

CHAPTER 17—WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL REGULATIONS

1. Playing Season Policies.

a. Championship Determination.

The team with the highest won-lost percentage during Conference play shall be the Conference champion and shall represent the Conference in the NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championship. This shall apply even in the event one or more teams cannot play the entire Conference schedule. If that percentage is shared by more than one team, a co-championship shall exist. (6/92, 10/09)

(1) Championship Ties.

In the event of a percentage tie between two teams for the Conference championship, if one team was the winner of both Conference matches against the other team, it shall represent the Conference as its automatic qualifier in the NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championship. If both teams have won an equal number of matches in head-to-head Conference competition, the team having won the most games in the Conference matches between the two teams shall be declared the automatic qualifier. If a tie still exists, the team having the highest for/against ratio of points scored in the Conference matches between the two teams shall be declared the automatic qualifier. If a tie still exists, the team having won the most games in all Conference matches shall be declared the automatic qualifier. If a tie still exists, the team having the highest for/against ratio of points scored in all Conference matches shall be declared the automatic qualifier. If a tie still exists, the winner of a coin toss by the Commissioner shall be declared the automatic qualifier. (6/87, 6/92)

In the event of a percentage tie between more than two teams for the Conference championship, the team having won the most games in the Conference matches between the tied teams shall be declared the automatic qualifier. If a tie still exists, the team having the highest for/against ratio of points scored in the Conference matches between the tied teams shall be declared the automatic qualifier. If a tie still exists, the team having won the most games in all Conference matches shall be declared the automatic qualifier. If a tie still exists, the team having the highest for/against ratio of points scored in all Conference matches shall be declared the automatic qualifier. If a tie still exists, the winner of a coin toss by the Commissioner shall be declared the automatic qualifier. (6/92)

b. Conference Schedule.

Each Conference team shall schedule 20 matches against other teams in the Conference. Only these matches shall count in the Conference standings. (5/91, 6/92, 6/95, 6/96, 2/98, 2/99, 2/00, 6/01, 6/02, 6/03, 6/05, 10/10, 6/11, 10/11)

During the first and last weeks of the season, matches shall be played on Wednesday and Saturday. These dates may be altered by mutual consent of the head coaches of the involved teams. During all other weeks, Conference matches shall be scheduled for Friday and Saturday, and a minimum of 20 hours shall occur between match starting times. The 20-hour time period may be waived upon mutual consent of the coaches of the participating teams. However, if a volleyball host institution is also hosting football on Saturday, the host institution will designate no later than the date of the coaches' annual business meeting what days that week's matches will be played, under the following parameters: (3/04, 6/04, 6/08, 6/10, 10/10, 10/11)

- (1) The football host may elect to play the match on Saturday, scheduling it around the football game. (6/08)
- (2) If the football host does not elect to play on Saturday, the match will be moved to Sunday. Any matches moved to Sunday must be played at a time which enables the visitor to return to campus on Sunday. Only the match of the host with the football conflict will move to Sunday. (6/08)

(3) If the volleyball host which is also hosting football elects not to play on Saturday and there is an unavoidable facility conflict which prevents the match from being moved to Sunday, all matches of the paired host institutions will be played on Thursday and Friday in their originally scheduled order. (6/08)

(4) If matches must be played with a day in between due to conflicts with football games (e.g., Friday-Sunday or Wednesday-Friday during Thanksgiving weekend), then the matches on the final day must be played at a time which enables the visiting team to return to campus the same day. (6/09)

See also AR 2-2-a.

c. Rescheduling Policies.

It shall be the goal of the Conference to play each Conference contest to completion as scheduled. When that becomes impossible, these policies shall be followed: (12/96)

(1) If the match is suspended during play, every effort should be made by match officials and game management to continue it as soon as conditions allow, with the safety of the student-athletes and spectators paramount in the decision of when it can be resumed. (12/96)

(2) In any situation in which a match has been suspended and is to be resumed, the participating institutions should attempt to complete the match while the visiting institution's team still is at the site of the match to avoid the cost and loss of academic time required to make a second trip to the match site. (12/96)

(3) If a Conference contest is suspended prior to play, or a suspended match cannot be continued, such a match shall be rescheduled and replayed unless it has no bearing on the Conference championship or the possibilities of either competing team or any other Conference member for selection for postseason play and it is mutually agreed by the two involved institutions to cancel the match. Unless conditions prevent play, such a suspended contest should begin within 24 hours of the original starting time. The host institution shall be responsible for securing an alternate facility for the contest if the primary facility is unavailable. (7/92, 12/96)

2. Match Policies.

a. Ball Persons.

