



2021 DIVISION III MEN'S
VOLLEYBALL
CHAMPIONSHIP

PRE-CHAMPIONSHIP
2020-21 MANUAL

NCAA General Administrative Guidelines

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Section 1 • Introduction

The Pre-Championship Manual will serve as a resource for institutions to prepare for the championship. This manual is divided into three sections: General Administrative Guidelines, Sport-Specific Information, and Appendixes.

Sections one through eight apply to policies applicable to all 90 championships, while the remaining sections are sport specific.

Section 1.1 Definitions

Pre-championship Manual. Resource for institutions to prepare for the championship.

Administrative Meeting. Pre-championship meeting for coaches and/or administrators.

Appendixes. Any supplemental documents to be provided and distributed through the various resources.

Championship Manager. The NCAA staff member(s) responsible for the operational oversight of the championship.

Games Committee. The committee assigned to supervise the conduct of each championship session at a specific site. For finals sites, the games committee is typically the NCAA national committee.

NCAA National Committee. The sport committee with direct oversight responsibilities for the championship.

Non-predetermined Sites. Those sites that are selected to host at the time of the participant/team selections announcement.

Playing Rules. The rules under which the competition will be conducted.

Predetermined Sites. Those sites that are selected to host before the participant/team selections announcement.

Preliminary Rounds. The rounds of the championship before the final or championship round.

Regional Alignment. The geographic location of institutions or regional advisory committees.

Schedule of Events. Official event schedule – includes all required activities (e.g., practices, banquets, etc.).

Selection Criteria. Policies and procedures in place to guide the team selection process.

Site Selection Criteria. Policies and procedures in place to guide the site selection process.

Squad Size. Number of student-athletes per team allowed to dress in uniform and participate at the championship.

Tournament Physician. The physician designated by the host institution/conference to serve as the chief medical advisor for the championship.

Section 2 • Championship Core Statement

The championships and alliances staff strives to administer competition in a fair, safe, equitable and sportsmanlike manner so that the experience of the student-athlete is paramount.

This is attained by:

Ensuring student-athletes' optimal experience.

Executing championship events reflecting appropriate quality and values to/for stakeholders — student-athletes, coaches, administrators, member institutions, sport committees, fans, broadcast partners and corporate champions/partners.

Coordinating all aspects of the championship in an efficient, effective manner through common operating policies and practices, using internal and external resources.

Integrating championships with broadcast and corporate relationships in a manner that maintains the integrity of the championship.

Assuring effective management of the business aspects of the operation.

Enhancing the assets of the NCAA and their value by collaborating with internal and external expertise to achieve heightened exposure (e.g., community programs, fan events, banquets, anniversaries, etc.).

Section 3 • Concussion Management

[Reference: Concussion Management in Constitution 3.2.4.20 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Constitution 3.3.4.17 in the NCAA Division II Manual, and Constitution 3.2.4.17 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

The NCAA has adopted legislation that requires all active member institutions to have a concussion management plan for their student-athletes. Traveling institutions shall follow their concussion management plan while participating in NCAA championships. If a participating team lacks appropriate medical staff to activate its concussion management plan, the host championship concussion management plan will be activated.

The legislation notes, in part, that a student-athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be removed from athletics activities (e.g., competition, practice, conditioning sessions) and evaluated by a medical staff member (e.g., sports medicine staff, team physician) with experience in the evaluation and management of concussions; a student-athlete diagnosed with a concussion is precluded from returning to athletics activity for at least the remainder of that calendar day; and medical clearance for return to athletics activity shall be determined by the team physician or the physician's designee from the student-athlete's institution. In the absence of a team physician or their designee, the NCAA tournament physician will examine the student-athlete and will determine medical clearance. Within the rules of the sport and policies established for the championship, medical staff should have access to the injured student-athlete without interference (e.g., coach).

A concussion is a brain injury that may be caused by a blow to the head, face, neck or elsewhere on the body with an "impulsive" force transmitted to the head. Concussions can occur without loss of consciousness or other obvious signs. A repeat concussion that occurs before the brain recovers from the previous one (hours, days or weeks) can slow recovery or increase the likelihood of having more severe and/or long-term problems. In rare cases, repeat concussions can result in brain swelling, permanent brain damage and even death.

For further details, please refer to the [NCAA Sport Science Institute website](#) for additional guidance.

Section 4 • Conduct

Section 4•1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability

[Reference: Certification of Eligibility/Availability in Constitution 3.2.4 and Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 31.2.1.7.1, 31.2.1.7.1.2 and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Constitution 3.3.4 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaws 31.2.1.5 and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

Only student-athletes eligible under Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 may compete in NCAA championships. Member institutions are required to certify the eligibility of their student-athletes before the beginning of each academic year and to withhold ineligible student-athletes from all intercollegiate competition.

Member institutions are reminded to notify the NCAA national office before the selection date for each championship of any student-athlete who may have participated in regular-season competition but subsequently is determined to be ineligible or unavailable for NCAA championship competition.

DISCOVERY OF INELIGIBILITY OF A STUDENT-ATHLETE AFTER SELECTION

If an institution fails to report an ineligible student-athlete and the omission is not discovered until after the institution is selected to participate in the championship, necessitating the institution's withdrawal from the championship, that withdrawal shall be considered as one of the years of ineligibility, provided another institution participates in the championship in place of the disqualified institution. If the discovery of the ineligible student-athlete occurs so near the beginning of the championship that the governing sport committee does not have a reasonable period of time to replace the disqualified institution in the bracket, that fact shall be taken into consideration in determining the number of years the disqualified institution shall be ineligible to participate.

Section 4•2 Drug Testing

[Reference: Bylaws 18.4.1.4 and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Bylaws 18.4.1.4 and 31.2.3 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaws 18.4.1.5 and 31.2.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

Student-athletes who compete in NCAA championships may be subjected to drug tests in accordance with Bylaws 18.4.1.4 and 31.2.2 (Division I), 18.4.1.5 and 31.2.3 (Division II) and 18.4.1.5 and 31.2.3 (Division III), and may be determined to be ineligible as a result thereof. Only student-athletes who have consented in writing to such testing are initially eligible for these championships; and thereafter, student-athletes who are tested shall remain eligible only if they test negative.

