5.1 Communications Strategy and Responsibility

Communications is a core strategic function of any organisation, and with the diversification of the global information landscape it has increasing importance. Driven by the revolutionary change in the way that information is channelled and consumed, leaders of organisations can now engage with their target audiences in hitherto unimaginable ways. Opinions are built and shared globally, 24/7, through and in web-based communities and media. These new processes represent a huge opportunity for the FIVB, but also a responsibility for the Promoter.

At FIVB events, the role of communications is to plan strategically, manage and sustain the FIVB's relationship with key audiences, ensuring maximum event exposure through all media channels, taking responsibility for the organisation's image, and thereby helping the FIVB to achieve its strategic and operational goals. As such, communications is an integral part of the event's operational plan. Events are about bringing communities together and transferring information effectively – smooth technical and operational work should be a given. Effective, well managed communications are essential to the continued success of FIVB events. The FIVB's objective is to engage with all target audiences on a local, national and international level in order to establish its properties more solidly and promote beach volleyball globally. Only a proactive cooperation between the Promoters, the local Media Operations Directors and the FIVB Press Department will deliver enhanced communications and meet this objective.

This chapter sets out the minimum requirements for media operations at FIVB Beach Volleyball events (FIVB World Championships, FIVB World Tour Grand Slams, FIVB Opens). The guidelines for hiring media staff, and setting up and maintaining media facilities are designed to provide the best possible service to the media and maximize event coverage. Event organisers are therefore expected to provide professional communications staff and high-quality media facilities that reflect a commitment to the future of their event, the FIVB's worldwide image and the sport in general.

The Promoter must commit to:

- Hire (part-time) an experienced, professional Media Operations Director by at least six months before the start of the tournament to warm up the interest of the media and raise awareness about the event, to design a comprehensive Media Plan, to allow the FIVB to send instructions and start preparing the event, while it is mandatory to hire a full-time experienced and professional Media Operations Director and other media staff 90 days before the start of the event;
- Promote the event to all domestic media (TV, radio, internet, written press etc.) well in advance and keep them regularly informed. An effective Media Plan must be realized by each Promoter and submitted to the FIVB for its approval at least four months before each event. A sample Media Plan highlighting the most important elements (i.e. launching press conferences, TV & Radio campaign, presence and activities on the internet and social media, printed materials and distribution channels, press kit, etc.) is available at the following websites:
  - http://op.fivb-downloads.org (FIVB Open events) (username: fivb/password: open)

The following media items must be prepared and sent by email to the FIVB Press Department (time period: 90 days before the start of the event):

1) Description of the Event media facilities (including a detailed map that clearly shows the location of the media centre, media tribune and what is foreseen for the mixed zone – please mention any particular issue concerning the setting of the media facilities);
2) List of media staff (including the expected number of volunteers and their roles);
3) List of the invited media to the launch press conference(s) and other media opportunities organised for the promotion of the event; List of the VIP media invited to the event (if applicable);
4) Comprehensive Media Plan for the event including date, location, invitees, speakers for the launch press conference(s), distribution of news information, printed materials and distribution channels, information on the internet and social media strategy, press kit, promotion campaign on TV & Radio etc.;
5) Confirmation that the FIVB online accreditation wizard tool has been implemented to the event's website and domestic media was invited to register via the FIVB's online accreditation system (For FIVB World Championships and FIVB World Tour Grand Slams) (refer to 5.4); Invite domestic and international media to the event via the FIVB's online accreditation system (For FIVB Opens);
6) Confirmation of the accreditation facilities for the international media according to the FIVB guidelines;
7) Confirmation that international standard facilities will be available to the accredited media (by setting up a functional, comfortable and appropriately equipped Media Centre for the journalists, broadcasters, photographers etc. and testing the internet connection bandwidth) (see Press Facilities section 5.3).

The FIVB Press Department will work closely with the events’ Promoters and support their Media Operations Director in the most effective way, making active contributions concerning the following:

– Implementing the media items listed in the Master Plan;
– Producing press releases for the international media and promoting the event through the FIVB’s different media channels (website, publications, social media etc.);
– Assisting the TV Coordinator and TV Highlight producer (by providing information etc.);
– Assisting the Media Operations Director with the implementation of the Media Plan;
– Facilitating contact, based on the terms of the NF-Player’s Commitment, between the Promoters and the FIVB partners/sponsors’ local public relations representatives in view of a possible collaboration. Athletes shall also show their best efforts by personally getting involved in the promotion of the tournaments and side events, especially those involved with the FIVB Heroes campaign. On such a matter, the section 5.14 in this chapter will give a better understanding concerning the rights and obligations of each participating athlete, towards the media.

