





**The mission of Gotham Volleyball is to improve the quality of life for LGBTQIA+ individuals by building community through the sport of volleyball.**

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL

Hi Friends,

This year's Annual Report looks back at another great year of Gotham Volleyball. One of the major highlights of the year was Gotham achieving the milestone of becoming a 501(c)3. Achieving this goal will springboard the organization into its next iteration as we continue to pursue our mission of building community through the sport of volleyball. With this designation we will be able to fundraise for future goals and expand our ability to give back.

Throughout the year we played more volleyball than ever as an organization. We saw the addition of Power W2, and the return of EOS parties (no longer limited to having one party per year...thanks omicron), the second of the 2022-2023 year is just a few weeks away and promises to be a great time! We also returned to a full slate of NAGVA style tournaments with Green Apple and Golden Apple taking place in the Fall, Spring Fling and Big Apple happening in the Spring, and let's not forget the sandy good times of the annual Fire Island Tournament.

As I look back over the past year, I am amazed by what we have accomplished as a League. On one hand it feels like my first year as president flew by, but I also remember the tons of hours put in, not only by me, but by all the folks who volunteer their time to make Gotham the great organization that it is. We continue to be more than just a Volleyball League; we are a community. While we exist in an ever-changing landscape that includes some terrifying and frustrating attacks against our rights to exist authentically, it's amazing to see all that we can accomplish when we all work together to achieve a common goal. I would be remiss if I didn't take a second to say **THANK YOU** to all the Gotham Leaders who give of their free time to keep the league running at the high standard that we have set for ourselves.

Looking Forward to More Great Volleyball and Many Great Years Ahead!



Kyle Williams  
President  
Gotham Volleyball League



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# LEADERSHIP



October 2022, Gotham Leadership takes to the court post Fall 2022 tryouts.

## **GOTHAM VOLLEYBALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **President**

Kyle Williams

### **Secretary**

Greg Rubin

### **Treasurer**

Andre Carneiro

### **Vice President for Division Play**

Patrick So

### **Vice President for Training**

Blake Rogers

### **Vice President for Activities & Outreach (Acting)**

Vergial Parker

### **Vice President for Tournaments & Open Play**

Joe Hemsing

### **Directors-At-Large**

Joe Mignano

Keith Myers

### **Past Presidents**

Josh Christensen

Lew Smith

### **Grievance Officer (Acting)**

Eric Eichenholtz

## DIVISION PLAY



## **DIVISION PLAY LEADERSHIP GROUP**

### **Vice President for Division Play**

Patrick So

### **Division 1 Representative**

Douglas Christian

### **Division 2 Representative**

Ron Medina

### **Division 3 Representative**

Royce Bugarin

### **Division 4 Representative**

Jason Shaw

### **Division 5 Representative**

Eric Ma

### **Division 6 Representative**

Brady

### **Division 7 Representative**

John Cafarelli

### **Division 8 Representative**

Anthony Fontanello

### **Division 9 Representative**

Amy Santiago

### **Division 10 Representative**

Edwin Raagas/Aidan Quinlan-Walshe

### **Division 11 Representative**

Victor Ortiz

## **DIVISION PLAY LEADERSHIP GROUP**

Contributed by Patrick So, Vice President for Division Play

Our return to play was in full swing in Fall 2022, with the schools lifting COVID restrictions earlier in 2022 (e.g., facemasks optional for players). Division Play returned to pre-pandemic format (10-week season with a full EOS schedule). No change to the division structure happened this year (where we were still somewhat limited by school gym availability (and D4 and D11 remained 6-team divisions), but the 1st floor at Howe was made into a more usable space with the purchase of additional equipment to outfit a volleyball court. Working closely with the schools during the off-season, our Spring season completed with minimal interruption to our planned schedule (no preemption of games with only some minor adjustments of match times needed).

Because of facility availability with planned school closures for summer 2023, we are unable to offer summer Division Play going into the new 2023-2024 year.

