

25/03/2025 - PHANTOMS VOLLEYBALL CLUB INC.

In response to Cori Wilder's decision to step down as our Premier 2 Women's coach.

Phantoms Volleyball Club would like to take this opportunity to extend our best wishes to Cori Wilder as she navigates the challenges of her position as CEO of Volleyball Victoria and the current situation, she sees herself involved in. We fully understand the difficult balance she has had to strike between her professional commitments and her passion for coaching, and we respect her decision to step back to enable to fully commit to her role as CEO and the current situation requiring her full attention.

In the short time that Cori coached with Phantoms, she made a significant impact on our female playing group. Many players have shared their appreciation for her coaching style, with several expressing how excited they were to continue working with her throughout the 2025 season. Her passion, dedication, and enthusiasm were apparent, and her presence on the court had a positive influence on both players and staff alike.

While we are, of course, disappointed by the circumstances that led to her stepping down, we recognise that, as in any community, it is unfortunate when a minority of voices make things difficult for the majority. Despite this, we remain proud of the work Cori did during her time with us, and we recognise the personal sacrifices she has made in serving the volleyball community.

Cori's coaching was more than just a role—it was her passion, and we witnessed firsthand how it brought her joy, particularly at our preseason trials & Seaside Tournament. The energy and happiness she shared with our teams are invaluable, and it is something that cannot be replicated.

We want to assure our wider volleyball community that Cori will always be welcome at Phantoms Volleyball Club in any capacity she chooses. We hope that when the challenges she faces are resolved, she will return to the court in some capacity, and we look forward to the possibility of working with her again in the future.

Phantoms Volleyball Club wishes Cori all the best in her ongoing efforts at Volleyball Victoria and the future challenges she may face.

Ben Hassell

President Phantoms Volleyball Club