2021-22 Coaches Bios

**U11 Jenna/Blair**

Jenna: Jenna is from northern NY. She started her volleyball journey in 7th grade. Jenna played setter for modify and JV. Varsity and for her two years in college, she played as the libero. Jenna always brought excitement to the court. Jenna’s senior year, her team went 20-0 and won the sectionals championship. After high school, she played at a two year junior college. There, the team won regionals and then went to nationals in Minnesota. Jenna earned defensive player of the year.  
  
Jenna is our Strength & Conditioning coach, join her Tuesdays and Saturdays for her FAMS Training.   
  
Jenna also coaches our Monday night Fundamental Skills Class, coached the 13s team last year, and is coaching U11 this year.  
  
Jenna’s favorite things to do outside of volleyball is take her two dogs to different dog parks, eat at new restaurants & travel.

Blair: Blair is from Jacksonville, Arkansas. Blair Played volleyball in high school and received Arkansas 5A All-Conference Player 2018 & Arkansas 5A All-State Player 2019. She graduated from Jacksonville High in 2020 & is now enrolled and a sophomore at University of South Florida. Blair loves to read, coffee, and anything about history.

Blair has coached 1 full year of Fundamental Class, Spring/Summer Club prep & fall mini club for 2 years. “To me coaching is about adding purpose and worth into young lives as well as creating a comfortable and healthy environment for athletes.”

**U12 Clay/Baylee**

Clay: Clay is from Frankfort, KY. Married to his wonderful wife Kathleen Thompson, with whom he has a 6 year old named Holland. He has 3 older kids, Sarah (in Nashville), James (Marine in Huntsville) and Katie (in Dallas) who remain a joy in his life.

Here are Clays Education Highlights: BS – Industrial Engineering – Georgia Institute of Technology (Ga Tech), MS – Industrial Engineering – University of Tennessee Space Institute (UTSI), Doctoral Candidate – CTU – projected graduation Feb 2022 – Management of Environment and Social Sustainability, Retired Major, US Air Force Civil Engineer, 10+ years working private sector and state government (Kentucky) – focus on civil engineering and IT.

Clay has played and coached since 1986. Tournament experience in the US and International competition (2, 4, 6 indoor/outdoor), previously Certified International Referee (United Kingdom), and Coaching experience at all levels from high school to club to recreational as well as at higher level national and international competitions (United Kingdom, Canada).

As mentioned, pursuing my doctorate in Environmental and Social Sustainability, and a retired Air Force Civil Engineer Officer. Spent several years working engineering and construction in Southwest Asia, among other locations. Now living in Odessa as the COO of a wetland mitigation bank company (LowForest, LLC).

Interests remain my passion and love of volleyball, but also equaled by my love of music festivals (attend Bonnaroo every year), environmental causes and science fiction/fantasy books and movies.

Baylee:

**U13 Jules/Taylor**

Jules: Jules is from Madisonville, Kentucky. Jules graduated high school from Madisonville North Hopkins High School in Madisonville, KY where I set the school record for Kills and Digs and entered into the MNHHS Hall of Fame. She played two years at Southern Indiana as a libero before transferring to Barry University as an outside hitter graduating in 2010 with a Bachelors in Exercise Science. She used her degree to become a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist thought the NSCA which has proven useful in training 100s of athletes ever since in the gym and on the court.

Jules has been coaching 12U-16U club volleyball since 2011 and high school volleyball since 2012. In 2015 Jules took the job as assistant coach at Eckerd College with their indoor and beach program growing her knowledge of the next level especially gaining insight with recruiting and team management. She now has been the head coach at Cambridge Christian School since 2017. She also is a head coach and co-director of Optimum Beach, Florida’s premier beach volleyball training service in St. Petersburg, FL. She has been coaching beach club beach since 2013 where she began in deerfield beach and has been coaching in Tampa Bay ever since with Optimum.

Along with Optimum’s founder and co-director Priscilla Piantadosi Lima, Jules was awarded Club Director of the year though the USAV.

Jules believes in prioritizing a growth mindset in viewing ones success and failure while adopting the following principles.

