PRE-CHAMPIONSHIP
2016-17 MANUAL
# Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section 1 • Introduction</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 1•1 Definitions</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 2 • Championship Core Statement</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 3 • Concussion Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 4 • Conduct</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 4•1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 4•2 Drug Testing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 4•3 Honesty and Sportsmanship</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 4•4 Misconduct/Failure to Adhere to Policies</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 4•5 Sports Wagering Policy</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 4•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 5 • Elite 90 Award</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 6 • Fan Travel</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 7 • Logo Policy</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 8 • Research</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section 9 • Religious Conflicts</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 1 • Introduction

During the 2016-17 academic year, the Association will sponsor 90 national championships – 42 for men, 45 for women, and three for both men and women. Among the men’s championships, three are National Collegiate Championships, 13 are Division I championships, 12 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. Among the women’s championships, six are National Collegiate Championships, 12 are Division I championships, 13 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. The combined men’s and women’s championships are National Collegiate Championships.

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.

The first section applies to policies applicable to all 90 championships, while the other two 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 administrators.
Appendixes. Any supplemental documents to be provided and distributed through the various resources.
Championship Administrator. The NCAA staff member 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.
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 selection process.
Site Selection. 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 3.2.4.18 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Constitution 3.3.4.16 in the NCAA Division II Manual, and Constitution 3.2.4.16 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.


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, Manuals Constitution 3.3.4 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaws 31.2.2 and 31.2.1.5 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 sports 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 31.2.3 in the NCAA Division I Manual and Bylaws 18.4.1.5 and 31.2.3 in the NCAA Division II, and III Manuals.]

Student-athletes who compete in NCAA championships may be subjected to drug tests in accordance with Bylaws 18.4.1.4 (Division I); 18.4.1.5 (Divisions II and III) and 31.2.3, 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 policy and procedure and fines.

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; 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 prohibition against sports wagering applies to any institutional practice or any competition (intercollegiate, amateur or professional) in a sport in which the Association 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 involved in sports wagering on the student-athlete’s institution permanently loses all remaining regular-season and postseason eligibility in all sports. A student-athlete who is involved in any sports wagering activity that involves college sports or professional athletics, through internet gambling, a bookmaker, a parlay card or any other method employed by organized gambling, will be ineligible for all regular-season and postseason competition for at least one year.

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
No predetermined or non-predetermined session of an NCAA championship may be conducted in a state with legal wagering that is based on single-game betting on the outcome of any event (i.e., high school, college or professional) in a sport in which the NCAA conducts a championship.

Section 4•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey
After each championship, student-athletes will be asked to participate in a post-event survey intended to capture feedback on their recent championship experience. Institutional administrators will be copied on the email and asked to ensure participation from all student-athletes and coaches.

Section 5 • Elite 90 Award
The Elite 90 award was created to recognize the true essence of the student-athlete by honoring the individual who has reached the pinnacle of competition at the national championship level in his or her sport, while also achieving the highest academic standard among his or her peers. The award is presented in every sport, every division, and goes to the student-athlete who has the highest cumulative GPA 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. To receive more information or access the online form and submit a nomination, go to NCAA.org.

Section 6 • Fan Travel
NCAA Travel provides an easy and affordable way for family and fans to follow their favorite student-athletes and team(s) as they participate in NCAA championships competition. Travel arrangements completed through NCAA Travel help support NCAA student-athletes. Please direct your fans to NCAA.com/travel to search and book online hotel, car and air travel, all in one easy transaction.

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 warm-ups) and all other items of apparel (e.g., socks, headbands, T-shirts, wristbands, visors or hats, swim caps and towels) shall bear only a single manufacturer’s or distributor’s normal label or trademark (regardless of the visibility of the label or trademark), not to exceed 2¼ 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 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 • Religious Conflicts

[Reference: Bylaws 31.1.4.1 and 31.1.4.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual.]

