

Candidate Statement – Julie McMahon
Board of Directors, Palmetto Region of USA Volleyball

Thank you for considering me for a position on the Palmetto Region Board of Directors. I have been a proud member of this region since the early 2000s, when I began coaching with Club Savannah. Since then, I have continued to invest in the sport as both a coach and director for Magnum in Aiken and Greenwood, and I am now entering my 10th season as the director of Emerald City Juniors. I also recently completed my 9th season as the varsity girls' coach at Greenwood High School, where I teach English and creative writing.

From 2016–2023, I had the privilege of serving the region in multiple capacities as Jimmy's administrative assistant. I stepped down only to complete my master's degree in teaching and learning. During my time supporting the region, I gained invaluable insight into its daily operations and long-term goals. I produced the Directors' Desk and Region Resource newsletters; assisted new clubs and directors as they launched their programs; liaised with hotels and coordinated tournament housing; and supported our High Performance tryouts and camps. I also served on the due process committee, helping ensure consistency and adherence to region policies. Even today, many directors still reach out to me for guidance on procedures and best practices. These experiences have given me a deep, working understanding of the region's needs, challenges, and opportunities.

My motivations for seeking a board position are rooted in service, growth, and stewardship:

- **Growing the Game:** At Emerald City Juniors, our primary goal has always been to grow the game, from grassroots participation to highly competitive play. I want to help the region continue expanding its tournaments, developmental programs, clinics, and educational offerings.
- **Supporting New and Emerging Opportunities:** I greatly admire the region's efforts to support SCHSL and other organizations in expanding boys' volleyball, and I want to contribute to that momentum and similar initiatives.
- **Giving Back to the Sport:** Volleyball has shaped my life in countless positive ways. My "why" has always been to give back and to encourage others to reinvest their time, leadership, and passion into our community.
- **Upholding High Standards:** I am committed to ensuring that our region continues to operate with integrity and professionalism. I want to help member clubs maintain high standards of athlete safety and positive, growth-oriented environments.
- **Advocacy and Policy Development:** I hope to support our clubs, coaches, and athletes by contributing to policies and programs that strengthen the competitive and developmental landscape for future seasons.
- **Promoting Inclusivity and Access:** Expanding opportunities for underserved populations is essential. I believe volleyball should be accessible regardless of background or financial circumstance.
- **Enhancing Competitive Quality:** I want to assist in elevating training opportunities, officiating quality, and player development systems to keep improving the region's overall performance.
- **Collaborative Leadership:** Finally, I hope to work alongside others who share a deep commitment to this sport and this region.

I believe the Palmetto Region can benefit from my experience, my problem-solving skills, and my long-standing dedication to the volleyball community. I would be honored to contribute to the region's continued growth and development as a member of the Board of Directors.

Thank you for your consideration.