

15U Storm sweep through beach Provincials

By Jake Courtepatte

Storm Volleyball's destiny continues to swirl around the province of Ontario.

The Aurora-based 15-under Storm Typhoon girls team dominated the competition at Provincials last weekend at Ashbridges Bay in Toronto.

Becky Tresham and her partner Becky Dorsey earned a repeat gold win on the beach, defeating Storm teammate Teagan Chan and her partner Tynielle Swaby of the Scarborough Titans, who captured silver. Andie Therkildsen of the Storm was part of the team to earn a third-place finish, while the all-Storm team of Emily Teehan and Dana Roskic finished fourth.

This was a 73-team tournament.

The Storm Typhoon, who won the indoor provincial championships as a team in Waterloo in April for the third-straight year, bring the same level of competition to the sand in the summer.

Head coach Linda Therkildsen said nine of the ten girls on the team play beach.

"Beach volleyball is a great way for the girls to stay in shape and keep their volleyball skills up over the summer, plus it gives them an opportunity to play with girls from other club teams," she said.

The beach season began in May, with tournaments held each weekend at different locations. Each weekend they play a competitor earns points towards their rankings, taking their top three tournament scores.

The all-Becky team of Tresham and Dorsey lived up to their number-one overall ranking by taking the provincial title.

"Becky and Becky have been training all summer to retain their title," said Ms. Therkildsen. "The Beckys have trained and competed together all season."

They dominated the competition throughout the event, dropping only one set in Provincials, in the championship match.

Chan and Swaby played slightly above their already-elite level, as they entered the competition as the third-ranked team "quite a feat considering they have both played with a number of different partners this season. Similarly, Therkildsen and Gravina were playing together for the first time at Provincials.

Teehan and Roskic, despite missing the medals, can find pride in recuperation and perseverance.

Teehan fought back from a severe ankle injury that occurred during the semi-finals at Nationals, missing three-quarters of the season on the beach. The two were only able to play three tournaments together all season.

Indoors, the team also came in second nationally in mid-May.

Registration for the next indoor season begins in late September, with programs provided for those ages 5 to 18 years old.

To learn more about the program, visit www.stormvolleyball.ca.