



Brother Rice High School

An Edmund Rice Christian Brothers School



Brother Rice Varsity Volleyball Preview - 2011 Season:

Coaches:

Brother Paul Ickes, CFC
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Head Coach (19th season- 444-201-2)
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Mr. Dan Dwyer- Assistant Head Coach (19th season)
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Mr. Denis Bergstedt- Assistant Head Coach (15th season)
School: (773) 429-4300, x. 356 cell: (708) 935-6049

Conference: **Chicago Catholic League (CCL)- Blue Division**

Brother Paul Ickes, CFC- CCL Volleyball Moderator

Last Season- 2010 Brother Rice Highlights:

- **Overall Record: 21-17; Chicago Catholic League – 12-2 (3rd Place)**
- **2nd Place at Jungle Queen Tournament- Fort Lauderdale, Florida**
- **IHSA Regional Champs (13th overall- last 9 years in a row)**

Returning Players:**(3rd year)****Mike Noyes, Senior, Setter****Brian Pomorski, Senior, Right Side****Dan Weishar, Senior, Outside Hitter****(all 2nd year)****Mike Andrasco, Senior, Outside Hitter****Colin Denny, Senior, Middle Hitter****Steve Landis, Senior, Outside Hitter****Billy Mayer, Senior, Setter****Mike McGinnis, Senior, Libero****Kevin Salmon, Junior, Outside Hitter****Newcomers:****Mike Carroll, Junior, Outside Hitter****Dan Dwyer, Junior, Setter****Matt Kill, Junior, Right Side****George Mantas, Junior, Middle Hitter****Theo McManigal, Junior, Middle Hitter****Cody Leahy, Junior, Libero****Joe Pochinskas, Junior, Libero****Dominic Vilarosa, Junior, Setter****Ryan Paull, Sophomore, Middle Hitter****Mitch Weiler, Freshman, Outside Hitter****Season Outlook:**

We have 9 returning varsity, 8 returning JV players, and 2 new player from last year's squads. A number of players either started or saw some significant time on their teams. The setting duties are up in the air with 4 competing setters. Almost all players competed in club volleyball and committed themselves to an off-season workout regimen that we believe will help us tremendously. We especially like the way the team has gelled thus far, but we have many skill areas to refine.

This year, we have 6 regular season home matches along with hosting the 3rd Annual Brother Rice Smack Attack- A National High School Varsity Boys' Volleyball Tournament presented by Smack Sportswear. This year, the Smack Attack field is again 16 teams strong- all in-state schools- with several newcomers. Once again, the tournament will be held on the tri-campus of Brother Rice HS, Mother McAuley HS, and St. Xavier University on Thursday, April 21st, and Saturday, April 23rd.

Our first ten matches this year occur in tournaments. We are travelling to the Hawaii Boys Volleyball Invitational in Honolulu from Sunday, March 20th through Monday, March 28th. This is the fourth consecutive year that Brother Rice has travelled to an out-of-state tournament. Brother Rice currently has a 14-1 record in out-of-state tournaments- capturing the Spring Sting title at Bishop Moore HS in Orlando, Florida (2008), going undefeated in the La Jolla Beach City Invitational in San Diego, California (2009), and finishing second to Maine South at the Jungle Queen Tournament hosted by Cardinal Gibbons HS in Fort Lauderdale, Florida (2010).

The following weekend, April 1st – 2nd, we compete in the highly-competitive Wheaton-Warrenville South Tiger Classic (formerly the Best of Illinois Tournament). We will also be hosting a number of competitive non-conference matches later in the season prior to the IHSA Tournament- including Lincoln-Way East, Oak Park-River Forest, Glenbrook North, Sandburg, and finishing the regular season with Marist.

The Brother Rice / Marist match on Friday, May 20th at Brother Rice is destined to be a historic milestone in Illinois volleyball. For the first time ever in Illinois, two high schools will play their volleyball matches outdoors. A Sport Court will be specially installed over the new turf field in Gary Little Stadium at Brother Rice and all four levels will play their matches in the sun or under the lights. And, as usual, this match will be our 4th Annual St. Baldrick's Match- players from both schools have already or will participate in their schools' head-shaving events in solidarity with child cancer victims and wear specially-designed jerseys on game day to increase awareness of the St. Baldrick's cause. Go to: www.stbaldricks.org for more information.

This year, the Chicago Catholic League (CCL) has divided into 2 divisions for regular season play. Brother Rice- along with Providence, Loyola, St. Rita, Mount Carmel, and St. Ignatius- will be in the CCL Blue while the remaining teams- De La Salle, Fenwick, Gordon Tech, St. Joseph, and St. Laurence- will be in the CCL White. Teams will play each other twice within the division- home and away- and the league champions will be determined by regular season place finish.

Brother Rice has been assigned to the Sandburg Sectional this year.

Top Teams- Chicago Catholic League (CCL):

Providence will be a strong team again this year followed by Loyola and local rivals St. Rita, Mount Carmel, and St. Ignatius.

