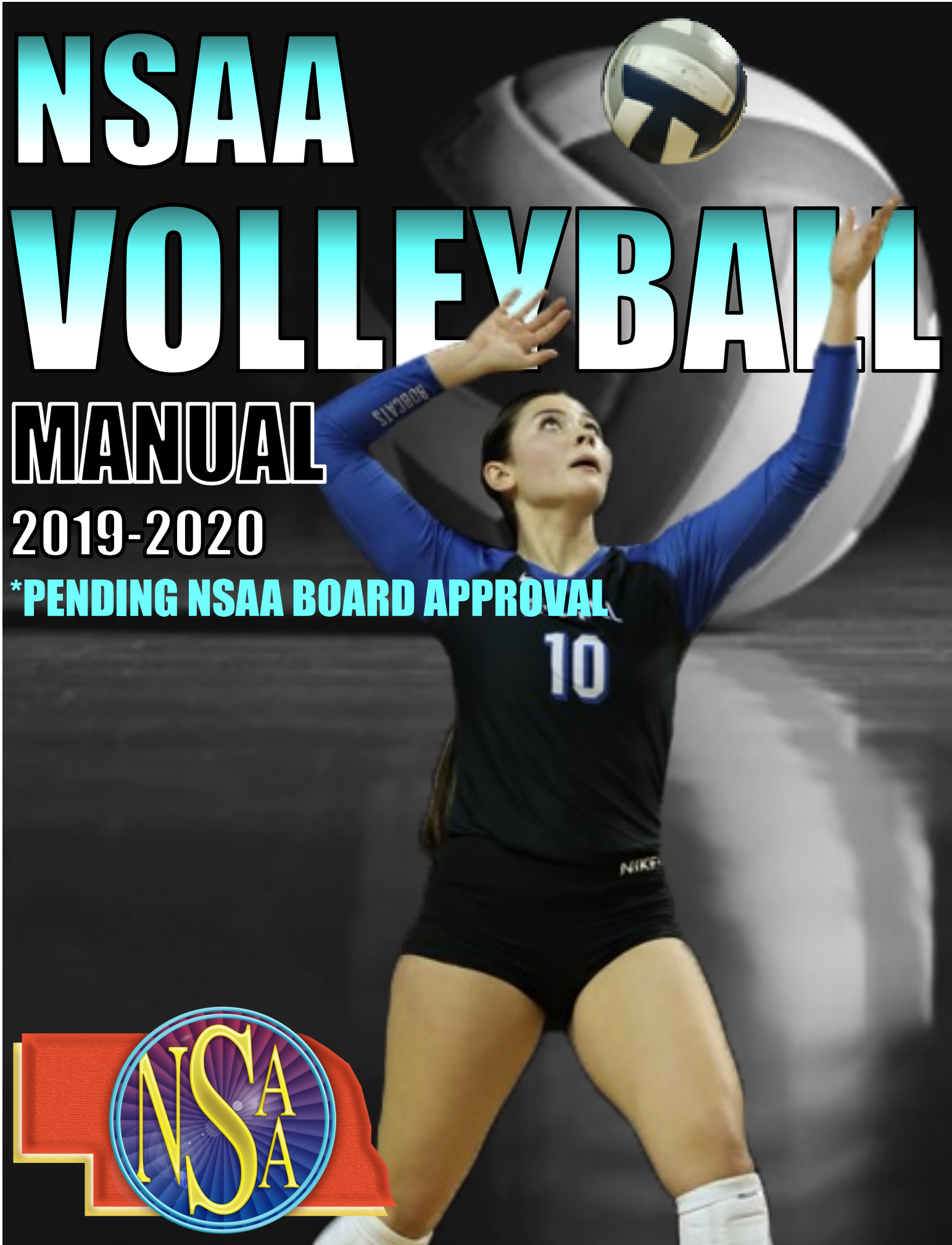


# NSAA VOLLEYBALL

MANUAL

2019-2020

\*PENDING NSAA BOARD APPROVAL





## **NSAA MISSION STATEMENT**

***The public and non-public high schools of Nebraska voluntarily agreed to form the Nebraska School Activities Association for the following purposes:***

- To formulate and make policies which will cultivate high ideals of citizenship, fair competition, sportsmanship and teamwork which will compliment the member schools' curriculum programs.
- To foster uniformity of standards in interscholastic activity competition.
- To organize, develop, direct and regulate an interscholastic activity program which is equitable and will protect and promote the health and physical welfare of all participants.

This VOLLEYBALL MANUAL has been prepared and designed to provide general information for use in the administration of NSAA volleyball competition. It will serve as a guide to the participating schools and will provide for greater consistency between matches. The regulations in this manual shall be considered official unless the schools are notified of a change.

Assistant Director, Jennifer Schwartz, is the NSAA staff member responsible for administering volleyball and would be the person schools with questions regarding this activity should contact. She can be reached at [jschwartz@nsaahome.org](mailto:jschwartz@nsaahome.org) or through the Administrative Assistant, Alicia McCoy, [amccoy@nsaahome.org](mailto:amccoy@nsaahome.org).

### **2019-20 SEASON HIGHLIGHTS**

\*NFHS Training Course Requirements. Page 3

\*Eligibility for Sub-District/District/State Competition. Pages 7-8

\*Competition Points; Three-Team Dual/Triangular. Pages 8-9

\*Classification of Schools-Class A. Pages 11-12

\*Determination of Home Team (Districts). Page 15

\*Four-Team Sub-District/District Schedule. Page 15

\*State Tournament Pairings. Pages 23-24

### **2019-20 NFHS RULES BOOK CHANGES**

<b>2-1-5</b>	Clarifies that the attack line shall be measured from the edge of the attack line farthest from the center line to the axis of the center line.
<b>4-2-7</b>	Clarifies the penalty for the removal of any part of the uniform top or bottom as a yellow card charged to the coach for unsporting conduct.
<b>5-5-3b(26)</b>	Provides additional instructions for the second referee when conducting the coin toss prior to the deciding set by requiring the second referee to communicate with the first referee the serving team and the proper team benches.
<b>8-1-6, 8-2-5g</b>	Establishes the proper signal for a tossed ball that contacts a backboard or its supports hanging in a vertical position over the serving area is officials signal 13.
<b>NFHS Official Signals Chart</b>	Removes signal 7 "Legal Back-Row Attack" from the chart and establishes the signal as an informal officials' signal in the NFHS Officials Manual renumbering remaining signals.



## Key Dates

Date of First Practice	Monday, August 12
Schedules Due	Friday, August 23
Date of First Contest	Thursday, August 29
District Entries Due	Monday, October 21
District & Sub-District Seeding Released	Thursday, October 24
	<i>(District seeding based on matches through Tuesday, October 22).</i>
Classes C1/C2/D1/D2 Sub-Districts	Monday, October 28, Tuesday, October 29
Class B Sub-Districts	Tuesday, October 29, Wednesday, October 30
Class A Districts	Tuesday, October 29, Wednesday, October 30
Classes B/C1/C2/D1/D2 District Finals	Saturday, November 2
State Championship	Thursday, November 7, Friday, November 8, Saturday, November 9

## Future Dates

Year	First Practice Monday Week 6	First Contest Thursday Week 8	Sub-Districts/Districts/ District Finals Week 17	State Championships Thursday-Saturday Week 18
2020-2021	August 10	August 27	October 26-30	November 5-7
2021-2022	August 9	August 26	October 25-29	November 4-6
2022-2023	August 8	August 25	October 24-28	November 3-5

## NSAA Bylaws and Approved Rulings Governing Volleyball

For a complete listing of the NSAA Bylaws refer to the NSAA Constitution <http://nsaahome.org/textfile/yb/c&b.pdf>

2.12.2.2 AR **Rules Meeting.** The NSAA presents rules meetings in order to inform and educate coaches, officials, and judges about NFHS playing rules and rules changes, NSAA guidelines and approved rulings, and to discuss health and safety issues related to activities participation. All head coaches are required to attend an NSAA Rules Meeting or complete an NSAA Rules Meeting online annually. Failure to do so will result in possible late fees and suspension penalties. Online rules meetings are initially offered at no cost to coaches or officials, followed by a period with a \$25 "Late" Fee, followed by a period with a \$50 "Delinquent" Fee. The following sanctions and fees are applicable to those coaches who fail to complete the rules meeting by the expiration of the "Delinquent" Fee period. Absence from the required rules meeting OR FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE ONLINE RULES MEETING by August 23<sup>rd</sup> will result in the following sanctions:

### First Offense in Three-Year Period

The head coach will be suspended from coaching in any competition in that activity until

- (1) The head coach COMPLETES THE NSAA'S ONLINE RULES MEETING OFFERED AT THE LATE FEE of \$100; and
- (2) The head coach successfully completes the open book test for officials/judges of that activity (70% or higher); and the school's administration verifies that the coach has read all the supporting NSAA, National Federation, and safety information.

During this regular season suspension period, the head coach may continue to coach the team at practices.

### Second and Subsequent Offenses in Three-Year Period

The head coach will be suspended from coaching in all NSAA end-of-season play (sub-districts, districts, playoffs, and state competition).

- (1) The head coach COMPLETES THE NSAA'S ONLINE RULES MEETING OFFERED AT THE LATE FEE of \$200; and
- (2) The head coach successfully completes the open book test for officials/judges of that activity (70% or higher); and the school's administration verifies that the coach has read all the supporting NSAA, National Federation, and safety information.

During this regular season suspension period, the head coach may continue to coach the team at practices.

