



# 2024 NAIA WOMEN'S BEACH VOLLEYBALL NATIONAL INVITATIONAL – APRIL 25-27, 2024

## INTRODUCTION

The following information will assist you in planning when your team qualifies for the 2024 NAIA Women's Beach Volleyball National Invitational, which takes place April 25-27, 2024 in Greeneville, Tennessee.

All potential qualifier information is also available on the NAIA website – on the Women's Beach Volleyball Coaches' Corner section – and will also be sent to all potentially qualifying Beach Volleyball Coaches.

Katie Green, NAIA Senior Manager of Athletics Communications, and the NAIA Women's Beach Volleyball National Invitational Media Coordinator, will also be sending an email to your Sports Information Director requesting information/materials for your team as potential qualifiers for the NAIA Women's Beach Volleyball National Invitational.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### ADMINISTRATIVE QUALIFIER CALL

An Administrative Zoom call will be conducted by the NAIA National Office on **April 16, 2024 at 11:00 AM (CDT)** for all qualified Head Coaches and Athletic Directors to review the logistics and expectations for all National Invitational participants.

It is mandatory that each institution's Head Coach and Athletic Director or designated administrator other than a member of the coaching staff participate in the conference call. Roll call will be taken during the call.

### SPORTS INFORMATION

Katie Green, NAIA Manager of Athletics Communications and the NAIA Women's Beach Volleyball Media Coordinator will also be sending an email to your Sports Information Director requesting information and materials for your team as teams advance to the 2024 NAIA Women's Beach Volleyball . Please make sure to submit your Postseason Roster, with any edits, by end of day Tuesday, April 16, 2024.

### FINAL SITE QUALIFIER FORM

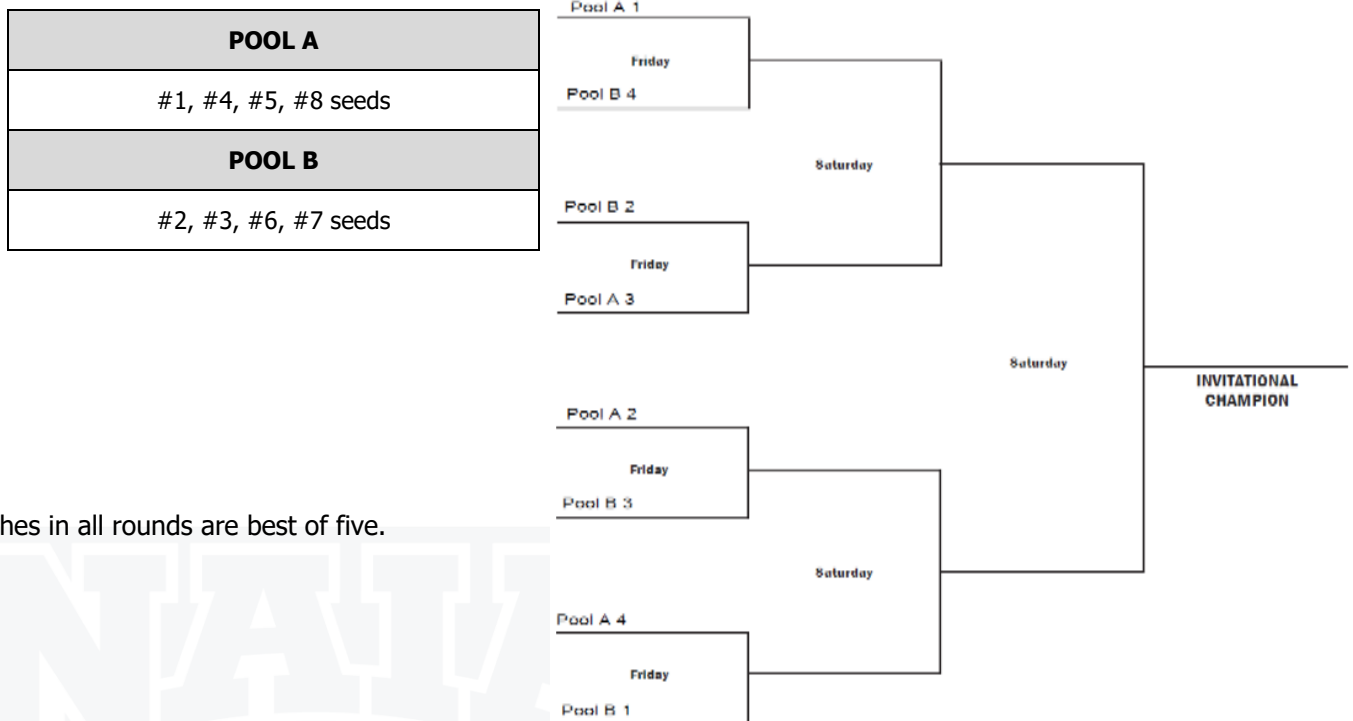
Head Coaches must complete the **Qualifier Survey** by no later than end of day **Friday, April 19**. This form helps inform tournament staff of school information, arrival times, official party numbers, and more.

