The pairs championship will include the top pairs in the country and the top performers from many of the beach programs. The format was designed to include Division I and eventually Division II schools. It features three days of competition for all 64 pairs and will be played alongside the men’s team championship. Schools have been awarded bids for the pairs event based on their performance from the 2022 spring season.

I. Tournamnet Format

The competition will consist of a 64-pair, three-day championship. The tournament will include traditional pool play on day one, followed by bracket play—played to place—on days two and three. All pairs will compete each of the three days.

Pairs are limited to a maximum of three matches per day and a minimum of one match per day.

Pools will be comprised of four pairs. Where possible, pools will not have more than one pair per university. In bracket play, should two pairs from the same university make it to the semifinal round they will play against each other. If they are on the opposite sides of the bracket the pairs will be switched. Should three or more pairs from the same university make it to the semifinals the bracket remains as it stands.

All games will be match play using the rally scoring system. Matches will be decided when one pair wins 2 out of 3 sets as follows:

a. First and second sets
   - 21 Points
   - switch sides of the net every 7 points
   - one technical time-out
   - one time-out per pair/set

b. Third eventual set
   - 15 points
   - switch sides of the net every 5 points
   - one time-out per pair

All sets win by 2 points.

The AVCA has the right to amend the format and rules for competition if fewer pairs are entered.
POOL PLAY (November 4)

Pool Play will begin at 9am and end at 6pm. To account for fairness, equal rest, and any weather delays, three pools will compete on two courts. Games will start every hour.

1. All four pairs in the pool will play simultaneously and be off simultaneously.
2. Example — Pools A, B and, C on Courts 1 and 2

   9 am: Pool A - 1v4 play on Ct 1, 2v3 play on Ct 2
   10 am: Pool B - 1v4 play on Ct 1, 2v3 play on Ct 2
   11 am: Pool C - 1v4 play on Ct 1, 2v3 play on Ct 2

   12 pm: Pool A - 1v3 play on Ct 1, 2v4 play on Ct 2
   1 pm: Pool B - 1v3 play on Ct 1, 2v4 play on Ct 2
   2 pm: Pool C - 1v3 play on Ct 1, 2v4 play on Ct 2

   3 pm: Pool A - 1v2 play on Ct 1, 3v4 play on Ct 2
   4 pm: Pool B - 1v2 play on Ct 1, 3v4 play on Ct 2
   5 pm: Pool C - 1v2 play on Ct 1, 3v4 play on Ct 2

3. The top 3 pairs in each pool will advance to the Pairs Championship brackets. The first-place pair will have a Round 1 Bye in the brackets. The fourth-place pair will advance to the 49-64 bracket.

Pools will be sent via email by Nov. 1. Final pools will be shared via email and at the Coaches Meeting on Nov. 3.

Pools will be seeded in the following format:

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</tbody>
</table>

BRACKET PLAY (November 5 and 6)

Bracket Play will begin at 9am and end by 7pm. Pairs will play to their Place or Finish, which will allow all 64 pairs to play at least one match on each day of the tournament.

Pairs playing for 49-64 will play 2 matches on Day 2, and 1 match on Day 3.

Pairs playing for 1-48 will play 2 to 3 matches on Day 2, and 2 to 3 matches on Day 3.

Nov. 5

Round 1: Championship Bracket (1-48) / Finish 49-64
Round 2: Championship Bracket / Finish 33-48 / Finish 49-56 / Finish 57-64
Round 3: Championship Bracket / Finish 17-32

This document is subject to change. Last edited on June 13, 2022.
Nov. 6

Round 4: Championship Bracket / Finish 9-16 / Finish 17-24 / Finish 25-32 / Finish 49-52 / Finish 53-56 / Finish 57-60 / Finish 61-64

Round 5: Championship Semis / Finish 5-8 / Finish 9-12 / Finish 13-16 / Finish 17-20 / Finish 21-24 / Finish 25-28 / Finish 29-32

Round 6: Championship Match / Finish 3-4

II. SCHOOL SELECTION

Schools will be awarded bids primarily based on their performance from the 2022 spring season. The school’s coaching staff will determine which two student-athletes will compete in the pairs championship. There will be 58 bids awarded initially, and 6 Wild Cards will be distributed in mid-August. Using this criterion, no less than 40 schools will have the opportunity to compete for the pairs championship.

