



2018 AVP PRO BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOUR – Event #7 Chicago, Illinois • August 30 – September 2, 2018

ABOUT THE TOURNAMENT – The final open tournament of the 2018 AVP season takes place appropriately in Chicago, the most frequented pro beach volleyball locale outside of California. This tournament is tied for the most prize money for a 2018 event (\$250,000 along with Manhattan Beach). The eight events on the slate this year will be held in six different states (three events in California, Texas, New York, Washington, Illinois and Hawai'i). The locations include the three most populous cities in the U.S. (New York, Los Angeles and Chicago) and four of the five most populous states. The schedule mirrors last season's with the exception of Huntington Beach (which this year was an FIVB event put on by the AVP) and now the addition of Honolulu. The dates are the same weekends as last year's except for Hermosa Beach, which this season is one week later. This marks the 34th consecutive season the AVP has held competitions. Total prize money for this tournament will be \$250,000, with equal payouts for men and women, and the season payout totals \$1,458,000.

- The main draw will be a 24-team, double elimination format. Sixteen teams from each gender are granted entry directly into the main draw from having sufficient points (from the best four events points totals from their last five AVP and AVPNext tournaments). The remaining eight teams in each gender must earn a spot via the qualifier tournament, a single elimination event on Thursday, August 30 on courts at both Oak Street Beach as well as North Avenue Beach. There are a total of 80 men's teams and 52 women's teams in the field. The qualifier will consist of 56 matches for the men and 28 for the women, while the main draw features 45 matches for each gender. The main draw begins on Friday, August 31 and concludes on Sunday, September 2 and will be played on seven courts at both Oak Street Beach as well as North Avenue Beach. General admission is free throughout and premium ticket packages are available at avp.com or onsite. The championship matches will be around 1:30 pm PT and 3:00 pm CT.

- NBCSN will broadcast a championship match tape-delayed on Sunday (5:00-6:30 pm CT). Chris Marlowe (play by play) and Kevin Wong (color commentary) will handle the announcing duties, with Dain Blanton contributing sideline reports. Live streaming via Amazon Prime takes place Friday through Sunday. Kevin Barnett, Camryn Irwin and Kelli Tennant will combine to handle the announcing duties for Amazon Prime.

- It is quite common to have qualifiers in separate locations, but this could be the first time the AVP has ever had a main draw in two different locations. Internationally there have been several events with split locations, most notably the 2015 World Championships which were held in four different cities in the Netherlands. Domestically, in the early to mid 1990s the WPVA played in different locations in Austin as well as in Las Vegas. This year the two venues are just under a mile apart from each other.

2018 AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour Schedule

Event Dates	Location	Tournament Format	Prize \$ - TV
May 18 - 21	Austin, Texas	16-team double elimination	\$150,000 – NBCSN (delayed)
<i>Top seeds Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena and Alix Klineman / April Ross win season opener</i>			
June 7 - 10	New York City, New York	16-team double elimination	\$200,000 – NBC (live)
<i>Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena remain perfect while Sara Hughes / Summer Ross win in their first outing</i>			
June 21 - 24	Seattle, Washington	16-team double elimination	\$150,000 – NBCSN (delayed)
<i>Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb end top seeds' reign while Emily Day / Betsi Flint win in thrilling three-set final</i>			
July 5 - 8	San Francisco, California	16-team double elimination	\$150,000 – NBCSN (delayed)
<i>First career win for both Ed Ratledge and Roberto Rodriguez while Emily Day / Betsi Flint win 2nd straight event</i>			
July 26 - 29	Hermosa Beach, California	24-team double elimination	\$158,000 – NBCSN (delayed)
<i>John Hyden extends record for oldest to win (with Theo Brunner) as Sara Hughes / Summer Ross remain unbeaten</i>			
August 16 - 19	Manhattan Beach, California	32-team double elimination	\$250,000 – NBC (live)
<i>Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena earn 3rd plaque on pier as a team, local Alix Klineman and April Ross win title</i>			
Aug 30 – Sep 2	Chicago, Illinois	24-team double elimination	\$250,000 – NBC (live)
<i>Championships ties for biggest purse in most frequent beach volleyball locale outside of California</i>			
September 14 – 16	Honolulu, Hawai'i	Invitational	\$150,000 – NBCSN (delayed)
<i>Newly announced event with format still to be determined, but entry is based on performance in Gold Series</i>			

CHICAGO HISTORY – The Windy City has a rich history with the AVP, hosting events every year since the AVP began playing in 1984 through 2009 with the exception of 2001. On top of the 28 AVP men's events here, P&R had tournaments in 1983 and 2012, Wide Open had one in 2011 and there was an FIVB dual gender tournament in 2000. In each of the first 25 AVP championship matches, there was at least one individual who has competed in the Olympics in beach volleyball, but that streak ended in 2015. There have been 20 different men's teams which have won titles on the AVP here. In 1999, Kiraly's win gave him 140, overtaking Sinjin Smith for the all-time lead. Todd Rogers won three times in his career here with three different partners. In 2004, the Chicago event was the first domestic tournament following the Athens Olympics, and both winners had just competed in Athens. Ironically though, Dain Blanton and Jeff Nygaard, who were 0-3 in the Olympics, went undefeated in Chicago, while Misty May-Treanor and Kerri Walsh Jennings, who did not lose a single set in their seven Olympic matches, not only lost a match but also two other games yet still won the title. Amazingly, May-Treanor / Walsh Jennings became the first women's team since the reorganization in 2001 that had won a title with one loss, having lost in the winner's bracket semifinals (all 43 other winners had been undefeated). The 2005 event offered the most prize money ever (at the time) for a dual-gender domestic event (\$375,000). In 2006, after winning for the fourth straight time in Chicago, Walsh Jennings eclipsed the \$1 million mark in career earnings. In 2007, 14th-seeded Jenny Kropp and Jenny Pavley became the lowest seeded team in AVP history to reach the semifinals (since eclipsed). The 2017 winners set records on both ends of the spectrum in both genders. John Hyden (along with Theo Brunner) won the men's title at 44 years, 10 months and 27 days old, becoming the oldest player to win an AVP event, surpassing Karch Kiraly's mark. On the women's side, Kelly Claes and Sara Hughes won, becoming the youngest women's team to win (combined age of 44 years, 6 months, 6 days), bettering the previous mark held by Betsi Flint and Kelley Larsen in Mason in 2015. Claes and Hughes combined age was less than Hyden's. Here is a look at the tournaments in Chicago:

