

New Orleans – Women – #1 Kelly Cheng / Sara Hughes

Cheng / Hughes are playing together for the 11th time on the AVP Tour and 36th time overall

- The duo has won twice on the AVP Tour (Chicago 2017 and Huntington Beach 2022 on the Tour Series)... they also have one 2nd place finish and three 3rds together
- The two began playing together in 2013 at the FIVB U-19 World Championships in Portugal, where they won a bronze medal... in 2014 they played in an AVP qualifier but did not advance, and won a bronze medal in the FIVB U-21 World Championships in Cyprus... in 2015 they formed a partnership at Southern Cal as sophomores... they competed together on the AVP through the end of the 2017 season before reuniting in Huntington Beach 2022 on the Tour Series
- Cheng has partnered with a Sara and a Sarah, while Hughes has partnered with a Kelly and a Kelley
- Hughes and Cheng became the youngest team to ever win an AVP title in Chicago 2017... Hughes was 22 1/2 years old while Cheng was two weeks shy of turning 22
- Entering New Orleans including qualifiers and Tour Series, the pair has a 42-15 match record... they are 40-4 when winning the first set and 2-11 when losing the first set... they are 8-7 in three-set matches

All AVP Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	11/11-13/2022	Huntington Beach Open	1	1	1891	\$8,000.00
AVP	8/31-9/3/2017	Chicago Championships	12	1	1200	\$22,000.00
AVP	8/17-20/2017	Manhattan Beach Open	23	3	864	\$9,000.00
AVP	6/22-25/2017	Seattle Open	7	9	300	\$2,500.00
AVP	6/8-11/2017	New York City Open	13	7	444	\$4,400.00
AVP	6/23-26/2016	AVP San Francisco Open	13, Q1	2	640	\$10,000.00
AVP	6/16-19/2016	AVP New York City Open	14, Q5	3	540	\$7,000.00
AVP	8/13-16/2015	AVP Manhattan Beach Open	14	9	300	\$3,000.00
AVP	7/16-19/2015	AVP New York City Open	16, Q10	3	540	\$7,000.00
AVP	8/14-17/2014	Manhattan Beach Open	Q12	33	120	\$0.00

Kelly Cheng – age 27 – 6’2” – hometown Placentia, Calif. – currently Fullerton, Calif. – Southern Cal

- This is Cheng’s 36th AVP event with 5 different partners... she has been to the finals with 4 of them
- Cheng has won 2 times (Chicago 2017 and New Orleans 2022) plus won in Huntington Beach 2022 on the Tour Series... she has also placed 2nd 8 times, and placed 3rd 16 times... she has advanced to the semifinals in 27 of her 34 AVP events entering New Orleans (79% of the tournaments)
- Internationally Cheng has won 7 gold medals, 3 silvers and 1 bronze
- Cheng has played in 10 different states on the AVP Tour (including Louisiana) and has advanced to the semifinals at least once in each of them, and the championship match in 6 different states (including Louisiana)... she won in New Orleans last year with Betsi Flint
- Cheng has played in at least 1 AVP championship match in each of the past 7 seasons (2016-2022)... the only partner she did not play in a title match with was Brandie Wilkerson (played one event, finished 7th)

Sara Hughes – age 28 – 6’2” – hometown Costa Mesa, Calif. – currently Costa Mesa, Calif. – Southern Cal

- This is Hughes’ 36th AVP event with 8 different partners... she has 4 wins (plus one Tour Series win), 4 seconds and 12 thirds
- Hughes has been in the semifinals in 21 of her 35 AVP events (60%) entering New Orleans, and in the championship match 9 times (26%)
- Hughes got her first 3 AVP wins consecutively (2017 season-ender, first two events of 2018) during a span in which she advanced to the semifinals in 8 straight AVP tournaments and 5 straight finals
- Hughes has 4 partners with whom she has only played one tournament with... the other 4 partners she has played at least 6 times, and has been to a championship match with each of them
- Hughes has 4 wins and all have come in some of the biggest U.S. cities, with 2 in Los Angeles (Hermosa Beach and Manhattan Beach), one in Chicago and one in New York City, then her Tour Series win came in the Los Angeles area as well (Huntington Beach)

New Orleans – Women – #2 Melissa Humana-Paredes / Brandie Wilkerson

Humana-Paredes / Wilkerson are playing together for the 3rd time on the AVP Tour and 4th time overall

- 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 New Orleans the pair has a 10-3 match record... they are 8-0 when winning the first set and 2-3 when losing the first set... they are 3-1 in three-set matches

All Results As Partners

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
FIVB	3/22-26/2023	Elite16 Tepic	9	5	760	\$8,000.00
AVP	3/16-19/2023	Pro Series Miami Open	1	1	2205	\$14,000.00
FIVB	2/1-5/2023	Doha Elite16	7	5	760	\$8,000.00
AVP	9/2-4/2022	Chicago Open	3	2	2205	\$22,000.00

Melissa Humana-Paredes – age 30 – 5'9" – hometown Toronto, Ontario – currently Hermosa Beach, Calif.