### TEAM CHECK-IN

Team check-in will take place at the **Hampton Inn Greeneville, 3130 E. Andrew Johnson Hwy, Greeneville, TN 3774 on Wednesday, April 24 from 9 a.m. to 10 am**. All Head Coaches are required to stop by the Team Check-In to verify rosters, confirm uniform colors, pick up credentials, and receive any additional information or materials.

## FORMAT

The NAIA Women's Beach Volleyball National Invitational will use the format of Pool Play (two pools of four teams) followed by a single-elimination tournament. All eight teams will advance out of pool play and be seeded into the single-elimination bracket.



Matches in all rounds are best of five.

## QUALIFICATION

The NAIA Women's Beach Volleyball National Invitational includes a field of six teams. Qualification to the National Invitational will be as follows:

1. The Golden State Athletic Conference, The Sun Conference, and California Pacific Conference/Cascade Collegiate Conference Grouping will each receive one automatic berth.
2. Three conferences (American Midwest Conference, Heart of America Athletic Conference, and the Kansas Collegiate Athletic Conference) will combine to serve as an Unaffiliated Grouping. Due to having less than six teams in this grouping, the berth from this group must be rated in the final Top 10.
3. To determine at-large berths, the top four teams ranked in the Final Coaches Poll (and who have not already earned an automatic berth) will be awarded an at-large berth.
4. There are no limits on the number of at-large berths a Conference/Unaffiliated Group may receive.

Qualification allotments for the National Invitational will be four (4) automatic berths and four (4) at-large berths

## POOL PLAY/SEEDING

Once the eight qualifiers are determined, the Tournament Committee, NAIA Sport Manager and National Administrative Council Beach Volleyball Liaison will convene via conference call to set the National Invitational seeding matchups and place teams into their respective final site pools.

POOL A	POOL B
#1, #4, #5, #8 seeds	#2, #3, #6, #7 seeds

## **EVENT MERCHANDISE**

Fine Designs, the Official Merchandise Provider of NAIA National Championships, will operate a merchandise booth at the Greeneville Beach Volleyball Complex throughout the week. Official 2024 NAIA Women's Beach Volleyball National Invitational merchandise will be available for purchase on days in which games are played. Typical items available are shirts, pullovers, and sweatshirts.

## **HONORARY COACH PROGRAM**

The Honorary Coach program is a distinguishing factor for NAIA Invitational events. One or two individuals representing local businesses are assigned to your team and will serve as "local hosts" for the event.

It is customary for teams to supply their Honorary Coaches with some type of apparel or gift. Team shirts, jackets, etc. You will also want to show your institution's appreciation for your host's service in making your stay enjoyable. We suggest that you bring a memento emblematic of your institution or send an appropriate gift to those individuals after you return home. You are encouraged to send letters of appreciation after returning from the championship.

## **STUDENT-ATHLETE EXPERIENCE**

Each team is invited to the 2024 NAIA Women's Beach Volleyball Opening Banquet. The banquet will take place at the General Morgan Inn, 111 N. Main St., Greeneville, TN 37743. All teams are required to attend.