Pre-Season Top Teams- Southland:

Brother Rice	Providence Catholic
Lincoln-Way Central	Sandburg
Marist	St. Rita

Pre-Season Top Players in the CCL from Brother Rice:

*= Senior Tri-Captain

- * Colin Denny- Middle- 6'2"
- * Brian Pomorski- Right Side- 6'2"
- * Dan Weishar- Outside- 6'3"

Notable/ Interesting Br. Rice Volleyball Stories/ Possible Media Story/ Coverage Ideas:

- Brother Rice ranked #44 in the 4th Annual ESPN RISE Nationwide Pre-Season Boys' High School Volleyball Poll. Go to: <http://rise.espn.go.com/volleyball/teamrankings/Boys/2011/Preseason.aspx?pursuit=Volleyball>

- **Brother Rice 2007 Graduate Matt Gallik having a great season at Lewis University.**
- **5th Annual Br. Rice Orange and Maroon Scrimmages and Pot Luck Dinner- Friday, March 18th. (Prayer in South Gym at 5:30 PM, matches 6:00 PM, dinner 7:30 PM).**
- **Brother Rice hires two new assistants- George Kamberos (2006 Southtown Star Player of the Year and 4 year player/ recent graduate of Loyola Chicago) and Nick McNally (former standout at Marist HS). Coach Inga Balzaras-Rzeszutko takes the helm of BRHS Sophomore Team after Coach Anne Malone retires.**
- **Brother Rice Volleyball Prepares for 1st Trip to Hawaii- Hawaii Boys Volleyball Invitational- on Thursday, March 24th - Saturday, March 26th.**
- **Brother Rice serves as a host for the 8th Annual Digging for Donna Charity Tournament on Saturday, March 19th. Go to: www.firstgiving.com/digging4donna/event/stjude**
- **Brother Rice Prepares To Host 3rd Annual Brother Rice Smack Attack- A National High School Boys Volleyball Tournament -on Thursday, April 21st and Saturday, April 23rd, 2010 at Brother Rice H.S., Mother McAuley H.S., and St. Xavier University. NOTE: The Southtown/Star Newspaper will be producing the program again for this year's tournament.)**
- **Brother Rice hosts the 18th Annual Easter Grade School Boys Volleyball Tournaments April 29th-May 1st... the largest and longest-running grade school boys' volleyball tournaments in the state of Illinois.**
- **Brother Rice serves as a host for the 30th Annual Volleyball for Charity Tournament on Saturday, April 30th. Go to: www.volleyballforcharity.org for more information.**
- **SSBVL (South Side Boys Volleyball League)- grade school boys. They have a comprehensive website including a listing of links for boy's and men's volleyball. www.leaguelineup.com/ssbvl . Championship Sunday in the SSBVL takes place at Br. Rice on Sunday, May 7th, 2011.**
- **Brother Rice to Host 1st Annual CCC (Chicagoland Catholic Championships)- Freshman 'B', Freshman A, and JV Tournament Championships in May.**
- **Annual Alumni/ Banner/ Rib Night on Wednesday, May 4th vs. St. Ignatius'**
- **"Takin' It Outside-' Brother Rice vs. Marist Outdoor Volleyball Matches slated for Friday, May 20th at Gary Little Stadium at Brother Rice HS; Senior Player/ Parent Night and Barbecue to Occur as Well.**

- **Current Br. Rice Volleyball graduates playing/ coaching in college:**

NCAA Division I:

Junior Red-shirt Matt Gallik- Lewis University (currently ranked #12 in NCAA-Division I)

NCAA Division III:

Senior Tom O'Connell, BR '07- Carthage College (currently ranked #3 in NCAA-Division III)

NAIA:

- Head Coach Bill Gleeson, BR '01, Senior Scott Manthei, BR '07 and Sophomore Pat Andrasco, BR '09 (all- St. Ambrose and currently ranked #3 in the NAIA national ranking.)

-Kevin Maxwell- BR '10- starting setter, JT O'Connell- BR '10- starting middle, Jack Malone- BR '07- setter on the St. Xavier University team

- Bobby Springer- BR '08- Clarke College

Collegiate Club:

Senior Joshua Scaletta- BR '07, University of Illinois- Urbana/ Champaign

Sophomores Jack Klinker (BR '09) and Sean McGrath (BR '09)- Loyola University Chicago

Senior Greg Geraci, BR '07- Michigan State University

- **Brother Rice Volleyball Announces the 19th Annual Crusader Indoor Summer Volleyball Camp for Grade School and Incoming Brother Rice Freshman Boys AND the 3rd Annual Sand Volleyball Camps for Grade School Boys and Girls. Go to: www.brotherrice.org for all the dates and details. Camp brochures will be available soon!**
- **Br. Rice grad (2002) and Loyola University Chicago grad (2006) Chris Kozlarek--- first collegiate First Team All-American from Br. Rice, playing professionally in Denmark again.**

