



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III MEN'S VOLLEYBALL COMMITTEE
JUNE 14-15, 2022, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Automatic qualification.

(1) Recommendation. That the following 12 conferences be approved for automatic qualification to the 2023 NCAA Division III Men's Volleyball Championship: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference, City University of New York Athletic Conference; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin; Colonial States Athletic Conference; Continental Volleyball Conference; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Middle Atlantic Conferences; Midwest Collegiate Volleyball League; New England Collegiate Conference; Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference; Skyline Conference; United Volleyball Conference.

(1) Effective date. September 1, 2022.

(2) Rationale. Each conference meets the requirements of Bylaw 31.3.2 and has completed the automatic-qualification declaration form.

Anticipated Pool Allocations

Pool A – 12

Pool B – 1

Pool C – 3

(3) Estimated budget impact. None.

(4) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Realignment.

(1) Recommendation. That Division III men's volleyball be expanded from three to four regions.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2022.

(3) Rationale. Currently, 117 member schools are in three regions, with four additional schools already announcing sponsorship plans for the 2024 season, and more schools likely to follow. With the growing sponsorship numbers, there is a high probability that additional conferences will be eligible for Pool A designation. According to our research, there is a strong possibility of one conference splitting to form two in the next year or two. The committee believes the trend of growing sponsorship will continue and it will

be beneficial to expand from three to four regions immediately. The committee also noted the following to support its recommendation:

- Strength was a factor when discussing where conferences should be placed, while maintaining geographical balance.
- Every conference member was placed into the same region. As conference affiliations change, schools must be made aware that their region will change to maintain this principal.
- Based on 2022-23 sponsorship numbers, the four regions will have 27, 28, 30 and 32 teams, respectively, which is in line with the commissioners' values. (See the Attachment for the updated regions.)
- In the proposed model, the national committee would still reflect representation from each region.
- The committee believes that this realignment would increase the value of each ranking produced throughout the season.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Agenda and meeting schedule.** The committee reviewed the meeting schedule and agenda.
2. **2021 annual meeting report.** The committee approved the 2021 annual meeting report as presented.
3. **2022 championship review.**
 - a. **Host operations.** The committee discussed how Carthage did a tremendous job in hosting a championship on short notice. The facilities were excellent, along with the host's abilities to be flexible. In lieu of a banquet, the host utilized their Esports arena, in combination with catering.
 - b. **Hudl film exchange.** Members continue to support the relationship and film exchange process through Hudl for future championships. The committee emphasized the need to require that an end-line view be uploaded for advance scouting purposes.
4. **Governance update.** The Division III governance and academic and membership affairs staffs updated the committee on the following: 1) NCAA Constitution; 2) playing and practice season model; 3) budget priorities for championship expense allocation; 4) budget priorities for championship experiences; 5) gender equity review; 6) NCAA Convention legislation.
5. **Playing rules update.** The playing rules staff provided updates to the Division III and National Collegiate Committees, including a discussion of items (e.g., switching of benches between sets and additions to the Challenge Review System [CRS]) for inclusion within the men's volleyball

rules modifications document. The committees moved to add the "libero foot review" and "net touch combo" to the CRS. Staff noted that the questions for comment of switching benches and the number of challenges available in the fifth set will be included in the membership survey this summer. The committee also discussed adjustments being made to the Electronic Communications to the Bench policy located in the pre-championship manual. Video-to-video will be allowed; however, audio-to-audio will remain impermissible. Staff provided an update of rules proposals that were reviewed by the NCAA Women's Volleyball Rules Committee. The committee would like to continue conversations regarding the positions of a possible national coordinator of officials and rules interpreter for the sport.

6. **Preview of 2023 championship.** The committee discussed the 2023 championship to be conducted in Owings Mills, Maryland, and hosted by Stevenson University.
7. **AVCA All-Star game.** The committee expressed interest in conducting an All-Star game at the championship site, noting the Division III men's basketball all-star game that occurs at their championship and how it enhances the experience for those in the game and the atmosphere at the championship with more attendees. The NABC representative went over costs prior to the meeting and the next steps would be to talk to the AVCA about their interest and level of commitment in such an event.
8. **AVCA discussion.** The AVCA updated the committee on a few items related to the growth of men's volleyball. There have been discussions of a possible joint championship to include both the National Collegiate Championship and the Division III Championship. Ideas to include boys' events and/ or NAIA events were mentioned as well.
9. **Future championship dates and sites.**
 - a. 2023 – Stevenson University, April 28-29.
 - b. 2024 – Loras College, April 26-27.
 - c. 2025 – Old Dominion Athletic Conference and City of Salem, April 25-26.
 - d. 2026 – Springfield College, April 24-25.
10. **2022-23 committee calendar.** The committee reviewed the committee schedule, noting they would like to continue to conduct RAC calls on Tuesdays instead of Wednesdays and national committee calls on Wednesdays instead of Thursdays.
11. **National and regional advisory committee updates.** The committee reviewed the current regional advisory committee roster and noted the vacancies that need to be filled for the upcoming year. NCAA staff will work with conference commissioners to fill the vacancies. The committee also agreed that Rob Wingert, head men's and women's volleyball coach at Misericordia University, will serve as chair of the national committee for 2022-23 when current chair Mike Zapolski's term expires at the end of August. Mr. Wingert has served on the committee for three years and is currently seeking a one-year extension due to the covid interruption in 2019-20. He served on the Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee while he was a

student-athlete at Stevenson University and will continue to be an excellent leader and spokesperson to advance the sport in his role as chair.

12. Officials fees. The committee discussed an increase in pay for participating line judges in the preliminary and final round(s). After reviewing the rates offered by various conferences, the committee would like to increase the game fee for line judges from \$65 to \$80 per match, an increase of \$900 for the tournament. The committee discussed various ways to supplement this amount (e.g. request additional funds or reallocate from other budget line items). The committee will discuss with the women's volleyball committee to formulate a proposal for the next budget cycle.

Committee Chair: Mike Zapolski, Augustana College (Illinois).

Staff Liaison: Jonathan Youngblood, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division III Men's Volleyball Committee June 15, 2022, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Courtney Bernstein, College of Mount Saint Vincent.	
Evin Giglio, Wentworth Institute of Technology.	
Rob Wingert, Misericordia University.	
Mike Zapolski, Augustana College (Illinois).	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Richard Gary, Vassar College.	
Pat Henderson, AVCA.	
Brad Wilson, AVCA.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Jonathan Youngblood, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Eric Hartung, Governance.	
Bri Rigney, Championships and Alliances.	

Region 1	# of Teams	Region 2	# of Teams	Region 3	# of Teams	Region 4	# of Teams	
GNAC	9	UVC	7	AMCC	10	CCIW	6	
NECC	9	CSAC	9	CVC	9	Midwest	9	
CCNYAC	8	Skyline	8	MAC	11	NACC	13	
						Cal Lu	1	
		SUNY Old Westbury	1			Santa Cruz	1	
		Drew	1			Maranatha Baptist	1	
Springfield	1	Immaculata	1			Simpson College	1	
		Nuemann University	1					
	27		28		30		32	117

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	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4
0.15	4.05	4.2	4.5	4.8
0.16	4.32	4.48	4.8	5.12
0.17	4.59	4.76	5.1	5.44
0.18	4.86	5.04	5.4	5.76
0.19	5.13	5.32	5.7	6.08
0.2	5.4	5.6	6	6.4
0.21	5.67	5.88	6.3	6.72

