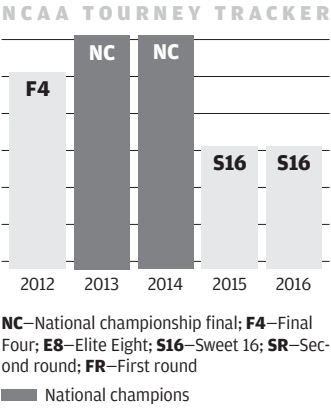




Penn State

Coach: Russ Rose (1,189-186 in 38 seasons).

Six-year (2011-16) Big Ten conference record (winning percentage): 101-19 (.841).

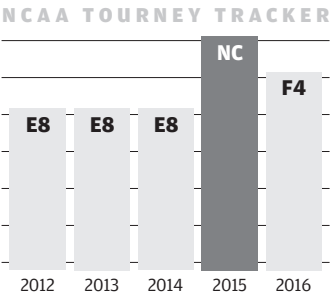
Best all-time ranking: 1st (most recently in 2015).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 40.

Starters returning/lost: 7/0.

Quick facts: In the most dominating stretch the sport’s history, Penn State won six NCAA championships in eight years from 2007 to 2014. The Nittany Lions won 109 consecutive matches from 2007 to 2010. ... Led by first-team All-American outside hitter Simone Lee, Penn State was picked by the league coaches to win the conference this season.

Arena (capacity): Rec Hall (5,812).



Nebraska

Coach: John Cook (499-65 in 17 seasons).

Six-year Big Ten run: 97-23 (.808).

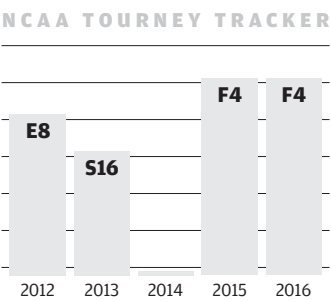
Best all-time ranking: 1st (most recently in 2016).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 44.

Starters returning/lost: 4/3.

Quick facts: In 42 years as a program, Nebraska has won 33 conference titles. Nebraska has an all-time conference record of 557-51, winning 91 percent of its conference matches. ... Nebraska has had four AVCA national players of the year: Allison Weston (’95), Greichaly Cepero (’00), Christina Houghtelling (’05) and Sarah Pavan (’06).

Arena (capacity): Devaney Sports Center (7,907).



Minnesota

Coach: Hugh McCutcheon (134-37 in five seasons).

Six-year Big Ten run: 85-35 (.708).

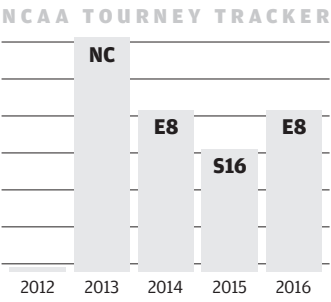
Best all-time ranking: 1st (most recently in 2016).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 11.

Starters returning/lost: 4/3.

Quick facts: Before becoming the Gophers’ coach in 2012, Hugh McCutcheon coached the U.S women to a silver medal at the 2012 Olympics and the U.S. men to a gold medal in the 2008 Olympics. ... The Gophers lost AVCA national player of the year Sarah Wilhite from last season, but return Big Ten setter of the year Samantha Seliger-Swenson.

Arena (capacity): Maturi Pavilion (5,500).



Wisconsin

Coach: Kelly Sheffield (113-25 in four seasons).

Six-year Big Ten run: 77-43 (.641).

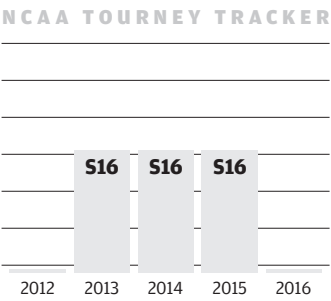
Best all-time ranking: 1st (most recently in 2016).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 5.

Starters returning/lost: 4/3.

Quick facts: The Badgers have two big losses from last season in three-time first-team All-American setter Lauren Carlini and second-team All-American middle blocker Haleigh Nelson. But hope arrived in the form of the second-ranked recruiting class in the country, according to PrepVolleyball.com, including four top-20 recruits.

Arena (capacity): Wisconsin Field House (6,012).



Illinois

Coach: Chris Tamas (first season).

Six-year Big Ten run: 72-48 (.600).

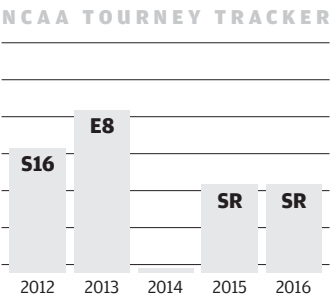
Best all-time ranking: 1st (most recently in 2011).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 7.

Starters returning/lost: 4/3.

Quick facts: After helping Nebraska win the national championship and a Big Ten championship in his two years at the school, Chris Tamas became the Illinois coach. He replaced Kevin Hambly, who became the coach of a Stanford team coming off winning the national title. Stanford and Illinois will play each other in September.

Arena (capacity): George Huff Hall (4,536).