- This is Humana-Paredes' 13th 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... won in the 2023 season opener with Brandie Wilkerson
- She has advanced to the semifinals in 9 of her 12 completed AVP events and to the championship match 7 times entering New Orleans
- She has played in 76 FIVB tournaments (7 golds, 7 silvers, 2 bronzes and 7 fourths)... all of her medals came with Sarah Pavan
- In each of her last 9 AVP events entering New Orleans, she has averaged at least 6.6 digs per set

Brandie Wilkerson – age 30 – hometown Lausanne, Switzerland – currently Toronto, Ontario

- Wilkerson is playing in her 22nd AVP tournament with her 7th different partner
- Won her first AVP title last event in Miami... her other best career AVP finishes have been 2nd four times (2017 Manhattan Beach and 2018 New York with Nicole Branagh, 2020 Long Beach event #1 with Sara Hughes and 2022 Chicago with Melissa Humana-Paredes) and 3rd five times
- 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... entering New Orleans she has advanced to the semifinals in each of her last 4 AVP outings
- In total she has been in the semifinals of an AVP tournament 10 times in her 21 tournaments entering New Orleans... she has reached the semis with 4 different partners and the title match with 3 different ones
- Wilkerson has played 30 sets alongside Humana-Paredes entering New Orleans, and has at least 1 block in 26 of them (total of 46 blocks in those 30 sets)

New Orleans – Women – #3 Betsi Flint / Julia Scoles

Flint / Scoles are playing together for the 2nd time on the AVP Tour and the 6th time overall

- In their AVP debut (2023 season opener in Miami), the pair advanced to the championship match with their only 2 match losses coming to the #1 and #2 seeds in the event
- Their first 3 tournaments as partners came on 3 different tours (AVP, Beach Pro Tour (international) and NORCECA)
- They won a silver medal internationally and then a gold on the NORCECA Beach Tour Final in December
- Last weekend the duo placed 5th in Itapema
- Entering New Orleans the duo has a 4-2 match record... they are 4-1 when winning the first set and 0-1 when losing the first set... they are 0-1 in three-set matches

All Results As Partners

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
FIVB	4/6-9/2023	Challenge Itapema	6	5	600	\$3,750.00
FIVB	3/22-26/2023	Elite16 Tepic	6	13	460	\$5,000.00
AVP	3/16-19/2023	Pro Series Miami Open	3	2	2095	\$8,500.00
NORCECA	12/9-11/2022	2022 Norcea Beach Tour Final	1	1	800	\$0.00
FIVB	11/29-12/3/2022	Torquay Elite 16	5	2	1100	\$20,000.00

Betsi Flint – age 30 - 5'10" – hometown Phoenix, Ariz. – currently Los Angeles, Calif. – Loyola Marymount

- This is Flint's 46th AVP event with her 5th different partner
- Flint has 6 AVP wins with 3 different partners, and her wins came in 2015, 2017, 2018 (twice), 2019 and 2022... she has won with each of her partners that she has played more than 1 tournament with
- Her wins came in Mason 2015 (with Kelley Kolinske), San Francisco 2017 (with Kolinske), Seattle 2018 (with Emily Capers), San Francisco 2018 (with Capers), Hermosa Beach 2019 (with Capers) and New Orleans 2022 (with Kelly Cheng)
- She finished in 17th place in New Orleans 2015 with Kelley Kolinske, which marked the only AVP tournament in her career that she did not play in the main draw
- Flint won in New Orleans last year alongside Kelly Cheng
- Flint's 6 AVP titles is the most of any women's player competing this weekend
- In Miami Flint had the most total aces (14) and was 3rd in digs per set (6.77)

Julia Scoles – age 25 – 6'1" – hometown Mooresville, N.C. – currently Mooresville, N.C. – North Carolina / Hawai'i / USC

- This is Scoles' 13th AVP tournament with her 6th different partner
- She has 1 win (Atlanta 2022 with Geena Urango), 3 2nds (in Muskegon 2022 on the Tour Series with Urango, in Fort Lauderdale 2022 with Urango, and in Miami 2023 with Betsi Flint)... she also has 2 3rds (both with Urango)
- Her first 4 AVP events came with 4 different partners, and she lost in the qualifier 3 times then placed 17th... since then, she has advanced to the semifinals in 6 of her last 8 AVP tournaments entering New Orleans

New Orleans – Women – #4 Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss

Kloth / Nuss are playing together for the 11th time on the AVP Tour and the 23rd time overall

- The duo won 4 AVP titles (in their debut as a team in Atlanta 2021, in Austin 2022, and in their last two AVP events played in Chicago 2022 and Phoenix 2022)
- Entering New Orleans they have won their last 6 matches, all of which have been against teams seeded 5th or better
- Entering New Orleans in 2 seasons as partners on the AVP (including qualifiers), they are 42-13 in matches... they are 36-1 when winning the first set, 5-10 when losing the first set, and 0-2 in one-set matches and one win by forfeit...they are 13-3 in three-set matches
- In their AVP careers, 11 of their 13 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
- The two players' alma maters fared well in basketball's March Madness, as Creighton's men's team reached the Elite Eight and LSU's women's team won the national championship
- In New Orleans 2022 the duo advanced to the championship match undefeated but lost in the finals

All AVP Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
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 26 – 6'4" – hometown Sioux Falls, S.D. – currently Sioux Falls, S.D. – Creighton / Louisiana State

- This is Kloth's 11th AVP tournament (all with Nuss) and she has advanced to the semifinals 6 times, the finals 5 times, and has 4 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 21,280 players (which also includes international players)
- Kloth went 50-0 in matches her last two seasons of beach volleyball at LSU

Kristen Nuss – age 25 – 5'6" – hometown New Orleans, La. – currently Metairie, La. – Louisiana State

- This is Nuss' 16th AVP event, and she has been to 6 semifinals, 5 championship matches, and has 4 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

