

VOLLEYBALL REGULATIONS

(Updated March 2010)

DAKOTA ATHLETIC CONFERENCE VOLLEYBALL REGULATIONS

Section 1. Conduct of Participants.

- (a) The highest standards of sportsmanship and conduct are expected of players, coaches, and others associated with the game.
- (b) It is the duty of the coach to be in control of his players at all times in order to prevent any unsportsmanlike act towards opponents, officials, or spectators.
- (c) Coaches are expected to comply wholeheartedly with the intent and spirit of the rules.
- (d) Coaches are to refrain from commenting to the media on the quality of the officiating.
- (e) Coaches are prohibited from calling, e-mailing or writing to a DAC referee prior to or during the sport season. Any communication between a coach and a referee is to be limited to the period of time when the officials are on the court or field just prior to the contest.

Section 2. Letters of Intent and Recruitment.

- (a) All incoming student athletes receiving aid as defined by the NAIA shall be required to sign the Dakota Athletic Conference Letter of Intent. Student athletes may be released from a Letter of Intent only by the institution's Athletic Director. A copy of the signed Letter of Intent shall be forwarded to the Conference Commissioner within 14 days after signing. September 1 is the first date an athlete may be signed to a letter for the next academic year.
- (b) This policy applies to all sports and to all athletes. All coaches are required to follow this policy.
- (c) A weekly list of Conference signee's will be distributed to all member Institutions.
- (d) Schools are responsible for releasing the names of their signees to the media. Schools are not to use the names or number of signees to other institutions in any publication or release to the media.
- (e) If, during the school year or summer vacation period, the Athletic Director, or Coach of a member institution is contacted or becomes aware of contact by an athlete who is enrolled or signed a letter of Intent at another institution, it shall become the responsibility of the contacted (Athletic Director) to notify in writing the institution where the athlete is enrolled or signed within 10 days following the first contact.
- (f) A coach or another representative of a member institution may respond to a contact by an athlete only after the enrolled athlete's institution (Athletic Director) has been notified.
- (g) A coach or another representative of a member institution shall not initiate contact with an athlete who has enrolled or signed a letter of Intent at another institution.
- (h) Violation of any part of the recruitment policy shall cause an immediate investigation by the National Conduct and Ethics Committee for appropriate action.

Section 3. Disciplinary Authority of the Commissioner.

- (a) The Commissioner shall have the authority to take disciplinary action, short of expulsion, against Conference members for violation of Conference or NAIA rules. Any appeal of a decision by the Commissioner shall be made to the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Sports Committees.

- (a) There shall be a committee for each sport which the Conference sponsors. The members of the committee shall be all the head coaches in each sport. For each such committee, the members shall elect a Chair,

Vice Chair and a Secretary. Each officer shall be limited to two years in one position. After two years the Chair Elect Vice Chair will move up to the Chair position and the Secretary will move up to the Vice Chair and the Committee shall select a new Secretary. Effective fall of 2005. The Chairperson has the authority to call meetings providing two weeks notice is given. Notice of the meeting shall be given to the Athletic Director in charge of the sports portfolio and the Commissioner. Each Athletic Director will be assigned a sports portfolio and will serve as the liaison between the sports committee and the Athletic Directors Council. The Chair or his designee may appear before the Athletic Directors Council to present the views of the committee on matters related to their sport and to make recommendations for change. The Secretary is charged with the responsibility of preparing and distributing the minutes of all meetings. Copies are to be sent to all committee members, the Athletic Director in charge of that portfolio and the Commissioner.

Section 5. Schedule.

- (a) The maximum number of varsity playing dates (calendar days) an institution may schedule is 26 and two scrimmages either in the fall or spring. Further, no student may compete on more than 26 playing dates (this includes: varsity, junior varsity, freshman etc.) during a sports season in an academic year.
- (b) Every Conference member shall compete with every other Conference member twice each year on a double round robin schedule with one match at home and one away.
- (c) Conference match play shall consist of three out of five (3/5) games for varsity. Match play for junior varsity match shall be determined by mutual agreement of the participating schools. If the contest is other than a dual match, the Conference match shall be played first.
- (d) The Conference championship will be determined by won-loss record. In case of a tie, the championship will be shared.
- (e) Junior Varsity competition in any required or optional sport may not be scheduled prior to the date of the first varsity competition in that sport unless approval has been granted by the Commissioner.
- (f) Schedule of contests between member institutions shall be given priority over scheduling of athletic contests with other institutions. When a triangular is scheduled, the Conference match should be played first.

