

# LAMORINDA SPORTS

## Rookie coaches and a veteran leading Lamorinda Volleyball



Madi Risch, Acalanes

Photos Gint Federas

Glass, who played for and graduated from Portland State, has been a head coach for the 13-year-old girls for the club team at Xceleration Volleyball, is excited about her opportunity at Acalanes: "I'm incredibly lucky for this to be my first head coaching job with this group of girls."

Glass, who is familiar with the area having graduated from Las Lomas High School ("I'm getting a lot of grief from my family"), has a team with both experience and youth. Senior Madi Risch is the team's top returning player, having been named first team all-conference last year.

Along with a core group of seniors, Glass anticipates playing a number of underclassmen: "Junior Annika Olson is moving to the outside from the inside and is learning the dynamics of a new position. She took the lead this summer bringing the team together. (Sophomore) Aly Kirke, who played on the JV team last year, will be on the right side and should be a factor on the offense."

On defense, Glass is relying on two juniors, Sydney Sowarby and Daisy Sibley, to lead the group: "Sydney has been great and fun to watch and Daisy is going to be a factor here as well. The libero position is still not set but I have four strong options to fill that position."

Glass' plan is for an aggressive, physical group: "I want us to be a scrappy team giving a lot of effort. Our players will be willing to roll off the court and go into the bleachers to save balls. That's the mentality our players are going to have."

**Miramonte**  
Miramonte head coach Lindsay Ray brings a great deal of experience to the team, having been an assistant coach at UC East Bay and also at the Xceleration

Club, and her first impressions of her players have been favorable: "All the girls are very dedicated and working hard. They are coachable and very passionate about the sport."

Miramonte lost four key players last year but Ray has a number of underclassmen that she will be counting on to step up as starters: "Sophomore Natalie Kurtz will be a big this year in the middle. Freshman Amber Chu is an all-around player that will be an outside hitter. (Senior) Julie Martin is going to be our other outside hitter. Our whole offense as a group has been working together

very well."

On defense, junior Haley Lim was fourth on the team in digs last year and will be the team's libero. Junior Jenna Foster is the backup libero and will play defensive specialist as well. Senior Audrey French is the team's setter and was second on the team in assists last year: "Audrey has taken on the leadership role, communicating well with her teammates, finding out how to give her teammates good sets," says Ray.

... continued on Page C3



Julie Martin, Miramonte



Audrey Pak, Campolindo

By Jon Kingdon

All three Lamorinda girls' volleyball teams are coming off successful seasons. Campolindo (27-9) made it to the second round of the state playoffs, Miramonte made it to the third round of the state playoffs and Acalanes (17-14) lost in the fourth round of the

NCS championships. John Vuong will be entering his eighth season as Campolindo's head coach having a composite won-loss record of 197-68. The records for Acalanes' head coach Haley Glass and Miramonte's head coach Lindsay Ray are a composite 0-0. **Acalanes**



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