The entry fee per pair is $200. This fee can be paid during registration and must be paid by September 1.

Bids are awarded using the following criteria:

1. 2022 NCAA Championship – Teams finishing 1 through 8: 2 bids per program

2. 2022 NCAA Championship – Teams finishing 9–16: 1 bid per program

3. Conference – The top finisher at each conference tournament that did not compete at the NCAA Championship: 1 bid per program

4. Pablo Ranking – The top 12 schools (as ranked by the Pablo Rating on collegebeachvb.com) that did not earn an NCAA Championship bid or a Conference bid: 1 bid per program

5. MoVR Ranking – The top ranked individual players (as ranked by the MoVR rating on collegebeachvb.com) not already associated with a bid: 1 bid per program

A player is associated with a bid when two conditions co-exist:

1) her school has been awarded a bid through the NCAA Championship, Conference or Pablo Ranking route AND
2) her MoVR ranking is one of the two highest on the upcoming season roster

If a transfer player earns a MoVR bid, the bid can be awarded to the school she is transferring to attend.
The distribution of bids for the 2022 pairs championship is as follows (see Appendix A for more specific info):

**NCAA 2 bids**
**NCAA 1 bid**
**Conf 1 bid**
**Pablo 1 bid**
**MoVR 1 bid - a 2nd bid is due to MoVR ranking (outside of top 8)**

* Transfer

1. USC - 2 bids
2. Florida State - 2 bids
3. UCLA - 2 bids
4. LMU - 2 bids
5. LSU - 2 bids
6. Georgia State - 2 bids
7. TCU - 2 bids
8. FAU - 2 bids
9. Grand Canyon - 2 bids
10. Stanford - 2 bids
11. Hawai‘i - 2 bids
12. Stetson - 2 bids
13. Cal Poly *
14. California - 2 bids
15. TAMCC
16. UT Martin
17. Long Beach State - 2 bids
18. Pepperdine *
19. FIU *
20. Arizona State
21. Tulane
22. HBU
23. Morehead State
24. FGCU
25. Arizona - 2 bids
26. South Carolina
27. UAB
28. Boise State
29. UC Davis
30. UNF
31. Oregon
32. Coastal Carolina
33. Saint Mary’s
34. San Jose State
35. Washington - 2 bids
36. College of Charleston
37. Santa Clara *
38. New Orleans
39. Cal State Bakersfield *
40. Central Arkansas
41. SFA
42. Southeastern Louisiana

42 schools / 58 bids

*Indicates that a highly MoVR ranked player is in the portal and may impact bids.

Wild Card Bids

Wild Card bids are currently being reserved for both DI and DII pairs. If the legislation passes for DII, and teams are eligible to play, the following schools will receive 1 bid based on their performance at the 2022 AVCA Small Schools Championship:

1. Colorado Mesa University
2. Spring Hill College
3. University of Tampa
4. Concordia University at Irvine

* If the legislation does not pass, all six bids will be awarded to DI programs based on MoVR and Pablo rankings.
Pool Play Seeding

Pairs will be seeded the week of the championship using last season’s MoVR rankings. Freshmen will have a MoVR ranking of 25.

For seeding purposes, each pair’s total points will be calculated by adding their individual MoVR points. When a tie occurs, the pair with the highest individual MoVR score will earn the higher seed. If the tie still exists, the tournament director will flip a coin to determine which pair is seeded higher.

III. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Initial bid winners are listed in this document. Wild Cards have not yet been granted.

To accept a bid, coaches can register as early as June 13 and must register by August 1. Head coaches must be an AVCA member for pairs to participate. Any unclaimed bids will be added to the Wild Card total and redistributed by August 19.

All entry fees are due by October 3.

Coaches must submit the championship pairings by October 24.

A coaches meeting will be held at 7 pm CT on November 3. The meeting is an opportunity for coaches to ask questions and acknowledge that the seeding for pool play is accurate and that the bracket is correct. Finalized seeding and additional detailed information on the competition will be distributed via email no more than one hour after the meeting.

Pool play will begin on November 4, and bracket play will begin on November 5 and end on November 6.