Ball persons shall be provided by the host institution and, unless prevented from doing so by a preexisting institutional agreement, shall wear clothing provided by the Conference. (6/96)

b. Band and Spirit Groups.

Visiting pep bands, not to exceed 30 members in uniform, shall be admitted to Conference matches at no charge. Notification of the visiting band's attendance shall be made to the host institution no later than 48 hours prior to the contest. No limitation shall be placed on the size of the host institution's band. Bands are prohibited from occupying seats directly behind either team's bench. (5/90, 2/00)

A maximum of 20 uniformed cheerleaders, yell leaders, and mascots of each participating institution shall be admitted to Conference matches at no charge. A maximum of 12 cheerleaders or yell leaders, in addition to the mascot, for each squad shall be allowed to perform on the floor at any one time. (12/89)

The use of artificial noisemakers, airhorns, and electronic amplifiers, except for one bass amplifier used by the band and a sound effects machine that is controlled by an administrator from the scorer's table, shall be prohibited at Conference matches. Sound effects machines and megaphones may not be used in any way (e.g., pounding on the floor) as noisemakers while the game is in progress. Bands may not play while the contest is in progress. The home management is responsible for orientation of home rally and band groups and enforcement at all home contests. (6/96, 2/99)

c. Cameras in Team Huddles.

Television cameramen and still photographers are not allowed in team huddles during timeouts. They may move onto the court during timeouts but shall not move within ten feet of a team huddle in any direction. It is the responsibility of game management to enforce this policy at each Conference institution. (2/00, 8/13)

d. Competition Site.

If a team's home court does not meet rule specifications, all opponents shall be so informed. Host institutions shall provide a minimum of 20 feet beyond the endline at each end of the court (unless the facility cannot accommodate that distance) and 10 feet on the sidelines for all matches played at Conference facilities. If any unusual court conflict occurs during a Conference match, the match shall be held only with the consent of the visiting coach. (6/92, 10/01, 6/06)

e. Game Management Requirements.

A game management representative from the host institution shall be seated at the scorer's table. If this is physically impossible, the Conference's volleyball administrator may approve seating the game management representative in close proximity to the table. The representative should be identified to all game officials and the visiting team's head coach prior to the contest. The representative should have access to a walkie-talkie, telephone, or other means of electronic verbal communications in order to promptly contact other game management officials during the contest. (6/95)

f. Officiating Policies.

See also AR 6, AR 6-13, and CER 4.

(1) Support of Officiating.

Support of women's volleyball officiating is required by the Conference (see CER 4) and bolstered by a specific program of positive actions outlined in CER 4-5. (6/96)

g. Playing Rules.

Conference matches shall be conducted according to the NCAA Volleyball Rules except as modified below. (6/92)

(1) Official Ball.

The Nike Indoor 3000, Nike 3005, Wilson i-COR, Molten Super Touch, Mikasa VFC200, Tachikara SV5W, Baden Lexum 15-0, or Spalding Top-Flite TF 4000 may be used for Conference matches. Each institution shall notify visiting teams of the brand, model, and color of ball to be used during its home matches. Institutions that wish to add a new ball to the list must provide four sample balls to each Conference institution no later than August 1, and a vote will be taken on adding the ball on the annual preseason conference call of the coaches. A three-ball system shall be implemented in all Conference matches to eliminate delays. (5/91, 12/92, 12/94, 2/98, 6/02, 10/02, 7/06, 10/06, 6/07)

(2) Time Between Games.

The breaks after games one, three, and four shall be three minutes. The break following game two shall be a 10-minute intermission, timed on a visible clock. The final four minutes of the intermission shall be available for shared team rewarm-ups. If less than four minutes are available, the match officials shall extend the intermission to allow a team the full four-minute rewarm-up period. Teams may leave the competition area during the intermission, but are responsible for returning in time for rewarm-ups and the resumption of the match. (5/90, 5/91)

(3) Timeout Length.

