

Regulation 15

VOLLEYBALL

15.1 General Rules. Conference volleyball competition shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the NCAA and the Bylaws and Operating Handbook of the Conference.

15.2 Format. The Conference regular season champion shall be determined through a double round-robin schedule, best-of-five game match to determine the Conference regular season champion.

15.3 Regular Season Champion. The regular season team champion shall be the institution with the highest regular season winning percentage in Conference competition. In the event of a tie, there will be co-champions.

15.4 Automatic Qualifier. The Conference regular season champion shall be the automatic representative to the NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championship. Other Conference teams may accept invitations to participate in postseason tournaments only when conducted or approved by the NCAA. (Revised March 2007; Effective for the 2008 Volleyball season)

15.4.1 Tie-Breaking Procedures In the case of a tie in the final Conference standings, the automatic qualifier shall be determined as follows:

- a. head-to-head conference match record,
- b. head-to-head game record in conference matches,
- c. head-to-head point total in conference matches,
- d. a drawing by the Commissioner.

In the case of multiple team ties, the tie breaking procedures set forth shall be used (in order) until the tie is reduced to a two-team tie. The process shall then revert to the beginning of the tie-breaking procedures and shall be applied (in order) until the two-team tie is broken (Revised March 2007; Effective for the 2008 Volleyball season).

15.5 Playing Rules. All Conference volleyball games shall be conducted according to NCAA Volleyball Rules, except as modified by Conference regulations.

15.6 Scheduling. In order to continue to improve institutional and conference (RPI), each team shall schedule and play no more than two provisional or reclassifying Division I opponents per year.

15.6.1 Penalty – Exceeding Maximum Number of Non-Conference Opponents. If a team schedules and plays more than two provisional or reclassifying Division I opponents per year in a given year, the institution shall be assessed a penalty of \$50,000 per occurrence. (Revised October 2004 and August 2004)

15.7 Complimentary Admissions. Twenty-four complimentary tickets shall be provided for the visiting team. The official party size entering without tickets shall be 18 individuals.

15.7.1 Ticket Distribution. Complimentary tickets shall be distributed according to the policies of the host institution's ticket office. These policies must be included in the event management information.

15.8 Squad-Size Limitations. Traveling team squad-sizes shall be limited to 15 student-athletes for regular season competition. If a team exceeds the squad-size limitation, the team shall decrease its travel party size by one full-time coach for the next away-from-home regular season competition after the violation has been reported. There shall be no squad-size limit on the home team. (Revised January 2002, Revised October 2006, Revised March 2007)

15.9 Video/Scouting Report Exchange. The dissemination of game video and/or scouting information on member institutions to non-conference institutions is prohibited. Only representatives of the competing teams may record the contest. Exchanging video among Conference teams shall be governed by the policies outlined in the MWC Volleyball Game Management Handbook.

15.9.1 Violations of Video/Scouting Report Exchange Policy. A member institution that exchanges video or scouting reports in the sport of volleyball with institutions outside the Conference shall be subject to the following:

- a. **First Offense.** Private reprimand of the head coach and the individual who sent the tape to the institution outside the Conference.
- b. **Second Offense.** Written notice to the Conference of the second offense. A copy of the notice shall be kept in the personnel file of the individual in the office of the institution's director of athletics.
- c. **Third Offense.** The Commissioner shall suspend the head coach for one game/competition. Such suspension shall occur immediately following receipt of notice by the Commissioner.

15.10 Awards. The Conference volleyball coaches shall select recipients for all awards via conference call following regular season Conference play. Coaches shall not vote for themselves. Should a coach fail to complete the entire ballot, the student-athletes from that team shall not be eligible to receive an award. Policies and procedures governing award selection are outlined in the MWC Volleyball Game Management Handbook.

15.10.1 All-Conference Team. The All-Conference Team shall consist of 16 players. Each shall receive an award from the Conference. (Revised February 2007)

15.10.2 Individual Awards. Individual awards shall be provided to the Coach of the Year, the Player of the Year and the Freshman of the Year.

15.11 Meetings of Coaches. There shall be an annual in-person meeting of the volleyball coaches to be held in conjunction with the NCAA Championship/AVCA Coaches Convention. Attendance by each head coach is mandatory.