

BGC Volleyball Recap 2022 Season

Youth Division

Regular Season Champion: Team SWAT

Tournament Champions: Dragons

The Dragons and Wildcats competed early Saturday morning (June 4th) for the right to face **Team SWAT** who was Junior Division Champions and the only undefeated team in the league. The **Dragons** inspired play defeated the **Wildcats** in the first set 25-10 and continued to perform impressively by winning the second set 25-5. It was obvious, the **Dragons** were carrying a lot of momentum and hoping to continue their dominant performance against the league champion **SWAT**.

The **SWAT** came into the Championship game with an 8-0 league record and had dominated the competition in route to winning 15 of 17 sets throughout the season. Yet, it was the **Dragons** who dominated the Championship game. The **Dragons** ability to put their serve in play and return some of the SWAT's serves will prove insurmountable as the game progressed. As a result, the **Dragons** were able to upset the previously undefeated and regular season champions 25-15 and 25-18.



Teen Division

Regular Season Champion: Pirates

Tournament Champions: Pirates

The **Fire** and **Aggies** continued their rivalry in the play in game with the winner to play the **Pirates** in the Championship game at 12:45. The **Fire** came out, well on "fire" and quickly won the first set against the **Aggies** 25-10. Coach Carina McClary tried to rally the **Aggies** and the second set went down to the wire, but it was the **Fire** winning set two 25-20 and getting the two-set sweep and quickly turning their attention to regular season champion and also rival **Pirates** team coached by Alec Forney.

The **Fire** and **Pirates** Championship Game will be legendary.... The **Fire** proved they were serious contenders for the championship by defeating the **Pirates** in the first set 25-19. The second set saw the **Pirates** rally and return the favor by defeating the **Fire** 25-19 as well. The third set will come down to the wire with both teams playing their best volleyball of the season. Hard hitting serves were returned by the opposing team and multiple hit volleys had the packed gym (standing room only) rocking. It finally came down to the last serve... both teams tied at 14 with the next team scoring a point to be crowned champion of the Teen Division. The **Pirates** would hit well placed serve with the **Fire** able to put the ball back into the **Pirates** side of the net. A **Pirate** backline defender returned a low hit ball which glanced off the top of the net and fell just out of reach of the **Fire** player for the final point of the game. As Coach Forney jumped high into the air, his **Pirates** team ran onto the court to celebrate their first championship against a well-coached and talented **Fire** team. The fans acknowledged the stellar play of both teams and applauded the effort from all the players.

Junior Plus Division

Regular Season Champion: ACES

Tournament Champions: ACES

The second seeded **Storm** and third seeded **B-Squad** squared off against each other with the winner to face regular season champion, **ACES** in the championship game. The **Storm** navigated choppy waters and defeated the **B-Squad** 25-16 and 25-18 to earn their way into the championship game.

The **Storm** continued their winning ways in the first set and stunned the **ACES** (winners of 14 out of 19 sets during the regular season) 25-10. The **ACES** responded to their regular season championship form in the second set and turned back the **Storms** attempt at a sweep by winning 25-19. The third set was dominated by the **Storm** and was ready to celebrate a championship leading 14-8, but the

ACES won the point and now had serve.... Trailing 14-9. They would need 6 straight service points and would necessitate stellar play from all on the court. The **Storm** returned several serves and set up long volleys, but it was the **ACES** who eventually got the point and kept their championship hopes alive. Each serve and return had the capacity crowd holding their breath with the **ACES** finally tying the score at 14 apiece. The referee (Justin Phillips) reminded the players, coaches, and fans then next point will be the winner, the serve was an “ace” and the **ACES** celebrated the tournament championship.



I would like to thank all the coaches, players, and parents for supporting the volleyball program at the Boys and Girls Club of Cabarrus County. The commitment shown by volunteer coaches and the dedication players demonstrated in becoming better volleyball players will resonate in the coming years as players move into various levels of competition. It was a pleasure watching the players progress throughout the season and to see their confidence and skill level improve with every practice and game. Let me take this time to encourage every player to continue to develop their skills and wish them the very best moving forward. Remember, the Boys and Girls Club of Cabarrus County will offer Flag Football in the Fall, Basketball in the Winter and Volleyball in the Spring. We hope to see you at the Club and for your continued support of our athletic programs.

- Athletic Director, John Davis.

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Article Written by Athletic Director, John Davis