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 on or before September 1 of each academic year in order for it or one of its student-athletes to be excused from competing on that day. The championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution. (Adopted: 4/22/98, Revised: 8/11/98, 10/28/99, 5/2/13)

Individual Championships. In individual championships, an athlete must compete according to the institution’s policy regarding Sunday competition (if the institution has no policy against Sunday competition, the athlete shall compete on Sunday if required by the schedule).
National Collegiate Beach Volleyball

Contents

Section 1 • General Administration .......................................................... 8
Section 1•1  NCAA Tournament Operations Staff Contact Information ......................................................... 8
Section 1•2  National Committee ...................................................................... 8
Section 1•3  Important Dates ........................................................................... 8
Section 1•4  Equipment ..................................................................................... 9
Section 1•5  Rules ............................................................................................ 9
Section 1•6  Uniforms ....................................................................................... 9

Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation ................................. 10
Section 2•1  Championship Format ................................................................ 10
Section 2•2  Results ....................................................................................... 11
Section 2•3  Selection Information ................................................................. 11
Section 2•4  Selection Criteria ....................................................................... 11

Appendix A • Bracket .................................................................................. 14
Appendix B • Sport Sponsorship ................................................................. 15
Appendix C • NCAA Beach Volleyball Rules Modifications ............................ 16
Section 1 • General Administration

Section 1•1 NCAA Tournament Operations

Staff Contact Information

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317-917-6520 / kfasbender@ncaa.org

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Assistant Coordinator, Championships and Alliances
P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222
317-917-6558 / pwustrack@ncaa.org

Section 1•2 National Committee

Current members of the committee are:

**EAST REGION**
Fran Flory
Head Women’s Volleyball Coach
Louisiana State University

Ted Gumbart
Commissioner
Atlantic Sun Conference

Kelcey Roegiers
Associate Athletics Director/SWA
Georgia State University

**WEST REGION**
Donna Heinel
Senior Associate Athletics Director/SWA
University of Southern California

Nina Matthies
Women’s Head Sand Volleyball Coach
Pepperdine University

Marilyn Moniz-Kaho’ohanohano
Associate Athletics Director/SWA
University of Hawaii, Manoa

For additional information about the NC Beach Volleyball Championship, contact:

Kristin W. Fasbender
Director, Championships and Alliances
P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222
317-917-6520 / kfasbender@ncaa.org

Marilyn Moniz-Kaho’ohanohano, chair
Associate Athletics Director/SWA
University of Hawaii, Manoa
808-956-4499 / monizkah@hawaii.edu

Section 1•3 Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, April 30</td>
<td>Noon Eastern time – Deadline for submission of team lineup form to <a href="mailto:kfasbender@ncaa.org">kfasbender@ncaa.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, April 30</td>
<td>Selection announcement.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, May 1</td>
<td>2 p.m. Eastern time – Participating teams call.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday-Sunday, May 5-7</td>
<td>Final site.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CHAMPIONSHIP DATES**

Finals – Friday-Sunday, May 5-7: Gulf Place, Gulf Shores, Alabama. The City of Gulf Shores, Gulf Shores & Orange Beach Sports Commission and the University of Alabama at Birmingham, co-hosts.

**DATE FORMULA**
Finals: Currently first Friday-Sunday in May.

**FUTURE DATES**

2018
Finals: TBD
Section 1•4 Equipment

The Wilson NCAA official ball will be used for the 2017 championship.

Section 1•5 Rules

[Reference: Bylaw 31.1.6 in the NCAA Manual.]

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 that the NCAA develops playing rules. For those sports that 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 the NCAA rules books, or those rules adopted by an outside organization.

The 2017 National Collegiate Beach Volleyball Championship will be conducted according to the USA Volleyball Beach Rules and the NCAA Beach Volleyball Rules Modifications. http://www.ncaa.org/championships/playing-rules/beach-volleyball-rules-game.

Questions regarding the NCAA rules should be referred to Rachel Seewald (317-917-6222; rseewald@ncaa.org).

Section 1•6 Uniforms

[Reference: Bylaw 12.5.4 in the NCAA Manual.]

Please refer to page 3 of the NCAA rules modifications for specific information.