Section 6. Post-Season Competition.

- (a) Member institutions are subject to post-season competition as prescribed by NAIA and DAC regulations.

Section 7. Practices.

- (a) Practice is defined in the NAIA Bylaws in Article I, Section E6 as an activity organized and/or directed by an identified member of the coaching staff of that sport in which appropriate equipment is used or instruction and/or evaluation of the athlete takes place.
- (b) The starting IN-SEASON PRACTICE date for all fall sports will be the date established by the Council of Athletic Directors. The starting IN-SEASON PRACTICE date for all winter sports is October 1. The starting IN-SEASON PRACTICE date for all spring sports is February 1.
- (c) IN-SEASON PRACTICE and competition for all sports shall end on the last date of the NAIA competition for each sport.

- (d) Volleyball is allowed 10 OUT-OF-SEASON PRACTICE DAYS plus 2 hours per player per week in optional on-court individual skill development with group of no more than four players per session. Individual skill sessions will begin February 1 and end March 1; 10 team practice dates not to start before March 1 (no games or scrimmages allowed).

FALL

Baseball
Softball
Tennis
Track & Field (Indoor & Outdoor)

SPRING

Football
Volleyball
Soccer
Golf

SPRING OR FALL

Basketball
Wrestling

Section 8. Varsity Travel Squad.

- (a) The traveling squad for the DAC volleyball competition shall be limited to 14 players when only a varsity match is played. If a varsity and junior varsity matches are scheduled the traveling squad may be twenty (20). (There are not restrictions on the size of the squad dressed for home matches.)

Section 9. Equipment.

- (a) Conference matches shall be played on official size courts.
- (b) Regulation equipment (nets, antenna, balls, etc.) shall be used for Conference matches. The Tachikara NAIA Red, White and Blue Ball is the official Conference game ball.

Section 10. Playing Rules.

- (a) Seasonal and tournament play shall be governed by the current NCAA volleyball rules.
- (b) At a site where only one court is available, a minimum of 30 minutes warm-up at the net (10-4-4-5-5-1) is to be provided.
- (c) There will be a 10 minute intermission between games 2 and 3 of all Conference and playoff matches.

Section 11. Video Exchange Policy.

- (a) Video availability
1. All conference matches will be taped by the home team. The video for each match is to be uploaded by B2 by the home team during the competition.
 2. All uploaded videos will remain available for viewing by all conference schools throughout the season.
 3. Each conference team may request that their opponent in their first conference match of the season make available a DVD of one match that is played prior to the conference opener. The requesting team may choose a specific match to be made available. However, this request must be made to the opposing team at least one week prior to the playing of the match. The video for the requested match must be sent as quickly as possible following the completion of the requested match.
- (b) Video specifications
1. Game film should be of excellent quality. All cameras used must be digitally formatted.
 2. The team recording the match should make every effort to produce an outstanding recording that can be used optimally by all viewing parties. The camera used for recording should be elevated so as to provide an unobstructed view of both sides of the court. If possible, matches should be filmed from one end of the court as opposed to the sideline. When this is not possible and recording is instead done from the side of the court, every effort should be made to simultaneously capture action on both sides of the court.

- (c) Loan of video outside conference
 1. Although videotaped conference matches are to be uploaded to B2 by the home team and made available to all other conference schools, the home team may also choose to keep the actual videotape of the match. Furthermore, visiting schools may also choose to videotape matches. As such, no DAC school may loan or otherwise make available to a non-conference school video in which another DAC school is playing except by mutual agreement of the DAC coaches involved.
- (d) Violation of policy
 1. All complaints regarding violation of or negligence in fulfilling the parameters of the video exchange policy should be forwarded in writing to the DAC commissioner.

Section 12. Match Officials.

