



NAIA Men's Volleyball Coaches Association Annual Business Meeting Agenda AVCA Convention | Kansas City, Missouri | Kansas City Convention Center

Friday December 19, 2025 | 10:30 a.m. – Noon | KCCC 2215B | NAIA MVB Business Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER – LUKE BENTLEY, MVCA PRESIDENT

- a. Welcome & Introductions
- b. Executive Committee
 - a. Luke Bentley, William Penn, President; Jared Goldberg, Master's, 1st VP; Chad Hanson, Dordt, 2nd VP; Doug Sherer, Mount Vernon, Secretary; Greg Reitz, Lourdes, Past President
- c. Coaches in Attendance

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA - LUKE BENTLEY, MVCA PRESIDENT

III. APPROVAL OF 2024 BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES - LUKE BENTLEY, MVCA PRESIDENT

IV. PARTNERSHIP REPORTS

- a. Molten – Jeff Keyes
- b. NCSA – Kylee Dobbelaere and Lauren Munhall
- c. Gared – Andrew Peterson
- d. Marines – Ronnell Rock and Leonard Ross

V. REPORTS

- a. NAIA National Office Report – Bruce Tate

VI. OLD BUSINESS

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Sport Motion #1-Rule Modification to Win the Match
- b. Sport Motion #2-All-America Committee Composition
- c. Sport Motion #3-National Championship Format Change
- d. Sport Motion #4-National Coach of the Year Pool
- e. Sport Motion #5-Legislative Services-Competition Start Date
- f. Sport Motion #6-All-American Selection Process
- g. Sport Motion #7-Increase Championship All-Tournament Team
- h. Sport Motion #8-Remove Mandatory Switching Sides
- i. Sport Motion #9-Out-of-Rotation Errors
- j. Executive Committee Nominations
 - a. Secretary Position Opening
 - i. Lisa Bangasser, Hope International (Calif.)

VIII. OPEN DISCUSSION

XI. ADJOURNMENT



2024 NAIA Men's Volleyball Coaches Association Business Meeting Minutes

Friday, December 20th – 10:30 am EST

Location – Kentucky International Convention Center (KICC) L016 (Lower Level)

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER/WELCOME

Luke Bentley, William Penn

Attendees: Luke Bentley, William Penn (Iowa); Jared Goldberg, The Master's University (Calif.); Greg Reitz, Lourdes University (Ohio); Jeffrey Lipton, Culver-Stockton College (Mo.); Chris Padilla, Cumberland University (Tenn.); Jack Stark, Georgetown College (Ky.); Jeff Phillips, Goshen College (Ind.); Jordan Rosenberg, Indiana Tech; Noah Cotterman, Missouri Valley College; Doug Sherer, Mount Vernon Nazarene University (Ohio); Ben Twigger, Oakland City University (Ind.); Ian Harris, Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College (Ind.); Parker Saenz, Siena Heights University (Mich.); Taylor Kushner, SOKA University (Calif.); Nick Rawls, University of Rio Grande (Ohio); Samantha Walker, NAIA

II. INTRODUCTION OF OFFICERS

President:

Luke Bentley, William Penn

1st Vice President:

Jared Goldberg, The Master's

Past President:

Greg Reitz, Lourdes

III. APPROVAL OF 2023 MINUTES

Luke Bentley, William Penn

Minutes from 2023 NAIA-MVCA meeting are included in the meeting packet.

Motion: Motion to approve the 2023 NAIA-MVCA business meeting minutes as presented.

Motion to approve: Doug Sherer/Jeff Lipton

Vote: 9-0-0

IV. PRESENTATIONS

A. Front Rush and NCSA

Cecelia

Summary: Cecelia is the account manager of Front Rush and NCSA for the NAIA. If you are currently a NCSA user, make sure that you sign up for and login to the new platform. If you do not do this before they delete the old platform, you will lose everything you have on the old platform. There are about 50 volleyball programs using Front Rush. This system is directly integrated with NCSA. It could help you with recruiting and team management.

