in bracket play in a three-set match
- 21 of the last 29 AVP title matches (excluding Tour Series) have been sweeps... the team winning the first set is 27-2 in the last 29 championship matches
- Both teams competing here today were teammates in college... Kloth and Nuss at Louisiana State and Humana-Paredes and Wilkerson at York University
- Wilkerson enters the championship match with 22 blocks... here’s a look at the most blocks in an event last year:
  - 26, Taryn Kloth in New Orleans
  - 24, Kelley Kolinske in Manhattan Beach
  - 24, Sarah Murphy in Hermosa Beach

**Kloth / Nuss** are playing together for the 15th time on the AVP Tour and the 39th time overall

- The duo won 6 AVP titles (in their debut as a team in Atlanta 2021, Austin 2022, Chicago 2022, Phoenix 2022, Atlanta 2023 and Chicago 2023)
- Entering the Huntington Beach championship match 24 of their last 35 matches have come against teams seeded 5th or better (includes the title match)
- Entering Huntington Beach championship match in 4 seasons as partners on the AVP (including qualifiers), they are 61-17 in matches... they are 52-5 when winning the first set, 8-10 when losing the first set, and 0-2 in one-set matches and 2 wins by forfeit...they are 18-7 in three-set matches
- In their AVP careers, 13 of their 17 match losses have come against teams with at least one beach Olympian
- Kloth and Nuss both played for LSU beach volleyball in 2019, 2020 and 2021... Kloth and Nuss were teammates on court 1 in 2021, finishing the season 36-0
- This season the duo has played 3 times internationally... they were 2-6 in matches the first 2 tournaments, but then went 5-1 in winning a silver medal in Brazil earlier this month
- Kloth and Nuss were the AVP Team of the Year in both 2022 and 2023
- Despite being seeded first this weekend, the duo enters Huntington Beach with just a 12-13 lifetime record against all the other teams competing here (and has a winning record against only Melissa Humana-Paredes / Brandie Wilkerson and Terese Cannon / Megan Kraft)
- The only previous time the duo was seeded first was in Chicago 2023, which they won
- Entering Huntington Beach the duo has won 4 of their last 6 AVP tournaments played... one exception was the 3rd-place finish here last year

#### All AVP Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	9/1-3/2023	Gold Series Chicago Open	1	1	2572	\$30,000.00
AVP	8/4-6/2023	Gold Series Atlanta Open	2	1	2572	\$30,000.00
AVP	5/18-21/2023	Pro Series Huntington Beach Open	2	3	1990	\$6,000.00
AVP	4/13-16/2023	Pro Series New Orleans Open	4	3	1990	\$6,000.00
AVP	9/23-24/2022	Phoenix Championships	4	1	1891	\$15,000.00
AVP	9/2-4/2022	Chicago Open	6	1	2321	\$30,000.00
AVP	8/18-21/2022	Manhattan Beach Open	6	5	1891	\$9,000.00
AVP	8/5-7/2022	Atlanta Open	4	5	1891	\$10,000.00
AVP	7/29-31/2022	Fort Lauderdale Open	4	5	1706	\$4,200.00
AVP	5/27-29/2022	New Orleans Open	2	2	1990	\$8,500.00
AVP	5/6-8/2022	Austin Open	6	1	2095	\$14,000.00
AVP	9/1-5/2021	Chicago Open	9	3	756	\$9,000.00
AVP	8/18-22/2021	Manhattan Beach Open	9	5	810	\$7,750.00
AVP	8/11-15/2021	Atlanta Open	14, Q4	1	1050	\$20,000.00

**Taryn Kloth** – age 27 – 6'4" – hometown Sioux Falls, S.D. – currently Sioux Falls, S.D. – Creighton / Louisiana St.

- This is Kloth's 15th AVP tournament (all with Nuss) and she has now advanced to the semifinals 11 times, the finals 8 times, and has 6 wins
- Kloth won her first ever pro beach volleyball tournament that she played... outside of the early days of the AVP, no other player has ever won an AVP title when making their beach volleyball debut (in Glendale 2009 Julianna Felisberta / Larissa Maestrini won when both players were making the AVP debuts but were already one of the top teams in the world)
- And for another first, Kloth played indoors at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, and is the first player known to go to Creighton in the bvbinfo.net database of 22,000 players (which also includes international players)
- Kloth went 50-0 in matches her last two seasons of beach volleyball at LSU
- Kloth is 6-1 all time in AVP finals (loss came to Kelly Cheng / Betsi Flint in New Orleans 2022)
- Entering the finals Kloth has 46 kills and just 1 error in 71 swings (.634 hitting percentage)