### 2019 Rules Meeting Schedule

July 29-August 13 – No Charge to Head Coaches  
August 14-20 – Basic \$25 Fee – Head Coaches  
August 21-23 – Late/Penalty \$50 Fee – Head Coaches

### APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 2.1.2

**Medical Personnel at Regular Season Games.** *Severe injuries, sudden illnesses and other critical incidents do not often occur during school activities, but it is important for every school to have an emergency action plan (EAP) for administrators, faculty, coaches and staff members to follow should emergencies occur. Due to lack of universal availability of medical coverage and other logistical reasons, NSAA does not require that schools have a physician, trainer or ambulance on-site at regular season activities; however, each school should have a plan in place should there be an emergency involving students, coaches, officials or spectators requiring medical attention.*

### APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 2.12.2.2

*All coaches and volunteers are required to complete the NFHS Concussion in Sports, Heat Illness Prevention, and Sudden Cardiac Arrest Training courses **at least once every three years.** These courses should be taken prior to any pre-season or regular season physical workouts that the respective coach would be present for or involved in administering. Any course taken after May 1 would be considered valid for the following school year. **All first year coaches are required to complete all three courses prior to the start of the activity season which they are to coach.***

A heat acclimatization period is required for football, golf, softball, tennis, and cross country. However, consideration should also be taken for any volleyball practices conducted in hot and humid weather in non-air cooled facilities.

### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.1.1**

**End of Season for Outside Participation.** *A season begins on the first day of allowable practices for that sport, as designated in 3.1.1.2. The season officially ends with the conclusion of the State Championship in that sport. Students may not participate in outside group instruction or competition once the season officially begins, and outside group instruction or competition may not commence until the school varsity team has been completely eliminated from further participation in the sport.*

*All scheduled and postponed regular season varsity contests must be played prior to the start of sub-district, district or state competition. Once sub-district, district or state competition begins, no regular varsity contests shall be permitted*

*Students who are not listed on the NSAA District entry form (and his/her regular season is completed) may participate in outside group instruction or competition of the same sport before the varsity school team has been completely eliminated from post-season competition. Those students who have participated in outside group instruction or competition following their regular season schedule would not be eligible to be placed on the District or State entry form of the same sport and would not be allowed to practice with the varsity team.*

**3.2 Out-of-season programs.** A member school shall not provide support, hold an organized practice or enter students in any non-high school competition in NSAA sponsored sports outside of the defined NSAA season.

### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.2**

*Faculty vs. student, alumni vs. student, or parent vs. student contests are not permissible during the season of the sport involved. If such contests are held out-of-season, the organized practice rule must be followed.*

**3.2.1 “School-Year, Out-of-Season” Definition.** “School-year, out-of-season” is defined as that period of time during the school year in which no organized practice can be conducted. The “school-year, out-of-season” period begins on the first day of fall practice and runs until the first allowable date of practice in that sport, and the period after a team or individual has been eliminated from further competition during the championship series of district and state tournaments/meets through Memorial Day or the end of the school year, whichever is later. For non-varsity competition, “school year, out-of-season” begins the day following the last date of interscholastic competition or the last date of the varsity season, whichever is later.

**3.2.2 “School-Year, Out-of-Season” Participation.** Except during the season of the sport involved, a student may be a member of a non-high school team and compete unattached in non-high school competition. Students are prohibited from wearing high school uniforms during non-high school sponsored competition.

**3.2.3 Organized Practice.** No organized practice in any sport shall be held during the “school-year, out-of-season” period. An organized practice shall be defined as follows:

- a. **Volleyball.** An organized practice shall mean more than four students under the direct supervision of a sponsor (as defined below). If more than one group is practicing at the same time, it shall be called an organized practice.

### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.2.3**

*Any individual who served as a school’s head coach, assistant coach, coach’s aide, or volunteer coach shall not coach athletes from that member school in non-high school competition if the number of athletes from the school which the individual served exceeds the number permitted for an organized practice in the sport involved.*

**3.2.4 Conditioning Program.** A member school may organize and supervise a “school year, out-of-season” conditioning program to include weight lifting, running, and exercising for its members in accordance with the following provision:

- a. Such a conditioning program shall be general in nature and may include only exercises designed to promote physical fitness.
- b. Sport specific drills are not allowed, and sport specific equipment may not be used.
- c. The conditioning session shall be no longer than 60 minutes in length, and no student shall participate in more than one such session per day.
- d. Conditioning programs shall be voluntary. No coach or school representative may directly or by implication direct a student to attend conditioning sessions as a prerequisite for membership or restrict the level of team participation within the high school program.

#### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.2.4**

*Conditioning sessions organized and run by members of the school's coaching staff are subject to the 60-minute limitation. Students, for example, who work out on their own at the school facility in weight lifting, general calisthenics, running, or agility-type exercises shall not be considered to be involved in an organized conditioning program.*

**3.2.5 Open Gym.** It is permissible for students to be involved in NSAA activities of a school's open gymnasium program during the "school year, out-of-season" period under the following conditions:

- a. The gym is open for all individuals and all activities.
- b. Schools may not designate sport specific times.
- c. Coaching or instruction is not provided.
- d. School employees who are present shall restrict their duties to supervision of the facility.
- e. Open gym shall be voluntary. No coach or school representative may directly or by implication direct a student to attend open gym as a condition for membership or restrict the level of team participation within the high school program.

#### **3.2.6 Camps & Clinics Definition:**

**Camp Definition:** Camps include planned physical participation that is of a competitive nature where actual games are played or simulated by camp attendees. Participation shall mean physically taking part in the sport activity in which instruction is offered in the camp or school.

**Clinic Definition:** A clinic includes planned activities of instruction or demonstration directly related to the teaching of individual skills. There shall be no competition between athletes who are in attendance.

**3.2.6.1 "School-Year, Out-of-Season".** Athletes and coaches may attend professional or commercial sports clinics sponsored by non-member high schools. During the "school-year, out-of-season" period, the organized practice rule for the sport in which instruction is being given shall apply. No more than the limit permitted for organized practice may attend and receive instruction. Attendance to "school-year, out-of-season" clinics shall be voluntary. No coach or school representative may directly or by implication direct a student to attend a clinic as a condition for membership on the high school team or restrict the level of team participation within the high school program.

#### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.2.6 and 3.2.6.1**

*The purpose of specialized sports camps/clinics is to give individual athletes an opportunity to improve his/her skills in a particular activity. The athlete and/or his/her parents shall pay the fees and expenses for attendance to such camps or schools. The school, booster clubs, individuals and/or other organizations shall not provide expenses, or support for individuals participating in clinics. Team fundraisers may be used to finance summer league and camp activities. The AD/coach can hold money collected from fundraising in a school account until the money is needed to pay for summer league or camp activities. Any athlete receiving money for summer league/camps must participate in the fundraising activity. The school may provide transportation for individuals participating in clinics with prior approval from the district's Board of Education.*

**3.2.7 Summer Activities.** From the Tuesday following Memorial Day to July 31, a member school may not sponsor a team or individual, provide uniforms, individual player equipment or otherwise be responsible for a student in summer competition. Attendance at all summer activities shall be voluntary. No coach or school representative may directly or by implication direct a student to attend summer activities as a condition for membership on a high school team or restrict the level of team participation within the high school program.

**3.2.7.1** During the summer a member school may organize the following:

**3.2.7.2 Summertime School-Sponsored Camps/Clinics:** A school may organize a camp or clinic in any sport from the Tuesday following Memorial Day through July 31. **The camp shall be limited to no more than ten days over a period of 21 consecutive calendar days starting with the first date of the camp/clinic.**

Summertime school-sponsored camps/clinics include planned physical activities that are instructional and competitive in nature where actual sets can be played or simulated by camp attendees. Summertime school-sponsored camps/clinics shall be voluntary and open to all interested students from grades 9-12. The use of school facilities, equipment, and vehicles are permitted in accordance with local school board policy.

**3.2.7.3 Summertime Conditioning Program.** A member school may organize and supervise a summer conditioning program to include weight lifting, running, and exercising for its members in accordance with the following provision:

- a. Such a conditioning program shall be general in nature and may include only exercises designed to promote physical fitness.
- b. Sport specific drills are not allowed, and sport specific equipment may not be used.
- c. Conditioning sessions shall be no longer than 60 minutes in length, and no member shall participate in more than one such session per day.

**3.2.7.4 Summertime Open Gym.** It is permissible for students to be involved in NSAA activities of a school's open gymnasium program during the summer under the following conditions:

- a. The gym is open for all individuals and all activities.
- b. Schools may not designate sport specific times.
- c. Coaching or instruction is not provided.
- d. School employees who are present restrict their duties to supervision of the facility.
- e. Permitting the participation by non-high school students (graduates, adults or individuals not a member of the school) shall be determined by local school board policy.

**3.2.7.8 Summertime Use of School Facilities.** Member schools may permit the use of their facilities in accordance with local school board rental policy.

**3.3.2 Scrimmage.** Prior to the first contest date for the fall season, only intra-squad matches or scrimmages are permitted. After the first contest date for fall sports, a school may have inter- or intra-squad matches and scrimmages.

- a. **However, alumni matches or scrimmages, or matches/scrimmages with non-high school teams are not allowed.**
- b. During the volleyball season, a school shall not permit a student who is not a member of the high school's team, an adult, a college student, or alumni to participate in any practice session, drill, scrimmage, or match in which a school team is involved. This does not prevent a coach from being involved for the primary purposes of teaching and demonstrating skills, methods, or techniques.
- c. Any inter-squad scrimmage shall count as one of the 16 permitted matches.