New Orleans – Women – #5 Terese Cannon / Sarah Sponcil

Cannon / Sponcil are playing together for the 11th time on the AVP Tour and 23rd time overall

- The duo played 2 AVP tournaments to close out the 2018 season, emerging from the qualifier and placing third in their inaugural event (Chicago 2018)... then they reunited in 2022
- They won last year in Hermosa Beach and placed 2nd in Atlanta... they have been in the semifinals in 4 straight AVP tournaments entering Miami... entering Miami they had lost 3 consecutive matches... to start that streak was a three-set loss against Melissa Humana-Paredes / Brandie Wilkerson in Chicago, and was the first one in their career with a loss after winning the first set (were 21-0)
- In 2 seasons as partners on the AVP, they are 30-14 in matches, 23-1 when winning the first set, 6-13 when losing the first set... they are 1-0 in one-set matches and 9-5 in three-set matches
- They were seeded #1 in Fort Lauderdale 2022 but placed 9th, the lowest finish by a women's top seed since seedings were known... previously a #1 seed finished 7th three times

All AVP Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	3/16-19/2023	Pro Series Miami Open	2	3	1990	\$6,000.00
AVP	9/23-24/2022	Phoenix Championships	2	4	1621	\$7,000.00
AVP	9/2-4/2022	Chicago Open	2	3	2095	\$13,000.00
AVP	8/18-21/2022	Manhattan Beach Open	1	3	2095	\$12,000.00
AVP	8/5-7/2022	Atlanta Open	1	2	2205	\$22,000.00
AVP	7/29-31/2022	Fort Lauderdale Open	1	9	1540	\$2,000.00
AVP	7/8-10/2022	Hermosa Beach Open	1	1	2095	\$14,000.00
AVP	5/6-8/2022	Austin Open	3	5	1706	\$4,200.00
AVP	8/30-9/2/2018	AVP Gold Series The Championships	18, Q2	3	972	\$10,500.00
AVP	9/15-16/2018	Hawaii Invitational	8	7	0	\$5,000.00

Terese Cannon – age 27 – 6’3” – hometown Pittsford, N.Y. – currently Pittsford, N.Y. – Georgetown / Southern Cal

- This is Cannon’s 35th AVP event with 9 different partners
- Cannon has advanced to 10 AVP semifinals with 4 different partners (Kelly Reeves, Irene Pollock, Sarah Sponcil and Molly Turner)... she has 1 win (Hermosa Beach 2022 with Sarah Sponcil)
- Cannon had been to 4 semifinals in her first 27 AVP events, and entering New Orleans has advanced to 6 semifinals in her past 7 tournaments
- Louisiana marks the 10th different state that Cannon has competed in on the AVP Tour... she has advanced to the semifinals in 6 of them

Sarah Sponcil – age 26 – hometown Phoenix, Ariz. – currently Phoenix, Ariz. – Loyola Marymount / UCLA

- Sponcil is playing in her 25th AVP tournament with her 4th different partner
- Entering New Orleans she has advanced to 16 semifinals (67% of the tournaments), with 1 win, 5 seconds, 9 thirds and 1 fourth
- Sponcil played in one AVP qualifier in 2013 (at the age of 17), then not again until 2018... she has reached at least one AVP championship match in each of the 5 seasons since then (2018-2022)
- Her championship match appearances have come in 2018 (in Austin with Lauren Fendrick), in 2019 (in New York City with Kelly Cheng), in 2020 (in Long Beach #3 with Kelly Cheng), in 2021 (in Atlanta with Kelly Cheng) and in 2022 (in Hermosa Beach with Terese Cannon and in Atlanta with Terese Cannon)
- Louisiana will be the 10th state that Sponcil has played in on the AVP Tour... she has advanced to the semifinals in all 9 of those states
- In Miami Sponcil was 2nd in digs per set (6.78)

New Orleans – Women – #6 Sarah Pavan / Emily Stockman

Pavan / Stockman are playing together for the 2nd time on the AVP Tour

- The duo finished in 9th place in Chicago 2021
- Entering New Orleans they have a 1-2 match record... they are 1-0 when winning the first set and 0-2 when losing the first set... they are 0-2 in three-set matches
- The two players have faced each other 7 times in their careers on the beach, with Pavan winning all 5 AVP meetings and Stockman winning both FIVB meetings
- Their two alma maters (Nebraska and Wichita State) will play each other in a spring exhibition match on April 29
- In Stockman's first season at Wichita State (2007), her team was eliminated in the NCAA tournament by Nebraska, featuring Pavan playing her final match in the NU Coliseum... Pavan had 15 kills and a .481 hitting percentage in the sweep, while Stockman had nine kills and seven digs

All Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	9/1-5/2021	Chicago Open	3	9	420	\$3,400.00

Sarah Pavan – age 36 – 6'5" – hometown Kitchener, Ontario – currently Hermosa Beach, Calif. – Nebraska

- This is Pavan's 19th AVP event with her 8th different partner... she has played 10 times with Melissa Humana-Paredes and the other 9 events with 7 different partners (including New Orleans)
- Pavan has 2 AVP wins (Manhattan Beach 2019 and Honolulu 2019), both with Melissa Humana-Paredes
- Pavan's AVP career: 1 semifinal in her first 6 AVP events, then advanced to the semifinals in 7 of 9 tournaments, now has finished 5th or worse in 3 straight AVP events
- This will mark Pavan's 5th different partner in her last 5 AVP tournaments
- Pavan is the tallest player in the tournament as well as the 2nd oldest (older than the 3rd oldest by two days)

