



MEMORANDUM

February 6, 2023

VIA EMAIL

TO: Head Coaches, Senior Woman Administrators and Sports Information Directors at NCAA Institutions and Commissioners at NCAA Conferences that Sponsor National Collegiate Beach Volleyball.

FROM: Kristin W. Fasbender
Director, Championships and Alliances

Julie Cribbs, chair
NCAA Women's Beach Volleyball Committee.

SUBJECT: 2023 National Collegiate Beach Volleyball Information.

The following is important information concerning the 2023 season:

1. Championship Format and Selection. For the 2023 season, the tournament field has been expanded to 17 teams. Those 17 teams will include nine automatic qualifiers and eight teams at-large. The following nine conferences have been awarded an AQ for the 2023 championship.
 - ASUN Conference
 - Big West Conference
 - Coastal Collegiate Association Beach Volleyball
 - Conference USA
 - Ohio Valley Conference
 - Pacific-12 Conference
 - Southland Conference
 - Sun Belt Conference
 - West Coast Conference

Conferences must notify the NCAA of their automatic qualifier by 6 p.m. Eastern time Saturday, April 29. All matches will be played in Gulf Shores, Alabama.

Per NCAA Bylaw 31, a bracket may only be filled 50% by automatic qualifying conferences. With the 2023 season, the beach volleyball tournament will have nine automatic qualifying conferences. Conference AQ teams ranked eight and nine will play in an opening-round dual Wednesday, May 3. The winner of that dual will advance to play in the first-round duals Friday, May 5.

The tournament is a single-elimination tournament. Eight duals Friday, May 5, four quarterfinal duals the morning of Saturday, May 6, and two semifinal duals Saturday afternoon. The national championship dual will be held Sunday, May 7.

2. Lineup Challenge Process. Coaches can challenge pre- or postmatch legality of team lineups and player movement regulations. Coaches will be required to fill out a challenge form and submit it to the NCAA within 24 hours after the start of the match. The NCAA Women's Volleyball Committee will review the challenge and if it is determined that a player was played out of order, the team will forfeit the match at that position as well as receive a fine. Fines will be assessed according to the approved NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee structure.

The challenge form is available [here](#).

The NCAA lineup form is available [here](#).

3. Lineup Adjustments. If a student-athlete is out of the lineup for a significant amount of time due to injury, academics, etc., the committee has put in a new protocol to adjust their returning spot.

If a player is out:

12 full duals – they may return two spots lower in the lineup than where they went out.

16 full duals – they may return three spots lower in the lineup than where they went out.

20 full duals – their status may reset to full alternate status.

4. 2023 Pre-Championship Manual. The manual will be available by February 17 and can be accessed by clicking [here](#).
5. Selection Criteria. As a reminder, starting with the 2023 season, the committee will select eight teams at-large.

Selection criteria for at-large bids.

- a. Head-to-head competition.
- b. Results versus common opponents.
- c. Strength of schedule.
- d. Overall record (must be .500 or above).

6. 2023 Rules Modifications. The 2023 rules modifications are now available and can be accessed by clicking [here](#). Please direct any rules questions to Bri Rigney at brigney@ncaa.org and Katy Meyer at katy.meyer@me.com.

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7. NCAA Scoresheet. It is required that institutions use the NCAA scoresheet during competition. The scoresheet can be found [here](#).
8. Selection Show. The 17 teams for the championship will be selected Sunday, April 30, with the time to be determined. Selections will be released on NCAA.com.
9. As a reminder, when hosting a match or tournament, your facility should be set and ready for the match. Officials will check the courts but the facility needs to be ready for play.

Please contact us with questions, using the contact information listed below.

Kristin Fasbender
kfasbender@ncaa.org
317-917-6520

Julie Cribbs
jcribbs@lsu.edu
225-832-1316

Enclosure

KWF/JC:djw