



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL COMMITTEE
JANUARY 22-23, 2024, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- **None.**

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Challenge review at regionals.**

- (1) Recommendation. That regional hosts for the volleyball championship be required to provide a challenge review system with at least two cameras.
- (2) Effective date. 2025 championship.
- (3) Rationale. The committee believes it is essential to have challenge review capabilities at each of the regional sites. Currently some sites have the capability for review and others do not. The committee believes all regional sites should be consistent. Because several current sites already have review capabilities, the committee believes requiring challenge review at all sites is a reasonable expectation. Additionally, challenge review is used at the national championship finals site. The committee believes implementing this requirement at the regional round would keep the championship consistent and coaches will have a familiarity with the challenge review process prior to the finals site.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. Hosts would absorb all costs associated with challenge review as part of hosting a regional. Again, some institutions are already set up for challenge review and would incur no additional costs.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Using challenge review should ensure that the correct calls are made during the course of the match.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Review/approval of 2022-23 annual meeting report.** The committee approved the 2022-23 annual meeting report.
- 2. NCAA Division II Championships Committee update.** The committee reviewed actions the Championships Committee took at its meetings for the past year.
- 3. American Volleyball Coaches Association Convention report.** The committee discussed the AVCA convention topics and items were addressed throughout the meeting.

4. **Coaches Connection update.** The committee received an update on the program from the Coaches Connection liaison who noted that the program receives great attendance by coaches.

5. **Review of 2023 championship.**

- a. **Review of regional sites.**

- (1) **Crew chief reports.** The committee reviewed the crew chief reports results and addressed any issues.
 - (2) **Survey results.** The committee reviewed survey responses and made note of improvements for next year.

- b. **Review of finals.**

- (1) **Facility setup.** The committee was pleased with the finals venue and thought the facility was able to accommodate all needs.
 - (2) **Administrative meeting.** The committee voted to remove the onsite administrative meeting held at regionals the day prior to competition. The committee noted a virtual administrative call is held prior to teams traveling to regional competition that provides all pertinent information regarding the regional round.
 - (3) **Practices.** The committee determined the practice schedule for regionals should be based on match order; however, practices may be adjusted to accommodate team travel schedules. Language will be provided in the Host Operations Manual and Regional Participant Manual to outline how practice order should be determined.
 - (4) **Press conferences/interviews.** The committee did not change the current press conference schedule.
 - (5) **Web stream of matches.** The committee noted frustration from the membership regarding the paywall for streaming regional and finals matches. The committee also discussed the upcoming ESPN media rights deal and the incorporation of Division II women's volleyball. The committee felt this was a positive addition for the sport.
 - (6) **Challenge review system regionals/finals.** The committee reinforced the need to have adequate endline camera views and better camera quality for the finals challenge review system. The championship manager will work with DVSPORT to make sure camera placement is optimal and determine if higher quality cameras are available. The committee also will designate a video review official for the finals.
 - (7) **Award ceremonies.** The committee did not change the awards ceremony format.

- (8) **Attendance.** The committee received attendance and ticket information from the national championship matches. The committee noted the elementary school attendance during the noon quarterfinal match was a great enhancement.
- (9) **Committee responsibilities.** The committee did not change the current committee roles at the national championship.
- (10) **Banquet.** The banquet returned for the 2023 championship. The committee felt the banquet was executed well and will continue to have a student-athlete banquet in the future.
- (11) **Survey results.** The committee reviewed survey responses and made note of improvements for next year. The committee noted the finals feedback was very positive.

6. Planning for 2024 championship and beyond.

a. **2024-25 calendar/timeline.** The committee reviewed and approved the timeline for the next season with the championship site visit and host teleconferences to be determined. The committee added a potential host call and potential site representative to the schedule in hopes to better prepare hosts and site representatives prior to selections.

b. Regional hosts.

- (1) **Bid timeline.** The committee will maintain the current regional bid timeline.
- (2) **Regional facility evaluation form.** The committee reviewed the facility evaluation form submitted by regional hosts and noted edits to be made to the form.
- (3) **Match time and order.** The committee reviewed the current policy that allows the regional hosts to determine match order. The committee did not change this policy. The committee reviewed the current match times for regionals and finals and made changes to allow additional time between matches. These times will be posted in the appropriate manuals and bid information.

c. **Finals.** The committee discussed the upcoming championship in Sioux Falls.

7. Officials.

- a. **Review of 2023 regional and national officials.** The committee discussed all regional and finals officials. The committee will continue to explore ways to educate regional site representatives on how to evaluate and determine officials' assignments.
- b. **Evaluation forms.** The committee reviewed coach and crew chief evaluations of the regional and national officials.

