A. If each district is represented by at least 1 team and if there’s 17 teams or more in the NE zone, the 1A NEASAA Volleyball Championship shall be a 10 team format. Otherwise, the Championship shall be an 8 teams format.

For a 10 team format, the representation should be as followed:

Host 1 team

District with the most teams 2 teams

1 team per other district 4 teams

Wild card tournament 3 teams

For a 8 teams format, the representation should be as followed:

Host 1 team

District with the most teams 2 teams

1 team per other district 3 teams

Wild card tournament 2 teams

The representative (s) of each district shall be declared by the **Tuesday prior to the zone championship**. The Wild card tournament should occur the **Wednesday or Thursday** prior to the 1A NEASAA Volleyball Championship under a bidding process at the NEASAA fall meeting and under a cost recovery format.

*\*Rationale : The previous rule stated November 1st and it’s too early for some districts to get organized and zones for volleyball are always close to Remembrance Day.*

**B. Wild Card tournament**

**i. Number of teams**

If 2 or 3 berths are available for the zone championship, there will be 6 teams at the wildcard tournament.

If 1 berth is available for the zone championship, there will be 4 teams at the wildcard tournament.

*Rationale: 1 berth available will only occur when 2 districts don’t have any representative to send to zone or if 1 district doesn’t have a team and the other district has only 1 team and is hosting zone that year.*

**ii. Representation**

The representation to the 1A wild card tournament shall be as follows:

Host 1 team

2nd best team per district 4 teams (or 2 teams for 1 berth available at zone)

3rd best team for district with the most teams 1 team

In the case of a district unable to send a team to the wild card tournament, the additional berth will be awarded to the district with the best result at the previous zone championship. If a second district is unable to send a team to the wild card tournament, the second additional berth will be awarded to the district with the second best result at the previous zone championship and so on. In the event where we can’t fill the wildcard tournament, the district with the best result at the previous zone championship will be able to fill one of those spot and so on until all the spots are filled at the wildcard tournament.

*Rationale: Easier to remember the results of only 1 zone championship but a friendly amendment could be made to use the same points system used by ASAA for provincials.*

*Also, the wildcard tournament is not mandatory to attend. So a school can decide to pass on the chance to attend the wildcard tournament*

**ii. Competition**

If 1 berth is available for the zone championship, the wild card tournament shall be 1 pool of 4 teams. After the round-robin, the first place would play against the second place.

For 2 berths available, two pools of 3 teams will be determined by the ranking officer, the top two teams of each pool will advance to the semi-finals. In case of a tie, the ASAA tie-breaking procedure will be used. The winners of the two matches will advance to the zone championship.

For 3 berths available, two pools of 3 teams will be determined by the ranking officer, the top two teams of each pool will advance to the semi-finals. In case of a tie, the ASAA tie-breaking procedure will be used. The winners of the two matches will advance to the zone championship and the losers of the two matches will play for the 3rd berth available for the zone championship.

*Rationale: Because the wildcard tournament will occur during the week, we would like to limit the number of games but be able to send also the best possible teams. For example, the wildcard tournament could start at 4PM and have the last match at 8PM or even start at 3PM and have the last match at 7PM.*

**iii. Biding process**

The district who is suppose to host the zone championship the following year will have the chance to host this year wildcard tournament. If a district is unable to host this year wildcard tournament, the district that hosted the zone championship the previous year will have the chance to host the wildcard tournament. If a host is not found, then the district that is hosting this year zone championship will host the wildcard tournament. The determination of the district should follow the NEASAA rotational schedule.

*Rationale: We could used the same district who’s hosting this current year but some district have not too many teams and if you are already hosting, then you already send another team to the zone championship.*

**iv. Gymnasium**

The wildcard tournament has to be played on two courts. If a school doesn’t have two full courts, then the tournament can be played in the same gymnasium on two half-court.

*Rationale: Because it’s not a zone championship and it’s hard to sometimes find venues, two half court will be a good solution. Also, with two courts, we will be able to save time.*