

Gateway Region Nomination

Russell Zelei is currently the Missouri North District Club Rep for the Gateway Region and is a member of the Gateway Region Junior Spotlight Committee.

Russell Zelei has been a member of the Gateway Region for 20+ years as a Player, Coach, and Club Director, including coaching for over 15 years and as the Club Director for Wentzville Heat Volleyball Club for the past 6 years. Although Russell's youth sports comprised of other sports besides volleyball, he competed at the Ohio High School State Championship Meet in Track & Field and played Division 1 Football at the University of Cincinnati.

Russell started playing volleyball on the beach his 3rd year in college participating in Sand Tournaments. He has played indoor men's volleyball in Cincinnati (OH), Boston (MA), Lansing (MI), later winning the 2007 Men's Adult National Championship in Austin, Texas on his St. Louis (MO) men's volleyball team.

Russell has his Bachelor's Degree in Quantitative Analysis and Finance from the University of Cincinnati and Law Degree from Washington University in St. Louis. Russell is an Attorney, a Member of the Missouri Bar, and a Member of the St. Charles County Bar Association.

With his experience and background, Russell has been involved in player development, coaching development, program building, community relations, and legal/administrative duties for the Club. Russell is confident that his background and experience, passion for volleyball and player development, and open mindset will be valuable to promote the growth and success of volleyball throughout the Gateway Region.