

Sanctioning Update & The Ease & Impact of Starting Boys Volleyball

By Coach Sarah Conklin

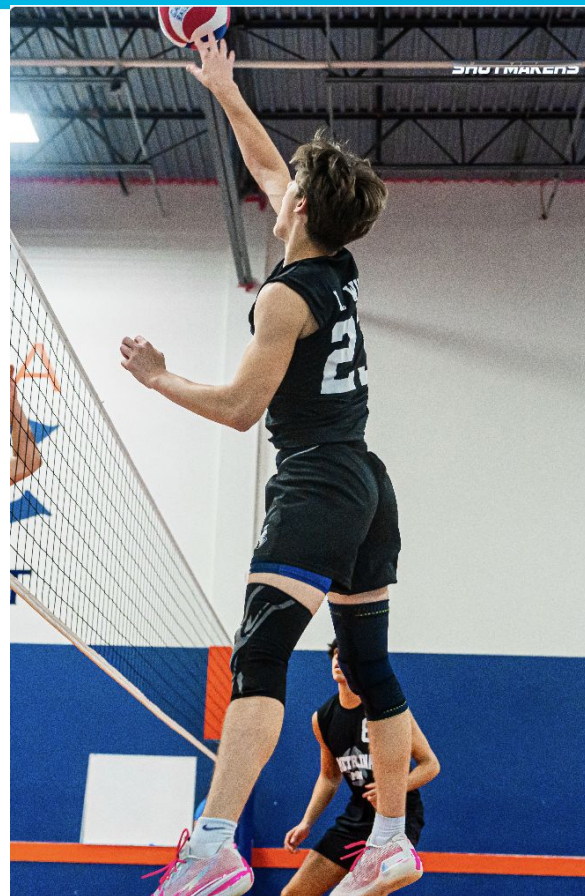
MALLARD CREEK HIGH SCHOOL

JULY 29, 2025



AGENDA

- Welcome and Introduction
- Brief History of Boys' Volleyball in NC
- The Ease of Starting a Program
- The Impact of Starting a Program
- Current Sanctioning Status
- National Growth/College Opportunities
- What's Next / Top Takeaways
- Q&A



WELCOME & INTRO

Going to answer all
things Boys Volleyball -

How, Who, What, When & Why

Look at that platform!



“

Playing volleyball has given me
confidence and a sense of belonging.

HOW THIS ALL HAPPENED

“Can’t we just start it?”

- Garrett



C.2017

VOLLEYBALL IS LIFE!

SARAH CONKLIN - After the question

- CMS/Union County Mom of 5 & Coach
- Creative Professional
- D1 Volleyball Player
- Director of the NCBVA for NC
- Head Coach of Weddington HS Men's Volleyball / Started program at Marvin
- USA Volleyball / First Point Volleyball Board of Directors
- Boys Rep for Carolina Region
- Director of NCVBA
- 4 out of 5 kids played volleyball
- Starting my 20th year coaching



WHO?

- NCBVA is a group of volunteers dedicated to sanctioning Boys Volleyball in NC and until we get there, providing structure for schools while we grow the game.



BRIEF HISTORY OF BOYS' VOLLEYBALL IN NC

- 9 years ago, there were no boys playing volleyball in NC.
- Today, nearly 2500 boys are playing at 135+ Public/Private Schools
- Rapid growth with NCHSAA schools (2000% in 3 years)
- In Spring 2025, 3 State Championships (1-3A & 4A NCHSAA/Private), All-State Awards
- Exciting things to come for our 2026 season / All-Conference, All-Region, All-Star Game



