



My name is Kelsie Menard and I was born and raised in Lafayette, Louisiana. I've always had big city dreams and have recently found a new home away from home in Nashville. I attended the University of Louisiana at Lafayette where I received my Masters of Science in Communicative Disorders/Speech Pathology in May of 2014. I am currently employed full-time as a Speech Therapist in a medical setting.

This is my second year with Alliance, and I look forward to assisting the 15 Molten team.

Volleyball was brought into my life when I was just shy of 10 years old and I fell in love with the game instantly. I traded in my ballerina slippers for volleyball shoes and kneepads and never looked back. During my senior year of high school, I unfortunately tore my hitting shoulder and volleyball at a competitive and vigorous level was no longer an option; however, I knew I still had a yearning for the game. Despite my injury keeping me from playing at a higher level, I continued to compete in a coed sand volleyball league on a weekly basis throughout my college years.

As much as I enjoyed playing sand volleyball, I knew I was still missing something, and I was lucky enough to come across a 6th grade coaching position. That first fall season in 2009 was quite a learning experience, as many of the girls had never touched a volleyball before. Throughout that season, I realized that the players don't just learn from their coach; the coach also learns from the players, regardless of their level of expertise. From that season onward, I remained associated with the middle school and eventually took on both the 7th and 8th grade teams while in graduate school. During the fall of 2013, I was given the opportunity to coach club for Louisiana Volleyball (LVL). I was ecstatic because it meant I was able to be in the gym on a year round basis and would be able to share my love of the sport with others.

Athletics have always been important to me because they have given me countless opportunities and have taught me many valuable lessons about life. I have learned the importance of teamwork and patience. I have appreciated failures because they allow room for even greater successes. And, I have realized that sometimes you have to leave it all on the court and move on. All of these reasons have inspired me to motivate and teach others these same life lessons. For me, being a coach is not only about the skill and proficiency, but also giving each athlete the confidence they deserve so they can achieve anything they set their mind to.