## **TEAMING UP FOR CHARACTER**

Each team will visit a local elementary school on Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> to interact with students for 45 minutes to an hour. Team's will be assigned a school based on their practice schedule.

# **COMPETITION OPERATIONS**

## **AWARDS**

Team and Individual awards will be presented to the Official Party of the Runner-Up and National Champion teams. Third and fourth place teams will also receive Semifinalist plaques.

Awards for NAIA Coach of the Year, NAIA Player of the Year, and All-Tournament Team will also be given.

An official awards ceremony will not take place for Semifinal games. For teams that do not advance to the championship, Semifinalist Awards will be given to the head coach to disperse.

There will be an official awards ceremony immediately following the Final Game on Saturday for the second and first place teams. Awards for the runners up will be given first, followed by any special awards, and ending with the National Champion Awards and Red Banner.

## **LOCKER ROOMS**

Locker rooms will not be available on-site for teams to utilize. All teams are required to dress and shower at their hotel before and after matches.

## **INVITATIONAL BALL**

Baden is this year's Official Invitational Ball Provider and will be the only balls to be used in all NAIA National Invitational competition.

## **MATCH SCHEDULE**

The NAIA Championships Department establishes game times for National Invitational competition.

Pool play matches will take place on Thursday, April 25 and Friday, April 26. The Quarterfinal matches will take place following the completion of Pool Play on Friday, April 26. The Semifinals and Championship match will take place on Saturday, April 27.

A minimum of **20 minutes** will be permitted between all Pool Play matches. A minimum of **30 minutes** will be permitted between the completion of Pool Play and Quarterfinals. The minimum of 30 minutes between matches will also apply to between the Semifinals and Championship match.

## PLAYING RULES

Rules governing NAIA regular-season and postseason play are the [USA Beach Volleyball Rules](#) with NCAA modifications. These rules will be applied to all contests (preseason, regular-season, and postseason) when both institutions are members of the NAIA.

## PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Arrangements will be made with the host for practice sessions beginning on Wednesday, April 23. Practice times are first come first served and must be reserved with the Practice Site Coordinator. Please contact **Tim Bowman** **423.552.0310** [tbowman@greenevilletn.gov](mailto:tbowman@greenevilletn.gov) to schedule team practices.

In consultation with the Tournament Director, the NAIA Championships Department shall establish a practice schedule for all teams participating. Practice courts will be available on site and teams will set up practice times with host.

## PRE-MATCH/WARM-UP PROCEDURES

As outlined by USA Beach Volleyball rules, the warm-up procedures for outdoor tournaments will be as follows:

Ten minutes are allowed for warm-up. Formally, this period includes three minutes of free ball handling, the coin toss, and five minutes of formal timed warm-up. Teams share the entire court throughout the 10-minute period.

Coaches are not allowed to physically assist in the warm-up following the coin toss and must move off the court.

10 minutes on the game clock	Court available for shared warm up
7 minutes on the game clock	Coin Toss
6 minutes on the game clock	Start five-minute timed warm-up (coaches off)
1 minute on the game clock	Players to Benches Referee to Stand
0 minutes on the game clock	Teams to end-lines R1 invites teams to nets to shake hands Start Match

## OFFICIAL PARTY

The Official Party for each team participating in postseason play is **17**, with no more than **14** players in uniform. The total party of **17** does not include up to two (**2**) athletic trainers. Only members of the Official Party will be permitted in the team area, which includes the bench.

Official Postseason Roster forms will be filled out via the [SIDHelp Admin Website](#). If you do not have a log-in account, please go to the link and sign up. You must have an account in order to fill out the roster forms as the forms will no longer be available through Coaches' Manuals. Once you log-in, please follow these instructions:

1. Under "Forms and Rosters" click on the link "Official Postseason Information."
2. Fill out the roster form

Postseason Rosters (and ejection disclosures) will be processed electronically and the administrator completing the roster will sign electronically. Postseason rosters no longer need to be sent to the NAIA National Office.

If you have trouble with the online roster form, please contact Katie Green ([kgreen@naia.org](mailto:kgreen@naia.org)) of the NAIA Athletics Communications Department. For any other general questions related to the official postseason rosters, please contact the NAIA Sport Manager.