Playing uniforms must be in accordance with NCAA rules. Participants in the championship shall wear exclusively the official uniform of their institution in competition and during related ceremonies. This applies to warm-up shirts and uniforms, and competitive uniforms.

An institution’s official uniform and all other items of apparel (e.g. socks, headbands, T-shirts, wristbands, visors or hats, and towels) that are worn by student-athletes in competition may bear a single manufacturer’s or distributor’s normal trademark, not to exceed 2¼ square inches, including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo. The logo or trademark must be contained within a four-sided geometrical figure (i.e., rectangle, square or parallelogram).

In addition, an institution’s official uniform cannot bear a design element similar to the manufacturer’s that is in addition to another logo or that is contrary to the size restriction.

A student-athlete representing an institution in intercollegiate competition is limited to wearing apparel items that include only the logo (not to exceed 2¼ square inches) of an apparel manufacturer or distributor. The student-athlete may not wear any apparel that identifies another entity other than the student-athlete’s institution.

These restrictions apply to all apparel worn by student-athletes during the conduct of competition, which includes any prematch or postmatch activities.

This bylaw will be strictly enforced at all NCAA championships and the names of individuals and institutions that are not in compliance with this bylaw shall be forwarded to the NCAA enforcement staff.

The logo restriction on student-athletes’ apparel set forth in Bylaws 12.5.4 and 31.1.8 shall apply during the NCAA championship to all personnel (e.g., coaches, trainers, managers) who are on the team bench for practices and games or who participate in news conferences. Please note that those contracts between institutions and apparel manufacturers or distributors that include logo specifications may be honored, provided such contracts were in effect before Aug. 11, 1998. Also, the logo restriction on student-athletes’ apparel as set forth in Bylaws 12.5.4 and 31.1.8 shall apply to commercial logos on uniforms worn by band members, cheerleaders, dance team members and the institution’s mascot during the NCAA championship events.

LOGOS

Refer to General Administrative Guidelines, Section 7.
Section 2 • Championship Format

The championship provides for a field of eight teams. A double-elimination tournament (until the final match) will be played at one site. Competition will consist of five pairs teams per institution.

A championship bracket is located in Appendix A.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (tentative) All times Central

Thursday, May 4
8:15 - 9 a.m. Team SID meeting
8 - 8:45 a.m. Administrative meeting
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Team practices/interviews/news conference
6 - 7:30 p.m. Championship banquet

Friday, May 5
8 a.m. Gates open
8 a.m. Court available for warm-up
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Matches

Saturday, May 6
11 a.m. Gates open
Noon Court available for warm-up
1 - 6 p.m. Team matches

Sunday, May 7
9:30 a.m. Gates open and courts available for warm-up
10:30 a.m. Semifinal match
1 p.m. Championship match (awards to follow)
4:30 p.m. (approx.) Postgame news conference (second-place team goes first)

START TIMES
Match start times will be established in conjunction with the NCAA committee and television.

TRAVEL PARTY/SQUAD SIZE/TEAM BENCHES
[Reference: Per Diem and Transportation in the Division I General Section.]
Transportation expenses and per diem will be provided for the official travel party of 17. Please refer to the NCAA Travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. Travel policies can be found online at www.NCAA.org.

[Reference: Bylaw 31.1.5 in the NCAA Manual.]
Participating teams are limited to a maximum of 12 players in uniform. An institution that is advised it is in violation of this regulation and does not promptly conform to it automatically shall forfeit the competition. There shall be no inordinate delay of the competition to allow the institution to conform to the rule.

Participant passes will be provided for a maximum of 17 institutional representatives.
Section 2•2  Results

SCORE REPORTING
NC Beach Volleyball requires that all scores are reported for statistical purposes following each match. You must enter the score for all of your matches. Your opponents will not be able to enter scores on your schedule and BOTH institutions will need to report scores. Please log on to http://web1.ncaa.org/stats/StatsSrv/login and enter your username (school code) and password and click on “Game Results” under the beach volleyball to update your results. If the line says “Complete” next to it, please still check the link. The most recent scores may not be included even though the link says complete.