2024 State Championship - Sweet 16

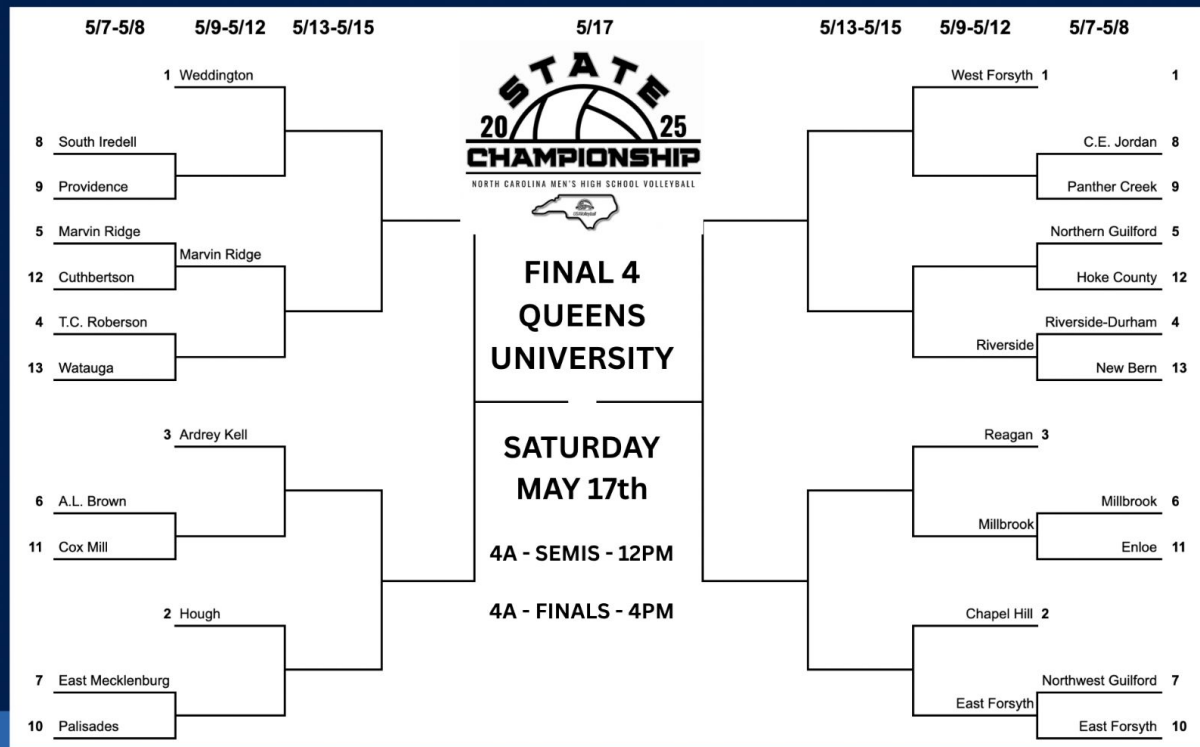
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Playing in the state tournament was unlike any sporting event I've ever played in.

1-3A BRACKET



4A BRACKET



THE EASE - *HOW THE NCBVA HELPS*

- Step by Step Game Plan
- Make as Turn-key as Possible
- Resource for All -
Volunteers/Officials/Players/Parents/Coaches/ADs
- Abbreviated Season Success



“ I got the team started at my school through help from the NCBVA. It's the best thing I've ever done.

Turnkey Abbreviated Season Explained

Season Planning

- NCBVA handles uniforms, referees, scheduling, and post season details.

Fully Funded

- Entirely funded by grants. No cost to schools.

Season Format

- 1-2 practices per week; schools set their own schedule.
- Season includes 4 round-robin Saturdays: March 22, March 29, April 5, April 12
(top team earns state playoff spot)
- All games hosted at a local school. School keeps the gate as incentive to host.

Athlete Registration

- Players register via Dragonfly or their preferred registration platform.



Cabarrus County and 1-3A West Region Champs

Cabarrus and Rowan adopted this format for their 2025 Pilot Season.

COMMON CONCERNS - *SOLUTION BASED RESOURCE*

- Admin Resources
- Gym Space / Rain
- Sustainability
- Poaching Athletes
- Consistency of Rules
- Quality of Play



“

We're making a difference at our school and that's really awesome to think about.

