



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION III WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 5-6 MEETING**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- **None.**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and announcements.** The committee chair and championship manager welcomed the committee members.
2. **Meeting schedule and agenda.** NCAA staff reviewed the meeting schedule and agenda.
3. **2023 American Volleyball Coaches Association convention report.** The committee reviewed the report that the NCAA staff presented to the Division III coaches during the American Volleyball Coaches Association convention in December 2023.
4. **2023-24 NCAA Division III Championships Committee actions.** The committee received an update from the Division III Championships Committee liaison about the current budget cycle, including per diem, access ratio, officiating fees and NPI also known as pairwise.
5. **Division III governance update.** NCAA governance staff provided updates on several topics, including the NCAA's new media rights agreement with ESPN that will include coverage of the Division III Women's Volleyball Championship finals.
6. **Division III academic and membership affairs update.** NCAA academic and membership affairs staff provided an update on the new Division III philosophy statement that will be instituted in August. In addition, the committee provided feedback on the new playing season model and how it has impacted scheduling, student-athletes and athletic training staff.
7. **Volleyball playing rules update.** NCAA playing rules staff provided an update on the proposed rule changes for 2024 and 2025. The committee reviewed the results from the 2023 NCAA women's volleyball rules survey and data.
8. **Review of ranking and selection criteria.** The committee reviewed and discussed the current selection criteria.
9. **Review of 2023 championship.** The committee reviewed participant surveys from the championship, which was hosted by Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges. The committee commended the host for providing an excellent championship experience for student-athletes, teams and fans. The committee also reviewed participant surveys from the eight regional sites and identified strengths and areas to consider for an improved experienced at regional competition.

- a. **Officials.** The committee reviewed the process and timeline to select postseason officials with NCAA Division III National Coordinator of Volleyball Officials Denise Penzkofer, who is working to finalize the list of recommended regional officials and will ask the committee to approve in late February. After the regional officials are approved by the committee, NCAA staff will send them a “save the date” memo. Ms. Penzkofer recommended four finals officials for the 2024 finals site, which the committee discussed and will approve in late February. NCAA staff will send contracts to those officials.

The committee discussed the current selection process of regional line judges. Ms. Penzkofer will be responsible for compiling a list of line judges for each region working directly with conference assignors.

The committee discussed the challenge review system process at the finals site and areas to consider for improvement with camera angles and quality of replay video provided by DVSport.

- b. **Banquet.** The committee discussed how to continue enhancing the banquet and areas to consider for an improved experience for student-athletes, including food options and setup. In addition, the committee agreed to continue collaborating with the AVCA to enhance the All-American award winners.
  - c. **Championship format.** The committee discussed modifying the current quarterfinal competition schedule for regionals and finals. The current competition schedule has quarterfinal matches beginning at 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. The committee will continue to discuss and consider adjusting the quarterfinal competition schedule to help with timing and completion of matches.
  - d. **Bracket.** The committee discussed modifying the match structure for the finals site.
  - e. **Film exchange policy.** The committee discussed issues related to film exchange and recommended a meeting with Hudl and Volleymetrics to improve upload and exchange.
  - f. **Awards.** The committee reviewed and approved the current award allotment for the 2024 championships.
10. **2024 championship planning.** The committee met with Carey Harvey Cutter, tournament director for the 2024 championships. The committee discussed important areas to focus on for continued enhancement of the student-athlete experience.
11. **2026-28 Host Bid Process.** The committee reviewed the prospective bids and discussed the next steps in selecting the finals site host cities for the 2026 and 2027 championships.

**12. National committee and regional advisory committee rosters.** The committee reviewed the committee rosters and noted vacancies for 2024-25.

**13. Committee chair and vice chair.** The committee confirmed that Sam Atkinson, associate athletics director for communications at Gallaudet University, and Drew Hargrave, the head women's volleyball coach at Haverford College, will serve as the committee chair and vice chair, respectively, for 2024-25.

**14. Annual committee meeting.** The committee identified Monday-Tuesday, February 3-4, as the dates for the 2025 annual committee meeting.

*Committee Chair:* Sam Atkinson, Gallaudet University.  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Victoria Lipscomb, Championships and Alliances.

Division III Women's Volleyball Committee February 5-6, 2024, Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Matthew McMasters, Tufts University.	
Paul Dill, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.	
Kristin Maile, Sarah Lawrence College.	
Sam Atkinson, Gallaudet University.	
Drew Hargrave, Haverford College.	
Caitlyn Moriarty, Berry College ( <i>virtual attendee</i> ).	
Sarah Dehring, Alma College.	
Melanee Wagener, Mount St. Joseph.	
Gretchen Hunt, Bethel University (Minnesota).	
Gabrielle Houston, University of California Santa Cruz ( <i>virtual attendee</i> ).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Denise Penzkofer, NCAA Division III National Coordinator of Volleyball Officials ( <i>virtual attendee</i> ).	
Alice Rogers, AVCA Division III Staff ( <i>virtual attendee</i> ).	
( <i>virtual attendee</i> ).	
Kurt Vlasich, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges ( <i>virtual attendee</i> ).	
Ben Somera, Wesleyan University (Connecticut) ( <i>virtual attendee</i> ).	
Julie Voeck, Secretary-Rules Editor ( <i>virtual attendee</i> ).	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Ali Spungen, Division III Governance ( <i>virtual attendee</i> ).	
Laura Peterson-Mlynski, Championships and Alliances.	

Corey Berg, Academic and Membership Affairs.
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Rachel Seewald, Playing Rules.
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