

# 2024

## AVCA Thirty Under 30 High School



### **Ryan Walker**

Bishop O' Connell  
JV Head Coach

&

Virginia Elite Volleyball Club  
14s Head Coach

#### **Career Accomplishments to Date:**

- Bishop O' Connell: 2024 WCAC Champions with a 17-2 record
- Mclean High School: 2022 and 2023 Liberty District Champions with a combined 26-2 record.
- Virginia Elite: 3 Open-Level bronze finishes at USAV sanctioned tournaments.

#### **Coaching Roles:**

- Bishop O' Connell JV Head Coach - 2024 to present
- Virginia Elite Volleyball Club 14s Head Coach - 2024 to present
- Virginia Elite Volleyball Club 13s Assistant Coach - 2022 to 2024
- Mclean High School Freshman and JV Head Coach - 2022 to 2023



### **What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?**

Coming out of college, I always wanted to give back to my community as a coach. My high school and club coaches were some of the biggest influences in my life when I was young, and I wanted to repay the favor to these girls. Coaching gives me a sense of pride, knowing that I am leaving a meaningful impact on the players.

### **What are your career goals in the sport?**

My goal in coaching volleyball is to leave a lasting impression on all of the players that I mentor and coach. I want the girls to look back at their high school and club days and have learned something

that they can take to the next level, whether it's college or at their jobs post-grad. I strive to be a role model on and off of the court to every team I coach, no matter what age level it may be!

### **Which coaches have influenced you the most?**

Coach Mehdi, who I have had the privilege of coaching under for the last 3 years at Virginia Elite and now at Bishop O'Connell. Mehdi has enlisted confidence in me to coach how I want and to trust myself with whatever decision it may be, in life or in volleyball. Coach Samantha, I owe endless thanks to for introducing me to coaching 3 years ago at Mclean. Coach Riordan, although he was my high school golf coach, he showed me what a valuable impact a coach can have on a player, and for that I am forever grateful.



**What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?**

By far the best thing about coaching is seeing the girls gain confidence throughout the season and as the years go on. I understand how hard it is to trust yourself on the court and my job is to make them believe in themselves! Coaching brings me endless joy that I earn through seeing my players succeed on and off of the volleyball court



30 THIRTY  
— HIGH SCHOOL —