# TRAINING

## TRAINING LEADERSHIP GROUP



Power A caps off another year of training and learning

## TRAINING LEADERSHIP GROUP

Vice President for Training  
Blake Rogers

Power Director  
Leah Hughey

### Power Coaches:

**Power A**  
Eric Lodde  
Nic Sanchez\*  
*\*Replaced Joe Muir  
midseason*

**Power B**  
Chris Lacap  
Arvin Rada

**Power C**  
Troy Riddle  
Tenzin Kunga

**Power D**  
Leah Hughey  
Takuya Oka

**Power E**  
Austin Voges  
Tyce Dagele

**Power W**  
Leah Hughey  
Tenzin Kunga

**Power W2**  
Leah Hughey  
Shyne Mon

**Team Power BB**  
Nic Sanchez  
Shyne Mon\*  
*\*Replaced Joe Muir  
midseason*

**Team Power B**  
Edgar Lazaro  
Jonathan Vasquez

**PowerPlay**  
Leah Hughey  
Heriberto Estrada  
Nikita Gavroff  
Shyne Mon  
Patrick So  
Abishek SM



## **TRAINING LEADERSHIP GROUP**

### **Power A Representative**

Kyle Alexander

### **Power B Representative**

Keishi Takata

### **Power C Representative**

Donna Kong

### **Power D Representative**

Alex Deng

### **Power E Representative**

Ryan DeRosa

### **PowerPlay Representative**

Juan Arevalo

### **Power W Representative**

Sonia Parada

### **Power W2 Representative**

Zaria Smalls

### **Team Power B Representative**

Abishek SM

## TRAINING LEADERSHIP GROUP

Contributed by Blake Rogers, Vice President for Training & Leah Hughey, Power Director

This season offered continued opportunities for Gotham to expand and maintain a program that is unique to our organization, our Power Training program. Through our adult volleyball training classes and clinics, our team sought to meet the needs of players at all levels of play seeking to improve their individual skills with the help of our excellent coaching staff. In service of our mission statement, the Training team remained committed to offering training opportunities to members throughout our community, regardless of level, background, or experience.

The Fall '22 season included the return of all of our Individual Power classes (A-E, W, and PowerPlay), and saw the transition of Power W2 from a Clinic Series to a full-length class, providing more opportunities for Beginner to Intermediate players looking to play on a women's height net. For team training, our Team Power programs provided opportunities for teams at multiple levels looking to prepare for upcoming NAGVA tournaments. In addition to our standard class offerings, we were able to offer a number of clinics and clinic series that catered to all levels of play, including additional beginner classes and a team-based series. Programming in the Spring '23 season was largely reflective of the Fall season.

All of these programs were organized by our Training Leadership Team, consisting of VP of Training Blake Rogers and Power Director Leah Hughey, and were led by a lineup of new and returning coaches who worked hard to ensure that our classes gave players the opportunity to better their skills in a supportive, community-building atmosphere.

The Training Team is excited to continue providing new opportunities for Gotham's members to take to the court more knowledgeably and confidently than they were when they started.

## ACTIVITIES & OUTREACH



Members enjoying just a few of the events that A&O helped spearhead throughout the year.

## **ACTIVITIES & OUTREACH LEADERSHIP GROUP**

### **Vice President for Activities and Outreach (Acting)**

Vergial Parker

### **Members**

Alex Nie

Bleron Samaxhiu

Doug Morris

Greg Romulus

Jake McIntyre

Michael Dreimiller

Paul Martinkovic

Sonia Parada

Sothdra Nguon-Devereaux

Victor Ortiz



## ACTIVITIES & OUTREACH LEADERSHIP GROUP

Contributed by Vergial Parker, Vice President of Activities and Outreach (Acting)

The 2022-2023 year was another busy one for the Activities & Outreach Leadership Group. The Summer season started off with a Welcome Social at Rebar, followed by working with the Heritage of Pride for Pride Island where we received a \$2.8k grant for other outreach opportunities in the community. Continuing the ritual of marching in the NYC Pride Parade was a great welcome back to normalcy after the pandemic! We also participated with the LGBT Gay Network, networking in the community, and spreading the word to potential newcomers to the organization. Finally, an annual Gotham tradition returned as the EOS party returned this January. Thanks to everyone who contributed to make sure the details of the January party were a huge hit, and looking forward to our EOS Spring Party in June is a raging success.

Heading into the future, we are looking to march in the NYC Pride parade in June 2023 and creating activities that partner with different organizations within the community.