Section 2•3  Selection Information

[Reference: Selection of Participants in the Division I General Section and Bylaws 31.01.2, 31.01.3 and 31.3 in the NCAA Manual.]

The tournament will consist of eight teams. The committee will select three teams from the East Region and three teams from the West Region. The final two teams will be selected at large. All eight teams will be seeded for the championship.

TRAVEL INFORMATION
[Reference: Per Diem and Transportation in the Division I General Section and Bylaw 31.4.6 in the NCAA Manual.]

Please refer to the NCAA Travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. Travel policies can be found online at http://www.ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information?division=d1.

Section 2•4  Selection Criteria

[Reference: Selection of Participants in the Division I General Section and Bylaws 31.01.2, 31.01.3 and 31.3 in the NCAA Manual.]

SELECTION REQUIREMENTS
To be considered during the at-large selection process, a team must have an overall won-lost record of .500 or better.

BYLAW 31.3.3.1 – 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 3.2.4.5) 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.

SELECTION CRITERIA
1. Committee will select eight teams.
   a. No automatic bids.
   b. Best three teams from the East.
   c. Best three teams from the West.
   d. Best remaining two teams from either region -- at-large selections.
   e. Teams will be seeded 1-8.

2. Selection criteria for regional bids into the championship.
   a. Record versus regional opponents.
   b. Head-to-head competition.
   c. Results versus common opponents.
   d. Strength of schedule.
   e. Overall record (must be .500 or above).
3. Selection criteria for at-large bid into the championship.
   a. Head-to-head competition.
   b. Results versus common opponents.
   c. Strength of schedule.
   d. Overall record (must be .500 or above).

CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY/AVAILABILITY
[Reference: Certification of Eligibility/Availability in the Division I General Section and Bylaws 3.2.4, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 in the NCAA Manual.]

Only student-athletes eligible under Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 may compete in NCAA championships. In accordance with Bylaw 3.2.4, 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 championships competition.

For the beach volleyball championship, the championship manager must be notified before April 29.
## Appendixes

### Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appendix</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appendix A • Bracket</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix B • Sport Sponsorship</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appendix C • NCAA Beach Volleyball Rules Modifications</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix A • Bracket

2017 National Collegiate Beach Volleyball Championship
TENTATIVE

Gulf Place
Gulf Shores, Alabama
May 5-7, 2017

*Home team
All times are Eastern time.
Information subject to change.

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### EAST REGION

| University of Alabama at Birmingham | Louisiana State University |
| Austin Peay State University       | Mercer University         |
| Carson-Newman University           | Mississippi State University |
| University of Central Arkansas     | Morehead State University |
| College of Charleston (South Carolina) | University of Nebraska, Lincoln |
| Coastal Carolina University        | University of New Orleans |
| Eckerd College                     | University of North Carolina Wilmington |
| Florida Atlantic University        | University of North Florida |
| Florida Gulf Coast University      | Principia College          |
| Florida International University  | University of South Carolina, Columbia |
| Florida State University           | Spring Hill College        |
| Georgia State University           | Stetson University         |
| Houston Baptist University         | Stevenson University       |
| Huntingdon College                 | University of Tennessee at Martin |
| Jacksonville State University      | Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi |
| Jacksonville University           | Texas A&M University-Kingsville |
| Lincoln Memorial University       | Texas Christian University |
| University of Louisiana at Monroe  | Tulane University          |

### WEST REGION

| University of Arizona              | Loyola Marymount University |
| Arizona State University           | University of New Mexico    |
| Boise State University             | University of Oregon        |
| California Polytechnic State University | University of the Pacific   |
| California State University, Bakersfield | Pepperdine University   |
| California State University, Los Angeles | University of Portland   |
| California State University, Northridge | University of San Francisco |
| California State University, Sacramento | San Jose State University |
| University of California, Berkeley | Santa Clara University       |
| University of California, Los Angeles | University of Southern California |
| Colorado Mesa University           | St. Mary’s College of California |
| Concordia University Irvine        | Stanford University         |
| Grand Canyon University            | University of Utah          |
| University of Hawaii, Manoa        | University of Washington    |
| Long Beach State University        |                             |
Appendix C • NCAA Beach Volleyball Rules Modifications