– It is recommended that first- or second-year FIVB Beach Volleyball Promoters contract a local communications and public relations agency to attract, engage and motivate stakeholders to act and media to give maximum exposure to the event.
5.2 Media Staff

A. FIVB Press Department

The FIVB Press Department coordinates the media action from the FIVB headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland, while the FIVB Press Department Director assigns on-site an FIVB Media Operations Delegate (see section 3.1 E5) and an FIVB official photographer (when foreseen) (see section 5.2 D) and supervises that they perform in accordance with the terms of their respective mandate.

The FIVB Press Department also:
– Verifies that the event’s Media Plan fits in with the FIVB’s communications strategy;
– Ensures via the Media Operations Director that all the necessary media matters which are listed in the Master Plan and in the approved Media Plan are efficiently implemented by each Promoter;
– Gives instructions to the FIVB Media Operations Delegate to manage the media and the distribution of information on- and off-site and through the different FIVB’s communications channels;
– Provides daily “on demand” support to the FIVB Media Operations Delegate;
– Creates tools for the media (Media Guide, Statistics, Players’ Biographies etc.);
– Provides worldwide visibility with press releases, FIVB publications (electronic, newsletter “World Volley News,” “VolleyWorld” magazine, Year Book), FIVB website updating, engagement activities on FIVB social media, PR activities with international agencies and media daily contacts;
– Organises “kick off” to launch the beach volleyball season (if any);
– Provides media services on the occasion of special events such as “drawing of lots”, FIVB press conferences, Media Operations Director seminar, etc.;
– Issues and circulates FIVB press releases whenever needed.

B. Media Operations Director

The Media Operations Director must be a journalist working in the host country, he/she has experience in running a Media Centre for an international sports event and has an excellent command of spoken and written English (see profile described in section 3.1 D.2 of the handbook). He/she must be nominated at least six months before the start of the tournament, to facilitate the communication with the FIVB Press Department Director and the FIVB Media Operations Delegate. He/she should be employed full-time three months prior to start of the competition until all necessary press-related reporting is completed after the event. The Media Operations Director is responsible for producing the final report (BVB-20 form - see section 5.10) and sending this to the FIVB Press Department a maximum seven days after the end of the competition.

The FIVB may require a pre-season seminar in Lausanne with Media Operations Directors, for which the FIVB will cover travel and accommodation expenses.

It is highly recommended that the Media Operations Director goes through the FIVB Press Manual, published online by the FIVB Press Department and updated several times a year. This useful resource provides the FIVB guidelines on media operations at FIVB events and a variety of information on media-related matters.

C. FIVB Media Operations Delegate

The FIVB Media Operations Delegate (see section 3.1 E5) will assist the local Media Operations Director at the FIVB World Championships, FIVB World Tour Grand Slams and FIVB Open events, when available.

The Promoter must provide the Media Operations Delegate with a mobile phone (allowing international calls) from their arrival to the morning after the end of the competition.

D. Official Photographer

High-quality professional photography is vital to the success of the FIVB Beach Volleyball events and to the FIVB’s image. Promoters must hire a professional photographer for each day of the event (including all technical meetings and country quota play-off matches) and must send a signed BVB/07 photographer’s agreement to the FIVB no later than one month prior to the start of the event with his/her signature. The photographer must have experience covering an international beach volleyball event and must be approved in advance by the FIVB.

The FIVB appoints its own Official Photographer to cover FIVB World Championships and FIVB World Tour Grand Slam events. Should it be the case, the Promoter is strongly encouraged to hire a second photographer to cover the side courts, the side activities and focus on atmosphere pictures.

Professional “beach volleyball” photographers should be hired for all events in order to provide top-notch sports photography for the benefit of all parties involved and the sport itself.

All photos must be provided by the professional photographer free of any rights in perpetuity, including use in FIVB publications, website, social media and by media worldwide. The photographer will not give or sell the photographs produced to third parties, except with the FIVB’s prior agreement.

The Media Operations Director must provide the e-mail address of the Official Photographer to the FIVB (press@fivb.org) 30 days before the event so that the FIVB can send information outlining specific guidelines to be followed on-site (uploading process to the FIVB website, location in centre court, etc.)