MEN – AVP events

Year	1st	2nd	3rd	3rd / 4th
1984	Mike Dodd / Tim Hovland	Sinjin Smith / Randy Stoklos	John Hanley / Jon Stevenson	Robert Chavez / Jeff Southcott
1985	Mike Dodd / Tim Hovland	Mark Eller / Andrew Smith	Ricci Luyties / Steve Obradovich	Andy Fishburn / Jay Hanseth
1986	Sinjin Smith / Randy Stoklos	Scott Ayakatabby / Brent Frohoff	Mike Dodd / Tim Hovland	Leif Hanson / John Hanley
1987	Sinjin Smith / Randy Stoklos	Andrew Smith / Dan Vrebalovich	Scott Ayakatabby / Steve Obradovich	John Hanley / Jon Stevenson
1988	Pat Powers / Jon Stevenson	Sinjin Smith / Randy Stoklos	Brent Frohoff / Andrew Smith	John Hanley / Dan Vrebalovich
1989	Sinjin Smith / Randy Stoklos	Mike Dodd / Tim Hovland	John Hanley / Dan Vrebalovich	Rudy Dvorak / Craig Moothart
1990	Sinjin Smith / Randy Stoklos	Tim Hovland / Kent Steffes	Brent Frohoff / Karch Kiraly	Wally Goodrick / Craig Moothart
1991	Karch Kiraly / Kent Steffes	Brent Frohoff / John Hanley	Eric Boyles / Shawn Davis	Mike Dodd / Ricci Luyties
1992	Karch Kiraly / Kent Steffes	Mike Dodd / Tim Hovland	Adam Johnson / Ricci Luyties	Brent Frohoff / Mike Whitmarsh
1993	Brian Lewis / Randy Stoklos	Mike Dodd / Mike Whitmarsh	Karch Kiraly / Kent Steffes	Scott Ayakatabby / Tim Hovland
1994	Karch Kiraly / Kent Steffes	Mike Dodd / Mike Whitmarsh	Troy Tanner / Wes Welch	Eduardo Bacil / Jose Loiola
1995	Scott Ayakatabby / Karch Kiraly	Adam Johnson / Jose Loiola	Brent Frohoff / Rob Heidger	Eduardo Bacil / Tim Hovland
1996	Adam Johnson / Jose Loiola	Mike Dodd / Mike Whitmarsh	Scott Ayakatabby / Brian Lewis	Eduardo Bacil / Randy Stoklos
1997	Jose Loiola / Kent Steffes	Randy Stoklos / Troy Tanner	Mike Dodd / Mike Whitmarsh	Dain Blanton / Canyon Ceman
1998	Kent Steffes / Mike Whitmarsh	Dain Blanton / Eric Fonoimoana	Rob Heidger / Troy Tanner	Brian Lewis / David Swatik
1999	Adam Johnson / Karch Kiraly	Roberto Lopes / Franco Neto	Dain Blanton / Eric Fonoimoana	Dax Holdren / Todd Rogers
2000	Dax Holdren / Todd Rogers	Jose Loiola / Emanuel Rego	Adam Johnson / Karch Kiraly	Canyon Ceman / Brian Lewis
2002	Eric Fonoimoana / Dax Holdren	Eduardo Bacil / Fred Souza	Mike Lambert / Lee LeGrande	[3rd] Carl Henkel / Casey Jennings
2003	Dain Blanton / Jeff Nygaard	Canyon Ceman / Mike Whitmarsh	Brent Doble / Karch Kiraly	[3rd] Scott Ayakatabby/Brian Lewis
2004	Dain Blanton / Jeff Nygaard	John Hyden / Mike Lambert	Paul Baxter / Scott Wong	[3rd] Jake Gibb / Adam Jewell
2005	Todd Rogers / Sean Scott	Karch Kiraly / Mike Lambert	Matt Fuerbringer / Casey Jennings	[3rd] Jake Gibb / Stein Metzger
2006	Mike Lambert / Stein Metzger	Phil Dalhausser / Todd Rogers	Jake Gibb / Sean Rosenthal	[3rd] Dax Holdren / Sean Scott
2007	Mike Lambert / Stein Metzger	John Hyden / Brad Keenan	Nick Lucena / Mark Williams	[3rd] Ty Loomis / Hans Stolfus
2008	Phil Dalhausser / Todd Rogers	Jake Gibb / Sean Rosenthal	John Hyden / Brad Keenan	[3rd] Nick Lucena / Sean Scott
2009	John Hyden / Sean Scott	Phil Dalhausser / Todd Rogers	Jake Gibb / Sean Rosenthal	[3rd] Pedro Brazao / Matt Prosser
2015	Brad Keenan / Ty Trambie	Ryan Doherty / John Mayer	Casey Jennings / Billy Kolinske	[3rd] Todd Rogers / Stafford Slick
2016	Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena	Tri Bourne / John Hyden	Taylor Crabb / Trevor Crabb	[3rd] Ryan Doherty / John Mayer
2017	Ryan Doherty / John Hyden	Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena	Jeremy Casebeer / John Mayer	[3rd] Billy Allen / Stafford Slick

MEN – non-AVP events

Year	1st	2nd	3rd	3rd / 4th
1983	Mike Dodd / Tim Hovland	John Hanley / Jon Stevenson	Sinjin Smith / Randy Stoklos	Robert Chavez / Steve Obradovich
1988	Andy Fishburn / Dane Selznick	Rick Arce / Chris Hannemann	Mike Fitzgerald / Eugene LeDuff	Dave Morehouse / Wes Welch
2011	John Hyden / Sean Scott	John Mayer / Matt Prosser	Braidy Halverson / Adam Roberts	[3rd] Ty Loomis / Mark Williams
2012	Ryan Doherty / Casey Patterson	Avery Drost / Ty Trambie	Stein Metzger / Mark Williams	[3rd] Brad Keenan / John Mayer

WOMEN – AVP events

Year	1st	2nd	3rd	3rd / 4th
1984	Linda Hanley / Dale Keough	Nancy Cothron / Donna Townsend	Kathy Hanley / Beth Rogers	Kathy Kehoe / Patti Walsh
1986	Linda Hanley / Nina Matthies	Patty Dodd / Janice Harrer	Linda Chisholm / Heather Hafner	Lori Forsythe / Jeanne Goldsmith
1993	Linda Chisholm / Holly McPeak	Nancy Reno / Angela Rock	Rita Crockett / Linda Hanley	Cammy Ciarelli / Jackie Silva
1994	Cammy Ciarelli / Holly McPeak	Nancy Reno / Angela Rock	Sandra Pires / Jackie Silva	Linda Chisholm / Linda Hanley