Characteristics of an interschool scrimmage:

- a. No charge for admission.
- a. No spectators other than those who regularly attend practice.
- b. No paid officials.
- c. No advertising.
- d. No publicity regarding the scrimmage.
- e. No scoreboard, no official score.
- f. Coaches are permitted to stop scrimmage to instruct players and may terminate scrimmage at any time.

**Contests shall not be held with any team, which does not belong to the NSAA, or to its own state high school association.**

- a. State association must sanction activity.
- b. School team must register for activity with state association.

**Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame Jamboree Contest.** Each school is permitted to participate in one Jamboree event during Weeks 7 & 8 (August 19-24; 26-27). The following guidelines shall be followed:

1. Schools will be permitted to schedule a **best-of-five set match** (rally scoring to 25 points, deciding set to 15 points) against one school, **or two sets against two other teams**, all played on the same day to 25 points. NFHS game rules must be followed.
2. Schools may enter a two-year contract in order to accommodate home and away options for the two consecutive years.
3. Results of Jamboree games will not be counted into the school's regular season record, nor will such games count toward a school's wild-card-point averages.
4. Games shall involve only Nebraska schools.
5. Jamboree games shall be varsity only; lower-level games will not be permitted.
6. No postponement beyond designated dates; if weather or other circumstances require postponement of the Jamboree game, such make-up date must be no later than Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> of Week 8.
7. Following are the only allowable expenditures from gross receipts:
  - a. The Hall of Fame requests donated officials' services. If not, officials' fees shall be \$35 per NSAA registered official per night; if mileage is required, mileage shall be capped at a maximum of \$35.
  - b. Amount of local expenses shall be 15% of the gross receipts, capped at a maximum of \$200.
  - c. Remainder of gate receipts must be remitted to Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame Foundation no later than September 15<sup>th</sup>.
8. Games must be scheduled and emailed to the Hall of Fame by Monday, August 12<sup>th</sup> of Week 6. Games scheduled after that date will not be permitted.
9. Do not put the Hall of Fame game on your NSAA regular season schedule.
10. Recommended Admission – Adults \$5, Students \$4

**3.3.7 Incomplete Matches.** If a school takes its team off the playing field prior to the completion of a contest or prior to the suspension or termination of a match by the match officials, and the contest is forfeited because of the refusal of the school's team to continue play, the school shall be subject to a penalty set by the Board of Directors. The penalty may be the exclusion from participation in sub-district, district, district final or state contests. ***If a match is not completed (i.e. deciding set in best of 3 is not played to 25 points), it shall be considered an incomplete match and no wildcard points will be awarded.***

#### **APPROVED RULINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS FOR 3.3.7**

##### *Eligibility for Sub-District/District/State Competition*

*1. In all athletic activities, teams wishing to enter a sub-district, district, or state contest shall have participated in a minimum of five interschool varsity contests prior to the sub-district, district, or state contest.*

- a. *Exceptions to the requirements for a team that has not participated in at least five interschool varsity contests would be considered if the team was unable to participate if weather conditions forced a cancellation of scheduled contests. Other extenuating circumstances would be considered by the Executive Director on a case-by-case basis.*

*2. In order to participate in a sub-district, district or state tournament, a student is required to have been a member of the school's team for at least twenty school days prior to the first day of the sub-district, district, or state tournament.*

- a. *Exceptions to the requirements for a student who is not a member of the school team for twenty school days would be considered if an individual was unable to participate because of illness, injury, or transfer from another high school. School, team, or game suspensions, regardless of the underlying cause, shall not be considered as exceptions to this participation rule.*

**3. To be eligible to participate in a sub-district, district and/or state contest, a student shall have been a member of a school's team and shall have been "available to participate" in at least thirty percent (30%) of the school's scheduled interschool contests.**

- a. **Exceptions to the requirements for a student who has not been available to participate in at least (30%) of the school's varsity interschool contests would be considered if an individual was unable to**



participate because of illness, injury, transfer from another high school, or if weather conditions forced a cancellation of scheduled contests.

b. When determining whether a student has been available for (30%) of the school's varsity interschool contests, one would divide the number of varsity interschool contests for which the student was available by the school's total number of varsity interschool contests; all decimals .1 or above would be rounded up to the next higher whole number.

c. The term "available to participate" means that the student was a bona fide member of the team eligible to participate for the school at some level of competition in the sport and is not suspended from participation in activities by virtue of NSAA rules.

4. For situations pertaining to eligibility to participate in district or state contests that are not specifically addressed by these guidelines, the Executive Director shall have the authority to waive membership and participation requirements on a case-by-case basis.

3.3.7.2 The Executive Director is granted the authority to require schools to alter travel plans to arrive the day prior to the scheduled state contest if weather conditions so warrant. If a school chooses not to travel to the contest site the day prior to the scheduled contest, the school shall understand that the matches will go on as scheduled and if they are unable to arrive prior to the scheduled match time, a forfeit will be issued.

3.5.1 **Outside Participation.** Any student who participates in an athletic contest other than as a representative of her high school during the volleyball season shall become ineligible to represent her school in volleyball for one or more matches or the remainder of the season. (This rule applies to club volleyball, church league matches, independent matches, sand volleyball tournaments and matches where contestants are selected at random, etc.)

3.5.2 **Outside Practices, Tryouts and Participation.** During the season of a sport, a student is permitted to take individualized instruction from a person other than the high school coach. Individualized instruction shall not take the place of the high school practice. Group instruction, practices with outside teams, and tryouts for outside teams other than as a part of a college or university-recruiting visit, however, are not permitted.

3.11.11.3 **Match Limitations.** No team representing a member school may participate in more than **16** matches, in addition to the state sponsored series of tournaments from the date of the first permitted contest to the close of the state tournament. **A team may not participate in more than five tournaments that have a competition point value of three or more, which includes the conference tournament.** Participation in any volleyball tournament shall count as one match of the 16 matches permitted. No team may exceed **30 competition** points prior to the district and state tournaments.

**Competition points are assigned according to the following chart.**

1. Dual match – 1 point
2. Triangular match – 2 points
3. Double Triangular – 2 points
4. Three-team dual/triangular match – 1 or 2 points
5. Four-team one-day tournament, 2 match maximum – 2 points
6. Four-team round robin tournaments – 3 points
7. One-day tournaments of more than four teams – 3 points
8. Two or three-day tournaments – 4 points

The 16-match and 30-competition point limits pertain to **each level** of competition at which a school may sponsor a team. For example:

- a. A school's varsity may have sixteen matches.
- b. A school's junior varsity may have sixteen matches independent of the varsity.

**Triangular Definition.** A **triangular** volleyball match, three schools playing two contests or playing two other schools in one session (night), counts as only one match.

**Double Triangular.** The NSAA shall permit a **double triangular** in which there are four teams present and each team would play two of the other teams present in a triangular format. The double-triangular must take place in one evening/session. The schedule shall be pre-determined by the host as to which of the four teams will comprise each triangular. The double-triangular format in which each of the schools participates in two pre-determined matches shall count as one match and two competition points.

**Three-Team Dual/Triangular.** The NSAA shall permit a **dual/triangular**, in which there are three teams present and two teams play one game and one team plays two games. The dual triangular must take place in one evening/session. The schedule shall be pre-determined as to which of the three teams will comprise the dual and the triangular. The dual/triangular format in which each of the schools participates in one or two pre-determined matches shall count as one match.

**Tournament Definition.** A **tournament** is defined as a contest involving four or more teams in which the winner continues to advance and compete until a single winner is determined or through round-robin competition. A team is required to have a 30-minute rest period only between the second and third matches of a tournament. The 30 minutes includes the warm-up period before the third match. By mutual agreement of the competing schools, the 30-minute rest period can be modified. Rest period between third and fourth match is not required.

3.11.11.3 (2) **Out-of-State Tournaments.** When a Nebraska team plays in an out-of-state tournament, the Nebraska school may play up to five matches in one day if that state permits it. When a Nebraska team plays in an out-of-state tournament, the Nebraska team will be allowed to play a third set to 15 points and receive wild card points.

**A school that violates the team match limitation may be disqualified from district and state tournament competition or subject to penalties as defined in Bylaw 2.11.**

Exhibition or unattached participation in inter-high school competition to circumvent game, match or meet limitations shall not be permitted.

**Student Limitations.** No student shall take part in more than six volleyball matches per week, excluding tournament competition. The matches-per-week limitation does not apply to postponed contests.

No student shall take part in more than four volleyball matches per day in tournament competition. If more than one tournament is scheduled at the same time, the student may only participate in one such tournament.

In all other competition, no student may participate in more than two matches per day.

Any participation during a set of any match counts as participation in that match.

A school that violates the student limitations shall be assessed a point/loss of rally and the student shall be removed from the set. The match shall then continue.

If it is noticed by the scorer or brought to the scorer's attention that a student has violated the student limitation rule, the scorer shall notify the officials who then shall verify the violation and assess the penalty.

**Varsity Schedules.** All varsity schedules must be submitted online by **Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>**. After the season begins, there will be **NO additions**. Cancellations or postponements due to weather must be emailed or called into the NSAA office. All scheduled and postponed regular season varsity contests must be played prior to the start of Sub-District, District, District Final and State competition. Once Sub-District, District, District Final and State competition begins, no regular varsity contests shall be permitted.