All photos in high resolution must be appropriately labelled in the JPEG file (File Properties in Adobe Photoshop) with the date, place and name of the event, as well as the names and country of players on the photo and the names of any other persons seen on the photo, and photos must be properly captioned in the Visasp System, including full names of all players (written as such: USA’s Todd Rogers, not Todd ROGERS (USA) or any other form) in the photo and their country/countries and explaining what they are doing in the photo. The photo caption must not include the photographer’s name.

In order to consistently provide the best photos of each event, the FIVB Press Department will provide a list of beach volleyball photo specialists with their rates to any Promoter who has not appointed a beach volleyball specialist photographer by the deadline. The Promoter is fully encouraged to make an appointment from this list. If a Promoter needs to make a photographer appointment before the deadline for organisational and cost purposes, he/she can contact the FIVB Press Department at press@fivb.org.

In FIVB World Championships and Olympic years, from the first FIVB World Tour Grand Slam event of the season for each gender and preferably during the Preliminary Inquiry, head-and-shoulder shots will be taken by the Official Photographer for all players in order to update the photo files and illustrate the player’s biographies on the website. The portrait pictures must be taken with the same
consistent background and players must not wear sunglasses, baseball caps or any sponsored branding items. Please note that the official World Tour/World Championships top is mandatory at the venue.

The Promoters are required to create separate entrances/exits to the “field of play” for photographers and television cameramen (separate from players and officials) and must have thin breathable vests (bibs) possibly of a dark colour, to identify cameramen and photographers individually. Light cotton coloured bibs for the playing area. Bright colours should be avoided for bibs especially during televised matches.

If an FIVB Official Photographer has been appointed, then he/she should be equipped with a bib of a different colour to have access to all areas including the competition areas.

Requirements
The photographs must be produced using a professional digital camera. The initial use of the photographs will be in the event’s photo gallery and slideshow on the FIVB website as well as in press releases and social media platforms. The photographs must meet the following criteria:

- The digital camera used to produce the photographs must be a professional camera which creates files of at least eight megapixels.
- The files produced must be saved in JPEG format in the Adobe Photoshop programme (minimum of eight on a scale from one to twelve).
- The size of the files must be at least 2,200 pixels (longest side).
- Except in special cases, the files must have a maximum exposure of 400 ASA.
- The focus, contrast, and levels must be of print-ready standard.
- The photographs posted in the photo gallery must be of print-ready quality for the media.
- Photos must also be taken with the photo slideshow in mind, which tells the story of the event. The Media Operations Delegate is responsible for selecting which photos from the VIS are to appear in the photo slideshow and for adding the legends.

When taking photographs, the Official Photographer should wherever possible ensure that sponsor signage and the spectators are visible in the background so that the photographs can be used for promotional material. If the stadium is full, the photographer should take panoramic shots. If the stadium is not full and there are few spectators, the photographer should take close-ups so that the empty seats are not visible. When the FIVB President is present, the photographer should pay attention to his requests for photographs of ceremonies with VIPs, of meetings, etc. The photographer should look for the opportunity to take a variety of photos of the spectators, personalities, children having fun, TV and journalists covering the event, etc. The Official Photographer should take one or two panoramic photos of the stadium from outside the venue. The Official Photographer should avoid uploading pictures to the website of players wearing long sleeves and long shorts, unless completely unavoidable. The excitement, the ambience, the crowds, side events activities, night pictures, dinner party, sponsors’ activities, kid camps, venue, village, etc. should be an integral part of an Official Photographer’s coverage.

The Official Photographer must upload digital photographs to the FIVB website at least five times per event day (including the first photo(s) within one hour of the start of play). The Official Photographer must provide the following photographs:

- A minimum of 30 digital photographs of matches to be uploaded to the FIVB website for each day of the event.
- A minimum of 10 digital photographs of the prize-giving ceremony to be uploaded to the FIVB website.
- No later than seven days after the event, DVDs (two copies) containing a selection of at least 100 of the best maximum resolution and web resolution digital photographs of the event, properly captioned and organised in separate folders (men/women, by day of competition and web/high resolution) by international express mail to the FIVB Press Department (min. 300 dpi, 18cm X 13cm).

E. Photo Marshal

The Promoter under the Media Operations Director guidelines is required to assign a Photo Marshal for the duration of the event, named a week before the event. The Photo Marshal will be responsible for the movement of all photographers and ensuring that only accredited photographers are in the designated areas for photographers and will oversee the presence of photographers around and on the centre court.