WOMEN – AVP events cont'd

1999	Liz Masakayan / Elaine Youngs	Annett Davis/Jenny Johnson Jordan	Holly McPeak / Gabrielle Reece	Patty Dodd / Angela Rock
2002	Annett Davis/Jenny Johnson Jordan	Holly McPeak / Elaine Youngs	Nancy Mason / Rachel Wacholder	[3rd] Carrie Dodd / Leanne McSorley
2003	Misty May-Treanor / Kerri Walsh	Holly McPeak / Elaine Youngs	Jennifer Meredith/Wendy Stammer	[3rd] Nancy Mason/Dianne DeNecochea
2004	Misty May-Treanor / Kerri Walsh	Annett Davis/Jenny Johnson Jordan	Carrie Dodd / Nancy Mason	[3rd] Holly McPeak / Elaine Youngs
2005	Misty May-Treanor / Kerri Walsh	Mimi Amaral / Tatiana Minello	Rachel Wacholder/ Elaine Youngs	[3rd] Jennifer Kessy / Holly McPeak
2006	Misty May-Treanor / Kerri Walsh	Rachel Wacholder / Elaine Youngs	Dianne DeNecochea/Tammy Leibl	[3rd] Nicole Branagh / Holly McPeak
2007	Annett Davis/Jenny Johnson Jordan	Angie Akers / Brooke Hanson	Barbra Fontana / Alicia Polzin	[3rd] Jenny Kropp / Jenny Pavley
2008	Misty May-Treanor / Kerri Walsh	Nicole Branagh / Elaine Youngs	Annett Davis/Jenny Johnson Jordan	[3rd] Jennifer Kessy / April Ross
2009	Nicole Branagh / Elaine Youngs	Jennifer Kessy / April Ross	Annett Davis/Jenny Johnson Jordan	[3rd] Tatiana Minello / Priscilla Lima
2015	Nicole Branagh / Jenny Kropp	Kim DiCello / Kendra Van Zwieten	Amanda Dowdy / Heather McGuire	[3rd] Lane Carico / Summer Ross
2016	Lauren Fendrick / Brooke Sweat	Betsi Flint / Kelley Larsen	Ali McColloch / Geena Urango	[3rd] Lane Carico / Summer Ross
2017	Kelly Claes / Sara Hughes	Summer Ross / Brooke Sweat	Lauren Fendrick / April Ross	[3rd] Emily Day / Brittany Hochevar

WOMEN – non-AVP events

Year	1st	2nd	3rd	3rd / 4th
1985	Nancy Cothron/Donna Townsend	Anne Crocker / Marcie Rasmussen	Kathy Bay / Fran Knapiewitz	Julie Bowser / Kathy Drumboski
1987	Linda Chisholm / Jackie Silva	Patty Dodd / Dale Hall	Linda Hanley / Nina Matthies	Lori Forsythe / Jeanne Goldsmith
1996	Holly McPeak / Nancy Reno	Barbra Fontana / Linda Hanley	Elaine Roque/Dennis Shupryt Knoop	Karolyn Kirby / Angela Rock
1997	Liz Masakayan / Elaine Youngs	Lisa Arce / Holly McPeak	Krista Blomquist/Christine Podraza	Karrie Poppinga / Angela Rock
2011	Jenny Kropp / Whitney Pavlik	Jennifer Fopma / Tracy Jones	Emily Day / Heather McGuire	[3rd] Erin Gray / Olaya Pazo
2012	Jenny Kropp / Whitney Pavlik	Priscilla Lima / Tyra Turner	Kristen Batt-Rohr/Raquel Ferrerira	[3rd] Jennifer Fopma / Brooke Sweat

2017 CHICAGO RECAP – The theme of the 2017 Chicago winners sounded more like a soap opera than a sporting event; the young and the old. The young was the team of Kelly Claes and Sara Hughes, while the old was played by John Hyden. Claes and Hughes went undefeated, with their last five matches all coming against teams seeded fifth or better. In capturing the title, the duo became the youngest women’s team to ever win an AVP title, with the players a combined 44 1/2 years old. It was a different story on the men’s side, as John Hyden won alongside Ryan Doherty. Hyden surpassed Karch Kiraly as the oldest player (men’s or women’s) to win an AVP tournament. He was just a few days shy of being 44 years, 11 months old, which was older than the two women’s champions combined.

#7 Ryan Doherty / John Hyden def. #1 Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena 21-19, 21-19 (:49)

#12 Kelly Claes / Sara Hughes def. Summer Ross / Brooke Sweat 21-17, 21-18 (:45)

CHICAGO SAND BITS – Of the 160 men’s players competing this weekend, 16 call Illinois home. A total of 23 different states are represented. There are seven teenagers competing, with the youngest being 16-year old Miles Partain and five 18-year olds. Meanwhile 14 players are 40 or older, including four over 45 (Jimmy Monton 49, Robert Hevezi 47, David Smith 46, John Hyden 45). Of the heights known, David Vander Meer is the shortest at 5’9” while at the other end of the spectrum are 7’1” Ryan Doherty, 6’11” Kristopher Johnson, and 6’9” Phil Dalhausser. Jake Gibb is playing in his 289th pro beach tournament, followed by Sean Rosenthal (272nd), Phil Dalhausser (250th), Nick Lucena (247th) and John Hyden (230th), while 12 players are playing their first ever pro beach event. There are four players competing in Hermosa Beach which have won at least five AVP titles entering this weekend; Phil Dalhausser (55), Jake Gibb (29), Casey Patterson (14), John Hyden (13), Sean Rosenthal (12) and Nick Lucena (12). Out of 80 partnerships, 31 are competing together for the very first time and only four have played together 20 or more times before Chicago (Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena 78 events, Mark VanZwieten / Steve VanZwieten 28, Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb 26 and Maddison McKibbin / Riley McKibbin 20). There are four men’s teams here which have previously won an AVP event, the four different ones that have won this season.

- There are 104 women playing this weekend, and 10 currently live in Illinois. The players come from 18 different, including four states which are unique from the men (meaning a total of 27 states are represented). The field includes two teenagers, twin sisters and teammates Lauren and Lindsey Hattaway. On the flip side, two players are over 40, 43-year old Heather Lowe (who last played AVP in 2013 and last pro event was 2015) and 40-year old Suzana Manole. Of the heights known, Katie Spieler measures 5’5” while Nicole Bateham and Kendra VanZwieten are both 5’6”. At the other end of the spectrum are Alix Klineman (6’5”) and four players who are 6’4” (Falyn Fonoimoana, Lindsey Fuller, Rachel Krabacher and Jessica Sykora). There are five players making their pro beach volleyball debut while the most experienced is April Ross (236th tournament) followed by Nicole Branagh (192nd), and Brittany Hochevar (190th). April Ross has tallied 31 AVP victories, the most of any player here, followed by Nicole Branagh (17) and Emily Day (8). The women feature 15 tandems (out of 52 total) playing alongside each other for the first time and just two having played together 15 or more times before Chicago (Amanda Dowdy / Irene Pollock 24 and Karissa Cook / Katie Spieler 15). There are three teams competing here which have won an AVP title as partners previously, and like the men all have come this season; Emily Day / Betsi Flint (in Seattle and San Francisco 2018), Alix Klineman / April Ross (in Austin and Manhattan Beach 2018) and Emily Day / Betsi Flint (in New York and Hermosa Beach 2018).