V. REPORTS

A. NAIA Update

Samantha Walker, NAIA

Summary: A coach's guide to legislation, policies, and sport rules was included in the meeting packet sent via email a week prior to the meeting. This defines sport rules, policy, and legislation as well as lists pathways for change. Any sport motion passing the online ballot will be heard by the National Administrative Council. Nothing will be implemented until it is passed by NAC. A recap will be sent to all head coaches regarding the vote of any sport motions or other changes related to men's volleyball. These are also posted on Coaches Corner at naia.org/coaches.

The official volleyball for all NAIA postseason competition is the NAIA – Red, White, and Blue Molten Filstatec VSM5000. The NAIA strongly recommends the use of this volleyball for all regular season play as well.

NAIA Connect launched in the spring of 2024, replacing NAIAHelp. Several training resources, ECP, and rules education training are now handled through NAIA Connect.

Your username is your institutional email with “.naia” added at the end. If you need assistance regarding NAIA Connect, please contact naiaconnectsupport@naia.org.

Mount Mary University (Wisc.) and Trinity Western University (B.C.) were approved for active membership beginning in 2025. The NAIA is actively working to enhance membership recruitment and retention by engaging NCAA Division II and III schools.

While the NAIA has already received new applications, collaboration is crucial to success.

If you know of any institutions interested in joining or have contacts who might be a good fit, please reach out to Nick Davidson at ndavidson@naia.org.

Beginning this past fall, the NAIA entered into an agreement with Urban Edge Network to offer free streaming of NAIA National Championships. In addition to live streaming, the NAIA Network will provide on-demand viewing, and NAIA members will have access to download clips of championship highlights.

The NAIA has introduced brand advocacy as a core pillar in its 2024-2027 strategic plan for the first time. The initiative, set to unfold over three years, aims to enhance the NAIA’s visibility and reputation within higher education and intercollegiate athletics. Key objectives include marking effectively to potential members and retaining current ones, strengthening affinity for the NAIA among members and student-athletes, equipping members to advocate for the NAIA, and engaging industry influencers to boost the NAIA’s brand presence. The campaign is scheduled to launch in early 2025.

VI. COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS/ELECTIONS

Luke Bentley, William Penn

A. 2nd Vice President Nominations

Discussion: These terms are one-year positions that rotate through the entire Executive Committee.

Nominees: Chad Hanson – Dordt

Secretary Nominations

Discussion: These terms are one-year positions that rotate through the entire Executive Committee.

Nominees: Doug Sherer – Mount Vernon Nazarene

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Luke Bentley, William Penn

A. No Old Business.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Luke Bentley, William Penn

A. Sport Motions

a) **Sport Motion #1** – Allow team representatives to film matches at the national tournament.

Discussion: This motion was passed last year as the coaches group, however, it was not passed by NAC. The goal of this motion this year is to provide more information and rationale to NAC as to why the coaches group would like this change. The current championship venue is quite large and would have room for 12 cameras to be set up in the same area. With the change to free livestream, the NAIA

would not be losing revenue from the stream. This would also lead to coaches getting their game film much faster.

Motion to approve: Doug Sherer/Jeff Lipton

Vote: 14-0-0

- b) **Sport Motion #2** – To adopt NCAA Men's Volleyball rules modification 7 to allow double contact on the second contact, except if the ball is being sent over the net. NCAA Men's Volleyball Rules Modification 7: "A double contact during a team's second hit when the next contact on the ball is by a teammate is permitted. A double contact that crosses the net to the opponent or is next contacted by an opponent before a teammate, is a double contact foul."

Discussion: Passing this motion would align with the women's game and other men's divisions. It will not only help players, but it will also help the officials. On the women's side, it was noted that this caused officials to begin calling games better. The men's officials have already relaxed calling this already. There was discussion over whether it is more advantageous for the men's game to not pass this.

Motion to approve: Jared Goldberg/Parker Saenz

Vote: 10-3-1

- c) Criteria for National Championship Selection

Discussion: With NAC moving men's volleyball to polls, ratings or polls will not be tied to national championship selection.

Motion to approve: Greg Reitz/Jeff Lipton

Vote: 13-0-1

IX. OPEN DISCUSSION

Luke Bentley, William Penn

Discussion: There is a desire for the championship matches to be played on Taraflex. The national office is aware of this desire. The current men's and women's championship hosts have sport court.