Emily Stockman – age 36 – 6'0" – hometown Colorado Springs, Colo. – currently Hermosa Beach, Calif. – Winthrop / Wichita State

- This is Stockman's 49th AVP event with her 14th different partner
- She has 1 AVP win (Seattle 2019 with Kelley Kolinske) and 1 second (Austin 2017 with Kim DiCello)... she has 8 third-place finishes... in all, her 10 AVP semifinals have come with 6 different partners
- This is Stockman's 4th time playing in New Orleans, the most of any women's player in history... she finished in 5th place with Ali McColloch in 2015, in 3rd place with Amanda Lawson in 2016, and in 3rd place with Megan Kraft in 2022
- In 2015 and 2016 in New Orleans she lost matches against Geena Urango... in 2022 her last 4 matches were all against the tournament's top four seeds

New Orleans – Women – #7 Carly Kan / Zana Muno

Kan / Muno are playing together for the 1st time overall

- New Orleans will mark just the 2nd time ever these players have been on the court at the same time, as they played against each other in Chicago 2019... Muno and Crissy Jones defeated Kan and Katie Horton 18-21, 22-20, 15-13
- The 2019 meeting was Kan's first ever AVP main draw

Carly Kan – age 28 – 5'9" – hometown Honolulu, Hawai'i – currently Honolulu, Hawai'i – Missouri / Hawai'i

- This is Kan's 18th AVP event with her 9th different partner
- Kan won on the Tour Series in Waupaca 2022 with Kaitlyn Malaney, then won her first AVP Pro Series title in the 2022 season finale in Tavares with Jennifer Keddy
- She has played 7 times with Kaitlyn Malaney and the other 11 times (including New Orleans) with 8 different partners
- Louisiana marks her 11th different state in her 18 AVP events
- In Kan's first 8 AVP tournaments she had a best of 9th place... since then she has advanced to 3 championship matches (2 on the Tour Series) in her last 9 events entering New Orleans
- Entering New Orleans, Kan in her career has played in 8 AVP main draws (excluding Tour Series)... in those 28 matches, she has a total of 11 blocks

Zana Muno – age 26 – 5'10" – hometown Hermosa Beach, Calif. – currently Manhattan Beach, Calif. – UCLA

- This is Muno's 19th AVP event with her 9th different partner
- Muno has advanced to 5 AVP semifinals (with Crissy Jones in Hermosa Beach 2019, with Jones in Atlanta in 2021, with Kelley Kolinske in Chicago 2021 and with Brandie Wilkerson in Atlanta 2022 and Manhattan Beach 2022)
- Last season Muno played with 3 different partners on the AVP Tour and each of those partners has competed in beach Olympics
- All time in AVP main draws, Muno is 12-6 in three-set matches
- Entering New Orleans, Muno in her career has played in 13 AVP main draws... in those 58 matches, she has a total of 4 blocks

New Orleans – Women – #8 Carly Skjodt / Geena Urango

Skjodt / Urango are playing together for the 3rd time on the AVP

- Their 2 previous tournaments together both came in season openers (in Austin in 2022 when they finished 9th and in Miami in 2023 when they also finished 9th)
- In their partnership they have a 2-4 match record... they are 0-0 when winning the first set and 2-4 when losing the first set... they are 2-3 in three-set matches
- Entering New Orleans they have gone to a third set in 5 of their 6 matches together, and have lost the first set in all 6 matches
- Against #5 Larissa / Lili in Miami, they had a 13-10 lead in the third set before Larissa / Lili closed on a 9-4 run... Urango had a dig on match point (if I recall correctly) but play was ruled a re-do as a ball came on the court from the college tournament

All Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	3/16-19/2023	Pro Series Miami Open	4	9	1621	\$2,000.00
AVP	5/6-8/2022	Austin Open	16	9	1540	\$2,000.00

Carly Skjodt – age 25 – 6’1” – hometown Indianapolis, Ind. – currently Venice, Calif. – Michigan

- This is Skjodt’s 13th AVP event with 6 different partners
- Her career best is a 3rd place, which she has done twice with Katie Dickens (in Virginia Beach 2022 on the Tour Series and in Tavares 2022)
- Entering New Orleans she has played 40 AVP matches (including qualifiers) in her career... she has given up a total of 10 more points than she has scored

Geena Urango – age 33 – 5’11” – hometown Los Alamitos, Calif. – currently Los Alamitos, Calif. – USC

- Urango is playing in her 62nd AVP tournament with 15 different partners
- She has 1 win (Atlanta 2022 with Julia Scoles), 8 2nds and 8 3rds
- Urango has advanced to the championship match with 4 different partners... 5 of her title matches came between 2015 and 2018, then her other 4 came last season
- Urango competed in New Orleans in both 2015 and 2016, advancing to the semifinals both times with Angela Bensed... she finished 3rd in 2015 and 2nd in 2016
- Entering this week’s event, she has a 7-2 match record in New Orleans, with 6 victories over teams seeded 7th or better

New Orleans – Women – #9 Larissa Maestrini / Lili Maestrini

Larissa / Lili are playing together for the 16th time on the AVP Tour

- The married couple has 3 wins, all on the Tour Series (Muskegon, Denver and Atlantic City all in 2022)... they also have a 2 seconds and 2 thirds
- In 3 seasons as partners on the AVP (including qualifiers and Tour Series), they are 51-22 in matches, 41-2 when winning the first set, 10-20 when losing the first set... they are 17-6 in three-set matches
- They placed 7th in New Orleans last season and 3 of their 4 matches went to a third set

All Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	3/16-19/2023	Pro Series Miami Open	5	3	1990	\$6,000.00
AVP	9/2-4/2022	Chicago Open	7	9	1706	\$5,200.00
AVP	8/26-28/2022	Virginia Beach Open	1	2	1796	\$5,000.00
AVP	8/18-21/2022	Manhattan Beach Open	8	9	1706	\$4,300.00
AVP	8/5-7/2022	Atlanta Open	5	9	1706	\$5,200.00
AVP	7/29-31/2022	Fort Lauderdale Open	5	7	1621	\$3,000.00
AVP	7/22-24/2022	Atlantic City Open	1	1	1891	\$8,000.00
AVP	7/8-10/2022	Hermosa Beach Open	4	5	1706	\$4,200.00
AVP	7/1-3/2022	Denver Open	1	1	1891	\$8,000.00
AVP	6/10-12/2022	Muskegon Open	1	1	1891	\$8,000.00
AVP	5/27-29/2022	New Orleans Open	4	7	1621	\$3,000.00
AVP	5/6-8/2022	Austin Open	7	7	1621	\$3,000.00
AVP	9/1-5/2021	Chicago Open	12, Q5	2	896	\$14,000.00
AVP	8/18-22/2021	Manhattan Beach Open	20	3	972	\$10,500.00
AVP	8/11-15/2021	Atlanta Open	Q10	21	210	\$0.00

Larissa Maestrini – age 41 - 5'9" – hometown Cachoeiro de Itapemirim-Es, Brazil – currently Winter Garden, Fla.

- Larissa is playing in her 17th AVP tournament... she won in Glendale, Ariz in 2009 with long-time partner Juliana Felisberta in addition to the 3 wins with Lili last season
- She won her first title in July 2004, and since then has had just 1 year in which she played but did not win at least one event, as her best finish in her 3 AVP tournaments in 2021 was a 2nd place (did not play at all in 2013, 2018, 2019 and 2020 but won in all other seasons)
- Larissa is the oldest player competing in New Orleans on the women's side... she turns 41 on Friday
- In Miami Larissa had 6.44 digs per set, the 4th highest average in the event

Lili Maestrini – age 35 – 6'0" – hometown Vitoria, Brazil – currently Winter Garden, Fla.

- Lili is playing in her 16th AVP tournament, all of which have come with Larissa
- Lili won 2 FIVB titles, both in 2018 with Josemari Alves

New Orleans – Women – #10 Katie Dickens / Jennifer Keddy

Dickens / Keddy are playing together for the 10th time on the AVP Tour

- The duo has advanced to 2 semifinals, both of which came on the Tour Series in 2022... they placed 2nd in Waupaca and then 3rd in Atlantic City... their best finish in a non-Tour Series event is 9th place (twice, both times in Atlanta)
- The players grew up in different places (coastal Louisiana and mountainous Montana) and went to schools on opposite sides of the country but now both live in Austin
- Entering New Orleans, in 3 seasons as partners on the AVP (including qualifiers and Tour Series), they are 19-15 in matches... they are 14-2 when winning the first set and 4-13 when losing the first set and have one win by forfeit... they are 8-5 in three-set matches
- The two players have faced each other one time, in Tavares 2022... in that event Keddy and Carly Kan defeated Dickens / Carly Skjodt in three sets en route to Keddy's first ever win

All Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	8/18-21/2022	Manhattan Beach Open	15	13	1540	\$3,050.00
AVP	8/5-7/2022	Atlanta Open	13	9	1706	\$5,200.00
AVP	7/29-31/2022	Fort Lauderdale Open	13	13	1390	\$1,400.00
AVP	7/22-24/2022	Atlantic City Open	3	3	1706	\$2,500.00
AVP	7/7-9/2022	Waupaca Open	2	2	1796	\$5,000.00
AVP	7/1-3/2022	Denver Open	14	7	1463	\$1,000.00
AVP	9/1-5/2021	Chicago Open	Q13	29	140	\$0.00
AVP	8/18-22/2021	Manhattan Beach Open	Q9	29	216	\$0.00
AVP	8/11-15/2021	Atlanta Open	16, Q14	9	420	\$3,400.00

Katie Dickens – age 29 - 5'11" – hometown Covington, La. – currently Austin, Texas – Louisiana State

- Dickens is playing in her 27th AVP tournament with 9 different partners
- Her career best is a second-place finish with Jennifer Keddy in Waupaca 2022 on the Tour Series... she also has 3 third-place finishes (2 on the Tour Series and 1 in the 2022 season finale alongside Carly Skjodt)
- Dickens was part of a play-by-play announcer's nightmare team in 2019, playing 3 AVP events alongside Lauren Dickson
- In her first ever AVP main draw match (in Austin 2019 with Lauren Dickson), she upset top-seeded Emily Capers / Betsi Flint
- Dickens, the 2010 Gatorade Player of the Year in Louisiana, played at Mandeville high School (about 30 miles north of Coconut Beach on the other side of Lake Pontchartrain), then played 4 seasons indoors as well as 4 seasons in beach volleyball at LSU (2012-2015)... this marks her first pro beach event in the state of Louisiana... her last collegiate match in Louisiana was a three-set win against Tulane's top duo on 4/19/15 (just shy of 8 years ago)

