Chapter 9

Competition Regulations
1. Conditions

A. Athletes Eligibility

Spectacular matches took place at the 2009 edition of the Senior World Championships under the FIVB jurisdiction, FIVB Exhibitions, and the SWATCH FIVB World Championships Junior & Youth, another agreement posted on the FIVB website must be used.

- provide an annual health certificate (WT/10) which must be sent to the FIVB at least 30 days before the first event’s participation. Such health certificate is mandatory for all the athletes that signed the 2009-2012 Beach Volleyball NF-Player’s Commitment. The health certificate template can be found onto the FIVB website.

- directly complete and modify his/her personal data (such as his/her exact coordinates, bank account information, etc.) through the new FIVB Beach Volleyball Web based application system (httt://www.fivb.org) according to the following procedure:
  - Each men and women’s player is provided with an individual and secured user access (user name and password) through his/her own e-mail address.
  - In case a new player wants to register, his/her National Federation is responsible for filling in the basic personal data of the player and his/her e-mail address.
  - Within this information, each National Federation must click on the field “send e-mail” which automatically sends to the player’s personal e-mail address his/her confidential user name and password.

- At any time, men or woman’s player can modify their own personal data, with exception of the bank account information and team name, which have to remain the same for the duration of a season.

- While the fields related to the FIVB, the first name, the last name, birth date, passport number, the nationality, the gender and the team name of each player may only be edited by the FIVB or by the National Federation concerned, the remaining cells may directly be amended by each athlete (i.e. picture, personal data, physical data, Volleyball/Beach Volleyball Career, Education, Family, Profile, and others).
- Each NF is entitled to the right of his/her national federation according to the official entry procedure (i.e. the FIVB Beach Volleyball Web based application system) for the SWATCH FIVB World Championships, the SWATCH FIVB Junior & Youth World Championships and the Continental cups. The SWATCH FIVB Challenger, and the FIVB Satellite events. The enrollment to these two (2) latter events is possible whenever they will be sanctioned by the FIVB. Each National Federation has received from the FIVB its confidential code in order to enter its teams in each FIVB event.

- abide by the FIVB Code of Conduct, the FIVB Constitution, the General Regulations and the FIVB decisions (i.e. Board of Administration and/or World Congress) as well as the FIVB World Tour Regulations;
- not be suspended by the FIVB for the competition period concerned.

Following the decision of the 2009 Executive Committee meeting (Tokiyo, 25 November), all athletes that have taken part to non-authorized events will have their FIVB membership withdrawn for all FIVB Intercontinental, Continental and National, Volleyball and Beach Volleyball tournaments/events.

Moreover, each FIVB affiliate NF is the recognized sport authority within its territory and it has the exclusive right to administer Volleyball and Beach Volleyball within its country. Each NF has the legal authority to decide how to regulate the Volleyball and Beach Volleyball, making sure to abide to the FIVB constitution and each NF respective Constitution.

In case one or more NF would results to unfortunately implicated in the activities organized by another organization not recognized it, these risk to be considered as having a voluntarily abandoned their status as a member of the FIVB from the interpretation of the constitution of the FIVB.

2. Regulations for Top Ranked Athletes

- World Championships, Grand Slam and Open Events

The top men and women’s ranked teams eligible to take part in the World Championships, in at least the majority of the Grand Slam and remaining Open Events (as per the entry deadline – 30 days before the start of the event and the specific event’s regulations entry procedure) are required to take part in the activities organized to become eligible for Bonus Pool (see chapter I for further details).

- Challenger Events

Athletes ranked in the top 24 men’s teams and in the top 16 women’s teams (as per the entry deadline – 30 days before the start of the event) are not allowed to take part in Challenger events. This rule does not apply to two teams of the country hosting the event and to four (4) Wild Cards upon approval of the FIVB.

- Satellite

Athletes ranked in the top 48 men’s teams and in the top 32 women’s teams (as per the entry deadline – 30 days before the start of the event) are not allowed to take part in Satellite events. This rule does not apply to two teams of the country hosting the event and to four (4) Wild Cards upon approval of the FIVB.

- Continental Cups and Exhibition Games

Athletes ranked in the top 32 men’s teams and in the top 24 women’s teams (as per the entry deadline – 30 days before the start of the event) are not allowed to take part in Continental cups and Exhibition Games.

In case they are organized at the same time as a World Tour event.

- National Circuits

Determined by the Board of Administration in March 2008 the following decision has been taken.

For FIVB recognition of a National Tour, the NF concerned is required to abide by the following regulations:

1. Each NF willing to stage a National Tour must request FIVB’s recognition of its event(s) providing the FIVB with its complete calendar featuring the prize money, hosting cities, gender and dates. Such a National Tour should feature at least one BWS or equivalent event in its calendar;

2. Each host NF must request such recognition from its respective Continental Federation and from FIVB through the above stated form which will be provided in due time;

3. The name of another sports organization or promoter cannot be featured in the title of a National Tour.
1. Tentative Entry List (by – 30 days): The FIVB is willing to accept the provisional enrollment of the Athlete and upon the request of the Athlete through his/her National Federation offer the right to be tentatively admitted into the Beach Volleyball tournaments sanctioned by the FIVB and organized by an affiliated Promoter and/or by a National Federation and/or the FIVB itself in any part of the world provided that the 2007-2012 Beach Volleyball NF-Player’s Commitment (including the health certificate) is duly signed by the National Federation and the Athlete concerned. Once the aforementioned condition is agreed by all parties concerned, the National Federation (exclusively) is required to comply with the following procedures in order to tentatively register its Beach Volleyball teams in all FIVB sanctioned Competitions at the very latest 30 days before the start of any event in which a team wants to participate.

All deadlines concerning entries are calculated from the start of all Qualification Tournaments.

Each National Federation is provided with an individual and secured user access (user name and password) through its own e-mail address.

- After “Log in”, the National Federation may select any team as per FIVB Handbook regulations and register it in the FIVB Tournaments by following this procedure:
  - Select first player;
  - Select his/her teammate;
  - Select any available tournament from the Calendar;
  - Confirm the entry of the team;

- The team is automatically registered in the selected tournament database and is instantly included in the tentative list posted on the FIVB website for each event. While this procedure allows the National Federations to directly control that their teams are correctly entered, it also gives them the opportunity to immediately contact the FIVB (fivb@fivb.org) in case a technical problem occurs.

- Each National Federation may directly enter new FIVB athletes as the computer instantly generates FIVB # for the new player as well as a user name and password.

- Athletes with pending sanctions are not allowed to enter in the 2010 FIVB sanctioned events until the related fine is duly paid to the FIVB.

- The entry deadline for each event is stated on the FIVB website for each event.

- Each National Federation and athlete will be responsible for checking the entry through Internet by consulting the tentative “Entry List” for each event.

- The tentative list is an ongoing information available on the FIVB website and up to -30 days can be amended by each participating National Federation:

  - Teams that compete in a Challenger event that are ranked in the top 24 men’s teams or the top 16 women’s teams (as per the entry deadline -30 days before the start of the event) will not have their Entry Points affected by this event (lost and wild card teams ranked in top 24 men’s teams or top 16 women’s teams). In general, the points from a Challenger count if it is a benefit for any teams to calculate these points.

  - For this latter event, Entry Points may count if it is the under FIVB’s jurisdiction or the Confedations concerned fulfill the FIVB requirements.

  - Teams that compete in a Satellite event that are ranked in the top 48 men’s teams or the top 32 women’s teams (as per the entry deadline -30 days before the start of the event) will not have their Entry Points affected by this event (lost and wild card teams ranked in top 48 men’s teams or top 32 women’s teams). In general, the points from a Satellite count if it is under the FIVB’s jurisdiction or the Confedations concerned fulfill the FIVB requirements.

  - The rationale is that Entry Points are a better indicator of a team’s success in any given event, which will be a reflection of participation (not performance). By using Entry Points to get into all events a new team playing and performing at Satellite or Challenger will be able to access the main draw (of Satellite and Challenger) sooner with Entry Points then with the current system of the 365-day ranking which favors teams that have played in many events over the last 365 days. Continental Tour may be given the possibility to attribute points towards the World Ranking upon obtaining the FIVB recognition.

- Note: In case a National Federation does not support (in writing) the entry of its player/team in an FIVB event or in case an event encounters problems communicating with his/her National Federation in order to enter a tournament, the FIVB will then carefully evaluate, in a case by case basis, the eventual participation of this player/ team in the FIVB competitions. This team may be allowed to enter directly through the FIVB Beach Volleyball Website and “tented” in the tentative list.

