

# Six Reasons to Start Men's Intercollegiate Volleyball

## **Increased School Revenue**

Example: If school costs are approximately \$25,000. Volleyball program costs \$75,000 (budget, salary, academic aid) with an approximate roster size of 12 the total financial benefit would be \$225,000. A roster with 15 players would result in a \$300,000 benefit.

## **Opportunity to Expand Male Population on Your Campus**

Adding varsity men's volleyball at your institution can assist with your efforts to attract more male undergraduates to your campus. Research also shows that offering a male sport that coincides with a female team in the same sport will increase the level of athlete that can be recruited for the female team.

## **Groundbreaking Conference**

The combination of six new teams could form its own conference. This is critical because your new team will have a goal, a conference championship, as well as the potential to compete for an NCAA National Championship.

## **Increased Exposure**

For many years network and cable television have covered the Men's NCAA Final Four Volleyball Championships. ESPN currently broadcasts the competition on live television. The NCAA has approved the concept of expansion of the National Championship twice, and only needs to approve increased financing to make bracket expansion a reality. This would allow for additional teams, or automatic qualifiers from conferences, for the tournament.

## **Low Cost**

95% of NCAA institutions have an existing women's program, so the costs are greatly reduced due to economic scale.

## **Grant Assistance**

Ongoing USAV grant programs are available for start-up men's volleyball programs at NCAA colleges and universities. Typical grants are awarded over a period of three years.

## Initial Overview: Men's Volleyball Proposal

**Overview:** The goal is to promote men's volleyball at all NCAA institutions with the objectives of providing sport opportunity and attracting quality students. If these teams were created within existing Conferences the resulting benefits would be reduced travel costs and simplified scheduling.

**NCAA Conference information:** 6 teams are needed for a conference. It will take two years for a conference to be considered for an NCAA championship. The earlier colleges decide to add a new team the better, because the timing is almost ideal.

**Taking Advantage of the Grant:** USA Volleyball provides financial grants to assist NCAA colleges and universities interested in starting new men's teams. To date USAV has issued Collegiate Grants to over 43 NCAA institutions totaling more than \$270,000. The fact that they are financially committed to this endeavor shows how invested they are in this sport. USA Volleyball will provide resources, answer any and all questions, and support your institution if you decide to add a team.

**Boy's and Men's Volleyball:** The statistics show that over 49,000 boys play high school volleyball and 12,000 boys also play club volleyball. This past year, approximately 1300 collegiate men played varsity NCAA volleyball. There are currently 23 Division I, 14 Division II, 54 Division III NCAA institutions, and 19 NAIA schools with varsity men's programs. In addition, over 7.13 million non-varsity student-athletes participated in National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) sports program last year alone. There are over 340 colleges and universities in the US that offer volleyball as an intramural sport, a number that has steadily increased from only 22 schools in 1990. Finally, with a 5% increase in the amount of boys playing high school volleyball, the desire to expand at the college level exists and there are certainly numerous players to recruit.

In speaking with one college coach in the East, he simply stated recruiting this way: "I could sit in my office, never leave to watch a tournament, respond to all the email interest I receive, watch the tapes they send in, and have a decent team." This coach has three boys' club teams within 4 hours of his college, and yet the interest of others, from all around the nation and the world, to play at his school is overwhelming. Research shows that there is a 1:111 chance that high school boy will play on an NCAA Division I team and a 1:37 chance he will be a member of any NCAA program. The math is simple: there are a large number of boys desiring to play and there is not much official NCAA opportunity for them.