- (a) The Supervisor of the volleyball officials is responsible to the Commissioner.
- (b) All Conference matches shall have two NCAA, PAVO, FIVB or USAV state or local or national qualified officials. The Supervisor may assign a non-certified down official when all reasonable economic and logistical avenues have been exhausted. The host team will provide an experienced scorekeeper, libero tracker and line judges. Ball rotators should also be provided when the size of the facility warrants them. A copy of official score sheets should be furnished to the visiting team upon request. PAVO membership and/or certification for line judges, score-keepers and libero trackers is highly recommended.
- (c) The volleyball officials Supervisor shall assign officials for all varsity volleyball matches.
 1. The Supervisor shall maintain a list of officials with the authority to delete from this roster or add to this roster at his/or her discretion with the understanding that the athletic officers of any member institution may advance comments to the Supervisor on the quality of the work of those individuals assigned to their contests. In addition, the volleyball coaches will rate the officials assigned to their matches.
 2. The Supervisor may change any officiating assignment at any time.
 3. No official should be assigned to more than five matches in a volleyball season in which the same member institution competes (exclusive of post-season play).
 4. The officials will be paid the standard fee plus mileage as approved by the athletic directors (see Appendix K).
- (d) In case of an emergency-preventing fulfillment of an assignment by an official, the official is to notify the Supervisor by telephone and a replacement will be assigned. In the event that the Supervisor is not available contact the Commissioner.
- (e) When assigning officials, consideration will be given to controlling travel expense. When officials are assigned from two different locations to work a match, arrangements should be made to control the travel expense for the school by riding together when possible.
- (f) The Supervisor shall also:
 1. Schedule annual rules clinics for instruction for volleyball officials and coaches prior to the season.
 2. Receive the match reports from the head official after all matches and inform the Commissioner of any problems reported.
 3. Receive evaluations from coaches on each official assigned to the match
 4. Maintain the VOLLEYBALL OFFICIAL section of the DAC website.

Section 13. Pregame Protocol & Games Times.

- (a) Weekday matches are to start at 7:00 P.M. unless the two Athletic Directors agree to a different time.
- (b) Weekend matches are to start at 3:00 P.M. unless there is a home football game, then the match will be played at 7:00 P.M. The Athletic Directors have the option of setting a different time for each match.

- (c) JV matches will start 2½ hours prior to the varsity match. JV matches must be concluded one hour prior to the varsity pre-match start time. Teams must be allowed one hour of warm-up on the court in which they will be playing.
- (c) Home team responsibilities includes bench towels, water, libero tracking sheets, score sheets and adequate equipment available (such as a the volleyball court, net, standards and balls) one hour prior to the match.

Section 14. Awards.

- (a) Individual and team awards shall be given only when at least one-half or more of the Conference institutions participate in a sport.
- (b) The Conference coaches shall select the following individual awards at the end of the season. Each selection will receive a DAC Recognitions plaques.
 1. Most Valuable Senior
 2. Most Valuable Performer
 3. Coach of the Year
- (c) All-Conference team shall be selected by the Conference coaches at the end of Conference competition. The number selected is to be consistent with the number allowed by the NAIA. Each athlete selected will be awarded a DAC recognition certificate. Honorable mention will not be recognized in any sport.
- (d) A “Hitter of the Week”, a “Setter of the Week” and a “Libero of the Week”, shall be selected each week of competition. The Conference coaches are to submit nominations for this honor at the time the weekly statistics are reported. Each athlete honored will be awarded a DAC certificate and will be recognized through a press release to the media. A “Freshman of the Year”, a “Setter of the Year”, and a “ Libero of the Year” shall be selected and recognized with a DAC Certificate. All three awards will be determined by the top vote getter in each of the respective positions from the All-Conference Team.
- (e) Athletes with high academic achievement are honored at the end of each term as DAC ACADEMIC HONOR SCHOLARS. Individual certificates are awarded to each athlete that qualifies. (See Appendix G in the DAC manual for the qualifications policy for this award.
- (f) Selection Policy on DAC Most Valuable Graduating Senior Award and Most Valuable Player
 1. The athletes should have contributed greatly to the success of his or her own team and served as a role model for other squad members.
 2. The Sports Chair of each sport is responsible for conducting the selection process.
 3. Only one athlete is to be selected for each award.
 4. Each school will be given the opportunity to nominate an athlete for DAC Most Valuable Graduating Senior Award. The most valuable graduating senior athlete must be in his or her final year of eligibility. The most valuable player does not have to be a senior and will be the top vote getter on the All-Conference Team.
 5. See [Appendix V](#) for the procedure to follow when selecting All-Conference.

Section 15. Conveying Information to Non-Conference Opponents.

- (a) Staff of member institutions shall not provide or exchange information in any form with representatives of non-conference opponents if such information could be used for scouting purposes or in some other way to the disadvantage of any member institution’s athletic teams.