2. Late Entry

- Placing the deadline for the Tentative Entry List (30 days prior to the start of each tournament) the National Federation will no longer be allowed to enter a team in the event. Late entry requests must be addressed to the FIVB in writing for FIVB evaluation and a USD 1,000 fine must be paid by the entity concerned to the FIVB. The bank details of the FIVB are featured on chapter 10.

- The FIVB and the Organizers (National Federation and Promoter) must agree on a case by case basis whether a late entry should be accepted or not. If the team is accepted, it will automatically be registered in the Qualification Tournament. Late entry will be accepted less than fourteen (14) days before the start of the event.

3. Between -30 days (Tentative List) and -14 days (Confirmed List):

- The National Federation is not allowed to enter an entirely new team, once the Tentative List has been issued by the FIVB -30 days before the start of the first event (as considered as a late entry).

4. Confirmed List (T-14 days):

- The FIVB is responsible for issuing the confirmed list of teams (T-14 days) in parallel with the Main Draw tournament and the Qualifications tournament as per the Entry Points of that day and to send it to the hosting National Volleyball Federation concerned, together with the approved Events Rule (Rule 10.0a) and the invitation letter. This Confirmed List is posted on the FIVB website as well.

- Entry Points are the sum of individual ranking points based on the best 4 results out of the last 5 FIVB World Championships, Grand Slam, Open, Challenger (see point 9.1.B.1 above), Satellite (see point 9.1.B.1 above) and participations within the last 365 days. Continental Tour may be given the possibility to attribute points towards the World Ranking upon obtaining the FIVB recognition.

- The Points earned on the occasion of FIVB Satellite or Challenger events (see point 9.1.B.1 above), if these are benefits for the team, count towards the teams’ entry in the Qualification Tournament or the Main Draw of the SWATCH FIVB World Tour events, determined – 14 days prior to the start of the competition (i.e. Open, Grand Slam, and World Championships).

- The Points earned on the occasion of FIVB Satellite or Challenger events (see point 9.1.B.1 above) count towards the Technical World Ranking (365 days).

- Maternity Leave

- Women who gave birth will keep 75% of the points they earned if the time elapsed between the date of birth of their baby and their return to competition is 1 year or less, and 50% of the points they earned if the time elapsed between the date of birth of their baby and their return to competition is between 1 year and 2 years. The points earned in accordance to the 75% and 50% rule mentioned above are calculated according to the best 4 results out of the last 5 FIVB Open, Grand Slam and World Championships (Satellite and Challenger, see point 9.1.B.1 above) results can be included if they improve the player Entry Points) participations within the last 365 days before the date of birth of their baby. The Entry Points and seeding finishes will count toward entry purposes and seeding purposes only but not toward the FIVB World ranking and/or Olympic ranking.

- The first line on entry of the season through the new FIVB Beach Volleyball Web based application system must be accompanied by a valid birth certificate to be sent to the FIVB - 30 days prior the start of the first event the athlete is willing to participate.

- First Entry Points

- For entry into the first event after the birth of their baby, the player will use the points earned from the best 4 results out of the last 5 tournaments played in the previous 365 days before the birth of their baby (ex: 10/20/30/40/50 = 140). A calculation of either 75% or 50% rule will be applied to the total points gained, depending on the date of the birth of the baby and the player’s return to competition. The calculation of those points will be used as the basis for determining the team’s entry into either the Main Draw or the Qualification Tournament (based on the sum of both players points).

- This calculation will be the “starting total” for this player and this will be added to the partner’s total to calculate the teams Entry Points.

- Subsequent Entry Points

- For entry into subsequent events after the first event following the birth of her baby, the player will automatically have the points gained in their first event added to their starting total, but will have subtracted 25% of their starting total (starting total of 140, less 25% = 105 plus 25 for the first event = 130). For each subsequent entry the same rule will apply (i.e. points gained in each event will be added to the starting total, but will have subtracted 50%-75% to 100% of the starting total). After 4 events the “starting total” will be nil and Entry Points gained from their first 4 participations will be used as the basis for entry into either the Main Draw or the Qualification Tournament.
In case of serious injury, which causes an athlete to not be able to play for a minimum of 365 days, he/ she shall maintain 75% of his/ her Entry Points, from before the injury when returning to play.

The National Federation of the athlete concerned shall formally apply to the FIVB for the implementation of such a rule, indicating the type of injury through a medical certificate. The documents with notification of the serious injury and the application for the injury-break point rule have to be sent to the FIVB within 90 days after the injury. The player is obliged to apply for the points as soon as possible, within 40 days before the player wants to participate in a tournament. The FIVB will then control if the player has not participated in any national or international beach volleyball events during this period. After the minimum required period of recovery (minimum 365 days) the National Federation of the athlete shall notify again the FIVB about his/her intention to participate in a SWATCH FIVB World Tour event requesting the FIVB to feature 75% of his/her Entry Points from before the injury when returning to play.

After having made such a calculation the 75% of his/her Entry Points will be implemented for the first event participated in 2019. The same rule will be applied for future editions of the World Tour.

The same principles of the Maternity Leave rule to calculate the Entry Points at subsequent events will apply.

### 5. Thirteen (13) Days Before the Start of the Event

Thirteen (13) days before the start of the event, the Organizers send an approved invitation letter, event’s regulations and list of teams to the participating National Federations, the FIVB Technical Supervisor, the FIVB Referee Delegate, the FIVB Press Delegate (whenever appointed), the FIVB TV Coordinator, the FIVB Physiotherapists, FIVB Spots, etc. and if required, the FIVB Medical Delegate concerned.

The confirmed list has been officially announced, changes may be authorized only upon acceptance of the FIVB (i.e. for withdrawal and readmission of teams through the WTO3 form duly completed).

In principle, a player in the Main Draw can change his partner once in a season and still keep its status in the Main Draw once in a season, even if the teams have used different Points. Such a rule does not apply for the Qualification Tournament.

Notes:

- Any delays with respect to the procedures deadlines are, in principle, not allowed and lead to non-fulfilment of the terms of the event’s Master Plan. The FIVB will inform the parties concerned on its WTO website should the confirmed list not be issued 14 days prior to the event due to the Organizer’s non-compliance of major contractual obligations.

### 6. CQ/PTT/QT/QT/Quali Tourn.

#### a. CQ/PTT/QT/QT/Quali Tourn.

- The Country Quota may be granted for a wild card for a future World Tour event to be held in the year and the next year after the World Championship, if the wild card received after the entry deadline will not be taken into consideration by the FIVB.

- Wild Cards do not affect the Country Quota.

The FIVB takes into consideration requests from the host country based on promotional aspects, technical merits, athletes’ career, rookie team, satisfactory technical/status of the team, etc. to evaluate the requests presented by the National Federations possibly following the recommendation of the Promoter concerned.

- A wild card may be granted for a future World Tour event winning team constrained to play in the Qualification Tournament of the following event. In principle, an athlete can receive a maximum of 2 Wild Cards during the Olympic Qualification Period. Should any additional Cards be requested by an athlete who already received 2 Wild Cards, the FIVB reserves the right to reduce this number.

#### C. Country Quota

### 1. Foreign teams

- The Foreign teams are not entitled to participate in the World Championship. A maximum of four (4) foreign teams per country can finally play in the Main Draw.

- The choice related to the allocation of a Wild Card may be made by the Organizers, at the very latest fourteen (14) days before the start of the event.

- In principle, an athlete can receive a maximum of 2 Wild Cards during the Olympic Qualification Period. Should any additional Cards be requested by an athlete who already received 2 Wild Cards, the FIVB reserves the right to reduce this number.

- In principle, Wild Cards are not granted to host countries where none of the Host Country teams are listed in the team list uploaded by the National Federations. Exceptions to this principle can be made for promotional purposes and in case relevant reasons are brought up by the teams.

- In the case one wild card is not issued for a SWATCH FIVB World Tour event, the next eligible team from the Provisional Entry List (before the start of the Qualification Tournament Technical Meeting) based on Entries Points will enter the Main Draw (regarding Olympic Games/World Championships). In case there are still teams with no points, the next two eligible teams will move to the Main Draw.

- In case the wild card is not issued for a SWATCH FIVB World Tour event (to be agreed by the parties).

### D. Wild Cards

- No Qualification Tournament.

- For World Championships, 48 teams are only entitled to play in one of the 3 Continental Quota Teams or a Host Country teams up to 4 foreign teams, 1 vacancy granted to a team from a continent that does not have any participants by Entry Points).

- The next eligible team from the Provisional Entry List (before the start of the Qualification Tournament Technical Meeting) based on Entries Points will enter the Main Draw (regarding Olympic Games/World Championships). In case there are still teams with no points, the next two eligible teams will move to the Main Draw.

