



CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL



HALL OF FAME

Laura Arena

Karen Anderson

Rosie Della Ventura

Jeff Dyreson

Tiffany Gancarz

Marianna Linnehan

Jeana T. Roche

Tuesday, November 26, 2024

CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL HALL OF FAME

The Volleyball Hall of Fame seeks to honor those from Connecticut, who, in a superlative fashion, have contributed to the enhancement of women's volleyball through participation, service, support, or achievement. Perfection, Achievement, Effort, Dedication – these hallmarks of excellence reflect the lives and careers of our Hall of Famers. Excellence speaks with a voice of its own. In those elected to the Hall of Fame, we are privileged to hear that voice. The Connecticut Women's Volleyball Hall of Famers exemplify the finest achievements in the sport of volleyball.

Follow us on Facebook and www.ctvballhall.org

Current Committee Members:

Cynthia Hitchcock, President Emerita/Founder
Duffy Lynch, President
Rich Heitz, Vice President
Rosie DellaVentura, Secretary
Marie Lavin, Treasurer
Heather Kursman
Jared Ocoma

Founders also include:

Cindy Hitchcock
Clare Matasavage
Barbara Startup
Floretta Crabtree
Edgar Bengermano
Toni Cartisano
Betsy Gilmartin
Vin Pomarico
Chris Santoro

CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL HALL OF FAME

PAST INDUCTEES

<u>1998</u>		<u>2005</u>		<u>2012</u>	
CC	Debbie Chin	SP	Lisa M. Barbaro	OFF	Tony Aretakis
CP	Sandra Lautz-Moyer	SC	Edgar D. Bengermينو*	SP	Kate Barile Cotto
SC	Edna Fraser*	SC	Toni M. Cartisano	CP	Leah Hettrick
SC	Jean Hunt*	SC	Marjorie R. Dolan	SC	Matthew Hurlock*
HON	Syd Lillick	SP	Dorothy Franco-Reed	SC	Laurie LaRusso
SC	Sandra Piantek	SP	Paula Astramowicz Smalec		
SP	Doreen Paul			<u>2013</u>	
SP	Peg Scofield	<u>2006</u>		HON	Nancy E. Bond
OFF	Fran Vandermeer	SC	Fred Colosimo	SC	Steve Geryk
		HON	Betsy J. Gilmartin	SC	Joe Grippo
<u>1999</u>		SP	Sarah Katinger	SP	Kaitlin Petrella
OFF	Vincent Buehler*	SC	Cindy Opalski	OFF	Jung Park
CP	Dr. Gale Brown	CP	Priscilla Wallis Schulz	CP	Joanna Weiss
CC	Floretta "Pinky" Crabtree	SP	Josie M. Weymann		
SC	Dr. Winnie Hamilton			<u>2014</u>	
SP	Bonnie Jean Kenny	<u>2007</u>		CP	Alesia Vaccari
		OFF	Julie Bradley	SP	Allison N. Baker
<u>2000</u>		CP	Katie Nicols Henry	SP	Kim Nichols Hanlon
OFF	Louise Albrecht	SP	Bethany Collins-Irwin	SC	Richard Langer
CC	Dr. Joan Barbarich	SC	Alan Malizia	OFF	William S. Mc Caffrey*
SC	Linda Hamm	HON	Pat Ryan	HON	Judy Sochin
HON	Joan Joyce	CP	Tamu Cooper Santos	SC	Paul Thees
SP	Christine Kenyon O'Connor				
CP	Lynn Spagnesi	<u>2008</u>		<u>2015</u>	
		SC	Joanne Conte	SC	Richard Heitz
<u>2001</u>		SP	April Hunt	OFF	Marie Lavin
OFF	Eleanor Lemaire	SP	Kris-Andra Houchins	SP	Marina Margaret Rose
SP	Nell-Ayn Aloï Lynch	SP	Ann Moscovics	SP	Tessa Smolinski
CP	Marsha McNeil	OFF	Candy Perez	SP	Kate Whalen
CC	Marilyn Mather	SP	Jill Tomasello		
HON	Brenda A. Reilly*			<u>2016</u>	
SC	Kathryn Symonds	<u>2009</u>		OFF	Shirley E. Breuer
		SP	Brittany Dickinson	SP	Lisa Drennan
<u>2002</u>		OFF	Val Dickinson	SP	Erica Webster Kearney
HON	Dr. Ann Fariss	SC	Gail Ericson	OFF	Jerry Mallory
SC	Barbara Giancarlo	SC	Mary Ellen Vaccari	HON	Clare Matasavage
SP	Krista Blomquist Hall	SP	Holly Ismail	SP	Madison McCaffery
CP	Kathleen Kimball	CP	Robin Salters	SC	Robert Tarigo
OFF	Jean Mee				
SP	Lisa Miller	<u>2010</u>		<u>2017</u>	
		OFF	Cindy DeCarlo	CC	Michael Brienza
<u>2003</u>		SC	George Green	HON	Catherine D'Apice
SC	Erika Beerbaum	SP	Susan Holcombe	SC	Cynthia Fixer
OFF	Bill Cobain*	CC	Gale Lackey	SC	Duffy Lynch
SP	Eva Esposito	CP	Judith Schaefer Joslin	SP	Kyle Reed
SP	Patty Doolittle Giannattasio	SP	Heather Washburn	OFF	Cathy Vitelli
HON	F. Tyson Krause				
CP	Kate Sullivan	<u>2011</u>		<u>2018</u>	
		SC	Dave Jockle	SP	Sage Esposito
<u>2004</u>		SP	Mia Malafronte	CP	Lauren Holt
CP	Sheepa Carpenter	SP	Justine Metz	HON	Elena Lockett
SC	Cynthia Hitchcock	SP	Megan Miller	SP	Maitte Mendizabal
SP	Sally Maher	SP	Sandy Hastings Reichel	CC	Richard Myers
SP	Melissa Roy	SP	Becky Corb Thomas	SC	Deborah O'Brien
SC	Mark J. Sullivan	OFF	Barbara Startup		
OFF	Karen B. Zealor				

CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL HALL OF FAME
PAST INDUCTEES

2019

CC Erin Appleman
HON James Borbas Jr.
SC Curt Burns
SP Janice Ehorn
OFF Donna Rackie
CP Caitlin Stapleton

2021

SC Sue Bavone
SC Timothy Guernsey
HON Dr. Robert Lehr
OFF Paula McNerney
SP Devon Michaelis
CP Brianna Root
SP Sarah Veilux

2022

CP Ann Marie Bahantka
HON Jeanne Cooper
SC Cathy Federowicz
OFF Tyrone Fuertes
SP Lisa Cirimo Peterson
SP Despina Soennichsen

2023

OFF Ed Adajian
HON Sandy Doski
SP Nekane Mendizabal
CP Jennifer Brigham Myshrrall
HON Coral Richardson
SC Stacy Rivoira

HALL OF FAME LIFETIME MEMBERS

Edward Adajian	Dorothy Franco-Reed	William McCaffrey
Joe Alberti	Edna Fraser *	Paula E. McNerney
Lou Albrecht	Steve Geryk	Maite Mendizabal
Erin Appleman	Betsy Gilmartin	Nekane Mendizabal
Richard Altieri	George Green	Richard Meyers
Tony Aretakis	Joe Grippo	Leah Hettrick Milner
Dr. Joan Barbarich	Timothy Guernsey	Babby Nuhn
Gloria Bellucci	Dr. Winifred Hamilton	Jared Ocoma
Ed Bengerman*	Richard Heitz	Regina Paolillo
Alesia Vaccari Bennett	Patty Hines	Jung Park
Nancy E. Bond	Cynthia Hitchcock	Candy Perez
Shirley Breuer	Kris-Andra Houchins	Carl Pignone
Allison Burch	April Hunt	Vincent Pomarico
Toni Cartisano	Jean Hunt *	Sandy H. Reichel
Debbie Chin	Brian Hurlock	Brenda Reilly*
Jeanne Cooper	Julie Johnson	Robin Salters
Floretta Crabtree	Bonnie Jean Kenney	Christine Santoro
Sarah Curry	Heather Kursman	Paula Astramowicz Smalec
Cindy DeCarlo	Gale Lackey	Barbara Startup
Rosie Della Ventura	Rich Langer	Mark Sullivan
Marjorie Dolan	Laurie LaRusso	Kathy Symonds
Mara Dunleavy	Marie Lavin	Jill Tomasello
Sage Campbell	Dr. Robert Lehr	Mary Ellen Vaccari
Sage Esposito	Larry Loux	Fran Vandermeer
Dr. Ann Fariss	Duffy Lynch	George Vargo
Cathy Federowicz	Alan Malizia	Sarah Veilleux
Cindy Fixer	Clare Matasavage	Cathy-Beth Vitelli



Founded 1997

*Deceased

CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL HALL OF FAME

The CWVBHF was founded in 1997 to recognize and honor the achievements of those who have contributed to the enhancement of women's volleyball in Connecticut. The CWVBHF would like to invite you to become a member.

Your membership will continue to assist in acknowledging outstanding persons who have helped promote volleyball in Connecticut through their achievement on and off the court.

Please consider becoming a member.

Membership Fees:

\$25 annual or \$100 lifetime

Connecticut Women's Volleyball Hall of Fame Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

email: _____

Checks payable to: Marie Lavin

187 Louisiana Ave., Unit B

Bridgeport, CT 06610

Email Duffy Lynch, duffyvb@aol.com for more information about membership.

CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL HALL OF FAME

The CWVBHF is seeking qualified nominees for next year's induction into the Hall of Fame. According to the constitution, 6 categories are being considered for induction.

They are as follows:

1. SCHOLASTIC PLAYER:

- Must be a graduate of a Connecticut High School
- Must be out of high school a minimum of three years.

2. SCHOLASTIC COACH:

- Must have coached in Connecticut at the high school level for a minimum of four years.

3. COLLEGIATE PLAYER:

- Must be from Connecticut and a college or university graduate.

4. COLLEGIATE COACH:

- Must be a Connecticut college volleyball coach or have coached in Connecticut high schools and college.

5. OFFICIAL:

- Must have officiated in Connecticut scholastic or collegiate volleyball.
- Must have officiated in Connecticut scholastic or collegiate volleyball state tournaments.

6. HONORARY NOMINEE:

- Must have demonstrated extraordinary dedication to and support of women's scholastic and collegiate volleyball.

