

2026

AVCA Thirty Under 30 Club



Tulani Harrison

Houston Skyline
13 Royal Head Coach

Career Accomplishments to Date:

- Bronze Medalist at the Northern Lights.
- Led the first Houston Skyline 13s team to qualify for Nationals in the top division.
- First and only Houston Skyline 11s team to qualify for Nationals.
- Five Top 5 finishes at qualifiers (Open & National divisions)
- Bronze medalist at GJNC (American division)

Coaching Roles:

University of Tulsa: 2021 (Director of Volleyball Operations)

Houston Skyline: 2021 - Present (Assistant Director, Head coach)

What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?

To be honest, I kind of stumbled into it. I started out just filling in for a team that needed help, but after a few months, I realized I'd completely fallen in love with the role. I started reflecting on the coaches I've had in the past, both the great ones and the ones I didn't see eye-to-eye with, and realized I could use those lessons to truly lead. I want to take the best of what I learned and be a positive influence for young athletes as they navigate the game.

What are your career goals in the sport?

My goal is to help young athletes fall in love with the game and gain confidence on and off the court. I am super competitive so of course I aim to lead a team to win a National Championship at the highest level one day. On a deeper level, representation matters to me. As a Black woman in this sport, I want to be a visible leader and role model for the

next generation, showing them there is a seat at the table for us at every level of the game.



Which coaches have influenced you the most?

Two women influenced me a ton. Farah Holder, my high school coach, taught me that culture is everything. We didn't win any state titles or at times any matches but those were some of my favorite teams because of the connections and bonds we had on and off the court. Alex Edwards also influenced me during my first year of coaching. As her assistant, she taught me how to be demanding without being demeaning. She is a huge reason why I love coaching younger ages too!

What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?

I love the relationships!! It is so rewarding when seasons go by and former players still come to me to share memories or jokes from our season. I also enjoy seeing their growth from the start of the season to the end. Plus, seeing them finally execute something we have been grinding on in practice is a great feeling for my sanity as well!