**Music Licenses.** Generally, music used for contests (warm-up, half-time, video production, cheer/dance etc.) needs to be licensed. Some music may be in public domain; however, most music is not and will require a license. This season, take the necessary time to verify your music is licensed through the proper entities. Visit [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com) to view the video course: *Understanding Copyright and Compliance*.

**Accommodations for Students with Disabilities.** Each state association may, in keeping with applicable laws, authorize exceptions to NFHS playing rules to provide reasonable accommodations to individual participants with disabilities and/or special needs, as well as those individuals with unique and extenuating circumstances. In order to determine if the NSAA can authorize such an accommodation, the school administration should contact the NSAA to request an accommodation hearing.

**NSAA Policy on Comments and Negative Actions Against Officials and Judges.**

The National Federation of State High School Associations has devised Code of Ethics guidelines for high school coaches. The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. The coach or sponsor shall respect and support contest officials and judges. The coach or sponsor shall not indulge in conduct that would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials, judges or players is unethical.

The Nebraska School Activities Association has embraced that Coaches Code of Ethics and has established policies and standards that will cultivate the ideals of good sportsmanship, professionalism and conduct. It shall be the responsibility of each member school to ensure that all individuals directly associated with the interscholastic program conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike and professional manner.

The high school coach or director is a representative of the school at interscholastic activity events. It is the responsibility of all coaches and directors to serve as role models for students and the public.

It is the expectation that all coaches, directors, administrators and student participants shall refrain from negative criticism of NSAA member institutions, officials, adjudicators, judges, etc. in public statements before, during or after interscholastic events. The appropriate public response to media questions at all venues regarding officiating/judging is “per NSAA policy, I am unable to comment.” Any other response is a violation of this board policy and is subject to penalty.

It would be considered a violation of this NSAA policy to include, but are not limited to the following:

- a. Making degrading and/or critical remarks about officials or adjudicators or the officiating or judging before, during or after an event either on or off-site, via social media, or through any public means.
- b. Detaining the officials/adjudicators/judges during or following the event to request a ruling or explanation of actions or evaluation by the official(s)/adjudicator(s)/judges.
- c. Entering the officials dressing area following the contest.

Negative actions by an individual directly associated with the program shall be reported to the NSAA office by the school and/or by the head contest official, adjudicator, judge, or manager. The school shall document the results of their investigation and actions taken, where necessary and appropriate. The NSAA Executive Director shall determine the appropriate penalties for violation of this board policy.

**NSAA SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDELINES AND EJECTIONS**

1. Enforcement of the “sit-out rule” for ejections from high school contests for unsportsmanlike conduct is a responsibility of the member school. Failure to properly enforce this rule could result in other sanctions by the NSAA.
2. Administrators will be expected to promptly file a report with the NSAA whenever a participant or coach from their school has been ejected from any high school contest. Such filing must be done online under the AD login section of the NSAA webpage.
3. A participant or coach ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next athletic contest at that level of competition and any other athletic contest at any level during the interim.
4. Enforcement of the “sit-out rule” is expected to begin immediately, regardless whether it is regular-season or tournament play.
5. Any participant ejected a second time during a season from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next two contests at that level of competition and all other athletic contests at any level during the interim, in addition to other penalties the NSAA or school may assess.

6. Any participant ejected a third time during a season from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next three contests at that level of competition and all other athletic contests at any level during the interim, in addition to other penalties the NSAA or school may assess.
7. During the time of their "sit-out" suspension, athletes who are ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct may not suit up or participate, but it is the school's discretion whether such athlete is able to travel with the team or sit on the team bench.
8. Coaches who are ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct may not coach in any contest or be present at the contest site during the time of their "sit-out" suspension. Coaches who are ejected will also be required to successfully complete the NFHS Teaching & Modeling Behavior online course within 10 days of the ejection. Failure to successfully complete the course will result in a suspension from coaching for the remainder of the season. In those situations in which the ejection of the coach occurs near the end of the season or during the NSAA end-of-season play, the coach will be required to successfully complete the NFHS Teaching & Modeling Behavior online course before being able to coach the following season or year.
9. Coaches who are ejected a second time in a season will be required to sit-out the next two contests at that level, plus all other contests at other levels during the interim. Coaches may not be present at the contest site during the time of their "sit-out" suspension. Any coach ejected a second time will also be required to successfully complete the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching online course within 10 days of the ejection. Failure to successfully complete the course will result in a suspension from coaching for the remainder of the season. In those situations in which the ejection of the coach occurs near the end of the season or during the NSAA end-of-season play, the coach will be required to successfully complete the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching online course before being able to coach the following season or year.
10. If the ejection takes place in the final game of the season, the suspension will carry over to the following season.
11. When schools have students or coaches with multiple ejections, the school shall submit to the NSAA a written management plan on how they plan to remediate the problem.
12. Officials will be expected to file with the NSAA an ejection report for any ejection of a player or coach from a contest online. Any unusual situation that occurs prior to, during, or after a contest should also be reported.
13. Prompt reporting to the NSAA office by the official is necessary. Officials are asked to submit their electronic report or call the NSAA office by the day following the ejection.
14. Officials are asked to be specific in listing the reason(s) for an ejection.
15. Affiliated officials (officials registered from contiguous states) will also be required to perform this reporting function.
16. There is no appeal process for ejections for unsportsmanlike conduct.
17. The Executive Director shall reserve the right to consider the length of suspensions when some levels of competition are scheduled on an irregular basis (e.g., three weeks between regularly scheduled non-varsity contests).

**In the realm of good sportsmanship, it is the expectation that all student spectators to wear shirts for all sub-district, district, district final and state events. Each individual school shall be responsible for assuring that student spectators are appropriately attired. Participants must keep their uniforms on while in the competition area.**

## **REGULAR SEASON**

### **Classification of Schools**

Available online at <https://nsaahome.org/textfile/volley/vbclass.pdf>.

1. Schools shall be divided into six classes for volleyball competition.
2. This classification is based on grades 9-11 enrollment from September of the year which immediately precedes the classification period. Class A will be classified based on a total enrollment of 850 and above. Class B, C1, C2, D1 & D2 will be classified using girl only enrollment.
  - a. The top 60 largest schools registered for volleyball shall be in Classes A & B. Schools with a combined enrollment of 850 and above will be placed in Class A. The remaining schools will be placed in Class B.

- b. The remaining schools registered for volleyball are split evenly into four classes; C1, C2, D1, D2, with the additional school being placed in the lower class.
3. Classifications will be done on a yearly basis. Beginning in 2020-21, Class A will be classified on a two-year basis, and all other classes will be classified yearly.
4. If schools are tied in enrollment for the last position or positions of a class, the following tie-breaker will be applied:
  - a. The first tie-breaker will be a three-year average of enrollment which includes the year on which the current year's classification is based and the two previous years. The higher three-year average will be in the larger class.
  - b. If the tie still exists, then the school with the higher immediate previous year's enrollment will be placed in the larger class.
  - c. If a tie still exists, it will be decided by a coin flip in the NSAA office.
5. Opting Up – a school may opt up one classification. The deadline for submitting a request to the NSAA is one week from when classifications are released.

### **Varsity Matches**

1. **Regular season in-state and inter-state dual, triangular, tournament shall consist of either the best three-out-of-five set format or the best two-out-of-three set format as mutually agreed upon by the participating schools and stipulated on a written contract.**
  - a. **3-out-of-5**
    - All sets played to 25 points
    - Deciding set played to 15 points
    - No cap
  - b. **2-out-of-3**
    - All sets, including the deciding, played to 25 points
    - No cap
2. **Sub-district/district/district final/state format shall consist of the best three-out-of-five set format.**

### **Reporting of Scores and Game Results**

1. All Varsity games scores and stats are to be reported to: MAXPREPS.COM
2. Detailed instructions on how to submit scores and stats to MAXPREPS.COM will be sent directly to each member school.
3. Both schools involved in the contest are encouraged to submit the final score as well as team & individual statistics.
4. NSAA Member schools that compete against schools outside of Nebraska are required to submit the game results.

**Non-Varsity Matches.** Modification of match format is permitted for matches below the varsity level as mutually agreed by the schools.

### **Non-Varsity Uniforms**

The uniforms worn by non-varsity teams do not have to be identical. They must have permanent numbers, but duplicate numbers can be on the roster. Duplicate numbers cannot be worn by participants simultaneously during the match.

**Multiple Head Coaches.** When teams have multiple head coaches, only one head coach is permitted to stand during the match, this must be designated at the pre-match conference.

**Varsity Rosters.** No more than 14 for sub-districts, districts, district finals and state. Regular season contests are excluded from this limitation.

### **Matches Not Permitted During the State Championship**

No volleyball matches in any class, other than the state championship matches, are permitted during the dates of **November 7, 8 and 9**. This includes regular season matches, non-varsity tournaments, and conference tournaments or playoffs.

**Official Rules.** National Federation Volleyball Rules shall govern all competition.

**Officials.** NFHS Rule 5-1-1, all officials including scorer, libero tracker, timer and line judges are to be secured by the host school.

**Line Judges.** Line judges are required to use flags. Line Judges shall be fair and impartial. Line judges shall avoid wearing any attire that makes reference to a school or team. It is preferred that line judges wear white shirts and black pants. Note: the flags should be red in color and of a recommended size of approximately 12 inches by 12 inches to approximately 16 inches by 16 inches. The flag and hand grip should be securely affixed to the pole.

### **Videotaping and Filming**

1. A school may videotape or film the match(es) in which its team plays.
2. Prior permission should be received from the host school.
3. Videotaping or filming a match, in which the recording school is not playing, is not permitted.