- c. **Officials' rotation.** The committee made updates to the officials' rotation form. The new rotation will help evaluate officials at every position.
- d. **Selection of referees and line judges.** The committee received conference recommendations for referees. The committee will evaluate each region and provide ordered recommendations to review and act on during the next committee videoconference. Referee invites will be sent in March. Moving forward the national coordinator of officials will be tasked with selecting all referees and line judges once that position is filled in the fall.

8. Rankings/selections.

- a. **Review of 2023 selections and selection show.** The committee felt selections went well. Committee members noted they would like to see the regions announced in a different order for next year. The championships manager will work with the internal team to determine if this change can be made.
- b. **Rankings.**
 - (1) **Regional advisory committees.**
 - (a) **Rosters/replacements.** The committee reviewed the regional advisory committee rosters and noted regions that have members rolling off. Replacements will be appointed in the summer.
 - (b) **Regional advisory committee training.** The committee reviewed the training process and will continue to make enhancements.
 - (2) **Ranking process.** The committee confirmed the number and dates of ranking calls. The committee also reviewed the current ranking process and will continue to discuss how to best structure and evaluate regional rankings.
- c. **2024-27 selection requirements/criteria.** The committees discussed the current selection criteria and continues to evaluate how to best use the criteria available. The committee talked at length about the KPI and will provide a formal recommendation to the Division II Championships Committee regarding its use in the 2024-27 criteria.
- d. **Seeding of final eight teams.** The committee discussed the seeding prior to finals, which was determined based on the current criteria.
- e. **Automatic qualification.** The committee will review and approve automatic qualifiers once conferences submit their application forms for the 2024-25 academic year.

- 9. **Legislation update.** Academic and Membership Affairs staff provided an update on legislation adopted at the 2024 NCAA Convention.

10. Playing rules update. Playing rules representative reviewed the upcoming rules changes and noted the comment period will open soon for membership to provide input on the suggested rules changes. The committee noted that membership response rates were low during the survey period.

11. Division II governance update. Governance staff members discussed with the committee the Division II strategic priorities, the Division II 50th anniversary marketing initiatives, and focus areas for the Division II SAAC in the coming year.

12. Manual revisions. The committee asked staff to revise areas in the committee operations, host operations, pre-championship, participant and site representative manuals.

13. National committee.

a. Committee openings and timeline. The committee discussed the upcoming vacancies in the Atlantic, Central and South Central regions.

b. Committee chair recommendation. The committee recommended Matt Jennings, Michigan Technological University, as chair for the 2024-25 academic year.

14. Strategic plan. The committee reviewed the strategic plan and made updates.

15. Future dates and sites.

a. 2025 championships. The committee will recommend a new host for the 2025 championship, noting the current host removed its bid acceptance.

b. 2026-28 bid cycle. The committee will review 2026 and 2027 hosts once the bid cycle closes on February 7, 2024.

c. 2024-25 annual meeting. The committee agreed to hold the next annual meeting Jan. 27-28, 2025.

15. Other business.

a. Regionalization review. The committee discussed a request from the Division II Championships Committee seeking feedback regarding the Division II regionalization model and opportunities to revise the current approach to bracketing. The sport committee will continue to have discussions around regionalization. The Championships Committee will review the sport committee feedback at the June 17-18, 2024, meeting.

b. Day of rest. The committee discussed adding a day of rest between semifinal and final matches for the regional and final rounds. The committee believes a rest day is necessary for the student-athlete experience and well-being. The committee will have to work through the appropriate guidelines to submit a formal proposal in the future.

- c. **Future joint championship opportunities.** The committee was updated on the process for requesting a joint championship with other divisions. Further discussion will take place with Division I women's volleyball.

Committee Chair: Jim Boos, University of Minnesota Duluth.

Staff Liaison(s): Donisha Carter, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division II Women's Volleyball Committee January 23-24, 2024, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Jim Boos, University of Minnesota Duluth.	
Laura Dahlby Nicolai, Central Washington University.	
Matt Jennings, Michigan Technological University.	
Joel List, Regis University (Colorado).	
Katie O'Brien, University of Montevallo.	
Joey Pacis, Bentley University.	
Leanne Piscotty, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Brian Reese, Lander University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Debbie Chin, Coaches Connection.	
Regan McAthie, University of Concordia St. Paul.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Donisha Carter, Championships and Alliances.	
Dallas Woods, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Becca Burchette, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Karen Kirsch, Micaela Liddane and Rachel Seewald.	