

April 5, 2019

Dear Players, Families, Friends, and Fans -

Welcome to the 2019 WVC Championships Tournament!

On behalf of the entire WVC Advisory Committee, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2019 WVC Championships Tournament hosted by the Milwaukee Sting Volleyball Club. I have the privilege and pleasure of serving as the WVC Commissioner and I would like to thank you for supporting our teams and players and we hope you enjoy the tournament. It is a true honor to serve as the league commissioner, and am happy to be able to help our players, coaches, and fans have a credible and memorable intercollegiate volleyball experience.

This year's event features 39 teams in four divisions. The 2019 Hall of Fame and Awards Ceremony will celebrate our winning teams, all-conference selections, and the various season award winners. The WVC Alumni Scholarship will be also be awarded along with the induction of Ty Boddy, UW-Oshkosh 2008-12, into the WVC Hall of Fame. Two other inductees of the "Class of 2019" will be honored, however, their induction ceremony will be postponed until they can return to Wisconsin to be enshrined:

- ❑ **Jeff "Slim" Kruse** - UW-Oshkosh 1998-2000
- ❑ **Danny Hessling** - UW-Oshkosh 2006-10

A few highlights from the 2019 WVC season include:

"Westward Expansion"

South Dakota State Women (Brookings, SD) and Century College (White Bear Lake, MN) join the league in 2019

"Blugold Sweep "

UW-Eau Claire Women's D1 and D2 teams win the regular season titles in their respective divisions

"Perfect Warhawks & Pioneers"

UW-Whitewater won the Men's Division 1 regular season title with an unblemished 10-0 record while Carroll University captured the Division 2 regular season with a perfect 11-0 record

"Tournament Glory"

UW-Oshkosh won the Hoosier-Illini Tournament in February, which is arguably the toughest regular season event in the nation

"Check the Polls"

UW-Eau Claire and UW-La Crosse are #1 and #2 in the latest National D2 Women's rankings with SDSU coming in at #9 UW-Oshkosh (#6) and UW-Whitewater (#13) represent the WVC in the latest National D1 Men's rankings while UW-La Crosse (#5), UW-Eau Claire (#8), UW-Platteville (#15), and UW-Stout (HM) appear in the latest D2 Men's rankings. UW-Oshkosh III is currently ranked #10 in the Men's D3 Poll.

The Wisconsin Volleyball Conference State Championships started in 1992 with the inaugural State Championships played at the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point. In 1993 the Wisconsin Volleyball Conference began regular season play, and this weekend marks the 28th Anniversary of the first State Championships. The goal was to create a "varsity-like" experience for intercollegiate club volleyball players, and I am proud to have accomplished this goal. Since 1992, the WVC has included 62 different teams (40 this season) and over 4,400 players have participated. In addition, WVC teams have captured 16 National Championships, 16 runners-up and over 100 WVC athletes have earned All American honors. A recent [article](#) captures more of the WVC history if you are interested in learning more about our league..

At the conclusion of each championship match, we will announce the "All-Tournament Team" from each division. As is a long-standing WVC tradition we will then award "The Ball" to the **Tournament MVP** from each of our four WVC Championship Teams.

Finally, good luck to our 22 teams traveling to Denver to compete in the NCVF Collegiate Club National Championships on April 18-20. Please make good decisions and even better memories!

Go WVC!

Jason Smith

WVC Commissioner



P.S. Please join us for the Player & Fan Party at DJ's Goalpost tonight!

"The purpose of the WVC is to promote quality and competitive Men's and Women's Volleyball in Wisconsin".