### **Warm-up**

There shall be a minimum of 16-minutes warm-up for all interschool matches. The warm-up period shall be divided as follows for district and state competition:

- 5 minutes – Both teams on their sides of the court
- 5 minutes – Home team both sides of the court (to include serving)
- 5 minutes – Visiting team both sides of the court (to include serving)
- 1 minute – Teams at respective benches and on the endline ready for play by the conclusion of the final minute

For varsity regular season tournament play warm-ups may be 11-minutes divided as follows:

- 2 minutes—Both teams on their sides of the court.
- 4 minutes—Home team both sides of the court (to include serving)
- 4 minutes—Visiting team both sides of the court (to include serving)
- 1 minute—Teams at respective benches and by the conclusion of the final minute on the end line ready for play.

During the final minute of the warm-up, teams must return to their respective benches. By the conclusion of the final minute, the players who will be introduced (if doing player introductions) must be on the end line. After player introductions/National Anthem, the R1 will whistle for the teams to shake hands at the net. Then the starting players must immediately take their positions on the court for line-up checks, and the non-starters shall return to the team bench.

When a team is allowed both sides of the court, it may practice any skill including serving. While the team is allowed both sides of the court, the other team ***must be completely off of the 30' x 60' playing court, and the playable area adjacent to the playing court.***

It is not automatically within the authority/duties of the referee to dictate the warm-up schedule. If the match officials are to direct warm-ups, meet management should make prior arrangements with the officials.

It shall be the official timer's responsibility to notify each team when it is time to change drills.

Non-varsity warm-up shall be as listed unless the schools mutually agree to other arrangements.

## **SUB-DISTRICT AND DISTRICT INFORMATION**

### **Sub-District and District Assignments**

Available online at <https://nsaahome.org/distassign.php?sport=vb>.

1. Schools, registered for volleyball, were assigned to sub-districts and districts in the manner given below.

2. **Class A** schools will be divided in seven districts. All of the seven districts will be determined using a serpentine method (not modified), based upon the NSAA wild card point system within one week prior to the first district competition. The highest seeded volleyball team in each Class A district shall host that particular district. The seven district winners will automatically advance to the state championship. One additional team will also qualify on the basis of the wild card team selection procedure.

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6	District 7
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14	13	12	11	10	9	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
28	27	26	25	24	23	22
29	30	31	32	33	34	35

3. **Class B** schools are divided into eight sub-districts. The schools were assigned to sub-districts on a geographical basis starting with the schools in western Nebraska and working east. North to south direction was used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a district. The highest seeded team will host the district.
- The winning team in each sub-district will qualify for the district final.
  - The next eight non-sub-district winners with the highest wild card point averages will qualify for the district final.
  - The 16 teams qualifying for the district final will be placed on a 16-team bracket based on wild-card point averages through districts. The higher seeded team will host the district final match. The winner of the district final match will advance to the state championship.
4. **Classes C1, C2, D1 & D2** schools are divided into 12 sub-districts. The schools were assigned to sub-districts on a geographical basis starting with the schools in western Nebraska and working east. North to south direction was used in some cases in order to decrease the distance between the schools within a district. Sub-district games will be played at a centralized, neutral location.
- The winning team in each sub-district will qualify for the district final.
  - The next four non-sub-district winners with the highest wild card point averages will qualify for the district final.
  - The 16 teams qualifying for the district final will be placed on a 16-team bracket based on wild-card point averages through sub-districts. District final games will be played at centralized, neutral locations as determined by the higher seed and agreed upon by both schools participating in the district final. If the two schools involved cannot agree; the NSAA office will select the site. The winner of the district final match will advance to the state championship.
5. If a school decides not to compete after district assignments are made, no change will be made in district assignments. If two or more schools decide not to compete, or two or more schools close, or consolidate, the districts may be adjusted to restore a near-equal number of schools or to take advantage of a reduction in travel distance.
6. **Hosting Districts.** Schools are encouraged to apply to host districts. In classes C1/C2/D1/D2, when a neutral district site is not available, the NSAA may assign the district to one of the teams participating in the district.

### Admission

Admission prices for sub-district and district and district final volleyball tournaments shall be:

- \$4.00 for students per session
- \$5.00 for adults per session.

### Complimentary Passes

- The host school shall provide complimentary passes to the competing schools.
- Admittance for players, student managers, and coaches shall not exceed 22.
- Extra passes for administrative and supervisory personnel from each school shall be as follows:
  - Class A, 10 passes
  - Class B, 8 passes
  - Classes C1/C2/D1/D2, 6 passes

## Three-Color Tournament Volleyball

The tournament ball shall be a Baden three-color (navy/gray/white) VX5EC-213.

### Determination of Home Teams

In all championships, the highest seeded team shall be considered the home team.

### District Director's Responsibilities

The director of the tournament is granted full authority for the conduct and management of the tournament and is responsible for the administration of rules, regulations and accounting of all finances.

#### 1. **Seedings and Pairings**

- a. The NSAA is responsible for the seedings and pairings of teams assigned to the sub-district or district. The district director shall provide the NSAA with match times. The NSAA will make the pairings on the date established and post the pairings on the NSAA website.
- b. A varsity team from a school may play a junior varsity team of any classification or a team from a state not contiguous with Nebraska and must count that match toward the total number of permitted contests, but may not count such match toward sub-district, district, district final and state competition seeding.
- c. District competition shall be seeded based on wild card point averages. The most recent point average computed on the seeding date set prior to the first contest of the district tournament shall be the points used. The records of all schools available to the NSAA on the date of the seeding shall be used to calculate wild card averages, even if an error on the record is discovered after the fact.
  1. If two teams are tied with identical point averages and have played each other, the results of the competition between these schools will be considered and the team winning the majority of contests between the two teams tied will be given the higher seed.
  2. In Class A, if a tie still exists, or if more than two teams are tied, the team or teams playing the greatest number of first division teams **in their classification** will be selected. If two teams are still tied, criteria (1) will apply before going to step (4).
  3. In Classes B/C1/C2/D1/D2, if a tie still exists, or if more than two teams are tied, the team or teams playing the greatest number of first division teams will be selected. If two teams are still tied, criteria (1) will apply before going to step (4).
  4. If the tie still exists, total the sum of the tied teams' opponents' wins and losses. The team whose opponents have the higher winning percentage will receive the higher seed. If two teams remain tied, criteria 1) will apply before going to step 4).
  5. If a tie still exists, the higher seed will be decided by a coin flip in the NSAA office.

#### 2. **Brackets.** Teams shall be placed on brackets by the NSAA.

##### **a. A four-team sub-district/district will be scheduled on two days.**

**Day 1: Match 1–Seeds 1 vs 4; Match 2–Seeds 3 vs 2**

**Day 2: Match 3–Championship**

##### **b. A five-team sub-district/district will be scheduled on two days.**

**Day 1: Match 1–Seeds 4 vs 5, Match 2–Seeds 3 vs 2, Match 3–Seed 1 vs winner 4 vs 5**

**Day 2: Match 4–Championship**

***A request for a modification of the above format must be approved through the NSAA Office with all participating schools agreeing to play all matches on one day. At any point in which a team would be confronted with playing matches back-to-back, a 30-minute break shall be implemented into the schedule.***

#### 3. **Financial Report Form**

- a. The financial report should be completed immediately following the close of the tournament. The financial report is provided in an electronic format for sub-district, district and district final directors. You will need to go to the NSAA homepage and Login. Towards the bottom of the Login page for your school, under Time Sensitive Forms, click on Financial Form. Click on the appropriate volleyball form representative of the district you have hosted.



- b. Enter the following information: gross receipts; approximate attendance; cost of officials' fees; cost of officials' mileage; and one-way mileage of each competing school. Click calculate.
- c. The electronic financial form will compute all of the calculations for the Director. Once calculations are completed, approval will be granted and the form will show how much should be paid to each competing school and how much should be paid to the NSAA. Click submit. The Director should mail checks along with a copy of the electronic financial form to the NSAA and all competing schools immediately following the close of the tournament.
- d. Sub-District, District, and District Final contests are considered NSAA activities. Student admission waivers under the Student Fees statutes will not be permitted.

### **Division of Gate Receipts**

In sub-districts and Class A districts the division of gate receipts shall be as follows:

1. Match officials.
2. Host school's allowance.
3. 10% of gross receipts to NSAA for catastrophic insurance.
4. 25% gross receipts to host school.
5. 25% gross receipts to NSAA.
6. Team expenses, mileage allowance only.
7. Balance for bonus.
  - a. If the tournament site is the home floor of, or a site rented by a participating school, then the host school shall receive a per-match share of the bonus equal to the per-match share received by each participating school. The bonus shall be divided as follows:
    - i. 10% NSAA.
    - ii. 90% participating schools.
  - b. If the host school is not a participating school, the bonus shall be divided as follows:
    - i. 15% host.
    - ii. 10% NSAA.
    - iii. 75% participating schools.
8. The host school allowance shall be:
  - 4-Team Tournament--\$100.00
  - 5-Team Tournament--\$125.00
  - 6-Team Tournament--\$150.00
9. Team expenses are for mileage only and shall be \$1.70 per mile per trip one way.
10. If the schools participating in a district tournament wish to have a dinner meeting, conference call, or other special meetings for planning the tournament, the expenses of these special meetings must come from each school's share of the bonus.
  - a. If there is no bonus, each school may be assessed a proportional part of the expenses.
  - b. These expenses may not be listed as tournament expenses.