NCAA BEACH VOLLEYBALL RULES
MODIFICATIONS

Modifications to the Domestic Competition Regulations as Presented by USA Volleyball Beach Volleyball Rules

Note: Teams shall abide by all USA Volleyball Beach Rules unless stated below in the NCAA Beach Volleyball Rules Modifications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RULE</th>
<th>MODIFICATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NCAA Definitions</td>
<td>Definitions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Doubles team</em>—two-player team (an NCAA Beach Volleyball match will consist of five doubles teams which counts towards points for the team dual)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Team (overall)</em>—all players representing a single institution and represented by five doubles teams</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Alternates</em>—two-player team at position 6, can compete in an exhibition match which does not count for team’s overall score. Alternates can only enter the lineup at position 5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Event</em>—a tournament that includes bracket play is an event in its entirety (ie- conference tournament, NCAA tournament, etc)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A dual in which two schools play each other is an event in its entirety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.4 COURTS</td>
<td>1.2.4 Grass courts are prohibited in NCAA competition.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.2.6 COURTS</td>
<td>1.2.6 <em>Number of Courts</em>: Two courts are required, three recommended to conduct an NCAA Team Match. If a match needs to be moved indoors to accommodate inclement weather, it may be played on one court, if there is only one court available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Adjacent Courts</em>: When building courts side by side, it is recommended that the free space be six meters. If adjacent courts are situated end line to end line, the recommendation is 9 meters of free space.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Playing Surface</em>: If the beach courts are man-made, it is recommended that the sand be washed, screened and clean, round, sub-round or sub-angular in shape, and intermediate in sizing, at least 18 inches deep on the court and at least 12 inches deep in the free space. The sand should drain adequately for the site, a general guideline being 30 minutes from weather incident. If the courts are outdoors, the whiter the sand the more it will reduce relative heat gain. It is recommended that schools allow volleyball athletes to evaluate the sand prior to purchase.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Net System</em>: In permanent court setups, it is recommended that the poles anchoring the nets be free from guide wires and that the poles be padded.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Note: Many Beach Volleyball courts will be built to accommodate both doubles play (16m x 8 m court) and fours or sixes (18m x 9 m court). Buried line anchors for two sets of lines can be placed at the corners of the court, but only one set of lines should be visible during play.</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 WEATHER</td>
<td>The weather must not present any danger of injury to the players.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Inclement weather</em>. Collegiate beach volleyball is an outdoor sport. Matches shall be played outdoors unless weather or court conditions threaten the health and safety of student-athletes. In the event of inclement weather, a team match shall be conducted indoors provided a regulation beach volleyball court(s) is available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1.5.1 <em>Determining playable outdoor weather conditions</em>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>When on site within one hour before game time, the coaches of both teams and/or the on-site administrator shall decide whether a game shall not be started because of unsatisfactory conditions of weather or competition court.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2. REGISTRATION

#### 2.1 NCAA MATCH STANDARDS

**Note:** Guidelines for inclement weather conditions are outlined in the NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook under Lightning Safety and Cold Stress and Cold Exposure.

1.5.2 Decision to suspend play.

   Should bad weather or unfit conditions exist during a match, the referee shall be the final judge as to the suspension, resumption or termination of play.

   If play is suspended due to weather conditions, it is suggested that play resume as soon as conditions allow.

   If a postponed match can be scheduled within a 48 hour period, the match shall resume at the point of suspension. Otherwise, the match is not replayed or continued at a later date unless both coaches agree to do so or unless conference rules dictate otherwise.

#### 2.5 POSTS

The posts supporting the net may be placed at an upright spread of 36'-37' to accommodate both collegiate beach doubles play and recreational play. If courts are built only for beach doubles play, the posts should be between 27½ – 39” from the side line.

