REPORT OF THE
NCAA WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL RULES COMMITTEE
JANUARY 20-22, 2015, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative Items. At the request of the Big 12, Big Ten and Pac-12 Conferences, the NCAA Women’s Volleyball Rules Committee approved the following experimental rule for the 2015 season. The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) for the following item:

   - Experimental Rule: Instant Replay.

      (1) Recommendation. That the Big 12, Big Ten and Pac-12 Conferences be allowed to use instant replay in conference games only during the 2015 season at schools that are able to provide the necessary equipment and personnel. Coaches will be permitted three challenges per match and challenges will have no effect on the number of allowed timeouts. The challenge must be lodged immediately at the end of the rally and before the first referee’s arm is extended for the next service authorization. Only one challenge per rally will be allowed. Coaches could request instant replay challenges in only these instances: review if a ball landed in or out, review if the ball made contact with a player, review if a net violation occurred and review service foot faults. Participating institutions will be required to submit extensive data to the rules committee at the conclusion of the season.

      (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2015.

      (3) Rationale. With the increased availability of technology, this will allow officials another avenue to make the correct call. Additionally, it will increase the quality and fair play of the game and enhance the overall student-athlete experience.

      (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None. Institutions in the participating conferences are not required to purchase new equipment and there is no minimum requirement with regard to the number of cameras used during each match. Existing equipment can be used.

      (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhances the student-athlete experience by promoting fair play.
INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements. The committee and invited guests were welcomed to the meeting and all individuals introduced themselves. The chair reminded the committee of its charge and encouraged everyone to think globally about the game.

2. Overview of Schedule, Agenda and Meeting Goals. The committee reviewed the schedule, agenda and meeting goals and made no adjustments.

3. Review Policies and Procedures. The committee reviewed the following policies, procedures and guidelines:


   b. Conflict of Interest Policy.

   c. Guidance for Committee Members Regarding Meeting Minutes, Notes and Email.

   d. Voting Procedures.

   e. Principles for Rules Writing.


   g. Financial and Facility Rules Change Directive. It was noted that the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) met last week during the NCAA Convention. The committee reviewed PROP’s financial directive issued in February 2014, which encourages rules committees to provide at least a one-year delay before implementing any rules changes that have financial or facility implications.

4. Approve Reports from 2014 Annual Meeting and Teleconferences. The committee approved the 2014 annual meeting and teleconference reports as written.

5. USA Volleyball Report. The committee received an update on recent FIVB rules changes and actions. In addition, training and educational materials for USA Volleyball officials were reviewed and discussed.
6. **NFHS Report.** The committee reviewed the recent National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) rules changes and points of emphasis. It was noted that approximately 430,000 students participate in girl’s volleyball at the high school level.

7. **National Coordinator of Officials Report.** The National Coordinator of Volleyball Officials provided an overview of the Volleyball Officiating Program (VOP), which includes 3,231 officials. Educational and training initiatives are provided to officials through ArbiterSports and the Professional Association of Volleyball Officials (PAVO). There were 31 in-person officiating clinics conducted across the country last summer. The committee also received an overview of the 2014 NCAA post-season officiating statistics.

8. **PAVO Active Official Report.** The Professional Association of Volleyball Officials (PAVO) consists of more than 3,200 members. Approximately 2,000 officials attended a national clinic last year. There was an increase in the number of line judges this year, which continues to be an area of focus for the organization. The committee reviewed a video of the new PAVO online training program. Over a dozen new training modules will be launched this year.

9. **Secretary-Rules Editor Report.** The secretary-rules editor provided the committee with an overview of actions, interpretations and activities for the 2014 season, which included editing the rules book, issuing 165 interpretations, developing the coaches video, producing three rules interpretation newsletters and attending the AVCA convention in December to discuss rules issues during each divisional coaches meeting. The committee reviewed the two protests that occurred during the season and discussed several rules items that warranted attention and further consideration.

10. **NCAA Injury Surveillance Data and Report.** The committee reviewed women’s volleyball data from the NCAA Injury Surveillance Program and requested that data be collected next season for injuries occurring around the net and under the net as a result of pursuit. The NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (CSMAS) has not changed their stance on the wearing of soft headgear for concussion prevention. These types of items will continue to be prohibited during play.

11. **Review Rules Survey Results.** The committee reviewed the results and qualitative feedback from the fall rules survey.
12. **Review Proposed Rules Changes.** The committee reviewed the rules proposals and request for an experimental rule and voted to approve the item as noted at the beginning of this report. While no changes were made to the pursuit rule, the committee spent a significant amount of time discussing the rule and its effect on student-athlete safety, as well as the safety of officials and spectators. It was determined that additional outreach to coaches and officials should occur beginning this spring regarding safety concerns associated with the rule.

13. **Review Executive Summary of Volleyball Rules Book Review.** The committee reviewed a report compiled by a former NCAA staff member who reviewed all NCAA rules books and provided a comprehensive report to each rules committee for them to review and consider during the next rules change year. It was noted in the report that the Women’s Volleyball Rules Book is presented in a concise and consistent manner and that it’s one of the better formatted and readable NCAA rules books. It was also noted that there is a significant amount of administrative, non-rules information that is included in the book. The committee agreed that the administrative information is useful and should remain in the book. The committee will continue to monitor recommendations in this report and identify areas to change during the next rules change cycle.

14. **Prepare for 2015 Data Collection and Rules Survey.** The committee identified several survey items for next year and determined the data that will be collected for the instant replay experimental rule.

15. **Future Meeting and Teleconferences.** The committee suggested moving next year’s annual meeting back one week (January 26-28, 2016). NCAA staff will explore this option and determine if meeting space is available during that time. The teleconference dates for 2015 will be August 25, September 29, October 27 and November 17.

16. **Representatives at Annual Meeting.** The committee agreed to invite the same guests and representatives from the same organizations to next year’s meeting as they continue to serve as valuable resources to the committee.

17. **Election of Chair.** The committee elected Kelley Kish, associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator at Nova Southeastern University, as chair for the 2015-16 academic year.
18. **Adjournment.** The committee adjourned at 11:30 a.m. Eastern time on Thursday, January 22, 2015.

**Committee Chair:** Todd Dagenais, University of Central Florida, American Athletic Conference  
**Staff Liaison:** Rachel Seewald, Championships and Alliances

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<th>January 20-22, 2015, Meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attendees</strong></td>
<td><strong>Absentees</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Todd Dagenais, University of Central Florida</td>
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<td>Sarah Davis, College of Wooster</td>
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<td>Cathy Hummel, Canisius College</td>
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<td>Valencia Jordan, Tennessee State University</td>
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<td>Kelley Kish, Nova Southeastern University</td>
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<td>Danny Miller, Averett University</td>
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<td>Anne Pufahl, secretary-rules editor</td>
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<td>Salima Rockwell, Penn State University</td>
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<td>Dominic Yoder, Northern Michigan University</td>
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Other Participants:  
Dan Calandro, NCAA; Kristin Fasbender, NCAA; Greg Johnson, NCAA; Becky Oakes, National Federation of State High School Associations; Emily Parkins, NCAA; Joan Powell, National Coordinator of Volleyball Officials; Pati Rolf, USA Volleyball; Rachel Seewald, NCAA; and Julie Voeck, Professional Association of Volleyball Officials