

Region III Volleyball Tournament Bylaws

Northern Lights Conference

Last Revised: Nov. 2025 | Adopted: Apr. 2024¹



Article X: Bylaws

Section 1: Governing Rules

Volleyball competition in Region III will follow the guidelines established by the National Federation of State High Schools Association Volleyball Rule Book and all applicable rules and regulations established by ASAA and Region III.

Section 2: Scheduling

All participating member schools must compete within the designated Region III district. A maximum of 22 game schedule in one season, exclusive of post-season tournament play, consists of a home-home schedule unless the game is canceled due to weather or natural disaster and/or other circumstances beyond the control of the school(s). In this case, every attempt will be made to try to reschedule the canceled games. In the event one or more schools in the region fails to complete their home and home schedule due to the above conditions, the offending school(s) will still be allowed to participate in the seeding process.

Sections 3: Tournament Bracketing

A. Teams Involved

The Northern Lights Conference Volleyball Tournament shall include the following teams: **Colony, Kodiak, Palmer, Soldotna, and Wasilla.**

B. Tournament Bracketing

An eight-team bracket will be used with the first-seeded teams receiving a first round bye. The fourth and **fifth** seeded teams will play on the top of the bracket with the #1 seeded team and the third and **fifth** Seeded teams will play on the bottom of the bracket with the #2 seeded team. The tournament will be a true double-elimination tournament with three games on Thursday, three games on Friday, and up to three games on Saturday. **The loser of the first game on Saturday will receive the region's third place seed to the state tournament.**

C. Seeding of the Tournament

Teams will be seeded according to the following criteria:

1. Overall region record;
2. Head to head competition in region play;
3. Record against team(s) with a higher seed;
4. Head to head competition outside of region play
5. Common 4A opponents

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6. Common 3A opponents
7. Coin toss.

In the case of a three or four way tie, only the head-to-head records between the teams that are tied will be considered. Once the original tie is broken, the tiebreaker process starts over again at step 2 for each subsequent tie needing to be broken. **When evaluating ties, sets won between the tied teams in a 5 game match can be used as a tiebreaker. Games played within a tournament, three-set games, or timed sets are not used for seeding purposes.**

Example:

Team A is 2-0 over C with a 3-0 and a 3-1 win. Team B is 2-0 over C with a 3-0, 3-0 win. Team B wins the common opponent tie breaker.

The higher seeded team in each contest will be designated as the home team and will be awarded all privileges normally assumed by the home team except when playing the host school. The host school will be the home team (regardless of seed) throughout the tournament. They will sit on the home bench and be home on the scoreboard

The Board of Control will break all ties. Each school involved in the tie process will designate a person to represent their school either in person or via conference call. If a coin toss is needed, the Board members breaking the ties will designate a team “heads” based on the first letter of the school in alphabetical order, and the other team “tails” before flipping the coin. Final team seeding will be emailed to all teams by the tournament director.

Section 4: Team Rosters

Team rosters are not to exceed **14** players and must be submitted to the host school no later than 10 days prior to the day of the region tournament. A final team roster of **14** players must be selected, confirmed, and submitted to the tournament director at the coaches meeting prior to the tournament beginning. Once the **14** man roster is set, there will be no changes or substitution to the roster. The **14** man roster represents the only players that may be in uniform during the tournament.

Section 5: Time Schedule

The Region Tournament will be scheduled over three days. The tournament director shall arrange the scheduled games as to the session and location in which games shall be played for the tournament’s first day of play. The host school may exercise the option of having their first round game played in the evening. The host school also retains the ability to adjust game times if off the road system. **The coaches meeting will take place at 11:00 a.m. Thursday afternoon and the first round games will be played at 3:00, 5:00 and 7:00 p.m. Thursday’s games will take place at 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.** Friday’s play will be divided into a morning session with games at 3:00, 5:00 & 7:00 p.m. Saturday’s games will start with the third place game at 10:00 a.m. and then the championship games at

1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. if necessary. Conference awards will be handed out upon the completion of the championship game.

Section 6: Board of Control

A tournament Board of Control shall be chosen for each Region III sponsored event. The board shall consist of three individuals who have sufficient knowledge of the sport to make educated and fair decisions when necessary. It is recommended that one Board of Control member represent the school that will host the tournament the following year. In the event of a dispute, Coaches may complete the Region III Coach's Appeal Form. The B.O.C. will break all ties.