Section 4•3 Honesty and Sportsmanship

Individuals employed by (or associated with) a member institution to administer, conduct or coach intercollegiate athletics and all participating student-athletes shall act with honesty and sportsmanship at all times so that intercollegiate athletics as a whole, their institutions and they, as individuals, shall represent the honor and dignity of fair play and the generally recognized high standards associated with wholesome competitive sports.

Section 4•4 Misconduct/Failure to Adhere to Policies

MISCONDUCT

Misconduct in an NCAA championship is any act of dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct, unprofessional behavior or breach of law, occurring from the time the championship field is announced through the end of the championship, that discredits the event or intercollegiate athletics. Each games committee shall hold an administrative meeting with the representatives of participating institutions to review and explain the policies related to misconduct.

FAILURE TO ADHERE TO POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A governing sport committee may assess a financial penalty against an institution for failure of any of its representatives to adhere to the policies and procedures governing the administration of the competition. This includes, but is not limited to, failure to comply with the procedures and deadlines for submitting scores, score sheets, schedules, rosters and entry/march-in forms for qualification and other materials necessary for the efficient administration of the competition. [Click here to see the full misconduct/failure to adhere to policies and procedures online.](#)

Section 4•5 Sports Wagering Policy

Sports wagering includes placing, accepting or soliciting a wager (on a staff member's or student-athlete's own behalf or on the behalf of others) of any type with any individual or organization on any intercollegiate, amateur or professional team or contest. Examples of sports wagering include, but are not limited to, the use of a bookmaker or parlay card; internet sports wagering; mobile betting; auctions in which bids are placed on teams, individuals or contests; and pools or fantasy leagues in which an entry fee is required and there is an opportunity to win a prize.

The current NCAA legislation against sports wagering prohibits NCAA student-athletes, member institutions' athletics staff and non-athletics staff with athletics responsibilities, and conference office staff from participating in sports wagering activities or providing information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activities concerning intercollegiate, amateur or professional athletics practice or competition in a sport in which the NCAA conducts championship competition, in bowl subdivision football and in emerging sports for women.

A wager is any agreement in which an individual or entity agrees to give up an item of value (e.g., cash, shirt, dinner, etc.) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value.

STUDENT-ATHLETES

A student-athlete found in violation of the prohibition against knowingly participating in any sports wagering activities or providing information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activity that involves intercollegiate, amateur or professional athletics competition shall be ineligible for further intercollegiate competition, subject to appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of eligibility.

POSTSEASON

In championships in which a bracket format is used, student-athletes, coaches and administrators may not participate in bracket competitions where there is both a required entry fee and an opportunity to win a prize. Student-athletes and administrators may participate under current NCAA rules in bracket contests where there is no entry fee but a possibility of winning a prize. Some NCAA member schools, however, have chosen to ban student-athletes from participating in these types of bracket contests.

HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES

It is permissible for NCAA championships to be conducted at locations in states that permit sports wagering.

Section 4•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey

After each championship, institutional administrators, coaches and student-athletes will be asked to participate in a post-event survey intended to capture feedback on their recent championship experience. Institutional administrators and coaches will receive an email containing a link to the survey and will be asked to ensure participation from all student-athletes.

Section 5 • Elite 90™ Award

The Elite 90 award was created to recognize the true essence of student-athletes by honoring individuals who have reached the pinnacle of competition at the national championship level in their sport, while also achieving the highest academic standard among their peers. The award is presented in every sport, every division, and goes to the student-athlete who has the highest cumulative grade-point average of all student-athletes on all teams competing at the finals site. Each institution that has at least one student-athlete qualify for the final round/site is eligible to nominate a student-athlete for the award. One student-athlete per championship will receive the award, and the announcement of the winner will be made at the finals site.

Institutions that wish to nominate a student-athlete must do so through an online nomination process. For more information or access the online form and submit a nomination, go to ncaa.org.

Section 6 • Fan Travel

Through support from Marriott International as the Official Hotel Partner of the NCAA, NCAA championships are pleased to provide easy and affordable accommodations for family and fans to follow their favorite student-athlete(s) and team(s) as they participate in NCAA championships competition. Travel arrangements completed through Marriott and NCAA Travel help support NCAA student-athletes. Please direct your fans to NCAA.com/travel to search and book online hotel reservations.

Section 7 • Logo Policy

[Reference: Bylaws 12.5.4, 31.1.7 and 31.1.8 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Bylaw 12.5.4 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaw 12.5.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

A student-athlete may use athletics equipment or wear athletics apparel that bears the trademark or logo of an athletics equipment or apparel manufacturer or distributor in athletics competition and pre- and postgame activities (e.g., celebrations on the court, pre- or postgame press conferences), provided the following criteria are met:

1. Athletics equipment (e.g., shoes, helmets, baseball bats and gloves, batting or golf gloves, hockey and lacrosse sticks, goggles and skis) shall bear only the manufacturer's normal label or trademark, as it is used on all such items for sale to the general public; and
2. The student-athlete's institution's official uniform (including numbered racing bibs and warmups) and all other items of apparel (e.g., socks, head bands, T-shirts, wrist bands, visors or hats, swim caps and towels) shall bear only a

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

single manufacturer's or distributor's normal label or trademark (regardless of the visibility of the label or trademark), not to exceed 2-1/4 square inches in area (rectangle, square, parallelogram) including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo. The student-athlete's institution's official uniform and all other items of apparel shall not bear a design element similar to the manufacturer's trademark/logo that is in addition to another trademark/logo that is contrary to the size restriction.