Discussion: The Massey Rating will be used this year for national selection. If you find an error with the Massey Rating, please notify Samantha Walker, swalker@naia.org. She will follow a process similar to women's volleyball where she sends one email each week with any errors. She will detail this process in an email to head coaches as well.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Greg Reitz/Jeff Lipton

Vote: 14-0-0



Men's Volleyball Motion #1

Submitted by: Luke Bentley, William Penn University (Iowa)

Coaches Vote: 0-0-0

MOTION:

Change of Ruling to Win the Match-Ruling 6.3 to Win the Match-USAV handbook states rule 6.3.1: The match is won by the team that wins two sets out of three (or three sets out of five) The motion will eliminate the language of two sets out of three and change to three sets out of five, therefore removing any possibility of a Varsity collegiate match being played in a best of three format.

RATIONALE:

The USAV rulebook covers junior and club volleyball divisions that would follow a two sets out of three format, however, that is not allowed in NAIA volleyball, unless played in a Junior Varsity match. This change will eliminate confusion or any question of the match format length.

HISTORY BEHIND MOTION:

The NAIA Men's Volleyball rulebook is the same as the USAV rulebook, with a few modifications. This motion would support another modification to clear up any confusion on a match format length.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

START DATE:

2025-26 Academic Year



Men's Volleyball Motion #2

Submitted by: Gregory Reitz, Lourdes University (Ohio)

Coaches Vote: 0-0-0

MOTION:

All-American Committee Composition adjustment to include a member of each conference to expand the breadth of knowledge of all qualified candidates from across the country. If the Executive Committee does not have equal representation from all conferences, then the ARC member that completes the conference representation will be included in the selection committee.

RATIONALE:

In order to get equal and fair representation of deserving individuals from across the country we should have a committee that represents that same diversity. The current committee consists of the Men's Volleyball Executive committee only. This motion aims to address the limited view of the committee to ensure all qualified student-athletes are considered equally.

HISTORY BEHIND MOTION:

Men's Volleyball has two All-American Awards, one from the NAIA and the other from the National Coaches Association (AVCA). This proposal would result in a more similar committee model for each. Currently the AVCA selection committee has more representation from members across the country, whereas the NAIA committee has much smaller representation. It would be a more fair and equitable committee if we expand to include a member from each conference with Men's Volleyball representation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

START DATE:

2025-26 Academic Year



Men's Volleyball Motion #3

Submitted by: Jared Goldberg, The Master's University (Calif.)

Coaches Vote: 0-0-0

MOTION:

Change the National Championship Format to go directly into a 12 team single elimination bracket play rather than any pool play. Under this format, the top 4 overall seeds would get a bye out of round 1 and go directly into the quarterfinals (See attached visual diagram as well).

Round 1: Tuesday

Seed 5 vs Seed 12

Seed 6 vs Seed 11

Seed 7 vs Seed 10

Seed 8 vs Seed 9

Round 2 (Quarterfinals): Wednesday

Seed 1 vs Winner of #8/#9

Seed 2 vs Winner of #7/#10

Seed 3 vs Winner of #6/#11

Seed 4 vs Winner of #5/#12

Round 3 (Semifinals): Friday

Seed #1/#8/#9 vs Seed #4/#5/#12

Seed #2/#7/#10 vs Seed #3/#6/#11

Round 4 (Finals): Saturday

Semifinal Winner #1 vs Semifinal Winner #2

RATIONALE:

In the current format, there have been many meaningless games in our national championship postseason which are played out between two teams mathematically eliminated. This format would fall into line with the way many other NAIA sports run their postseason.

Since our sport is not sponsoring enough teams just yet to make an argument to go up to a 16 team tournament, this proposed format will make the seedings a bit more impactful. The national selection committee will still make these seedings as they have always done, but with just a little more impact on giving byes to those top 4 seeds out of the first round.

HISTORY BEHIND MOTION:

With our 12 team pool play format, in the last 5 years, we have only had 1 pool out of the last 20 which ended up in a 3 way tie. Therefore, our national championships have hosted 19 matches

over the last 5 years which are completely unnecessary. Every team understands that in the current format, it's a win or go home, and nobody is fighting to play unnecessary matches.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

With a change to bracket play adding in an off day before the semifinals, there would be little financial costs to consider since the tournament would be the exact same length of time as the current structure. Therefore, it would also have no impact to the current structure of the national tournament contract with the host city either. If the national tournament pays their officials by each match, there is a potential to reduce overall costs by eliminating some matches in the tournament.

