



Volleyball Season in Review

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- The Big Ten advanced two programs to the NCAA national semifinals, No. 4–seed Wisconsin and No. 7–seed Minnesota. Minnesota and Wisconsin’s national semifinal berths mark the 17th–straight year that the Big Ten has had at least one team in the national semifinals. Since 1981, at least one conference team has reached the national semifinals 21 times and two teams have appeared a total of 12 times. This is Minnesota’s sixth trip to the national semifinals in program history and its first since 2016. Wisconsin is making its third national semifinal appearance in program history and its first since 2013. For more, click [here](#).
- Seven Big Ten volleyball teams were selected to the 2019 NCAA Volleyball Tournament, with first and second round matches held Dec. 5–7. The seven bids mark the 27th consecutive season that at least six Big Ten volleyball teams have been selected for the tournament. Five of the top sixteen seeds are Big Ten programs. For the full release, click [here](#).
- Thirteen Big Ten volleyball students were selected as American Volleyball Coaches Association All-Americans, as announced by the AVCA. Four Big Ten students were first–team All-America selections, represented by Minnesota’s Regan Pittman, Penn State’s Kaitlyn Hord, and Wisconsin’s Sydney Hilley and Dana Rettke. For the full release, click [here](#).
- Twenty–seven Big Ten volleyball players and two Big Ten coaches were honored with American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) All–Region honors. In addition, Wisconsin’s Dana Rettke garnered AVCA Northeast Region Player of the Year honors. Nebraska’s Madi Kubik and Ohio State’s Kylie Murr were named AVCA North and Northeast Region Freshman of the Year, respectively. Minnesota head coach Hugh McCutcheon was named the AVCA North Region Coach of the Year and Wisconsin’s Kelly Sheffield collected AVCA Northeast Region Coach of the Year honors. For more, click [here](#).
- Three Big Ten students were named to the CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America) Academic All–America Division I Volleyball teams as announced by CoSIDA. Michigan State senior defensive specialist Samantha McLean and Wisconsin junior setter Sydney Hilley earned first team recognition. For more, click [here](#).
- The Big Ten announced the 2019 postseason volleyball awards with standouts from Nebraska, Penn State and Wisconsin earning recognition. The Badgers’ Dana Rettke was named the Big Ten Player of the Year by a vote of the conference’s coaches. Penn State’s Kendall White was tabbed the Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year, for the second consecutive season. Wisconsin’s Sydney Hilley earned Setter of the Year plaudits and Nebraska’s Madi Kubik won Big Ten Freshman of the Year. Penn State’s Russ Rose was named Big Ten Coach of the Year by the conference’s coaches and Wisconsin’s Kelly Sheffield earned the honor from the media contingent. Click [here](#) for the full release.
- The Wisconsin volleyball team won the Big Ten Championship by virtue of its 3–0 (25–14, 25–12, 25–21) win against Rutgers Saturday evening. With the victory, the Badgers (22–6 overall, 18–2 Big Ten) claimed their sixth Big Ten title and the first since the 2014 season. For the full relase, click [here](#).
- The Big Ten Conference recognized more than 1,300 students competing in fall sports who have been named to the Academic All–Conference team. The list of honorees features 122 athletes. To be eligible for Academic All–Big Ten selection, students must be on a varsity team, as verified by being on the official squad list as of November 1 for fall sports, who have been enrolled fulltime at the institution for a minimum of 12 months and carry a cumulative grade–point average of 3.0 or higher. For the full list of honorees, click [here](#).