**Kristen Nuss – age 26 – 5’6” – hometown New Orleans, La. – currently Metairie, La. – Louisiana State**

- This is Nuss’ 20th AVP event, and she has now been to 11 semifinals, 8 championship matches, and has 6 wins
- She played 5 events with 3 other partners before teaming with Kloth and was 0-4 in main draw matches in those AVP tournaments... in 4 of her first 5 AVP tournaments, Nuss was eliminated in a three-set match
- All 4 of her career partners on the AVP Tour were teammates of hers at LSU
- Nuss is 6-1 all time in AVP finals
- Excluding the semifinals (which was just 11 total serves), Nuss has had 12+ digs in all 3 matches... she has just 2 service errors in Huntington Beach so far

**Humana-Paredes / Wilkerson** are playing together for the 7th time on the AVP Tour and 21st time overall

- Entering Huntington Beach the duo has now advanced to the finals 6 of their first 7 AVP tournaments together... they have 1 win (Miami in the 2023 season opener)
- In their debut in Chicago 2022, the pair lost in the second round and had to win 4 straight must-win matches (including 2 three-setters) to reach the championship match
- In the 2023 season opener in Miami, the pair lost in the third round but then swept 3 three straight opponents to win the title
- Entering the Huntington Beach championship match in 3 seasons on the AVP Tour the pair has a 28-11 match record... they are 25-3 when winning the first set and 3-8 when losing the first set... they are 7-5 in three-set matches
- Entering the Huntington Beach championship match they are 8-7 all time against teams seeded 4th or better

**All AVP Results**

<b>Tour</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Tournament</b>	<b>Seed</b>	<b>Finish</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Money</b>
AVP	9/1-3/2023	Gold Series Chicago Open	3	2	2444	\$22,000.00
AVP	8/4-6/2023	Gold Series Atlanta Open	3	2	2444	\$22,000.00
AVP	5/18-21/2023	Pro Series Huntington Beach Open	3	5	1796	\$4,200.00
AVP	4/13-16/2023	Pro Series New Orleans Open	2	2	2095	\$8,500.00
AVP	3/16-19/2023	Pro Series Miami Open	1	1	2205	\$14,000.00
AVP	9/2-4/2022	Chicago Open	3	2	2205	\$22,000.00

**Melissa Humana-Paredes – age 31 – 5’9” – hometown Toronto, Ontario – currently Hermosa Beach, Calif.**

- This is Humana-Paredes’ 17th AVP event with 2 different partners... she played her first 10 with Sarah Pavan, with 2 wins (Manhattan Beach 2019 and Honolulu 2019), 3 seconds and 2 thirds... she won in the 2023 season opener in Miami with Brandie Wilkerson
- She has now advanced to the semifinals in 13 of her 17 AVP events and to the championship match 11 times including Huntington Beach
- In her 11 AVP title matches (including today) she was the #1 seed twice... in the other 9 finals she played against the #1 seed 7 times
- She won 2 AVP awards, both in 2019 (Best Defensive Player and Newcomer of the Year)
- She has played in 87 FIVB / Volleyball World Beach Pro tournaments (9 golds, 8 silvers, 3 bronzes and 7 fourths)... all of her medals came with Sarah Pavan before getting her first with Brandie Wilkerson in June
- This is the 3rd time Humana-Paredes has played an AVP event in Huntington Beach... she was 2nd in 2019 with Sarah Pavan and 5th in 2023 with Brandie Wilkerson
- Humana-Paredes has 13+ digs in 4 of her 5 matches in Huntington Beach

**Brandie Wilkerson – age 31 – hometown Lausanne, Switzerland – currently Redondo Beach, Calif.**

- Wilkerson is playing in her 26th AVP tournament with 7 different partners (5 of whom have been Olympians)
- Won her first AVP title in the 2023 season opener in Miami... her other best career AVP finishes have been second 6 times (2017 Manhattan Beach and 2018 New York with Nicole Branagh, 2020 Long Beach event #1 with Sara Hughes, 2022 Chicago with Melissa Humana-Paredes, 2023 New Orleans with Humana-Paredes, 2023 Atlanta with Humana-Paredes, 2023 Chicago with Humana-Paredes) and 3rd five times
- Her appearance in the title match in New Orleans 2023 marked the only time in her AVP career that she has reached the finals through the winner's bracket (she came through the contender's bracket in the other 7)
- From 2019-2020 Wilkerson advanced to the semifinals in 4 straight AVP tournaments... then she played in 6 consecutive AVP events without reaching the semifinals... including Huntington Beach she has now advanced to the semifinals in 8 of her last 9 AVP outings
- In total she has now been in the semifinals 14 times in her 26 AVP tournaments including Huntington Beach... she has reached the semis with 4 different partners and the title match with 3 different ones
- This is the 4th time Wilkerson has played in Huntington Beach on the AVP Tour, placing 17th in 2017 with Branagan Fuller, 7th in 2019 with Kelly Cheng and 5th in 2023 with Melissa Humana-Paredes
- Wilkerson has played 11 sets entering the Huntington Beach championship match... she has 22 blocks on the weekend, with at least one each set and 3+ in 3 different sets