



USA National Sitting Teams Update

The Men's team recently returned from the Intercontinental Cup Tournament in Cairo, Egypt. They were short a couple key players and played their best, but did not secure a bid to the Paralympic Games in London later this year.

The qualification process is limited. Teams that place top three at the World Championships, or first in a Zonal Championship are given a bid. This year for the first time, there was an additional opportunity by winning a spot at the Intercontinental Cup. The team positioned itself well in the beginning, beating Iraq and Kazakhstan, but ended up losing to Germany, who eventually won the elusive bid.

The USA sitting program will be represented at the Paralympic Games by the Women's sitting team that qualified by coming in second at the World Championship in 2010. The Men's team will return to the training facility in Edmond, Oklahoma, and continue bringing along the newer players and gaining much needed skill consistency.

If you know of anyone who has a physical disability and is interested in learning this athletic sport and maybe making the National team one day, you can have them contact me, Dixie Collins, at dixiegrc@gmail.com or USA Volleyball.

If you are not familiar with sitting volleyball, there is a section on the USA Volleyball website on disabled sports. The sport is volleyball played sitting on the floor with a lower net and a smaller court. It is a fun, fast and very athletic sport. Try it, you'll be hooked.

Currently there is scheduled to be a two-day tournament in Salt Lake City June 1-2 at the end of the Open National Championships. If you are interested in putting a team together, check out the tournament entry forms. You do not have to have a physical disability to play in this tournament.