Section 7: Officials

The tournament director shall select the officials for the region tournament in the following manner:

1. A minimum of three certified officials are required for the tournament;
2. The tournament director shall designate one of the four officials as the assigning official;
3. Effort will be made to select officials from all geographic regions of the school participating. Compensation for officials will consist of an increase of \$10 over regular season pay, per diem at a rate of \$35 per day, travel expenses not to exceed the IRS stated amount and hotel accommodations;
4. The coaches of the schools competing in the championship games and the tournament director and board of control for the tournament will determine the officials for the championship contests in the following manner:
 - a. Each coach will list his/her top two choices for officials and submit them to a Board of Control member;
 - b. If both coaches picks are the same two officials, then those will be the officials for the championship game;
 - c. If the coaches picks differ, then the top choice of each coach will be selected;
 - d. The positions of referee and umpire will be determined by mutual consent of the two coaches or by the Board of Control.

Section 8: Trophies/Awards

Region III will purchase trophies and awards and the teams involved will share the costs equally. There will be a team award for 1st place and individual medals for first and second place team members.

A Coach of Year Award will be voted on at the coaches meeting prior to the tournament beginning. Each school's head coach or his/her designee shall have one vote. The voting for this award will take place right after the coaches select the All Conference Team and the tournament director and the board of control will supervise the voting.

A Conference Good Sport Team will also be chosen at the coaches meeting prior to the tournament. Each head coach will nominate an athlete for this team. The nominee should be a team member who has displayed good sportsmanship throughout the entire

season. The members of this team will be recognized at the awards ceremony with a special medal.

Section 9: All-Conference Team Selection

A ten member All Conference team will be selected at the coaches meeting prior to the beginning of the tournament. Selection to the team will be based on the player's performance during the 22 game regular season. The All-Conference selection process will look as follows:

1. Prior to the start of the tournament, each head coach will submit names of players they deem worthy of consideration for all conference selection. The names will be submitted to the tournament director by a given date. Names will not be added or changed once the meeting starts;
2. At the coaches meeting, each coach will be allowed to talk about their nominations;
3. Each school will have their head coach or a designated voter present at the coaches meeting; once all of the coaches are done talking about their nominations, each coach or designated voter will select what they consider to be the top 10 players from the Northern Lights Conference. Ballots will be weighted in reverse order with the top player receiving 10 points, the second best player 9 points, etc. In order for a school's athletes to be eligible for postseason awards, all schools are required to vote a complete ballot for All-Conference voting.
4. Coaches cannot vote for their own players;
5. All coaches or designated voters will fill out a ballot and then the vote will be taken verbally with all coaches present. Vote tallies will be done with all coaches present and written for all to see. If at this time more discussion is needed, the Board of Control will facilitate the discussion and possible re-vote of the All Conference Team;
6. In addition to participating in the verbal voting process, all coaches will be expected to turn in their original filled out voting ballot;
7. The Board of Control will supervise the verbal voting process. Should any discrepancies arise, the Board has the option of nullifying the vote and conducting a re-vote. In this case, the tournament director or member of the Board of Control will send a letter to the Region III President and the principal(s) of the offending schools explaining the situation.
8. The All Region 1st Team will be the ten athletes receiving the most votes. If there is a tie for the last place on the team, the tie will be broken before the coaches meeting is over. The coaches of the athletes that are tied will have a chance to talk again about their player and then the coaches will vote again on only those athletes involved in the tie. The player with the most votes will receive the Most Valuable Player Plaque instead of a medal. If a tie for this award takes place, Co-Most Valuable Player Awards will be given.
9. The All Region 2nd Team consists of any nominated athlete that did not make the first team but received at least one vote in the initial voting process.

Northern Lights Conference Volleyball Tournament Format

The tournament will continue to be held over a three day period. The purpose of this is to maintain the integrity of the event and to not create unfair matchups based on the number of matches played in a day. The tournament will be a true double elimination tournament. See the attached bracket for additional information.

Option #1

Thursday's Schedule

Coaches Meeting	11:00 a.m.
Game #1	3:00 p.m.
Game #2	5:00 p.m.
Game #3	7:00 p.m.

Friday's Schedule

Game #4	3:00 p.m.
Game #5	5:00 p.m.
Game #6	7:00 p.m.

Saturday's Schedule

Game #7	10:00 a.m. – Third Place Game: Loser is that team
Game #8	1:00 p.m.
Game #9	3:00 p.m. If Necessary

The awards ceremony will be immediately following the conclusion of the game #10 or #11 if necessary.

During the coaches meeting, a discussion should be facilitated by the host school regarding any concerns or changes needed to the bylaws. These concerns will then be presented at the next region meeting.