2018 AVP Gold Series Chicago Championships, Aug. 30 – Sep. 2, 2018 Tournament Notes, Page 4

GOLD SERIES – The Gold Series is a segment of the year consisting of three events – New York City, Manhattan Beach and Chicago. These three events carry more importance than the other tournaments in as much as the prize money and points are both elevated. What that means is that a second place finish Chicago is worth more in seeding points than a win in Hermosa Beach. As well, the three Gold Series events are used to determine entry into the invitational event in Hawai'i in September. The two teams in each gender with the best two finishes in the Series will gain a spot in Honolulu. Here is a look at the leaders entering the final Gold Series event in Chicago (* -- not playing as a team in Chicago):

<u>MEN (5 teams in contention for 1 spot)</u>		<u>NYC</u>	<u>MB</u>	<u>Notes</u>
2,400 points	Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena	1,050	1,350	Guaranteed a spot
2,048 points	Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb	896	1,152	Can clinch with a win
1,728 points	*Theo Brunner / John Hyden	756	972	Eliminated (not playing in Chicago)
1,602 points	Jeremy Casebeer / Reid Priddy	630	972	Must reach finals to have a chance
1,302 points	Casey Patterson / Stafford Slick	518	810	Must win to have a chance
1,300 points	Billy Allen / Ryan Doherty	756	544	Must win to have a chance
1,230 points	Ed Ratledge / Roberto Rodriguez	420	810	Must win to have a chance
 <u>WOMEN (9 teams in contention for 2 spots)</u>		 <u>NYC</u>	 <u>MB</u>	 <u>Notes</u>
2,106 points	Alix Klineman / April Ross	756	1,350	Can clinch by reaching semifinals
1,908 points	Kelly Claes / Brittany Hochevar	756	1,152	Can clinch with a win
1,602 points	Kelley Larsen / Emily Stockman	630	972	Must reach semifinals to have a chance
1,490 points	Emily Day / Betsi Flint	518	972	Must reach semifinals to have a chance
1,050 points	Sara Hughes / Summer Ross	1,050	0	Must reach semifinals to have a chance
1,002 points	Karissa Cook / Katie Spieler	336	666	Must win to have a chance
896 points	*Nicole Branagh / Brandie Wilkerson	896	0	Eliminated (not playing in Chicago)
810 points	Geena Urango / Allie Wheeler	0	810	Must reach finals to have a chance
810 points	Corinne Quiggle / Kimberly Smith	0	810	Must reach finals to have a chance
666 points	Amanda Dowdy Irene Pollock	0	666	Must win to have a chance
630 points	*Caitlin Ledoux / Maria Clara Salgado	630	0	Eliminated (not playing in Chicago)

INTERNATIONAL UPDATE –The World Tour Finals was the last tournament of the 2018 FIVB season, and September begins the qualification period for the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

• Here is a look at medals collected this season on the FIVB Tour by AVP players:

Summer Ross / Brooke Sweat	Bronze	Quinzhou, China	three star	October 15
Betsi Flint / Kelley Larsen	Bronze	Aalsmeer, Netherlands	one star	October 29
Alix Klineman / April Ross	Gold	The Hague, Netherlands	four star	January 7
Avery Drost / Chase Frishman	Gold	Shepparton, Australia	one star	February 4
Amanda Dowdy / Irene Pollock	Gold	Shepparton, Australia	one star	February 4
Caitlin Ledoux / Jace Pardon	Silver	Shepparton, Australia	one star	February 4
Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena	Gold	Fort Lauderdale, U.S.	four star	March 4
Summer Ross / Brooke Sweat	Bronze	Fort Lauderdale, U.S.	four star	March 4
Caitlin Ledoux / Emily Stockman	Gold	Satun, Thailand	one star	April 11
Melissa Humana-Parades / Sarah Pavan	Gold	Xiamen, China	four star	April 22
Kelly Claes / Brittany Hochevar	Silver	Xiamen, China	four star	April 22
Trevor Crabb / John Mayer	Gold	Lucerne, Switzerland	three star	May 13
Kelley Larsen / Emily Stockman	Bronze	Lucerne, Switzerland	three star	May 13
Aurora Davis / Bree Scarbrough	Gold	Bangkok, Thailand	one star	May 13
Brandie Wilkerson / (Heather Bansley)	Bronze	Itapema, Brazil	four star	May 20
Trevor Crabb / John Mayer	Gold	Jinjang, China	two star	June 3
Amanda Dowdy / Irene Pollock	Bronze	Nanjing, China	two star	June 17
Brandie Wilkerson / (Heather Bansley)	Silver	Ostrava, Czech Republic	four star	June 24
Brandie Wilkerson / (Heather Bansley)	Gold	Warsaw, Poland	four star	July 1
Sara Hughes / Summer Ross	Bronze	Espinho, Portugal	four star	July 7
Melissa Humana-Parades / Sarah Pavan	Gold	Gstaad, Switzerland	five star	July 15
Brandie Wilkerson / (Heather Bansley)	Bronze	Gstaad, Switzerland	five star	July 15
Emily Day / Betsi Flint	Gold	Haiyang, China	three star	July 22
Caitlin Ledoux / Sarah Sponcil	Bronze	Haiyang, China	three star	July 22
Casey Patterson / Stafford Slick	Bronze	Tokyo, Japan	three star	July 29
Lara Dykstra / Allie Wheeler	Gold	Vaduz, Liechtenstein	one star	August 11
Sara Hughes / Summer Ross	Gold	Moscow, Russia	four star	August 12

2018 QUALIFIER LIST – Here's a look at the teams who have qualified this season (qualification tournament seed) and how they finished in the main draw:

AUSTIN - Men

Maddison McKibbin / Riley McKibbin (Q1) – 13th place
Travis Mewhirther / Raffe Paulis (Q10) – 13th place
Troy Field / David Vander Meer (Q11) – 9th place
Bruno Amorim / Chris Luers (Q12) – 13th place
Mewhirther advances to his first ever AVP main draw