NOMINATING BALLOT NOMINATION CATEGORIES

In order to nominate, please complete the following, submit additional information in case we have difficulty contacting the nominees: Email to rosemarieventura@sbcglobal.net

Scholastic Player

Name: _____

email: _____

School: _____

Scholastic Coach

Name: _____

email: _____

School: _____

Collegiate Player

Name: _____

email: _____

School: _____

Collegiate Coach

Name: _____

email: _____

School: _____

Official

Name: _____

email: _____

Honorary

Name: _____

email: _____

Please submit your name, email address and phone number

Name: _____

email: _____

phone: _____

Attach additional information if needed.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS FEBRUARY 26, 2025

2024 HALL OF FAME PROGRAM

Welcome: Duffy Lynch

Procession of past inductees: Heather Kursman

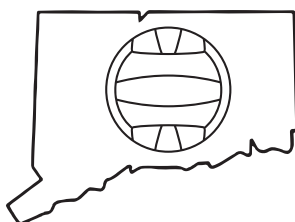
Introduction of inductees: Heather Kursman

Invocation: Duffy Lynch

Dinner

Presentation of awards

<u>Inductee</u>	<u>Presenter</u>
Tiffany Gancarz-Ross	Sue Bavone
Jeana T. Roche	Laurie LaRusso
Laura Arena	Juliette Givens
Jeff Dyreson	Sue Cabot
Marianna Linnehan	Mike Smeriglio
Karen Anderson	Cathy Vitelli
Rosie Della Ventura	Maryanne Forish



CWVBHF EXTENDS A SPECIAL

THANK YOU TO:

MAITE MENDIZABAL &

NEKANE MENDIZABAL

FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN MANAGING

CWVBHF SOCIAL MEDIA

&

THE AQUA TURF CLUB FOR HOSTING

THIS BANQUET

&

ITS INDUCTEES AND MEMBERS

FOR SUPPORTING THIS

HALL OF FAME AND ITS EFFORT

TO PROMOTE EXCELLENCE

IN THE SPORT OF VOLLEYBALL



TIFFANY GANCARZ-ROSS
Scholastic Player

Tiffany began playing volleyball in middle school for Dodd Jr. High School in Cheshire, Connecticut. Playing both 7th and 8th grade, this natural leader was selected captain in 8th grade. Over the next 4 years, Cheshire High School under the coaching of Sue Bavone, a future Connecticut Women's Volleyball Hall of Fame member Class of 2021, the Rams would benefit from Tiffany's talents. "These years are where my love of the sport really grew and are still considered some of the best years of my life" notes Tiffany.

As a first-year student, Tiffany played on Junior Varsity in the setter position, and had some playing time on varsity as a defensive specialist. In 1996, the Rams would capture the Southern Connecticut Conference Championship. During her sophomore year, she played on varsity rotating between the setter and defensive specialist positions. The team won the tough SCC Housatonic Division Championship, as well as the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) Class L State Championship.

In 1998 as a junior, Tiffany was selected Captain of the team and garnered the setter position. The Rams found a great fit, as the team would win both the SCC Championship and the CIAC Class L State Championship. She was once again named Captain of the team her senior year. The team would win the SCC Championship, and finish runner-up in the CIAC Class L State Tournament. Tiffany received accolades at the end of her senior campaign including, New Haven Register All Area Team, First Team All-State selection, All- Housatonic Division, Scholar Athlete Award, Sports Page Player of the Month, Waterbury Republican Player of the Week, and was a participant in the Senior All-State Game. She completed her volleyball career at Cheshire High School with a remarkable record of 93-6.

Currently living in North Andover, Massachusetts Tiffany is a kindergarten special education teacher and is married to Chris Ross. They have two children, Carter (9) and Avery (7). "Over the years I have had many inspirations which have led me to where I am today. Both of my parents' drive, energy, determination, and positive attitudes have helped me to become a successful educator. In addition, my two older sisters (April and Jackie) influenced much of my life by leading me as role models. They both were the reason I began playing volleyball and are the reason that I moved to Massachusetts where I now have a family. Coach Sue Bavone influenced me by always teaching me, encouraging me to excel, and providing me with a positive and happy environment during my volleyball career so that I built a strong foundation of teamwork. My husband and children inspire me every day to live a happy and healthy life," Tiffany reflects.



JEANA TIGHE ROCHE
Scholastic Player

Jeana's love for volleyball started in 1991 at Darien High School. A freshman with no volleyball experience, she was invited by good friend, Kim Henry, to try. Jeana and Kim played tennis together for years and Kim was then a senior outside hitter on the team. Kim suspected Jeana's tennis serve would translate well into volleyball spikes and serves. Sure enough, it did!

Two years later, Jeana led Connecticut in service aces both her junior and senior years, often taking over matches by rattling off ace after ace. In 1994, during the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) State and Fairfield County Interscholastic Athletic Conference (FCIAC) finals, Jeana closed out the matches with 5 and 9 aces respectively, clinching both titles.