THE IMPACT - School

New Athlete Group: Engages a new set of students.

Empowers Girls: Enhances leadership and game understanding for girls' volleyball players.

Resource Sharing: Dual fundraising elevates both programs.



“

My team sweatshirt is my favorite.
Representing my school is everything.

THE IMPACT - Athlete

Accessibility: Travel Ball is expensive

Growth Mindset: Promotes resilience and learning from failure.

Courage: Builds confidence through developing a new skill.

Belonging: Develops team-based life skills and a sense of community.

Gratitude: Cultivates appreciation; rewarding for coaches.

National Level: Connects athletes to a larger movement and college opportunities.



“Volleyball has given me confidence and purpose.

ROAD TO SANCTIONING

- We have the numbers needed to ask for Sanctioning at the NCHSAA Spring 2026 meeting
- “Take your lumps now” – Ardrey Kell AD, Jeff Sprenger



“

We're a part of history. Starting a sport in a state hard, but it'll be totally worth it!

HOW IT STARTED



2017

4 schools/1 County

50 Athletes Participating

NCBOYHIGHSCHOOLVOLLEYBALL.COM



EMPOWERING COACHES FOR EXCELLENCE

HOW IT'S GOING



2025

107 schools, 29 counties

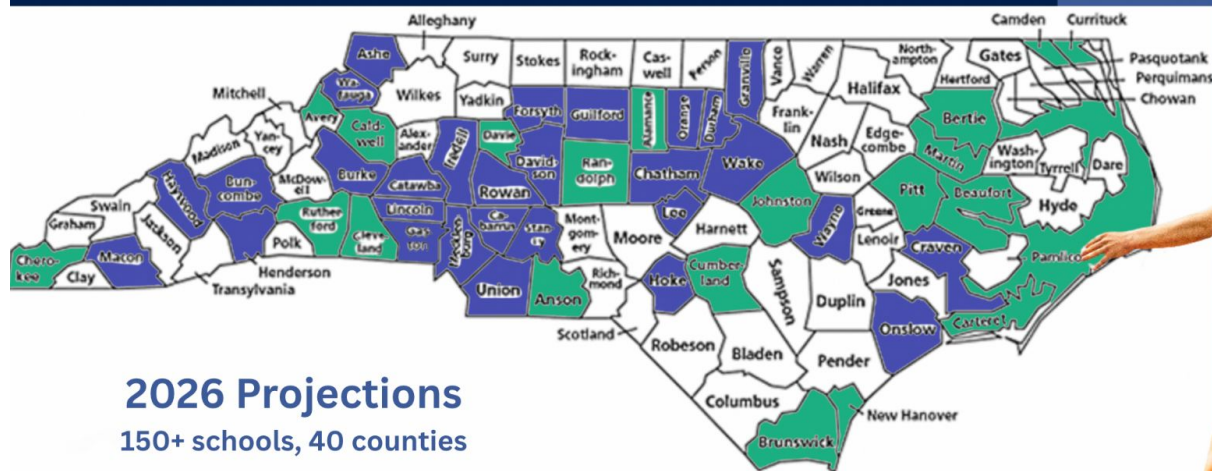
2000+ Athletes Participating

NCBOYSHIGHSCHOOLVOLLEYBALL.COM



EMPOWERING COACHES FOR EXCELLENCE

HOW IT'S GOING



2026 Projections
150+ schools, 40 counties

2750+ Athletes Participating

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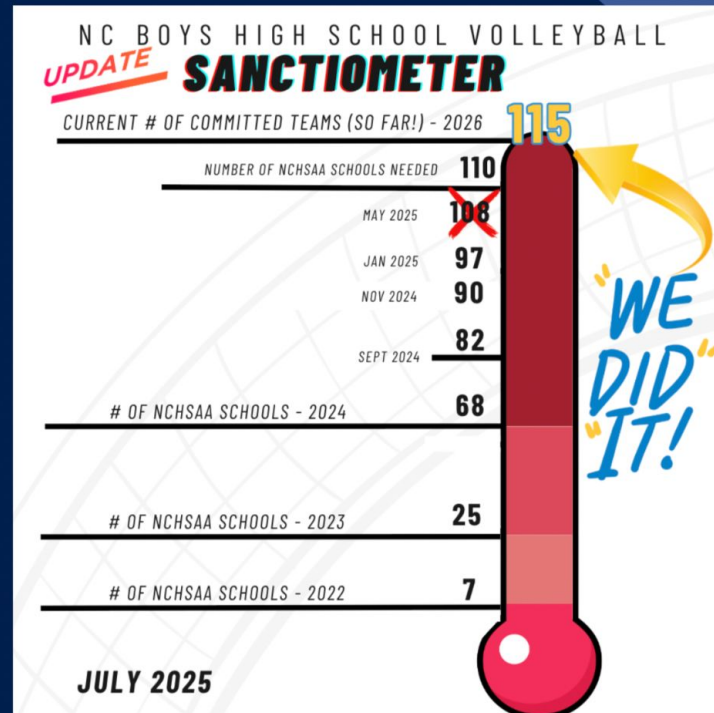


EMPOWERING COACHES FOR EXCELLENCE

MOMENTUM

What contributed to growth

- Low Cost - Already have equipment
- Revenue generation on empty gym
- Funding - \$1000 first year teams
- College Scholarship Opportunities -
 - 9 NC Universities have Men's Volleyball and need athletes