A special thanks to all active participants of this Leadership Group and a huge welcome to Vergial Parker the Acting VP of Activities & Outreach. Vergial has been a member of Gotham Volleyball for 3 years and has taken on this committee after moving here from Texas in 2018. He is working to take this committee and organization on to new fundraising opportunities and community engagement!

# TOURNAMENTS & OPEN PLAY

## **TOURNAMENTS & OPEN PLAY LEADERSHIP GROUP**

### **Vice President for Tournaments & Open Play**

Joe Hemsing

### **Friendship Tournament Director**

Andrew Dowdye

### **Open Play Director**

Bryan Hobgood

### **Big Apple/Golden Apple Director**

Lew Smith

### **Spring Fling Director**

Eric Eichenholtz

### **Fire Island Tournament Director**

Clif Wallace

### **Members at Large**

Bleron Samarxhiu

Evan Henke

Ilker Hepkaner

Jason Calomadre

Joe Forzano

Michael Dreimiller

Nate Skaggs

## TOURNAMENTS & OPEN PLAY LEADERSHIP GROUP

Contributed by Joe Hemsing, Vice President of Tournaments and Open Play

Tournaments & Open Play saw another successful year of programming. Continuing with momentum from prior years of success, the T&OP LG sought to keep most things about the programs consistent, while acknowledging the need to make a small handful of tweaks:

The color-key system for Open Play eligibility, and Rock-Paper-Scissors system for Friendship Tournament eligibility were sunsetted after hearing feedback that they fell short in user-friendliness in communicating eligibility. These structures also did not accommodate the addition of eligibility levels that needed to happen within both programs. Following that decision, Open Plays would instead be named by the actual Division and Power designations; and Friendship Tournaments would be named by general skill classification.

On the Friendship Tournament side, an additional level was added to the eligibility tiers to help distribute demand, while creating a more consistent skill level within each group. Aside from general Friendship Tournaments offered on a weekly cadence, we celebrated seeing continued success with the Fire Island, Spring Fling, Gotham Cares, and Mix3r Tournaments, along with the return of the beloved Drag Tournament.

One of the most notable changes within the Open Play program was the discontinuation of the waitlist. With the implementation of League Apps, the steps that our volunteers needed to perform to maintain the waitlist actually increased, and the Leadership Group decided that this was not feasible to sustain. The group also considered that if a more automated system could be utilized, then it would reconsider the reintroduction of the feature. Additionally, within the Open Play program, similar to a change made within the Division Play program, the opportunity to GLOD (serve as "Gotham Leader on Duty") was opened up to current captains. This created a larger pool of leaders who could run an open play, helping to spread out the work. The decision was also made to reduce the number of GLOD's running an Open Play from 2 to 1.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Contributed by Andre Carneiro, Treasurer

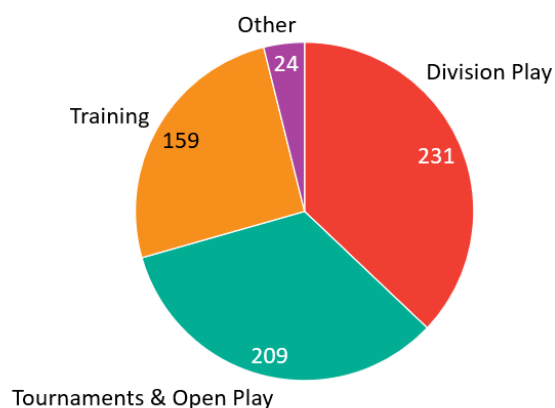
### Highlights of the Year:

- We have played more volleyball than ever: \$600K+
- Cash reserves above target → no price increases!
- First year completed as a 501(c)3, first NYS filing coming up
- Optimized interest income on cash reserves

## FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

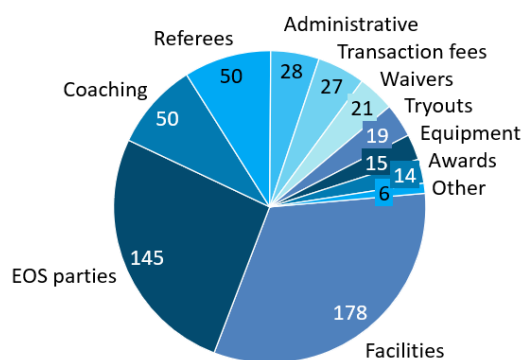
*Jun 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023 (USD thousands)*

