

Head Coach

Travis Hudson:

Coach Hudson just finished his 28th season at the helm of the Lady Toppers. As WKU's all-time winningest volleyball coach, he has been named a National Coach of the Year Finalist in 2002, 2005, 2012, 2016, 2017, & 2019 and most recently earned the C-USA Coach of the Year award in the fall of 2022. Since 2000, Hudson has directed the Lady Toppers to an impressive 722-222 record and has appeared in the NCAA tournament 15 times since 2002. This past season, he led WKU volleyball to the Conference USA Regular Season Championship and advanced to the NCAA tournament for the 11th time since 2010 with an at-large bid. His team also advanced to the 2nd round of the NCAA tournament for the 7th time in school history and in the spring of 2021, he led his team to the program's first ever Sweet 16. While at WKU, he has coached his team to 17 conference championships in the last 21 years and has guided his team to 20 or more wins in the last 23 consecutive seasons. He has extensive camp experience, staffing some of the best camps in the Southeastern United States.

Director of Operations

Kristi Griffin:

Coach Griffin just completed her 14th season with the Lady Topper volleyball program. Her first 11 seasons were as an assistant coach and the last 3 have been as the Director of Volleyball Operations. She has been a part of 11 regular season conference championships, 9 conference tournament championships, 11 NCAA tournament appearances while advancing to the NCAA tournament 2nd round 7 times and the NCAA Sweet 16 in the spring of 2021. She has run numerous successful volleyball camps for the last 14 years as the camp director for the Lady Topper volleyball program.

Associate Head Coach

Craig Bere:

Coach Bere completed his eighth season as an assistant coach with the WKU volleyball program and was recently elevated to the Associate Head Coach position. He helped guide the team to the C-USA Regular Season Championship in the 2022 fall season. Bere has helped this team to 7 regular season conference championships and 6 conference tournament championships in his tenure at WKU. As an assistant at WKU, his team has also advanced to the NCAA 2nd round 5 times and the Sweet 16 once since joining the staff in 2015. In addition to his 29 years of DI coaching experience, he also has extensive club and camp experience running and working volleyball camps throughout the country.

Assistant Coach

Jena Otec:

Jena Otec was hired as WKU's newest assistant coach in January of 2023. She was an assistant coach at Eastern Michigan for a year before making the move to WKU and was an All-American libero at Purdue prior to the start of her collegiate coaching career. While playing collegiately, she spent five years coaching with The Academy Boiler Juniors, a Lafayette, IN-club volleyball organization. She led her teams to numerous championships during her time coaching and has also mentored multiple nationally ranked junior players. As Purdue's starting libero, Otec earned Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year honors in 2020 and collected All-American honors following both the 2020 and 2021 campaigns. Jena has over 6 years of camp experience working numerous camps across the country during both her playing and coaching careers.



Lady Topper Volleyball 2023 Summer Camps



**May 31-June 2 All Skills Camp
& Elite Camp**

**June 14-16 Lil' Volley
Topper Camp**

**July 11-13 High School
Team Camp**

2022 Season in Review:

The Lady Topper volleyball team put together its 23rd straight 20+ win season with a 29-4 overall record and a 14-0 conference record to earn the program's 8th regular season Conference USA championship. They also earned an at-large bid into the NCAA Tournament for their 11th NCAA tournament appearance since 2010. The Lady Toppers then advanced to the 2nd round of the NCAA tournament for the 7th time in program history. In addition, they earned 4 C-USA All-Conference selections, the C-USA Player of the Year and Freshman of the Year awards, 4 All-Region selections including the Region Player of the Year, and an All-American 2nd Team selection. WKU was also ranked in EVERY National Top 25 Poll throughout the season climbing as high as #21. This marks the 11th season since 2011 the Lady Toppers have been ranked in the Top 25 Poll.

General Camp Information:

Register Online or By Mail:

You can register by mailing in the attached registration form with payment (cash or check) or you can **register online with a credit card at: www.wkuvolleyballcamps.com** (processing fee will apply to online registrations)

Camp Facilities:

Camps will be held in E.A. Diddle Arena on WKU's campus. Team camp will also utilize Preston Center on WKU's campus. To access a campus map, visit www.wku.edu/campusmap.php

Meals:

Lunch will be provided for All Skills Camp, Elite Camp, and Team Camp ONLY and are included in the camp fees.

