



CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION

5th Annual NAIA Men's Volleyball National Championship

CHAMPIONSHIP DATES AND LOCATION

April 30 – May 4, 2024
Alliant Energy PowerHouse
307 1st Ave NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401

QUALIFICATION OF TEAMS/SELECTION/SEEDING

The NAIA National Championship Tournament includes a field of twelve teams.

1. Eight conferences (Appalachian Athletic Conference, California Pacific Conference, Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference, Golden State Athletic Conference, Great Plains Athletic Conference, Heart of America Athletic Conference, Mid-South Conference and Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference) automatically qualify one berth. These 8 automatic berths are awarded based on the approved qualifying tournament plans for each Conference. If no host berth is awarded an additional at-large berth will be added.
2. There are no limits on the number of at-large berths a Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Grouping may receive.
3. At-large teams will be selected by the Men's Volleyball National Selection Committee.
4. Qualifying teams will be seeded by the Men's Volleyball National Selection Committee.

Qualification Allotments for 2024

- 1 Eight Automatic Berths for Conferences/Unaffiliated Groupings
- 1 Three/Four At-Large Berths
- 1 One Host Berth (.650 record)

FORMAT

The NAIA National Championship Tournament will include a field of 12 teams. Teams will be divided into four pools of three teams each. Each team will play a round-robin against the other two teams in their pool. Pools will be divided as follows –

- Pool A – Seeds 1, 8, 9
- Pool B – Seeds 2, 7, 10
- Pool C – Seeds 3, 6, 11
- Pool D – Seeds 4, 5, 12

A total of four matches (one per pool) will be conducted on each of Tuesday and Wednesday. Thursday will be set aside for tie break matches. Pool play matches will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (April 30 – May 2) at 10:00 AM, 1:00 PM, 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM. Each team will play one match against the two other teams in its pool.

Pool play matches will be scheduled as follows –

Tuesday, April 30	Wednesday, May 1	Thursday, May 2
10:00 am – No. 3 vs No. 11	10:00 am – No. 6 vs No. 11	10:00 am No. 3 vs. No. 6
1:00 pm – No. 2 vs No. 10	1:00 pm – No. 7 vs No. 10	1:00 pm – No. 2 vs No. 7
4:00 pm – No. 4 vs. No. 12	4:00 pm – No. 5 vs No. 12	4:00 pm – No. 4 vs No. 5
7:00 pm – No. 1 vs No. 9	7:00 pm – No. 8 vs No. 9	7:00 pm – No. 1 vs. No. 8

Following pool play, the top team from each pool will follow a four-team single elimination bracket. The highest seeded remaining team will play the lowest seeded remaining team and the other two remaining teams will play each other.

Friday, May 3	Saturday, May 4
4:00 pm – Winner Pool B vs Winner Pool C	5:00 pm – Winner Semifinal 1 vs Winner Semifinal 2
7:30 pm – Winner Pool A vs Winner Pool D	

Tie-Breaking Procedure based on a three team Pool Play in 2024 Championships

The following procedure is to be used to determine the place in pool play and cannot eliminate a team from the competition –

1. Overall match record
2. Head-to-head competition
3. Percentage of sets won of those played among tied teams (total sets won/total sets played)
4. Percentage of points won in matches played among tied teams (total points won/total points played)
5. Coin flip

Two-Way Ties – A two-way tie cannot exist in a three-team pool play.

Three-Way Ties – This is the only possible tie-breaking scenario in a three-team pool. In this case, the tied teams in the pool will play a single set to 25 points (win by 2 points; no cap) to determine the winner of the pool and advance to the semifinals. The team judged to be superior amongst the tied teams by the procedure listed above will earn the first bye in the pool playoff. The other two teams shall play one set to 25 points (win by two points; no cap) and the winner will play the bye team one set to 25 points (win by two points; no cap) – For a total of two 25-point sets. Only one team will advance out of pool play.

STUDENT-ATHLETE EXPERIENCE EVENT

Monday, April 29th, 2024
6:30pm to 8:30pm
Spare Time Entertainment
4601 1st Ave SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Members of each official party will attend the Student-Athlete Experience Event Monday evening. Teams will have access to bowl, play laser tag, enjoy the game zone, and eat dinner. The meal will include pizza, wings, and salad.

TEAMING UP FOR CHARACTER EVENT

Friday, April 3rd, 2024
10:00am to 11:00am
Alliant Energy PowerHouse

The NAIA and our hosts at Mount Mercy have teamed up with Best Buddies to provide a 60-minute long volleyball and team building session. Best Buddies is a nonprofit dedicated to providing one-to-one friendships, integrated employment, leadership development, and inclusive living for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. They work with kids, teens, and adults. Teams in the semi-final matches will need to send 5 student-athletes to represent their school.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Host Hotel:
DoubleTree by Hilton Cedar Rapids Convention Center
350 First Avenue NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401

All teams are required to stay at the host hotel. Each team has 10 double rooms reserved for booking. There is an Excel document on the Potential Qualifier Webpage. Teams should use this form to create their rooming lists. Housing lists and reservations must be made with the hotel by Tuesday, April 23rd. If you have any questions regarding housing, please contact Jordan Childs-Brandenburg at 319-731-4523 or Jordan.childs@hilton.com.