Coached by legend Laurie LaRusso, a future Connecticut Women's Volleyball Hall of Fame member (2012) and multiple time Coach of the Year, Darien ended their 1993 season "perfectly". The team went 25-0, never losing a set, and won the CIAC State and FCIAC Championships. Jeana earned All-State, All-FCIAC recognition and was named a CT Post All-Star. Winning the championship in 1993 spurred Jeana to do it all over again. The following year was a repeat! In 1994 the team went 24-0, never dropping a set and again won both the CIAC State and FCIAC titles. For a second year, Jeana earned All-State and All-FCIAC recognition, named a Mizuno All Star and was selected for the Nutmeg State Games South team, which won gold medal. Jeana was named co-MVP of the Darien volleyball team in 1994 alongside her good friend and amazing setter Chaira Ghiardini. A dynamic duo for sure. In 1995, Jeana was named Captain of the Darien Tennis team and was selected to the All-FCIAC East team, as Darien won the CIAC Class M State title. In addition, Jeana was named the 1995 Darien Veterans of Foreign War Female Athlete of the Year.

She earned a full scholarship to play volleyball at Fordham University, playing 4 years for the Rams. At Fordham, she was also recruited to play on the tennis team but declined due to her commitment to volleyball. Her college and high school teammates remain some of her closest friends to this day.

Fast forward to 2017, Jeana was living back in Darien with her husband, Kevin, and three young children Jillian, Kevin and Joe. The recruiting started. Former coach Laurie LaRusso reached out and the call was heard. Jeana worked into to her busy schedule the demands of coaching high school volleyball. She became Laurie's assistant coach for 3 seasons, reliving many memories from decades before.

A few short years later, in 2022, Jeana's daughter Jillian was selected Senior Captain for the Darien High School volleyball team and what did they do? Twenty-nine years after first completing the task with Jeana, Laurie coached Jillian's team to another "perfect" season. Darien again went 25-0, winning both CIAC State Championship and FCIAC Championship. A surreal experience for all.



LAURA ARENA
Scholastic Coach

Volleyball has been a part of Laura's life since her high school days in Bedford, New York. She went on to play collegiately at Holy Cross College in Worcester, Massachusetts. Knowing when she started her career in education, a career in coaching volleyball would be a big part of it. For the past 32 years our volleyball community has been fortunate to participate in Laura's amazing journey here in Connecticut with 28 of those years at Farmington High School.

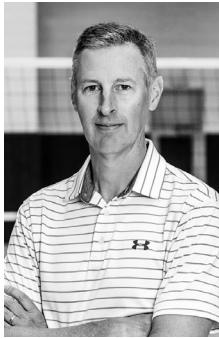
Laura's career record is 519-172 (469-153 at Farmington High School). Highlights at Farmington High School include 2 Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) State Championships (2014 & 2023) and runner up 3 times (2009, 2013 & 2016), 11 Central Connecticut Conference (CCC) titles, 2 International Volleyball Hall of Fame, Annual Girls VolleyHall Elite High School Tournament Championships held in Springfield, Massachusetts and a John Jay Invitational Championship in Cross River, New York.

Accolades recently awarded to Coach Arena include being chosen as the Connecticut High School Coaches Association Coach of the Year in 2020 and a finalist for the National High School Athletic Coaches Association (NHSACA) Coach of the Year in 2020 earning a fabulous experience in Nebraska. As a valued member of the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference committee since 2013, Laura also has been the Chairperson for the CCC since 2012. Running a youth summer volleyball camp for the past 15 years, as well as coaching in the Husky Volleyball Club program are additional contributions made by Coach Arena.

Laura is most proud of the role she has played in growing stronger, healthier female student-athletes for the past 32 years, focusing on the larger picture beyond high school athletics. Each season she looks forward to building a rapport with her team and challenging them to achieve their goals. Laura has continued to inspire her student athletes over an impressive 3 decades.

High school coaches Mike Galu, Stu Wahl and Steve Powis are credited for profoundly impacting Laura's career. The thought of playing soccer in college was removed through the wisdom and excitement that they shared with her about the "greatest team sport there is – I fell in love with volleyball" Laura shares.

Laura and her daughter Abby will be running the Tokyo Marathon in March which will complete the sixth star for the six World Major Marathons. They have already completed New York, Boston, Chicago, London, and Berlin. Laura remarks that, "It has been the most treasured, challenging, and wonderful experience and to share it with my daughter is the best!"



JEFF DYRESON
Scholastic Coach

Jeff was introduced to the game formally as a freshman in high school, where the basketball coach said to prepare for the upcoming basketball season, you should do volleyball in the Fall to get “in shape.” Turns out Jeff was a better volleyball player than basketball player and pursued a collegiate volleyball career instead of basketball. He was an all-conference player his senior year of high school as an outside hitter and setter.

He joined the University of Wisconsin men’s volleyball club his freshman year and officially moved into the setter position. He was an All-Big Ten selection his senior year while the team was very competitive nationally.

During his senior year of college Jeff got his first taste of coaching. He returned to his alma mater (Madison West High School, Madison WI) and coached the boys freshman team. His competitive spirit started to shift away from a competitive playing career to coaching. He continued to play competitively over the next 2 decades playing in adult leagues and tournaments while also dabbling in coaching boys at the club level in Wisconsin.

