



Lady Stingray's

record (8-4-1 overall / 5-0 Mulholland League)

Volleyball Weekly Recap

Weeks #6 - Wed-Oct 14th vs Shalhevet / Fri Oct 16th vs Summit View West

Shalhevet – originally scheduled to play at **Shalhevet**, the **Firehawks** requested use of the **Ray's** gym for Wednesday's important **Mulholland League** meet. Naturally - the **Lady Ray's** were happy to oblige, as they are undefeated at home in 2009. It was also picture day, and the girls enjoyed hamming it up for the shoot. Prints available soon on Picasa 3.

Coming in on a warm but rainy Wednesday **MaxPreps** listed **Shalhevet** as the #2 ranked team in Div-5AA. But - as Max is often inaccurate, nobody on the **Rays** took the ranking too seriously. Still, we had no idea what to expect from the **Firehawks**. The coaches just asked the girls to set aside what they didn't know and concentrate on what they did –ie: who they are, and what to do.

Set #1 saw the **Rays** come out firing with some steady passing from the back row that helped put the girls in a good offensive rhythm. Soph-outside **Bridgette Kielhack** warmed-up fast for 12 kills on the day off some buttery sets from sr-captain **Anais Marin** and **Hannah Klobuchar**. **Ms.Marin** also took advantage of some tight passes, which she has become adept at dumping for a kill now 'n then (5 kills; 6 digs; 12 assists). And... she had one her best service games, whether dropping a short floater or driving the deep corners, totaling 9 aces on the day. **Cynthia Rocha** and **Alex Tangari** also had good numbers from the line, showing off some improved serving for a combined 7 aces, and much improved defense (Cynthia – 5 kills; 2 aces; 4 digs // Alex – 5 aces; 4 digs)

The **Rays** are getting better at handling the lower half of our league teams, with all the *junk balls* that come over at odd times, etc – which touches on a subject of concern. The **Stingrays** want to get better, and have made great strides in the first half to do so. But, as the schedule stacks up we see only two teams between now and the play-offs that will challenge the girls to play their best. Namely, **La Verne Lutheran** - Oct 23rd, and @ **Wildwood** - Nov 6th. This does not bode well for our CIF play-off preparation. In light of this, coach has asked some of his alumni to come in for practice the next few weeks, to really put some pressure on the girls. For us to do well in CIF they will need to peak at the right time. Otherwise – that lofty #2 ranking will have meant very little to a squad that so badly wants to improve on last years play-off showing.

Target next Fri-Oct 23rd - 3:30pm to come out and cheer on the **Lady Stingrays** at home!

Summit View West - at first glance the **Wildcats** looked to be athletic, and the first few balls the **Rays** delivered showed they could play some defense. But the **Stingrays** were just warming-up, and **Summit View West** was about to be prepped for a fast trip back to the bus. In three quick sets (25-12; 25-9; 25-14) the **Lady Stingrays** combined for 19 kills and 22 aces, lifting their 1st place **Mulholland League** record to 5-0, and overall record to 8-4-1. Their only loses have come to upper division teams – challenges we will simulate in coming practices. Three of coach's grandkids were in attendance – and commented on the **Rays** "domination." A big **Thank You** to Kim Ferrandino – for taking our team pictures on Friday.

Next Week –the **Stingrays** play Mon-Oct 19th @ **L.A. Adventist** in Willowbrook – 3:30pm, then Fri-Oct 23rd the **Trojans** of **La Verne Lutheran** visit the **Stingrays** for a chance at redemption for their loss at LVLH against the **Rays** (3:30pm). **This is a big game - please JOIN US!!**