

State Volleyball headed back to Lincoln

Written by Wauneta Breeze
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By Diane Stamm

The Wauneta Breeze

After spending three years in Grand Island, the Nebraska State Volleyball Tournament is headed back to Lincoln.

Grand Island couldn't compete with the completion of Pinnacle Arena and volleyball specific upgrades to Devaney Center in Lincoln.

Lincoln hosted the State Volleyball Tournament from 1981 to 2009.

Last week the Nebraska School Activities Association's Board of Directors voted unanimously to return to that arrangement once again in 2014 and stay for at least three years.

The Lincoln Journal Star said Grand Island's bid would have covered all expenses and give the NSAA an additional \$20,000 while Lincoln offered \$85,000 for expenses, almost all of which would go to facility rental.

The Journal Star added that Lincoln's gate receipts for 2009 were \$230,000. In 2012, gate receipts in Grand Island were \$204,000.

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This year's State Tournament will be held Nov. 14-16 at four sites around Grand Island, Heartland Events Center, Grand Island Senior High School, Northwest High School and Grand Island Central Catholic.

The possibility exists in Lincoln to use two courts at Pinnacle Arena and two at Devaney Center. With that setup, no games would be played at any of Lincoln's high schools.

The State Volleyball Tournament was first held in Scottsbluff in 1972. After four years it moved to Kearney in 1977 and then moved to Lincoln in 1981.

The next year's tournament will be Nov. 13-15.