

N4 Volleyball

N4.1 Start Date

Official Training camps or open tryouts for volleyball cannot take place before the Friday after Labour Day.

N4.2 Playing Regulations

Competition shall be governed by the Rules of Volleyball Canada.

CCAA Rule modifications of the Volleyball Canada Rule book will be adopted by the ACAA. ACAA Rule adaptations from Volleyball Canada rule book

The three-ball system

The three-ball system shall be used in all league games and at the ACAA Championships. Players will be allowed to use practice balls during 1-minute discretionary timeouts.

N4.2.1 Game Protocol

A standard pre-game routine will be used.

During the warmup period, the following will happen:

40:00 minutes left on clock – Teams return to their own side

25:00 minutes left on clock – Official Warm-up begins (minimum time allowable- if previous match runs late)

15:00 minutes left on clock – Coin toss with captains.

13:00 minutes left on clock - Hitting begins for serving team (announce complete roster). 8:00

minutes left on clock - Hitting begins for receiving team (announce complete roster). 3:00 minutes left on clock - Teams return to bench.

1. At completion of the 5 & 5 Warm-up at the net, the players return to their team bench.
2. All players will stand on their respective end line for the playing of the national anthem. Coaches, Assistant coaches, and trainers will stand in front of their bench. (Players are to line up on the end line (in Pos. 1) in the order of – Captain, Libero, players by ascending number)
3. After the national anthem, the 1st Referee blows the whistle, and the players return to their benches.
4. The Referees will proceed to the center of the court, R1 on Team A's side, R2 on Team B's side. The Line Judges will move to their respective positions. The Announcer introduces the 1st Referee, 2nd Referee, Line Judges and Scorers.
5. Starting line-up, coaches and trainer sit on the bench, reserve players go to the designated warm up area or remain at the end of the bench.
6. The Visiting team's starting 6 and Libero are announced – the players are to come off the bench and run into the center of the court.
7. The Visiting team's Head Coach is announced following the starters.
8. The Home team's starting 6 and Libero are announced – the players are to come off the bench and run into the center of the court.

9. The Home team's Head Coach is announced following the starters.
10. The 1st Referee whistles for the match to begin.

N4.3 Team Composition

N4.3.1 Only players whose names appear on the Institution's eligibility form and have been confirmed eligible by the member's MC are permitted to participate in the regular season or conference championship and sit on the team's respective bench.

N4.3.2 During the warm-up, teams are permitted a maximum of 16 players. All 16 players may be in uniform, and they may participate in the official warm-up. Once the warm-up is complete, only the 14 players on the game scoresheet are to remain in uniform. Teams must identify their 14 players at the 25- minute mark of the warm-up. The maximum number of team personnel on the bench is 22 this includes a maximum of (6) additional personnel. Additional personnel must serve a vital role (i.e., coaches, managers, statistician, therapist). Extra players are allowed on the bench but not in the warm-up area. The extra players plus team personnel cannot exceed a total of 22. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500) and the removal of additional persons. Institutional sanctions through Code of Conduct will be issued if compliance is not immediate.

N4.3.3 All players on the official roster may dress, warm up and sit on the team bench. The maximum number of team personnel on the bench includes fourteen (14) rostered players, two (2) additional players and six (6) additional personnel. Teams must identify their 14 players at the 25-minute mark of the warm-up. Additional personnel must serve a vital role (i.e., coaches, manager, statistician, therapist, or injured players). Failure to comply with this regulation will result in a fine of five hundred dollars (\$500) and the removal of additional persons. Institutional sanctions through the Code of conduct will be issued if compliance is not immediate.

N4.4 Eligibility

Refer to ACAA Eligibility section.

N4.5 Participants

All members are eligible, as declared annually at the AGM.

N4.6 Official Ball

The Official Ball for CCAA women's and men's volleyball is the Molten V5M5000 ball.

N4.7 League Schedule, Tiebreaker

Conference Play

Women:

As of the 2020-2021 season, in a 9-team conference, the structure of play will be the following:

Conference will be composed of 3 divisions:

- North Division (UNBSJ, St. Thomas, Crandall)
- Central Division (Holland, DAL AC, Mount Allison)
- South Division (MSVU, UKC, U. Sainte-Anne)

Based on the standings of the previous season's schedule, teams will be seeded into their division.

The Women's league will play 18 regular season games – all best 3/5 – which is composed of 1 home and 1 away format against all other teams in the league with 2 additional divisional games where the following match ups will complete the schedule:

- Each Division's #1 Seed plays at #3 Seed
- Each Division #2 Seed plays at #1 Seed
- Each Division #3 Seed plays at #2 Seed

Teams will earn 2 points for every match won towards the regular season standings. Men:

Five teams: The men's league will have a 2 home and 2 away series against league opponents (home-away). All matches will be 3 out of five (3/5). The top four teams will advance to the ACAA Championships.

Tie-Breaking Procedures

In event of tie at the end of regular league play, Volleyball Canada's tie-breaking procedure to apply:

If two or more teams are tied at the end of the preliminary round, the following criteria will be applied, in order:

- a) The team having the best ratio of won/lost matches, considering matches between the tied teams, will be ranked higher.
- b) The team having the best ratio of won/lost games, considering matches played between the tied teams, will be ranked higher.
- c) The team having the best ratio of won/lost games, considering all matches of the round, will be ranked higher.
- d) The team having the best ratio of points for/against, considering games played between the tied teams will be ranked higher.
- e) The team having the best ratio of points for/against, considering all games played during the round will be ranked higher.
- f) As determined by the Organizing Committee (e.g., extra game, toss of coin, etc.).

When you apply this rule to break a tie you should follow this sequence:

- 1) When two teams are tied, the tie-breaking criteria are applied one after the other until the tie has been broken.
- 2) When three or more teams are tied, the tie-breaking criteria are applied one after the other until all the tied teams have been ranked.

NOTE: This means that if there is a tie among teams X, Y and Z and criteria "b" can determine X as first, Y as second and Z as third, then no further criteria are to be used.

The tie is broken.

However, if criteria "b" determines the seeding/ranking of any of the tied teams, then the remaining teams which are still tied will use criteria „c" and so on to determine their seeding/ranking. Do not

start at (a) again. Continue through the sequence of criteria using the results of teams x, y, and z for criteria (d).

N4.8 Officials (see Appendix 6 for agreement)

Conference Play and Tip-Off Tournaments Major Officials: Referee (Min. Regional) Umpire (Min. Provincial)

Minor Officials: Official Scorekeeper **is to be certified official** and scorer may be provided by the host institution.

Linesperson (minimum of 2) - supplied by and registered with their Provincial Associations (VNS, VNB, VPEI)

Minimum court space as determined in the VC Rules and confirmed at ACAA AGM. Main court where scheduling permits.

Championship Tournaments

Major Officials **including lines people**: Referee (Min. National **or National Candidate**). Additional lines people may be assigned from the local area.

Official Scorekeeper: As above, but supplied by and registered with VNS, VNB and/or VPEI

Letter of Agreement

ACAA and the NS, NB, and PEI Officials Associations (See Appendix)

Expenses

Conference Play - expenses are the responsibility of the Host.

Tip-Off - Tournament Officials expenses to be paid by host

Championship Tournament Play - Expenses are to be shared by participating teams.

N4.9 Championships Protocol

Number of Playoff Teams Volleyball Playoffs

The top six (6) women's teams and top four (4) men's teams, as determined by league play, will meet at a site determined by the Annual General Meeting. The draw will be:

- Single elimination
- The matches will be 3/5.
- The times of play will be confirmed by the host college at the February meeting of Athletics Directors.
- The first-place team will have choice of time for first round play.