- A team may also be granted a Wild Card up to 2 for a Grand Slam 4 and for an Open event in the Qualification Tournament by the FIVB due to its overall recognized technical merits or a long list of Grand Slam or Continental Quota tournaments (depending on the country based on promotional aspects, technical merits, athletes’ career, rookie team, satisfactory technical/status of the team, etc. to evaluate the requests presented by the National Federations).

- The choice related to the allocation of a Wild Card may further be made within the 14 days prior to the start of an event for the event in case two events are scheduled consecutively.

- A team may also be granted a Wild Card up to 2 for a Grand Slam 4 and for an Open event in the Qualification Tournament by the FIVB due to its overall recognized technical merits or a long list of Grand Slam or Continental Quota tournaments (depending on the country based on promotional aspects, technical merits, athletes’ career, rookie team, satisfactory technical/status of the team, etc. to evaluate the requests presented by the National Federations).

- The choice related to the allocation of a Wild Card may further be made within the 14 days prior to the start of an event for the event in case two events are scheduled consecutively.

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- The choice related to the allocation of a Wild Card may further be made within the 14 days prior to the start of an event for the event in case two events are scheduled consecutively.
9. Withdrawals and/or Disbanding of Teams

A. Withdrawal Procedures

1. Up to -30 days prior to the start of the event

Before the entry deadline -30 days prior to the beginning of the tournament the Teams/athletes who renounce to participate in one/several event(s) of the World Tour and/or athletes who want to change partner and/or modify the composition of their team have at any time the possibility to respectively:

- withdraw or remove their team from the tournament through their National Federation (i.e. through the FIVB Beach Volleyball Web based application system) by selecting the team tentatively entered and unlock the unwanted tournament.
- alter the composition of their team through their National Federation (i.e. through the new FIVB Beach Volleyball Web based application system) by first selecting the team tentatively entered, then un-checking the unwanted tournament and finally reselecting the new team composition for the event.

2. Between -30 days (Tentative List) and -14 days (Confirmed List)

Between -30 days (Tentative List) and -14 days (Confirmed List) prior to the start of the tournament, the athletes/National Federation must respect the withdrawal procedures and regulations (as per chapter 10) and each participating National Federation may at any time delete through the FIVB Beach Volleyball Web based application system a team tentatively registered in the event. Each participating National Federation may also change the composition of a team tentatively entered through the FIVB Beach Volleyball Web based application system a team tentatively registered in the event. Each participating National Federation may also change the composition of a team tentatively entered through the FIVB Beach Volleyball Web based application system a team tentatively registered in the event. Each participating National Federation may also change the composition of a team tentatively entered through the FIVB Beach Volleyball Web based application system a team tentatively registered in the event.

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Between -30 days (Tentative List) and -14 days (Confirmed List) prior to the start of the tournament, the athletes/National Federation must respect the withdrawal procedures and regulations (as per chapter 10) and each participating National Federation may at any time delete through the FIVB Beach Volleyball Web based application system a team tentatively registered in the event. Each participating National Federation may also change the composition of a team tentatively entered through the FIVB Beach Volleyball Web based application system a team tentatively registered in the event.

B. Last Minute Withdrawal (Friday preceding the Event up to –1 minute before the Country Quota Play Off Technical Meeting)

a) Athletes who fail to attend the Preliminary Inquiry and the Technical Meeting of the Qualification Tournament will be exempted from any fine if the concerned National Federation provides to the FIVB via fax and email a proof of “force majeure” or medical certificate (using the appropriate form) related to the withdrawal and/or disbanding of teams/athletes entered in the Qualification Tournament. The National Federation needs to communicate the withdrawal of its team(s) to the FIVB Headquarters in Lausanne between -13 days and no later than 5 pm (Swiss time) on Friday preceding the event without providing a medical certificate or a proof of “force majeure”. Starting from 5 pm (Swiss time) on Friday preceding the event, the National Federation will need to communicate directly (by using the appropriate form and medical certificate) to the Technical Supervisor assigned to the concerned event copying the FIVB (at beach@fivb.org) or fax (+41 345 3548) until –1 minute (e.g. 12.57pm) of the day of the Country Quota Play Off Technical meeting to withdraw without a penalty. Withdrawals due to “force majeure” are subject to FIVB approval, a written notification is needed to justify such a case. Finally, should a Main Draw player withdraw without providing in due time a medical certificate or a satisfactory proof of “force majeure” after the above deadline a fine of USD 3,000 will be applied by the FIVB. All players withdrawing due to a medical reason must send to the FIVB the concerned certificate (of the time of the injury) 15 days after the event concerned in order to be eligible for the Bonus Pool. The FIVB Technical Supervisor is requested to notify immediately the FIVB Beach Volleyball Department. The concerned player must pay the fine to the FIVB either before arriving at his/her next event, or on-site to the FIVB Technical Supervisor of his/her next event, before the Technical Meeting concerned (i.e. Qualification Tournament or Main Draw depending on which event player is participating first). The player concerned will only be accepted by the FIVB to play in his/her next event if the amount due is received and officially acknowledged by the FIVB (in advance) or the FIVB Technical Supervisor (on-site) before the start of the event.

b) Athletes who fail to attend the Preliminary Inquiry and the Technical Meeting of the Main Draw Tournament will be exempted from any fine if the National Federation provides to the FIVB via fax and email a proof of “force majeure” or medical certificate (using the appropriate form) related to the withdrawal and/or disbanding of teams/athletes entered in the Main Draw Tournament. The National Federation needs to communicate the withdrawal to the FIVB Headquarters in Lausanne between -13 days and no later than 5 pm (Swiss time) on Friday preceding the event without providing a medical certificate or a proof of “force majeure”. Starting from 5 pm (Swiss time) on Friday preceding the event, the National Federation will need to communicate directly (by using the appropriate form and medical certificate) to the Technical Supervisor assigned to the concerned event copying the FIVB (at beach@fivb.org) or fax (+41 345 3548) until –1 minute (e.g. 12.57pm) of the day of the Country Quota Play Off Technical meeting to withdraw without a penalty. Withdrawals due to “force majeure” are subject to FIVB approval, a written notification is needed to justify such a case. Finally, should a Main Draw player withdraw without providing in due time a medical certificate or a satisfactory proof of “force majeure” after the above deadline a fine of USD 3,000 will be applied by the FIVB. All players withdrawing due to a medical reason must send to the FIVB the concerned certificate (of the time of the injury) 15 days after the event concerned in order to be eligible for the Bonus Pool. The FIVB Technical Supervisor is requested to notify immediately the FIVB Beach Volleyball Department. The concerned player must pay the fine to the FIVB either before arriving at his/her next event, or on-site to the FIVB Technical Supervisor of his/her next event, before the Technical Meeting concerned (i.e. Qualification Tournament or Main Draw depending on which event player is participating first). The player concerned will only be accepted by the FIVB to play in his/her next event if the amount due is received and officially acknowledged by the FIVB (in advance) or the FIVB Technical Supervisor (on-site) before the start of the event.

3. Confirmed List (-14 days up to Friday preceding the event)

- Once the confirmed list of teams is issued by the FIVB (-14 days), the FIVB is then the only entity accountable for receiving within the WT/03 Form (fully completed) any withdrawal and/or disbanding of teams/athletes requests entered in the Main Draw and the Qualification Tournament and to apply any modifications to the Confirmed List.
- No official withdrawal will be accepted by the FIVB if not requested in time and in writing through the WT/03 form.
- In case of withdrawal of an athlete entered in a World Tour event, the National Federation/athletes concerned must inform the FIVB whether the athlete will be substituted or not through the WT/03 form.
- National Federations entering teams through the FIVB Beach Volleyball Web based application system are responsible for any eventual sanctions related to the non-fulfillment of the FIVB Regulations.
- No medical certificate or proof of “force majeure” is needed within this period of time (-14 days up to Friday preceding the event).
- In the qualification tournament, should the disbanding of a team happens after the announcement of the confirmed list, the new team has the right to remain in the 32 or 64 qualification tournament teams only if they have enough points, otherwise they will be reserve teams.
- Reserve teams are featured onto the confirmed list and are constantly updated until the Preliminary Inquiry of the Country Quota Play Off. Reserve Teams must register at the respective Preliminary Meeting and be present at the commencement of the respective Qualification Tournament Technical Meeting to be eligible for possible inclusion in the Qualification Tournament, subject to late withdrawals or no shows by any teams (note if a country has participated in Country Quota Play-Offs, no team from the same Country from the Reserve List would be eligible to participate in the Qualification Tournament in case of any late withdrawals or no shows).

Note:
All deadlines concerning withdrawals are calculated from the start of the Country Quota Tournament and backwards.

