

## 2002 USA Volleyball Open Championships

The 2002 USA Open Volleyball Championships were held in Dallas, Texas on May 25 through June 1, 2002. This annual tournament is the culmination of the USA Volleyball indoor season, drawing talented and hopeful teams from across the country. Divisions and competition schedules for the 2002 Championships were as follows:

*Saturday, May 25 through Tuesday, May 28*

- US Open Championship tournaments
- US Club Championship tournaments, Class A and AA
- US Masters Championships: 30 and over, and 40 and over
- US Seniors Championships: 50 and over, 60 and over, and 70/75 and over Combined

*Saturday, May 25 and Sunday, May 26*

- US Class B/BB Regular Co-Ed Championships
- Special Olympics National Unified Championships

*Monday, May 27 and Tuesday, May 28*

- US Class B/BB Reverse Co-Ed Championship tournament

*Wednesday, May 29 through Saturday, June 1*

- US Club Championship tournaments: Class B and BB
- US Masters Championships: 35 and over, and 45 and over
- US Seniors Championships: 55 and over, 65 and over

*Wednesday, May 29 and Thursday, May 30*

- US Class A/AA Reverse Co-Ed Championships

*Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1*

- US Class A/AA Regular Co-Ed Championships
- Disabled (Sitting Volleyball) National Invitational Championships

11 teams registered to the Ohio Valley Region competed, a number somewhat lower than that of other recent years due to the distance. Those teams, as reported on USA Volleyball's web site, included:

<i>team</i>	<i>division</i>	<i>place</i>
Sports Imports Big Ten All-Stars	Women's Open	5 <sup>th</sup> Gold
D.I.V.A.S	Women's AA	9 <sup>th</sup> Silver
TJ's	Women's AA	12 <sup>th</sup> Silver
Teamwerks	Women's A	17 <sup>th</sup> Copper
Ohio Tornadoes	Women's 60s	4 <sup>th</sup> Gold
Shiloh Industries	Men's B	12 <sup>th</sup> Copper
Michigan Wild	Men's 35s	4 <sup>th</sup> Gold
Westerville Volleyball Club 50s	Men's 50s	1 <sup>st</sup> Silver
Miami Valley Masters 55s	Men's 55s	1 <sup>st</sup> Silver
Miami Valley Masters 60s	Men's 60s	11 <sup>th</sup> Gold
Franklin County Flyers (Columbus)	Special Olympics	n/a

For pool, match, and game results, see USA Volleyball's documentation at [www.usavolleyball.org/adult/02results.htm](http://www.usavolleyball.org/adult/02results.htm).

Articles submitted by several of the participating teams appear on the following pages. For more information on the USA Open Volleyball Championships, including information for 2003 when available, see [www.ovr.org/mw/usopen/](http://www.ovr.org/mw/usopen/) (on the OVR site) and [www.usavolleyball.org/adult/main.htm](http://www.usavolleyball.org/adult/main.htm) (on the USA Volleyball site).

*(Continued on page 18)*

### Contributions Wanted!

The Ohio Valley Region's greatest strength is you, our members, and we welcome your insights. If you have a perspective, story, or photo you'd like to share for a future issue of *OVR The Block*, please contact [editor@ovr.org](mailto:editor@ovr.org).

### Future Board Meetings

- October 27, 2002 10:00 AM, Westerville
- January 20, 2003, time & location TBA

*Board meeting schedules, minutes, and agendas are online at [www.ovr.org/executive/](http://www.ovr.org/executive/).*

# 2002 USA Volleyball Open Championships

## TeamWerks



Stephanie Barrett, Kim Barber, Kim Bajko, Amy Tubbs, Trang Pham, Sherry O'Callaghan, Kathy Harris, Bridgette Samame.

We had a great time participating in our fourth Nationals. Our first two days we played well, but we missed qualifying for the Gold division by losing our last match to the defending women's A champs from 2001.

Even though we didn't qualify for gold, we definitely won the West End after hours division. Dallas was a fun city and the facilities were nice, despite the construction. Nationals are a great experience, and we are looking forward to representing the Ohio Valley Region again in Minneapolis next year.