All timeouts during any match shall be 75 seconds in length and may not be shortened by either team. For Conference and televised matches, all timeouts shall be 90 seconds in length and may not be shortened by either team. (6/96, 6/10, 8/13)

(4) Timeouts During Telecast or Broadcast Matches.

A timeout shall be called when the first team scores 15 points during the first four games of every broadcast (radio or television only) match, and at eight points in game five, if no timeout has been called by a team prior to that point. Once one timeout has been called in a game, no other electronic timeouts may be requested. Each team will be permitted to call two timeouts per game. (5/88, 5/90, 8/95, 6/02)

(5) Uniforms.

The home team shall wear white or light-colored uniforms and the visiting team shall wear dark or colored uniforms. Uniform color assignments may be changed by mutual consent. (6/92, 6/09)

h. Practice Time and Services.

Upon request, the home team shall indicate if practice facilities and times can be arranged. On game days, as a courtesy to the visiting team, the home team shall attempt to make a practice time available early in the day or have the court ready two hours prior to match time. Any additional pre-match practice time shall be split equally between the two teams, with the home team receiving the practice slot closest to the hour warm-up before the match. If the doors open more than one hour before the match, the visiting team will have the choice of which half-hour to practice in the hour before the hour-long team warm-up. All practices, home and visiting team, shall be closed to the opponent's team members and coaching staff. Requests for practice time must be submitted a minimum of 15 days prior to the match. Host institutions shall provide the following items and services for visiting team practices: the net set up; the game lights on; four ball carts; 60 properly inflated practice balls (identical to those to be used for competition); greeting and instructions from a representative of the host institution; access to water, ice, and cups at courtside; and parking instructions and detailed specific entry location to be provided in advance. (5/91, 12/92, 2/99, 2/00, 6/01, 6/02, 6/05, 8/13)

i. Prematch Warm-Up.

A minimum of 30 balls identical to those to be used in the match shall be available to each team for warm-up one hour prior to the start of the match. Two ball carts per team shall be provided. (5/89, 5/91, 6/92, 12/92, 6/94, 6/95, 2/99, 10/99, 6/01)

The pre-match protocol below shall be used for Conference and televised matches. Institutions may use an alternative protocol for non-Conference, non-televised matches. (6/92, 6/94, 2/99, 10/99, 6/01, 8/13)

Game Clock	Time Allotted	Actual Time for 5:30 pm Match	Actual Time for 6 pm Match	Actual Time for 8 pm Match	Action
60:00	42 mins	4:27 pm	4:57 pm	6:57 pm	Shared warm-up
27:00		5:00 pm	5:30 pm	7:30 pm	Coin toss
18:00	4 mins	5:09 pm	5:39 pm	7:39pm	Visiting team court
14:00	4 mins	5:13 pm	5:43 pm	7:43 pm	Home team court
10:00	5 mins	5:17 pm	5:47 pm	7:47 pm	Visiting team court
5:00	5 mins	5:22 pm	5:52 pm	7:52 pm	Home team court
0:00	3 mins	5:27 pm	5:57pm	7:57 pm	National anthem
0:00	3 mins	5:30 pm	6:00 pm	8:00 pm	Team intros
0:00	1 mins	5:33 pm	6:03 pm	8:03 pm	Team huddle
0:00		5:34 pm	6:04 pm	8:04 pm	Match begins

j. Scoresheet and Lineup Sheet.

Official Conference scoresheets and lineup sheets must be used at all Conference matches. The scoresheets shall be distributed to each coach following the match. (5/88, 6/92, 6/10, 8/13)

k. Scouting.

Conference volleyball coaches shall not send film or video or give written or verbal scouting reports on a Conference team to any Conference or non-Conference institution unless required to do so by the Conference or NCAA Division I Women’s Volleyball Championship videotape exchange policy. (6/92, 7/97, 2/99, 6/02)

l. Statistics.

Statistics shall be recorded using the methods described in the AVCA Statistics Manual. (5/89, 6/92)

m. Team Introductions.