Competition Regulations
C. Late Arrival and No-Show

- If a Qualification team(s) informs the FIVB prior to (or during) the Technical Meeting of the Country Quota Play-Off Technical Meeting of their withdrawal from the event, the selection of the next eligible team is based on the following priorities:
  - the next highest ranked team(s) excluded from the 64 or 32 teams Qualification team roster (if any) based on the Entry Points (14 days prior to the event) or are then allowed to enter into the Qualification Tournament, if they attend the Qualification Tournament Technical Meeting.

- The following policy must apply in order to clarify the withdrawal process of Main Draw teams and their consequent replacement:
  - If a Main Draw team(s) informs the FIVB prior to (or during) the Technical Meeting of the Country Quota Play-Off Technical Meeting of their withdrawal from the event, the next highest ranked eligible team(s) based on the Entry Points (14 days prior to the event) is then allowed to enter directly into the Main Draw.
  - If Main Draw team(s) informs the FIVB after the start of the Country Quota Play-Off Technical Meeting (a sanction of USD 3’000 will be applied by the FIVB) and before the commencement of the Main Draw of their withdrawal from the event, the extra team(s) will then be allowed to qualify from the Qualification Tournament under the Lucky Loser draw regulations as follows:
    - The extra team(s) are the team(s) with the highest seed in the qualification tournament (the total 365 day ranking points) among the eight teams failing to qualify in the Main Draw by losing the last round of the Qualification Tournament, if they attend the Technical Meeting of the Main Draw Tournament.
    - A “Lucky Loser” Draw procedure will be implemented by the FIVB Technical Supervisor. In this case, the FIVB Official must draw between the two highest ranked teams among the eligible “Lucky Losers”. For each additional open spot from the Qualification Tournament to the Main Draw, the next highest ranked team must be then drawn against the loser of the previous draw. This procedure continues until all additional open spots are filled.

Notes:
- a) No changes will be made in the team roster and in the team seeding if Main Draw teams(s) informs the FIVB between the end of the Technical Meeting of the Country Quota Play-Off Technical Meeting and the start of the Qualification Tournament of their withdrawal from the event.
- b) The Country Quota Play-Off, Qualification and Main Draw Tournaments are deemed to have started once the seeding has been confirmed and no further changes will be allowed.
- c) The athlete is responsible for requesting from his/her National Federation or to consult the FIVB Website under the “General Information” section of each Beach Volleyball Event the event’s regulations (WTOP Form) other than 13 days before the start of the event and further more to check again upon arrival at the venue, in order to obtain details on the time and place of the Technical Meeting and all other relevant information for the event.

9.3 The World Ranking

A. General Principles

The purpose of the World Ranking is to provide an objective scale of values of all athletes/teams participating in the World Tour events, on a merit basis. The official Ranking (based in principle on the athlete’s participation with his/her current partner) is communicated to the media and posted on the FIVB Website. The Rankings shall be conducted and a Lucky Loser draw are filled. The purpose of the World Ranking is to provide an objective scale of values of all athletes/teams participating in the World Tour events, on a merit basis. The official Ranking (based in principle on the athlete’s participation with his/her current partner) is communicated to the media and posted on the FIVB Website. All teams start from zero (0) point at the beginning of the season and accumulate points at each event. The total points distributed for each event is based on the total amount of Prize Money (including FIVB Bonus Pool) allocated. The World Ranking shall be equal to the best 75% of the total amount of tournaments per year. If the number of events is uneven, the amount of “best results” tournaments is rounded to the lower number. The ranking will start every year from new and is a sum of results until the quoted amount is reached. The worst results are eliminated for each new event. The Total amount of events shall be announced in January by the FIVB in order to calculate the number of events counting towards the world ranking (75%).

- The teams’ entries in the Main Draw of the World Championships and in both the Qualification and the Main Draw of any Grand Slam, Open, Challenger and Satellite (these latter two events as per point 9.1.8.1 above) will be according to the best 4 results out of the last 5 events within the previous 365 days 14 days prior to the start of the event. The points from a Challenger or Satellite count if it is a benefit for the team to calculate with these points.
- The performances of a team during the season.
- The best ranked men and women’s teams of the World Ranking at the conclusion of the last event of the World Tour season (“SWATCH FIVB World Tour Champion”). The Final World Ranking is established by taking into consideration all points earned by a team during World Tour events and other FIVB International events. Should an Athlete play with more than one partner during the season, the highest team ranking of that individual is then considered.
- The individual and teams’ rankings of all the participants based on the sum of the points earned in each World Tour event.

Example: 20 tournaments (Grand Slam, and Open events) at $75%-$15 tournaments for men, while for the women: 19 tournaments at $75%-14.25 rounded to the lower number is 14 events that will count towards the 2010 World Ranking. The table below reflects the points breakdown for each competition. The World Ranking (or season ranking) is taken as a basis to determine the following:

- The teams’ entries in the Main Draw of the World Championships and in both the Qualification and the Main Draw of any Grand Slam, Open, Challenger and Satellite (these latter two events as per point 9.1.8.1 above) will be according to the best 4 results out of the last 5 events within the previous 365 days 14 days prior to the start of the event. The points from a Challenger or Satellite count if it is a benefit for the team to calculate with these points.
- The performances of a team during the season.
- The best ranked men and women’s teams of the World Ranking at the conclusion of the last event of the World Tour season (“SWATCH FIVB World Tour Champion”). The Final World Ranking is established by taking into consideration all points earned by a team during World Tour events and other FIVB International events. Should an Athlete play with more than one partner during the season, the highest team ranking of that individual is then considered.
- The individual and teams’ rankings of all the participants based on the sum of the points earned in each World Tour event.

- Continental Tour events occurring on the FIVB recognition may be given the possibility to attribute points towards the World Ranking.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>World Champs</th>
<th>Grand Slam</th>
<th>Open</th>
<th>Challenger (as per point 9.1.8.1)</th>
<th>Satellite (as per point 9.1.8.1)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rank %</td>
<td>PoolPlay</td>
<td>PoolPlay</td>
<td>DoubleElim</td>
<td>DoubleElim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>90.00%</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>80.00%</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>70.00%</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>60.00%</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>50.00%</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>40.00%</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>30.00%</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>20.00%</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>5.00%</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>3.00%</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New Zealand athletes taking part actively at the SWATCH FIVB World Tour
### Competition Format and Match Format

#### A. General Principles

In principle, the FIVB World Tour events are composed by the following phases:
- Country Quota Play-Off matches
- Qualification Tournament
- Main Draw Tournament

Before the start of the Qualification Tournament all "Country Quota Play-Off" matches must be played with a single elimination format until a certain number of teams are eligible to qualify for the Main Draw.

#### B. Technical World Ranking

All athletes earning points during the last 365-day period will be listed in the Individual Technical World Ranking and Teams Technical World Ranking for internal use only. The Technical World Ranking is used to determine the seeding of the teams for FIVB Satellite and FIVB Challenger events (see point 9.1.B.1 above) as well as the seeding of the teams in the Qualification Tournament of the SWATCH FIVB World Tour events (i.e. Open Events, Grand Slam Events) and World Championships. Continental Tour may be given the possibility to attribute points towards the World Ranking.

---

#### COUNTRY QUOTA PLAY-OFF POSSIBILITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournament</th>
<th>Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Events</td>
<td>12 teams to qual 3 (6 matches)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Slam Events</td>
<td>8 teams to qual 2 (4 matches)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Championships</td>
<td>4 teams to qual 1 (2 matches)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

Flexible Competition Formats and Schedules to increase Media Exposure as well as meet Audiences' Needs

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Great fans, great weather, great Beach Volleyball at the Phuket Open presented by PPT
B. Country Quota Play-Off Matches

The "Country Quota Play-Off" matches must be played after 2:00 pm the day before the Qualification Tournament in conjunction with the practical part of the referee clinic between teams from the same country (with a maximum of 7 foreign country teams and 8 teams for the host country per gender) whenever the number of teams entered in the Qualification Tournament exceeds the number of teams allowed to participate in the Main Draw. The "Country Quota Play-Off" consists of a single elimination Play-Off and the matches are completed once a certain number of teams are eligible to qualify in the Main Draw, determined by country quota. (i.e. If a country has 41/4 teams entered in the Qualification Tournament but only 1 (1) can enter into the Main Draw then seed #1 will play seed #2 from that country while seed #3 will play seed #3. The winners from these two matches will then compete for the right to enter into the single elimination Qualification Tournament).

Notes:
- The Country Quota teams are seeded relative to each other from the Qualification Tournament seeding established before the start of the Country Quota Play-Off matches by the Technical Supervisor.
- Eliminated Country Quota teams do not earn any ranking or seeding points. Their participation in the Country Quota Play-Off matches nevertheless counts towards the eligibility requirements of both the Bonus Pool and as well as the qualification for the 2012 Olympic Games.

