



AVP Tournament Includes Three Days of Fun-Filled Activities at Westgate City Center

Fans Get More Than Just Great Volleyball as Athletes Battle For Best of The Beach

(GLENDALE, Ariz., SEPT. 24, 2008) – This year’s AVP Crocs Tour Sanderson Ford Glendale Best of the Beach Tournament presented by RideNow Powersports at [Westgate City Center](#) will offer three days of family friendly activities to compliment the season-ending, Olympic-caliber beach volleyball tournament. The September 25-27 tournament is bringing the top 12 female and top 12 male AVP athletes to Westgate; three of them will be USA Olympic gold medalists (Kerri Walsh, Todd Rogers and Phil Dalhausser). Match play will take place in five ticketed morning and evening sessions, complimented by a thrilling line up of beach-themed events:

Thursday, Sept. 25:

- **Miss Planet Beach Beauty Pageant:** Watch as 30 of the most beautiful and top-ranked Arizona women compete for Ms. Planet Beach International. The pageant is the world’s largest spokesmodel competition and will include a bikini contest and evening-wear runway show. The winner claims her spot representing Arizona in the international competition. The Miss Planet Beach Beauty Pageant is from 7 p.m. – 9 pm., behind Stadium Court. Watching the pageant is free with an AVP Ticket
- **New Times Party Deck:** From 5 p.m. – 10 p.m., join the *New Times* on the party deck at Center Court. The best beach attire is encouraged and folks will have a chance to mingle with AVP players and win all kinds of great prizes. Drinks and snacks will be served. \$100 per ticket.
- **Hasbro Car Races:** The NITRO XRC Ricochet and Revolution MT vehicles return. Fans can test drive these remote-controlled cars through loop-de-loops, a 14-foot quarter pipe and compete to win a \$50 NITRO XRC gift card. The Hasbro Car Races are set up next to Feature Court. It’s free. Cool swag included.

Friday, Sept 26:

- **944 Pool Party:** Cool off between match play and enjoy DJ music, food, drinks and hob-knobbing with AVP athletes. From 1:00 p.m. – 6 p.m., the outdoor pool at Westgate’s four-star hotel will host hundreds of bikini and board short-clad volleyball fans. AVP athletes often make the trip from the pool to the courts and have been known to join in on a game or two of water volleyball. Food, adult beverages and pool party games will accompany. Tickets are \$10 if guests show their ticket to that day’s AVP event. Must be 21 to enter.

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- **Hasbro Car Races:** Experience a new level of speed, sounds and extreme stunts by the NITRO XRC Ricochet and Revolution MT vehicles. All day Friday, test drive these remote-controlled cars through loop-de-loops, a 14-foot quarter pipe and catch some serious air on the bottomless gap jump! Stop by next to the feature court for cool swag and \$50 NITRO XRC gift cards. The event is free with an AVP ticket.
- **Valley's Largest Game of Twister:** Right foot red! Join 99 others in the Valley's largest game of Twister beginning at 8 p.m. The winner will get a \$100 Westgate gift certificate and plenty of bragging rights! Twister will take place in front of the stage area outside of Stadium Court, and who knows, perhaps an athlete or two will step in as master spinner. Participants can sign up at the RideNow Powersports booth.
- **Hyde Park Jewelry Diamond Dig:** Reminiscent of Kerri Walsh's engagement ring scare during the Olympics, Hyde Park Jewelers will be hiding a fake diamond ring in the Stadium Court Sand out at Westgate. Starting at 7 p.m. (or when Kerri is finished playing), the first ten couples who register at the Hyde Park booth at the event will choose one team member to scour the sand. The winner gets a \$2,000 GC for a real diamond – courtesy of Hyde Park Jewelers – and their photo taken with the gold medalist herself.