We really appreciate our sponsors: Desperate Enterprises of Medina, OH and Superior Waterproofing and Restoration Company of St. Louis, MO. Their support made our trip possible.  
— Kathy Harris

## Ohio Tornadoes – Women's 60s

This was the first time the Ohio Tornadoes, the region's only Women's 60s team, played in the Nationals. Our team has competed at the events available for senior volleyball through the National Senior Games Association and the Huntsman World Senior games. The event was very enjoyable and very competitive. It was exciting to be a part a tournament with 36 courts of volleyball all under one roof! We hope to compete in future Nationals.  
— Shelly Woodward

## Michigan Wild – Men's 35s

We had a great time participating in our third straight Nationals. Coming off winning the Men's A Regionals in Columbus, we felt confident going into Dallas. After surviving an 18-hour minivan drive from Ann Arbor we were ready to play. However, we had to make major lineup adjustments from Regionals. Our normal setter, Todd Stamm, was unavailable, so we used Scott Mais, our libero, to set. In addition, we picked up Steve Crane from the Michiana Region to be used as the second middle. Middles Don Crandall and Eric Olsen were unavailable. In addition, our weak side lefty, Randy Stelpflug, could not make the trip

The first day we went 4-2. We beat Vail Sport from Colorado 2 out of 3 games and upset Maui Jim from California, winning 2 out of 3 games. The second day was not as fortunate: we dropped 2 to Team Brucer and lost 2 games to Richmond Volleyball Club. Tournament day on Friday started with defeating Vail; however, we were trounced in the second match by Maui Jim, led by fellow Michigander David Jack. The third match against Richmond was very hard-fought; however, we dropped the third game 15-11. Special thanks to Terry Miller for supporting us during the tournament! After a long night, we left Saturday morning and survived the long drive home.

Team members included Scott Mais, Kevin Patrick, John Rusaw, Steve Schwartz, Scott Reusze, Steve Crane, and Jeff Kless.  
— Jeff Kless, Team Captain

Take your team to the 2003 US  
Open ... watch for details at  
[www.ovr.org/mw/usopen/](http://www.ovr.org/mw/usopen/)

## 2002 USA Volleyball Open Championships

### Miami Valley Masters 55s



Kneeling (L to R) Steven DiBacco, John Wilder, Rick Laskey.  
Standing (L to R) Howard Belsheim, Downey Young, Alan  
Brunzman, Mike O'Hair, Terry Miller, Ivan Woltmann.

Seeded second in our pool, the Miami Valley Masters 55s team finished second, defeating Texas (25-23, 25-22) and Palmetto (25-27, 25-12, 15-5) and losing to Quicksilver (15-25, 11-25). In the second round of pool play we were not as fortunate, losing to Brazil, Warren Six Pak, and Rusty's.

In the Silver Division the team defeated People Against Drugs (11-25, 25-19, 15-10) and Dinosaurs (24-26, 25-19, 15-13), and we had our revenge against Warren Six Pak in the Silver Division Finals, winning the Silver Championships (16-25, 25-12, 15-9).

Members of the team were Howard Belsheim (West Des Moines, IA), Alan Brunzman (Yellow Springs, OH), Steven DiBacco (Huber Heights, OH), Rick Laskey (Xenia, OH), Terry Miller (Dayton, OH), Mike O'Hair (Hamilton, OH), John Wilder (Lafayette, IN), Ivan Woltmann (West Chester, OH), and Downey Young (Marietta, GA). — *Rick Laskey*

### Miami Valley Masters 60s



Kneeling(L to R) Alan Brunzman, Tom Czechowski.  
2nd Row(L to R) Jerry Osterholt, Shan Hise, Sim Garrett.  
3rd Row (L to R) Tim Vaughan, Walt Deal, Tom Fulton.

The Miami Valley Masters 60's volleyball team participated in the 2002 USA Adult Volleyball Championships in Dallas, Texas during the Memorial Day Weekend. Playing in the 60-64 age group, the team went 1-4 in pool play, beating Morgan Stanley-Dean Witter of Virginia Beach, VA 2-1 and losing to Rusty's (Portland, OR), Texas SR 60 (Across, TX), Outback Steakhouse (Seattle WA) 0-2 and to Warren Six Pak (Warren, NJ) 1-2.

In the Gold Championship playoff the Masters went 0-2, losing both in close three-game matches to 6<sup>th</sup>-seeded MAC 60 (Glen Dale, MD) and 8<sup>th</sup>-seeded Automated Analysis (Ann Arbor, MI). Keystone Mac (Las Vegas, NV) won the championship, going undefeated in match play with Outback Steakhouse finishing second.

Members of the team were Alan Brunzman (Yellow Springs, OH), Tom Czechowski (Eden, NY), Walt Deal (Clearwater, FL), Sim Garrett (Lisle, IL), Shan Hise (Clearwater, FL), Jerry Osterholt (St. Henry, OH), Tim Vaughan (Chesterland, OH), and Tom Fulton (Troy, OH). The team enjoyed good fellowship and competition throughout the tournament. A big *Thank You* goes to our sponsor, Miami Valley Masters Volleyball Club of Xenia, OH.