

2024 AVCA Thirty Under 30 College



Bijonae Jones

Georgia State University
NCAA Division I

Assistant Coach and Recruiting Coordinator

Career Accomplishments to Date:

Finding success within aspects of the program, including on-court coaching, recruiting, data and analytics, academics, marketing, community service and camps. Involved with athletes success on the court including, career records, tournament wins and conference awards. Creating and executing recruiting plan at the division 1 level.

Coaching Roles:

- LaGrange College- Graduate Assistant - 2019
- Lamar University- Graduate Assistant- 2020
- Marshall University- Assistant Coach and Recruiting Coordinator- 2021-2023
- Georgia State University- Assistant Coach and Recruiting Coordinator- 2024-Present



What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?

I decided to coach volleyball because of previous coaches I had. I have always had a positive experience with coaches I played under and they are some of the closest people to me today. I learned a lot along the way from each person I played for, I wanted to help others with their journey and be that person in their corner they knew they could count on and believe in them. I wanted to help continue to grow the game while also grow athletes on and off the court.

What are your career goals in the sport?

I hope to eventually win a conference title within a program. Help create an environment that is positive for student athletes who want to compete and continue to connect with them outside the court. Down the road, I hope to hold the position of a head coach.

Which coaches have influenced you the most?

It is hard for me to say who has influenced me the most. I have come across some pretty amazing coaches who have all played a part in shaping me into the person I am today. Coaching is not an easy job and comes with a lot of adversity and challenges. When it comes to coaching, Ari Aganus has shown me that within life's battles and successes and trying to find a work-life balance. The key words are, YOU CAN. You can be just as passionate on the court as you are at home with family.



What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?

I love that the game never stops growing. There is always a new method or technique to learn. Whether it's running a drill or a way to analyze the game. I love that coaching is not a stagnant job. I also love that the places I have worked have provided me with the opportunity to get to know the athletes I am working with, have conversations that go beyond the game of volleyball and build genuine relationships.

