

2026

AVCA Thirty Under 30 Club



Clare Brockman
Garden Oaks Volleyball Club
Owner/Director/13 Black Coach

Career Accomplishments to Date:

Founding Garden Oaks Volleyball Club and growing into a club teaching and supporting over 130 families each season

Coaching Roles:

Archbishop Mitty High School 2018
Texas Tech Post Grad Intern 2018-2019
St. Pius X High School in Houston 2019-2026
Garden Oaks Volleyball Club 2020-Current

What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?

After graduating from Penn State University and competing in the Final Four, I was actually trying to find a new identity outside of volleyball. As much as I tried to avoid volleyball, it seemed impossible-God guided me each step of the way along my volleyball coaching journey.

Coaching enables me to connect with the next generation of athletes and develop them as players and as young women. I'm so grateful to be able to give back to the sport that has given me so much.

What are your career goals in the sport?

My goals are to help young women grow in self confidence and self love. I aim to continue to grow our club in a family atmosphere where players feel loved, supported and challenged.



Which coaches have influenced you the most?

Russ Rose transformed me as both a player and a person during my time at Penn State. He instilled discipline, hard work, and leadership, teaching us that if we could survive preseason in Happy Valley, we could tackle any challenge ahead. Though intense and competitive, he cared deeply about each athlete and pushed us to be our best. My high school coach, Bret Almazan-Cesar at Archbishop Mitty High School, also shaped me. His creative strategies and outside-the-box thinking continue to inspire me to remain a lifelong student of the game.

What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?

What I enjoy most about coaching is the relationships built with other coaches, players, and parents that keep the joy of volleyball alive. Helping players work through challenges both on and off the court is incredibly rewarding. As much as you give of yourself as a coach, you receive back tenfold. My past and current players have shaped who I am today and have helped make me the woman and mother I am.