1) Team before Me

2) Championship Behavior- on and off the court

3) Relentless Pursuit- in volleyball and life

4) Focus on the Process- attention to detail /trust your training

Jules is a mommy of 2 humans, 3 dogs, and an evil stepmother to countless birds and fish. She still competes in beach volleyball tournaments at the open level and plans to continue playing AVP qualifiers until she reaches her goal in the main draw. She’s a Christian with an associates degree in ministry and loves serving in the children’s ministry at her home church.

Taylor:

**U14 Miranda:**

Miranda is from Tampa, Florida She has her Bachelor's degree in Sports Management and Bachelor's degree in Theology. Made the Dean's list in 2017. Graduated valedictorian of my high school class.  
 Started coaching volleyball in 2014 right before she turned 15. Coached volleyball at JV and Varsity level for 13 years in addition to AAU for Legacy for 2 seasons. Currently coaching Girls and Boys Varsity Volleyball at SLAM Tampa. She’s also coached jv and varsity basketball, varsity flag football, and children's soccer.  
  
Miranda began playing volleyball at 9 years old on the middle school team. Played varsity from 7th grade- her senior year full rotation. Captain of her high school volleyball team for 3 years. MVP her junior and senior year. Most Points Scored her junior and senior year. College Volleyball at Trinity College of Florida Outside Hitter.  
  
Short Overview of Coaching Philosophy - To help instill a passion in kids for volleyball and help them achieve their volleyball goals through hard work, good sportsmanship, respect, and personal growth practice by practice.  
  
Sports have been my passion all my life. I love volleyball, basketball, hockey, baseball, soccer, etc.

**U14 Linda/Julia:**

Linda:  Coach Linda is from Lexington, Massachusetts. She has been coaching for 14 years, ages 8 to 18, at Performance Volleyball, Club Steel and Legacy Volleyball, Ruskin Christian Varsity High School Coach for 2 years, Christopher Rey High School Varsity Coach for 1 year, Varsity Volleyball Coach & JV Volleyball Coach at St John’s School present.

She loves to go running, she has a twin sister, and one of 7 kids.

Linda’s favorite quote is, Be Bold, Be True, Be Kind, Be You.

Julia:

**U15 Frankie/Bailea:**

Frankie:

Bailea: Bailea is from Jacksonville, Arkansas. Bailea was a 4 year varsity player at her high school in Arkansas. During that time, she won All-State Award for volleyball and softball. She also received All-Conference for volleyball junior and senior year. Bailea then went on to college at University of Central Arkansas. She is currently enrolled at USF for Sports Management and Marketing.  
  
Bailea has assisted her high school volleyball and softball team in 2015. She has been here at Legacy for two season as a assistant coach. She has also coached our Monday night Fundamentals Skills Class. She will be assisting with Coach Frankie this season for the 15s elite team.

**U16 Jules/Taja:**

Taja:

**U13 Boys Dave/Billy:**

Dave:

Billy:

**U14 Boys Clair/Mike:**

Claire: Claire is from Clearwater, Florida. Claire was named the Tampa Tribune’s 1992 High School Athlete of the Year and the 1993 High School Female Athlete of the Year. Claire was inducted into Clearwater Central Catholic High School’s inaugural Athletic Hall of Fame class in 2001 and most recently she was honored as a Distinguished Alumni and presented the Inspiring Excellence Award at her alma mater.

Claire spent five years as a collegiate volleyball player at the University of Florida (UF) where she won five SEC Championships, participated in five NCAA Tournaments and three Final Four Tournaments. In honor of her relentless effort, hard work and dedication, the UF volleyball program established the "Claire Roach Defensive Award," which is still presented annually to the best defensive player on the team. She graduated from UF in 1997 with a Bachelor of Science degree in exercise and sports science and a concentration in sports management.

Claire was the head volleyball coach at University of South Florida for eight years (2004-2012) and seven as the assistant volleyball coach (1996-2003).

Claire joined the Tampa Bay Sports Commission team in 2012 and in 2019, Claire was promoted to the Vice President of Events. Claire and the TBSC are responsible for driving economic and social impact by identifying, bidding on, and ultimately hosting sporting and entertainment events in Tampa Bay.

Mike: