



2026 Santa Clara University BEACH VOLLEYBALL

2026 Schedule (4-0)

Date	Opponent	Location	Time (PT)
Feb. 20	San Jose State	San Jose, Calif.	W, 5-0
Feb. 20	San Francisco	San Jose, Calif.	W, 5-0
Feb. 21	San Francisco	Santa Clara, Calif.	W, 3-2
Feb. 21	Pacific	Santa Clara, Calif.	W, 5-0

Battle of the Bay (Stanford, Calif. / San Jose, Calif.)

Feb. 27	San Francisco	Stanford, Calif.	Noon
Feb. 27	#1 Stanford	Stanford, Calif.	2 p.m.
Feb. 28	San Jose State	San Jose, Calif.	10 a.m.
Feb. 28	Sacramento State	San Jose, Calif.	Noon

Long Beach State Invitational (Long Beach, Calif.)

March 6	CSU Bakersfield	Long Beach, Calif.	11 a.m.
March 6	UAB	Long Beach, Calif.	1:30 p.m.
March 7	#15 Stetson	Long Beach, Calif.	11 a.m.
March 7	#11 Long Beach St.	Long Beach, Calif.	2:45 p.m.

Mustang Roundup (San Luis Obispo, Calif.)

March 13	#13 Grand Canyon	San Luis Obispo, Calif.	2 p.m.
March 13	Oregon	San Luis Obispo, Calif.	4:30 p.m.
March 14	#20 Arizona	San Luis Obispo, Calif.	9 a.m.
March 14	#3 Cal Poly	San Luis Obispo, Calif.	3:15 p.m.

March 20	San Jose State	San Jose, Calif.	4 p.m.
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West Coast Challenge (Santa Cruz, Calif.)

March 27	TBA	Santa Cruz, Calif.	TBA
March 28	TBA	Santa Cruz, Calif.	TBA

Boise State Beach Classic (Boise, Idaho)

April 3	UTEP	Boise, Idaho	10 a.m.
April 3	Boise State	Boise, Idaho	4 p.m.
April 4	CSUN	Boise, Idaho	9:30 a.m.
April 4	Oregon	Boise, Idaho	1:30 p.m.

April 7	San Jose State	Santa Clara, Calif.	4 p.m.
April 10	Chaminade	Honolulu	1 p.m.
April 10	Hawaii Pacific	Honolulu	3 p.m.
April 11	Oregon	Honolulu	11 a.m.
April 12	#13 Hawaii	Honolulu	2 p.m.
April 12	Oregon	Honolulu	5 p.m.
April 17	Sacramento State	Davis, Calif.	Noon
April 17	UC Davis	Davis, Calif.	2 p.m.
April 18	UC Davis	Davis, Calif.	10 a.m.
April 18	Sacramento State	Davis, Calif.	Noon

WCC Championship Tournament (Santa Monica, Calif.)

April 23	TBA	Santa Monica, Calif.	TBA
April 24	TBA	Santa Monica, Calif.	TBA

Home games in **BOLD** | Neutral games in *Italics*
 Rankings are AVCA National Top-20 Poll
 All times are Pacific and subject to change

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Santa Clara (4-0)

at

Battle of the Bay

San Francisco (2-2) / #1 Stanford (5-1)

San Jose State (0-2) / Sacramento State (3-1)

Stanford, Calif. / San Jose, Calif. • Feb. 27-28 (Fri.-Sat.)