### INCOME



**\$623K**

### EXPENSES



**\$553K**

1 Other revenues: IRS refund, grants, party tickets, cashback, interest

2 Other expenses: Volunteer/contractor meals and expenses, donations, community events

# Q & A

## FALL 2023 DIVISION PLAY CAPTAIN'S ELECTION RESULTS

### Division 11:

**Captains:** Aaron Agne, Andy Nguyen, Barbara Waginski, JhanCarlo Mendoza, Matthew Wotus, Rob Gaetano,

**First Alternate:** Aaron Landon / Ratliff

**Alternates:** Andrew Crespo, DYAN TABUZO, Jason (Jase) Adoniz, Kern McFadden, Vegard Kvaale, Victor Ortiz, Zack Weger,

### Division 10:

**Captains:** Andy Morris, Minas Gregoriades, Nathan Kendrick, Nicholas Dantuono, Peter Englert, Steven Ott, Taylor Banning, Will Linendoll

**First Alternate:** Dalton Baker

**Alternates:** Aidan Quinlan-Walshe, José Lyon, Rennel Flores

### Division 9:

**Captains:** ALANDY BAUTISTA, Amy Santiago, Eric Eichenholtz, Gregory Fratellone, Jeffrey Yao, Kyle Svehla, Mika, Paul Kang,

**First Alternate:** Alex Zhaz,

**Alternates:** Bradley Schleyer, Chris Ng, Jase Calomadre, Matthew Dec,

### Division 8:

**Captains:** Anthony Fontanello, Hunter Schneider, Jonathan Liao, Kevin Hickey, Lloyd Fider, Matt Trudeau, Paul Emiliani, Tyler Fields,

**First Alternate:** Cory Zhou

**Alternates:** Bill Caruso, Denis Sazhin, Michael Verini, Mike Woronuk, Peter DeCaro,

## FALL 2023 DIVISION PLAY CAPTAIN'S ELECTION RESULTS

### Division 7:

**Captains:** Joe Massaro, Johjoh Demol Jenae, John Cafarelli, Omar Hameen, Quint Mediate, Sothdra Nguon-Devereaux, Tom Hornberger, Will Schwartz

**First Alternate:** Tom Stilwell

**Alternates:** Jonathan Cordero

### Division 6:

**Captains:** Brady, Dan McCabe, Greg Rubin, Jacob Rossmer, Joshua Gomez-Bruzas, Mike Johnson, Mikey Castro, Romy Ruz,

**First Alternate:** Michael Tarazi

**Alternates:** Daniel Garcia, Kyle (Kiki) O'Donnell, Logan Light,

### Division 5:

**Captains:** Clifton Wallace, Connor Carmichael, Connor Howlett, Eric Ma, Joe Eletto, Keishi Takata, Kyle Lu, Patrick So,

**First Alternate:** Mateusz Wysocki (Write In)

**Alternates:**

### Division 4:

**Captains:** Christopher Arcara, Dave Fredericks, Devin Daly Huerta, Doug Morris, Emmanuel Sterling, Jorge Ruiz,

**First Alternate:** Phil Machnik

**Alternates:** chary Ariza, Jason Shaw, Jon Pinney, Joshua Bell, Pete Gouvitsas,

## FALL 2023 DIVISION PLAY CAPTAIN'S ELECTION RESULTS

### Division 3:

**Captains:** Abishek SM, Bobby Irlen, Daniel Valdez, Deonne Francisco, Erik Heitz, Joey Osio, Royce Bugarin, Sid He,

**First Alternate:** Rich Tucker,

**Alternates:**

### Division 2:

**Captains:** Alex Studer, Andre Carneiro, John Harmon, Joshua Stidham, Kyle McCormick, Melvin Punzalan, Nick Halkias, Ron Medina,

**First Alternate:** Emmanuel Serrano (Write In)

**Alternates:** Khomkrit Aramrueang,

### Division 1:

**Captains:** Aaron Katzman, Ariel Baraquiel, Douglas Christian, Eric Lodde, Evan Arriaza, Kryon Grant, Kyle Williams,

Play Results for the Director-At-Large Election for the Gotham Board of Directors are still being calculated and will be communicated via newsletter



**THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER  
GREAT YEAR!!!**