- Adoption of Abbreviated 4 week Season



2026 PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS IN RED ARE POSSIBLE - LIST IS BEING UPDATED EVERY WEEK

1A

NCSSM-Morganton
ALA: Lee County
TMSA - Triad
Phoenix Academy
Falls Lake
Woods Charter
Central Carolina Academy

2A

Mountain Island Charter
Langtree Charter
Christ the King
Bradford Prep
Comm. School of Davidson
TMSA - Triangle
Eno River Academy
North Rowan
Gray Stone Day
Bertie

3A

NCSSM - Durham
Goldsboro
Hendersonville
Union Academy
Thomasville

4A

Carrboro
Lincoln Charter
Jordan Matthews
Pisgah
East Henderson
Ashe County
Lexington Senior
Central Davidson
Mount Pleasant
Central Academy
Salisbury
South Rowan
West Craven
East Burke
South Granville

5A

Seaforth
DSA
Orange
Enka
West Henderson
North Henderson
Franklin
Parkwood
Northwest Cabarrus
Jay M. Robinson
Concord
West Rowan
East Rowan
Jesse Carson
Hickory
East Lincoln
Southeast Alamance
Southern Nash

6A

Swansboro
Central Cabarrus
Berry
Olympic
Roberson
Watauga
Robert B Glenn
Mount Tabor
Charlotte Catholic
Piedmont
Sun Valley
Northern Guilford
East Chapel Hill
Ben E. Smith

7A

Ronald W Reagan
East Forsyth
Reynolds
West Mecklenburg
Hopewell
West Cabarrus
Hickory Ridge
Cox Mill
A L Brown
South Garner
Butler
North Mecklenburg
Southwest Guilford
Page
South Iredell
Mooreville
Lake Norman
Weddington
Porter Ridge
Marvin Ridge
Cuthbertson
Ballantyne Ridge
Southern Durham
Riverside-Durham
Hillside
Chapel Hill
Cardinal Gibbons
New Bern
DAVIE COUNTY

8A

Wakefield
Millbrook
Enloe
West Forsyth
Northwest Guilford
Garinger
Myers Park
South Mecklenburg
William Amos Hough
West Charlotte
Hoke County
C E Jordan
Panther Creek
Apex Friendship
Providence
East Mecklenburg
Pallades
Ardey Kell

Mecklenburg
leading the
state with the
most NCHSAA
schools
competing. Only
5 CMS schools
left!