Jennifer Keddy – age 31 – 6'4" – hometown Missoula, Mont. – currently Austin, Texas – Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

- This is Keddy's 12th AVP tournament, which have come alongside just 2 partners
- She has 1 win (in Tavares 2022 with Carly Kan), 1 second place (in Waupaca 2022 on the Tour Series with Jennifer Keddy) and 1 third place (in Atlantic City 2022 on the Tour Series with Keddy)
- Including New Orleans, Keddy has played 10 of her 12 events with Dickens
- Keddy at 6'4" is tied as the 2nd tallest player here (along with Taryn Kloth, just behind 6'5" Sarah Pavan)

New Orleans – Women – #11 Deahna Kraft / Kaitlyn Malaney

Kraft / Malaney are playing together for the 2nd time on the AVP Tour

- The pair finished in 7th place in the 2023 season opener in Miami
- In Miami Kraft and Kaitlyn played opponents named Kimberly, Katie and Katie (on the same team), Carly, and then another Katie
- The two players followed opposite paths in college... Malaney played 4 seasons indoors at a Big 10 school (Ohio State), then went out west to play 1 season of beach volleyball (at Arizona)... Kraft played 4 seasons of beach volleyball out west (at Pepperdine), then went to a Big 10 school (Wisconsin) to play 1 year indoors
- In 1 season together they have a 2-2 match record... they are 2-1 when winning the first set and 0-1 when losing the first set... they are 2-1 in three-set matches
- The two players met one time, in Virginia Beach 2022... Kraft and Allie Wheeler swept Malaney and Carly Kan en route to winning the tournament title

All Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	3/16-19/2023	Pro Series Miami Open	7	7	1706	\$3,000.00

Deahna Kraft – age 24 – 6’0” – hometown Seattle, Wash. – currently Redondo Beach, Calif. – Pepperdine / Wisconsin

- Kraft is playing in her 17th career AVP tournament with 7 different partners
- She has 1 win, with Allie Wheeler in Virginia Beach 2022 on the Tour Series
- Kraft has 2 other AVP semifinals, both with Wheeler on the Tour Series in 2022 (in Muskegon and Atlantic City)
- Outside of Tour Series events, Kraft has a best of 7th place done twice (with Allie Wheeler in Atlanta 2022 and with Kaitlyn Malaney in Miami 2023)
- Including New Orleans, she has played 9 times with Allie Wheeler and the other 8 events with 6 different partners
- In Miami Kraft had the 4th highest hitting percentage (.474)

Kaitlyn Malaney – age 31 – 6’0” – hometown Parma, Ohio – currently Grandview, Ohio – Ohio State / Arizona

- Malaney is playing in her 21st AVP tournament with 10 different partners
- She has 3 AVP semifinal appearances, with 1 win, 1 2nd and 1 3rd... her win came in Waupaca 2022 on the Tour Series with Carly Kan... her 2nd was in Denver 2022 on the Tour Series with Carly Kan... her 3rd was in Huntington Beach 2022 on the Tour Series with Molly Turner
- Her career best on the AVP Tour (excluding Tour Series) is her 7th place finish in the 2023 opener in Miami with Deahna Kraft
- Entering New Orleans, since the start of 2022 (including Tour Series), Malaney’s teams have scored 1,605 points while her opponents have scored 1,602 points

New Orleans – Women – #12 Toni Rodriguez / Savvy Simo

Rodriguez / Simo are playing together for the 3rd time on the AVP Tour and the 6th time overall

- The pair finished in 7th place in the 2022 season opener in Austin, then won their first 2 matches in New Orleans 2022 (guaranteeing a 5th-place finish) when in the first set against LSU alums Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss Rodriguez injured her knee and had to withdraw from the tournament
- After 8 months off, the pair resumed play in February 2023 internationally... they competed in an event in February, March and April, including winning a silver medal in La Paz Mexico in a Challenge event (lost in the finals to Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss)
- Entering New Orleans, in 1 season together they have a 4-4 match record... they are 3-1 when winning the first set and 1-1 when losing the first set and have 2 losses by forfeit... they are 3-1 in three-set matches
- Entering New Orleans 4 of their 6 completed matches have gone to a third set
- In college the two players met on 3/9/19, with Simo winning in a sweep
- The two players have never played against each other in pro beach volleyball

All Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
FIVB	4/6-9/2023	Challenge Itapema	19, Q6	17	360	\$1,500.00
FIVB	3/16-19/2023	La Paz Challenge	21, Q14	2	760	\$8,000.00
FIVB	2/1-5/2023	Doha Elite16	Q15	21	340	\$0.00
AVP	5/27-29/2022	New Orleans Open	11	5	1706	\$4,200.00
AVP	5/6-8/2022	Austin Open	14	7	1621	\$3,000.00

Toni Rodriguez – age 26 – 6’1” – hometown St. Amant, La. – currently Torrance, Calif. – LSU

- Rodriguez is playing in her 8th career AVP tournament with 5 different partners
- Her career best finish was ironically the tournament which she was injured and had to withdraw... she and Savvy Simo placed 5th in New Orleans 2022
- In her AVP career entering New Orleans, she has played 21 matches (including qualifiers and forfeited matches) and she has never lost to a team seeded worse than her
- Excluding the 2 matches she had to forfeit in New Orleans 2022, Rodriguez enters this week’s tournament having won her last 14 matches played in Louisiana (won her last 12 while playing at LSU and her first 2 in the AVP event in New Orleans 2022)... her last loss on Louisiana sand was on 3/6/21 (lost to Sara Put and Maddie Anderson of Florida State in a three-set match in Baton Rouge)