After graduate school, Jeff moved to Connecticut in the fall of 1998. He again, started to play in adult leagues and tournaments and in 2001 he was offered the assistant girls varsity coach at The Loomis Chaffee School. 9/11/01 was his first day of coaching girls and the rest is history. He became the head varsity coach in 2004 and has remained in that role for the past 20 years. Jeff has transformed the program to become amongst the elite in New England Prep School volleyball. The team earned its first Founder’s League title in 2006 and its first New England title in 2018. During the 20 years, Loomis has won 9 Founders League titles, 4 New England Tournament Finalists, and 2 New England Championships which included an undefeated season in 2023.

Jeff has had dozens of players move on and play collegiately and he is most proud of the relationship he has with his players. Jeff is married and has 2 sons but the volleyball girls are the daughters he never had and considers them all family forever.



MARIANNA LINNEHAN
Collegiate Player

Marianna began her volleyball career when she was only 9 years old at her Greek church in Stamford, Connecticut. Her passion for the sport would only grow over the years until she attended Stamford High School. Over the next 4 years, under the coaching of Mike Smeriglio, Marianna would hone her talents as an outside hitter.

During Marianna's senior year, the Black Knights would find themselves competing in the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) State Championship finals. The finals would mark the first time going this deep in the CIAC tournament for both Marianna and Coach Smeriglio. She was selected team captain her senior year and named to the Fairfield County Interscholastic Athletic Conference (FCIAC) Second team.

This Connecticut homegrown talent would find herself at Concordia College in Bronxville, New York for one season in 2002-2003, prior to transferring to Eastern Connecticut State University in 2004. At ECSU, Marianna would change positions from outside hitter to libero. This change of positions, proved to be historic for the Warriors. She would accumulate over 40 digs in 3 separate matches going on to break the school dig record of 1900 in just 3 seasons. This record stands today! Upon graduation, she ranked statistically among the highest in Aces as well.

During her career, Marianna was twice named Little East Conference (LEC) Defensive Player of the Year, 1st Team All-LEC and LEC Tournament MVP and was also selected to the NUVA Senior Classic. She remains the only 2-time recipient of the LEC Tournament MVP and Defensive Player of the year in school history. The Eastern Connecticut State University Warriors won back to back LEC regular season titles and went on to compete in 3 straight LEC championships. Marianna was inducted into the Eastern Connecticut State University Hall of Fame in 2021.



KAREN ANDERSON
Official

Growing up in Hopewell Junction, New York, Karen attended John Jay High School where she played JV and Varsity volleyball. Her interest in officiating volleyball began in 1980 while attending Southern Connecticut State University. She started officiating high school and collegiate matches in Connecticut and area states. Karen found herself officiating while her older sister, Lin, was playing some of those college matches. After moving to Indiana, Karen spent eight years officiating high school and collegiate volleyball throughout the Hoosier State.

She returned to Connecticut in 1984 where she reestablished herself in the state and began training new officials. Karen spent 15+ summers at the Woodbridge Sports Center training and working with new officials as they officiated the summer high school girls league.

Over the years Karen has officiated many tournaments and jamborees including the Special Olympics and Connecticut All Stars. Karen was selected to officiate the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) State Volleyball tournament finals for both the girls' and boys' tournaments.

Karen served as an elected member of the Connecticut Board of Volleyball Officials for over twenty years, 2004-2023. She had served as vice-president of the Southern Connecticut Board of Officials for several years and recently finished serving as the vice-president of the boys Volleyball Board of Officials.

A true student of the game, Karen always found it rewarding to be part of the discussion of rules, procedures, and play. "A good official never stops watching, learning and adjusting," Karen states. Over the years, Karen has had the opportunity to watch players mature and grow as they played the sport. This has been one of the motivating factors in the longevity of her officiating career.



ROSIE DELLA VENTURA
Honorary

Growing up, Rosie's love for sports was perpetual. Instead of playing with dolls, she would beg her brother to play baseball with him and his friends. The love of sports has remained with Rosie to this day, as she is active in golf and officiating girls high school volleyball.

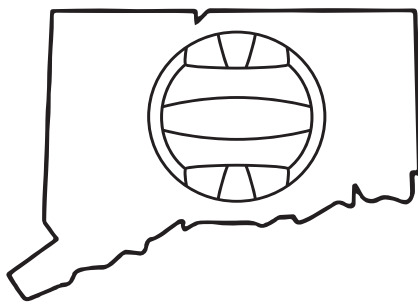
Organized volleyball was introduced at the early age of 12; the year was 1964. While attending Irving A. Robbins Junior High School in Farmington, Connecticut, Rosie participated in all after school activities including volleyball intramurals. A pioneer in female athletics, she played on the Farmington High School varsity volleyball team coached by Jean Hunt, a future Connecticut Women's Volleyball Hall of Fame inaugural member Class of 1998. The Indians (mascot later changed to River Hawks) captured the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) State Championships from 1966 – 1970. This accomplishment is remarkable since Title IX would not be signed into law until June 23, 1972.

Rosie began officiating volleyball senior year of high school. This led her to officiate both high school and collegiate level volleyball matches. Upon graduation from Farmington High, she attended Central Connecticut State College, currently Central Connecticut State University. Persevering through barriers that female athletes faced at that time, Rosie played volleyball for 4 years coached by Brenda Reilly (Class of 2001). While pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Physical Education, Rosie's love for the sport continued after graduation when she coached Westfield State College, Westfield, Massachusetts in 1974.

