



# Tournament Guide

2026

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# Tournament Guide

## Schedule

View schedule

Saturday - [Home - AES Event Results](#).

## Admission

**\$5 for children ages 5-17**

**\$10 for adults ages 18+**

TICKETS can be purchased ahead of time using the link below. Your phone is your ticket. Tickets are non-refundable. Re-entry is allowed.

[Concordia College Events and Tickets by GoFan](#)

**NO CASH OR CHECK.**

MUST use website or pay by card when arriving.



## Awards

The first team in each bracket of each age division will receive an award.

## Bench Roster

All members on bench must be USAV and NCR approved.

## Bracket Play

11s and 12s division will advance to bracket play (e.g., playoffs). Teams will be seeded in bracket play according to pool play results.

13s and 14s division will not have bracket play, but a 1<sup>st</sup> (gold) and 2<sup>nd</sup> (silver) champion will be decided based on finish to eliminate teams having to potentially play each other twice.

Bracket play will be best 2 out of 3 sets - sets 1 & 2 to 25 points; set 3 to 15 points, no cap. **\*\*subject to change pending the final number of teams we have committed.\*\***

## Coaches Meeting

There will be **no** coaches meeting prior to competition.

## Coin Toss

A quarter will be provided for each court. If the quarter goes missing, the R1 may determine who will serve (e.g. coaches' choice, top team on the bracket, rock-paper-scissors, etc.).

## Concessions

Concessions will be available for purchase at this tournament. Water bottle refilling stations are available.

## First Aid

It is recommended that teams bring their own first aid kit (Band-Aids, ice, etc.). **There will be no trainer provided.**

## Forfeits

- If a team does not have six players or a USAV verified coach at game time, they automatically forfeit the first set.
- Should a team have 6 players or coach before 10 minutes has expired, the late team will be permitted use of the full court for a 4-minute warm-up before play begins.
- If a 6th player or coach has not arrived by 10 minutes after the scheduled match start time, the entire match will be a forfeit.
  - During pool play, a team that has forfeited can “scrimmage” with five players against their opponent for the allotted time. However, the match will still count as a forfeit.
    - If a team forfeits any match other than their first, they will automatically finish fourth in their pool.
- During bracket play-offs, no “scrimmage” time will be allowed. **Score for a forfeit is 25-0, 25-0.**

## Hotels

- Candlewood Suites Fargo South: [Candlewood Suites Fargo](#)
- Staybridge Suite: [Hotels in Fargo, ND with Pools | Staybridge Suites Fargo \(ihg.com\)](#)
- Delta by Marriott: [Business Hotel in Fargo | Delta Hotels Fargo \(marriott.com\)](#)

## Incident Reports

Should a participant or spectator be injured at the facility during the tournament, please make sure to complete an Incident Report prior to leaving the premises. See the Tournament Site Director.

## Live Streaming

Each team/club may live stream using their own device.

## Lost and Found

Any items left at a tournament location site will be kept at the location. Contact Faith Radermacher at [fdooley@cord.edu](mailto:fdooley@cord.edu) or 218-299-4435 for lost and found information beginning Monday after the tournament.

## Match Balls

Concordia College will provide Molten balls for all matches.

## Match Format

- Pool schedules will be sent out on the Wednesday before the tournament.
- All pool play matches will consist of 2 sets ONLY played to 25 points with no cap. (**pending teams committed**)\* REFER TO TIE BREAKER SECTION of this guide.
  - \*For those in a three-team pool, you will play 3 sets to 25 points with no cap.
- Bracket play will be the best two out of three sets. The third deciding set will be to 15 points with no cap. The third set is not guaranteed.
  - There will be a coin toss before set 3 to determine first server
  - No switching sides at all during the match
- To keep play on time, a match will begin 10 minutes after the end of the previous match.

## Merchandise

Merchandise will be sold.

