

207 STATE HOUSE SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

## BRUCE RAUNER GOVERNOR

March 30, 2018

Windy City National Qualifier 745 McClintock Drive, Suite 314 Burr Ridge, Illinois 60527

## Greetings!

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to welcome everyone gathered in the great city of Chicago for the fourth annual Adidas Windy City National Qualifier.

Since its inaugural event in 2015, this tournament has attracted youth volleyball players from all over the nation to demonstrate talent, teamwork and determination. In 2017, the event was presented with the Champions of Economic Impact in Sports Tourism Award by Sports Destination Management for bringing more than 800 teams, 15,000 participants and 30,000 spectators to Chicago and McCormick Place.

The staff at the Great Lakes Region of USAV has been working diligently with the Illinois Department of Tourism, Choose Chicago and McCormick Place. Their commitment to the success of this prestigious event and their efforts to bring this tournament to Chicago do not go without notice.

Praise is due, too, to the staff members, volunteers and tournament officials who make this all possible. And we are proud of the exceptionally accommodating community hotels and restaurants that are displaying to our guests this weekend the hospitality that makes our city so great. Whether you are competing in the tournament this weekend or you are here as a spectator, we hope you will take the time to enjoy all that Chicago offers, like the historic Navy Pier and our beautiful Millennium Park. There is so much here that you will find nowhere else in the world, and we're delighted you're here to see it.

On behalf of the people of Illinois, I offer the athletes, parents, spectators, and all involved in the fourth annual Adidas Windy City National Qualifier my best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable event.

Sincerely,

Bruce Rauner Governor, State of Illinois

