

# Focus on the Prize!

## \$25,000 Grand Prix

VECKIO PHOTOGRAPHY

[www.eevb.net/grand\\_prix.html](http://www.eevb.net/grand_prix.html)

Earn points all season at Volley America Tournament -  
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- East End Volleyball: RI, CT, NJ, SC & FL
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- Beach Sports (NC)
- North Fork Volleyball (NY)
- Quandomania Volleyball (NJ)
- PCB Sand Sports (Panama City, FL)
- Nashville Beach (TN)
- Boston Beach VB (MA)
- Tidewater Volleyball Assoc. (VA)
- Floatserve VB (CA)
- The Sandbox Indoor Beach VB (CT)

Additional Programs to be added: Ask your promoter why your program is not involved!

### Prize Money Breakdown

Division	Prize Money	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	
MO	\$6,000	\$1,000	\$700	\$650	\$600	\$550	\$500	\$450	\$400	\$350	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$100	\$50
WO	\$6,000	\$1,000	\$700	\$650	\$600	\$550	\$500	\$450	\$400	\$350	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$100	\$50
MAA	\$3,000	\$600	\$500	\$400	\$300	\$250	\$150	\$150	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$75	\$75	\$50
WAA	\$3,000	\$600	\$500	\$400	\$300	\$250	\$150	\$150	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$75	\$75	\$50
MA	\$2,500	\$500	\$400	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$50	\$50	\$50
WA	\$2,500	\$500	\$400	\$300	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$50	\$50	\$50
MB	\$1,000	\$175	\$125	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$25
WB	\$1,000	\$175	\$125	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$75	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$25



Prizes are  
Per Player!

# 4 QUESTIONS WITH: Shane Donohue

**1. Most of the top players in the country now seem to come out of California or Florida yet you have become one of the top East Coast players out of the Jersey Shore. How did you get started playing beach volleyball in NJ?**

The beach volleyball community is certainly dominated by players from California and Florida. So getting into this sport in New Jersey takes a different route than people elsewhere in the country. I started playing indoor volleyball at the local YMCA when I was a junior in high school. From there I played a little bit of club volleyball before going to Ramapo College to play indoor. Some of my coaches and fellow players at Ramapo were playing beach volleyball in the off season, so I tried it out and instantly loved it. For a few years I was only playing occasionally, but as I neared the end of college I played more and more. Now I play as much as I can, but it's still a struggle. Players in California and Florida can train nearly 12 months a year. On top of that there is a larger group of top level players to train with.

**2. You played a few tournaments last year with Mark Burik. Do you plan on playing with him again in 2011? How nice is it to play behind such a solid block like Mark's?**

Mark is a great player. We played in a few tournaments last year, and saw some success. I think we both would agree that we thought we still could have done much better. I haven't locked up any partners for the summer as of yet, but I am sure Mark and I will play together again when everything lines up.



Playing behind Mark's block is great. Before playing with Mark I knew I was playing with a good defender and side out player, but didn't realize he could block so well. It makes my job playing defense so much easier playing with a guy like that.

**3. What is your favorite site on the East Coast for playing conditions? And for atmosphere? Feel free to pick a different site for each question?**

Last year I was able to play in my first Florida tournament. I loved the site in Siesta Key. The beach is amazing, and nothing beats the Florida weather. My favorite site in terms of atmosphere has to be Atlantic City. Playing outside of the Bally's Beach Bar on center court is so much fun. Later in the night, we're on the other side of the Beach Bar fence for the after party and it always turns out to be one of the highlights of the summer.

**4. You finished 3rd in the East Coast Championships in Siesta Key last October in a very strong tournament playing with Seidu**



Shane Donhue skying high, then snapping the ball past JD Christie's Block

Photo by Fred Obermiller

**Ajanako that was won by Nick Lucena and Adrian Carambula. When you are playing behind a big block like Seidu's or Mark Burik's, does the side you play make much of a difference?**

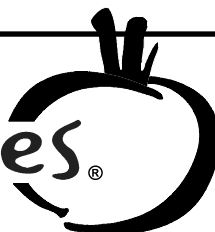
Playing with Seidu in the East Coast Championships was a pleasure. It was only our second time ever playing together, so a 3rd place finish in that tournament was solid. I can't get too bummed about losing to guys like that, but going into it I still felt like we had a good shot. So I was happy with the 3rd place finish but I'm never satisfied with a loss, regardless of who I'm playing.