A Photo Marshal is mandatory for FIVB World Championships and FIVB World Tour Grand Slam events to coordinate the work of the accredited photographers on the centre court.

F. Volunteers

The Promoter is encouraged to use volunteers in the following areas of media operations – quote takers, media centre assistants, runners, results distribution and assistant photo marshals amongst others areas.
5.3 Media Facilities

Setting up top-notch media facilities go some way towards ensuring that the journalists, broadcasters, photographers etc. are able to cover the event effectively and as a direct result help expand the awareness to the FIVB’s events and the sport in general.

Media facilities should be operational one day before the start of the tournament. On the competition days, the media facilities must be open at least two hours before the start of play and should remain open for at least two hours after the conclusion of the final match. Organisers should be prepared to extend the opening hours to assist any journalists working to meet international deadlines. The FIVB Technical Supervisor should inspect and check the media facilities during the stadium homologation.

The Media Centre, Interview Room and Mixed Zone must be located adjacent to the centre court as much as possible. It is mandatory to provide sufficient seats for the accredited media in a reserved roofed area in the VIP stand, with electricity plugs (tables are not necessary in this area) and in a working area facing the main court as much as possible.

A. Media Centre

The Media Centre should be located close to the VIP stand at the centre court and be easily accessible to all accredited journalists. The full specifications for the Media Centre can be found in Section 3.4 D.7 of the handbook. Working spaces should be allocated according to the type of accredited journalists, giving priority to international and national news agencies. Consideration should be given to extra working space or a separate room for photographers to accommodate their equipment. Lockers with padlocks should be available for all print, electronic media and photographers to secure professional and personal items. International and national agencies (both print and photographic) should be offered the option to order (at their own cost) their own telephone and internet lines. These lines should be installed in special reserved workspaces. A minimum of one international phone line should be available for media for emergencies only and broadband internet access.

Organisers are requested to provide high-speed Wi-Fi internet access separately for the players and media with separate LAN cable access for photographers. Wi-Fi should be password protected to avoid external access which can slow down the connection. The bandwidth of the internet lines, especially for uploading, should be reviewed and adjusted according to the number and type of journalists accredited and increased if necessary for the efficient transmission of material. The internet connection must not be switched off before midnight of the last competition day, or later if night matches are foreseen. Installation of internet/phone lines must be completed the day before the start of the tournament to accommodate the needs of journalists preparing preview and feature material. The FIVB Media Operations Delegate and FIVB Official Photographer should be provided with a reserved working space in or near the press working room. This should be equipped with power outlets, a telephone and individual LAN cable high-speed internet access.

The Media Operations Director must ensure that the Media Centre and any Press Centre equipment are adequately protected from sand and rain and he/she must appoint support staff of a minimum of two persons to assist with the operation of all equipment and to keep the media working area clean and tidy. Sun screen lotion and towels should also be available to photographers.

B. Mixed Zone

The Media Operations Director must create a Mixed Zone adjacent to the main court where athletes can be interviewed after each match in front of the FIVB official backdrop (fixed and/or removable).

At FIVB World Championships and FIVB World Tour Grand Slam events, the Media Operations Director must also hire a Mixed Zone quote taker to provide flash quotes from each Centre Court match, since these matches usually feature host country teams. For semi-finals and medal matches, the quotes must be more than just one or two comments. For all the media at the event, all quotes must be released on the FIVB official letterhead. A Mixed Zone quote taker is also recommended for FIVB Open events.

C. Interview Room

The Interview Room (refer to Section 3.4 D.9) must be next to the Press Centre and located possibly within metres of the Mixed Zone, easily accessible to accredited journalists and athletes. The Media Operations Director is responsible for implementing interviews in such a room whenever requested by the media. A service for translating the interview of the athletes is strongly recommended. Moreover, a person coordinating the interviews is strongly recommended to liaise with journalists and athletes.
5.4 Media Accreditation

All members of the media wishing to attend an FIVB event need to sign up to the FIVB Media Club via the online accreditation form available at [http://www.fivb.org/EN/media/accreditation.asp](http://www.fivb.org/EN/media/accreditation.asp) (a user reference guide is also available on this webpage). Already registered FIVB Media Club members can log in with their username and password to their account to apply for credentials under “My Accreditations” tab.