Savvy Simo – age 24 – 5’10” – hometown Ranch Santa Fe, Calif. – currently Ranch Santa Fe, Calif. – UCLA

- Simo is playing in her 15th AVP tournament with 7 different partners
- Her career best finish is 5th place, which she has done 3 times... she placed 5th in New Orleans 2022 with Toni Rodriguez, in Huntington Beach 2022 on the Tour Series with Jessica Gaffney, and in Tavares 2022 with Gaffney
- Her first ever AVP main draw match came in Atlanta 2021 with Megan Kraft, and they defeated second-seeded Kelly Cheng / Sarah Sponcil in three sets
- Entering New Orleans, in her AVP career (including Tour Series), Simo has a 6-7 record against teams seeded 4th or better (excluding forfeits)

New Orleans – Women – #13 (Q1) Brook Bauer / Katie Horton

Bauer / Horton are playing together for the 10th time on the AVP and the 12th time ever

- The duo had their career best in Huntington Beach 2022 on the Tour Series when they placed 2nd... they lost in the second round and then had to win 6 straight must-win matches (3 of those in three-set matches) in order to reach the title match
- They also had a fifth place finish in Miami 2023, their best in a non-Tour Series event...in that tournament they upset two teams while their two losses were to the teams seeded #1 and #3
- Entering the New Orleans Main Draw in 2 seasons as partners on the AVP (including qualifiers and Tour Series) they have a 27-18 match record... they are 19-6 when winning the first set and 8-12 when losing the first set... they are 8-6 in three-set matches
- To reach the main draw in New Orleans they rebounded from a first-set loss to the 16th-seeded qualifier team and then defeated the eighth seeds 21-12, 21-13

All Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	3/16-19/2023	Pro Series Miami Open	9	5	1796	\$4,200.00
AVP	12/2-4/2022	Central Florida Open	8	13	1390	\$1,400.00
AVP	11/11-13/2022	Huntington Beach Open	9	2	1796	\$5,000.00
AVP	8/26-28/2022	Virginia Beach Open	9	7	1463	\$1,000.00
AVP	8/18-21/2022	Manhattan Beach Open	23, Q3	17	1390	\$1,200.00
AVP	7/22-24/2022	Atlantic City Open	9	9	1390	\$500.00
AVP	7/1-3/2022	Denver Open	16, Q1	13	1254	\$0.00
FIVB	6/23-26/2022	Bialystok Futures	11, Q2	4	280	€ 400.00
FIVB	6/16-19/2022	Balikesir Futures	15, Q11	2	360	€ 700.00
AVP	6/10-12/2022	Muskegon Open	10	13	1254	\$0.00
AVP	5/27-29/2022	New Orleans Open	16	9	1540	\$2,000.00

Brook Bauer – age 24 - 6'0" – hometown Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. – currently Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. – Pepperdine / Florida State

- This is Bauer's 17th AVP event with 6 different partners
- Her career best was a 2nd place with Katie Horton in Huntington Beach 2022 on the Tour Series
- Bauer made her AVP (and pro beach volleyball) debut in New Orleans in 2016 playing with Madison Fitzpatrick... she won 3 qualifier matches and placed 9th
- This is the 3rd time that Bauer has played in New Orleans, finishing in ninth place both previous times... she played with Madison Fitzpatrick in 2016 and Katie Horton in 2022
- In the season opener in Miami Bauer led all players with her .522 hitting percentage

Katie Horton – age 28 – 6'1" – hometown Westland, Mich. – currently Westland, Mich. – Ohio / Florida State

- Horton is playing in her 20th AVP tournament with 8 different partners
- Her career best was a 2nd place with Brook Bauer in Huntington Beach 2022 on the Tour Series
- Including New Orleans, she has played 10 tournaments with Bauer and the other 10 with 7 different partners... she made just 1 main draw with her 10 events with those other 7 partners, while making the main draw in all 10 of her tournaments with Bauer

New Orleans – Women – #14 (Q2) Kimberly Hildreth / Teegan Van Gunst

Hildreth / Van Gunst are playing together for the 2nd time on the AVP

- The duo placed fifth in the season opener in Miami in their debut... their only 2 losses in that event were to the teams seeded #1 and #2
- The pair breezed through the qualifier in New Orleans, winning their two matches in 36 and 38 minutes and holding their opponents to 12 or fewer points in 3 of their 4 sets
- Entering the New Orleans Main Draw, in 1 season together they have a 5-2 match record... they are 5-0 when winning the first set and 0-2 when losing the first set... they have yet to play a three-set match
- The two players have faced each other 4 times, alternating wins... in Chicago 2018 Van Gunst defeated Hildreth in the qualifier in three sets... on the FIVB Tour in Guam 2020, Hildreth swept Van Gunst in the qualifier... Van Gunst won a three-set match in Muskegon 2022 on the Tour Series... in the 2022 season finale in Tevares, Hildreth eliminated Van Gunst

Recent Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	3/16-19/2023	Pro Series Miami Open	10	5	1796	\$4,200.00

Kimberly Hildreth – age 32 - 5'8" – hometown Novi, Mich. – currently Novi, Mich. – Eastern Michigan / North Florida