When a school accepts the invitation to host a tournament, there is a possibility that tournament expenses will exceed revenue. An understanding should be reached that the competing schools may be assessed a certain fee to offset a potential deficit due to insufficient tournament receipts.

### **Inclement Weather**

1. Snowstorms or other inclement weather conditions may force the postponement of a sub-district or district contest.
2. In determining whether to postpone or to hold the contest(s) as scheduled, the director should consider the following factors:
  - a. The weather and road conditions at the site of the contest.
  - b. Existing weather and road conditions at the location of the schools, which are to compete that day.
  - c. Road conditions between tournament site and the competing schools.
  - d. The weather conditions immediately prior to, during, and following the contest, as reported by the weather bureau.

3. If after considering the various factors, the tournament director determines that competition is to go on as scheduled, all schools are to be notified early enough so as to allow each team sufficient time to travel to the contest site.
4. Once the decision has been made to hold the event as scheduled and any team has begun to travel, the contest(s) shall be played.
5. If the tournament director feels a postponement is necessary, he/she shall get permission from the Executive Director before postponing the day's activities.
6. Once the tournament has been postponed, the director shall be responsible for setting the new time, date, and site, if necessary, for the continuation of the tournament.
7. The previously agreed upon schedule may have to be changed to allow the contest(s) to be completed by the required dates.
8. Neither tournament receipts nor funds from the NSAA are to be used to reimburse any school for additional expenses incurred because of a postponed contest.

### **Plaques and Awards**

1. No plaques will be awarded in Classes B/C1/C2/D1/D2 sub-districts.
2. In Class A districts, plaques will be awarded for the runner-up and championship teams.
3. In Classes B/C1/C2/D1/D2 district finals, plaques will be awarded to the runner-up and championship teams.
4. Plaques will be awarded to the wild card qualifiers in Class A.

### **Protests**

1. The NSAA will honor a protest based upon the eligibility of a player.
2. If the protest is allowed and a forfeit is necessary, the last match the team played will be forfeited.
3. Protests based on decisions of officials during a match will not be accepted.
4. The director has full authority to make final settlement of all protests not covered above.

### **Media – Student Media, Media Credentials & Broadcasting**

1. All media operations (admission, access and accommodations) for Regular Season contests are at the Host School discretion.
2. The NSAA Media Manual outlines policies for Media Credentials, Student Media, Broadcasting Policies and other specifics surrounding NSAA post-season contests.
3. Post-season contests include: Districts, Sub-Districts, District Finals, Playoffs and State Championships.
4. The Media Manual is posted on the NSAA website's Media Page. <http://nsaahome.org/media-info/>

Please visit the NSAA Media page and review the current Media Manual for any further questions.

### **Bands - Artificial Noisemakers –Support Items**

1. Bands are permitted during Sub-District, District, District Final and State contests.
2. Members MUST pay regular admission for Sub-District, District, District Final and State contests.
3. The use of artificial noisemakers is prohibited. Megaphones are to be used by cheerleaders only. Band instruments, including drums, are not to be played at any time other than when the entire band is playing. Bands should not be permitted to play except prior to the match, at intermissions and time-outs.
4. The use of recorded music that has been approved by the host administration may be played by a host school for warm-up provided that a band is not available to play at that time during sub-district and district tournaments. Also permitted shall be the National Anthem or as accompaniment of an authorized student dance or cheer group.
5. Teams/Fans shall not throw items into the crowd. (i.e. sports balls, candy)
6. Due to the fact that balloons have become a distraction and are being abused as noise makers, balloons will not be allowed at NSAA sub-district, district, district final and state championships.

### **Cheerleaders and Drill Teams**

1. Due to potential liability in case of injury, stunts and pyramids by cheerleaders and lifts by dance teams during the sub-district, district, and state tournaments are prohibited unless the supervising

coach/sponsor has successfully completed the AACCA Safety Course, a cheer risk management and safety course. If the coach/sponsor has successfully completed the AACCA Safety Course, stunts and lifts shall be allowed in accordance with NFHS Spirit Rules. The following restrictions shall be in effect at NSAA sub-district, district and state tournaments and events: stunts/lifts shall be limited to shoulder height or below; all vertical shoulder level stunts/lifts must have an additional spotter; all vertical shoulder level stunts/lifts must remain on two feet except during the mount or dismount of the stunt/lift; twisting mounts and dismounts are limited to ½ twist; and all cradle dismounts, tosses, and inversions are prohibited.

2. Cheerleaders and drill team members MUST pay regular admission to Sub-district, District, and State events.

**Handicap Accessibility.** Facilities must provide reasonable accommodations for special needs.

### **Team Practice On The Tournament Floor**

Tournament directors should prohibit teams from practicing at tournament facilities between the time locations of tournaments are announced and the time the tournaments take place. (This provision would not pertain to a school that has been designated as a home site to host a district contest in which their school is to participate.)

1. This does not prohibit the continuation of scheduled matches.
2. A team is permitted on the tournament site floor prior to the scheduled warm-up time for its match for stretching and light ball handling.

### **Time Schedule**

1. The tournament director will set the time schedule for all tournaments.
2. Once the starting time of a match or session has been set, the time shall not be changed to an earlier time unless mutual consent is received from all schools involved in that contest, session, or round of competition.

### **Tournament Officials and Fees**

1. The host school is responsible for line judges, a score keeper, a clock operator and a libero tracker.
  - a. Line Judges shall be fair and impartial. Line judges shall avoid wearing any attire that makes reference to a school or team. Directors shall resist using parents or individuals that are affiliated with competitors on the competing teams being represented.
2. The NSAA office will hire and write contracts for all officials.
  - a. The following fees have been established for all sub-district and district tournaments.
    - i. \$55.00 per match/per official.
    - ii. Mileage shall be paid at a rate of \$1.00 per mile one-way for one automobile, per set of officials. If a set of officials travels from different locations, mileage shall be paid to the official traveling the greater distance.
3. The director will pay the officials from the tournament receipts.

### **Tournament Roster**

1. A maximum of 14 eligible players may be listed on the tournament roster.
2. The tournament roster must be submitted online on the NSAA entry form.
3. There shall be no substitution or addition to the tournament roster except for injury or illness.
4. In case of substitution for injury or illness, the substitute will remain on the roster for the remainder of the tournament.
  - a. The original player, once substituted for, may not be returned to the original roster during that tournament.
5. If a coach fails to submit a tournament roster, the 14 names entered in the official scorebook prior to the first match the team plays, shall be the tournament roster.
  - a. Substitution for the players whose names are entered in the official scorebook may be made in case of physician-verified injury/illness.
6. Teams may make changes to the original tournament roster, provided the students are eligible in all respects and the changes are made prior to the district final or first match in the state championship.

**Team Entries.** Entries are due Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. NSAA Entry forms are accessed and submitted online. The Athletic/Activities director will give the certified coach the login for this activity. Go to the NSAA website ([www.nsaahome.org](http://www.nsaahome.org)) and click on "School Login". Enter your login and go to "View/Edit your Form" to complete your entry form (detailed instructions can be obtained from the website). Upon completion, the form shall be submitted to the NSAA and emailed to the district director. You may make changes to this form up until the due date. After that, you will need to contact the NSAA.

### **Withdrawal From The Tournament**

Teams, which withdraw from a sub-district, district, district final, or the state championship after pairings have been made, are subject to penalty by the Board of Directors unless the Executive Director for sufficient cause authorizes such withdrawal.

## **DISTRICT FINALS INFORMATION**

### **Dates**

Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Classes B, C1, C2, D1 & D2

### **Admission**

Adults: \$5.00

Students: \$4.00

### **Complimentary Passes**

1. Admittance for players, student managers, and coaches shall not exceed 22.
2. Administrative and supervisory passes.
  - a. Class B - 8 passes per school
  - b. Classes C1/C2/D1/D2 - 6 passes per school.

### **Financial Arrangements**

1. Officials.
2. Host school allowance--\$50.00.
3. 10% of gross receipts to NSAA for catastrophic insurance.
4. 25% gross receipts to host school.
5. 25% gross receipts to NSAA.
6. Visiting schools' expenses--mileage--\$1.70 per mile one-way.
7. Bonus.
  - a. 15% to host.
  - b. 10% to NSAA.
  - c. 75% to participating schools.

### **Class B District Final Pairings**

The eight sub-district winners qualify for the district final in addition to the next eight non-sub district winners with the highest wild card point averages. Those 16 teams will be placed on a 16-team bracket and seeded on wild card point averages through sub-districts. The higher seeded team will host the district final match and initiate the plans for determining the match time. The winner of the district final match will advance to the state championship.

#### **District Final Pairings**

# 1 seed vs. # 16 seed  
# 2 seed vs. # 15 seed  
# 3 seed vs. # 14 seed  
# 4 seed vs. # 13 seed  
# 5 seed vs. # 12 seed  
# 6 seed vs. # 11 seed  
# 7 seed vs. # 10 seed  
# 8 seed vs. # 9 seed

## Class C1/C2/D1/D2 District Final Pairings

The 12 sub-district winners qualify for the district final in addition to the next four non-sub district winners with the highest wild card point averages. Those 16 teams will be placed on a 16-team bracket and seeded on wild card point averages through sub-districts. District final games will be played at centralized, neutral locations as determined by the higher seed and agreed upon by both schools participating in the district final. If the two schools involved cannot agree; the NSAA Office will select the site. The winner of the district final match will advance to the state championship.