For FIVB World Championships and World Tour Grand Slam events, all accreditations must be processed through the FIVB online accreditation system without any exception. The Media Press Directors are strongly encouraged to implement the FIVB accreditation wizard tool (provided upon demand to the Promoter, either in English or in the local language) to the event’s website in order to facilitate the accreditation process. The Media Accreditation Cards must be printed out of the system to include the ID photo, the full name, the function and the media outlet for each accredited journalists.

The promoters of the FIVB Open events are strongly encouraged to use the FIVB online accreditation system in order to establish good practices. The FIVB Press Department will provide support and guidance to use the system and run the accreditation process in an effective way.

The Media Operations Directors should remain at the disposal of the FIVB Press Department during the entire accreditation process in order to confirm the status of the applications.

On-site accreditation should provide journalists with access to the Media Centre, Mixed Zone, Interview Room and designated media area in the VIP stand. Accreditation passes and a media kit are issued at the accreditation desk at the venue.

Appropriate identification (vest or bib possibly of a darker colour) must be given to photographers when they collect their accreditation. The bib cannot be a plastic one: it has to be light and with wide cotton weave (large net texture).

The accreditation desk should be operational at least one day before the start of the competition and must be staffed for the entire duration of the event.

The event’s attendance list should be updated in the accreditation system at the end of the final day of competition.

5.5 Transport, Parking and Accommodation

If the venue is located far away from the city centre or major hotels, a minibus shuttle service should be provided for journalists. An on-site parking area for TV broadcast vans, the Host Broadcaster personnel and a certain number of accredited media shall be foreseen at the venue in proximity to the centre court. Journalists are responsible for their own accommodation and/or travel arrangements and expenses (except for the shuttle bus service above). Organisers may provide practical help by supplying a list of suitable hotels (within a different range of categories) upon request.

5.6 Media Information

Biographical information

All national federations must develop biographical sketches in English for all their beach volleyball athletes and send them to the FIVB at press@fivb.org before the start of the season (i.e. player’s quotes, information on relatives, education and other interesting personal facts). This material will be used during the season to help the media. This information must be updated by the national federations each year and will be included on the FIVB website.

Each player has a password, provided by the FIVB, to revise his/her personal bio on the FIVB website, which must be done at the start of each season and during the season if any changes are required.

Press releases

The following press releases must be issued before, during and after the tournament:

- Each Media Operations Director is strongly recommended to send to the FIVB Press Department any relevant information and/or photos concerning his/her event during the entire season, which could be suitable for a press release.
– The FIVB Press Department will produce a preview press release to be issued in time for the media deadlines, 1-2 days before the start of the competition. Contributions and information from the Media Operations Director on the local venue and the history of the event should be emailed to the FIVB Press Department at press@fivb.org no later than four days before the start of the competition.
– The Media Operations Director is responsible for preparing daily press releases suitable for the local media, including special athletes’ features.
– The FIVB Media Operations Delegate, in coordination with the Technical Supervisor, is responsible for preparing and distributing daily press releases suitable for the international media.
– An additional wrap-up press release should be issued at the conclusion of the final day’s play, summarizing the week’s activities and the sporting highlights.

All press releases should be prepared in time to respect media deadlines. The press release can be written in the local language for domestic media. The international title (“FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour”) must be included in each press release. There should be no conflicting information in press releases. The Media Operations Director is also responsible for the smooth circulation of all outputs and the copies must be posted on the tournament notice board and in the pigeonholes for journalists. Additional press releases concerning specific items (news, colour pieces, etc.) can be issued according to newsworthiness and relevance.

**Daily start notes**
The Media Operations Delegate shall provide to the media each day’s activities along with event notes, past podium placements and other pertinent facts and figures using BVV Info as a source.

**Team information**
The Media Operations Delegate shall provide to the media a list of the first and last name for each player on each team from each country together with the player’s uniform number by printing out the Entry List from the website. Additional player info is available on the FIVB website under the player biographies.

**Results**
To help increase the distribution of match results, the information should be distributed with the winning team listed first followed by the losing team and the score of the match with duration.

“Final Four” notes
The Media Operations Delegate shall prepare a notes package on the teams advancing to the semi-finals and medal rounds featuring each player’s first and last name, uniform number, past FIVB results, current season information, etc. This package will help the attending media along with providing graphic information for the TV crew.

