



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA WOMEN'S BEACH VOLLEYBALL COMMITTEE
MAY 21-22, 2019, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Review agenda and meeting schedule. The committee reviewed the schedule and agenda for the meeting.

2. Review of 2019 championship.

a. Review of evaluations. The committee reviewed the evaluations received after the championship. The fans and teams continue to enjoy the experience provided in Gulf Shores. The committee will continue to work with our host city to look for ways to enhance the competition site.

b. Championship review.

(1) Merchandise. This year, Event 1 added more colorful apparel, which sold well for the championship. The merchandise tent was open on practice day this year, which led to increased sales. This practice will continue for the 2020 championship.

(2) Equipment (Wilson, Sports Imports). The equipment the suppliers provided for the championship was well received. The committee noted that the number of champion hats and T-shirts provided to the winning team should be increased. Staff will work with suppliers to address the quantity.

(3) Signage. The signage at the championship continues to grow each year. With the addition of another camera jib platform this year, the committee and staff will look to brand the platforms with specific championship signage.

(4) Ancillary activities (e.g., banquet, autograph session, etc.) The awards ceremony went smoothly this year. The committee continues to explore ways to enhance the experience. The cutting of the net and the run to the ocean are both great opportunities for the national champions.

The banquet is a great event for the teams and student-athletes. The committee did discuss whether there is an opportunity to change the location, simply to provide a change in atmosphere for teams that have been to the championship repeatedly. Staff will review that request with Gulf Shores and see what options may be available.

The autograph sessions are always well received. The location is great for the teams; however, the committee asked whether air conditioning and power could be provided to the tents. If so, the committee wants to explore moving the autograph sessions into the tents. Staff will review internally and work through potential logistics.

- (5) **Announcer/DJ.** Feedback indicates that both the announcer and DJ continue to provide a great atmosphere for the championship. This year, all the speakers were on their own system, so the sound could be controlled a little better throughout the venue.
- (6) **Court layout.** The committee agreed that moving courts four and five closer together and closer to courts one, two and three improved the overall experience for the student-athletes and fans. It made it a more compact footprint and fans were able to see more of the action.

For 2020, the committee would like to see the bleachers be higher, if possible, to allow fans to have more seating space available in the first two rows.

- c. **Media coordination review.** The committee asked whether a media tent could be set up courtside for the 2020 championship, which would allow the media more access to the student-athletes post-match.
- d. **2019 schedule of events.** The committee reviewed the schedule from the championship and appreciated the adjustments made to accommodate for the weather issues that occurred on Saturday. The committee discussed possibly moving matches earlier on Saturday versus the current schedule. Staff will review the schedule and work with ESPN on the potential for this change.
- e. **Practice.**
 - **Court usage.** The committee discussed the use of the practice courts on Wednesday for teams that arrive early. Staff will follow up on what would be allowed for teams to use on an additional practice day.
- f. **Selections.**
 - (1) **Score reporting system review.** The committee continues to review tools to evaluate the selection of teams to the championship and continues to feel that the current score

reporting system is the best tool for the beach volleyball championship. Members also noted that the results on the final day of the season will be sent directly to Lauren Mclaughlin at the NCAA national office versus being inputted by the conferences. This will help with the final run of the scores.

- (2) **Conference tournament completion timeline.** The selection show will be at 7 p.m. ET, and the committee will start the selection process at noon.
- (3) **Criteria review.** No changes were made to the selection criteria for the 2019-20 season.
- 3. Automatic qualification/bracket expansion discussion.** The committee continues to discuss the opportunity for expanding the tournament. The Competition Oversight Committee will continue considering possible bracket expansion and automatic qualification for future budget approval and implementation.
- 4. Officials review/national assignor.** The committee felt that working with the conference assignors to establish a watch list of officials for this year's championship was very successful. This process will continue for the 2020 championship with a similar timeline. The committee will continue to work on ways to introduce new officials to the championship process and train them throughout the season.
- 5. Rules modifications.** The committee did not have any rules modifications to implement for the 2020 season and will work with the rules interpreter and NCAA staff to survey the coaches this fall on some potential items for the future.
- 6. Lineup process.** The committee continues to discuss the process of submitting lineups during the season and the penalty for competing with a player deemed by rule as being out of lineup order. During the 2019 season, coaches were allowed to challenge lineups that they deemed were out of order. The committee felt that this process gave more weight to making sure lineups were submitted correctly and will continue this process for the 2020 season.

For the 2020 season, the committee is considering allowing some flexibility for coaches with athletes who have been removed from the lineup for injuries, academic reasons or other circumstances. The committee feels that a player who has been out of the lineup for a long time should not have to come back in the lineup in their old position. The committee is working on identifying a certain number of matches that a student-athlete would have to be out for the entry position to be adjusted. The committee will discuss this further and look to implement something for the 2020 season.

- 7. Television.** Morgan Ainsle, Pat Lowry, Dan Margulis and Missy Motha joined the committee via conference call to review the 2019 championship. The committee continues to appreciate

the coverage and passion that ESPN has shown for the championship. The ability to adjust for the inclement weather on Saturday was a great collaboration by all involved. Year-by-year numbers revealed significant growth for the championship match. ESPN continues to desire mic'ing coaches to gain more insight into their philosophy, but staff has noted this is not currently allowed due to the bylaws. ESPN has also asked staff to identify more time on Thursday for team interviews. Staff will review the current schedule and see whether this can be accommodated.

8. Meeting with American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) representatives. The committee met with Kathy DeBoer and Kristen Rohr from the AVCA. They commended the committee for the continued growth and exceptional experience for the student-athletes at the championship. They also appreciated the work done to incorporate the men's championship watch party into the overall championship schedule. They do have some concerns with the new transfer portal, and staff will follow up internally on those. The portal currently does not allow for beach coaches to see student-athletes who are transferring from indoor to beach if the institution they are transferring from doesn't have beach. This portal was designed for compliance and not necessarily as a recruiting tool.

9. Committee update.

- a. Committee composition/terms.** The committee will have two new members for the 2019-20 year.
- b. 2019-20 committee timeline.** The committee will continue its current timeline structure for the 2020 season.
- c. 2020 annual meeting.** The committee will meet May 19-20.

Committee Chair: Kelcey Roegiers, Georgia State University, Coastal Collegiate Sports Association

Staff Liaison(s): Kristin W. Fasbender, NCAA Championships and Alliances

NCAA Women's Beach Volleyball Committee May 21-22, 2019, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Rita Buck-Crockett, Florida International University.	
Joan McDermott, University of San Francisco	
Todd Rogers, California State Polytechnic Institute.	
Kelcey Roegiers, Georgia State University.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Morgan Ainsle, ESPN. (via videoconference)	
Kathy DeBoer, American Volleyball Coaches Association.	

Pat Lowry, ESPN. (via videoconference)
Dan Margulis, ESPN. (via videoconference)
Missy Motha, ESPN. (via videoconference)
Kristen Rohr, Grand Canyon University. (via teleconference)
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Kristin W. Fasbender.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Julie Kimmons.