In the 1980's, Rosie changed career paths from academia to manufacturing, where she became a Trainer at an electronic manufacturing company producing printed circuit boards. She continued working in manufacturing at various supervisory positions. Even in the manufacturing world, her passion for volleyball remained, participating in competitive co-ed leagues held at the Waterbury and Naugatuck YMCA's over the years.

Retirement in 2014 did not slow Rosie down, she continued to officiate high school girls' volleyball and ventured out to officiate weekend United States Volleyball Association (USVBA) tournaments. A current member of the Connecticut Board of Volleyball Officials, Rosie is focused primarily on officiating high school girls' volleyball matches throughout Connecticut. She's an active member of her church's Vestry, an accomplished golfer, and continues to remain active today.

Rosie shares, "My participation playing competitive sports in high school and college was enhanced by having been coached by excellent and talented women. They were not only exceptional coaches, but also legends in their time. Jean Hunt and Brenda Reilly who are no longer with us today physically, paved the way for young women to excel in sports. I contribute receiving this great honor to both Jean and Brenda for all the coaching and mentoring in the sports I truly loved, volleyball being one of them. It's an honor joining these two Connecticut Women's Volleyball Hall of Famers."



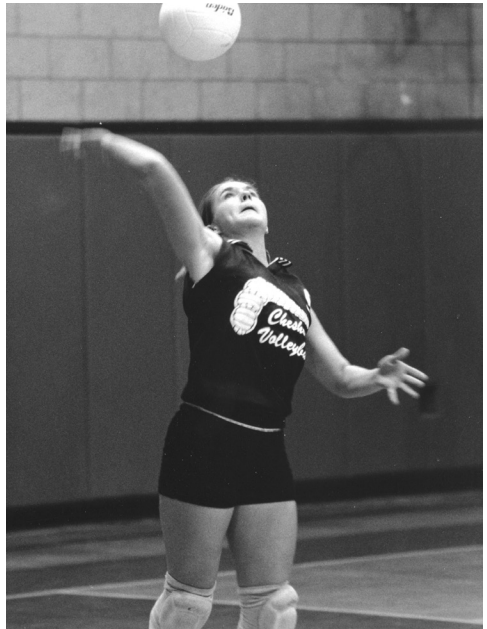
Congratulations Karen Anderson
for a career as an official to
Women's Volleyball in
Connecticut marked by
Dedication, Integrity and Professionalism!

Love,
the Hackett's & Lanciano's



CONGRATULATIONS TIFFANY GANCARZ !

Coach Sue Bavone and the
Cheshire High School Girls
Volleyball Program



Let's play Jeopardy...

She holds the 5 qualities required
to be a notable official in Women's
Volleyball:

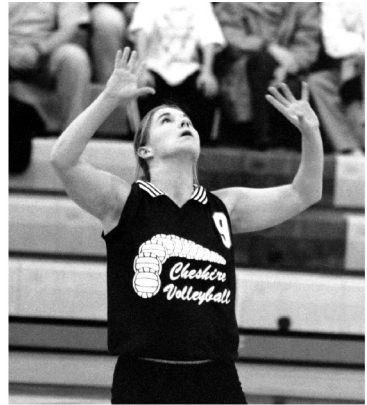
Professionalism,
Approachability,
Communication,
Emotional Control
and Humor.

Who is ...
Karen Anderson



**Congratulations on your
well deserved induction into the
CWVB Hall of Fame.**

Richard & Bonnie Stewart



Congratulations Tiffany on this
amazing accomplishment!
We are so proud of you in
earning this induction!
It is extremely well deserved.

Love You,
Jackie, Tony, Sierra and Mason



NORTHEAST VOLLEYBALL CLUB

Northeast Volleyball Club proudly congratulates Marianna Linnehan and Jeana Roche on their well-deserved induction into the Connecticut Women's Volleyball Hall of Fame. Your exceptional contributions as standout players and leaders have left a incredible impact on the volleyball community.

Marianna, your passion and commitment continue to inspire as you lead the Greenwich High School varsity team with the same excellence you displayed as a player.

Jeana, your legacy as an athlete extends beyond the court through your daughter, Jillian, now making her own mark at Colby College.

Thank you both for your dedication to the sport and for being role models to countless athletes. We celebrate your achievements and the positive impact of all the inductees.

- Northeast Volleyball Club



A special honor for
a special lady!
We love you Rosie!

Bonnie, Suzie,
& Bernie



CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL



HALL OF FAME

Class of 2024 CT Women's Volleyball Hall of Fame

CONGRATS MOM

(Coach Laura Arena)



1990-1992

Canterbury School

1993-1995

Avon High School

1996-2024 (and beyond)

Farmington High School

2024

Hall of Fame

We are so proud of you, and all you've accomplished. You have been such an incredible Coach to so many, but an even more amazing Mom throughout!

