

Sand volleyball team wins national title



Coach Anna Collier (center) with 2015 AVCA All-Americans (from left) Alexa Strange, Sophie Bukovec, Kelly Claes, and Sara Hughes.

The No. 1-ranked USC sand volleyball team (28-0) capped a perfect season with a 3-0 victory over No. 6 Long Beach State (17-7) to claim the national title at the 2015 AVCA Collegiate Sand Volleyball National Championships on May 2. Head coach Anna Collier and the Women of Troy hoisted the trophy to represent USC's 123rd all-time team national championship.

The Trojans had defeated the 49ers earlier in the day, but Long Beach State found its way back to the title match through a win in the back-draw semifinal over No. 4-ranked Pepperdine. This time, USC gave no quarter and made swift work of its opponent to claim the program's first team national crown.



Alexa Strange



Sara Hughes



Sara Hughes (left) and Kelly Claes



All photos courtesy of USC Athletics

USC captured its first sand volleyball team championship in the program's fourth year of existence.