Section 8 • Research

It is essential that all research efforts be coordinated by a single entity within the national office structure in order to ensure maximum efficiency and quality, avoid unnecessary duplication of effort on the part of staff and membership, allow the NCAA to prioritize research efforts given the limited time and resources of our members and adhere to federal guidelines on the responsibilities of researchers to properly protect research participants from harm.

For the purpose of this policy, "research" is defined as any systematic collection of data for the purpose of drawing generalized conclusions.

Any proposal to conduct research must be submitted to the NCAA research staff for review at least six weeks before the project begins. Research to be conducted during NCAA championships or related events, and which involves competing student-athletes or attendees, is also subject to review. This includes all research, including that conducted by or under the direction of any employee, contractor or paid consultant of the NCAA. It also includes any research conducted by other persons, but funded totally or in part by the NCAA. Any research that detracts from the student-athlete experience or requires physical activity may not be permitted at the championships (preliminary rounds and finals sites). The NCAA retains sole discretion as to whether to allow such research.

Examples of activities considered research include: Conducting surveys of athletics administrators, college presidents, faculty, coaches and student-athletes; leading an organized focus group; funding an outside study under the auspices of the NCAA; conducting market research at championship events; secondary analysis of data originally collected by the NCAA from people for other purposes; any systematic collection of data from the membership or other entities; etc.

Section 9 • Division III

Section 9•1 Division III Philosophy

The Division III championships philosophy is to field the most competitive teams possible while minimizing missed class time; to emphasize regional competition in regular-season scheduling; and to provide representation in NCAA championship competition by allocating berths to eligible conferences, independent institutions and a limited number of at-large teams, realizing that this may be done at the expense of leaving out some championship-caliber teams.

Section 9•2 Commencement Conflicts

If an institution's commencement conflicts with participation in the championship, it shall inform the NCAA championship manager in writing one week before the selection date for the governing sport committee to consider an accommodation and a change to the championship schedule.

The following guidelines apply to commencement requests:

- Applies to team sports only.
- The governing sport committee, in consultation with participating institutions, may reschedule the game on the nearest possible date.
- Does not apply to predetermined finals sites.
- The governing sport committee shall make a good-faith effort to accommodate participating institutions in non-predetermined preliminary-round contests with multiple teams participating at the same site.

Section 9•3 Gameday the DIII Way

Division III promotes and atmosphere that is a respectful and engaging educational environment through athletics, for everyone through Gameday the DIII Way. Gameday the DIII Way establishes an expectation for championship hosts, coaches, student-athletes and spectators to focus on the common standards of safety, responsiveness, dignity and experience while participating or attending a championship event. We ask that each participant and attendee be personally accountable for their actions and do their part to ensure this event is a positive reflection of Gameday the DIII Way.

Section 9•4 Religious Conflicts

Institutional Policy. If a participating institution has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons, it shall inform the NCAA national office before May 1 of the preceding academic year to be excused from competing on that day. The notification shall be valid for a period of two years. The championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution, and such adjustment shall not require its team or an individual competitor to compete before the time originally scheduled.

Individual Championships. In individual championships, a student-athlete must compete according to the institution's policy regarding Sunday competition (i.e., if the institution has no policy against Sunday competition, the student-athlete shall compete on Sunday if required by the schedule).

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Section 1 • General Administration

Section 1•1 NCAA Tournament Operations Staff Contact Information

Nick Strah

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P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222
317-917-6674 / nstrah@ncaa.org

Section 1•2 National Committee

EAST REGION

Tom Emberley
Assistant Commissioner
Skyline Conference

WEST REGION

Mike Zapolski, chair
Director of Athletics
Augustana College (Illinois)

EAST REGION

Evin Giglio
Men's and Women's Volleyball Coach
Wentworth Institute of Technology

WEST REGION

Rob Wingert
Men's and Women's Volleyball Coach
Misericordia University

Section 1•3 Regional Advisory Committees

NAME	INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE
EAST REGION		
Tom Emberley	Skyline	Skyline Conference
Evin Giglio	Wentworth	Great Northeast Athletic Conference
Leszek Stankiewicz	John Jay	City University of New York Athletic Conference
Joanne Merrill	Rivier	Great Northeast Athletic Conference
Sheila Gisbrecht	Elms	New England Collegiate Conference
Josh Stokes	SUNY Potsdam	North Eastern Athletic Conference
Courtney Bernstein	Mount St. Vincent	Skyline Conference
Stuart Robinson	New York University	United Volleyball Conference
WEST REGION		
Rob Wingert	Misericordia	Middle Atlantic Conference
Mike Zapolski	Augustana (Illinois)	Midwest Collegiate Volleyball League
Phil Pisano	PSU Behrend	Allegheny Mountain Athletic Conference
Kyle Exline	North Central	College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin
Glenn DeHaven	Juniata	Continental Volleyball Conference
Eli Porr	Arcadia	Middle Atlantic Conferences
Matt Mihelic	John Carroll	Midwest Collegiate Volleyball League
Dan Ames	Aurora	Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference

Section 1•4 Important Dates

Early January	Deadline for coaches to submit their complete schedules online. Bid portal opens for preliminary rounds.
Late February	Deadline to report weekly results in the online score-reporting system.
Thursday, March 25	First regional rankings released.
Thursday, April 1	Second regional ranking released.
N/A	Deadline for submitting proposed budgets and bid materials to serve as host institution for the first- and quarterfinal-round matches.
Thursday, April 8	Third regional ranking released.
Monday, April 12 (10 a.m. Eastern)	Online selection show to announce teams selected to the championship. Final regional ranking released.
N/A	Conference call with selected first-round host.
Tuesday, April 13 (10 a.m. Eastern)	Conference call with all teams.
N/A	Conference call with all four final teams.
Wednesday, May 5	Deadline to submit written proposals for the NCAA Division III Men's Volleyball Committee to review at its annual meeting.

CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

N/A	First round. (5 and 7:30 p.m.)
N/A	Quarterfinals. (5 p.m.)
Wednesday-Saturday, April 21-24	12-team championship at Salem Civic Center in Salem, Virginia, hosted by the Continental Volleyball Conference and the City of Salem.

DATE FORMULA (ALTERED FOR 2021)

First Round	Friday before finals.
Quarterfinals	Saturday before finals.
Finals	Fourth Friday-Saturday in April.

FUTURE DATES

Friday-Saturday, April 15-16, 2022	First Round and Quarterfinals.
Friday-Saturday, April 22-23, 2022	Finals at Canton, Ohio, hosted by the Ohio Athletic Conference and Canton CVB.

Section 1•5 Division III Commencement Conflict Policy

If an institution's commencement conflicts with participation in the championship, it shall inform the NCAA championship manager in writing one week before the selection date for the governing sports committee to accommodate a request to alter the championship schedule.

The following guidelines apply to commencement requests:

- Applies to team sports only.
- The governing sports committee, in consultation with participating institutions, would reschedule the game on the nearest possible date if a participating school has a conflict.
- Does not apply to predetermined finals sites.

The governing sports committee shall make a good faith effort to accommodate participating institutions in non-predetermined preliminary-round contests with multiple teams participating at the same site.

Section 1•6 Division III Philosophy

The Division III championships philosophy is to field the most competitive teams possible while minimizing missed class time; to emphasize regional competition in regular-season scheduling; and to provide representation in NCAA championship competition by allocating berths to eligible conferences, independent institutions and a limited number of at-large teams, realizing that this may be done at the expense of leaving out some championship-caliber teams.

Section 1•7 Equipment

The Molten V5M5000-3N is the official volleyball for the men's volleyball championship. Each team participating in the championship will receive two volleyballs after their final game.

Section 1•8 Rules

Per NCAA Bylaw 17.30, member institutions shall conduct all of their intercollegiate competition in accordance with the playing rules of the Association in all sports for which the NCAA develops playing rules. For those sports in which the Association follows rules that are developed by other governing bodies and modified by the governing sports committee, the adopted playing rules shall be used. The governing sports committee will not consider any results for selection purposes that are not played in accordance with NCAA rules or those rules adopted by an outside organization.

The U.S. Volleyball rules as approved by USA Volleyball will be followed unless superseded by modifications adopted by the Men's Volleyball Committee. Modifications for the championship will be as follows:

1. Institutions must place a 3-meter restraining line on the surface, painted or with tape, five feet from the sideline on the bench side of the court. The line will begin at the end of the bench area. Student-athletes and bench personnel not seated at the bench are required to remain behind the restraining line during play. (DCR 1.4.5, Division III modification only)
2. Ball handing during timeouts shall be permitted in the free zone. (DCR 4.2.3.2)
3. Attacking between sets shall be permitted into own court. (DCR 4.2.4)
4. No visible jewelry permitted. (DCR 4.5.1)
5. The coin toss winner will choose to serve or receive. The home team will select the benches before the coin toss. (DCR 7.1)
6. The international pursuit rule will be used, provided the play does not extend into the spectator seating area. (DCR 10.1.2.1)
7. Teams will be given two timeouts. Timeouts will last 75 seconds, with a 15-second warning whistle. Play can resume early if both teams are ready. (DCR 10.1.2.1)

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8. The centerline rule shall be observed as the stated, except that an unobtrusive pushoff completely across the centerline by the setter is to be ignored. (DCR 11.2)
9. Technical timeouts are only to be used as requested by the media. (DCR 15.1)
10. There will be a technical timeout when the first team reaches 15 points in sets one through four. In the fifth set, each team will receive two timeouts. There will be a technical timeout when the first team reaches eight points. The technical timeout will be canceled if either team calls a timeout before the automatic technical timeout. (DCR 15.4.2 and 15.4.3)
11. Twelve unlimited substitutions per set will be used. If a Division III institution plays a Division I or Division II institution, the number of substitutions per set will be limited to six. (DCR 15.6, Division III modification only)
12. Intermission between sets 2 and 3 shall be 3 to 10 minutes with prior notification to the visiting head coach. (DCR 18.1)
13. The libero must wear a uniform that has a different dominant color from the rest of the team. The uniform must clearly contrast with the rest of the team. The libero uniform must be numbered like the rest of the team. (DCR 19.2)
14. The libero will not be allowed to serve. No exception is permitted. (DCR 19.3.1.3)

The U.S. Volleyball rules are those of the International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) as adopted by USA Volleyball.

Section 1•9 Uniforms

LOGOS

Refer to [General Administrative Guidelines, Section 7](#).

Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation

Section 2•1 Championship Format

The 2021 championship provides for a field of 12 teams. The championship will be held Wednesday-Saturday, April 21-24, in Salem, Virginia, hosted by the Continental Volleyball Conference and the City of Salem at the Salem Civic Center.

(See [Appendix A](#) for the championship bracket.)

START TIMES

See the bracket for start times. Note that the second match will start not earlier than 40 minutes after the conclusion of the first match.

The Men's Volleyball Committee also will determine the order of matches.

TRAVEL PARTY

Transportation and per diem expenses will be provided for an official traveling party of a maximum of 22. Please refer to the NCAA Travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. Travel policies are located online at ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information.

Section 2•2 Results

SCORE REPORTING

The score-reporting and statistics-reporting processes are combined for Division III men's volleyball. Schools will submit all schedule and results information to the NCAA statistics site (web1.ncaa.org/stats/StatsSrv/login), and this information then will be transferred into the score-reporting system for use by the sports committees. Specific instructions and reporting deadlines will be communicated to sports information directors in a memo from the media coordination and statistics staff. For questions regarding the reporting process, please contact Matt Holmes (mholmes@ncaa.org or 317-917-6385).

STAT CREW

All host sites should use Stat Crew programs to submit statistics for the contests. At the end of each game or day of competition, a packed file from each contest must be sent to ncaastats@ncaa.org and Matt Holmes (mholmes@ncaa.org) at the national office. These files should be sent immediately after each contest or day of competition.