NEW YORK CITY - Men

Ty Loomis / Piotr Marciniak (Q1) – 13th place
Maddison McKibbin / Riley McKibbin (Q2) – 13th place
Mark Burik / Iam Satterfield (Q4) – 13th place
Kyle Friend / Myles Muagututia (Q6) – 9th place
McKibbin brothers advance for 2nd straight tournament

SEATTLE - Men

Maddison McKibbin / Riley McKibbin (Q1) – 9th place
Marty Lorenz / Raffe Paulis (Q4) – 13th place
Eric Beranek / Michael Brunsting (Q6) – 13th place
Michael Boag / Skylar del Sol (Q18) – 13th place
McKibbin brothers improve to 10-0 in qualifier matches

SAN FRANCISCO - Men

Dave McKenzie / Jeff Samuels (Q2) – 13th place
Branden Clemens / Ben Vaught (Q3) – 13th place
Hagen Smith / Lucas Yoder (Q13) – 9th place
Andy Benesh / Cole Fiers (Q33) – 13th place
Smith, Yoder, Benesh and Fiers all advance to first main draw

HERMOSA BEACH - Men

Kyle Friend / Myles Muagututia (Q1) – 15th place
Paul Lotman / Dave McKenzie (Q2) – 17th place
Branden Clemens / Ben Vaught (Q3) – 13th place
Spencer Sauter / David Vander Meer (Q4) – 15th place
Eric Beranek / Lucas Yoder (Q5) – 15th place
Travis Mewhirther / Hagen Smith (Q10) – 13th place
Michael Boag / Bobby Jacobs (Q11) – 17th place
Andy Benesh / Cole Fiers (Q24) – 17th place
First time all year no qualifier finished as high as 9th place

MANHATTAN BEACH - Men

Raffe Paulis / Jeff Samuels (Q1) – 25th place
Branden Clemens / Ben Vaught (Q5) – 17th place
Spencer Sauter / David Vander Meer (Q6) – 17th place
Bruno Amorim / Skylar del Sol (Q7) – 17th place
Michael Boag / Bobby Jacobs (Q8) – 17th place
Paul Araiza / David Lee (Q30) – 25th place
Eric Beranek / Matt Prosser (Q34) – 25th place
Jacob Landel / Lev Priima (Q36) – 17th place
36th-seeded Landel / Priima lowest to advance since 2016

AUSTIN - Women

Sarah Day / Nicolette Martin (Q1) – 5th place
Janelle Allen / Kerri Schuh (Q5) – 7th place
Priscilla Piantadosi-Lima / Jessica Sykora (Q6) – 13th place
Falyn Fonoimoana / Alexa Strange (Q15) – 13th place
Fonoimoana advances to her first ever AVP main draw

NEW YORK CITY - Women

Aurora Davis / Bree Scarbrough (Q2) – 9th place
Lara Dykstra / Sheila Shaw (Q3) – 13th place
Christina Matthews / Brittany Tiegs (Q5) – 13th place
Delaney Knudsen / Jessica Sykora (Q9) – 13th place
Knudsen / Sykora eliminate Humana-Parades / Pavan

SEATTLE - Women

Nicolette Martin / Allie Wheeler (Q1) – 5th place
Delaney Knudsen / Jessica Sykora (Q5) – 9th place
Falyn Fonoimoana / Alexa Strange (Q6) – 13th place
Cassie House / Molly Turner (Q7) – 13th place
Martin / Wheeler lose 15-13 in match to reach semis

SAN FRANCISCO - Women

Mackenzie Ponnet / Kimberly Smith (Q5) – 13th place
Agnieszka Pregowska / Corinne Quiggle (Q6) – 13th place
Cassie House / Molly Turner (Q8) – 13th place
Kimberly Hildreth / Sarah Schermerhorn (Q10) – 13th place
First time no top 4 seeds advance since June 2007 (Atlanta)

HERMOSA BEACH - Women

Delaney Knudsen / Jessica Sykora (Q1) – 13th place
Falyn Fonoimoana/Priscilla Piantadosi-Lima (Q2) – 13th place
Cassie House / Molly Turner (Q5) – 7th place
Emily Hartong / Alexa Strange (Q7) – 13th place
Maghan Mannari / Taylor Nyquist (Q8) – 15th place
Devon Newberry / Lindsey Sparks (Q11) – 17th place
Hailey Harward / Kathryn Plummer (Q46) – 9th place
Jessica Gaffney / Iya Lindahl (Q84) – 17th place
Gaffney/ Lindahl the lowest seeded team to ever advance

MANHATTAN BEACH - Women

Delaney Knudsen / Jessica Sykora (Q1) – 13th place
Falyn Fonoimoana/Priscilla Piantadosi-Lima (Q2) – 13th place
Tory Paranagua / Jace Pardon (Q3) – 17th place
Corinne Quiggle / Kimberly Smith (Q4) – 5th place
Emily Hartong / Alexa Strange (Q6) – 13th place
Kimberly Hildreth / Sarah Schermerhorn (Q7) – 17th place
Devon Newberry / Lindsey Sparks (Q9) – 25th place
Jenna Beton / Chanti Holroyd (Q53) – 17th place
Knudsen / Sykora advance for the third time this season

WHAT'S UP NEXT – The AVP has its season finale in Honolulu. This will be an eight-team invitational featuring four U.S. teams and four international teams. Two of the U.S. spots will be earned via the Gold Series, with the top two teams earning a berth, while the other two placements will come from wildcard entries. On Friday, September 14, there will be an exhibition called King of the Court, featuring both U.S. and international teams competing for \$150,000 in prize money. Then on Saturday and Sunday, September 15-16, the AVP double-elimination event will be held.

AUSTIN ANALYSIS – The Austin championship matches had some similarities. Both featured number one seeds against teams playing together for the first time. For the first time since San Francisco in 2016, both the men's and women's top-seeded teams won on the same weekend.

- In Austin in 2005 Phil Dalhausser and Nick Lucena won their first title together, then repeated as champs in 2017 and 2018 by sweeping all five opponents both years. As the number one seeds, this marked the first time a top-seeded men's team won an AVP title since Dalhausser and Lucena did it last year in Austin. Across the net was a partnership making their debut, Tim Bomgren and Taylor Crabb. Bomgren set a new career best by reaching the finals while Crabb was playing in his sixth AVP final.

- Top seeds Alix Klineman and April Ross were playing together for the first time on the AVP Tour, although they had competed in four FIVB events previously. Ross won in Austin in 2017 with Whitney Pavlik, and this year she won again to collect her 30th career AVP title as Klineman grabbed her first AVP victory. Their foes, Lauren Fendrick and Sara Sponcil, were not only playing together for the first time ever, but this was Sponcil's second AVP event (her first was in 2013 when she was just 16 years old). Fendrick was the oldest player in the main draw while Sponcil was the youngest. After the match point freeze, there were 31 serves, and the second set saw seven set points for Fendrick / Sponcil and seven match points for Klineman / Ross.

