



2026 AVCA Men’s Division III Awards Packet

AVCA Awards Timetable	2
AVCA Men's Postseason Player Award Committee.....	3
NCAA Division/Conference Alignments	4
AVCA Postseason Player Awards Information.....	5
AVCA Postseason Statistical/Selection Criteria	6
AVCA Postseason Player Nomination Checklist.....	7
AVCA Coaches Awards Program	8

All nomination links and any updates to the Postseason Awards program or timeline will be published on <https://www.avca.org/award/avca-mens-diii-all-america-and-coach-of-the-year-nominations/>

AWARDS CHANGES: Throughout the awards packet, all new changes for the 2026 season are highlighted in yellow.

AVCA Division III Men's Postseason Awards Timetable

The following is a list of the awards deadlines and timetables established by the AVCA. It has been outlined so that you will be able to monitor all of the deadlines, enabling your student-athletes to be eligible for postseason honors.

AWARDS TIMETABLE

Sunday, March 29

Membership deadline (head coaches) to be eligible for the AVCA Postseason Awards Program (This includes new members as well as renewals). Call (866-544-2822) or email (members@avca.org) the AVCA if you have questions regarding your AVCA membership.

Wednesday, March 25

List of nationally ranked teams emailed to member head coaches for compiling statistics versus nationally ranked teams for All-America consideration.

Monday, March 30 through Monday, April 6 – Student-Athlete Nominations Accepted

Nominations will be accepted on-line beginning at 8:00 am (ET) on Monday, March 30 through 5:00 pm (ET) on Monday, April 6.

Wednesday, April 1

Region Coach of the Year and Assistant Coach of the Year nomination form emailed.

Thursday, April 9

AVCA Division III Regional Coach of the Year and National Assistant Coach of the Year nomination due.

Monday, April 13

All-Region Teams and Region Coaches of the Year announced.

Thursday, April 16

AVCA Division III National Coach of the Year final ballot e-mailed.

Sunday, April 19

AVCA Division III National Coach of the Year final ballot due to AVCA.

Monday, April 20

AVCA All-America Teams and Newcomer of the Year are announced.

Wednesday, April 22

AVCA Division III Men's National Coach and Assistant Coach of the Year announced

Thursday, April 23

AVCA Division III Men's Player of the Year announced

AVCA Men's Division III All-American Awards Committee

The following coaches have been chosen to participate on the 2026 AVCA Men's Division III All-American and All-Region Awards Committees.

George Chapell – Chair (2) & NEVC Rep

Endicott

gchapell@endicott.edu

UE

Ben Champman, Gallaudet (1)

CVC Representative

Glenn DeHaven, Juniata (2)

MVCL

Will Dowdy, Trine (1)

GNAC Representative

Jeff Vautrin, Lasell (3)

MAC Representative

Justin Beachy, Messiah (4)

CCIW Representative

JW Kieckhefer, Carthage (3)

Skyline Representative

Matt Jessen, Manhattanville (1)

UVC Representative

Matt Cohen, St John Fisher (1)

AMCC Representative

Daniel Miranda, Buffalo State (2)

CUNY

Carlo Edra, New Jersey City (3)

NACC

Doug Burchett, Dominican (3)

Curtis Madson, Concordia WI (4)

PAC

Kate McCauley, St Vincent (1)

ODAC

Christian Taylor, Randolph-Macon (3)

AVCA Men's Division III All-Region Committees

Region I Committee

George Chapell, Endicott, NEVC (chair)

Josh Stokes, Potsdam - NEVC

Carlo Edra, New Jersey City – CUNY

Evin Giglio, Wentworth – GNAC

Jeff Vautrin, Lasell – GNAC

Matt Jessen, Manhattanville – Skyline

John Carroll, Sarah Lawrence - Skyline

Region II Committee

Matt Cohen, St John Fisher – UVC (chair)

Steve England, Hobart - UVC

Ben Campman, Gallaudet – United East

Aaron Hoke, Wilson – United East

Kate McCauley, St Vincent – PAC

Brett Heckathorn, Grove City – PAC

Daniel Miranda, Buffalo State – AMCC

Jillian Glover, Mt Aloysius - AMCC

Region III Committee

Justin Beachy, Messiah – MAC (chair)

Robert Wingert, Misericordia – MAC

Glenn DeHaven, Juniata – CVC

Christian Taylor, Randolph-Macon – ODAC

Mark Rohrback, Roanoke - ODAC

Region IV Committee

Curtis Madson, Concordia Wisconsin – NACC (chair)

Doug Burchett, Dominican - NACC

Dylan Ross, Loras – CCIW

JW Kieckhefer, Carthage – CCIW

Will Dowdy, Trine – MCVL

Kyle Mars, Baldwin Wallace – MCVL

Kevin Judd, Cal Lutheran – Independent

2026 NCAA DIII Division/Conference Alignments – 131 Programs

The following list provides a breakdown of NCAA men's volleyball sponsoring schools by division and conference.

Region	Conference	Amount of Teams	Total
Region I	CUNY	9	35
	Great Northeast Athletic Conference	8	
	New England Volleyball Conference	8	
	Skyline Conference	8	
	Independent - Ramapo College	1	
	Independent - Springfield	1	
Region II	Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference	7	31
	Presidents' Athletic Conference	7	
	United East Conference	9	
	United Volleyball Conference	8	
Region III	Continental Volleyball Conference	8	27
	Middle Atlantic Conference	9	
	Old Dominion Athletic Conference	9	
	Independent - Warren Wilson	1	
Region IV	College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin	6	37
	Midwest Collegiate Volleyball League	10	
	Northern Athletics Collegiate College	13	
	Independent - Cal Lutheran	1	
	Independent - Franklin College	1	
	Independent - Greenville	1	
	Independent - Marantha Baptist University	1	
	Independent - Regent College	1	
	Independent - UC Santa Cruz	1	
	Independent - UW Stevens Point	1	
	Independent - Westminster	1	
	Unassigned	Independent - Hartwick College	

AVCA Postseason Student-Athlete Awards Information

The AVCA Men's Volleyball Division III postseason awards program is in its seventeenth year. The AVCA is proud to honor deserving student-athletes annually by selecting All-Region and All-America teams, highlighted by the selection of the AVCA Division III Player of the Year and AVCA Division III Newcomer of the Year. The AVCA Division III Men's All-America selection committee is comprised of fifteen members including the AVCA committee chair.

AWARDS HONORS

AVCA All-Region Team

- All-Region team: **14** student-athletes
- All-Region Player of the Year: **1** student athlete from All-Region Team
- All-Region Newcomer of the Year: **1** freshman or transferred athlete (selection not required)

AVCA All-Region Coaches of the Year: 4 AVCA-member head coaches (1 from each respective region)

AVCA All-America Team

- First Team: **14** student-athletes
- Second Team: **14** student-athletes
- Honorable Mention: **Non-predetermined number** of student-athletes
- National Newcomer of the Year: **1** freshman or transferred athlete
- National Player of the Year: **1** student-athlete from First Team All-America

National Assistant Coach of the Year: 1 AVCA-member assistant coach

National Coach of the Year: 1 AVCA-member head coach

NOMINATING PROCEDURES

Nominations will be accepted online during the nomination window. The link to nominate will be found here:

<https://www.avca.org/award/avca-mens-diii-all-america-and-coach-of-the-year-nominations/>

There are no restrictions regarding how many student-athletes one team may nominate, as there are no restrictions on the number of student-athletes that one team can place on the AVCA All-American teams. Please use your professional judgment to only nominate those student-athletes who legitimately have a chance to earn honors.

Please note that one spot on each of the 14-member AVCA Division III All-America Teams will be designated for the libero position.

