# John Olfert Coaching Bio
# 2027 17U Winman Tide



In younger years, John played at MBCI, on various club teams, and with the University of Winnipeg – and caught the coaching bug early working with junior high and college level teams while still playing. John then took a 12-year break from volleyball focusing time and energy on career and family, before re-entering Manitoba's volleyball community when his children began playing. He has since coached dozens of boys and girls teams over the course of fifteen years – ranging from 13U to 17U / grade 7 to varsity.

Beyond teaching the skills and strategies of the game, coaching hi-lites include:

- Journeying with his teams to be competitive at both provincial and national championships – winning multiple Provincial Championships and both a Gold and Bronze at Volleyball Canada National Championship (Tier 1).
- Working with young athletes in their early years and seeing many advance to university and college.
- Being awarded the Volleyball Manitoba *Mary Jean England Coach of the Year*.
- Entering a gym and seeing players from years past now coaching the next generation of athletes in Manitoba.

John is Certified Advanced Development Coach and continues to mature and grow as a coach through seminars, observation and speaking with mentor coaches. John is looking forward to his 14th season with the Winman coaching a 17U girls team (Winman Tide), and coordinating efforts with Coach Amy Johnston coaching another Winman 17U girls team (Winman Rush).

Outside coaching, John is a professional accountant by training, and has worked at True North Sports + Entertainment for 26 years, and is active in the community serving on several boards. Past board involvement included 6 years on the VM Board (including four years as Treasurer and one as VM President), and currently serves on the boards of U SPORTS and the True North Youth Foundation; and recently joined the provincial advisory committee for KidSport Manitoba.

John and his wife Brenda have four children, two of whom are married and have children of their own, that hopefully one day will join our wonderful volleyball community.

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*"I have been blessed to have played with, be coached by and now work with fellow coaches that have taught me both the technical skills of the game, and more importantly the life skills that result from playing and competing in Manitoba's volleyball community. It is a privilege to now share some of those skills with young athletes, and experience new life lessons that each team and season bring."*