Playing behind those blockers is great but I still prefer to play the left side. I have been working really hard on my right side game to be more versatile, but it's still a work in progress.

**Bio Info from BVInfo.com:**

**Birth Date** July 9, 1987 (23 years old)  
**Home Town** Freehold, NJ  
**Height** 6'2"  
**College** Ramapo College  
 as he is an outside hitter on the volleyball team as well as a member of the track and field team. As a freshman he led the team in kills, blocks and hitting percentage, and again led the team in kills as a sophomore. He was second-team all-conference both seasons, and was selected as the MVP of the 2007 ECAC South Championship Tournament. In high school he was a four-year letterwinner in both basketball and track and field.

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\*Past AVP pros... Angie Akers, Aaron Wachtfogel, Jeff Nygaard, Jen Kessy, Matt Olson, Brent Doble, Ryan Mariano, Paige Jensen

Since 1994, over 3,000 players have joined Denver based SOB Volleyball Vacations for tropical vacations "South Of The Border". For more information and pricing please visit us at: [www.sobvolleyballvacations.com](http://www.sobvolleyballvacations.com) or call us at 1.888.SOB.TRIP.

## 2011-12 South Of the Border Volleyball Vacations Puerto Vallarta and Ixtapa, Mexico

Have you ever imagined what it would be like to step in to the sand with one of the worlds' top professional beach players? Better yet, imagine what it would be like for them to be your partner for a day. Well that's exactly what happens each winter on an SOB Volleyball Vacation. SOB started in 1994 when founder Tom Davenport organized their first trip to Cancun, Mexico. Over the last 18 years, 20+ AVP Pros and 3,000+ players from all over the US, Canada, Europe and South America have traveled "South Of the Border" for a week of fun in the sun. SOB has visited Cancun, Puerto Vallarta, Ixtapa, Mexico and has organized smaller trips to the British Virgin Islands, Steamboat Springs and Breckenridge, CO.

An SOB Volleyball Vacation includes all your food, beverages, hotel, clinics, and tournaments. Typical 8 day trips run \$950-\$1350 plus your airfare. A week on the beach, SOB style, includes a coed 4x4 tournament, a Men's/Women's round robin 2's tournament, Coed 2's draw, daily clinics and pick-up play with the pros, and perhaps a little one handed happy hour hook or a game

of ace. And since all tournaments are seeded blind draws, you do not need to bring a partner, just show up and they have it covered.

As with any tropical trip, the days include tons of volleyball as well as playing in the waves, snorkeling, surfing, zip-lining, etc., and the nights include dinners with new friends, exploring the local night life, dancing at the local clubs, or enjoying \$1 "cold ones" at the local tiki bar! 2009 SOB first timer and AVP Pro Ryan Mariano summed it up nicely: "This was my first time on a volleyball vacation the South Of the Border group. I knew it was going to be a blast, but I had no idea that I would meet so many great people and have so much fun playing in the event. It was an incredible experience. Great people and great times."

SOB's early trips catered to volleyball "junkies". It was not uncommon

to see 20-30 players pile into a couple rental vans with nets in the back and set out in search of a mythical Mexican beach down the coast where they could set up and play all day. Recent years have seen the addition of pro athletes to the SOB mix. AVP players like Jeff Nygaard, Angie Akers, Aaron Wachtfogel, Brent Doble, Paige Jensen and Jen Kessy have joined past SOB trips.

Two SOB vacations are slated for next winter. First they will visit the Vallarta Palace in Puerto Vallarta, November 26 - Dec 3, 2011. This trip is 5 star and is capped at 72 players and 6 pros. Then January 14-21, 2010, SOB will once again visit Ixtapa, Mexico. Ixtapa is capped at 192

guests and 6 pro athletes and sold out last year.

The SOB crew is based in Denver, Colorado where they organize leagues and tournaments and they are sponsoring EEVB with a couple trips. For more information on their tropical getaways, you can visit them at [sobvolleyballvacations.com](http://sobvolleyballvacations.com). You can check out their Colorado Volleyball Vacations at [steamboatdoubles.com](http://steamboatdoubles.com) or [breckenridgedoubles.com](http://breckenridgedoubles.com).