Independence
Julius L. Chambers
Mallard Creek
Rocky River
Harding

- Efforts in every state, 29 sanctioned.
- Every state is unique (SC vs NC)
- NC designated by USAV CEO John Speraw as the next likely state to be sanctioned
- States modeling efforts after NC



COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES

- AAU National Champions from NC
- Recruiting Attention
- 40% growth in College Programs
- 9 NC Universities have Men's Volleyball

*Barton, Queens, Catawba, Carolina University,
Belmont Abbey, Lees-McRae, Mt. Olive,
Warren Wilson, St. Andrews*



“

We weren't playing for just ourselves, for for our club, region and state. Nobody from NC has ever won a title this big before!

- Thomas Demps, 16s OPEN MVP



2024 ALL- STARS - SEPT 2024 @ ENO RIVER
NCHSAA SCHOOLS REPRESENTED - 27

PLAN TO HOST ANOTHER
ALL STAR GAME - SEPTEMBER 2025

EMPOWERING COACHES FOR EXCELLENCE

WHY?

Because it matters.



EMPOWERING COACHES FOR EXCELLENCE

1ST TEAM ALL STATE

1-3A NCHSAA SCHOOLS

MVP/ALL STATE

LEV MARUSHEVSKYI / TMSA
SILAS LOWDER / MT. PLEASANT

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| TORIN LETO TMSA | CHRIS LANGE TMSA | MASON PERKINS MT. PLEASANT |
| CAMERON PAUL ENO RIVER | LONDON CAVE ENO RIVER | DHRUV SRINIVASAN UNION ACADEMY |
| CARTER ZORN UNION ACADEMY | CHRIS ROZARIO NCSSM - DURHAM | BRODEN JONES SEAFORTH |
| ALEX SANTANA ENKA | ELI WITHERS LINCOLN CHARTER | |

2ND TEAM ALL STATE

1-3A NCHSAA SCHOOLS

| | |
|--|--|
| SHANKARA DHAMODARAN TMSA | ALPEREN YOGURTU TMSA |
| CAYDEN SMITH MT. PLEASANT | GABE SHACKLEFORD MT. PLEASANT |
| ISAAC EVANS UNION ACADEMY | ABRAM ZINC ENO RIVER |
| THOMAS D'AMATO LINCOLN CHARTER | Gael SANTANA ENKA |
| LUCAS FERRI SEAFORTH | SAM KOWALAK NCSSM-DURHAM |
| GAVIN BISCO SOUTH ROWAN | ALEXANDER KIEFER SWANSBORO |
| FORREST BOYLES FALLS LAKE | BRANSON DRESCHER BRADFORD PREP |
| COOPER KRUK PISCATAWAY | BRADY MILLIGAN CHRIST THE KING |
| NOAH RAMSEY EAST BURKE | LEVI LINDEGREN LEXINGTON |

HONORABLE MENTION ALL STATE

1-3A NCHSAA SCHOOLS

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| CARTER ROWLAND MT. PLEASANT | COLE CREEDLE ENO RIVER | MAX WILLIAMS UNION ACADEMY |
| PIERSON DAVIS NCSSM-DURHAM | JASON ANTLEY SEAFORTH | NOAH FATZINGER LINCOLN CHARTER |
| CAYDEN ROSCOE EAST BURKE | GAVIN PARKHOUSE CHRIST THE KING | DOMINICK MESSER PISCATAWAY |
| LUKE HANSON BRADFORD PREP | JOSUE NETTLETON FALLS LAKE | JOSHUA BERRY SWANSBORO |
| JOSH ECHENIQUE NORTHERN GUILFORD | WANTONG PHEUN NORTH HENDERSON | JAMISON FYRE EAST LINCOLN |
| WALTER PACHECO WEST MECK | CHANSE KINCHEN J.M. ROBINSON | MALAKHI'S HARRIS ORANGE |
| ANGELO VERA JORDAN MATTHEWS | KOLDEN GRAVES CENTRAL DAVIDSON | BRAEDEN MCPHAIL WAYNE SCH. OF ENG. |
| CARLOS LANDAVERDE SOUTH ROWAN | RYAN KEETEN PHOENIX ACADEMY | ERIBERTO "EDDI" SANTANA ENKA |

