

2024

AVCA Thirty Under 30 Club



Nick Collins

The St. James Volleyball Club
Boys 17's Navy Head Coach, Assistant Director of Volleyball

Career Accomplishments to Date:

The St. James Volleyball Club

- Career Record: 187-54
- 4 players to NTDP Training Series (Indoor and Beach), 5 college commits (BYU, Pepperdine, St. Francis, Marymount), 1 JVA All-American
- Can-Am Champions and USAV Open Nationals qualified (2020, 2021)
- AAU Open Nationals back-to-back-to-back silver bracket finishes - 2022-2024 (13th, 18th, 13th)

Robinson High School

- Girls Varsity Volleyball
- Career Record: 34-12 (Overall), 30-2 (In conference)
- Coached 8 players to all district honors, 5 players to all region honors, and one to all state
- Qualified for States for first time in 20 years

Coaching Roles:

The St. James Volleyball Club

- Travel Director (2022-2024)
- Assistant Director of Volleyball (2024-Present)
- Boys Head Coach - 14 Navy, 15 Navy, 18 Navy, 17 Navy (2019-Present)

George Mason University

- Men's Volleyball Volunteer Assistant Coach (2020-2023, 2024-Present)

Robinson High School

- Girls Varsity Volleyball Head Coach (2021, 2022)
- Boys Varsity Volleyball Head Coach (2024 - Present) *Inaugural Boys Varsity Season*

Marymount University Volleyball

- Men's Volleyball Graduate Assistant (2018-2019)

What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?

Between the great experiences and the hardships as an athlete, I realized how big an impact one coach can have on a player - both in the sport and in life. Regardless of someone's skill set, situation, or mentality, I knew I wanted to help athletes realize their potential and help them be the best versions of themselves. I wanted to give players the confidence and belief to achieve more than they thought possible and use that as a catalyst they could carry with them the rest of their lives.



What are your career goals in the sport?

I would like to continue to grow boys' volleyball in Northern Virginia and help our club continue to compete on the national scale. I'd also like to help all players achieve their goals of playing in college or finding the right volleyball home at the next level. Beyond sports, I'd like to help teach players valuable life lessons that they can apply no matter what they do in the professional/academic world using all that they are able to learn at our club. Eventually, I hope to transition to the college game once my youngest brother graduates from high school.

Which coaches have influenced you the most?

The coaches who have influenced me the most are Jay Hosack (George Mason Men's Volleyball), Joe Norton (Princeton Men's Volleyball), Vic Talamoa (George Mason Men's Volleyball), and Aubrey Eaton (St. James). All of these coaches have not only helped build up my volleyball knowledge from the ground up but have instilled a confidence and belief in me that has helped me grow into the person and coach I am today. Their support, advice, and friendships are the reason I am where I'm at and have pursued coaching as a career path.

What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?

What I love most about coaching is watching a player become a version of themselves that they didn't even know existed inside them. With hard work and perseverance, many athletes are able to achieve their goals. But watching the doubt disappear and confidence take over as quiet players become leaders, role players become key contributors, and teams become family is why I coach. The self-belief and work ethic originally developed through sport is what will help them conquer the greatest mountains no matter what they do in life. Helping them realize that is the best feeling in the world.

