

Manhattan Beach – Stadium Court Notes – Saturday, Aug. 21, 2021 – Match 1

9:00 am – #1 Alix Klineman / April Ross vs #9 Taryn Kloth / Kristen Nuss

Head to Head

- This is the first meeting between the teams

Klineman / Ross are playing together for the 16th time on the AVP Tour and 41st time overall

- The duo has won 10 times on the AVP Tour, to go with 3 second-place finishes and 2 third-place finishes
- They have also won 6 FIVB titles including the Tokyo Olympics
- On the AVP Tour, they are 67-5 (93.1%) in matches, 56-2 (96.6%) when winning the first set, including winning the last 45 times that has happened (last loss was in the 2018 Hermosa Beach finals against Sara Hughes / Summer Ross), 10-3 (76.9%) when losing the first set, 19-3 (86.4%) in three-set matches

Alix Klineman – age 31 – 6’5” – hometown Manhattan Beach, Calif. – currently Manhattan Beach, Calif. – Stanford

- This is Klineman’s 28th AVP event... she has won 10 times, all with Ross
- In 2020 Klineman led the Tour in hitting percentage (.465) and was tied for 3rd in blocks (1.1 per set)

April Ross – age 39 – 6’1” – hometown Newport Beach, Calif. – currently Costa Mesa, Calif. – Southern Cal

- Ross is playing in her 107th AVP Tournament... she has 39 wins with 6 different partners
- She has advanced to the semifinals in 77 of her previous AVP tournaments (72.6% of tournaments entered)
- Since getting her first AVP win in 2009, she has won an AVP title in 11 straight years (excluding 2011 when she did not play on the AVP)... she has led or tied for the most AVP victories in 9 of those seasons

Kloth / Nuss are playing together for the 2nd time on the AVP Tour

- As partners on the AVP they have a 10-0 match record (including qualifiers) and 20-3 set record
- 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
- Since the start of the 2001 season, there have been 12 women’s teams which have won when competing for the first time as partners on the AVP Tour... the last two to do it before Kloth / Nuss did it last week in Atlanta were both in 2018, when in Austin April Ross and Alix Klineman won, then in New York City Sara Hughes and Summer Ross won
- They were the 2nd women’s team in the history of the AVP (180 women’s events with seeds known) that a qualifier has won the title (also Cincinnati 2013 – Emily Day / Summer Ross (#14 MD, #1 QT))

Taryn Kloth – age 24 – 6’4” – hometown Sioux Falls, S.D. – currently Metairie, La. – Creighton / Louisiana State

- This is Kloth’s 2nd ever pro beach volleyball tournament... she joined an elite group of players who have won a title when making their AVP debut:
 - 1984 Florida – Linda Hanley and Nina Matthies won when both made their AVP debut
 - 1984 Chicago – Dale Keough won making her AVP debut
 - 1993 Phoenix – Holly McPeak and Angela Rock won when both made their AVP debut
 - 1999 Clearwater – Elaine Youngs won making her AVP debut
 - 2003 Fort Lauderdale – Kerri Walsh Jennings won making her AVP debut
 - 2009 – Glendale – Juliana Felisberta and Larissa Franca won when both made their AVP debut
- Kloth went 50-0 in matches her last two seasons of beach volleyball at LSU... the last time Kloth lost a match was on April 21, 2019 when she and Maddie Ligon lost to Florida State’s Payton Caffrey / Molly McBain 21-16, 21-11

Kristen Nuss – age 23 – 5’6” – hometown New Orleans, La. – currently Metairie, La. – Louisiana State

- This is Nuss’ 7th AVP event, and the 4th time she has played in the main draw
- Nuss had 139 career wins at LSU, the most in program history