C. Qualification Tournament (1 day)

Once the "Country Quota Play-Off" matches are played and the country's quota over capacity has been eliminated, the standard competition format of a single elimination Qualification Tournament draw can be established and begin on the following day. A maximum of 44 teams can enter into the Qualification Tournament for Open Events and 32 teams only for a Grand Slam Event. The Qualification Tournament will be played until a minimum of eight teams make it to the quarter-final of the single elimination tournament (plus any possible additional teams in accordance with the Lucky loser draw regulations at point 9.2.B above).

- A minimum of 8 teams may qualify to the Main Draw through the Qualification Tournament. In case one or two wild cards() is (are) not allocated by the FIVB, the next eligible team(s) from the Qualification Tournament Entry List based on Entry Points will enter the Main Draw (respecting Country Quota rules).
- Should the number of host country and foreign teams participating in the Qualification Tournament be less than the number of teams required to fill the Main Draw roster, the FIVB will then notify these teams of their direct entry in the Main Draw.
- The universality principles for World Championships (Main Draw) and in the Qualification Tournament of Grand Slam and Open events will be applied in order to allow the participation of a team (not having enough points to directly enter into the event) from each of the 5 Confederations.
- The Qualification Tournament will be conducted in accordance with the bracket inserted in next page.

Notes:
- No special rules regarding competition/match regulations should be made during the season. Any eventual adjustments related to the competition/match regulations should be communicated to the players’ advisors and signed off in agreement between them and the FIVB.
- The competition format of the Grand Slams for the 2010 season will be a Pool Play system with 32 teams and a single elimination phase (a bronze medal match) with 24 teams. For the 2011 World Championships the Pool Play system will be also implemented with 48 teams (12 pools of 4 pairs) and a single elimination (a bronze medal match) with 32 teams.
- The competition format of the Grand Slams for the 2011 SWATCH FIVB World Championships.

Open Event - Qualification Tournament bracket-Single Elimination (for 64 teams)
32 Teams participate in the Main Draw as follows:
- Minimum 2 or maximum 3 Host Country Teams according to their FIVB Entry Points – 14 days before the start of the event. A third team may enter only if it has sufficient Entry Points.
- 19/20 Foreign Teams for Open Events in accordance with the FIVB Entry Points – 14 days before the start of the event. Foreign countries may enter a maximum of 3 teams directly in the Main Draw.
- Up to 2 FIVB Wild Cards for Open Events in the Main Draw. (Wild Cards do not affect country quota).
- A minimum of 8 Teams from the Qualification Tournament, regardless of the allocation of the FIVB Wild Card(s).
- A maximum of 64 teams for an Open event will permitted to play in the respective Qualification Tournament after Country Quota calculations. Only teams confirmed in the Qualification Tournament list will be eligible to play in Country Quota Play-Offs, teams in the Reserve Lists and not in the Top 64 Confirmed Lists will not be eligible to play in their respective Country Quota Play-Off matches (note the Qualification Tournament confirmed list may be larger than 64 due to the respective calculation for Country Quota, but these will only be confirmed in the Qualification Tournament lists in sequential order based on Entry Points until the 64 maximum is reached, taking in to consideration country quota implications).

D. Main Draw (4 days)

1. Open
The regular competition format for men and women (for Open Events) is a double elimination (matches 1 to 58) until 4 teams remain in the competition. Crossed semi-finals between 2 teams coming from the winners' bracket and two teams coming from the loser's bracket are generally played on Saturday afternoon for single gender events (and the Finals for 1st and 2nd place and 3rd and 4th place are played on the last competition day, in principle Sunday). In case of staggered double gender events, the semi-final and final matches should be held as follows:

Option 1:
- Friday afternoon women’s semi-finals;
- Saturday afternoon women’s finals and men’s semi-finals;
- Sunday men’s finals.

Option 2:
- Friday afternoon men’s semi-finals;
- Saturday afternoon men’s finals and women’s semi-finals;
- Sunday women’s finals.

Note:
Semi-finals for double gender event can be played on the same day of the final games, upon receiving authorization from the FIVB.
Rules for Pool Ranking (Grand Slam and World Championships)

- Winner earns 2 points, Loser earns 1 point for the match.
- In case of an injury forfeit of a team (at the court on time for the start of their match, however cannot start the match due to injury), the winning team will be awarded 2 points for the win, a set score of 2:0, and little points of 0:0, 0:0. The losing team will be awarded 1 match point, a set score of 0:2, and little points of 0:21. 0:21. The scoresheet however will reflect the standard application of rule 7.4.
- In case of an injury forfeit or an eventual disqualification of a team after the start of the match (as an example BRA is leading AUS 6:4 in the first set and AUS is injured at this point and cannot continue the match), the winning team will be awarded 2 points for the win, a set score of 2:0, and little points of 0:0, 0:0. The losing team will be awarded 1 match point, a set score of 0:2, and little points of 0:21. 0:21. The scoresheet however will reflect the standard application of rule 7.4.
- In case of a forfait due to no show of the team before the start of their match, the winning team will be awarded 2 points for the win, a set score of 2:0, and little points of 0:0, 0:0. The losing team will be awarded 0 match points, a set score of 0:2, and little points of 0:21. 0:21. The scoresheet however will reflect the standard application of rule 7.4. The forfeiting team will also be subject to a sanction.

In case of a tie in the Pools, during the Round Robin, the following rules will apply:

- Between two teams:
  - If teams have played against each other, the winner of the head to head match is ranked higher.
  - If teams have not played against each other, their ranking is determined by the points ratio between all teams in the pool.
- Between three teams:
  - If three teams have a tie in the main points, then the top ranked team is determined by the points ratios in the matches between the three tied teams.
  - If a tie still exists then the teams have the same position in the ranking.
- Between four teams:
  - The ranking is determined by the points ratio between all teams in the pool.
  - If a tie still exists then the teams have the same position in the ranking.

In case of a tie in the Pools, at the end of Round Robin, the following rules will apply:

- Between two teams:
  - The winner of the head to head match is ranked higher.
- Between three teams:
  - The top ranked team is determined by the points ratios in the matches between the three tied teams.
  - If a tie still exists then the top ranked team is determined by the points ratio between all teams in the pool.
- Between four teams:
  - The ranking is determined by the points ratio between all teams in the pool.
  - If a tie still exists then the teams have the same position in the ranking.

- Fifth Day of the Event (Main Draw)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rd</th>
<th>Br.</th>
<th>Team &quot;A&quot;</th>
<th>Team &quot;B&quot;</th>
<th>court</th>
<th>start tentative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Winner Match #1</td>
<td>Winner Match #1</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Winner Match #1</td>
<td>Winner Match #2</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Winner Match #2</td>
<td>Winner Match #2</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Winner Match #2</td>
<td>Winner Match #3</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Winner Match #3</td>
<td>Winner Match #3</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Winner Match #3</td>
<td>Winner Match #4</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Winner Match #4</td>
<td>Winner Match #4</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Winner Match #4</td>
<td>Winner Match #5</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>B</td>
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<td>Winner Match #6</td>
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<td>54</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Winner Match #6</td>
<td>Winner Match #7</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Winner Match #7</td>
<td>Winner Match #7</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Winner Match #7</td>
<td>Winner Match #8</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Winner Match #8</td>
<td>Winner Match #8</td>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rules for Tournament seeding (the top ranked team is determined by the points ratio between all teams in the pool).

- A minimum of 8 Teams from the Qualification Tournament, regardless of the allocation of the FIVB Wild Cards.
- A minimum of 32 teams for a Grand Slam event will permitted to play in the respective Qualification Tournament after Country Quota calculations. Only teams confirmed in the Qualification Tournament list will be eligible to play in Country Quota Play-Offs, teams in the Reserve Lists and not in the Top 32 Confirmed Lists will not be eligible to play in their respective Country Quota Play-Off matches (note the Qualification Tournament confirmed list may be larger than 32 due to the respective calculation for Country Quota, but these will only be confirmed in the Qualification Tournament list in sequential order based on Entry Points until the 32 minimum is reached, taking in to consideration country quota implications).

Note:

- Technical Supervisors and the organizers may agree to modify the above competition schedule to ensure that the top ranked teams could play one of the last matches (or during the most crowded session) of the day instead of one of the first in the morning. Concerning the optimization of the competition schedule during the days of the televised matches, you can find all the details in Chapter 6, page 155.