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### 2.1 NET

2.1 The net is 8.5 m (27'10 1/2") long and 1 m (39") +/- 3 cm (+/-11/8") wide when it is hung taut, placed vertically over the axis of the center of the court. It is made of 10 cm (4") square mesh. At its top and bottom there are two 7-10 cm (2½-4") wide horizontal bands made of two-fold canvas, preferably in dark blue or bright colors, sewn along its full length. Each extremity of the upper band has a hole through which passes a cord fastening the upper band to the posts to keep the top of the net stretched. Within the bands, there are: a flexible cable in the upper one and a cord in the bottom one for fastening the net to the posts and keeping its top and bottom taut. It is permissible to have advertising on the horizontal bands of the net.

**Note:** At the prerogative of the host institution, advertising (print or decal) may be placed on the top tape, top net sleeve, bottom tape and/or tape outside the antenna. Institutional logos and NCAA logo are also permitted. During NCAA championship events, commercial advertising is prohibited.

#### 2.3 SIDE BANDS

2.3 Two color bands, 5-8 cm (2-3½") wide (same width as the court lines) and 1 m (39") long, are fastened vertically to the net and placed above each sideline. They are considered part of the net. Advertising is permitted on the side bands.

**Note:** At the prerogative of the host institution, advertising (print or decal) may be placed on the top tape, top net sleeve, bottom tape and/or tape outside the antenna. Institutional logos and NCAA logo are also permitted. During NCAA championship events, commercial advertising is prohibited.

Vertical tape markers are optional. If used, bands of white material 5 centimeters (2 inches) wide and 1 meter (39 inches) in length are fastened to the net at each end, over and perpendicular to each sideline and the center line. Vertical tape side markers are part of the net. If vertical tape markers are used, logos, markings and advertising are permitted.

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### 4.1 COMPOSITION AND REGISTRATION

4.1.1 A team is composed of five doubles (two-player) teams.

4.1.1 A Coach and no more than one Assistant Coach are permitted to participate in the match to promote athletic development.

Only five doubles teams count in the scoring of a match, either a dual or a tournament. Others may participate in exhibition matches or brackets but their points do not count toward the team score for determining the winner of a competition.

Only the two players recorded on the scoresheet may participate in that doubles match.

#### 4.1.4 NCAA MATCH STANDARDS

**Coaching is permitted under the following guidelines, Coaches:**

4.1.4.1 **must be identified as a coach and dress professionally, in shirt and shorts as a minimum requirement.**

4.1.4.2 **may not address the officials or attempt to influence their decisions at any time.**
4.1.4.3 **may perform drills with their team on court prior to their official warm up.**

4.1.4.4 **must leave the playing court at the start of the official timed warm up and may only instruct from the sideline during the shared team warm up.**

4.1.4.5 **may not give instructions during play, may give instruction only during all time outs, side changes and between sets.**

4.1.4.6 **while coaching a specific match, must remain in the players area during the entire match and will switch sides with their team.**

4.1.4.8 **are subject to sanction for delay of the match, coaching from the sideline, or inappropriate behavior.**

### 4.2 Location of Participants

The players’ chairs must be at least 3 meters (9’10”) from the sideline. If two courts are side-by-side, the participant chairs shall be placed on the outside of each court. If multiple courts are placed side-by-side, the participant chairs shall be placed in the end zone free space unless there is at least 6 meters of free space between the courts. Participant chairs may be removed during play and only used during breaks if necessitated by space constraints.

### 4.3 PLAYERS’ EQUIPMENT

4.3 A player’s equipment consists of shorts with at least a one-inch inseam. A jersey or "tank-top" is **required.** Players may wear a hat.

**NCAA:** When engaged in competition, each competitor must wear an official team uniform with components governed by these rules or be subject to disqualification. Wearing any part of the official team uniform illegally (i.e., top off or intentionally shortened, shoulder straps lowered) while in the area of competition shall lead to a warning by the official that repeated violations may result in disciplinary action. A report of uncorrected violations shall be made to the referee and offending competitor’s coach. The referee will submit a NCAA Incident Report within 48 hours of the completion of the match in which the violation occurred.