Watch Live: N/A

Live Stats: N/A

Series History

vs. San Francisco

Series History Santa Clara leads 21-7
 Last Meeting Feb. 21, 2026 | W, 3-2

vs. #1 Stanford

Series History Stanford leads 8-2
 Last Meeting April 18, 2025 | L, 0-5

vs. San Jose State

Series History Santa Clara leads, 10-9
 Last Meeting Feb. 20, 2026 | W, 5-0

vs. Sacramento State

Series History Santa Clara leads 12-1
 Last Meeting April 4, 2025 | W, 3-2

Match Notes

- Santa Clara stays in the Bay Area for the second straight weekend, playing in the Battle of the Bay on Friday and Saturday at Stanford and San Jose State, respectively.
- The Broncos will face San Francisco and San Jose State for the second consecutive weekend. SCU beat the Dons twice last weekend and swept the Spartans, 5-0.
- Santa Clara faces top-ranked Stanford on its home sand on Friday. The Broncos last beat the Cardinal in 2016, 4-1. Stanford has won five consecutive meetings against Santa Clara, including two in 2025.
- The Broncos close the weekend versus Sacramento State, a team it's beaten 10 times in a row, including last season on the road in Sacramento, 3-2.

Season Notes

- **LAST TIME OUT:** Santa Clara opened its 2026 season last weekend with a bang, going nearly perfect with three 5-0 wins. The Broncos swept both San Jose State and San Francisco on Friday at SJSU's Spartan Beach, then opened its home slate on Saturday with another win over USF (3-2) and a sweep of Pacific. Freshman **Avery Cukjati** and sophomore **Sadie Snipes** went 4-0 on the weekend at the No. 1 pairs. **Ciara Cantlen** and **Noelle Niederman** also went unbeaten at the 4s, and **Callie Loughran** and **Ava Stoddard** went undefeated at the 5s.
- Santa Clara's 4-0 start to 2026 is its best unbeaten start to a season in program history. It started the 2022 season 2-0. The Broncos started the 2016 season 7-1.

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Season Notes

• The Broncos' 2026 roster features 15 returning letterwinners from a season ago. That includes student-athletes like junior **Noelle Niederman**, who won six matches at the No. 1 pairs spot last year, and sophomore **Sammy Wood**, who went 14-9 at the No. 2 spot. Sophomore **Sadie Snipes** is also back after racking up nine victories at the 2s in 2025. **Ciara Cantlen** and **Alexandra Urbina** after teaming up last year to go 13-8 at the No. 3 pairs. Cantlen had 19 individual wins at the 3s.

• Santa Clara's 2026 schedule is plenty competitive, featuring five different tournaments and culminating in the annual WCC Championship Tournament in Santa Monica, Calif., in April. The Broncos are slated to face six teams ranked in the AVCA Preseason Top-20 poll, including three top-10 matchups all on the road -- at No. 2 Stanford on Feb. 27, at No. 10 Long Beach State on March 7 and at No. 3 Cal Poly on March 14.

• The team also welcomes four freshmen to the roster in 2026. **Tyler Parouse** comes to the Broncos from Los Angeles, where she helped her Campbell High School indoor team win the CIF Division III state championship in 2023 while also qualifying for both the AAU and AVP Junior national championships. **Avery Cukjati** out of Tacoma, Wash., was named a junior beach volleyball AVCA All-American honorable mention in 2025. **Mandy Hansen** joins the program from Phoenix, where she led her Northwest Christian High School team to top-three state finishes in both indoor and beach volleyball. **Reilly Rose Gilliland** hails from Chico, Calif., and was a two-time NorCal High School Beach Volleyball Champion at Pleasant Valley High School.

• Santa Clara tied its single-season record for wins with 18 in 2025. It was a momentous season for the program, as it earned its first win over a nationally ranked team in 10 years, beating No. 17 Washington, 3-2, in March. At season's end, the Broncos would win three consecutive matches on the second day of the WCC Championship Tournament to reach the title match for the first time in program history. The Broncos also won 18 matches in 2023 (which included three wins over junior colleges and two versus NCAA Division II schools. 2025's 18 wins were all versus Division I programs).

• **Jeff Alzina** returns to the Mission Campus in 2026 for his eighth season at the helm of the Broncos. Alzina was named the full-time head coach of the program prior to the 2023 season, and since then the Broncos have won no fewer than 13 matches each year. The program had two such seasons in its entire existence prior to that (since 2013). Alzina has guided the team to earning 17 WCC all-academic nods (four all-academic team selections and 13 honorable mentions), and 16 all-WCC Selections (Two first team, six second team, and eight all-freshman selections) in only three years since being named the full-time head coach.