Please contact Mr. Holmes with any questions.

Section 2•3 Selections Information

Teams will be selected for the championship by the four-member Men's Volleyball Committee. Specified members of the committee serve as the chair of the advisory committee in their respective region. Regional advisory committees (RACs) assist the national committee by evaluating teams, sites and officials within their regions through a series of conference calls.

Conference calls will be conducted by the national committee to make the determination of the participating teams.

ALLOCATION OF BERTHS – POOLS A, B AND C

1. Pool A will be composed of the conference champions from each conference that meets the requirements for automatic qualification (NCAA Bylaw 31.3.4). Conferences that meet automatic-qualification requirements are guaranteed only one Pool A berth. After the determination of the automatic (Pool A) berths, the committee will determine the Pool B selections followed by the Pool C selections.
2. Pool B will be composed of independent institutions and institutions that are members of conferences that do not meet the requirements for automatic qualification.

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3. Pool C will be reserved for institutions from automatic-qualifying conferences that are not their conference champion and the remaining teams in Pool B.
4. Berths from Pools B and C will be selected on a national basis, using regional selection criteria. There will be no predetermined regional allocations for Pools B and C.
5. There will be no maximum or minimum number of berths from one region.
6. No conference will receive more than one automatic berth.

The NCAA Division III Championships Committee has clarified Bylaw 31.3.4. to reflect that institutions participating in conferences that meet the automatic-qualification requirements and are eligible to be selected to a championship via Pool A and/or Pool C, may not elect instead to be selected via Pool B as an independent institution.

SPONSORSHIP DATA

Based on the sponsorship data, the following allocations will be implemented for the 2021 championship:

Pool A	8 teams	
Pool B	2 teams	# Pool B teams/Access ratio
Pool C	2 teams	Field size - Pool A - Pool B

AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION

The eight conferences that have been granted automatic-qualification privileges for the 2021 championship are as follows:

Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference	New England Collegiate Conference
Continental Volleyball Conference	Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference
Middle Atlantic Conferences	Skyline Conference
Midwest Collegiate Volleyball League	United Volleyball Conference

Please refer to [Appendix E](#) for the membership of these conferences and regional assignments.

IN-REGION COMPETITION

In-region competition is defined as:

1. All competition within an institution's defined region.
2. All competition within a 500-mile radius from one institution to another.
3. All competition within an institution's membership geographical region (Bylaw 4.13.1.1). The country is divided into four membership regions as listed below. For most institutions, this should result in a more expanded list of potential in-region opponents than in the past.

Region 1

Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Vermont

Region 2

New York, Pennsylvania

Region 3

Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, Ohio, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia

Region 4

Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming

4. All conference games.

5. Bylaw 31.3.2.3 Exception. For sports with a spring NCAA championship, an institution may exempt out-of-region contests conducted during one institutional period (e.g., spring break). (Adopted: 4/15/14 effective 8/1/14)

Note: The NCAA Travel Expense System mileage calculator will be used to confirm distances from campus to campus using the “shortest” distance option. This program can be accessed online at web1.ncaa.org/TES/exec/login.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Please refer to the NCAA travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. Travel policies are located online at ncaa.org/championships/travel?division=d3.

Section 2•4 Selection Criteria

Selection Requirements. To be considered during the selection process for either an automatic berth (Pool A) or an at-large berth (Pools B and C), an institution must play at least 70% of its competition against Division III in-region opponents, unless a waiver has been approved by the Division III Championships Committee.

Countable Competition. For NCAA team-championship selection purposes, competition is countable only when the teams played are varsity intercollegiate teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions that conduct a majority of their competition in that team sport against varsity intercollegiate teams (see Constitution 3.2.4.4) of United States four-year, degree-granting institutions. Competition against service teams, professional teams, semiprofessional teams, amateur teams, two-year colleges and club teams shall be excluded.

In addition, only games listed on the institution's originally submitted schedule will be considered for tournament selection purposes. The addition of games not listed on the institution's published schedule as an aid for selection shall not be considered.

The sports committee will select teams in Pools B and C based on the criteria below. The criteria of two or more teams will be compared to determine the higher-ranked team.

An attempt will be made to determine the ranking of two or more teams after consideration of the primary criteria.

PRIMARY SELECTION CRITERIA

The primary criteria emphasize Division III competition; all criteria listed will be evaluated (not listed in priority order).

- Win-loss percentage against Division III opponents;
- Division III head-to-head competition;
- Results versus common Division III opponents;
- Results versus ranked Division III teams as established by the final ranking and the ranking preceding the final ranking. Conference postseason contests are included;
- Division III strength of schedule (see [Appendix B](#) for calculation of OWP and OOWP); and
- Nullification. (Bylaw 31.02.4)

Note:

- Contests versus provisional and reclassifying members in their third and fourth years shall count in the primary criteria. Provisional and reclassifying members shall remain ineligible for rankings and selections.

SECONDARY SELECTION CRITERIA

If the evaluation of the primary criteria does not result in a decision, the secondary criteria will be reviewed. All the criteria listed will be evaluated (not listed in priority order). The secondary criteria introduce results against all non-Division III opponents, including those contests versus opponents from other classifications (i.e., first- and second-year provisionals, NAIA, NCAA Divisions I and II).

- Division III nonconference strength of schedule.
- Non-Division III win-loss percentage.
- Results versus common non-Division III opponents.
- A team's win-loss percentage during the last 25% of the season (i.e., end-of-season performance).

DIVISION III MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Additionally, input is provided by regional advisory committees for consideration by the Men's Volleyball Committee. **Coaches' polls and/or any other outside polls or rankings are not used as a criterion by the Men's Volleyball Committee for selection purposes.**

REGIONAL ALIGNMENTS

All members of a conference will be placed in the same region for evaluation purposes, unless the Division III Championships Committee has granted an exception.

