



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL COMMITTEE
JANUARY 27-28, 2025, MEETING**

KEY ITEMS.

- 1. Challenge review system.** The committee recommended requirements for challenge review to enhance the quality of video review at regional sites. (See Action Item 2.)
- 2. Chair election.** The committee elected Joey Pacis, head volleyball coach at Bentley University, as chair of the 2025-26 academic year. (See Informational Item 12.)

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Challenge review at regionals.**

- a. Recommendation. Enhance the challenge video review requirements as follows to host a regional round of the Division II Women's Volleyball Championship:
 - Three cameras (one at the net and two at the end lines);
 - Minimum frame rate of 60 frames per second (120 frames per second preferred); and
 - Resolution 1080
- b. Effective date. 2026 championship.
- c. Rationale. In 2024 the Division II Women's Volleyball Committee submitted a recommendation to require all regional hosts to use a challenge review system effective with the 2025 championship. The initial recommendation required a minimum two camera setup with no further requirements, which was taken as a first step to incorporate challenge review at the regional level. Now that the requirement has been established the committee believes further stipulations should be in place to enhance the quality of challenge review at regionals. The recommended requirements are comparable to what is provided at the finals site and will enhance the quality of challenge review at regional sites.
- d. Estimated budget impact. Hosts would absorb all costs associated with challenge review as part of hosting a regional. Some institutions are already set up for challenge review and would incur no additional costs.

- e. 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 2024 annual meeting report.** The committee approved the 2024 annual meeting report as submitted.
2. **Review of 2024 championship.**
 - a. **Review of regional sites.** The committee reviewed survey responses and noted necessary improvements for next year. Points of emphasis included adequate hotels and quality challenge review systems (see Action Item 2 above).
 - 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 agreed to allow regional hosts the option to hold the on-site administrative meeting virtually or in person. There will be no on-site administrative meeting at the finals site.
 - (3) **Practices.** The committee reviewed practice times and made no adjustments to the schedule.
 - (4) **Press conferences/interviews.** The committee noted the addition of in-game coach interviews was well received by the coaches and believes it was a significant enhancement for the Division II championship.
 - (5) **ESPN stream of matches.** The committee noted issues with the quality of the broadcast during the semifinals and asked that the NCAA broadcast liaison address these in future years. Overall the committee thought having the championship quarterfinals, semifinals and final on ESPN+ will continue to promote the outstanding competition at the Division II level.
 - (6) **Challenge review system at regionals and finals.** The committee expressed the need to have adequate endline camera views and better camera quality for the regional challenge review system (see Action Item 2 above). The committee designated a video review official for the finals and regional sites with challenge review, which went over well for the first year of implementation.
 - (7) **Award ceremonies.** The committee made no change to the awards ceremony format for the finals, but the committee would prefer to not have the championship watches

onsite at the finals to avoid teams with larger rosters not having enough watches for all of their student-athletes. The championship manager will order watches after the championship and ship them to the national champion.

(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 and will encourage hosts to do more local marketing to encourage local fans, clubs and youth groups to attend.

(9) **Committee responsibilities.** The committee made no changes to the current committee roles at the national championship.

(10) **Banquet.** The committee felt the banquet was executed well and agreed to continue having a student-athlete banquet in the future.

3. Officials.

- a. **Review of 2024 regional and national officials.** The committee discussed all regional and finals officials. The committee felt officiating went well at all sites and agreed the addition of the national coordinator of officials position helped with selections.
- b. **Evaluation forms.** The committee reviewed coach and crew chief evaluations of the regional and national officials. The committee made changes to the evaluation forms that will be implemented next year.
- c. **Selection of referees and line judges.** The national coordinator of officials and the committee will receive conference recommendations for referees. The coordinator of officials will evaluate each region and provide ordered recommendations to the committee to review and act on during the next committee videoconference. Referee invitations will be sent in April. The process for selecting line judges will begin in the fall.

4. Rankings/selections.

- a. **Review of 2024 selections and selection show.** The committee felt selections went well. Members also felt the selection show did not show enough highlights and clips of teams. The championship manager will reach out to the broadcast liaison to discuss the process of retrieving content from participating teams and how they determine what is included in the selection show.
- 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.
 - d. **Seeding of final eight teams.** The committee discussed the seeding prior to finals. Seeding 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.
5. **Planning for 2025 championship and beyond.**
 - a. **2025-26 calendar/timeline.** The committee reviewed and approved the timeline for the next season with the host teleconferences to be determined.
 - 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 made no changes to this policy. The committee reviewed the current match times for regionals and finals and made no changes.
6. **Academic and membership affairs update.** The committee received an update on legislation adopted at the NCAA Convention.
7. **Playing rules update.** The playing rules representative reviewed survey responses from the 2024 rules changes and noted that response rates to the rules survey were very low.
8. **Division II governance update.** Governance staff members discussed with the committee the Division II strategic priorities, marketing and actions taken by the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

- 9. Championships Committee update.** The committee received updates from the Championships Committee liaison regarding regionalization, bracketing, membership survey, triennial budget cycle and rankings.
- 10. Coaches Connection/American Volleyball Coaches Association Convention update.** The committee received an update from the Coaches Connection liaison who noted that the program receives great attendance by coaches.
- 11. Manual revisions.** The committee asked staff to revise areas in the committee operations, host operations, pre-championship, participant and site representative manuals.
- 12. National committee.**
 - a. Committee openings and timeline.** The committee discussed the upcoming vacancies in the Midwest Region.
 - b. Committee chair recommendation.** The committee recommended Joey Pacis, the head volleyball coach at Bentley University, as chair for the 2025-26 academic year.
- 13. Future dates and sites.**
 - a. 2025 championships.** The committee will recommend a new host for the 2025 championship, noting the current host declined its bid acceptance.
 - b. 2026 annual meeting.** The committee agreed to hold the next annual meeting Jan. 26-27, 2026.
- 14. Other business.**
 - a. Day of rest.** The committee discussed adding a day of rest between the semifinals and final 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 work through the appropriate guidelines to submit a formal proposal in the future budget cycle.
 - b. Future joint championship opportunities.** The committee noted that further discussion will take place with the Division I Women's Volleyball Committee in hopes of implementing a joint championship during the next bid cycle.

Committee Chair: *Joey Pacis, Bentley University*

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

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Attendees:	
Laura Dahlby-Nicolai, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.	
Katie O'Brien, University of Montevallo.	
Joey Pacis, Bentley University.	
Edric Poitier, Bowie State University.	
Caitlin Peterson, University of Central Missouri.	
Megan Sanger, South Atlantic Conference.	
Chuck Waddington, Angelo State University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Margie Ray, National Coordinator of Officials.	
Jill Stephens, Coaches Connection.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Donisha Carter, Championships and Alliances.	
Dallas Woods, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Becca Burchette, Governance.	
Lucas DuMars, Championships and Alliances.	
Ryan Jones, Governance.	
Maritza Jones, Governance.	
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.	
Rachel Seewald, Championships and Alliances.	
Katelyn Skarr, Academic and Membership Affairs.	