

NCVF Fall 2020 Update

What's Been Happening?

The 2020 season concluded virtually with over 55,000 people casting 400,000 votes in the NCVF Virtual Championship. After crowning virtual champions across 6 divisions, the NCVF recognized 4 teams for their service efforts within their communities prior to and during the COVID-19 pandemic. As they always do, NCVF teams stepped up as beacons of leadership and compassion, combining with the NCVF to raise \$10,000 for Feeding America.

Throughout the summer, the NCVF, league commissioners, referees, administrators, and other collegiate club leaders have been working through the range of complex issues posed by COVID-19 as the new academic year begins. The NCVF held Advisory Council meetings and formed a variety of committees, which brought together NCVF Recognized League commissioners and other representatives from across the country to analyze the current situation and how best to support collegiate club teams and athletes.

What's Happening This Fall?

As an organization that prides itself in promoting the value of teamwork, the NCVF endorses all good faith efforts that encourage college students, sports organizations, administrators, and supporters to keep safety and health as a top priority.

The NCVF has never run or recognized any events during the fall season, as all preseason events are run by individual schools, clubs, and leagues, and the NCVF season begins in January of each year. As such, the decision on whether to compete this fall will be made by each school and club. However, the NCVF highly recommends the following:

- Get educated on all current COVID-19 health information (<u>CDC</u>, <u>WHO</u>) and engage as a leader to promote peer efforts to help stop the spread of COVID-19, like wearing a mask, maintaining social distance, and avoiding activities that spread the virus.
- Work directly with authorized school administrators to understand and implement school policies; discern whether or to what extent your registered student organization may engage in club volleyball activities this fall.
- Maintain open dialogue with NCVF Recognized Leagues about the upcoming season and registration.

- Respond to NCVF or league communications, inquiries, and surveys that will help us better understand the specific circumstances for each school/club, and help us better plan to serve you this upcoming season.
- Make an effort to stay engaged and informed, participate in online meetings, educational opportunities and other available and appropriate virtual activities.
- Monitor the NCVF, league and school websites to maintain up to date understandings of
 collegiate club volleyball issues; make sure your club website is up to date and contains
 accurate information about your club status and contact information.
- Ensure that your club and club leadership is properly organized and operational (as permitted by your school), complete with ongoing meeting schedules to help disseminate important information to your club participants.
- Work with your club members to promote positive health messages to stop the spread of COVID-19 in your hometowns and college communities.
- Consider outreach to community-based organizations or charities that can help address the many challenges presented by COVID-19.
- Promote messaging that is solution-oriented to the many COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 related challenges that impact student life.

What About Spring?

The NCVF and NCVF Recognized Leagues are working very hard toward a Spring season and the 2021 NCVF Championships in Minneapolis April 1st - 3rd, 2021. This includes not only proceeding with our normal planning process, but reviews of national, state, and local guidelines and restrictions, reviews of recommendations from volleyball/athletics organizations, and consideration of alternative programming and plans. In this time of unknowns, we are keeping an open mind about how to support best possible chance to safely and appropriately open the 2021 NCVF Season and host the 2021 NCVF Championships.

We Care!

The NCVF cares deeply that student participates are able to continue allowing their experience with club volleyball to help develop networking, friendships and values that will serve them long after graduation. Today, those values include outreach and efforts to help address contemporary health and social challenges.

The NCVF recognizes that COVID-19 has significantly impacted the quality of student life and curtailed so many student freedoms. In perspective, the NCVF also recognizes the tremendous losses, health and related challenges that have forever altered our relationships and way of life. The NCVF expresses heartfelt condolences to the victims of COVID-19 as well as the many victims of related and unrelated injustices being experienced today throughout the country.

Being solution oriented, promoting health awareness, and supporting equal opportunities are core NCVF values. Collegiate club volleyball remains, perhaps more than ever, a vehicle to champion personal and collective growth while making this world a better place. The NCVF challenges all its participants to step up and be a part of solutions and advance critical causes that are bigger than ourselves.

Watch the NCVF website, NCVF Instagram, and stay tuned for ongoing communication that will cover a variety of topics and upcoming initiatives in the coming months.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact Nick Toth.