



# JVA CLUB OF THE MONTH

## MARCH 2013



**Michigan Elite Volleyball Academy**  
Warren, Michigan  
[Website](#)

For over 20 years, Michigan Elite has been offering opportunities for girls, boys, men and women of all ages to enjoy the game of volleyball on multiple levels. The club's motto of "Work Hard or Stay Home" has engrained itself into the culture and exemplifies the work ethic of MEVBA players. Over the past several years, Michigan Elite Volleyball Academy (MEVBA) has become the largest and most successful club in Michigan, consistently developing players at the highest levels of amateur volleyball competition. The club has won two USAV National Championships (2010 U17, Reno Nevada and 2012 U18, Columbus Ohio) and several state titles.



**MEVBA 12 Pink sporting their pink mustaches after taking 2<sup>nd</sup> in Silver in the power league.**

There are themed practices and surprise rewards for playing well, including, costume days for holidays, art and crafts, ice cream socials, t-shirt painting and pizza nights.

MEVBA operates primarily out of a 50,000 sq. ft. 8 practice court / 6 regulation court facility in Warren, MI with the ability to add 2-3 more regulation courts for large tournaments. The facility's indoor astro turf field stays busy with youth soccer, lacrosse, non-contact football, and baseball camps, leagues and clinics. The club just opened a new 4 full court and 1 half-court training 28,000 sq. ft. facility in Wixom to help support its growth in the northwestern suburbs, and also operates a 3 court facility in Taylor, Michigan for the downriver program, which has continually grown for the past four years. MEVBA operates the Motor City Volleyshop – its retail shop that services the volleyball community, and is launching the Motor City Volleyshop's online store in the near future.

Michigan Elite offers a number of training programs ranging from exposing younger players to the basics of the game to offering older players advanced training in individual, group and camp settings. Weekly skills sessions and speed and agility training are offered to each of the national level players during the club season. Year round

MEVBA provides an opportunity for juniors (elementary through high school age girls and boys) to compete at the U-12 to U-18 divisions locally, regionally and nationally. Currently, MEVBA has 70 teams at the National, Select, State and Local levels, following 70 teams last season and 53 teams the season before. The growth has come primarily from the younger age groups. The club maintains one of the largest U12 programs in the nation, which serves as a tremendous building block for the organization. MEVBA reaches its community through email campaigns, word of mouth, sibling participation and the local Catholic Youth Organization (CYO).

This season the club has 35 teams in the U11-U14 age groups, and stresses a fun, hard working environment where the players can truly enjoy the game while learning how to play at a higher level. Practices, camps and clinics for these ages do not consist entirely of volleyball.



**MEVBA 11 Blue after finishing 15-1 as the 12U Gold Runner Up in the power league**

camps range from Youth Academy Camps (Fall Ball, Sno Ball and Spring Training) during the club season and a wide variety of summer camps to service beginner through elite level players. The club kicks off the fall with its Elite Training weekend, a 3 day camp with over 225 players working hard to improve their games. This year the club was excited to welcome Mike Lingenfelter, Munciana 18 Samurai Head Coach and Club Co-Director as the guest Head Trainer for the weekend, and he will also be returning for Elite Training Weekend 2013.

The club programs do not stop at supporting the young athletes. MEVBA hosts a 130 player league for “young” men 55 and over during the late fall and winter. Also, the club hosts several adult tournaments throughout the year and is a host site for the Lake Erie Club Power League and [Lake Michigan Open Power League](#). Additionally, the club hosts several large high school tournaments in the fall to support local high school volleyball and multiple club tournaments throughout the season.

Many MEVBA alumni have successfully transitioned into playing at the collegiate level, with over 30 players signed to scholarships for the 2012 collegiate season. Hundreds of juniors have moved forward to play collegiately over the past several years. Many of the current players have enjoyed high school championship success at the District, Regional and State levels. The younger players have learned the basic skills to give them the confidence and the opportunity to play in school, while creating close friendships with their teammates in a positive environment. “Work Hard or Stay Home” has proven to be a motto that has helped the club find success. The JVA is proud of Michigan Elite’s continued commitment to growing and promoting junior volleyball and therefore, has earned the club this month’s Club of the Month Award.



**Interested in nominating your club for JVA Club of the Month? [Here's how.](#)**