TRAVEL

Shorts Travel Management

Qualifying institutions are responsible for making their own travel arrangements to the National Championship. The official travel partner of the NAIA is Short's Travel Management – If you are interested in using Short's Travel to assist in your team's travel needs, please call Short's Travel at 844-619-7044 to book your travel arrangements.

Short's Travel has contacts with charter air travel as well as charter buses for ground travel.

Short's Travel Management can also be used for regular-season travel planning.

National Car Rental

National Car Rental/Enterprise Rent-a-Car is offering special rates for the NAIA National Championship. Teams will be able to access these special rates by providing the special NAIA contract ID# – XZ05146.

Master's Transportation

Master's Transportation is the official provider of all shuttles/buses for your sales, lease and rental needs. Should you require any needs when traveling to the National Championship.

TRAVEL EXPENSES

Each participating team shall be responsible for its own expenses in route to, during and from all postseason events.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

Each team will have a 45-minute practice on Monday, April 29th at the Alliant Energy PowerHouse. Coaches, look for further instructions on how to sign up for practice times in the qualifier email once qualifiers are announced. Practice times will be assigned on a first come first basis in the order received.

OFFICIAL ROSTER

Postseason rosters will be filled out by Wednesday, April 24th via the SIDHelp admin website (www.naiasports.org/admin). You must have an account in order to fill out a postseason roster as the forms are no longer available through coaches' manuals. If you do not have an account, please sign up and create your own. Your access will typically be granted within 24 hours. Once you log-in, please follow these instructions—

1. Start at naiasports.org/admin
2. Under the section titled "Forms and Rosters," click on the link "Official Postseason Rosters"
3. Fill out both roster forms
4. Complete "Quick Facts"

Postseason rosters will be processed entirely electronically. The administrator completing the postseason roster will sign electronically. Postseason rosters no longer need to be sent to the NAIA National Office via email or fax. You are still required to carry a hard copy of your roster to the site of the Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Group and National Championship, and present to the Tournament Director prior to that institution's participation in the tournament.

Each team will continue to get 23 credentials for their official party to be broken up as 18 student-athletes in uniform and five support staff. Athletic Trainers will now have two separate credentials and will not be included in the 23 official party credentials. Athletic Trainers will be able to access the court and the team benches with their credentials. Athletic Training Credential request must be submitted by each institution's Head Athletic Trainer using [this form](#) by **Saturday, April 27th at 10:00 am CST**. Athletic Directors & Presidents will not need to be put on official party roster, as there will be a pass list that will allow them and a guest access to the National Championship. They can give their name at the ticket booth.

FILM EXCHANGE

Coaches entering National Championship Tournament play will be required to upload the film of their most recent match to a shared platform that will be accessible to all National Championship head coaches. Matches must be the last game played in the team's Conference/CAC/Unaffiliated Grouping Tournament and unedited.

All postseason tournament play, or if no tournament, then the last match played, shall be filmed for the purpose of the film exchange. This policy is to be monitored by the NAIA-MVCA.

The film exchange is mandatory. Any violation of the film exchange policy will result in a \$500 fine. In addition, the chair of the Tournament Committee will direct a letter to the Athletics Director (and copy the President) of said institution that the coach has neglected to follow NAIA-MVCA policy.

ATHLETIC TRAINING

Athletic Trainers and training services will be available during the period of the championships. Please consult with the trainers upon your arrival if any of your athletes have special conditions or needs.

If you have athletic trainer(s) traveling to the championship, credentials must be requested by the institution's Head Athletic Trainer [using this form](#) by **Saturday, April 27th at 10:00 am CST**.

DRUG TESTING

NAIA drug-testing is a possibility at any and all NAIA championship rounds and sites. However, as a best practice, the NAIA will not announce whether or not drug testing will occur at any specific venue. Although knowing prior to competition if NAIA drug testing was to occur has value for reasons of convenience, it leaves open the possibility that student-athletes might be tempted to use banned substances if they knew that NAIA testing was not being conducted at the site of competition.

Each academic year all eligible NAIA student-athletes must sign a Consent Form in which he or she consents to be tested for the use of drugs prohibited by the NAIA Banned Substance List to participate in any NAIA National Championship competitions ([Consent Form](#)). This Consent Form shall be administered and kept by each individual institution.

Each institution will be responsible for verifying a signed consent form is on file for each participating student-athlete on the official postseason roster form. By providing a signed roster form at check-in, each institution is officially verifying that all student-athletes on the postseason roster have completed a drug testing consent form and are thus eligible to participate in postseason competition.

CHAMPIONSHIP MERCHANDISE

Souvenirs will be available for purchase at the Alliant Energy PowerHouse for the duration of the championship provided by Fine Designs. Online purchases can be made through [their website](#).