PAIRINGS

Once automatic qualifiers are identified and the Pools B and C teams are selected, the following guidelines should be followed:

- Teams will be grouped in clusters according to natural geographic proximity. Teams will then be paired according to geographic proximity. A team may be moved to numerically balance the bracket if geographic proximity is maintained. Teams should be paired and eligible sites should be selected according to geographic proximity (within 500 miles).
- Teams may be seeded on a regional basis using the regional selection criteria. However, geographic proximity takes precedence over seeding.
- Teams from the same conference shall not play one another in the first round as long as geographic proximity is maintained.

Section 2•5 Site Selection

NOT AVAILABLE FOR 2021 - Any institution interested in hosting preliminary-round competition of the men's volleyball championship must submit a proposed budget, respond to sport-specific questions and ensure the institution's key contacts and facility information are complete and current in the Championships Bid and Profile System. Please note that in order to submit a bid, you must first locate the desired championship in the "Championships Available for Bidding" section and select "Start Bid."

All member institutions can regularly and easily access their profiles by visiting championships.ncaa.org. For profile issues, user access or to reset a password, please email championshipbid@ncaa.org or contact the respective manager.

CHAMPIONSHIPS BID AND HOST PROFILE PORTAL

The Championships Bid and Profile System is located at championships.ncaa.org. The deadline to submit all preliminary-round bid materials for this championship is Friday, April 3.

In addition to projected ticket sales and game expenses, prospective hosts should include the following when completing a proposed budget:

- Committee/site representative lodging;
- Game officials lodging;
- State and city taxes/fees; and
- Ticket and facility fees.
- The NCAA will pay for committee/site representative's and game officials per diem, mileage and luggage fees directly. The host will not pay these expenses.

PROSPECTIVE HOSTS

The highest-seeded team that meets all selection criteria (and after a review of the submitted host materials) will be selected as the host institution, provided geographic proximity is maintained.

The following site-selection criteria for the men's volleyball championship have been approved:

1. Full completion of the bid package in order to be considered for hosting. This includes answering all questions on the facility evaluation form and submitting key contact forms, a copy of the hotel contract(s) outlining the number of rooms reserved and the rate, a proposed budget, a facility diagram and an insurance certificate.
2. Quality and availability of the facility and other necessary accommodations (including being ADA accessible).
3. Geographical locations (including such factors as rotation of sites, weather, accessibility and transportation costs).

4. Seeding.
5. Attendance history and revenue potential, which shall be considered necessary to assure fiscal responsibility.
6. The host institution is required to secure housing for each of the participating teams and NCAA representatives within 30 miles of the competition site unless approved by the Men's Volleyball Committee.
7. A maximum of 11 non-smoking double rooms and one king room will be reserved for each of the participating teams; the housing may be in the same property or separate properties.
8. It is recommended that the host institution negotiate favorable room rates at each of these properties, with no more than a \$20 difference in rates.
9. The host institution must reserve four or five rooms for the game officials (depending on the location of the alternate official's home) and a room(s) for the NCAA representative(s) at a property separate from the team properties.
10. If hosting the event on campus, all practices must be on the competition floor. If hosting the competition off campus, the host institution must make available at least one practice session on the competition floor at some time before each team's final match.
11. A minimum of 100 tickets must be guaranteed for each participating team.
12. A working media area must be provided.
13. A separate postgame interview area must be provided at the competition site.
14. Separate locker-room areas (with restrooms within the locker rooms) should be provided for the participating teams within the facility.
15. A locker room separate from the team locker rooms must be provided for officials. This locker room should also include showers and restrooms.
16. Separate hospitality areas should be provided for participants and officials at the competition site.
17. All team practice sessions Thursday, Friday and Saturday must be closed practices.
18. An institution must have a facility that can seat a minimum of 500/1,000 spectators (Preliminary rounds/finals).
19. Priority will be given to sites with the ability to provide updated statistics after each set and webcasting.

FACILITY PROFILE

Institutions interested in hosting championship preliminary-round competition must add (or ensure accuracy of) facility information for the applicable competition venue. This information is located at championships.ncaa.org. Any supporting information (e.g., facility diagram, pictures) may be uploaded and attached to that facility's profile. This information will be made available to the sport committee to aid in their deliberations of prospective host sites.

KEY CONTACTS

Each institution should list and then maintain its key contacts associated with each sport and the institution. Individuals can be added via the Championships Bid and Host Profile portal at championships.ncaa.org.

SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN

Each facility profile should include the safety and security plan for that facility. This information can be uploaded and attached to the profile by visiting championships.ncaa.org.

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

A final financial report from each championship site must be submitted via the Championships Bid and Host Profile portal under the "budget" tab not later than 60 days after the event.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact Nick Strah at 317-917-6674 or nstrah@ncaa.org, or email us at championshipbid@ncaa.org, if you have any questions regarding the bid process.