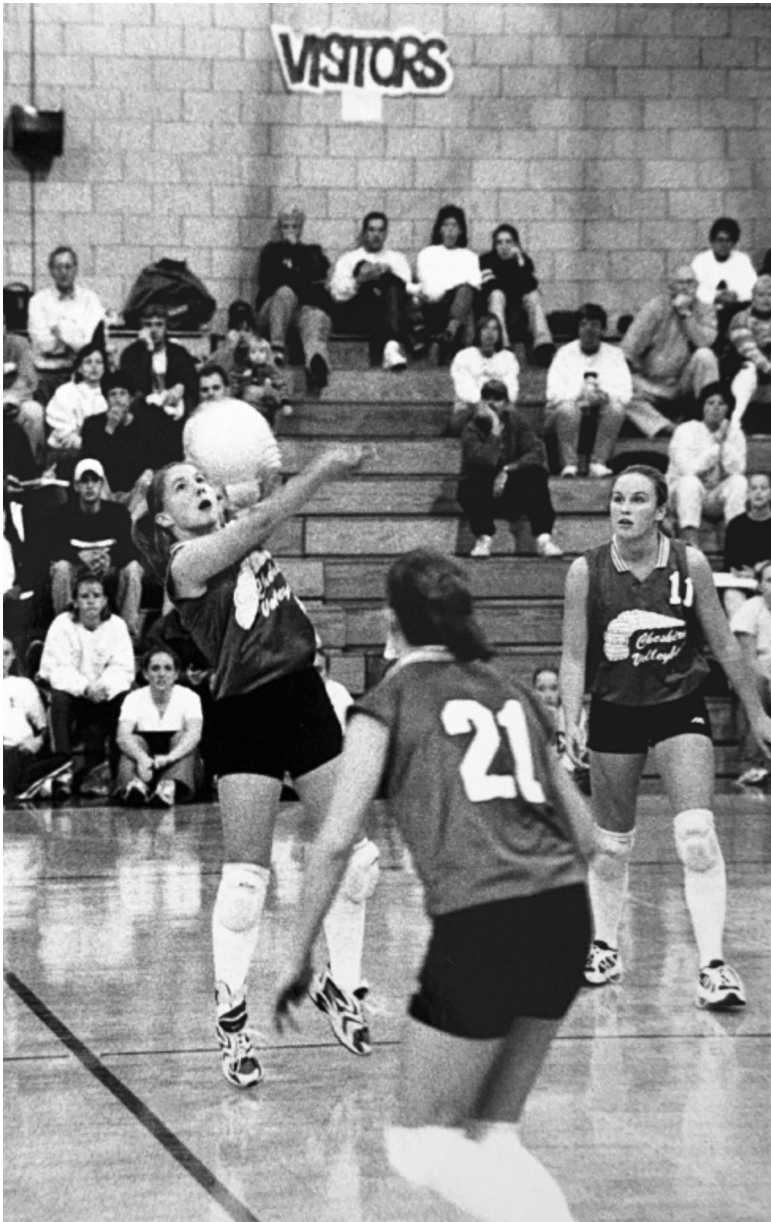
Love,

Rob, Abby, Andrew, Timothy, Matthew, Alli, Stephen

Congratulations to
*Karen
Anderson*

from your friends and
neighbors at West Lake!





Carter, Avery and I are so proud of you and excited to see all your hard work recognized with this Hall of Fame induction! You inspire and support us every day, and we are thrilled to witness this special moment for you!

Love,
Chris, Carter, Avery

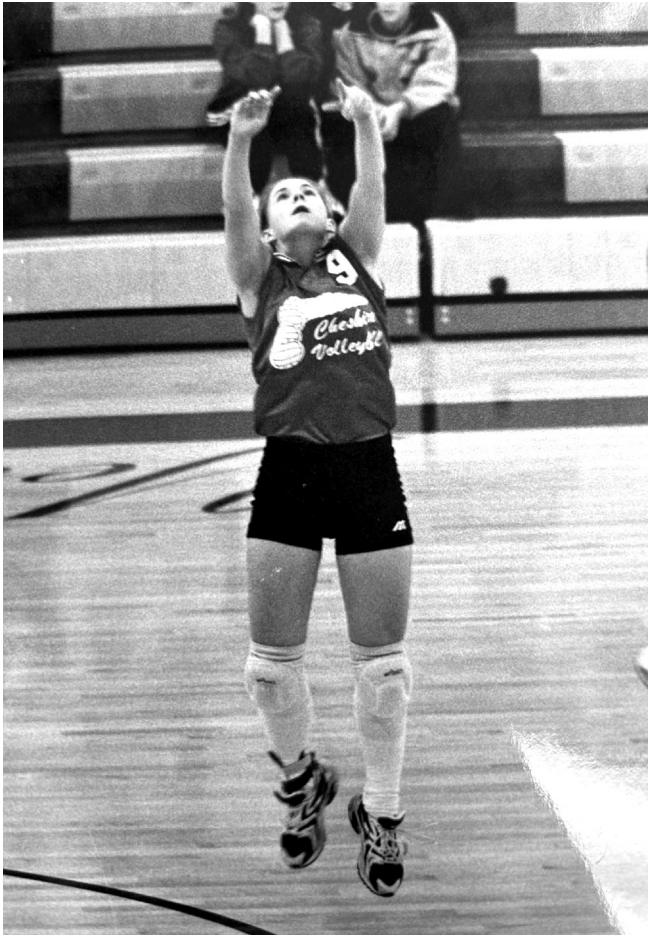


Congratulations Coach Arena on your induction to the CT Women's Volleyball Hall of Fame!

