

2024

AVCA Thirty Under 30 High School



Josh Jurysta

Schechter School of Long Island
Varsity Volleyball Coach

Career Accomplishments to Date:

We made it to the semi-finals in the 2023-2024 season and the quarter-finals in the 2022-2023 season. During the 2018-2019 season, we went undefeated in the regular season. We are a very small school, with limited space and time in our gym to practice. I am really proud of how our girls' team has consistently been able to do more with less. Here are articles from our school blog highlighting our team.

<https://pawprintnow.blogspot.com/2021/10/varsity-girls-volleyball-trip-and.html>

<https://pawprintnow.blogspot.com/2019/01/girls-varsity-volleyball-triumphs-in.html>

<https://pawprintnow.blogspot.com/2018/11/girls-varsity-volleyball-sets-up.html>

<https://pawprintnow.blogspot.com/2024/02/semi-finals-here-we-come.html?view=timeslide>

I share these because seeing the school community embrace and respect the work we do to be successful has been extraordinary.

Coaching Roles:

I started coaching at Schechter in the Winter of 2016 and have been here ever since. I have been the Head coach for both the girls' varsity team in the Fall/ Winter and the boys' varsity team in the Spring.

What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?

I started coaching in 2016 because I wanted to give back to my community and provide my students with a positive sports experience. I had been playing volleyball since high school and felt like I could make a difference in taking over the high school team at Schechter. I remember I started as the substitute coach for the girls' team for an away game. Instantly, I saw that I was making a difference in building their confidence and giving them the tools to succeed on the court.

What are your career goals in the sport?

I would like to win a league championship. We have been knocking on the door in recent years, and it would be great to push through. I know the girls want to win a championship for themselves and for our school. Aside from that, I want to continue to build a successful program where our culture of caring for one another guides everything we do. My biggest thing has always been to instill self-confidence and belief in the girls that they can do anything they set their minds to.



Which coaches have influenced you the most?

My high school coach, Nicolle Inguagiato, influenced me the most. She instilled in me a love for the game of volleyball and always pushed me to succeed and improve. My colleague and friend, Coach Courtney Athenas, has taught me how to better care for and support my student-athletes so that I can be a more understanding and effective coach. Lastly, my mentor, Coach Brian Singh, has influenced and challenged me to think critically about how I can better prepare my team for competition with more game-like practice planning.

What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?

I enjoy the practice of planning and problem-solving that goes into preparing for our next opponent. I love getting in the gym with my team and helping them improve their skills. Looking back on the past few years, my favorite moments are those when one of my players had that breakthrough moment of success. A hard-driven spike, a diving save, a game-clinching serve. Those moments are what I hope will keep them involved in volleyball for the rest of their lives.