Additional Information:

- All campers will receive a camp t-shirt
- All Skills Camp, Elite Camp, and Lil' Volley Topper Camp members will receive a camp volleyball
- All camps are commuter camps. (no overnight accommodations are provided)
- Camps are open to any and all entrants (limited only by number, age, grade level, and/or gender).
- There is a \$50 processing fee per camper for ALL cancellations (\$25 fee for Lil' Volley Topper Camp cancellations)

Coaches Information:

All coaches are welcome to attend the Lady Topper Volleyball Camps and to join the staff and campers courtside to watch and learn.

Contact Information:

For additional information contact the volleyball office at 270.745.7090 or by email at kristi.griffin@wku.edu. You can also visit www.wkuvolleyballcamps.com.

****Due to new state tax laws regarding camps/clinics, tax must now be added on to all camp fees****

All Skills & Elite Camp:

When: May 31-June 2, 2023

Times: 9am - 4pm

Cost: \$240 per player (tax included with cost)**

Age (All Skills): Entering Grades 7-12

Age (Elite): Entering Grades 9-12

The All Skills Camp is designed to offer campers a solid skill foundation in all areas of the game. Fundamental instruction will be provided for passing, setting, serving, hitting, and blocking. The camp will also include team and game situations and will cater to all skill levels while placing each camper in a group based on their level of skill. Come enjoy 3 days working with the Lady Topper camp staff to develop the skills necessary to become a successful player at the high school level.

The Elite Camp is designed for high school players with at least 3 years of playing experience and/or players with travel team club experience. Elite camp will cover all volleyball fundamentals, as well as game situations, but at a more challenging level. Elite camp will be held on the same dates and times as All Skills Camp, but campers will be grouped separately.

Lil' Volley Topper Camp:

When: June 14-16, 2023

Times: 1pm-4pm

Cost: \$120 (tax included with cost)**

Age: Entering Grades K-6

This camp is designed for beginners and will introduce campers to fundamental areas of the game in a fun, exciting environment. Campers will work with court coaches and will be divided into appropriate age groups. This camp will run from 1pm to 4pm. (no meals will be provided)

High School Team Camp:

When: July 11-13, 2023

Times: 9am - 5pm

Cost: \$215 per player (tax included with cost)**

Minimum of 8 players per team required

Team camp allows your team to learn, grow, and improve before your season begins. Day 1 of Team Camp will be comprised entirely of skill instruction, covering all volleyball fundamentals. Days 2 and 3 will include tournament play.

Each team must have a coach/supervisor with them at all times throughout the camp.

A \$645 deposit (or 3 paid registrations) PER TEAM is required to hold each spot and is due by May 15, 2023. All registration forms and final payment is due by July 1, 2023.

Spots are held on a first come, first serve basis so please contact the volleyball office to ensure there is an opening before submitting payment.



Mail-in Registration Form
Online registration is available at:
www.wkuvolleyballcamps.com

Please select the camp(s) that you wish to attend:

All Skills Camp ☐ \$240

Elite Camp ☐ \$240

Lil' Volley Topper Camp ☐ \$120

Team Camp ☐ \$215/player

Mail Form & Payment to:

WKU Volleyball Office

1709 Diddle Arena

Bowling Green, KY 42101

Contact Information:

Kristi Griffin

Director of Volleyball Operations

Phone: 270.745.7090

kristi.griffin@wku.edu

www.wkuvolleyballcamps.com

Detach & return this portion with your payment

NEGATIVE COVENANT, HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT AND MEDICAL RELEASE

I attest that my child is in good health and is physically capable of participating in volleyball camp. I understand that Western Kentucky University, WKU Volleyball, Big T, LLC, and its staff are NOT responsible for any injuries or illnesses that may occur.

I recognize that WKU Volleyball and Big T, LLC at Western Kentucky University have put in place reasonable preventative measures to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. Further, I hereby acknowledge and assume the risk of my child becoming infected with COVID-19 through participation in camp, and I understand that proceeding with participation may also lead to a higher chance of spreading the infection to family and friends. I understand the potential risks, including but not limited to short and long term effects related to COVID-19, and I fully consent to my child's participation in camp.

I do hereby and forever discharge and agree to hold harmless WKU Volleyball, Big T, LLC, Western Kentucky University, its regents, officers and employees from and against all claims, demands, suits, awards and judgments for any and all injuries, illnesses, and/or damages to my child or to my child's property which may result from being a participant in camp activities. I understand and assume all risk involved from participating in camp.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ **Date** _____

(APPLICATION NOT VALID UNLESS SIGNED)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO WKU VOLLEYBALL
****we will use email to send pertinent camp information**