START DATE:

2026-27 Academic Year





Men's Volleyball Motion #4

Submitted by: Douglas Sherer, Mount Vernon Nazarene University (Ohio)

Coaches Vote: 0-0-0

MOTION:

National Coach of the Year Pool: Candidate Pool to include Conference Volleyball Coaches of the Year and National Tournament participating coaches.

RATIONALE:

This mirrors the same criteria for Women's National Coach of the Year Pool.

HISTORY BEHIND MOTION:

In the past, the Men's National Coach of the Year was only eligible based upon the Pool of Conference Coach of the Year winners. Very possible in the past where a Conference Coach of the Year might not get their team to the National Tournament but still be eligible for National Coach of the Year. Also, very possible your conference tournament winner may not have been conference coach of the year and this would prevent that coach from being part of the discussion for National Coach of the Year.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

START DATE:

2026-27 Academic Year



Men's Volleyball Motion #5 – Legislative Services

Submitted by: Luke Bentley, William Penn University (Iowa) – Coaches Association

Co-Sponsorship:

Coaches Vote: 0-0-0

MOTION:

Competition Start Date: Keeping a consistent competition start date to allow for off-balanced calendars. The start date would count back 13 weeks from the conference championship dates

RATIONALE:

The current rule allows for our first competition to take place on the final Thursday of the last full weekend of January. This will cause our season to be shortened by a full week in 2027, due to the way the calendar dates fall. This new proposal of 13 weeks from the conference championship matches mirrors the women's format as well.

HISTORY BEHIND MOTION:

For several years, the first date of competition has been the last Thursday in the last full weekend of January, allowing for about 12 weeks of play before conference championship matches. Looking into the future, this format will give us only 11 week seasons every 5-6 years. During the shortened year, the 11-week season would be extremely difficult to fit in all the matches allowed to fulfill a season and prepare for postseason without burn out and risk of injury. With the growth of the sport and the push for institutions to add men's volleyball, the flexibility of an extra week or two would allow for more non-conference play and more exposure to newer programs and more cross-conference play.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None that is required. Institutions may have a few more matches due to an earlier start or may consider bringing players back to campus earlier but most institutions will not change their schedule format. Potential additional costs may be incurred by institutions for housing and meal services due to student-athletes returning to campus early.

START DATE:

2026-27 Academic Year



Men's Volleyball Motion #6

Submitted by: Luke Bentley, William Penn University (Iowa)

Coaches Vote: 0-0-0

MOTION:

All-American Selection Process: All-American selections are open to any player selected on their All-Conference teams or on a team that qualifies for the NAIA National Tournament.

RATIONALE:

Eligible and deserving players should get recognition for their accomplishments. In years past, the All-American selections were limited to players on All-Conference teams, therefore limiting players who did not receive recognition in smaller conferences that only select one All-Conference team. If a player is left off for some reason, they were not eligible to become an NAIA All-American.

HISTORY BEHIND MOTION:

In years past, the NAIA MVCA has been limited to selecting players from the conferences First-Team selections. This has created a limited pool, despite there being plenty of players to choose from, the talent level is not as high as it could be. In certain conferences, deserving players are put on the Second-Team or Honorable Mention lists due to too many players from one team or a crowded position group. As well, certain conferences only select a First-Team list, also leaving off deserving players from selection. If we open the pool to any All-Conference selection or any team in the National Tournament, this will eliminate those issues.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

START DATE:

2025-26 Academic Year



Men's Volleyball Motion #7

Submitted by: Chad Hanson, Dordt University (Iowa)

Coaches Vote: 0-0-0

MOTION:

Increase the NAIA National Championship All-Tournament Team from 5 members to 12 members which would include the MVP and the Sportsman of the Year Awards. Therefore, 10 total members of the All-Tournament Team plus the MVP and the Sportsman of the Year to make a 12 member All-Tournament Team. The 12 member All-Tournament Team will continue to be chosen by the Tournament Committee per existing Bylaws.