1ST TEAM ALL STATE

4A NCHSAA SCHOOLS

MVP/ALL STATE

LIAM SHUGART / WEST FORSYTH
NOAH GAUTHIER / HOUGH

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| JACSON ARNAEZ WEST FORSYTH | COOPER WARMAN WEST FORSYTH | JADEN VERHOEVEN HOUGH |
| CAELAN EWING CHAPEL HILL | ELIOT MCBRIDE CHAPEL HILL | OWEN CONKLIN WEDDINGTON |
| LIAM DE QUADROS WEDDINGTON | DEAN LOWE TC ROBERTSON | SKYY RUSSELL RIVERSIDE |
| DYLAN COULOMBE REAGAN | JACKSON BLAUER ARDREY KELL | |

2ND TEAM ALL STATE

4A NCHSAA SCHOOLS

| | |
|--|---|
| NIKY CAPISTRANO WEST FORSYTH | SETH COCKERHAM WEST FORSYTH |
| COLTEN SHORT HOUGH | LONDON HIXON HOUGH |
| LEV MIKHIEIEV WEDDINGTON | BEN KAPLAN CHAPEL HILL |
| RYAN NEAL TC ROBERTSON | LEDELL MILLIKEN ARDREY KELL |
| BLAKE WINNAIL MARVIN RIDGE | COLIN TOWNES PROVIDENCE |
| VINNY NGUYEN AL. BROWN | CHRISTOPHER DOUGHERTY EAST MECK |
| ROHIT MENON PANTHER CREEK | JASON CHAVIS NORTHERN GUILFORD |
| BEN FULK MILLBROOK | ELIAS TSIOUSTIAS EAST FORSYTH |
| JACOB FELLER RIVERSIDE | LUKE ROSENBERGER REAGAN |

HONORABLE MENTION ALL STATE

4A NCHSAA SCHOOLS

| | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| NAMISH CHOPRA WEDDINGTON | EVAN OTTO HOUGH | GARRETT WALLS ENHLE |
| XANDER LESEMANN CHAPEL HILL | LUKE SIVER TC ROBERTSON | JOSIAH NAPIHAA NEW BERN |
| LUKE BRANSCOM ARDREY KELL | JOHN FELLER RIVERSIDE | TYLER HINES HOKE COUNTY |
| GRAY RANEY REAGAN | RILEY TURNER AL. BROWN | WILL PARK C.E. JORDAN |
| MILES GINESI EAST MECK | THOMAS DIXON PANTHER CREEK | DEVIN PHAM PAINESDALE |
| JOSH ECHENIQUE NORTHERN GUILFORD | OSCAR QUINN MILLBROOK | GRIFFIN HARRIS COX MILL |
| ISAIAH JACKSON EAST FORSYTH | DYLAN MUDRI NORTHWEST GUILFORD | LOGAN DARR CUTHBERTSON |
| ABRAR HUDA PROVIDENCE | RYDER REYNOLDS SOUTH REDELL | JOSEPH MOY MARVIN RIDGE |

NEXT STEP?

Email us - NCboysHSvolleyball@gmail.com

TOP TAKEAWAYS

- Solution based, experienced support
- Creating opportunities & Legacy at your HS
- Get ahead of sanctioning
- Be a part of NC Sports History



“

Playing for my school is one of the coolest things I've ever done. I didn't think it was possible.

Q & A

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