**Collaboration with BVV Info**
BVV Info will provide the Tournament Notes (a preview of the event) and the Final Four Notes to the FIVB website however it is the Media Operations Delegate’s responsibility to ensure that they are printed and made available to the local media.

### 5.7 Distribution of Press Information

In addition to the local press operations, all international press releases must be distributed to the international media via the FIVB news distribution platform. The FIVB Media Operations Delegate will receive instructions for uploading the international press releases directly to the FIVB website and distribute them to a global media distribution list. The FIVB Media Operations Delegate is required to report back to the on-site FIVB Technical Supervisor on the smooth functioning of the media information plan. If no Media Operations Delegate attends an event, the Media Operations Director is responsible for uploading the international press releases to the FIVB website, distribute them outside as per the FIVB media priority list and reports directly to the FIVB Technical Supervisor.

### 5.8 The Daily Bulletin

The Media Operations Director must issue in collaboration with the FIVB Media Operations Delegate a press release to be included in the Daily Bulletin, starting one day before the start of the competition (after the Technical Meeting of the Country Quota Play-Off). The Daily Bulletin is distributed onsite to officials, Organising Committee members, sponsors, host broadcasters, athletes and accredited media. An electronic copy of the Daily Bulletin must be sent to press@fivb.org once the competition is over. In general, the daily bulletin is printed directly from the BVIS (Beach Volleyball Information System) and includes:

– One day before the start of the competition: cover, press release, participating teams, match schedule, bracket/pools, any eventual communication of the Organizing Committee;
– At the end of each competition day: cover, press release, match schedule, match results, bracket/pools, event’s ranking, any eventual communication of the Organizing Committee;
– On the final day: cover, press release, match results, final bracket, final event’s ranking, any eventual communication of the Organizing Committee.

### 5.9 Launch Press Conferences

It is recommended to launch the event through a series of press conferences as follows:

– Introduction of the event (at least two months before the start);
– Presentation of the event (ideally with the participation of the top two national athletes) no less than four days before the start.

The Media Operations Director must ensure to keep the FIVB Press Department up to date regarding the organisation of such media events (schedule, invitees, speakers, programme etc.). He/she is expected to prepare press material (press release, interview and feature pieces) as well as provide photos and video content in order to guarantee global coverage to the event through the different FIVB channels.
5.10 Media Reports, Photos and Press Clippings

The BVB-20 Media Report, along with the press material, photographs (in high-resolution and web-resolution, on DVD, two copies) and press clippings (in digital format) must be prepared by the Media Operations Director and sent to the FIVB Press Department via international express mail no later than seven days after the end of the event. The high-resolution photos (separated from the digital photos supplied for the FIVB website), and also the press clippings, are essential for the promotion of the sport and future FIVB events. Other information such as website hits, radio station coverage, TV audience and highlights of the tournament is also important to report in order to better assess the media coverage of the event. These facts and figures must be sent along with the rest of the press material.

5.11 Internet Strategy

The FIVB will feature each event on dedicated pages of the FIVB website, including general information about the event and a list of participating teams. Other information will include the beach volleyball global calendar and map, results of previous Tour stops, world rankings, athlete’s database, etc. The FIVB website also contains the Rules of the Games, details of any rule interpretations, resolutions or policy changes, etc.

Below are useful links to the FIVB web resources:
- FIVB Beach Volleyball website: http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/index.asp
- FIVB World Tour website: http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/Competitions/WorldTour/2013/
- FIVB World Championships website: http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/Competitions/WorldChampionships/2013/
- FIVB Open website: http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/Competitions/Open/2013/
- Players’ Database: http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/PlayersDatabase.asp
- FIVB Facebook Fan Page: http://www.facebook.com/FIVBInternationalVolleyballFederation
- FIVB Twitter Account: http://twitter.com/fivbvolleyball
- FIVB YouTube Channel: http://www.youtube.com/videofivb
- BVB Info: http://www.bvbinfo.com

The FIVB website is in continual development and improvement, and supplemental materials are made available on a regular basis. The FIVB is continuing the process of creating a completely new website in line with the needs of the entire FIVB audience. Any major changes will be communicated to you on due time.

The promoters must develop a well-defined internet and new media strategy as a strong online presence is nowadays inevitable to the success of an event. They must have their own website active as early as possible (no later than three months before the start of the competition) and update it frequently with news, features, photos, videos, useful information for the fans and those wishing to attend the event. The event’s website should be multi-lingual (minimum requirement is to have it in the local language with English translation).

