

2026

AVCA Thirty Under 30 High School



Matthew Ellis

Lakota East High School - Cincinnati Volleyball Academy
Varsity Head Coach - 15-1 Head Coach

Career Accomplishments to Date:

Coaching Roles:

Loveland High School - Program Assistant - (2019 - 2021)
West Clermont - Varsity Assistant - (2022)
Loveland High School - JV Coach - (2023-2024)
Lakota East High School - Varsity Head Coach - (2025 - Present)
Cincinnati Volleyball Academy - Club Head Coach (2018-Present)

What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?

I decided to get into coaching when my first coach, Brian Baugh, asked me to coach JV for him when he moved into a Varsity Head Coaching role. I always loved the analytical aspect of volleyball and wanted to work with Baugh to learn and give back to him for all the time he put into me over the years.

What are your career goals in the sport?

My goal for Lakota East High School is to become a consistent winner of the GMC conference and a consistent Top 10 team in Cincinnati.
My club goal is to continue to help the Cincinnati Volleyball Academy grow as one of the top training clubs for young athletes and young coaches.
My personal goal is to be a Division 1 NCAA Head, Associate, or Assistant Coach.



Which coaches have influenced you the most?

Nick Toth (Kings/CVA), who encourages me to be my best self everyday, but reminds me to give myself grace along the way. Tyler Conley (Fenwick/CVA), who has always been there helping me grow and learn. Brian Baugh (Loveland), who got me into volleyball, coaching, and believes in me. Adrienne Green (Kings/CVA), who challenges me to think divergently and sets an example for leadership. Gabby Mahar (Loveland/CVA), who has my back and has always supported me from the beginning. I am so thankful for this group of people and I often tell them I love them, because I mean it.

What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?

I enjoy coaching so much because of the athletes and coaches I get to work with. I leave work every day and get to go see my team and create with them; it gives me something to look forward to every day. I also love getting to build relationships and teach the girls about relationship building. Coaching is such a great community, centered around supporting and inspiring young people, which gives me purpose every day.

— HIGH SCHOOL —