Appendixes

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Appendix A • Bracket

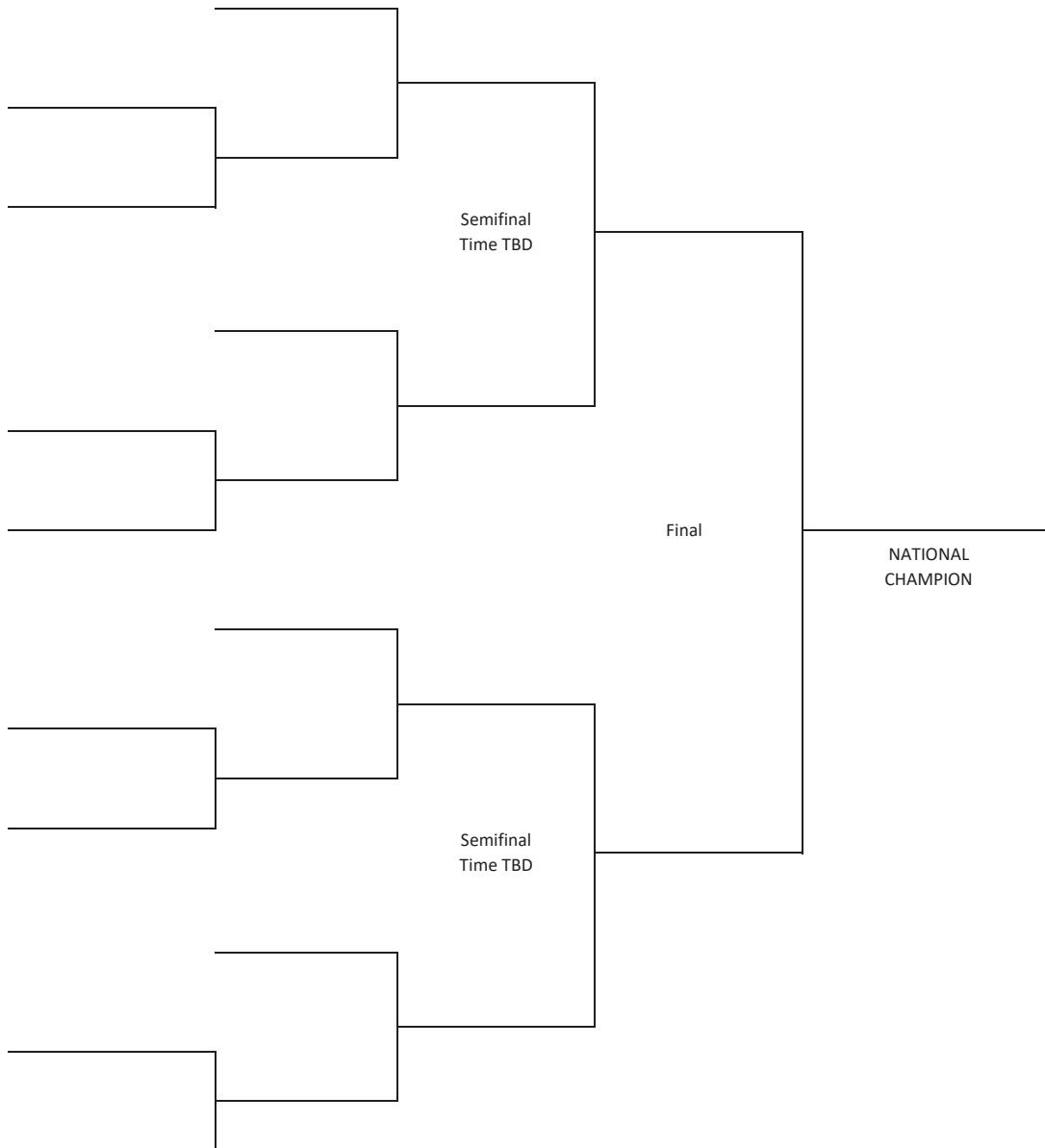


April 21

April 22

April 23

April 24



*Denotes host site
^Denotes home team

All rounds will be held at the Salem Civic Center in Salem, Virginia
All times are Eastern Time.
Information subject to change.
For more details, visit NCAA.com.

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Appendix B • OWP and OOWP Calculation

Opponents' Average Winning Percentage (OWP) and Opponents' Opponents' Average Winning Percentage (OOWP) Calculation Explanation

Opponents' Average Winning Percentage (OWP). Take each opponent's regular won-lost percentage against other Division III teams (excluding the results against the team in question) and average the percentages.

To calculate: Team A's schedule is as follows:

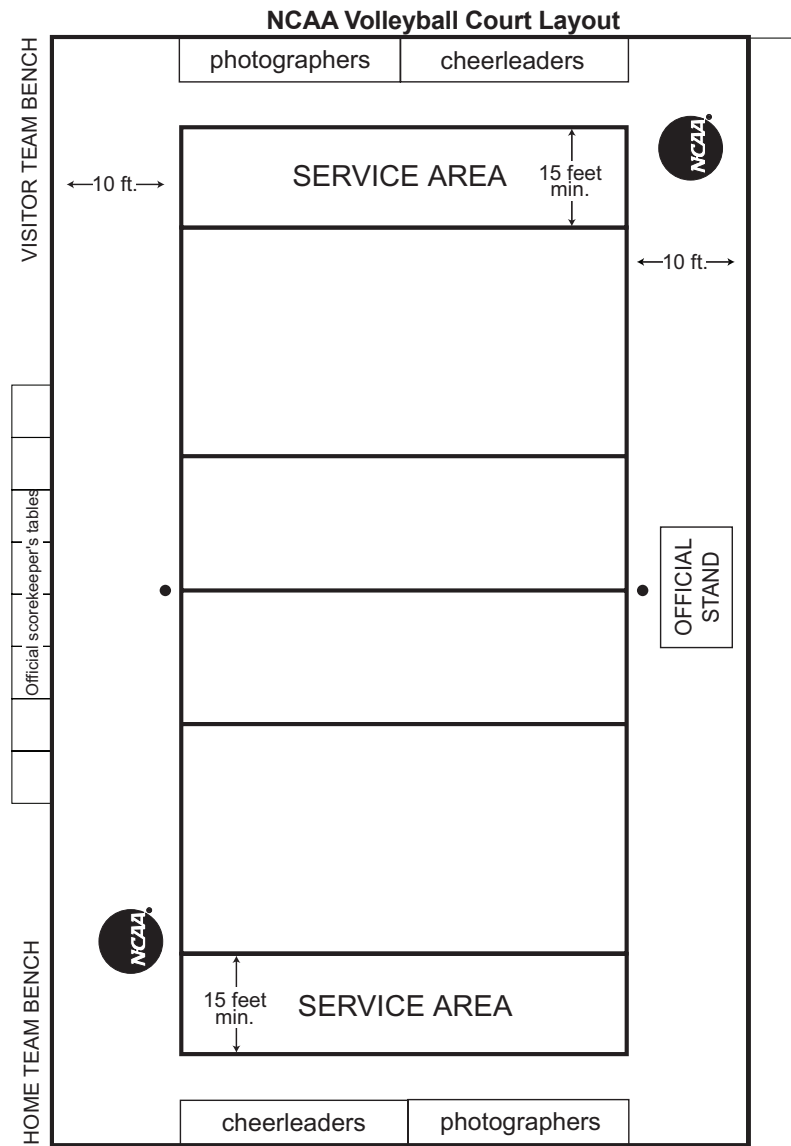
Opponent	Record	Vs Team A	Revised Record	Revised W-L Percentage
Team B	21-7	0-1	21-6	.7778
Team C	11-15	0-1	11-14	.4400
Team D	7-20	0-1	7-19	.2692
Team E	13-13	0-1	13-12	.5200
Team F	23-6	1-0	22-6	.7857
Total			74-56 (.5692)	.5585 (OWP)