- a. A uniform consists of two school-issued components—shorts and a top. A one-piece body suit is acceptable as a combination of the two components. Any outer garment (i.e. sweatpants) that is school-issued becomes the official uniform, when worn.
- b. The uniform must be of a material and design deemed to not be objectionable or offensive by the athletics department of the issuing institution.
- c. The uniform top must, by design and size, cover the full length of the torso, meeting or hanging below the waistband of the bottoms, while the competitor is standing.
- d. Additional visible clothing is an undergarment. It must be worn under the uniform and be of a solid color.

In addition to 4.3 the following will apply:

- a. All players from a school should be dressed in similar school uniforms so that they are readily recognizable across the venue. All players should be in matching jersey tops (sleeve length may vary, but color must be the same). Tops must cover the midriff when players are still. All players should be in identical colored shorts/capris (length may vary).
- b. The two members of a doubles team on court together must be dressed identically in all respects (i.e., length of sleeves, length and type of bottom). All tops worn during competition must be legally numbered, using only 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 combinations. **Penalty:** Prior to the first serve if teams are not in the proper uniform the match may be forfeited.
- c. **Personal Items:**
  1) “Personal/Cold-Weather” clothing may be worn in conjunction with the uniform. Outer wear, if worn on court, should be of school issue and color, and must display player number.
  2) Undergarments should fit snugly under the team uniform. Dark or neutral colors only.
3) Hats, visors, sunglasses and sand-socks are considered optional personal items. Hats or visors should be of school issue and color.
4) No display of any advertisement, slogan, etc. is allowed on any personal item at any time.

Logo Policy
An institution’s official uniform and all other items of apparel (e.g., socks, headbands, T-shirts, wristbands, visors or hats, swim caps and towels) that are worn by student-athletes in competition, practice and official championship functions may bear a single manufacturer’s or distributor’s normal trademark, not to exceed 2% square inches, including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo. The logo or trademark must be contained within a four-sided geometrical figure (i.e., rectangle, square, parallelogram).

In addition, an institution’s official uniform cannot bear a design element similar to the manufacturer’s that is in addition to another logo or that is contrary to the size restriction. These restrictions apply to all apparel worn by student-athletes during the conduct of competition, which includes any practice, pregame or postgame activities.

The logo restrictions on student-athletes’ apparel set forth in Bylaw 12.5.4 shall apply during NCAA championships to all personnel (e.g., coaches, trainers, managers) who are on the team bench for practices and games or who participate in NCAA news conferences. Please note that contracts between institutions and apparel manufacturers or distributors that include logo specifications may be honored, provided such contracts were in effect before August 11, 1998. The logo restrictions on student-athletes’ apparel set forth in 12.5.4 shall apply to commercial logos on uniforms worn by band members, cheerleaders, dance team members and the institution’s mascot during NCAA championship events.

4.3.3
4.3.3.1 Player’s jerseys must be numbered on the front and back of the jersey.
4.3.3.2 A player number with Arabic numerals.  
   a. Each team member’s game jersey shall be numbered on the front and back. The number shall be centered on the back of the jersey. In the front, the number must be either centered or placed on one shoulder with the top of the number no more than 5 inches down from the shoulder seam.
   b. The following numbers are legal: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, and 55.
   c. The number shall be at least 6 inches high on the back and at least 4 inches high on the front and not less than 1-inch wide.
   d. Duplicate numbers are not permitted to be worn by members of the same team.
   e. The number shall be one single solid color that contrasts the jersey color and may be bordered by no more than a ½-inch border of any color(s).

5.1 CAPTAIN
The team captain shall be indicated on the scoresheet. There shall be a captain designated for each doubles team.

