

18 NATIONAL

at U18 Girls Junior National Tournament 2017 – Dallas, Texas



OPPORTUNITY.

Opportunity was our **Keyword** for Shockwave 18 National this season. After earning three bids to Nationals in 2016, this Shockwave team earned a bid at the Evergreen Regional Bid tournament and another at PNQ bringing the team total to five earned national bids in the last two seasons. Most of the team played at U17 Nationals in Indianapolis last summer and set their sights on going to “Big D” for their final act together. This was a goal from day one of the 2017 season and they were not to be denied. So it was that Shockwave 18 National played in Dallas near the end of April.

With the opportunity to play national qualifier teams from Arizona, Florida, Texas, and California as well as being the only Evergreen Region team represented in the USA Division, Shockwave played closely matched teams over the three days of the tournament – and represented Evergreen Region well. Very few sets – won or lost – were not closely played and long points and rallies were the norm in every match we played. The tournament was well run, the facilities were excellent, and the competition was intense. It was a perfect combination for great volleyball and a competitive experience never to be forgotten.

But the tournament was only part of the experience. Shockwave had the opportunity to visit many of the attractions in and around Dallas from the Dallas Cowboy Stadium to the Texas Book Depository – site of John F. Kennedy’s memorial. It was a great opportunity for all players and families to get together and have a great time eating together, traveling together and just getting along – as we did all season from Las Vegas to Denver to Eugene to Dallas and all points in between. It was a fabulous season for not only the players but the parents, coaches, and fans of Shockwave 18 National grew closer and more excited together as the team grew.

“Seize the moment because opportunities don’t often come twice” is something that we talked about and Shockwave 18 National and families had a great time together. Playing high level competitive volleyball across the country is a tremendous challenge and everyone and

every family answered the challenge and we took advantage of the opportunities presented. Every day was a learning, growing experience. You just can't ask for much more!

Shockwave 18 National was: Victoria Estes, Sarah Howlett, Tasha Hungate, Catelyn Linke, Kamaile Moody, McKaidan Moore, Ashtin Olin, Sydney Randles, Lindsay Rosenthal, Carlee Rowell, Jesse Sydney.

Head Coach was Tim Davison and Assistant Coaches were Sandra Olin and Teri Davison. Shockwave Club Director is Gary Louie.