Saturday, Sept 27:

- **Glendale Fire Department/Police Department Exhibition Match:** As if things aren't hot enough, watch as Glendale fire fighters battle police officers Saturday starting at 8:45 a.m. in an exhibition match on the Stadium Court. We're all winners here, so join in as we cheer on some West Valley heroes – some pretty intense bragging rights are at stake!
- **Gold Medal Family Day Presented by Sanderson Ford:** Fans can get their photograph taken with and autographs from gold medalists Kerri Walsh, Todd Rogers and Phil Dalhausser during the Saturday day session from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Medalists, and their gold medals, will be located at the Sanderson Ford tent. And, fans can purchase AVP garb on-site for signing.
- **944 Pool Party:** It's as close to the ocean as we can get, and Saturday will be even hotter than Friday. 944 magazine will host a second pool party on Saturday from 1:00 p.m. to 6 p.m., again at the outdoor pool at Westgate's four-star hotel. Tickets are \$10 if guests show their ticket to that day's AVP event. Must be 21 to enter.
- **Hottest Tug-of-War in Town:** Sit center sand at Stadium Court and watch as the RideNow Girls take on the Arizona Cardinals Cheerleaders in a good 'ol fashioned game of tug-of-war. It's six on six starting at 6:45 p.m. Guaranteed – this is unlike any tug-of-war you've ever played!
- **Valley's Largest Game of Twister:** Left hand green - this round with 3TV resident goofball and Valley favorite Brad Perry on spin duty! We're confident Friday's twister will be so wildly popular, it will be back on Saturday beginning at 8 p.m. One hundred players will take to the mat. The winner will get a \$100 Westgate gift certificate and plenty of bragging rights! Twister will take place in front of the stage area outside of Stadium Court. Participants can sign up at the RideNow Powersports booth.

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Entire Tournament:

- **CROCS Court:** Sneak away from match play and catch the various athletes warming up on the CROCS Court. In addition, fans can throw off their shoes and take part in the fan serve, pass and hit competitions (volleyball skills competition open to fans age 12 and older) and Best of the Beach (2 on 2 mini tournaments that may even draw AVP pros).
- **Beach Girlz Entertainment:** The beach just got hotter! Brooke, Dominique, Mandy, Noreen and Laura will surf right into your hearts with their outsized talent. Formed in the spring of 2008 by the AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour, Inc., the Beach Girlz are a group of attractive, healthy, personable young women whose image perfectly embodies the beach lifestyle. They'll take the stage for between-match entertainment during the Friday evening session as well as the Saturday day and evening sessions at Stadium Court. The Beach Girlz will also sing the National Anthem before the Saturday evening finals.

Ticket information:

By phone at 800-919-6272, online at www.westgatecitycenter.com, in person at Just Sports (Westgate location only) or at the gates during the tournament.

Stay & Play Package:

Stay at Westgate's four-Star hotel just steps from the tournament. Receive two general admission tickets to all sessions and access to both 944 Pool Parties. Packages are \$139 - a \$260 value. Call 623-937-3700 to book.

Match Times:

Thursday, September 25	5 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.
Friday, September 26	10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. 5 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Saturday, September 27	10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. 5 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

Additional Storylines:

Last year's winners: Elaine Youngs and John Hyden: Back to defend their 2007 titles are Elaine Youngs and John Hyden. Youngs competed in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing with partner Nicole Branagh; the duo also snapped Kerri Walsh and Misty May-Treanor's 100-plus match win streak at the 2008 Mason, Ohio, event. Hyden, along with partner Brad Keenan, had three second-place finishes during the AVP season at Huntington Beach, Louisville and Santa Barbara.

Crocs Cup winners: Kerri/Misty, Phil/Todd: At the last regular-season AVP Crocs Tour event in Manhattan Beach, Calif., Walsh/May-Treanor and Dalhausser/Rogers won the season-long Crocs Cup championships, repeating their victories from 2007. May-Treanor will not compete in Glendale due to her participation on ABC's *Dancing with the Stars*.

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Only individual tournament on AVP schedule/ Last stop on 18 stop tour: The AVP Crocs Sanderson Ford Best of the Beach presented by RideNow Powersports is the only tournament on the AVP Crocs Tour schedule where the athletes compete as individuals. They will play in a round-robin format to determine which player is truly the Best of the Beach. Seen as the “Pro Bowl” of professional beach volleyball, this event allows fans to see their favorite players compete on their own individual strengths.

Similar format to AVP Crocs Hot Winter Nights Tour: The AVP Crocs Hot Winter Nights tour, kicking off its second season in January 2009, follows a similar round-robin format. Players will compete indoors in cities all over the country, bringing summer to snowbound Northeast, Northwest and Midwest cities. The winter tour will end at the nation’s premiere sports venue: New York’s Madison Square Garden.

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