For FIVB World Championships, FIVB World Tour Grand Slam and FIVB Open events, the FIVB Press Department also strongly encourages the Promoters to resort to the use of social media (such as Twitter, Facebook, Weibo, Instagram, Pinterest, etc.) to enhance their communications strategy and event promotion. All details should be included in the Media Plan and provided to the FIVB Press Department.

The homepage of the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour website

FIVB WORLD TOUR GETS BIGGER AND BETTER FOR THE 2013 SEASON

The FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour continues to evolve today with a record-breaking 17 FIVB World Tour Grand Slams in 2013, followed by the prestigious FIVB Beachvolleyball World Championships in Stavanger, Norway in the same year. The FIVB’s philosophy has been introduced to create new opportunities for players as well as a sustainable beach volleyball event standard.
5.12 BVIS

The BVIS (Beach Volleyball Information System) software, conceived by the FIVB Information Technology Department (tested by the Organisers and the Technical Supervisor the Friday/Saturday before the start of competition and using a draft version of the files to be sent by the FIVB Information Technology Department, with an eventual final version of all required files to be sent in due time before the start of the Country Quota Play-Off Technical Meeting) manages the operational side of each FIVB competition and provides the necessary on site reports for each day. The BVIS also allows the release of useful information including event seeding, match results, match schedule, team ranking, press releases etc. for distribution on-site and worldwide through the official FIVB website.

The BVIS includes team information based on the team information report as mentioned above under item 5.6 Press Information. This must include the first and last name for each player on each team from each country. The report must also include a player’s uniform number.

5.13 Live Scoring on FIVB Website

In the event that the FIVB will have live scoring, the Organizers must provide either a router with a RJ45 plug connected to the internet with a minimum connection speed of 128kB, or provide an ISDN external modem with a USB connection and the necessary driver. This equipment must be installed at the scoreboard supplier table, if any 2 days before the first competition day.

5.14 The Athlete and the Media

A multiyear commitment is required to be signed by each participating NF and athlete willing to compete in FIVB beach volleyball competitions. This agreement includes in detail rights and obligations of each party and it makes clear the position of the athlete towards the exploitation of his/her image while at the same time it provides guidelines on the players requested availability to media and public relation activities associated to the FIVB properties. This is vital to create media product and a profitable event for all parties involved in the promotion of the sport. Through this section the FIVB is giving to you more details on the contribution that each participating athlete is required to provide every day at each event in order to increase his/her exposure in aiming to become a star, and so increasing the media exposure value of each FIVB event.

A. Media and publicity

The FIVB is granted for the duration of the NF-athlete commitment, in exchange, for itself and for promotional purposes the right for worldwide use of the athlete’s identification in connection with photos, films, video computer games (as specified more fully below) in connection or related exclusively to one tournament or to the ensemble of official events.

FIVB’s sponsors, FIVB recognized Promoters and their respective advertising agencies, each television or other distribution station, system or service scheduled to distribute the event are also granted the right to transfer to others the possibility to reproduce, print, publish, or disseminate in any medium, the name and likeness and voice of each person appearing in or connected with the event and biographical material concerning such person, the name of the event site for purpose of trade or for advertising purposes.

The FIVB grants the athlete(s) access to the FIVB video archive and photographs upon request for technical production and shipment costs only. This request must be sent by email to the FIVB Beach Volleyball department to the following email address: beach@fivb.org, link: http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/Forms/Athletes/WT-01.pdf

Subject to the terms of the NF-athlete commitment, the FIVB and its Promoters have the right to make use of and show, at its discretion, any motion pictures, video games, magazines including live, taped or filmed television footage, such as highlight shows or photos of the athlete taken during FIVB official events without compensation, and hereby waives any right to such compensation for the athlete or his/her heirs and assignees.

Promoters should also be aware of the FIVB Heroes campaign, a new marketing initiative by the FIVB designed to help celebrate the top stars of beach volleyball. See chapter 4.

B. FIVB Rights for Promotional purposes

FIVB Rights for promotional purposes have been stipulated and agreed upon through the 2013-2014 NF Athlete’s Commitment available under Forms Section on the FIVB website: http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/Forms.asp

C. Group licensing rights

Group licensing rights have been stipulated and agreed upon through the 2013-2014 NF Athlete’s Commitment available under Forms Section on the FIVB website: http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/Forms.asp.