#1 Alix Klineman / April Ross def. #7 Lauren Fendrick / Sarah Sponcil 24-22, 25-23 (1:10)

#1 Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena def. #6 Tim Bomgren / Taylor Crabb 21-14, 21-14 (:40)

NEW YORK CITY IN A NUTSHELL – With the recent announcement of the new event in Hawai'i and its dependence on performance in the three-event Gold Series, the New York City tournament carried even more prestige. And in the brightest spotlight the top teams shined the brightest. Both the men's and women's teams seeded first in the tournament were undefeated in winning the first of the three Gold Series tournaments.

- Phil Dalhausser and Nick Lucena continued their dominant performance in the young season. Although dropping their first two sets of the year, the duo improved its match record to 10-0 in 2018. Across the net was one familiar foe – Taylor Crabb. This marked the second straight event that Crabb had played in the championship match, having done so in the season opener with his substitute partner Tim Bomgren. But in New York City Jake Gibb had returned from a broken pinky toe and the 2017 New York City champs were back together. Dalhausser / Lucena proved to be too much though, and ended Gibb's impressive 14-match winning streak in New York (as he had also won the 2015 title with Casey Patterson).

- For the second straight event, one of the teams in the women's championship match was playing together for the first time on the AVP Tour. This tournament, though, the inaugural partnership resulted in a title. Sara Hughes and Summer Ross joined forces and in five matches never so much as faced a set point. Seeded No. 1, Hughes and Ross defeated three teams seeded fifth or better, including defeating Nicole Branagh / Brandie Wilkerson twice. Ross, who had finished second in New York each of the past two years, was able to win the title in her third attempt.

#1 Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena def. #3 Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb 21-16, 21-17 (:48)

#1 Sara Hughes / Summer Ross def. #5 Nicole Branagh / Brandie Wilkerson 21-14, 21-19 (:52)

SEATTLE SYNOPSIS – For the second straight event, the same men's teams competed in the title matches but it did end a streak of first-time winners as in the previous three years a men's player had won his first ever AVP title in Seattle. The women, meanwhile had one streak continue and one come to a halt. The one that continued was that a first-time partnership (at least on the AVP Tour) had now reached the title match for the third straight event. Coming to an end, however, was an eight-event long streak in which the women's championship match was decided in a sweep.

- Phil Dalhausser and Nick Lucena entered the Seattle finals with a perfect 14-0 match record to start the 2018 season, and were facing a rematch from the New York championship match – Taylor Crabb and Jake Gibb. This marked the first time two teams had played each other for an AVP title in consecutive tournaments since late 2014 (when Jake Gibb / Casey Patterson defeated Ryan Doherty / Nick Lucena in both Cincinnati and Atlantic City). Crabb and Gibb won in a sweep, ending the early season reign by Dalhausser and Lucena.

- Parity continues to be the story on the women's side as not only was there a third different team winning the AVP championship, but six different teams have competed in the finals this year. Second-seeded Emily Day / Betsi Flint were able to perform a difficult task – defeat the same team twice in as many days. Caitlin Ledoux / April Ross, who were playing together for the first time, made it about as difficult as possible in producing one of the most thrilling finals in history. After the two teams split the first two sets by identical 21-19 scores, the third set was tight the whole way, and each team had six match points as there were 29 serves since the match point freeze.

#2 Emily Day / Betsi Flint def. #3 Caitlin Ledoux / April Ross 19-21, 21-19, 18-16 (1:17)

#3 Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb def. #1 Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena 21-16, 21-19 (:51)

SAN FRANCISCO STORYLINE – Upsets were few and far between in San Francisco, as the top eight seeds in both genders occupied the top eight spots in the final rankings (i.e. first through seventh place). This marked the first time for that happening for the men since the 2016 season finale in Chicago, and the first time for the women since Hermosa Beach in July 2010.

- Three of the four players in the championship match were there for the first time in their careers, while the fourth player was two-time Olympian and 12-time AVP winner Sean Rosenthal. Ratledge had made his first ever semifinal in San Francisco in 2017, doing so in his 139th AVP event (only Adam Roberts has more semifinals without reaching a semifinal). Rodriguez likewise had made one semifinal in his career. Ratledge and Rodriguez went 5-0, defeating four teams seeded seventh or better while Rosenthal lost his seventh straight AVP championship match since getting his last win in Manhattan Beach in 2014.

- This women's event belonged to the favorites, as in the 29 matches there were only three upsets. So it was only fitting that the number one seed won the title, with Emily Day / Betsi Flint capturing their second straight AVP win. For the second consecutive tournament, they faced off against Caitlin Ledoux, this time while she was playing alongside Geena Urango. Considering that the prior 10 AVP titles were won by nine different partnerships, the fact that Day and Flint were able to win two straight was a big accomplishment.

#6 Ed Ratledge / Roberto Rodriguez def. #5 Chase Budinger / Sean Rosenthal 21-15, 21-18 (:41)

#1 Emily Day / Betsi Flint def. #4 Caitlin Ledoux / Geena Urango 21-17, 16-21, 15-7 (1:00)

HERMOSA BEACH HAPPENINGS – The 102 women's teams marked a new record for the AVP, and the 217 combined teams ranked as the fourth most all time. In that spirit, in addition to having more teams, why not have more volleyball in the finals as well? Both of the finals went three sets, something that hadn't happened since July 2016 in Manhattan Beach.

- It's a small world after all. The Hermosa Beach finals featured players who had been teammates previously (and won AVP titles), and now faced each other for the championship. Billy Allen got his first AVP win in 2016 alongside Theo Brunner, while Ryan Doherty and John Hyden had won together in the 2017 season finale. In Hermosa Beach Brunner and Hyden were now teammates, and across the net were Billy Allen and Ryan Doherty. After a tight, one-hour battle, Brunner and Hyden emerged victorious, allowing Hyden to extend his AVP record for being the oldest player to win. That gave the AVP a fourth different winning team in the last four events.

- In a rare occurrence, the top four women's seeds all advanced to the semifinals, marking the second time that happened since the start of the 2014 season. What wasn't as rare was the fact that this match was Ross against Ross, April against Summer. Those two players had played against each other 20 times previously, with April leading 18-2. April had also been 5-0 against Summer in AVP finals, in addition to both reaching the September 2013 finals in St. Petersburg, a match that was never played due to weather. After April / Alix Klineman and Summer / Sara Hughes split the first two sets with 21-19 scores, the teams battled in a third set which saw 23 serves after match point freeze before Hughes and Summer Ross claimed the win. That extended their unbeaten streak to 10 straight matches on the AVP Tour.

