

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fiesta on Siesta Key

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Seventh Annual *Fiesta on Siesta Key* slated for April 8-10, 2016

Siesta Key, Florida – *The Fiesta on Siesta Key*, the largest collegiate sand volleyball competition in the U.S., returns for its seventh year to Siesta Key, FL, on April 8-10, 2016.

David Carstenson, Event and Competition Director and founder of the event, comments, “Now that the NCAA has made Beach Volleyball an official sport (number 90 for NCAA), dual competition will be the main focus of this event. The National Championships, held in Gulf Shores, is being conducted for the first time under the NCAA, who will be watching this event for results.”

The format for the 2016 *Fiesta on Siesta Key* will differ from past years. FIU, FSU and other institutions that have added Beach Volleyball programs are lining up to compete.

“The *Fiesta* will be a three-day event, with Sand Volleyball programs participating to fulfill their NCAA Sand scheduling requirements,” says Carstenson. “We have added to the mix a small-college National Championship with D2 schools such as Eckerd along with D3 schools and NAIA.”

Schools will also compete in a one-day format in pool play, with the players from some D1 schools mixing with D2 and NAIA schools. State colleges will again be playing match-play to highlight their players.

USA Volleyball will also hold its Florida tryouts for the National HP program on Saturday.

Players in the top five spots from participating beach volleyball programs will compete in true NCAA competition on all three days in April.

Institutions committed to participating in the 7th Annual *Fiesta on Siesta Key* as of 2/3/2016, are:

- Broward State College
- Eckerd College
- Florida Atlantic University
- Florida Gulf Coast University
- Florida International University
- Florida State University
- Hillsborough State College
- Texas Christian University
- University Of Tampa
- Jacksonville University
- St. Leo University
- South Florida State College
- Florida Institute of Technology
- Nova University
- University of South Carolina
- Barry University
- Principia College
- College of Charleston
- Missouri Baptist University
- St. Petersburg College
- St Thomas University
- State College of Florida
- Stetson University
- Stevenson University
- Florida Southern College
- University of Alabama-Birmingham
- Grand Canyon University
- University of Louisiana-Monroe
- University of North Florida
- University of NC Wilmington

- Warner University
- Webber International University
- Lynn University
- Palm Beach State College
- St Johns River State College

FIESTA ON SIESTA KEY ♦ SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (ALL TIMES EASTERN)

Friday, April 8, 2016

NCAA Sand Dual Matches	12noon-5pm
Open courts	2pm-Dusk
Individual Team Practices	Times T.B.D.

Saturday, April 9, 2016

Fiesta on Siesta Key

Dual Play commences for Varsity Sand schools	8:30am
Fiesta on Siesta play-match play pool play	10am
Small College National Championships	11am
Play-Offs begin	Approx. 2pm
USA Volleyball HP National Team Tryouts	9am-1pm 2-6pm

Sunday, April 10, 2016

Dual-play NCAA Sand Programs	8:30am
Open fun play for all others	9am