### District Final Pairings

- # 1 seed vs. # 16 seed
- # 2 seed vs. # 15 seed
- # 3 seed vs. # 14 seed
- # 4 seed vs. # 13 seed
- # 5 seed vs. # 12 seed
- # 6 seed vs. # 11 seed
- # 7 seed vs. # 10 seed
- # 8 seed vs. # 9 seed

1. The higher seeded team will be responsible for initiating plans for the district final match.
2. If the two schools can't agree on a location, the NSAA Office will select the site.
3. ***District finals may not be played at state tournament sites. As soon as these decisions are made, the NSAA office shall be notified.***

## Plaques, Balls, Financial Forms, and State Tournament Report Forms

The directors of the Class B/C1/C2/D1/D2 district final match will be sent the following:

1. Championship and Runner-up Plaques.
2. Match ball.
3. Financial form.

## Designated Home Team

The higher seeded district final team shall be designated as the "home" team.

## Officials

1. The host school is responsible for line judges, a score keeper, a clock operator and a libero tracker.
  - a. Line Judges shall be fair and impartial. Line judges shall avoid wearing any attire that makes reference to a school or team. Directors shall resist using parents or individuals that are affiliated with competitors on the competing teams being represented.
2. The NSAA office will hire and write contracts for all officials.
  - a. The following fees have been established for all sub-district and district tournaments.
    - i. \$55.00 per match/per official.
    - ii. Mileage shall be paid at a rate of \$1.00 per mile one-way for one vehicle, per set of officials. If a set of officials travels from different locations, mileage shall be paid to the official traveling the greater distance.
3. The director will pay the officials from the tournament receipts.

**Handicap Accessibility.** Facilities must provide reasonable accommodations for special needs.

## **QUALIFYING FOR STATE**

## Reporting

Following the final match of each district tournament and district final match, the state qualifying school shall immediately update the entry form via the NSAA login page.

## Wild Card Criteria

The results of only those matches played against varsity teams of schools in Nebraska and of schools in states contiguous to Nebraska will be used to:

1. Calculate Point Averages
2. To determine the win and loss record for designating a team as a first, second, third, or fourth division team.

All matches played by a school's varsity team regardless of the location of the opposing school will count toward the number of permitted contests in a particular sport.

## Qualifying for State

1. In Class A seven teams will qualify for the state championship by winning the championship of their respective district tournaments.
2. In Classes B/C1/C2/D1/D2 the eight district final winners will qualify for the state championship.
3. One additional team in Class A, which fails to qualify through district tournament competition, will be chosen to complete the eight-team tournament field.
4. That team will be selected in the following manner:
  - a. Only varsity matches between varsity Nebraska teams and varsity teams from states contiguous with Nebraska will be considered when calculating the point totals.
  - b. The results of all such matches played through the sub-district/district tournaments and the district final matches shall be used.
  - c. This includes regularly scheduled matches, tournament matches, sub-district/district matches, and district final matches.
  - d. The records of all schools available to the NSAA on the date of seeding shall be used to calculate wild card averages, even though an error on the record may be discovered after the fact.
5. FORFEITS: Teams shall receive wild card points for forfeited losses if the forfeit was due to extenuating circumstances between the two schools. Schools that are required to forfeit a game or games by the Executive Director or the Board of Directors shall count such contests as one of the permissible contests under the contest limitations for that sport. Such mandated forfeitures shall count as loss wild card points.
6. FORFEITS: When a school's varsity team is unable to complete the season, those remaining teams on that school's regular season schedule shall receive forfeit wins for those scheduled contests and shall be awarded wild card points for those forfeit wins. Wild card points will be determined by the forfeiting team's record at the time of seeding for post-season competition.
7. All contests played against the varsity teams of schools located within Nebraska and against the varsity teams of schools located in contiguous states will be used to determine the point average.
8. Out-of-state records will be included through November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 (district final matches).
9. The following point evaluation scale will be used to determine a team's total points:

	1 <sup>st</sup> Division	2 <sup>nd</sup> Division	3 <sup>rd</sup> Division	4 <sup>th</sup> Division
	Team	Team	Team	Team
Victory Over	50	47	44	41
Loss To	39	36	33	30

- A first division team is a team, which has won at least 75% of its matches played.  
(Examples: 20-0, 19-1, 18-2, 17-3, 16-4, 15-5.)
- A second division team is a team, which has won at least 50% but less than 75% of its matches played.  
(Example: 14-6, 13-7, 12-8, 11-9, 10-10.)
- A third division team, which has won at least 25% but less than 50% of its matches played.  
(Examples: 9-11, 8-12, 7-13, 6-14, 5-15.)
- A fourth division team is a team, which has won less than 25% of its matches played.  
(Examples: 4-16, 3-17, 2-18, 1-19, 0-20.)

10. No points are deducted for playing teams, which are, classified below your classification.
11. In competition with schools one classification above yours, 2 bonus points will be awarded.
12. In competition with schools two classifications above yours, 3 bonus points will be awarded.
13. In competition with schools three classifications above yours, 4 bonus points will be awarded.
14. In competition with schools four classifications above yours, 5 bonus points will be awarded.
15. A team's point rating will be determined by dividing the total number of points by the number of contests played.
16. The Class A team failing to qualify through district competition, but having the highest point average based on the year's record after the completion of all the district tournaments will be selected as the wild card qualifier.
17. If a tie exists for the one wild card qualifier in Class A, or for seed in any class, the following procedure will be used to break the tie.
  - a. If only two teams have identical point averages and are tied and the teams have played each other, the team that won the contest or the majority of contests between the two teams in question wins the tiebreaker.
  - b. In Class A if the two teams have not played each other or if more than two teams are tied, step C will be used to determine which team qualifies for the state tournament. In Classes B/C1/C2/D1/D2 if the two teams have not played each other or if more than two teams are tied, step D will be used to determine the seed.
  - c. In Class A if a tie still exists, or if more than two teams are tied, the team or teams playing the greatest number of first division teams in their classification will be selected. If two teams are still tied, step (a) will apply before going to step (e).
  - d. In Classes B/C1/C2/D1/D2 if two or more teams have identical point averages and are tied, the team or teams playing the greatest number of first division teams will be selected. If two teams are still tied, step (a) will apply before going to step (e).
  - e. If a tie still exists, the team's opponents' wins and losses will be totaled and the winning percentages calculated. The team whose opponents have the highest percentage based on this calculation wins the tiebreaker.
  - f. If a tie still exists, the winner will be decided by a coin flip in the NSAA office.
18. Schools must report contiguous out-of-state records to the NSAA. Win-loss records not reported to the NSAA will be recorded as a fourth-division team until such information is provided.
19. When determining the classification of an out-of-state school for wild card purposes, if the school's three-grade enrollment is less than the lowest enrollment in a particular class, the out-of-state school shall be classified in the immediate lower class. The enrollment of Nebraska schools opting up to play in a higher class will not be considered when comparing out-of-state schools for classification purposes.
  - a. If two or more schools are tied for the final place in a particular class, the tie is broken by using the schools' three-year average enrollment for the most recent three years. When determining the classification of an out-of-state school for wild card purposes, if the out-of-state school's three-grade enrollment is identical to the enrollments shared by schools in two different classes, the out-of-state school shall be placed in the higher class.

## **STATE CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION**

### **Date and Site**

**The Volleyball State Championship will be held in Lincoln on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, November 7, 8, and 9.**

### **Roster**

Teams qualifying for the state championship may make substitutions on their original district roster provided:

- a. The girls substituted are eligible in all respects.
- b. The substitution is made prior to the team's first match of the championship.
- c. Once the championship begins, there shall be no substitutions or additions to the roster except for sickness or injury.

## **Bands - Artificial Noisemakers – Support Items**

1. Bands are permitted during Sub-District, District, District Final and State contests.
2. Members MUST pay regular admission for Sub-District, District, District Final and State contests.
3. The use of artificial noisemakers is prohibited. Megaphones are to be used by cheerleaders only. Band instruments, including drums, are not to be played at any time other than when the entire band is playing. Bands should not be permitted to play except prior to the match, at intermissions and time-outs.
4. The use of recorded music that has been approved by the host administration may be played by a host school for warm-up provided that a band is not available to play at that time during sub-district and district tournaments. Also permitted shall be the National Anthem or as accompaniment of an authorized student dance or cheer group.
5. Teams/Fans shall not throw items into the crowd. (i.e.: sports balls, candy, etc.)
6. Due to the fact that balloons have become a distraction and are being abused as noise makers, balloons will not be allowed at NSAA sub-district, district, and state championships.

## **Cheerleaders and Drill Teams**

1. Due to potential liability in case of injury, stunts and pyramids by cheerleaders and lifts by dance teams during the sub-district, district, and state tournaments are prohibited unless the supervising coach/sponsor has successfully completed the AACCA Safety Course, a cheer risk management and safety course. If the coach/sponsor has successfully completed the AACCA Safety Course, stunts and lifts shall be allowed in accordance with NFHS Spirit Rules. The following restrictions shall be in effect at NSAA sub-district, district and state tournaments and events: stunts/lifts shall be limited to shoulder height or below; all vertical shoulder level stunts/lifts must have an additional spotter; all vertical shoulder level stunts/lifts must remain on two feet except during the mount or dismount of the stunt/lift; twisting mounts and dismounts are limited to ½ twist; and all cradle dismounts, tosses, and inversions are prohibited.
2. Cheerleaders and drill team members MUST pay regular admission to Sub-district, District, District final and State events.

## **Match Ball**

The official tournament ball the Baden three-color (navy/gray/white) VX5EC-213.