AVCA NATIONAL TOP-20 POLL

Week 1 (Feb. 24)

Rk.	Name	Points	Record	Prev.
1.	Stanford	471	5-1	2
2.	UCLA	435	3-2	1
3.	Cal Poly	431	4-0	3
4.	Southern California	415	4-2	4
5.	Texas	394	4-2	6
6.	Florida State	345	6-0	8
7.	TCU	325	3-1	5
8.	LMU	309	1-4	7
9.	Arizona State	308	4-0	11
10.	California	256	1-4	9
11.	Long Beach State	248	2-0	10
12.	LSU	217	5-0	12
13.	Hawai'i	173	1-4	16
14.	FAU	148	4-0	15
15.	Stetson	133	3-1	14
16.	North Florida	123	3-1	17
17.	Grand Canyon	106	1-3	13
18.	Washington	71	3-1	19
19.	Georgia State	62	4-1	18
20.	Arizona	26	3-1	NR

Also Receiving Votes: Boise State (13), Florida Gulf Coast (12), Tulane (6), South Carolina (5), South Florida (5), FIU (1), **Santa Clara (1)** & UNCW (1)

AROUND THE WCC

This Week's Matches

Tournament	Location	Teams
Battle for LA	Los Angeles	LMU, PEP
Battle of the Bay	Berkeley, Calif.	PAC, USF
	San Jose, Calif. / Stanford, Calif.	SCU , SMC
Southern Oregon Tournament	Ashland, Ore.	POR

WCC Pair of the Week (Feb. 23)

Ines Piret, So. & Magdalena Rabitsch, Jr., LMU

2026 WCC Beach Volleyball Preseason Poll

Pl.	Team	Pts. (1st)	Pl.	Team	Pts.
1.	LMU	36 (6)	5.	San Francisco	17
2.	Pepperdine	30 (1)	6.	Pacific	9
3.	Santa Clara	27	7.	Portland	8
4.	Saint Mary's	20			

2026 Beach Volleyball Preseason All-WCC Team

Name	School	Yr.
Hannah Couch	Saint Mary's	Sr.
Emma Eden	Pepperdine	So.
Chloe Hooker	LMU	Sr.
Branson Lennon	San Francisco	Sr.
Anna Pelloia	LMU	Sr.
Gabriella Perez	Pepperdine	Sr.
Ines Piret	LMU	So.
Magdalena Rabitsch	LMU	Jr.
Tanon Rosenthal	LMU	R-So.
Sadie Snipes	Santa Clara	So.



2026 Santa Clara University BEACH VOLLEYBALL

2026 Beach Volleyball Roster

No.	Name	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown
1	Callie Loughran	5-8	So.	Los Angeles
2	Alex Franklin	5-11	Sr.	Palo Alto, Calif.
3	Kawena Chillingworth	5-8	So.	Oahu, Hawaii
4	Alexandra Urbina	5-7	Jr.	Broomfield, Colo.
5	Sveva Munneke	5-8	Jr.	Houston
6	Ally Frailey	5-9	So.	Houston
7	Noelle Niederman	5-9	Jr.	Mercer Island, Wash.
8	Tyler Parouse	5-9	Fr.	Los Angeles
9	Hayley Hahn	5-8	Sr.	Laguna Beach, Calif.
10	Sadie Snipes	6-0	So.	San Anselmo, Calif.
11	Avery Cukjati	5-8	Fr.	Tacoma, Wash.
12	Anna Balsdon	5-7	So.	La Jolla, Calif.
13	Ava Stoddard	5-11	So.	San Diego
14	Ellie Skale	6-1	Jr.	St. Louis, Mo.
16	Sammy Wood	5-9	So.	Huntington Beach, Calif.
17	Mandy Hansen	6-2	Fr.	Phoenix
19	Reilly Rose Gilliland	5-10	Fr.	Chico, Calif.
22	Ciara Cantlen	6-2	R-So.	Santa Cruz, Calif.
24	Teagan Wilson	6-0	So.	Salem, Ore.

Season Notes