At the conclusion of the pre-match warm-up, teams shall line up in front of their respective benches for the playing of the National Anthem. The six starters for the visiting team, plus the libero, shall be introduced first, followed by the six starters for the home team, plus the libero. Each player shall run from her bench area to her endline as she is introduced, and remain on the endline until the conclusion of the introductions. After both teams have been introduced, the starters shall shake hands at the net, and return to the sideline to huddle until beckoned to the court for first serve. (6/03, 8/13)

n. Tickets for Visiting Institution.

See ER 1-7. (6/86, 11/03)

o. Video Policies.

A Conference institution shall have the right to record video of any Conference match in which it is a participant. Visiting institutions shall record video of all Conference road matches in which it is a participant. Host institutions shall provide elevated, comparable space and electrical power in both end zones. (6/01, 6/07)

All matches shall be shot using a digital video camera from an end-line location with the camera zoomed in to catch both corners of the court and the antennae. The near end-line and the antennae/ poles should be

maintained as guides. The camera location should be high enough to locate the far end line between the top and bottom of the net. (7/97, 2/00, 6/01, 6/02, 6/03, 6/04)

All non-conference matches shall be uploaded by the end of day on the following Monday, or within 24 hours of returning to campus. For Conference matches, the host institution shall upload the video to the server by Sunday at noon, and institutions may begin downloading video at 1:00 p.m. Sunday. There shall be an open exchange of all video and all matches uploaded to the server shall be available on the server for the duration of the season. (6/07, 6/09, 6/10, 8/13)

Video of matches uploaded to the server shall be in the XVID file format, but need not contain audio. Scoresheets and libero tracking forms for each match shall be uploaded to the server as PDF files; match statistics shall be obtained from institutional web sites. (6/07, 6/09)

3. Awards.

The Conference coaches shall select recipients for all volleyball awards. In order to be eligible for the all-Conference team, nominees must have participated in two-thirds of her institution's Conference matches. Coaches may nominate an unlimited number of players for Conference awards and shall forward the names of nominees to the Conference office by two Mondays prior to the last weekend of Conference competition. The Conference office shall distribute to the coaches a ballot containing all nominations and statistics. The ballot shall be returned to the Conference office by the Monday after the conclusion of Conference competition. Coaches shall not be allowed to vote for themselves or for any of their own players for any of the awards. Announcement of the all-Conference team and other awards shall be made on the Tuesday after the conclusion of Conference competition. (6/87, 6/88, 6/92, 6/93, 6/95, 6/04)

a. All-Conference Team.

Coaches shall rank their top 20 choices, indicating their first choice with 20 points, their second with 19 points, etc. The 18 players having the highest point totals shall be named to the all-Conference team and each shall be provided an award from the Conference. Players who are nominated for the all-Conference team and receive votes but are not selected to the team shall be accorded honorable mention in a Conference media release, to a maximum of 18 players, selected in rank order from the original voting. (1/87, 6/88, 6/92, 6/99, 10/02, 6/04, 6/09, 8/14)

b. All-Freshman Team.

Coaches shall rank their top seven choices, indicating their first choice with seven points, their second with six points, etc. The seven players having the highest point totals shall be named to the all-freshman team and each shall be provided a certificate from the Conference. (6/92, 6/04, 6/07)

c. Individual Awards.

Individual awards from the Conference office shall be provided to the Player of the Year, the Freshman of the Year, the Coach of the Year, the Libero of the Year, and the Setter of the Year. The Player of the Year shall be the player who accumulates the most points in the all-Conference team balloting. The Freshman of the Year shall be the player who accumulates the most points in the all-freshman team balloting. Each coach shall list two choices for Coach of the Year, Libero of the Year, and Setter of the Year, with the first choice receiving three points and the second choice receiving one point. The individual who accumulates the most points in the balloting for a particular award shall be the winner of the award. (6/88, 6/92, 6/08, 6/11)

4. Meetings of Coaches.

There shall be an annual in-person meeting of the volleyball coaches with the date and site to be established by the Conference office. The attendance of each head coach is mandatory. (5/72, 10/91, 6/92)