NOMINATION RULES & REQUIREMENTS

The general requirements for nominating a student-athlete for AVCA postseason honors are:

- The student-athlete must meet all eligibility requirements as listed in the rules adopted by his respective institution;
- The student-athlete may be in his first, second, third or fourth year of eligibility;
- The student-athlete must be nominated by the head coach of his institution;
- **Athletes are required to have played in 2/3 of the sets played in order to be nominated.**
- All deadlines and guidelines must be met for a nomination to be considered;
- The student-athlete's head coach must be a member in good standing of the American Volleyball Coaches Association.

TERMS FOR DISQUALIFICATION

Failure to meet the above stated rules and requirements may result in the disqualification of a student-athlete from AVCA postseason awards consideration.

NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR CANDIDATES

The AVCA recognizes the top player in his first year of NCAA competition. The nominee can be a freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior but must be in his first year of competition for an NCAA program. Student-athletes following a redshirt year and transfers from a two-year or NAIA institution are eligible for the award. Only **one** player from each institution can be nominated.

ALL-AMERICA NOTIFICATION

A press release will be sent out on Monday, April 20, 2026 announcing the AVCA Men's Division III All-America Teams.

If your student-athlete(s) is selected AVCA First or Second Team All-America or Newcomer of the Year, head coaches will be notified via a phone call from the AVCA staff. Head coaches should provide a cell phone number if at all possible, on the athlete's nomination form in order that we may reach you away from home or the office if need be.

NO "CO" AWARD WINNERS

The AVCA will not be selecting "co" winners of any award offering they provide. This includes National Coach and the Year and Player of the Year. All award selections will be awarded to a singular person.

Postseason Statistical/Selection Criteria

The postseason selection committees will consider the criteria listed below when selecting the postseason honorees. The student-athletes will be compared with others of the same position and ranked using the statistics submitted. All calculations should be made using the interpretations found in the NCAA Volleyball Statistics Manual. All statistical data will be considered; however, the importance of each shall be left to the judgment of the selection committees. Nominees with incomplete statistics and/or supporting information **will be severely disadvantaged and potentially eliminated during the selection process.**

IMPORTANT: The statistical minimums listed below are meant to serve as guidelines, not as firm requirements, for All-America and Newcomer of the Year nominees.

STATISTICAL CRITERIA

A. Attack

1. Kills per set
 - a. Middle Blockers — 3.75
 - b. Outside hitters — 4.25
2. Kill Percentage (Kills/Attempt)

B. Set (for setters only)

1. Assist per set — 11.00

C. Serve

1. Aces per set
2. Errors per set

D. Pass (serve reception)

1. Is candidate a primary passer?

E. Digs

1. Digs per set

F. Blocks

1. Block Solos — 1 point
2. Block Assists — 1 point
3. Blocks per set
 - a. Middle blocker — 1.25
 - b. Outside blocker — 0.50

G. Strength of Schedule

H. Performance Against Strong Competition

SELECTION CRITERIA

A. Middle Blockers

1. Primary Considerations
 - a. Attack percentage
 - b. Kills per set
 - c. Blocks per set
 - d. Kill percentage
2. Secondary Considerations
 - a. Passing
 - b. Digging

B. Outside/Opposite Hitters

1. Primary Considerations
 - a. Attack percentage
 - b. Kills per set
 - c. Digging
 - d. Passing
 - e. Kill percentage
2. Secondary Consideration
 - a. Blocking

C. Setters/Hitters

1. Primary Considerations
 - a. Assists per set
 - b. Kills per set
 - c. Individual attack percentage
 - d. Blocking
2. Secondary Considerations
 - a. Team attack percentage
 - b. Digging

D. 5-1 Setters

1. Primary Considerations
 - a. Assists per set
 - b. Team attack percentage
 - c. Blocking
 - d. Digging
2. Secondary Considerations
 - a. Individual attack percentage

E. Libero

1. Primary Considerations
 - a. Digs per set
 - b. Reception errors per set
 - c. Receptions per set
 - d. Reception percentage *

* (reception attempts minus reception errors, divided by reception attempts)

AVCA Postseason Student-Athlete Nomination Checklist

Complete the following information checklist for each student-athlete you wish to nominate for AVCA postseason honors. This information is provided as a means of ensuring that you have completed the requirements of the nomination procedure.