## Officiating

- Teams must provide work team members who have completed age appropriate USAV officiating training
- Work Team positions include:
  - Up Ref (R1) – **must be an adult**
  - Down Ref (R2)
  - Scorekeeper
  - Libero tracker
  - Electronic, or flip, scoreboard
  - Line judges
- Please make sure work team members are on time and ready to go
- **Teams should bring their own whistles**
- All work team participants must pay attention to play - NO CELL PHONES OR FOOD
- A work team schedule can be found online at [advancedeventsystems.com](http://advancedeventsystems.com)

- To access the work team schedule, go to the tournament, click on your team's age division and then click on your team's **Pool Sheet** – work teams will be listed to the far right on the pool schedule
- Failure to provide the officiating crew for your assigned matches could result in the forfeit of the first set of your next match or further penalty if it is your final officiating assignment of the day

## Roster Requirements – USAV Official Rosters

**This is an NCR-USAV sanctioned event which requires valid rosters for the safety of all participants.**

- All rostered participants (players, coaches, team reps, etc.) must be current and verified USAV members
- Teams must have a Head Coach on the bench
- All rostered adults must have a current USAV background screen and be SafeSport certified
- Teams may have a minimum of 6 players and a maximum of 15 players
- Teams must be in full matching uniforms per USAV (unless a waiver has been provided in advance)

**Any team that fails to comply with NCR roster requirements may receive sanctions.**

**All rosters must be submitted in AES from the team's SportsEngine Governing Season.**

## Rules Interpretation

If there is a question on a rule interpretation, please direct the question to your facility Site Director. He/she can then contact NCR for clarification.

## Schedules/Scores/Results/Standings

All schedules will be posted online on [www.advancedeventsystems.com](http://www.advancedeventsystems.com). Please check there for the most up to date information.

To access tournament schedules, scores, results and standings on any device using a web browser:

- Go to [www.advancedeventsystems.com](http://www.advancedeventsystems.com)
- Click on **EVENTS** at the top of the home page
- Search by the event name = **Cobber Classic or Kernel Classic**

- Click on the gold **SCHEDULE POSTED** button to the right of the tournament you want to view
- Click on **Pool/Bracket, Teams** or **Standings** to view that information for the tournament division you want to view
- Bookmark this web page to access it when you want

**Scores and schedules will NOT be posted at the sites - all information will be online.**

## Score Keeping

Three work team members will staff the score table.

- Scorebook
- Libero tracker
- Scoreboard

Lineup sheets will be available for coaches at the Site Director's table if needed.

## Set Breaks

There will be 3 minutes between each set.

## Spectators

Spectators will be allowed.

**Please bring your own chairs-chairs will NOT be provided.**

## Sportsmanship

- Please clean up your area before leaving
- Please abide by all tournament rules and requirements
- NCR expects GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP from ALL - any participants or fans who fail to show good sportsmanship may be removed from the tournament

## Tie-Breaking Procedures

When the match consists of best of 3 sets, the following tie-breaker criteria will be used in this order without repetition:

- Head-to-Head (only if 2 teams are tied)
- Set %
- Point Ratio
- Coin Flip

***If your team is involved in a tie-breaking situation, DO NOT leave your site until your finish (1, 2 or 3) is confirmed by the Site Director.***

## Timeouts

Time outs will be 30 seconds.

## Tournament Format

All teams will play Pool Play and then Bracket Play.

## Uniforms

All team uniforms must comply with USA Volleyball Uniform Requirements.

If your team is having an issue with uniforms due to a delay in manufacturer delivery, etc., please notify NCR as soon as possible – NorthCountryRegion@gmail.com.

## Waivered Players

North Country Region allows “waivered” players to participate in NCR hosted events which DO NOT have national bid implications (e.g., Heartland Blizzard, SmackFest, Area Championships, Region Championship).

- A player may be waived based on their grade vs. their age
- Boys may participate on a girls’ team through 14u

In both instances, the player MUST receive an approved waiver from NCR in advance of being added to the tournament roster.

## Warm-Ups

### **Pool Play and Bracket Play**

- Both teams can use their half of the court during the first 2-minute time period
- Teams get the full court for 4 minutes if they did not play the previous match
- If both teams played the match immediately prior to their current match, there will be 2 minutes of shared court warm-up time and then the match begins

Match 1: 2-4-4

Match 2: 2-4 (4 only for team who was off Match 1)

Match 3: 2-4 (4 only for team who was off Match 2)

## Warm-Up Balls

**Warm up balls will NOT be provided.** All teams must bring their own warm up balls.

## Weather

The tournament will be held through snow, cold, and rain so plan your travel accordingly as matches will begin on time each day. If a team is late, they run the risk of forfeiting sets, or the entire match, as determined by USAV rules.

## Work Teams

- Teams must provide work team members who have completed age appropriate USAV officiating training
- Work Team positions include:
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## Questions

If you have any questions, problems, or concerns, please call 218-299-4435 or email us at [chahn@cord.edu](mailto:chahn@cord.edu) or [fdooley@cord.edu](mailto:fdooley@cord.edu).