## **Lodging**

Schools are responsible for their own lodging arrangements.

## **Officials**

Officials will be assigned to each match, including scorers, timers, libero trackers and line judges.

## **Pairings**

1. Seeding
  - a. State competition shall be seeded based on wild card point averages. The most recent point average computed through and including district and district final competition shall be the points used. The records of all schools available to the NSAA on the date of the seeding shall be used to calculate wildcards averages, even though an error on the record may be discovered after the fact.
  - b. A varsity team from a school may play a junior varsity team of any classification or a team from a state not contiguous with Nebraska and must count that contest toward the total number of permitted contests, but may not count such contest toward sub-district, district, district final and state competition seeding.
  - c. The No. 1 seed will play No. 8; No. 2 vs. 7; No. 3 vs. 6; and No. 4 vs. 5.
  - d. If teams in the state tournament have identical winning percentages, the following tie-breaker will be used to determine seeding:
    - i. If two teams are tied with identical point averages and have played each other, the results of the competition between these schools will be considered and the team



winning the majority of contests between the two teams tied will be given the higher seed.

- ii. If a tie still exists, or if more than two teams are tied, the team or teams playing the greatest number of first division teams will be selected. If two teams are still tied, criteria 1) will apply before going to step 3).
- iii. If the tie still exists, total the sum of the tied teams' opponents' wins and losses. The team whose opponents have the higher winning percentage will receive the higher seed. If two teams remain tied, criteria 1: will apply before going to step 4).
- iv. If a tie still exists, the higher seed will be decided by a coin flip in the NSAA office.

**2. Seeds are placed on the bracket using the following procedure:**

- a. Game 1 shall be the #1 seed vs. the #8 seed
- b. Game 2 shall be the #4 seed vs. the #5 seed
- c. Game 3 shall be the #2 seed vs. the #7 seed
- d. Game 4 shall be the #3 seed vs. the #6 seed
- e. The higher seed shall be considered the home team throughout the tournament

3. On Sunday morning prior to the state championship, the NSAA will confirm pairings for state.

### **Participants' Pass Gate**

Only players and coaches listed on the official team roster will be allowed access to the state championship site free of charge through the Team Pass Gate. Admittance for players, student managers, and coaches shall not exceed 22.

### **Media - Radio, Television and Photography**

1. Webcasting or Telecasting of post-season play including Sub-Districts, Districts, District Final, Playoffs and the State Championship on a live basis, is prohibited without the expressed permission of the Nebraska School Activities Association.
2. Audio and text base broadcasts of post-season games shall be permitted, provided ample space is available for the broadcast crew(s) and appropriate application is made with the NSAA office.
3. Videotaping for delayed telecasting is permitted with NSAA written approval, and must follow the NSAA delayed telecast policy.
4. Broadcasting, recording, photographing, videotaping, or televising of NSAA-sponsored events shall not be permitted for commercial purposes, or for other than personal use, except with the expressed permission of the Nebraska School Activities Association.

Please visit the NSAA Media page and review the current Media Manual for any further questions.

### **Reimbursements To Teams**

#### **Mileage**

Mileage reimbursements will be based on the number of participants (qualifiers, number on roster) and one coach. (Note: Student Managers will not be included.) A school's mileage reimbursement will be figured using the following formula: [(#miles **one way** x # trips) – 50 miles] x appropriate amount listed below:

Amount per mile	Number of participants/coaches
<b>\$0.85</b>	<b>1-6</b>
<b>\$1.70</b>	<b>7-12</b>
<b>\$2.55</b>	<b>13-18</b>
<b>\$3.40</b>	<b>19-24</b>
<b>\$4.25</b>	<b>25-30</b>
<b>\$5.10</b>	<b>31+</b>

#### **Lodging**

If lodging is used, \$20 per participant and one coach will be paid based on the following criteria: (Note: **Times listed are scheduled competition start times.**)

Night before competing—

Before 10:00 a.m., 76 + miles away

Between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., 150+ miles away

At or after 3:00 p.m., 250+ miles away

Night of (still competing in State Meet)—76+ miles away

Final Night (Day eliminated) —5:00 p.m. or later, 200+ miles away

### **Reporting for First Contest**

1. Report to the floor manager at the site of your first match.
2. The coach is to notify the floor manager as to where the team is staying during the tournament.
3. You will be given two programs prior to your contest.

### **Spectators' Tickets**

1. **Individual session tickets are \$9.00 for adults and \$6.00 for students.**
2. Tickets may be purchased in advance from Pinnacle Bank Arena for admittance at any session. Pre-sale tickets will be non-refundable and admittance is not guaranteed subject to capacity.
3. A different ticket will be used for each session, but that ticket will entitle the holder to admittance at any one of the sites.
4. If the holder enters one site during a session and then goes to another site during the same session, a new ticket will have to be purchased.
5. Championship tickets for coaches and administrators are available. Tickets must be purchased in advance and a school is limited to 10 tickets. Price of tickets is \$35.00 per ticket, plus \$1.00 postage. These tickets will give admittance to any match, any session.
6. If ordering tickets by mail, please order far enough in advance for delivery to be made prior to your departure to the tournament. There will be a \$1.00 handling charge per order for individual session tickets.
7. Schools, which qualify a team, may order individual session tickets on consignment (not coach or administrator tickets).
8. Consignment orders may be placed by email only to Megan Huber ([mhuber@nsaahome.org](mailto:mhuber@nsaahome.org)) by 9:00a.m. on Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will be shipped overnight through USPS with remittance of the overnight shipping cost due when your tickets are reconciled and monies/tickets are returned.

### **Expected Behaviors at Awards Ceremonies**

It shall be the expectation that both teams shall accept their medals, plaques and trophies at sub-districts, districts and state contests in a sporting and willing manner.

The executive director or the NSAA Board of Directors shall determine the type and severity of sanctions to schools that do not comply with these expectations.



## Fan/Spectator Support Items

In the Chart below, ONLY those items marked “Yes” will be allowed as fan/spectator support items at all NSAA Sub-District, District, State Playoffs and State Championships.

Sportsmanlike vocal cheering and support from the team bench area are encouraged. The items indicated on this page are for use by fans/spectators.

**Prohibited items:** Confetti/shredded paper, powder (baby, talc, etc.), laser light/pointer, flashing objects, miniature sports balls, objects or candy thrown into the crowd, artificial noise makers, (included but not limited to horns, cow bells, bells, buzzers, clickers, thunder sticks, rattles, instruments not part of a band), whistles, air horns, sirens, cannons/muskets/guns/fireworks, live animals

The use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV), also known as drones, is prohibited for any purpose by any person at any NSAA post-season tournament venues. For purposes of this policy, a UAV is any aircraft without a human pilot aboard this device. This prohibition applies to all fields of play, courts, arena, mats, gym floor or pool, and includes a ban on the entire facility being used as part of the NSAA event, including the spectator areas and parking areas. Tournament management shall refuse admission or entry to anyone attempting to use a UAV; and if necessary, Tournament management shall remove anyone attempting to use a UAV and/or confiscate the UAV. An exception to this policy, in writing, may be made in specific cases for NSAA broadcast partners, provided the Management of the tournament facility permits the presence of UAVs for broadcast purposes under the control of the NSAA (2015).

**Regulations listed are subject to facility restrictions.**

SPORT	BA	BB	CC	FB	GO	SO	SB	SW	TE	TR	VB	WR
Balloons	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
One School Banner per school	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hand held signs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Megaphones (school recognized cheerleaders only)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Shirts on student spectators (required) AR 3.3.11	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Shirts on general spectators	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Team Introduction Run-throughs or Break Away Banners	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pompoms, spirit towels	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Prerecorded music that has been approved by the Host Administration may be played during pre-contest warm ups provided that a high school band is not available to play during that time.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
School bands	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes
Carried school flags (Running/taunting prohibited)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

**Key:** BA-Baseball, BB-Basketball, CC-Cross Country, FB-Football, GO-Golf, SO-Soccer, SB-Softball, SW-Swimming & Diving, TE-Tennis, TR-Track & Field, VB-Volleyball, WR-Wrestling, NA-Not Apply



## 2019 State Volleyball Championship Schedule

### Thursday, November 7

	Pinnacle Bank Arena: North Court	Pinnacle Bank Arena: South Court	Lincoln North Star	Lincoln Southwest	Lincoln Southeast	Lincoln Northeast
<b>Session 1</b>						
1:30 pm	Class A	Class B	Class C1	Class C2	Class D1	Class D2
3:30 pm	Class A	Class B	Class C1	Class C2	Class D1	Class D2
5:30 pm	Class A	Class B	Class C1	Class C2	Class D1	Class D2
7:30 pm	Class A	Class B	Class C1	Class C2	Class D1	Class D2

### Friday, November 8

Session 2	PBA North Court	PBA South Court
9:00 am	Class D2	Class D1
11:00 am	Class D2	Class D1
1:00 pm	Class C2	Class C1
3:00 pm	Class C2	Class C1
5:00 pm	Class A	Class B
7:00 pm	Class A	Class B

### Saturday, November 9 Championship Matches

Session 3	Devaney Sports Center
9:00 am	Class D2
11:00 am	Class D1
1:00 pm	Class C2
3:00 pm	Class C1
5:00 pm	Class B
7:00 pm	Class A

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Matches

	Lincoln East
9:00 am	Class C1
11:00 am	Class D2
1:00 pm	Class D1
3:00 pm	Class C2



# NSAA STATE VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKETS

November 7, 8, 9, 2019

All Championship Finals at Devaney Sports Center