6.3
To Win a Match
6.3.1 A doubles team match is won by the doubles team that wins two sets.

6.3.2 In case of a 1-1 tie, the deciding set (the 3rd) is played to 15 points with a minimum lead of 2 points.

6.3.3 Dual Team Matches. The format is five best-of-three set doubles matches. Each doubles match is worth one point. The team dual is won by the team that wins the majority of doubles matches (i.e. best 3 of 5 doubles matches). Three or more points are required to win a team match.
   6.3.3.1 All doubles matches should be played to completion, unless there are extenuating circumstances.
   6.3.3.2 An unfinished match will be treated as a default by the withdrawing team, unless the decision not to finish is mutually made by both coaches.
6.3.4. For a tournament to count toward the sport sponsorship minimum, a school must field five doubles teams. All schools in the tournament do not need to field five teams, but only those schools fielding five teams may count the dates toward minimum requirements. Those schools fielding less than five teams must still count all dates of the tournament toward the maximum requirement. (Per NCAA bylaw 20.9.6.3)

19.1- Sportsmanlike Conduct- Both Players and Coaches
19.1.1 Participants must know the Beach Volleyball Domestic Competition Regulations and the NCAA modifications and abide by them.
19.1.2 Participants must accept referees’ decision with respectful conduct, without disputing them. In case of doubt, clarification may be requested.
19.1.2.1 Either player may make this request.

20 Coaching

a. When coaching is allowed. Coaches shall be designated before the doubles matches and listed on the lineup sheet. A coach may not interfere with play or coach verbally or by signaling during other times than specified above. Use of electronic communication devices (e.g. walkie-talkies and cell phones) is prohibited.

b. Penalties for inappropriate coaching.
   1) Language between rallies that involves instructional content is subject to sanction by the referee (First instance = verbal reminder; Second instance = Yellow card; Third instance = Red card, loss of rally and a point for the opponent).
   2) Language during a rally that offers instructional content or that might affect the rally in play is immediately sanctioned (First instance = Yellow; Second instance = Red).
   3) Coaches are NOT allowed to interact directly with the officials during a match (First instance = Yellow; Second instance = Red).
   4) Captains should know that they have the right to occasionally ask referees for explanations of decisions, or clarifications of rules.

c. Who may coach? Two coaches, plus one coach designated by the institution as a volunteer per Bylaw 11.7.6.2.3, may be active during an event.

d. Conversations of coach with opposing player banned. A coach shall not initiate a conversation with the opposing player or in any way get involved with an on-court problem, except at the request of the referee, or the player or the coach of the player involved. At no time should a player initiate a conversation with an opposing coach. Violations of these provisions by the coach are subject to misconduct.

Substitutions

Lineup substitutions should be communicated to the official referee as soon as they are determined and, at the latest, one hour before the start of play on a given day, or 15 minutes before a match is to begin if made during the same day. 15 minutes prior to the match all lineups are official. The head referee will share the lineup changes with the opponents as soon as possible.

a. For purposes of lineup changes, a dual match and a bracket pair’s tournament are different events, even if played on the same day or at the same site on simultaneous days.

b. A coach may make lineup changes from one event to another as long as they stay within the one position parameter for moving players.

c. An alternate that enters the lineup may only enter at position 5.

Team Lineups

Coaches are responsible to position their teams in order of ability for ALL matches from the first match of the season to the last match of the season.

a. Within this guideline, lineup changes are restricted to one position up or down from one event to another.

b. If a player is removed from the lineup, she must return to the lineup in her old position, and may be moved from there in subsequent matches as warranted.
c. The one-up/one down regulation applies to pair’s events also (i.e., a #1 team cannot play in the #3 spot or vice-versa).

d. Transfers at quarter break or student-athletes joining the beach team from the court team after the beach season has started should be placed in the lineup by ability.

e. Team that has an insufficient number of players. A team appearing with an insufficient number of players shall default matches at the bottom of the lineup. If the No. 1 doubles team is not available to compete, all doubles teams must move up one position. The No. 1 doubles match cannot be forfeited. The minimum number of players for a dual-meet match is six physically able players. A team that does not meet this minimum must forfeit the match.

| 21.1 COMPOSITION | One referee required. Players from non-competing teams may keep score, serve as a line judge or serve as the second referee. |