



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Steven D. Rhoads

New York State Senator Rhoads Hosts First Annual Charity Volleyball Tournament at Jones Beach

STEVEN D. RHOADS August 12, 2025

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On August 9, New York State Senator Steve Rhoads brought the community together for the First Annual 4-on-4 Charity Beach Volleyball Tournament at the Jones Beach volleyball courts. The spirited competition featured 11 teams—each donning unique, matching attire—that battled it out under the summer sunset.

In lieu of an entry fee, teams contributed canned and nonperishable goods to benefit the Bellmore-Merrick Community Cupboard during the summer months, when the pantry experiences its greatest need. Thanks to the generosity of players and spectators, the tournament collected an impressive haul of nonperishable goods, enough to fill the Cupboard's bins and brighten the week for many local families.

Senator Rhoads congratulated Luke Peckham, Alec Bloch, Tommy Dillon, and David Bein on their championship win, celebrating their achievement as they were awarded trophies, and expressed heartfelt gratitude to all who took part in the day's success.

"This tournament was more than just a great day at the beach—it was a reminder that when our community comes together, we can make a real difference," **said Senator Rhoads**. "The support for the Bellmore-Merrick Community Cupboard will help families right here at home, and I'm proud of the generosity and spirit shown by everyone who participated. We proved that sports can be more than a game—they can be a way to bring people together, strengthen bonds, and create lasting change."

Josephine Parlagreco, representing the Bellmore-Merrick Community Cupboard, shared her appreciation:

"The Community Cupboard families are grateful for the support of Senator Rhoads and his office. The volleyball tournament was a fun way to raise awareness for the issue of hunger in our local area."

With its successful debut, the Charity Volleyball Tournament is set to become a new summer tradition—combining friendly competition, community spirit, and a commitment to helping neighbors in need.