- This is Hildreth's 35th AVP event with her 8th different partner
- Her best finish of 2nd came in Austin 2019 with Sarah Schermerhorn... she also had a 3rd place with Karolina Marciniak in Huntington Beach 2022 on the Tour Series
- Including New Orleans she played 18 times with Sarah Schermerhorn and 17 times with her other 7 partners
- This is the 2nd time Hildreth has played in New Orleans as she and Katie Spieler 13th after losing a pair of three-set matches
- Entering the New Orleans Main Draw, she has played in 10 straight AVP matches that have been sweeps... 17 of her last 20 AVP matches have been sweeps

Teegan Van Gunst – age 28 – 6'0" – hometown Fayetteville, Ga. – currently Santa Ana, Calif. – Georgia Tech / Georgia State

- Van Gunst is playing in her 22nd AVP tournament with her 3rd different partner
- Her best career finish was a 2nd place in Atlantic City 2022 on the Tour Series with Aurora Davis.... she also had a 3rd place finish with Davis in Virginia Beach 2022 on the Tour Series
- She played 11 events with her twin sister Annika Rowland, then 9 times with Aurora Davis

New Orleans – Women – #15 (Q3) Jessica Gaffney / Kelly Reeves

Gaffney / Reeves are playing together for the 1st time ever

- The duo swept both opponents in the qualifier in New Orleans to reach the main draw
- The two players have faced each twice before... Gaffney won in a sweep in Hermosa Beach 2022, then won again in a sweep in Huntington Beach 2022 on the Tour Series

Jessica Gaffney – age 26 – 6’1” – hometown Temecula, Calif. – currently Los Angeles, Calif. – San Francisco / Cal-Berkeley

- Gaffney is playing in her 26th career AVP tournament with her 14th different partner
- Her career best finish is fifth place, which she has done 3 times... she placed fifth in Denver 2022 on the Tour Series with Molly Turner... she finished fifth in Huntington Beach 2022 on the Tour Series with Savvy Simo... in her following event she finished fifth with Simo again in Tavares 2022... in that tournament she defeated the teams seeded #3, #4 and #8
- In all 3 of her tournaments in which she placed fifth she lost to both the #1 seed as well as the #7 seed
- This is the 2nd time Gaffney has played in New Orleans... she finished in ninth place in 2022 with Molly Turner

Kelly Reeves – age 31 – 6’0” – hometown San Diego, Calif. – currently San Diego County, Calif. – UCLA

- Reeves is playing in her 43rd AVP tournament with her 13th different partner
- She has been to 4 AVP semifinals, finishing in third place each time... her first time came in Seattle 2017 with Jennifer Fopma, followed in the next event in San Francisco 2017 with Fopma again... she finished third in San Francisco 2018 with Brittany Howard (after knocking off the tournament’s #1 and #4 seeds)... her most recent one came in Manhattan Beach 2019 with Terese Cannon
- Reeves celebrated her 31st birthday on Saturday, April 8
- She has played 20 of her 43 events in the state of California... Louisiana marks the 11th different state she has played an AVP event in

New Orleans – Women – #16 (Q5) Aurora Davis / Lydia Smith

Davis / Smith are playing together for the 2nd time on the AVP

- The duo placed 17th in Atlanta 2021 in their debut... they lost in the qualifier in the match to get into the main draw in a 23-21 third set
- In this weekend's qualifier they were the lowest seeded team to get in (as fifth seeds)... both of their qualifier matches took just 37 minutes
- Entering the New Orleans Main Draw, in 2 seasons together (including qualifiers) they have a 4-1 match record... they are 3-0 when winning the first set and 0-1 when losing the first set and have 1 win by forfeit... they are 0-1 in three-set matches
- The duo won two AVP grass tour events in 2021 (Pottstown and grass nationals), and was grass nationals runner up in Chattanooga in 2022
- The two players have faced each other once before... in Atlantic City 2022 on the Tour Series, Davis beat Smith 21-14, 21-16

Recent Results

Tour	Date	Tournament	Seed	Finish	Points	Money
AVP	8/11-15/2021	Atlanta Open	Q9	17	266	\$0.00

Aurora Davis – age 31 – 5'8" – hometown Groveland, Fla. – currently Groveland, Fla. – State College of Florida / Florida State

- Davis is playing in her 50th career AVP tournament... she has had 16 different partners
- Her two best AVP finishes both came last season and both were with Teegan Van Gunst... she placed 2nd in Atlantic City on the Tour Series and then finished 3rd in Virginia Beach on the Tour Series
- This is the 3rd time Davis has played in New Orleans... she was 13th in 2015 with Laryssa Mereszczak... in 2016 she played with Traci Callahan and advanced from the qualifier and finished 13th
- In her AVP career she has played in 15 different states
- Davis began the year alongside Megan Gebhard, advancing from the qualifier and finishing in 13th place

Lydia Smith – age 26 – 6'1" – hometown Wilmington, N.C. – currently Tampa, Fla. – Cape Fear Community College / Liberty University

- Smith is playing in her 9th AVP tournament with her 6th different partner
- Her best career finish was a fifth place in Atlantic City on the Tour Series with Katie Lindstrom
- She began the season in Miami with Kahlee York, losing in the qualifier in the match to advance in a 16-14 third set
- She has been playing beach for 3 years... started training in the winter of 2020 and moved to St. Pete in the winter of 2021
- Smith trains with Optimum Beach in St. Pete under the mentorship of Priscilla Lima, who played on the AVP from 2004-2019 and who played collegiately at Louisiana-Lafayette