Purdue

Coach: Dave Shondell (301-164 in 14 years).

Six-year Big Ten run: 72-48 (.600).

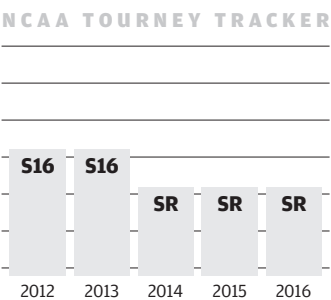
Best all-time ranking: 7th (most recently in 2014).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 3.

Starters returning/lost: 6/1.

Quick facts: Purdue made the NCAA Tournament last season despite finishing in 10th place in the league standings. ... Purdue has reached the Elite Eight twice, in 2010 and 2013, but is still working for its first Final Four trip. ... Dave Shondell became the Purdue head coach after 22 years as a successful high school coach in central Indiana.

Arena (capacity): Hollloway Gymnasium (2,288).



Michigan State

Coach: Cathy George (232-163 in 12 seasons).

Six-year Big Ten run: 65-55 (.541).

Best all-time ranking: 3rd (most recently in 1996).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 4.

Starters returning/lost: 4/3.

Quick facts: Former Husker Maddie Haggerty will play for Michigan State this season, she sat out last season after transferring from Central Florida. ... The volleyball arena, Jenison Field House, is where Magic Johnson played basketball at the school in the late 1970s.

Arena (capacity): Jenison Field House (5,017).



Ohio State

Coach: Geoff Carlston (193-117 in nine seasons)

Six-year Big Ten run: 62-58 (.516).

Best all-time ranking: 4th (in 1994).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 7.

Starters returning/lost: 5/2.

Quick facts: Ohio State has reached the NCAA Sweet 16 five times since 2010, one of just 11 schools in the country to accomplish that. ... The Buckeyes play at St. John Arena, the charming 60-year old arena where the “Best Damn Band in the Land” plays a pep rally before each home football game.

Arena (capacity): St. John Arena (13,276).



Michigan

Coach: Mark Rosen (363-232 in 18 seasons).

Six-year Big Ten run: 55-65 (.458).

Best all-time ranking: 5th (in 2012).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 1.

Starters returning/lost: 5/2.

Quick facts: All six of the Wolverines’ trips to the NCAA Sweet 16 have come in the past 10 years. ... In 2012 Michigan finished sixth in the Big Ten Conference with an 11-9 record, but was still good enough to reach the NCAA Final Four for the first time.

Arena (capacity): Cliff Keen Arena (1,800).



Northwestern

Coach: Shane Davis (10-22 in one season).

Six-year Big Ten run: 35-85 (.291).

Best all-time ranking: 14th (in 1987).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 0.

Starters returning/lost: 4/3.

Quick facts: The Wildcats last reached the NCAA Tournament in 2010. ... Coach Shane Davis won two NCAA men’s volleyball championships as the coach at Loyola. ... With Welsh-Ryan Arena being renovated, Northwestern will play this season at Evanston Township High School.

Arena (capacity): Welsh-Ryan Arena (8,117).



Indiana

Coach: Sherry Dunbar-Kruzan (150-175 record in 11 seasons).

Six-year Big Ten conference run: 24-96 (.200).

Best all-time ranking: 24th (in 1998).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 1.

Starters returning/lost: 3/4.

Quick facts: The Hoosiers have reached the NCAA Sweet 16 once, in 2010. ... Indiana has a 1-13 all-time record against Nebraska, with the only win coming in 1978.

Arena (capacity): University Gym (2,000).



Maryland

Coach: Steve Aird (37-60 in three seasons).

Three-year Big Ten run: 12-48 (.200).

Best all-time ranking: 15th (in 1997).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 0.

Starters returning/lost: 6/1.

Quick facts: Coach Steve Aird was on the Penn State staff during its run of national championships, and has made some improvements to the Maryland program in his three years as head coach, including bringing in the program’s first top-10 recruiting class in 2017. ... Maryland has made the NCAA Tournament seven times, the last coming in 2005.

Arena (capacity): Xfinity Center Pavilion (1,500).



Iowa

Coach: Bond Shymansky (45-51 in three seasons).

Six-year Big Ten run: 22-98 (.183).

Best all-time ranking: 24th (in 1995).

All-time first-team All-Americans: 0.

Starters returning/lost: 4/3.

Quick facts: Three of the seven most-attended home matches in program history have come against Nebraska, including a record crowd of 4,131 in 2016. ... Iowa has played in the NCAA Tournament twice, in 1989 and 1994.

Arena (capacity): Carver-Hawkeye Arena (5,400).



Rutgers

Coach: Jeff Werneke (71-201 in nine seasons).

Three-year Big Ten run: 1-59 (.016).

Best all-time ranking: Never ranked.

All-time first-team All-Americans: 0.

Starters returning/lost: 6/3.

Quick facts: The Scarlet Knights’ only win in three seasons in the Big Ten Conference came against Maryland in 2015. ... Rutgers went to one NCAA Tournament, in 1982.

Arena (capacity): College Avenue Gym (2,500).