#1 Sara Hughes / Summer Ross def. #3 Alix Klineman / April Ross 19-21, 21-19, 17-15 (1:28)

#1 Theo Brunner / John Hyden def. #3 Billy Allen / Ryan Doherty 21-19, 16-21, 16-14 (1:00)

MANHATTAN BEACH MEMOIRS – The men's final was a repeat of both the New York City and Seattle tournaments, where Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena and Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb had split those meetings. The women achieved full parity, as the victory by Alix Klineman and April Ross meant that the first six AVP events of 2018 have seen three teams each win a pair of titles.

- Solidifying their dominance, Phil Dalhausser and Nick Lucena won the Manhattan Beach Open for the third time in four seasons (2015, 2017, 2018), and in the 2016 event the duo was undefeated heading into the semifinals when they had an injury forfeit. Dalhausser claimed his seventh career Manhattan Beach Open title, moving into sole possession of second place and trailing only Karch Kiraly. Dalhausser and Lucena improved their 2018 AVP match record to 20-1, with the only loss coming to their opponents in the MBO title match, Taylor Crabb and Jake Gibb. The first set was all Crabb and Gibb, but Lucena and Dalhausser rebounded to win in three sets.

- April Ross and Brittany Hochevar each have multiple plaques on the pier, but their teammates were both searching for their first such honor. The teams played like they knew what was at stake, with the tight three-set match not ending until after 32 serves took place following the match point freeze. While Ross garnered her third Manhattan Beach win, it was the first for partner Alix Klineman, who grew up in Manhattan Beach. The win by the third seeds was just the second time in the past 14 AVP tournaments which was not won by either the number one or number two seed.

#1 Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena def. #3 Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb 12-21, 22-20, 15-13 (1:15)

#3 Alix Klineman / April Ross def. #1 Kelly Claes / Brittany Hochevar 27-25, 17-21, 17-15 (1:25)

SEEDINGS SNIPPETS – Here are snippets on the teams which are seeded directly into the main draw in Chicago:

MEN

- #1 Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena – 44th AVP event together, won 10 times and have a 20-1 record this year... Dalhausser has reached Chicago finals his last 5 times... Lucena been to finals in his last 6 AVP events
- #2 Taylor Crabb / Jake Gibb – 11th AVP event together (3 AVP wins)... this is team's 9th event in 11 weeks... Crabb has been to AVP semis in 17 of his last 19 events... Gibb has played 10 times in Chicago with a best of 2nd (in 2008)
- #3 Jeremy Casebeer / Reid Priddy – 6th AVP event together (best of 3rd three times)... Casebeer is 1-6 against the Crabbs this season (account for 6 of his 11 losses)... 3 of Priddy's 5 career AVP semifinals have come this season
- #4 Ed Ratledge / Roberto Rodriguez – 6th event as partners (won in San Francisco)... duo has won 13 of last 16 matches...this marks the 14th time Ratledge has played in Chicago... Rodriguez 3 AVP semifinals in last 8 events
- #5 Billy Allen / Ryan Doherty – 7th AVP event as partners (best of 2nd in Hermosa Beach)... Allen is coming off his worst finish (9th) since 2015... Doherty, coming off his worst finish since 2014, has won twice in Chicago (2012 and 2017)
- #6 Casey Patterson / Stafford Slick – 6th AVP event together (best of 3rd in Austin)... Patterson won here in 2012 (non-AVP event) with Ryan Doherty... Slick made his pro beach volleyball debut in Chicago in 2009 (finished 57th)
- #7 Chase Budinger / Sean Rosenthal – 6th AVP event together (best of 2nd in San Francisco)... this is just 6th AVP event for Budinger... Rosenthal 0-7 in AVP finals since his last win in August 2014 (Manhattan Beach with Dalhausser)
- #8 Duncan Budinger / John Hyden – 1st tournament ever together... Budinger, a last minute replacement for Theo Brunner, eliminated in Manhattan Beach by brother Chase... Hyden won three titles in Chicago (2009, 2011, 2017)
- #9 Tim Bomgren / Chaim Schalk – 5th event as partners (best of 3rd in San Francisco)... two of Bomgren's three career AVP semifinals have come this year... 10 of Schalk's 12 match losses this year against teams seeded 6th or better
- #10 Avery Drost / John Mayer – 2nd event together (9th in Manhattan Beach)... Drost's finished second in 2012 in Chicago with Ty Trambie... Mayer has reached semifinals in Chicago five straight times (4 different partners)
- #11 Tri Bourne / Trevor Crabb – 2nd event together (7th in Manhattan Beach... Bourne's 2nd AVP event since 2016 finale... the last 2 times Crabb played here marked the end of partnerships (Taylor in 2016, Rosenthal in 2017)
- #12 Piotr Marciniak / Eric Zaun – 5th event as partners (best of 5th in San Francisco)... Marciniak enters Chicago having won 1,086 points while losing 1,084 points this season... Zaun has back to back 13th-place finishes for first time
- #13 Michael Brunsting / Ty Loomis – 4th AVP event together (best of 9th twice)... Brunsting has improved his Chicago finishes each year (21st, 17th, 13th)... this marks Loomis' 13th Chicago event and first time with same partner
- #14 Mark Burik / Ian Satterfield – 6th AVP event together (best of 7th)... Burik is playing his 47th AVP event (18 different partners)... Satterfield had his career best (7th) in Hermosa Beach
- #15 Troy Field / Chase Frishman – 3rd event together (9th in Hermosa Beach)... Field's 9th-place finish in Hermosa Beach tied his career best... Frishman has had just three partners in his career (Chicago is his 22nd AVP event)
- #16 Maddison McKibbin / Riley McKibbin – 19th AVP event together (best of 9th five times)... Maddison 3-1 against top 4 seeds in his win last year (0-15 rest of his career)... Riley has only played two AVP events with different partner

AGING LIKE A FINE WINE – From the inception of the AVP in 1984 through the end of the 2001 season, a total of 390 men's tournaments were held. Not once in those did a player win who was at least 40 years old. However in June 2002 in Santa Barbara, Karch Kiraly won when he was 41 years, 7 1/2 months old, becoming the first 40-year old to win an AVP title. That win opened the floodgates, as two weeks later Mike Whitmarsh won in Belmar when he was 40 years, 1/2 months old. Those two players would win a combined total of eight titles between 2002 and 2005 after each one had turned 40, but then no player was able to achieve that feat until John Hyden in Milwaukee in 2014. Since then, Jake Gibb has joined the group and last tournament Ed Ratledge became the fifth different men's player to win an AVP title after the age of 40. That brings the total to 21 times in the last 162 AVP tournaments that a men's player who was at least 40 years old won the title. In fact, the championship team in 12 of the last 23 AVP tournaments has had one player who was at least 40 years old. In Hermosa Beach John Hyden extended his own record of being the oldest player to win an AVP title. Here's a look at the five players who have won after turning 40:

