

2024 AVCA Thirty Under 30 College



Adam Kessenich

Creighton University
NCAA Division I
Assistant Coach

Career Accomplishments to Date:

- 2018 BIG Ten Champions, BIG Ten Player of the Year and Setter of the Year, 7 All-BIG Ten Selections and 6 All-Americans
- 2019 Final Four, 5 All-BIG Ten Selections and 4 All-Americans
- 2020-2021, Conference Tournament Finalist, 3 All-CAA Selections
- 2021, 3 All-CAA Selections
- 2022, 2 All-CAA Selections
- 2023, BIG East Regular Season and Tournament Champions, Player of the Year and Setter of the Year, NCAA Tournament Sweet Sixteen

Coaching Roles:

- Milwaukee Sting Boys 16's, 17's, Head Coach, 2016-2018
- University of Minnesota, Volunteer Assistant, 2018-2019
- Northeastern University, Assistant Coach, 2020-2023
- Creighton University, Assistant Coach, 2023-Present

What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?

Growing up in Wisconsin I was fortunate enough to play volleyball for school and club starting in 5th grade. After my playing career I knew I wanted to stay in the game in some capacity. While I was working as an Engineer for GE Healthcare in Milwaukee, I was also coaching club and couldn't stop thinking about the team and how to get better. That is really what the deciding factor was, I wanted to continue to get better and learn as a volleyball coach and didn't have that same desire as an engineer.

What are your career goals in the sport?

My career goals in volleyball are to build confidence in others and to be a positive influence in their journey of finding out who they are and what they want to be in life.



Which coaches have influenced you the most?

All of the coaches I have worked with have made a huge impact on me. I don't think I could have hand picked a better position starting at the University of Minnesota with Hugh McCutcheon and the rest of the Minnesota coaching and support staff. I learned what it meant to be a true professional and how to put the players first. I am forever grateful to Lenika Vazquez at Northeastern for hiring me and teaching me so much during my time there. And now working with Kirsten Bernthal Booth and the absolutely amazing staff at Creighton University.

What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?

Seeing the development and confidence of the players grow gives me the most joy coaching. There is no better moment than seeing a player succeed in something they have been working toward.