Therefore, the sequence of the above matches may also be implemented as follows:

1. Tournament seeding (the top ranked team is determined by the points ratio between all teams in the pool).
2. A minimum of 8 Teams from the Qualification Tournament, regardless of the allocation of the FIVB Wild Cards.
3. A minimum of 32 teams for a Grand Slam event will permitted to play in the respective Qualification Tournament after Country Quota calculations. Only teams confirmed in the Qualification Tournament list will be eligible to play in Country Quota Play-Offs, teams in the Reserve Lists and not in the Top 32 Confirmed Lists will not be eligible to play in their respective Country Quota Play-Off matches (note the Qualification Tournament confirmed list may be larger than 32 due to the respective calculation for Country Quota, but these will only be confirmed in the Qualification Tournament list in sequential order based on Entry Points until the 32 minimum is reached, taking in to consideration country quota implications).

As an example: a Grand Slam Qualification Tournament confirmed list of 95 teams contains 3 teams in the Qualification Tournament but will lose 2 as a result of Country Quota Play-Off, bringing the final list down to 32, however in this case BRA were in Entry Order on the Qualification Tournament list in positions 1, 3 & 7, so all 3 were allowed to play in the Country Quota Play-Off. Had the third team been outside of the Top 32 list in order of entry and in the Reserve List, then only 2 teams from BRA would have been eligible to play in the Country Quota Play-Off for one spot.
**2010 SWATCH FIVB – Grand Slam events**

**Structure of pools**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women’s Teams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pool A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed #16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed #17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed #32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Men’s Teams</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seed #1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed #16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed #17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seed #32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1) Main Draw pools are created at the Main Draw Technical Meeting.

2) The 8 teams that advance to the Main Draw from the Qualification will be seeded according to their seeding points on the day of the Main Draw Technical Meeting.

---

**2010 SWATCH FIVB Grand Slam Match Schedule**

**Women Main Draw Day 1 (32 Matches)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>Court 1</th>
<th>Court 2</th>
<th>Court 3</th>
<th>Court 4</th>
<th>Court 5</th>
<th>Court 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women Pool Play 1</td>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>A1 vs A4</td>
<td>A2 vs A3</td>
<td>B1 vs B4</td>
<td>B2 vs B3</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women Pool Play 2</td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>C1 vs C4</td>
<td>C3 vs C2</td>
<td>D1 vs D2</td>
<td>D3 vs D4</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men Qualification</td>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>E1 vs E4</td>
<td>E2 vs E3</td>
<td>F1 vs F4</td>
<td>F2 vs F3</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men Qualification</td>
<td>13:00</td>
<td>G1 vs G4</td>
<td>G2 vs G3</td>
<td>H1 vs H4</td>
<td>H2 vs H3</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women Pool Play 3</td>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>A1 vs A3</td>
<td>A2 vs A4</td>
<td>B1 vs B3</td>
<td>B2 vs B4</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women Round of 24</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>C1 vs C2</td>
<td>C3 vs C4</td>
<td>D1 vs D3</td>
<td>D2 vs D4</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men Round of 24</td>
<td>16:00</td>
<td>E1 vs E3</td>
<td>E2 vs E4</td>
<td>F1 vs F3</td>
<td>F2 vs F4</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men Round of 16 Quarter Finals</td>
<td>17:00</td>
<td>GW1 (1) vs GW1 (2)</td>
<td>J1 vs J4</td>
<td>K1 vs K3</td>
<td>K2 vs K4</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men Round of 16 Quarter Finals</td>
<td>18:00</td>
<td>MR24 (1) vs MR24 (2)</td>
<td>N1 vs N3</td>
<td>O1 vs O3</td>
<td>O2 vs O4</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women Main Draw Day 2, Men Main Draw Day 1 (56 Matches)</td>
<td>19:00</td>
<td>MR24 (7) vs MR24 (8)</td>
<td>P1 vs P3</td>
<td>Q1 vs Q3</td>
<td>Q2 vs Q4</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
<td>Men’s Qual</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Women Main Draw Day 3, Men Main Draw Day 2 (36 Matches)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>Court 1</th>
<th>Court 2</th>
<th>Court 3</th>
<th>Court 4</th>
<th>Court 5</th>
<th>Court 6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women Pool Play 3</td>
<td>10:00</td>
<td>WR16 (9) vs WR16 (10)</td>
<td>WR16 (11) vs WR16 (12)</td>
<td>WR16 (13) vs WR16 (14)</td>
<td>WR16 (15) vs WR16 (16)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women Round of 16 Quarter Finals</td>
<td>11:00</td>
<td>J1 vs J2</td>
<td>J3 vs J4</td>
<td>K1 vs K2</td>
<td>K3 vs K4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men Round of 24</td>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>L1 vs L2</td>
<td>L3 vs L4</td>
<td>M1 vs M2</td>
<td>M3 vs M4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men Round of 16 Quarter Finals</td>
<td>13:00</td>
<td>N1 vs N2</td>
<td>N3 vs N4</td>
<td>O1 vs O2</td>
<td>O3 vs O4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women Main Draw Day 4, Men Main Draw Day 3 (16 Matches)</td>
<td>14:00</td>
<td>WR16 (17) vs WR16 (18)</td>
<td>MR24 (1) vs MR24 (2)</td>
<td>MR24 (3) vs MR24 (4)</td>
<td>MR24 (5) vs MR24 (6)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men Main Draw Day 4 (4 Matches)</td>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>MR24 (7) vs MR24 (8)</td>
<td>MR24 (9) vs MR24 (10)</td>
<td>MR24 (11) vs MR24 (12)</td>
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</table>

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**Competition Regulations**

1) Main Draw pools are created at the Main Draw Technical Meeting.

2) The 8 teams that advance to the Main Draw from the Qualification will be seeded according to their seeding points on the day of the Main Draw Technical Meeting.

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**Note:** The above Start Time of the matches is indicative and it may be adapted with the previous approval of the FIVB to satisfy the organizers’ needs.
2010 SWATCH FIVB World Tour
Grand Slam 24 Team Single Elimination bracket and seeding

**Day 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loser 1st</th>
<th>Loser 9th</th>
<th>Loser 5th</th>
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<td>Draw 2</td>
<td>Draw 3</td>
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<td>Draw 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winner Match #19</td>
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</tbody>
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**Day 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Loser 1st</th>
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<th>Loser 5th</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Draw 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winner Match #21</td>
<td>Winner Match #19</td>
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<td>Draw 6</td>
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<td>Winner Match #22</td>
<td>Winner Match #20</td>
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<td>(5)</td>
<td>Draw 4</td>
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<td>(13)</td>
<td>(19)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winner Match #24</td>
<td>Winner Match #22</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A1 or B1 are decided by best ratio (wins, sets, points)* - highest ratio match #9, lowest ratio match #16
C1 or D1 are decided by best ratio (wins, sets, points*) - highest ratio match #13, lowest ratio match #12
E1 or F1 or G1 or H1 are decided by best ratio (wins, sets, points)* - highest ratio match #11, 2nd highest ratio = match #16, 3rd highest ratio = match #15, worst ratio = match #10

Draw 1 = 6 x 2=place teams from pool play with best ratio (wins, sets, points*)
Draw 2 = 2 x 2=place teams from pool play with worst ratio (wins, sets, points*)
Draw 3 = 2 x 3=place teams from pool play with best ratio (wins, sets, points*)
Draw 4 = 6 x 3=place teams from pool play with worst ratio (wins, sets, points*)
In the first two rounds teams from the same pool can’t meet

* Points earned from a forfeit don’t count in this ratio (The matches won and sets won do count)

3. World Championships

The competition format of a World Championships combines always men and women programs. The Main Draw of each gender event will be played through a first phase of 12 pools of 4 teams each (Round Robin) and a 2nd phase with 32 teams playing in a Single Elimination format (the loser of a semi-final will play the bronze medal match, while the winner of the semi-final games will play the gold medal match). From the Round Robin phase the 1st, 2nd and the 8 best 3rd ranked teams of the pools (based on wins, sets and points ratios) will be advancing to the single elimination phase (total: 32 teams).

48 teams participating in the Main Draw as follow:
- minimum 2 or 6 maximum Host Country Teams according to their FIVB Entry Points – 14 days before the start of the event. A third team may enter only if it has sufficient Entry Points.
- 39/43 Foreign Teams for World Championships Events in accordance with the FIVB Entry Points – 14 days before the start of the event. Foreign countries may enter a maximum of 4 teams directly in the Main Draw.
- 3 FIVB Wild Cards.
  - The continental participation is always granted for this event.
  - Seeding by the day of the drawing of lots or by the Technical Meeting

The playing format of the World Championships should be fixed, so that the drawing after pool play finished at late afternoon and no games will be played the same day in single elimination. If the first round of single elimination is played the same day as the drawing after pool play is made, the starting time of the first game in single elimination cannot happen earlier than 2 hours, after the bracket has been drawn and approved by the FIVB/Technical Supervisor.

