

Junior Nationals

The Girls' 2001 USA Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships were held June 27 through July 8 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The Boys' Championships were held July 4-9, 2001 in Phoenix, Arizona. Complete results are available on the USA Volleyball

website at www.usavolleyball.org/juniors/01_girls_result.htm and www.usavolleyball.org/juniors/01_boys_result.htm. The following trip reports were contributed by players, coaches, and directors of OVR teams who competed.

Blackswamp

Blackswamp had 2 Teams advance to nationals at Salt Lake, our 17's and 12's. Our 12 finished went 4 and 4 finishing 31st out of 48 teams. Our 17's went 5-5 but finished 13 overall out of 64 teams after 2 days they 5-1, but went 0-4 after that. It was a great experience for all involved. Thanks to all OVR people that helped the OVR teams have this great experience.

— Dave Reinhart
Club Director

Cincy VBC

Cincy VBC completed its 2001 volleyball season sending four teams to Nationals in Salt Lake City, Utah. The setting was spectacular with the view of the mountains surrounding you, a brand new facility to participate in, and great hospitality. What more could a couch ask for?

Our 14's finished with our clubs best overall standing of 5th place in the Gold Division. They had a great tournament with many nail biting matches, including one third game rally come from behind 6-12 to win.

Our remaining teams also did well the 13's finished 19th, 16's finished 35th, and last but not least the 15's finished 61st. There is a fine line and few points between the top and the bottom with all players giving their all and competing for the one #1 spot. Achieving the opportunity to compete for the #1 spot makes everyone a winner in the big picture of life.

I would like to say thank you to the OVR for all the hard work and dedication you give to our region year in and year out.

Also, hats off to Bill Zehler for his award that was presented to him during the finals of the 16's at Nationals for all that he has done for Junior Olympics.

See you next season,
Mindy Leonard
Director, Cincy VBC

Cleveland Volleyball Company

CVC 16 Black

During the winter months, qualifying for Nationals was nothing short of a remote possibility. But, in April, a determined CVC 16 Black team defeated the number one ranked team and went on to qualify for 16 Club Nationals at the Toledo Bid Tournament.

For many of the girls, this would be their first Nationals experience... so, what do we do now? Well, after weeks of practice and preparation (JO Nationals really should be earlier, don't you think?), we packed our bags and headed for Salt Lake City, Utah. Our Plan? Play as well as we can and enjoy the whole "experience." we started off very strong, winning our pool to remain in contention for the gold division. Our second day was definitely our most challenging. We faced three very tough teams and, although we played hard, we moved from the gold division to the bronze division. The last two days, we split matches, finishing 27th overall out of 64 teams. We were one of the highest placing teams in 16 Club from the OVR, acquiring major bragging rights by being the only team to beat the eventual 16 Club Champion Golden Bears from California.

Salt Lake City was beautiful and we thoroughly enjoyed the whole

experience, interspersing volleyball with dancing at Joe's Crab Shack (photos not included), previewing the 2002 Olympic venues, and numerous shopping trips. We hope to be back next year, Nationals is definitely worth the trip!

— Sherry O'callaghan
Coach, CVC 16 Black

CVC 15 Black

The mountains of SLC were the perfect backdrop for the National Tournament. Smooth passes setting up to high peaks for the straight downs to hit rock bottom. The facility was beautiful and brand new. The proud team marched in ready: Mary Kate Glowe, Anna Guadiz, Juli Jedick, Christina Mahovlic, Becky Petrulic, Jackie Phiel, Katie Richardson, Kate Verhoff, and Emily Yutzy. Nationals! It was finally here and the team played well, taking the bronze medal round!

The sites of the area were as spectacular as the event: the Great Salt Lake, Salt Lake City, Park City getting ready for the Olympics. The restaurants were fun and different. A great time was had by all!

— Amy Schloss
Coach, CVC 15 Black

CVC 14 Black

This year our J.O. club team, Cleveland Volleyball Company (CVC), competed at Nationals. We played in the 14 club division, having qualified at the bid tournament, and our goal was to play consistently well and I'd say that we reached our goal...

On the first day, we went in pretty excited knowing we were ranked 3rd in

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