RATIONALE:

Though the men's volleyball national tournament has increased from 8 teams to 12 teams since 2021, the number of 5 All-Tournament team members has remained unchanged. Further, the practice of applying an MVP outside of the 5 member All-Tournament Team was discontinued in the 2024 season (and the Bylaw language explicitly states the MVP must be within the 5 members chosen).

With 12 teams at the National Tournament final site, there is an abundance of talent that should and could be recognized, especially within the 4 National Semifinalist teams. Each of the 4 National Semifinalists has at least two athletes that are worthy of such an honor which would leave 2 remaining athletes that could be chosen from other participating teams who did not reach the National Semifinals. The above examples are to demonstrate the numerical distribution of honorees and not a formula or requirement for how the awards should be chosen.

Finally, the sport of men's volleyball typically involves a 7 member starting roster with 6 in the rotation and the libero as the 7th person. To have an All-Tournament Team of only 5 athletes is not a fit for the personnel of the sport, but rather emulates a basketball line-up of 5 starters.

HISTORY BEHIND MOTION:

See Attached jpeg for "2019-2027 All Tournament Team Spreadsheet picture" with the image of the 2019-2027 spreadsheet to be affixed here in "History Behind this Motion"

Season	Total Teams in Tournament	Total Teams in Elimination Bracket	# All Tournament Team Members	MVP (Included or Separate from Team)	Sportsman of the Year (Included or Separate)
2019	8	4	5	Separate	Separate
2020	NO TOURNAMENT (COVID-19)				
2021	12	4	5	Separate	Separate
2022	12	4	5	Separate	Separate
2023	12	4	5	Separate	Separate
2024	12	4	5	Included	Separate
2025	12	4	5	Included	Separate
Upcoming 2026	12	4	5	Included	Separate
Proposed 2027	12	4	12	Included	Included

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The cost of the additional 5 plaques. Approx \$100 increase.
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START DATE:

2026-27 Academic Year





Men's Volleyball Motion #8

Submitted by: Charles Shearer, Life University (Ga.)

Coaches Vote: 0-0-0

MOTION:

Remove the mandatory switching sides between sets

RATIONALE:

Side switching wastes time in between sets staff could be meeting with each other/players and making choices about changes in the next set. The USAV rule we use already has language in it where, in the event of a clear side difference due to gym (lights, polls, AC, hoops, etc), then switching would occur, so not forcing the switch in the overwhelming majority of gyms would allow us to focus more on volleyball and less on gathering gear/equipment and moving to a new bench.

HISTORY BEHIND MOTION:

The removal of side switching was a result of Covid, however it led to more time spent focusing on strategy, feedback ,and player rest. It was something that continued after the height of Covid, and most coaches found joy in not being forced to switch sides. We resumed this, simply due to a "it's what we've always done" mindset. Even VNL/Worlds only switches between 2nd and third sets, although their break is much longer. As a small benifit, it should also cut down on misplaced warmups/gear/equipment that sometimes occurs when teams switch, saving money in replacement. With the current rule wording having an exception if the gym creates a clear side advantage, there seems to be no reason we cannot adapt this to make life easier for everyone.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

START DATE:

2025-26 Academic Year



Men's Volleyball Motion #9

Submitted by: Jeffrey Lipton, Culver-Stockton College (Mo.)

Coaches Vote: 0-0-0

MOTION:

Out-of-Rotation Errors: To change a rule allowing the referee's whistle to define the official rotation status, and the toss of the serve will determine when players can shift their court positions.

RATIONALE:

This would eliminate any serve receive rotation errors and allow the setter to release faster to the target area on the court (leaving any positions to the front row center or center right position).

This is where volleyball is going and the NAIA should be in the forefront in the evolution of the game.

HISTORY BEHIND MOTION:

For the better part of volleyball history, players must line up in specific positions and are not allowed to move until the server contacts the ball. This would be a major paradigm shift for volleyball, but for the better.

The FIVB tested this new rule during the last Summer 2025 VNL - Volleyball Nations League. I do believe that in the next rule book for the FIVB 2025 - 2028, that will become official.

USA Volleyball will be publishing its new rule book around the same time 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

START DATE:

2025-26 Academic Year