Uniform Colours for Playoffs

Day 1: Higher seed dark and lower seed light Day 2: Higher seed dark and lower seed light Day 3:

Higher seed light and lower seed dark

The winners (men's and women's) of the ACAA Championships will represent the Conference at CCAA Nationals. **If the ACAA is awarded a wild card (non-host) for the CCAA Championship, the ACAA Silver Medallist will become the wild card. If the ACAA Champion is the host of the CCAA Championship, the ACAA finalist will become the Host wildcard.**

N4.10 Awards

N4.10.1 Award Eligibility

Players and coaches are eligible for awards provided their team completes the eligibility process and at least fifty percent (50%) of its regular-season competition. If a team withdraws for disciplinary reasons, its players and coaches are not eligible for awards.

N4.10.2 Volleyball Awards

The Atlantic Collegiate Athletic Association will recognize the following award recipients in both women's and men's volleyball:

1. **ACAA Rookie of the Year** – one player who made a significant contribution in their first year of ACAA competition. The nominee must be in their first year of postsecondary eligibility.
2. **ACAA Player of the Year** – one player who significantly impacted their team and the conference. The ACAA Player of the Year will be the first ACAA All-Canadian. The second-place vote-getter for Player of the Year will be the second ACAA All-Canadian, subject to CCAA eligibility requirements.
3. **ACAA Coach of the Year.**
4. **First Team All-Conference** – seven (7) players selected by position: two (2) outside hitters/left sides, two (2) middle blockers, one (1) right-side/opposite, one (1) setter and one (1) libero.
5. **Second Team All-Conference** – seven (7) players selected by position: two (2) outside hitters/left sides, two (2) middle blockers, one (1) right-side/opposite, one (1) setter and one (1) libero.

N4.10.3 Selection Process

Due to CCAA timelines, the following guidelines must be upheld in the Atlantic Collegiate Athletic Association awards and All-Conference selection process.

Nomination

The sport convenor will establish and circulate the annual nomination and voting deadlines. The process must be completed in sufficient time to meet ACAA Championship and CCAA submission timelines.

Coaches will be asked to submit the following:

- **ACAA Player of the Year:** each coach may nominate one (1) player from their team.

- **ACAA Rookie of the Year:** each coach may nominate one (1) player from their team. The nominee must be in their first year of postsecondary eligibility.
- **ACAA All-Conference:** each coach may nominate a maximum of seven (7) players from their team in the following positional categories:
 - two (2) outside hitters/left sides;
 - two (2) middle blockers;
 - one (1) right-side/opposite;
 - one (1) setter; and
 - one (1) libero.
- A player may be nominated for both Player of the Year and Rookie of the Year, provided they meet the eligibility requirements for both awards.
- A Player of the Year nominee must also be nominated separately for All-Conference consideration at their primary regular-season position.
- Each player may be nominated for All-Conference consideration at only one position. A player who competed at multiple positions must be nominated at the position in which they made their primary contribution during the regular season.
- All-Conference nominations must be submitted in a consistent format for each player: name, uniform number, year of eligibility, position and point-form reasons (maximum of five points) why the player deserves consideration. Relevant ACAA regular-season statistics should be included where available.
- Major award nominations must include a short biography and point-form rationale and be sent to the sport convenor.

Voting

- For all player awards and All-Conference selections, coaches may not vote for their own players.
- Ties are not permitted when ACAA All-Conference teams and major awards are being selected. Ties will be broken by the sport convenor using the tie-breaking method outlined below.
- The sport convenor will distribute the major award nominations and All-Conference ballots to each head coach by the deadline established annually.

ACAA Major Award Voting

- For Player of the Year and Rookie of the Year, each coach must rank their top three (3) choices from the eligible nominees.
- Votes will be tabulated by awarding three (3) points for a first-place vote, two (2) points for a second-place vote and one (1) point for a third-place vote.
- The same player may receive both Player of the Year and Rookie of the Year.

ACAA All-Conference Voting

- Each coach must vote for two complete All-Conference teams by ranking players within each positional category as follows:
 - **Outside hitter/left side:** rank four (4) players. Votes are worth four (4), three (3), two (2) and one (1) point.