Team A's Opponents' Average Winning Percentage = .5585

Opponents' Opponents' Average Winning Percentage (OOWP). The strength of each opponent's schedule is measured by computing the opponents' winning percentage for each opponent, the averaging the percentages. This recognizes the fact that two opponents with similar won-lost records may have played far different schedules (in terms of strength of opponents).

To calculate: Take the schedules of Teams B, C, D, E and F and perform the same calculation as above (OWP). It is important to note that the OOWP will support the OWP (i.e., if Teams A and B have the same OWP of .5692 and Team A has an OOWP of .6125 and Team B has an OOWP of .4567, it would indicate that Team A has the stronger strength of schedule).

Appendix C • Court Layout



Appendix D • Match Protocol

Single-Match Protocol

Game Clock	Time Allotted	Protocol
60	20	Shared warm-up; no crossover
40	15	Split court; serve and pass with controlled hitting
30		Coin toss
25	5	Visiting team court
20	5	Home team court
15	5	Visiting team court
10	5	Home team court
5		Line-ups on end line; National Anthem
0		Start

Multiple Match Protocol

The completion court will be available 40 minutes prior to the schedule match time. If there is less than 40 minutes, the court will be available approximately 10 minutes after the previous match concludes.

Game Clock	Time Allotted	Protocol
40	15	Split court; serve and pass with controlled hitting
30		Coin toss
25	5	Visiting team court
20	5	Home team court
15	5	Visiting team court
10	5	Home team court
5		Line-ups on end line; National Anthem
0		Start

Appendix E • Sport Sponsorship

EAST REGION

City University of New York Athletic Conference (8)

Baruch College	John Jay College of Criminal Justice
Brooklyn College	Lehman College
The City College of New York	Medgar Evers College
Hunter College	York College (New York)

(No AQ in 2021) AQ – Postseason Tournament Champion

Great Northeast Athletic Conference (8)

Colby-Sawyer College	Lasell University
Dean College	Regis College (Massachusetts)
Emerson College	Rivier University
Emmanuel College (Massachusetts)	Wentworth Institute of Technology

(No AQ in 2021) AQ – Postseason Tournament Champion

New England Collegiate Conference (6)

Eastern Nazarene College	Lesley University
Elms College	Nichols College
Endicott College	Northern Vermont University-Johnson

AQ – Postseason Tournament Champion

North Eastern Athletic Conference (4)

Lancaster Bible College	State University of New York at Potsdam
State University of New York Polytechnic Institute	Wells College

Do not meet AQ requirements - All teams pool B

Skyline Conference (8)

College of Mount St. Vincent	Sarah Lawrence College
New Jersey City University	St. Joseph's College (Brooklyn)
Purchase College, State University of New York	St. Joseph's College (Long Island)
Ramapo College	Yeshiva University

AQ – Postseason Tournament Champion

United Volleyball Conference (9)

Bard College	Russell Sage College
Elmira College	St. John Fisher College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	State University of New York at New Paltz
Nazareth College	Vassar College
New York University	

AQ – Postseason Tournament Champion

Pool B Institutions (4)

Pine Manor College	Springfield College
Saint Elizabeth University	Wilson College

WEST REGION

Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (8)

Geneva College
 Hilbert College
 Hiram College
 Medaille College

Penn State University, Altoona
 Pennsylvania State University Erie, the Behrend College
 Saint Vincent College
 Thiel College

AQ – Postseason Tournament Champion

College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (7)

Augustana College (Illinois)
 Carthage College
 Illinois Wesleyan
 Loras College

Millikin University
 North Central College
 North Park University

Do not meet AQ requirements - All teams pool B

Continental Volleyball Conference (10)

Eastern Mennonite University
 Elizabethtown College
 Immaculata University
 Juniata College
 Kean University

Marymount University (Virginia)
 Neumann University
 Randolph-Macon College
 Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Newark
 Southern Virginia University

AQ – Postseason Tournament Champion

Midwest Collegiate Volleyball League (9)

Adrian College
 Baldwin Wallace University
 Fontbonne University
 Mount St. Joseph University
 University of Mount Union

Olivet College
 Trine University
 Wabash College
 Wittenberg University

AQ – Postseason Tournament Champion

Middle Atlantic Conferences (10)

Alvernia University
 Arcadia University
 Eastern University
 King's College (Pennsylvania)
 Messiah University

Misericordia University
 Stevens Institute of Technology
 Stevenson University
 Widener University
 Wilkes University

AQ – Postseason Tournament Champion

Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference (13)

Aurora University
 Benedictine University (Illinois)
 Concordia University, Chicago
 Concordia University Wisconsin
 Dominican University (Illinois)
 Edgewood College
 Illinois Institute of Technology

Lakeland University
 Marian University (Wisconsin)
 Milwaukee School of Engineering
 Rockford University
 St. Norbert College
 Wisconsin Lutheran College

AQ – Postseason Tournament Champion

Pool B Institutions (5)

Cairn University
 California Lutheran University
 University of California, Santa Cruz

Maranatha Baptist University
 Rosemont College