

2024 AVCA Thirty Under 30 Beach



Kristi Tekavec

Florida Atlantic University
NCAA Division I

Assistant Coach for the FAU Beach Volleyball Team

Career Accomplishments to Date:

Since I've been at FAU, the program has earned winning seasons and been consistent in the national rankings. In the 2022 season we finished in the Elite 8 with a 3-0 win over Stanford to advance. Many of the players that I coached over the years received recognition on the national stage as well.

Some accomplishments include:

- 2 Two-time AVCA All-Americans
- Back-to-back NCAA Tournament Appearances (2022 & 2023)
- 2023 CUSA Champions
- 2021 CCSA Champions
- Two-time CUSA Pair of the Year
- Two-time CCSA Freshman of the Year
- Two-time CUSA Freshman of the Year

Coaching Roles:

- 2020, 2021 - FAU Volunteer Assistant Coach
- 2022, 2023, 2024 - FAU Assistant Coach



What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?

In 2013 I started my collegiate journey as a member of the FAU indoor team and finished as a member of the beach team in 2019. Just shortly after Head Coach at the time Capri Grotowski asked me to join the staff. I was torn between playing indoor overseas or starting my professional beach career.. so I took her up on her offer with the goal of expanding my knowledge and skill in the sport of beach volleyball. Capri was battling brain cancer at the time, so I felt blessed with the opportunity to also lend a helping hand.

What are your career goals in the sport?

Win a national championship with this team that I love so much. Most importantly to do it for Capri.

Which coaches have influenced you the most?

Capri Grotowski was truly one of a kind, her everyday fight against brain cancer was a reminder of how we should walk through life. She conveyed incredible courage and strength which are values that she has instilled in the FAU Beach volleyball team culture forever.



What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?

The best part about this job is the long lasting impact that you have on the individuals that you get to coach. I have been at FAU since 2013, so as an athlete that has played for the same university that I am now coaching at, I am able to genuinely understand what college athletics is all about, especially at FAU. It is so fulfilling to coach this team and be a mentor for them. It's been an honor and a privilege to be the coach that I always wanted to have.