

Best D3 Volleyball Match-Ups Scheduled for WEEK #2

The Matchup Metric (MM) is a rating from 1 to 10 for D3 Volleyball matches coming up on the schedule. It considers both the leverage an outcome might exert on the high end, and the degree of competitive balance between opponents. i.e. A good rating ($6 < MM < 8$) might be the #5 and #20 ranked teams in the land playing ball, but a great rating ($8 < MM < 10$) could be between two evenly matched opponents ranked #28 & #29, for instance. Rather than a weekly Top 10 countdown as presented in week 1, it will instead be formatted chronologically for reader convenience. (Only matches where the dog has at least a 25% chance to win are eligible to make this list.)

P(W)= Probability for Match Win PD= Point Differential Forecast P(5th)= Probability Match goes to 5th Set

A / H NEUT	OPPONENTS	P(W)	PRED (PD)	P(5th)	Comments	DAY MM
A	Wilkes	42%	H 3-2 (3)	29%	7 PM – Eastern played a competitive game at Lancaster Bible #32 just a few days ago - Much closer than expected. IH has Wilkes at 70%, but Eastern home court should be just enough to prevail.	TUE 9.3
H	Eastern	58%				
A	Marymount	68%	A 3-1 (7)	23%	6 PM – Coming off a loss to Juniata #4 at home, expect the Mustangs to give a better accounting of themselves this time. Likely not enough, but they are a live dog hoping to give Coach Gardner his first “W” as the Owings Mills HC. First look at Marymount!	THU 5.8
H	Stevenson	32%				
A	Lasell	25%	H 3-1 (11)	17%	7 PM - Lasell's first of 3 contests against top 13 ranked teams in 24 hours, hoping to make a statement. The “Comeback Kids” from Naz seek to get off to a fast start, unlike last weekend in Virginia.	FRI 6.4
H	Naz	75%				
A	Concordia Wisc.	26%	H 3-1 (10)	18%	7 PM - The first match in Dubuque for the 2024 season, exactly 100 days before the final match in 2024 - The National Championship! Loras opens at home with the edge over a good C-W squad.	FRI 6.4
H	Loras	74%				
A	NYU	63%	A 3-1 (5)	26%	7 PM - A match between top 20 teams with UCSC hoping to have some home cooking. Their first of 3 matches, one per day, all against top 10 ranked opponents. Without this one, might be starting down a 1-5 start. NYU goes 3000 miles to open their season.	FRI 6.6
H	UCSC	37%				
A	Carthage	40%	H 3-2 (3)	28%	10 PM - A pseudo - home match for Cal-Lu fresh off a nice win over Vassar at home. Hoping a Tuesday match against CSUN is just the right primer for this one. Carthage goes 2000 miles for what they didn't think would be their '24 season opener.	FRI 8.9
~H	Cal Lutheran	60%				
A	Baruch	39%	H 3-1 (5)	27%	1 PM - Hunter & Baruch, top 2 CUNY, have been getting some love from IH pre-season rankings. Arcadia puts that love to the test hosting Baruch before traveling to Hunter later in the week (Wed.)	SAT 8.7
H	Arcadia	61%				
N	Wentworth	38%	S 3-1 (6)	27%	3 PM - Some believe this is a dress rehearsal for a National Championship match to be held in just 99 days. Appropriate that these tech schools play at the MIT Engineers' Rockwell Cage.	SAT 8.1
N	Stevens	62%				
N	Kean	51%	K 3-2 (1)	30%	3 PM/ 2PM/ 12 NOON? - Both T100 & IH have this one at a 51% tilt, just a slight edge to Kean. If Penn St. shows up at 3 pm for a match Kean apparently thinks is at 2 pm, they could both be surprised to know host Hobart has it scheduled at Noon? WHAT?	SAT 9.0
N	Penn St. Behrend	49%				
N	Carthage	57%	C 3-2 (3)	29%	7 PM - The Banana Slugs are hosting this match, an aggregate distance of 5,265 miles from both their campuses. Sunshine in January and great volleyball to boot! Sounds like a plan.	SAT 8.8
N	NYU	43%				
A	NYU	34%	H 3-1 (6)	25%	1 PM - A match between top 10 ranked teams with the winner jockeying for braggin' rights. Likely being played at 10 AM PST for NYU to catch a flight home later? Who wakes up in the morning better is a key component for this outcome, I think.	SUN 8.0
~H	Cal Lutheran	66%				
N	East. Mennonite	50%	EM3-2 (0)	30%	2 PM - A virtual coin toss with Elmira playing back to back games right after competing with BW on their home court. Elmira w/ 10 players, too gives East. Mennonite the ever so slight advantage.	SUN 9.8
N	Elmira	50%				