

## 2001 USA Volleyball Open Championships

OH), Steve Crane (Houston, TX), Steven DiBacco (Dayton, OH), Jacque Henes (Dayton, OH), Rick Honeyman (Greenville, OH), Tom McDonald (Dayton, OH), Terry Miller (Dayton, OH), and Mike O'Hair (Hamilton, OH).

Information provided by Steven DiBacco, team captain. Written by Rick Laskey, Club Director.

### Miami Valley Masters 55's

Fifteen 55's men's teams participated at USA Nationals in Milwaukee, WI this year. We were seeded 4<sup>th</sup> in a 5-team pool with Legends of Irvine, CA (eventual 55's champion), Rusty's of Portland, OR, Sao Paulo Masters of Sao Paulo, Brazil, and Palmetto Masters of Charleston, SC. We finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in our pool, defeating Rusty's, 9-25, 25-21, 15-8, and Palmetto, 25-18, 20-25, 15-11, and losing to Legends and Sao Paulo. We gave the Legends a scare in our pool, beating them in the first game, 25-23, losing the second, 16-25, then barely losing the third, 14-16. This was the only game they lost in pool play and the only game they lost all tournament until the finals.

We were seeded 8<sup>th</sup> going into the single elimination Gold championships. We beat Warren Six Pak of Warren, NJ, 25-20, 25-20 and then faced Just Volleyball of Mountain View, CA. We lost 25-12, 25-10, putting us in the losers' bracket, where we defeated Palmetto Masters 25-19, 25-16. If Gordy Johanson had not been sitting on the bench injured for our match against Outback Steakhouse, I believe we would have won that match and gone on to the final six teams on Tuesday. As it turned out we lost to Outback, 25-13, 25-23 and finished tied for 7<sup>th</sup> place in the Gold division of the Men's 55's division.

Playing for the Miami Valley Masters 55's team were outside hitters, Alan Brunzman, Gordon Johanson, and Terry Miller, middle hitters Bob Martin and Ivan Woltmann, and setters Rick Laskey and John Wilder.

— Rick Laskey, Miami Valley Masters Club Director and 55's Team Captain

### Miami Valley Masters 60's

Here are the results for the Miami Valley Masters 60's team at USA Nationals in Milwaukee May 30-June 2:

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#### Miami Valley Masters 55's

Front row, left to right: 9. John Wilder, 1. Rick Laskey, 2. Alan Brunzman. Back row, left to right: 4. Gordon Johanson, 54. Terry Miller, 10. Bob Martin, 7. Ivan Woltmann.



#### Miami Valley Masters 60's at Nationals in Milwaukee

Front row, left to right: 6. John Parks, 1. Don Roderick, 2. Keith Rufener, 53. Jim Mills. Back row, left to right: 5. Findley Boyd, 9. Darrell Morken, 10. Ernie Thoms, 4. Shan Hise, 8. Tom Fulton.