OVERALL TIMELINE

- June 13 — Initial bids awarded / Registration opens
- August 1 — Deadline to accept bids
- August 19 — Wild Cards awarded
- October 3 — Deadline to accept Wild Card bids / Deadline to pay entry fee – 5 pm CT
- October 24 — Deadline to submit pairings – 5 pm CT
- November 3 — Coaches meeting – 7 pm CT
- November 4–6 — AVCA pairs national championship

Attire

Athletes must wear their university issued uniform. In addition, for competitions, pairs must be dressed identically including matching tops and bottoms. Cold weather clothing is permitted in conjunction with the uniform.

Substitution of Athletes

In the event of illness or injury, a player may be replaced by a teammate who is not competing in the pairs championship prior to the start of pool play. Once the pair has started pool play, substitutions are not permitted.
Weather Contingency Plan

Will be updated by October 24

Coaches

Head coaches must be AVCA members for pairs to compete. All coaching protocol will follow NCAA DI guidelines.
APPENDIX A: BID DISTRIBUTION

64 bids will be awarded based on the following criteria. Schools will be able to use the fall events leading up to the championship to earn more MoVR points for ranking purposes.

- **16 bids / 8 schools – Top 8 team finishers at NCAA 2022**
  1. USC
  2. Florida State
  3. UCLA
  4. LMU
  5. LSU
  6. Georgia State
  7. TCU
  8. FAU

- **8 bids / 8 schools – Team finishers 9-16 at the NCAA 2022**
  1. Grand Canyon
  2. Stanford
  3. Cal Poly
  4. Hawai`i
  5. California
  6. Stetson
  7. TAMCC
  8. UT Martin

- **24 bids / 16 schools – Top finishers in conference tournaments not already attending**
  1. Long Beach State (Big West)
  2. Pepperdine (West Coast Conf)
  3. Arizona State (Pac-12)
  4. FGCU (ASUN)
  5. FIU (C-USA)
  6. Tulane (CCSA)
  7. HBU (Southland)
  8. Morehead State (OVC)

- **32 bids / 24 schools**
  1. Arizona
  2. South Carolina
  3. UAB
  4. Boise State
  5. UC Davis
  6. UNF
  7. Oregon

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8. Coastal Carolina  
9. Saint Mary’s  
10. San Jose State  
11. Washington  
12. College of Charleston

44 bids / 36 schools

• 14 bids / various schools - Highest MoVR-rated current athletes not already selected
  1. Long Beach State, Kennedy / Stevens  
  2. Stetson, Namike / Ferraris  
  3. New Orleans, Esarte  
  4. Grand Canyon, Hansen  
  5. Stanford, Kriz / Ekstrom  
  6. Hawai’i, Loker  
  7. Santa Clara, Sangiacomo  
  8. Arizona, Blacker  
  9. Cal State Bakersfield, Solberg  
  10. Central Arkansas, Hasness  
  11. Washington, Dahl  
  12. SFA, Unnasch / Bennett  
  13. Southeastern Louisiana, Hidalgo / Scuderi  
  14. California, McKeown

58 bids / 42 schools

• 6 Wild Card bids / various schools
  Wild Card bids are currently being reserved for both DI and DII pairs.
  If the legislation passes for NCAA DII, and teams are eligible to play, the following schools will receive 1 bid based on their performance at the 2022 AVCA Small College Beach Championships:
    1. Colorado Mesa University  
    2. Spring Hill College  
    3. University of Tampa  
    4. Concordia University at Irvine

* If the legislation does not pass, all six bids will be awarded to DI programs based on MOVR and Pablo rankings.

APPENDIX B: POOL PLAY FORMAT
Will be available by October 27

APPENDIX C: BRACKET PLAY
Will be available by October 27

This document is subject to change. Last edited on June 13, 2022.
APPENDIX D: FALL PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE

Committee Members:

- Angie Akers, LMU
- Gayle Stammer, TAMCC
- Derek Olson, Washington
- Jason Kepner, College of Charleston
- Kristen Rohr, Grand Canyon
- Megan Burgdorf, Beach Volleyball Consulting
- Colleen Craig, Rally Volleyball
- Mike Placek, CollegeBeachVB
- Beth Van Fleet, Georgia State