

Biasi's highlight year continues with Provincial beach volleyball win



By Jake Courtepatte

At just fifteen years old, Holly Biasi may already be shopping for a larger trophy case.

The multi-sport phenom from Aurora capped off an incredible season on the volleyball court last week with a gold medal at the Ontario Beach Volleyball Championships, held in Ashbridges Bay, Toronto.

It took just two sets for Biasi and partner Sonya Bogatchev to earn the title in the tournament's final match, capping off a total of nine set wins in a row.

A shaky first day of preliminaries left the duo with a semifinal matchup against the number one ranked team, to which they had fallen to twice earlier this summer, before cruising through to the finals on straight sets.

Jumping through partners for the past few years, it was this past February that Biasi hooked up with Bogatchev to create a winning combination, Bogatchev hailing from the Markham Revolution club in indoor volleyball.

A number-five ranked team heading into the tournament, Biasi and Bogatchev competed in the top-tier Premier division based on points accumulated through regional beach tournaments running all summer.

Before hitting the sand, Biasi was coming off a career year on the hard court, leading her 16U Aurora Storm Monsoon to a national championship in Edmonton in May, while picking up tournament MVP honours.

She was also a key component of the Monsoon's provincial championship in April.

Prior to making the decision to leave the pool to set her sights solely on volleyball this year, Biasi was also a leading member of the Aurora Ducks swimming team, earning over fifteen provincial championship medals in four years of competitive swimming.

"She moved her focus to volleyball upon arriving at high school this past year and produced an amazing year that is unlikely to be matched again," said Stef Biasi, Holly's father.

A regular at the annual prestigious Mayor's Breakfast of Champions event in October, Biasi was noted in 2016 for being the first to attend as champion of multiple sports in the same year.