

Junior Nationals

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In order to jump back up to the bronze division we had to win our 3-team pool. After losing to Birmingham, the team was definitely disappointed once again with a close lose to Circle City 18-2 (scores: 25-23, 21-25, 16-18). After this lose we were dropped down to flight 2.

The final day we ended with a winning streak. After beating Mizuno MI 18-2, Tidewater, and Cajunland in the finals with a score of 19-25, 25-14, and 15-12 we won our bracket and left Salt Lake City with a plaque.

Parents and coaches were very proud with how Dayton Juniors 18's played, even though everyone would have liked to finish a bit higher. Our record for the four days of play was 7-4.

I know that everyone will always remember their trip to Nationals and were very proud to represent Dayton Juniors in 18-Club.

Dayton Jrs. 16's – Blue Angels

For the girls on Dayton Juniors 16's team, this was their second straight trip to OPEN Nationals. They qualified by finishing second in the Indy Qualifier (MEQ) and then followed with winning the NEQ in Baltimore. The Blue Angels were very excited because they knew that these results would put them as one of the top seeds in the tournament. So on went the team to Salt Lake City to play volleyball and also enjoy great food, do some site seeing to the mountains and get a chance to see a great city.

As the 4th seed of the tourney the team started on the first day of competition with a record of 1-1. The match they lost was to Circle City after being up 2-0 in games and leading the third game 24-18 was a heart breaker. It seemed to continue to snowball after that.

The second day, the team played at the same intensity but lost one of their key players to an ankle injury and ended up with another split and a record of 2-2 after two days of play.

In order to stay in contention, they needed no worse than a split on the third day of play. After loosing the first match to National Champions City Beach in four games, they proceeded to play their hearts out against Austin Jrs. In this match they had the lead in games and points but fell short in five well-played games. After losing to Austin the team was definitely disappointed because they knew they were out of any medal contention.

The final day the Blue Angels played as best as they could beside the injuries to key players with the season ending with a loss to Ohio rivals Jump Serve.

Parents and coaches were somewhat disappointed, but they all know deep down inside that there are many more opportunities with this group if they choose to stay together. Great year for the Dayton Jrs 16's Blue Angels. They will be back!!!!!!

Dayton Jrs. 15s Blue Dragons

This year's Dayton Juniors Blue Dragons (15's) earned a trip to the USA Junior National Championship by placing 4th at the OVR Bid Tournament. Salt Lake City, here we come. Prior to play and during the event we had a chance to visit the mountains, eat at some "crazy" restaurants (cliff diving or dancing on tables) and do other things that we really had a chance to enjoy as a team. Our first day was a tiresome one. We were in a three way tie for first in our pool. We played Alamo (TX) and lost 20-25, 18-25, welcome to the tournament. We woke up and beat Adversity (IL) and Asics Nova (CA) 25-22, 26-24 and 23-25, 25-14, 15-8 respectively. Playoffs put us in third place after a loss to Alamo

10-15. With the jitters behind us our second round pool found us in a three-way tie for first (see the pattern). Again we lost the first match of the day to Players (WA) 23-25, 21-25 and then came back and won against Minnesota and San Gabriel (CA) 23-25, 25-14, 16-14 and 25-18, 25-23 respectively. Playing Players for the playoff we won 15-13 and placed 1st. Still being in the lower half of the tournament, we had to work to make it into the top half. We went into a 3-team pool and played Coast (CA) and lost 25-20, 21-25, 6-15 and won against Fusion (IL) 18-25, 25-19, 15-13 and yes, we were in a three way tie again. Only at this point since we were fighting to get into the medal brackets (bronze) the computer played us in the playoff and we lost and placed 3rd. We fell into Flight 2 of the tournament playoffs and went all the way to Salt Lake City to play a team down the street, Cincy Classic Black (OH). Well the grudge match was on and we went on a mission to obtain the "Ohio" title between us (2-2 in our previous encounters). We won the first match of the day (which we had not to this point) 25-23, 25-19. We then played Stewie (MN) and lost to the queens of tipping and roll shots 21-25, 25-15, 15-17. Overall we placed 35th in the tournament.

Special notice goes out to Molly Spencer, Stephanie Ross and Lizaiha Garcia for making the OVR High Performance team and placing 5th at the National High Performance Tournament (AAU) in Florida.

Dayton Jrs. 13's Blue Devils

Our first trip to Nationals representing Dayton Juniors was an experience we will all not forget. It included everything from playing, of course, to snow ball fight on Snowbird Mountain, to watching cliff divers in a restaurant, YES – INSIDE the restaurant. We even went to see where

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