John Hyden	5 times after turning 40	oldest was Hermosa Beach 2018 when he was 45y, 9m, 22d
Karch Kiraly	6 times after turning 40	oldest was Huntington Beach 2005 when he was 44y, 9m, 10d
Jake Gibb	6 times after turning 40	oldest was Seattle 2018 when he was 42y, 4m, 18d
Ed Ratledge	1 time after turning 40	oldest was San Francisco 2018 when he was 41y, 6m, 22d
Mike Whitmarsh	2 times after turning 40	oldest was Tempe 2003 when he was 40y, 11m, 9d

BIRTHDAY WISHES – No players are celebrating birthdays during this event.

SEEDINGS SNIPPETS – Here are snippets on the teams which are seeded directly into the main draw in Chicago:

WOMEN

- #1 Sara Hughes / Summer Ross – 3rd AVP event together (won in New York and Hermosa Beach)... Hughes' first AVP win came in Chicago last year... Ross has been in semis all 3 of her years here, including finishing 2nd in 2017
- #2 Kelly Claes / Brittany Hochevar – 5th AVP event together (best of 2nd in Manhattan Beach)... Claes' only AVP win came last year in Chicago... Hochevar been in semis in 15 of her last 17 AVP events
- #3 Alix Klineman / April Ross – 6th AVP event together (won in Austin and Manhattan Beach)... 5 of Klineman's 7 AVP semifinals have come this year (in 5 events)... Ross has advanced to semifinals in 11 straight AVP events
- #4 Emily Day / Betsi Flint – 5th AVP event together (won in Seattle and San Francisco)... Day has won her last 7 AVP championship matches... Flint has won 3 of her last 7 AVP tournaments played
- #5 Kelley Larsen / Emily Stockman – 4th AVP event together (best of 3rd in Manhattan Beach)... this is duo's 12th tournament since the start of May (had to play in qualifiers in 4 FIVB events)... Larsen 2nd in Chicago in 2016
- #6 Nicole Branagh / Caitlin Ledoux – 2nd event together (9th in Manhattan Beach)... Branagh won in Chicago in 2009 and 2015... Ledoux has had 5 different partners this season, but she's had 3 of her 4 career AVP semis
- #7 Geena Urango / Allie Wheeler – 2nd event together (5th in Manhattan Beach)... Urango has 7 wins against teams seeded 8th or better this season... Wheeler has had career-best 5th place in 3 of her last 4 AVP tournaments
- #8 Amanda Dowdy / Irene Pollock – 10th AVP event together (best of 3rd twice)... this is duo's 12th event since May 1... both players tied AVP career best with 3rd in Seattle... Dowdy's 1st career AVP semi came in Chicago 2015
- #9 Karissa Cook / Katie Spieler – 14th AVP event together... placed 3rd in Austin to set a career best for both players... duo had to play in qualifier in Chicago previous two times here (7th in 2016, 9th in 2017)
- #10 Brittany Howard / Kelly Reeves – 7th AVP event together (best of 3rd in San Francisco)... duo has placed 9th five times this season along with their 3rd in San Francisco
- #11 Janelle Allen / Kerri Schuh – 6th AVP event together (5th in Austin after advancing from the qualifier)... the 5th-place finish in Austin tied a career best for Allen (once in 2016, once in 2017) while it was a new career best for Schuh
- #12 Lane Carico / Bree Scarbrough – 1st event together... Carico reach semis in Chicago twice (2015, 2016)... this is just 2nd AVP tournament Scarbrough has ever played with partner other than Aurora Davis
- #13 Ali McColloch / Kendra VanZwieten – 5th AVP event together (9th all four times)... McColloch tied career best with 3rd her last time in Chicago (2016)... 1 of 2 AVP finals for VanZwieten came in Chicago 2015
- #14 Corinne Quiggle / Kimberly Smith – 2nd AVP event together (5th in Manhattan Beach)... both players set a career best with the 5th last event after advancing from qualifier (8-2 match record in Manhattan Beach)
- #15 Lara Dykstra / Sheila Shaw – 7th AVP event together (best of 5th in Seattle 2018)... Dykstra eliminated Shaw in Chicago last year, their last event before teaming up... Shaw has finished 5th in Chicago twice (2011, 2012)
- #16 Aurora Davis / Jace Pardon – 2nd AVP event together (17th in Manhattan Beach 2013)... Davis had played last 13 AVP events with Bree Scarbrough... Pardon's AVP debut was with Davis in Manhattan Beach in 2013

FINAL FOUR FEMALES – Since the start of the 2013 season, there have been five women's players who have reached the semifinals at least 20 times in the 42 tournaments held. And of those, 21 of them have been won by April Ross.

April Ross	32 semifinals in 34 events (94%)	21 wins
Summer Ross	23 semifinals in 27 events (85%)	5 wins
Brittany Hochevar	24 semifinals in 31 events (77%)	4 wins
Emily Day	23 semifinals in 33 events (70%)	8 wins
Lauren Fendrick	20 semifinals in 26 events (77%)	3 wins

FAMILIAR FACES IN FINALS – Beginning with the New York City tournament in 2016, there have been 18 AVP championship matches held. Out of those 18 events, eight have been won by Phil Dalhausser / Nick Lucena, who have also finished second twice in that span. Jake Gibb has played in seven of the finals (6-1 record in those), Taylor Crabb has also played for the title seven times (3-4), and Trevor Crabb has played in five finals (0-5). Since that New York event in June 2016, there have only been four tournaments which featured a championship match that did not include Dalhausser, Lucena, Gibb, or one of the Crabb brothers (Manhattan Beach 2016, San Francisco 2017, San Francisco 2018 and Hermosa Beach 2018). Since the start of the 2006 season, there have been 116 AVP team championship matches held, and either Phil Dalhausser or Jake Gibb has been the winner in 78 of those (67% of the events).

• On the women's side, there is a current string of 20 tournaments with at least one of four players appearing in the title match; April Ross, Emily Day, Summer Ross and Betsi Flint. Beginning with the Huntington Beach 2016 event (the second of that season), not only have one of the aforementioned four players been in the finals, but at least one has won 18 times, with the two exceptions being in Chicago in both 2016 and 2017. In that span April Ross is 7-2 in finals, Day is 6-0, Summer Ross is 4-4, and Flint is 3-3.