**The list of 14 eligible players must be submitted by Tuesday, April 16, 2024.**

Only players on the official postseason roster may be in uniform. If a team is discovered using a player not on the official postseason roster at any time during the postseason tournament, that team will be immediately disqualified from further postseason play that year. From the point of first infraction by a team using a player not on the official postseason roster, all subsequent matches shall be forfeited by the offending team.

A copy of this roster form must be hand-carried to the National Invitational and be presented to the NAIA Tournament Committee prior to that institution's participation in the National Invitational.

A player may be replaced on the official postseason roster between the Conference Tournament and the NAIA Women's Beach Volleyball National Invitational by any eligible player whose name is included on the NAIA Official Eligibility Form for that current season.

**Once the National Invitational begins, no player may play who is not included on the initial submission of the Official Postseason Roster.**

### **STARTING LINEUP SUBMISSION**

Prior to their games, each coach is responsible for supplying the Tournament Committee with the name and number of each player who is playing. This may be done as early as 30 minutes prior to your match and must be done no later than 10 minutes prior to the start of your match.

### **TEAM BENCHES**

Team areas will be placed in corners of the courts with umbrellas and chairs. There will be a designated area for team tents.

### **TIMEOUTS/INTERRUPTIONS**

Timeout and interruption policies and procedures are dictated by the [USA Beach Volleyball Rules](#).

### **TOWELS/HYDRATION**

Teams are responsible for providing their own towels and water bottles for the National Invitational. Water coolers for refilling of water bottles will be provided.

### **UNIFORMS**

Teams must have both light and dark colored uniforms available. In each match, the higher seeded team pairs wear light colored uniforms and the lower seeded team pairs wear dark. Numbers must be easily distinguishable from the predominant background color(s) and pattern. Numbers must be displayed on front and back of each player's jersey.

In the event that two of the same seeds play each other, then the team higher on the bracket will be the home team and wear light uniforms and the lower team on the bracket will be the visiting team and wear dark uniforms.

## **TEAM TRAVEL**

### **TEAM ARRIVAL**

All participating teams will need to plan on arriving at the National Invitational by Wednesday, April 23, 2024.

### **HOUSING**

All participating teams must stay at one of the hotel properties designated by the host. Teams will be assigned hotels based on their seeding. Teams are required to stay at their assigned properties for the duration of their stay at the National Invitational. A team representative should contact the hotel, no later than end of business day on Tuesday, April 16, to select a property, provide a rooming list, confirm date/time of arrival and provide a method of payment for all hotel charges.

A room block of 10 hotel rooms has been reserved on behalf of each participating team, however, each participating team is financially responsible for the cost of the rooms (as well as all other travel expenses & meals).

If travelin teams need hotel rooms in addition to the room block provided by the host, traveling teams will be responsible for requesting and securing those needs. Head coaches should reach out to the Host Tournament Director to receive hotel assignment and contact information.

The hotel properties identified for teams to stay at include:

**Hampton Inn Greeneville**  
**3130 E Andrew Johnson Hwy**  
**Greeneville, TN 37745**

**Quality Inn Greeneville**  
**3160 E. Andrew Johnson Hwy**  
**Greeneville, TN 37745**

## **TRANSPORTATION/FLIGHTS**

Qualifying institutions are responsible for making their own travel arrangements to the National Invitational. The Official Travel partner of the NAIA is Short's Travel Management. Please contact Short's Travel (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.

To help minimize travel expenses, the NAIA has an agreement with Short's Travel for air travel. This arrangement offers the NAIA and its member institutions the services of the nation's leading Air Travel Company which specializes in sports and association travel.

There are three regional airports one international airport located in the region:

Tri-Cities Regional Airport: Blountville, TN (43 miles from Greeneville, TN)

Asheville Regional Airport: Asheville, NC (71 miles from Greeneville, TN)

McGhee Tyson Airport: Knoxville, TN (83 miles from Greeneville, TN)

Charlotte Douglas International Airport: Charlotte, NC (177 miles from Greeneville, TN)