The recognition of your dedication to the Farmington Girls Volleyball Program is well deserved! Your commitment to excellence and perseverance has had an instrumental part in the development of our girls both on and off the court! On behalf of the team and FGVB families, we are extremely proud of our 2023 State Championship title and commend you for preparing us for the challenge and supporting us all the way to that victorious moment, we couldn't have done it without your leadership!

Fondly,
2023/2024 FGVB Teams & Families



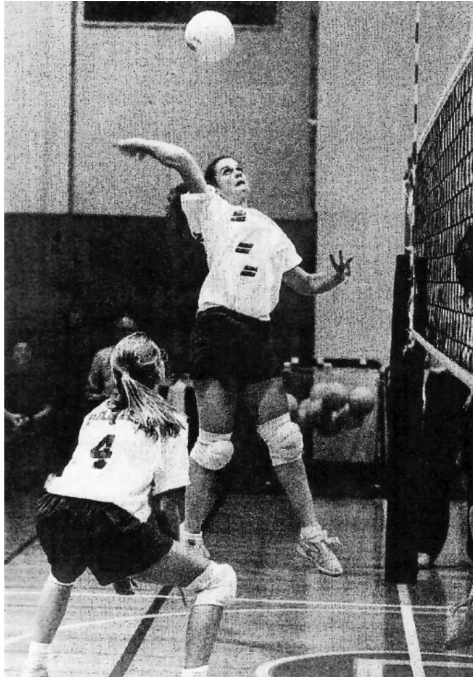


Congratulations Tiffany! We are so proud of you!
This is an incredible achievement and a testament
to your hard work, dedication, and passion!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Chris, Carter, Avery, Mongiello and Varricchios

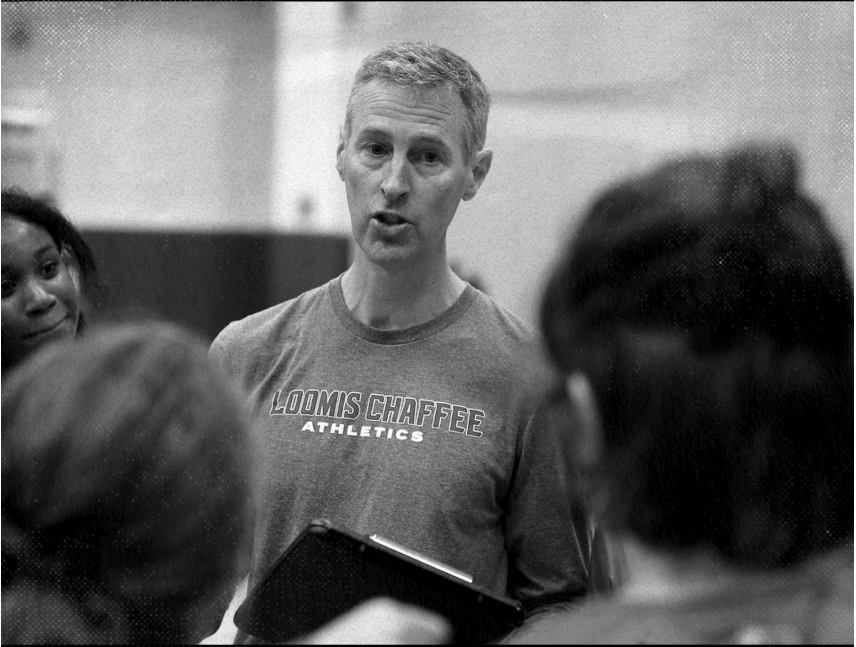


JEANA TIGHE ROCHE
CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING INDUCTED INTO THE
HALL OF FAME!



WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE FOR
BLUE WAVE VOLLEYBALL!
CHAMPION ATHLETE, COACH,
AND PARENT OF ANOTHER BLUE WAVE FAMILY MEMBER.
BEST OF LIFE ALWAYS! YOUR BLUE WAVE VOLLEYBALL FAMILY!

JEFF DYRESON



CONNECTICUT WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL HALL OF FAME

The Loomis Chaffee School, Athletics Department, and Volleyball program congratulate Jeff Dyreson on this well-earned honor. Your love for the sport, compassion to compete, commitment to share that passion with your athletes and colleagues is inspiring to your athletes, fellow coaches, and friends. You have been a tremendous leader and successful coach, teaching athletes the value of being on a team, cultivating a strong work ethic, the importance of respect, and how we treat one another while always representing Loomis Chaffee with the highest ideals of good sportsmanship. You have positively impacted the sport and future generations with ongoing commitment and dedication.



KAREN ANDERSON



**Congratulations on your induction into the
Connecticut Women's Volleyball Hall of Fame!**

**This honor is a well-deserved tribute to your
achievements on behalf of
Volleyball Officials, Players & Coaches.**

**Thank you for all your Contribution!
*Southern CT Board of Volleyball Officials (SCBVO)***



The Volleyball Hall of Fame seeks to honor those from Connecticut, who, in a superlative fashion, have contributed to the enhancement of women's volleyball through participation, service, support, or achievement. Perfection, Achievement, Effort, Dedication – these hallmarks of excellence reflect the lives and careers of our Hall of Famers. Excellence speaks with a voice of its own. In those elected to the Hall of Fame, we are privileged to hear that voice. The Connecticut Women's Volleyball Hall of Famers exemplify the finest achievements in the sport of volleyball.

Founded 1997