Section 16. Prematch Information.

- (a) It is the responsibility of the Athletic Director or designee of the director at the host institution to provide information to the coach of the visiting team regarding access to the facilities, dressing room accommodations, starting time, officials assigned, and any special arrangements such as pregame or half-time ceremonies or other information important to the planning of the visiting team. This information shall be made available on arrival of the visiting team.

Section 17. Trainer and Training Room Services.

- (a) Each institution shall provide its own athletic training supplies. The host school will provide the training services and the training room facilities of host institutions shall be made available to visiting teams for all contests. If special services are required, it is the responsibility of the host school trainer to make necessary arrangements in advance.

Section 18. Conference Publicity and Statistics.

- (a) The Conference shall maintain a Conference Sports Information Director and all releases regarding official business of the Conference shall be released at the direction of the Commissioner. For each Conference contest, each institutions shall have the responsibility to file their own statistical reports at the conclusion of each match. For each contest with non-conference opponents, the member institution shall file the reports. The DAKSTATS volleyball computer software is to be used. The home team is responsible for reporting scores to the DAC SID immediately following the contest.

Section 19. DAC Policy on Delaying, Postponing and Rescheduling Contests.

- (a) Delay or Termination of Conference Events. The Dakota Athletic Conference recognize four legitimate reasons for delay or termination of a contest:
1. Obstruction of any type that cannot be removed from the playing facility.
 2. Failure of electrical power or other services necessary to continue a contest.
 3. Weather conditions that make it impossible to play or continue to play.
 4. Misconduct, by any persons, that jeopardizes the safety of persons playing or spectating. If the apparent cause is 1, 2 or 3 above, the referee or chief official shall determine when a contest is to be delayed, terminated, or resumed. For cause 4, the Athletic Director of the host institution, or the director's appointed representative, shall determine whether the contest is to be delayed, terminated, or resumed. Whenever a contest is delayed or terminated, a written report to the Commissioner explaining the circumstances shall be filed by the host athletic director immediately after the event. Rescheduling, if appropriate, shall be accomplished as soon as possible by the Athletic Director's of the involved institutions and the Commissioner
- (b) Weather Postponements. The Athletic Director of the traveling institution is to determine if weather and/or road conditions require a postponement of a scheduled contest. Rescheduling, if appropriate, shall be accomplished as soon as possible by the Athletic Directors of the involved institutions and the Commissioner.

Section 20. Volleyball Playoff Procedures and Policy.

- (a) The DAC tournament champion will advance to the NAIA playoffs.
- (b) An eight team tournament shall beheld and each match shall be played at the site of the highest seed.
- (c) The pairings for the playoffs follow:
- 1 vs 8
4 vs 5
3 vs 6
2 vs 7
- (d) Tie-Breaker Procedure:
1. Match results head to head.
 2. Head to head sets won.
 3. Head to head points scored.
 4. Conference season sets won/loss (percentage)
 5. Conference season points scored.
 6. Coin flip.
- Three or more teams:
1. Record of matches won between all three teams.

2. Record of sets won between all three teams.
3. Total points scored between all three teams.

Once a team breaks the tie, then the two remaining teams follow the set "tie-breaker" procedure:

1. Matches won head to head.
2. Sets won head to head.
3. Points scored head to head.
4. Coin flip.

- (e) The ticket prices for each match will be in accordance with DAC policy as established for season play.
- (f) The Conference Supervisor will assign the officials.
- (g) The policy for paying tournament expenses follows:
 1. The home team will be responsible for paying officials, bench personnel and any other administrative expenses incurred.
 2. The traveling team will be responsible for their own travel expenses.
- (h) Tournament matches will start at 7:00 P.M. unless otherwise set by the host Athletic Director in consultation with the Conference Commissioner.

Section 21. Alcohol and Tobacco Products.

The use of alcohol, tobacco or tobacco products is not permitted by participants, coaches, cheerleaders, trainers, game administrators, or officials in the playing areas during DAC or NAIA competition and practices for such competition. The coaching staff and the Athletic Director shall enforce this policy during practice sessions. The game administrator and/or the Umpire shall enforce this policy during competition. Enforcement of this policy shall follow the following steps: On the first offense, the individual(s) and team shall receive an official warning. A second offense will cause expulsion from practice or game.