CHECKLIST

- O Include entire season of play.
- O Submitted nominations on-line **by 5 p.m. ET (4 p.m. CDT, 3 p.m. MDT, 2 p.m. PDT) on Monday, April 6. Must complete both pages of the on-line program: demographic info (p. 1) and statistics (p. 2).**
- O A match-by-match statistical account versus all opponents for the entire season for each nominee has been uploaded **by 5 p.m. ET on Monday, April 6**. A match-by-match listing of performances versus nationally ranked or division-specific teams is **not necessary**; an overall match-by-match report with all matches played by each particular nominee is required.

DEADLINES

All nominations must be submitted via the on-line process at www.avca.org **by 5 p.m. (ET) on Monday, April 6.**

Match-by-match statistics versus all opponents for the entire season for each nominee must be uploaded with the nomination.

NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS

Step-by-step instructions regarding the on-line student-athlete nomination process will be sent at a later date and will also be available through the AVCA Web site at www.avca.org on that date.

IMPORTANT: All head coaches must have up-to-date memberships and know their personal information needed to log in to the AVCA website. Those entering the nominations will need to have the head coach's login and password.

The list of nationally ranked teams will be sent out via e-mail on Wednesday, March 25 and will also be available on the AVCA Web site at www.avca.org.

Be prepared to compile your nominees' statistics against all opponents, and vs. teams listed on the nationally ranked teams.



AVCA Coaches Award Programs

The American Volleyball Coaches Association annually honors deserving coaches through its National Coach of the Year and Victory Club programs. Refer to the information listed below for specifics regarding each program. If you have questions, please call Brad Wilson at (859) 219-3520 or e-mail bradley.wilson@avca.org. Head coaches must be AVCA members in good standing to be eligible for either program.

AVCA REGION/ NATIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR

The Region Coach of the Year and National Assistant Coach of the Year online nomination forms can be found on the AVCA DIII Awards Nomination page (<https://www.avca.org/award/avca-mens-diii-all-america-and-coach-of-the-year-nominations/>). This online form must be submitted by **Thursday, April 9 at 5 pm ET**.

Region Coach of the Year

All AVCA member coaches are asked to nominate someone for Region Coach of the Year in their respective region based on the following criteria:

- 1) team success during current season;
- 2) team improvement from previous season;
- 3) fulfillment of team potential; and
- 4) professional manner and attitude of the coach.

Automatic Nominees

Each Conference Coach of the Year in each NCAA region are automatic nominees for AVCA Region Coach of the Year. Names and schools of these automatic nominees will be submitted to the AVCA All-Region Committees, however complete data (records, rankings, notable wins, additional responsibilities, etc.) may not be presented. To ensure a quality nomination, please complete the Region Coach of the Year nomination form.

AVCA Men's Division III National Coach of the Year

AVCA Region Coaches of the Year are nominees for AVCA National Coach of the Year. Each AVCA men's coach will then be asked to vote for one of the four coaches as the 2026 Coach of the Year (e-mailed to members April 16, due at the AVCA office April 19).

The official announcement of the AVCA Men's Division III National Coach of the Year will be on Wednesday, April 22, 2026.

AVCA NATIONAL ASSISTANT COACH OF THE YEAR

The American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) annually honors deserving coaches through its National Coach of the Year program. Created in 2009, the AVCA will honor deserving assistant coaches through the National Assistant Coach of the Year awards program. The AVCA National Assistant Coach of the Year Nomination Form will be completed using an online link provided by the AVCA. This form must be received by the AVCA by **Thursday, April 9 @ 5pm ET**. All AVCA head coaches are eligible to nominate **ONE** of their assistant coaches **or** an assistant coach in their respective region. Only one nomination per AVCA head coach will be accepted.

Automatic consideration will be given to the AVCA member assistant coaches of the teams that make the NCAA Tournament.