- **Middle blocker:** rank four (4) players. Votes are worth four (4), three (3), two (2) and one (1) point.

- **Right-side/opposite:** rank two (2) players. Votes are worth two (2) and one (1) point.

- **Setter:** rank two (2) players. Votes are worth two (2) and one (1) point.

- **Libero:** rank two (2) players. Votes are worth two (2) and one (1) point.

- Coaches must return all completed ballots to the sport convenor by the deadline established by the sport convenor.

- The sport convenor shall tally the votes and forward the results to the ACAA office as soon as possible.

If a coach does not submit the completed ballot(s) by the established deadline, the sport convenor will immediately contact the institution's Athletic Director and establish a new deadline. If the institution fails to submit its ballot(s) by the new deadline, the institution will be fined \$500.00 by the ACAA office.

- The sport convenor shall circulate a complete record of how head coaches voted, other than Coach of the Year voting.

Tabulation of Votes Player of the Year

- The player who accumulates the most points in Player of the Year voting will be named the ACAA Player of the Year.
- The Player of the Year will be the first ACAA All-Canadian. The second-place vote-getter for Player of the Year will be the second ACAA All-Canadian, subject to CCAA eligibility requirements.
- The Player of the Year is automatically placed on the First Team All-Conference at their nominated primary regular-season position.
- If the Player of the Year is not already selected for the First Team through All-Conference voting, they will be inserted into the First Team at their position. The remaining First and Second Team selections at that position will be determined by All-Conference voting points, with the lowest-ranked player displaced as necessary to maintain the required team composition.

Rookie of the Year

- The eligible first-year player who accumulates the most points in Rookie of the Year voting will be named the ACAA Rookie of the Year.
- Rookie of the Year does not automatically receive an All-Conference selection.

Coach of the Year

- Each women's head coach must rank three (3) head coaches from other institutions.
- Each men's head coach must rank two (2) head coaches from other institutions.
- Head coaches may not vote for themselves.
- For women's volleyball, votes will be tabulated by awarding three (3) points for a first-place vote, two (2) points for a second-place vote and one (1) point for a third-place vote.
- For men's volleyball, votes will be tabulated by awarding two (2) points for a first-place

vote and one (1) point for a second-place vote.

- The coach who accumulates the most points will be named the ACAA Coach of the Year and will be forwarded as the ACAA nominee for the CCAA Coach of the Year Award, subject to CCAA eligibility requirements.

First and Second Team All-Conference

- Subject to the Player of the Year placement rule above, the First Team will consist of the players with the most All-Conference voting points at each position: the top two (2) outside hitters/left sides, top two (2) middle blockers, top right-side/opposite, top setter and top libero.
- The Second Team will consist of the next-ranked players at each position: the third- and fourth-ranked outside hitters/left sides, third- and fourth-ranked middle blockers, second-ranked right-side/opposite, second-ranked setter and second-ranked libero.

Breaking Ties in Voting

- When two or more individuals are tied in voting for an ACAA major award or All-Conference selection, the tie shall be broken by following these steps, in order:
 - The individual with the greatest number of highest-place votes will be ranked higher. If necessary, votes at each successive ranking will then be compared in order.
 - The individual who appears on the greatest number of ballots.
 - The individual whose team finished higher in the final ACAA regular-season standings.
- For Coach of the Year, if a tie remains after comparing first-place votes and the number of ballots on which each coach appears, the coach whose team finished higher in the final ACAA regular-season standings will be ranked higher.

N4.10.4 Athlete of the Week

Nominations shall be submitted weekly to the ACAA Chair according to the schedule confirmed annually at the Fall Meeting. Recipients will be recognized on the ACAA website and through applicable ACAA communications channels.

N4.10.5 Other Awards and Recognition

The sport convenor will provide the CCAA Athlete of the Month nomination forms and annual submission deadlines.

Gold medals shall be presented to members of the ACAA Championship teams. Silver medals shall be presented to the runners-up at the ACAA Championships.