The Technical Supervisor is responsible to verify if the competition schedule fulfill the FIVB competition regulations at least 2 weeks before the start of the event (start time semi-finals and finals, above duration of the competition, match per day, break between matches, daylight, etc.).

**Note:** For Grand Slam and World Championships the FIVB will issue - 14 days the finalized event’s regulations W/106 including all details of the competition schedule and format. The hosting National Federation will then circulate the event’s regulations and confirmed list of team (~ 13 days) to the participating countries, officials, sponsors, etc.

In case of a tie in the Pools, during the Round Robin, the following rules will apply:
- Between two teams:
  - If teams have played against each other, the winner of the head to head match is ranked higher.
  - If teams concerned have not played against each other, their ranking is determined by the points ratio between all teams in the pool.
- Between three teams:
  - If a tie still exists by points ratio then the teams have the same position in ranking.
  - Between three teams:
    - If teams have a tie in the main points, then the top ranked team is determined by the points ratios in the matches between the three tied teams.
    - If a tie still exists then the teams have the same position in the ranking.
- Between four teams: The ranking is determined by the points ratio between all teams in the pool.
- Between four teams: The ranking is determined by the points ratio between all teams in the pool.

In case of a tie in the Pools, at the end of Round Robin, the following rules will apply:
- Between two teams:
  - The winner of the head to head match is ranked higher.
- Between three teams:
  - The top ranked team is determined by the points ratios in the matches between the three tied teams.
  - If a tie still exists then the top ranked team is determined by the points ratio between all teams in the pool.
- Between four teams: The top ranked team is determined by the tournament seeding (the highest seed of the tied teams is the top ranked teams).
- The second ranked team is determined by the head-to-head match result between the two remaining teams.
### Tentative Match Schedule of the SWATCH FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships

To be used as a sample for World Championships Organizers

#### Structure of pools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women’s Teams</th>
<th>Men’s Teams</th>
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**Note:** Should a drawing of lots be implemented within 14 days from the start of this event, the allocation of the teams in each pool will follow the specific event’s regulations.
E. Seeding of the Teams and Seeding Points

The distribution of the teams in the Qualification Tournament or the Main Draw depend on the Entry Points of all the teams entered in the event – 14 days before the start of the event (while taking into consideration the Country Quota rules and the FIVB Wild Cards). Once all the participating teams are known and duly confirmed their presence during the mandatory Technical Meetings held the evening before the Qualification Tournament as well as the evening before the Main Draw, the teams are then seeded in the competition bracket.

1. Qualification Tournament (Open and Grand Slam)

In the Qualification Tournament, teams are seeded as per the athletes’ 365-day FIVB World Ranking points at the time of Technical Meeting. In case of a tie, a drawing of lots must be made during the Technical Meeting.

Note:

The seeding for the "Country Quota Play-Off" matches can be determined by establishing the overall seeding of the Qualification Tournament (before the start of the Country Quota Play-Off matches) and by placing the "Country Quota Play-Off" teams in a single elimination draw according to their relative seed within the Qualification Tournament. Once the Country Quota over capacities is eliminated, the single elimination Qualification Tournament draw can be restored by removing the eliminated "Country Quota Play-Off" teams from the single elimination draw (i.e. the remaining teams are "moved up" to occupy the seed of the eliminated teams so that the highest seeded teams receive "byes" and the single elimination Qualification Tournament can begin on the following day. This procedure ensures that the top seeds receive byes.

- Maternity Leave

For team seeding points, the calculation below will be added to the partner’s points accordingly.

- First Entry

For seeding into the qualification tournament, the sum of the players’ ranking points gained in the previous 365 days before the birth of their baby will count.

- Subsequent Entries

For each subsequent entry, the number of days played from the athletes’ return to competition to the start of the new event will be counted. This number will be subtracted from the 365 days before the birth of their baby. The sum of the ranking points gained in the tournaments played within these days will count (i.e. 21 days for example) between the first return to competition and the second event, and (365 – 21) days for the birth of their baby). After 365 days from the return to competition, the points gained 365 days before the birth of the baby will be nil and only the ranking points earned 365 days after the return to competition will be used.

Injuries:

In case of serious injury, which causes an athlete to not be able to play for a minimum of 365 days, he/she shall maintain 100% of the seeding points, from before the injury when returning to play. The National Federation of the athlete concerned has the obligation to apply for such a rule sending a medical certificate to the FIVB and to notify the FIVB about his/her return to play requesting to benefit from the above regulations. The same principles of the Maternity Leave rule to calculate the points at subsequent event will apply.

2. Main Draw

In the Main Draw, all teams are seeded as per the athletes’ most recent Main Draw finishes (average of the best 4 results out of 5 last finished) over the last 12 months in FIVB World Tour events and World Championships on the day before the start of the event (Technical Meeting). In case of a tie, the advantage should be given to the team with the highest 365-days FIVB World Ranking points on the day before the start of the event (Technical Meeting). If a tie still exists, a drawing of lots must break the tie.

If an athlete played in one, two, three, or four events only in the last 365 days his seed will be his average finish. If an athlete played in five or more World Tour and World Championships events in the last 365 days, his/her seed will be the average of his/her four best out of his/her last five Main Draws finishes (the athlete is then allowed to drop his/her lowest finish if he/she played in five events in the last 365 days). An athlete will not be allowed to drop a finish unless he/she participated in 5 events in the last 365 days.
Injuries:
- In case of serious injury, which causes an athlete to not be able to play for a minimum of 365 days, he/she shall maintain 100% of the seedings points, from before the injury when returning to play. The National Federation of the athlete concerned has the obligation to apply for such a rule sending a medical certificate to the FIVB and to notify the FIVB about his/her return to play requesting to benefit from the above regulations. The same principles of the Maternity Leave rule to calculate the points at subsequent event will apply.

Notes:
- In Open and Grand Slam events should the Host Country have no team among the top 8 seeded teams, 2 teams will then be seeded 9th and 10th in order to help the promotion of the event. Should only one Host Country team be seeded among the top 8 teams, the second highest seeded Host Country team will then be seeded 9th for similar purposes.
- In the World Championships should the Host Country have no team among the top 12 seeded teams 2 teams will then be seeded 13th and 14th in order to help the promotion of the event. Should only one Host Country team be seeded among the top 12 teams, the second highest seeded Host Country team will then be seeded 13th for similar purposes.
- Athletes who never participated in any FIVB World Tour event will be placed in the draw among the lowest seeds upon their first participation, with the exception of the Host Country teams. If Host Country Teams possess no World Tour (Qualification or Main draw) finishes in the last 365 days, a drawing of lots will be carried out for Open and Grand Slam events to determine the team to be seeded 9th (with the second Host Country team to be placed in the draw among the lowest seed upon their first participation).
- The only time the host country gets seeds 9 and 10 (or the seed earned directly by the second seeded host country team) and not 9 and 10 is if both host country teams have no World Tour (Qualification or Main draw) finishes in the last 365 days. This means that if the top host country team has a World Tour (Qualification or Main draw) finish in the last 365 days then the second host country team is seeded 10.
- Eliminated Country Quota teams do not earn seeding points.
- If a Wild Card team is also the a host country team that is eligible to be moved to the 9/10 seed in the draw, and has low seedings points, in the 365 calendar, this team must be advanced to the 9/16 seed regardless of its Wild Card status. This procedure should be applied consistently this way in the future.

F. Match Format
All matches, including the final game, are played according to the Rally Point Scoring System.

9.5 Competition Program and Match Program

A. Warm–Up
The time allowed for teams warm-up on the court for the Qualification Tournament and for the Main Draw must be decided by the Competition Director and the FIVB Technical Supervisor.

B. Break between two matches
In general, between 1.5 hrs and 2.0 hrs should be allocated under extreme circumstances and/or live televised matches, where the time between each match should not be less than 45 minutes, this will be decided by the FIVB Technical Supervisor on site.

C. Number of matches per day
Each team may not play more than 3 matches per day during the Main Draw competition. In exceptional cases the FIVB Technical Supervisor may however require from the athletes to play more than 3 times in one day in order to recover from any interruptions of time. In principles the FIVB will not allow organizers to schedule more matches in order to eliminate teams to cut costs on board and lodging for example.

