

St. Joseph High School

Girls Volleyball

Historical Highlights

with Reflections from some Chargers



(A team's season is recorded in the year it played. For example, during the 2005 – 2006 school year, girls volleyball played in the fall so the team that year is the 2005 team).

The 2005 St. Joseph Chargers became the first girls volleyball team. While starting the season with a win over St. Scholastica, the varsity finished 6 – 9. Coach Maureen Carpenter honored three Chargers with MVP: setter Lynda Senpeal, defender Jennifer Garcia and middle hitter Nadiva Moore. Junior Veronica Bullock was team captain.

In 2006, “good home crowds were entertained by thrilling matches the entire season.” With a large group of seniors, head coach Maureen Carpenter led the team to a 15 – 12 record. Highlights of the season included a come-from-behind win on Senior Night versus Proviso East and a victory against Montini in the first regional game. Nadiya Ali and Veronica Bullock were named All-Area. The Chargers were captained by Bullock and Alex Zaverdas. Anne Liotine earned the Spirit Award. The sophomores were coached by Kerri Creachbaum and the freshmen by Allison Blane.

New head coach Faith Rodriguez found herself with a young team in 2007. The Chargers recorded 7 wins against 21 losses. Gina Dobbs coached the sophomores and Charly Carr the freshmen.

The 2008 Chargers played a difficult conference schedule but both Michelle Zarbock and Ashley Talley earned All-Conference honors. Zarbock was also the captain.

New head coach Charly Carr (Jeremia) saw improvement in the 2009 Chargers. Season highlights included two wins over Proviso East and victories over Maria, Gordan Tech and Guerin Prep. The team also picked up a win in the regionals over John Hancock. Octavia Brown made All-Tournament at Wheaton North early in the season. Maricarmen Hernandez and Gina Dobbs helped coach the lower levels.

The same coaching staff led the 2010 Chargers.

The yearbook provided no information on the 2011 volleyball teams.

The 2012 Chargers were coached by Maricarmen Hernandez (varsity), Fernando Valencia (junior varsity) and Maricarmen and Fernando (freshman).

In 2013, the Chargers were reduced to two teams, varsity and JV, both coached by Maricarmen Hernandez.

The 2014 season saw the Chargers put back three teams on the floor after only two the previous season. A highlight of the season came early when the squad finished a strong second in the Fenton Varsity Invite. The Chargers also picked up a victory in the regionals with a win over Ralph Ellison School (Chicago). The team MVP went to junior Elizabeth Kelly. Meanwhile, JV coach Ashley Talley and assistant Dina Beamon helped propel their team earn a first place trophy in the White Division of the Chicago Catholic League while finishing second in the CCL Tournament. Dina Beamon coached the freshman team.

Head Coach Ashley Talley helped lift the 2015 Chargers to a 13 – 7 season, including a championship at the Proviso West Tournament. Senior Elizabeth Kelly was named All-Conference while Arterrya Edmond and Alex Miceli served as captains.

It was a successful season for the 2016 varsity. Finishing 13 – 12, the team also placed second in the Proviso West Tournament as well as making it to the IHSA regional championship game. In conference, the squad was an impressive 4 – 1. All-Conference honors went to Kayla Domio, Genna Foster while making the Pioneer Press All-Area Honorable mention were Domio, Foster and Kyra Flournoy. The team MVP was Genna Foster who, along with Allison Grengs, served as captains. The head coach of all three teams was Laura Witteman, assisted by manager Tommy Witteman.

The 2017 team ended the season 16 – 16 with a second place finish in conference. Awards were given to Kyra Flournoy (MVP), Kayla Domio (Offensive MVP), Calli Hilgenberg (Defensive MVP), and Allison Kelly (Spirit Award). Laura Witteman was assisted by Coach Kelly, Coach R. Witteman and manager Tommy Witteman.

The 2018 Chargers boasted the GCAC All-Conference player of the year, Calista Hilgenberg, who also earned the team's MVP award. Other team awards were earned by Allison Kelly (Offensive MVP), Marissa Pankoff (Defensive MVP) and Julee Paradee (Most Improved). Coach Laura Witteman completed her tenure as a very dedicated coach for the program.

The section below will be populated with reflections from coaches and former players. To help create this section, please email Mr. Q at tquattrochi@srjoeshs.org. It will be updated at the end of each month.