

# 2025

## AVCA Thirty Under 30 College



**Diego Aguilar**  
Southern Methodist University  
Technical Coordinator

### **Career Accomplishments to Date:**

- AAC Conference Championship 2023
- NCAA Tournament appearance 2023, 2024
- Helped coach four All-ACC and Four AVCA All-Region Selections Naya Shime, Celia Cullen, Natalie Foster, and Maya Tabron
- Helped coach 5 All-AAC Players in 2023 including AAC Player of the year Emma Clothier and Setter of the year Celia Cullen
- Helped coach 2 All-Americans Celia Cullen and Naya Shime
- My First year at SMU:
  - 26-7 Record
  - Finished 18-1 in conference play
- Second Year:
  - 24-7 Record
  - Finished fourth in the ACC
  - Made it to 2nd round of NCAA tournament

### **Coaching Roles:**

- Club Texas Volleyball: Head Coach - 2023, 2024, 2025
- Southern Methodist University: Tech Coordinator - 2024, 2025

**What made you decide to get into coaching volleyball?**

I fell in love with it when I got done playing. To see the reaction of a players face when they figure out a new skill is priceless. I can honestly say I enjoy it more than playing.

**What are your career goals in the sport?**

Help make SMU a volleyball powerhouse.



**Which coaches have influenced you the most?**

- Samantha Erger
- Trent Sorenson
- Christy Stewart
- Christa Branson
- Clayton Bristow

**What do you enjoy most about your coaching job?**

The people I get to be around.