D. Standard Competition Schedule

1. Open Event Single Gender (5 Days Competition on 8 Courts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Match Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1st day | Country Quota Play-Off (Country Quota Play-Off). Country Quota Play-Off matches have to be promoted in all communications as an official part of the event. Country Quota Play-Off for men and women after 2:00 pm the day before the Qualification Tournament in conjunction with the practical part of the referee clinic on 8 courts (matches to be pre-assigned on a 40 minutes base).
| 2nd day | QT from 9:00 am on 6 courts with matches 1 to 56 for Women and matches 1 to 56 for Men (for Open Events) and matches 1 to 24 for Men (for Grand Slam Events). Matches to be pre-assigned on a 40 minutes base.
| 3rd day | MD from 9:00 am on 8 courts with matches 1 to 32 for Women and matches 1 to 32 for Men.
| 4th day | MD from 9:00 am on 8 courts with matches 33 to 44 for Women and matches 33 to 44 for Men followed on 4 courts with matches 45 to 54 for Women and matches 45 to 54 for Men.
| 5th day | MD from 9:00 am on 2 courts with matches 55 to 58 for Women and matches 55 to 58 for Men. Matches 59 and 60 for Men and matches 59 and 60 for Women to be played in the afternoon.
| 6th day | MD finals on 1 court with matches 61 to 62 for Women and matches 61 to 62 for Men to be played in the afternoon.

2. Open and Grand Slam Events Double Gender (5 Days Competition on 8 Courts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Match Format</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1st day | Country Quota Play-Off (Country Quota Play-Off). Country Quota Play-Off matches have to be promoted in all communications as an official part of the event.
| 2nd day | QT from 9:00 am on 6 courts with matches 1 to 56 for Women and matches 1 to 56 for Men (for Open Events) and matches 1 to 24 for Men (for Grand Slam Events). Matches to be pre-assigned on a 40 minutes base.
| 3rd day | MD from 9:00 am on 8 courts with matches 1 to 32 for Women and matches 1 to 32 for Men.
| 4th day | MD from 9:00 am on 8 courts with matches 33 to 44 for Women and matches 33 to 44 for Men followed on 4 courts with matches 45 to 54 for Women and matches 45 to 54 for Men.
| 5th day | MD from 9:00 am on 2 courts with matches 55 to 58 for Women and matches 55 to 58 for Men. Matches 59 and 60 for Men and matches 59 and 60 for Women to be played in the afternoon.
| 6th day | MD finals on 1 court with matches 61 to 62 for Women and matches 61 to 62 for Men to be played in the afternoon.

3. Open and Grand Slam Events Double Gender staggered by 1 Day (6 Days Competition on 6 Courts)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Match Format</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| 1st day | Country Quota Play-Off (Country Quota Play-Off). Starting from 2008 and onwards Country Quota Play-Off to be promoted in all communications as an official part of the event.
Qualification Tournament starting from 09:00 am on 4 courts according to the number of teams entered in the Qualification Tournament (matches 1 to 56 for Open Events and matches 1 to 24 for Grand Slam Events).

Notes:
- a) This competition program can be altered in order to meet the needs of the Host TV Broadcaster. Only the FIVB can approve any alteration of program and Organizers must present their request to the FIVB Beach Volleyball Coordinator at the very latest 45 days before the event.
- b) In case matches 59 and 60 cannot be played on the fourth day due to "force majeure", these matches must be rescheduled in the morning of the following day.
- c) In principle, on the final day, the final matches will start after 2:00 pm but the timetable can be adjusted in accordance with TV programming needs.
- d) Promoters are recommended to schedule a greater number of night session matches under artificial light on the Centre Court during the event if possible in order to produce higher audiences at the venue and on television.
- e) The Schedule may start before 9:00 am and be extended at night with the minimum required artificial light intensity if it will be needed.

2. Assigning Courts

Two methods can be used to determine on which courts matches will be played:

1) pre-assigning courts.
2) playing on the next available courts, following the sequence of matches.

It is the FIVB Technical Supervisor’s responsibility to apply one or the other system or a combination of the two methods. Pre-assigning courts is recommended for the Main Draw and is optional for the Qualification Tournament.

Pre-determining the court assignments for several matches prior to the start of any given match has the following advantages compared to the available "trendy" method:

- Compelling matches (i.e. host country versus foreign country) can be scheduled on the main court in advance which dramatically increases the atmosphere within the stadium as fans have a vested interest in the outcome.
- The schedule of the next day has to be ready one hour after the end of the last match at the latest and properly circulated. This will allow also spectators and media to easily follow their favorite teams and helps to spread the promotion of the tournament. The teams will play the second round matches on successive days on the main court (host country versus foreign country) and therefore see the results of the matches already played and will be reinforced in their determination to see the second round matches.
- The matches among the second round winners and first round losers should be spread out over four courts.
- The matches on the last day are scheduled to be played in the main court.
- The second round losers’ matches should be pre-assigned to choose the most compelling matches for the main court (as above).
- Matches 218 to 236 should be scheduled on the outside courts.
- The FIVB Technical Supervisor is responsible to apply one or the other system or a combination of the two methods.

Since match times can greatly vary (i.e. there are usually "fast" courts and "slow" courts), the FIVB Technical Supervisor and the Competition Director must always pay attention to the flow of the tournament and make the new assignments accordingly. While an outside court (court 2, 3, or 4) may at times sit empty as teams are resting before their next match, the main court should always proceed and the last match of the day must be played on the main court.

The court assignments must always be presented on a draw sheet so that the future matches can be easily determined. This draw sheet should furthermore be posted in the players’ area and in the referees’ lounge during the Qualification Tournament. In addition, during the Main Draw competition, court assignments must be posted on the Main Draw boards at the spectators’ entrance and in the press area.

3. Method for Pre-assigning Courts for Open events

Pre-assignment of the first round of matches (or the first two rounds if the first round is very short).

- Calculation of the number of main court matches in the first round (or first and second rounds). This equals the total number of first (or first and second) round matches divided by the number of competition courts. This number can be rounded up to the next match (19 games/4 courts = 4.75 matches = 5 matches).

- Assignment of the main court matches (court 1) with a preference given to matches where the host country plays against a foreign country (host country versus host country competitions are often boring for the crowd). Often the Competition Director will direct the FIVB Technical Supervisor to the most compelling matches (these are usually obvious).

- Assignment of the secondary court matches in order and in repeating groups. That is, assignment of courts 2, 3, and 4 to the first three available matches (those that are not on court 1), and then assignment of courts 2, 3, and 4 to the next three available matches and so on until the entire first (or first and second) round is completed. This way each team will know the location and approximate start time of its first match.

- As the early first round matches finish, the assignment of the second (or third) round of winners bracket matches may begin. The same rules as above apply when assigning the second (or third) round.

4. Competition Rules

In principle, on the final day, the final matches will start after 19:00.

Note: Sometimes an outside court must sit empty due to the slowness of another court and this is unfortunately unavoidable. A minimum of 1.5 hours should be allocated except under extreme circumstances and/or for live televised matches where the time between each match should not be less than 45 minutes.

- The second round losers’ matches must be pre-assigned to choose the most compelling matches for the main court (as above).
- Two matches must be kept unassigned at the end of the day until closer to the end of the day. This will allow for more flexibility in ending the last match on the main court.

E. Competition Schedule and Assignments of Matches

1. Standard Match Schedule and Court Distribution

   (Country Quota Play-Off, Qualification Tournament and Main Draw)

   - First Day
   - Country Quota Play-Off Matches (if necessary) starting from 02:00 pm onwards according to the number of teams required to play the Country Quota Play-Off Matches.
   - Second Day (Qualification Tournament)
F. Official Rules of the Game and Referee Instructions

The Official Beach Volleyball Rules approved and published by the FIVB will be in force throughout the 2009 and 2012 season. The Official Beach Volleyball Rules (booklet in English/French/Spanish languages and in English/French/Spanish/Russian/German/Arabic languages on the FIVB Website as follows: http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/Rules/rules.htm) and the 2010 Beach Volleyball Referee instructions (in English including the Casebook, the Official Scoresheet, the Referee Delegate Manual composed by its Main Body plus 18 Appendixes, i.e. the Referee Guidelines, the Scoresheet Instructions, etc, as follows: http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/Refereeing/Refereeing.htm) are available on the FIVB Website to be easily copied and distributed to the referees, line persons, scorers, athletes, journalists, etc.

The Official Beach Volleyball Rules shall apply to all FIVB Beach Volleyball International competitions, including the World Championships, World Tour events, Continental Circuits, National Circuits and any tournament sanctioned by the FIVB, by the Continental Confederations and by the National Federations. The Official Rules booklet is provided free of charge by the FIVB to each National Federation appearing in the FIVB World Ranking, the FIVB Technical Supervisors, the FIVB Referee Delegates, the International Beach Volleyball Referees, the World Tour promoters, the athletes playing in the World Tour events, and to any other entity closely involved in the FIVB competitions. Additional copies can be ordered at the FIVB by bearing the shipment costs.