# What Is:

## **Volley America** **[www.volleyamerica.com](http://www.volleyamerica.com)**

Volley America is an organization formed by over 18 individual volleyball program directors around the country with the following goal: How can we cooperate to make beach volleyball better for the players?

To answer that question Volley America had to develop programs that would help not only the highest level doubles players who have been well taken care of by earlier organizations, but also programs that would benefit intermediate, novice and recreational league players.

The first step towards reaching this goal was to establish the following programs:

- \$25,000 Volley America Grand Prix that awards end of the season prize money to doubles players of all levels from Open down to B (novice). See page 12 for a complete breakdown.
- Establish a National Ranking System for all divisions that will be used for seeding Volley America tournaments allowing players to travel and still get an accurate seed.
- Establish National Championships:
  - East Coast Doubles Championships (to be held on the Jersey Shore in August, 2011)
  - West Coast Doubles Championships (this fall in California)
  - Volley America National Championships, Clearwater, FL Oct. 22-23, 2011
  - Volley America League Nationals for 4 and 6-player teams to be held at The Beach Hut at Cedar beach in Babylon, NY
- Provide promoters with liability insurance coverage which is required by all municipalities that host events.
- Provide a secondary accident insurance policy for players that will supplement their primary health insurance policy and as a back up for major injuries incurred while playing in Volley America sanctioned events.
- Provide merchandise discounts/benefits fro players

such as discounts on Dig Magazine subscriptions.

- Give away trips to top teams from the different regions so that players can travel to the Volley America Championship Tournaments.

We are still working on plans and awards for the players that will be funded by the Volley America memberships fees and sponsors. These will be announced online at [www.VolleyAmerica.com](http://www.VolleyAmerica.com)

Volley America is a very new and unique concept in the currently unorganized beach volleyball world. We are open to suggestions from players about how we can give back more benefits to players of all levels. We expect the program to reach 8,000 members the first year and to show continued growth in subsequent seasons. Additional members will allow Volley America to add additional player benefits.

We hope you like what we have done and will continue to choose Volley America events over other non-VA events. If you are in a region where local organizers are not sanctioned by Volley America please ask them why. And encourage them to join us as we work to improve benefits for players.

The beach volleyball community has a long history of non-cooperation which we intend to change. We hope you enjoy the results

# Charter Volley America Organizers

Great America Volleyball  
[www.greatamericanvolleyball.com/](http://www.greatamericanvolleyball.com/)  
 New Jersey, California, New Mexico

East End Volleyball  
[www.eevb.net](http://www.eevb.net)

Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York,  
 New Jersey, South Carolina, Florida

Bradford Beach Volleyball Series  
[www.bradfordbeachjam.com/welcome.html](http://www.bradfordbeachjam.com/welcome.html)  
 Wisconsin

Newport Volleyball Club  
[newportvolleyballclub.com](http://newportvolleyballclub.com)  
 Rhode Island

Kong Volleyball  
[www.kongvolleyball.com](http://www.kongvolleyball.com)  
 Florida

North Fork Beach Volleyball  
[www.northforkbeachvolleyball.com](http://www.northforkbeachvolleyball.com)  
 New York

Brigantine beach Volleyball Assoc.  
[www.eteamz.com/brigvb](http://www.eteamz.com/brigvb)  
 New Jersey

Aspire Higher Volleyball SuperCenter  
[www.ahvsupercenter.com](http://www.ahvsupercenter.com)  
 Florida

Beach-Sports  
[beach-sports.net](http://beach-sports.net)  
 North Carolina

Quandomania  
[www.quandomania.com](http://www.quandomania.com)  
 New Jersey

PCB Sand Sports  
[pcbsandsports.com](http://pcbsandsports.com)  
 Florida

Nashville Beach  
[nashvillebeach.com](http://nashvillebeach.com)  
 Tennessee

Boston Beach Volleyball  
[www.bostonbeachvb.com](http://www.bostonbeachvb.com)  
 Massachusetts

Tidewater Volleyball Association  
[www.playtva.org/beach](http://www.playtva.org/beach)  
 Virginia

Float Serve Volleyball  
[floatserve.com/](http://floatserve.com/)  
 California

The Sandbox Indoor Beach Volleyball  
[sandboxbeach.com/](http://sandboxbeach.com/)  
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