



# **SPORTS REGULATIONS**

## **Beach Volleyball**

**Version: 1 December 2016**

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(OVERVIEW)**

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# **SECTION I    Status of Players and Teams**

These regulations apply equally to both genders. A reference to one gender (e.g. he/she) includes a reference to the other gender (e.g. she).

## **CHAPTER 1    Status of Players**

### **1.            ELIGIBILITY**

#### **1.1           SUPREME AUTHORITY**

The FIVB is the supreme authority in Beach Volleyball to decide all questions and disputes relating to the eligibility of players for national and international competitions.

#### **1.2           RIGHT TO DETERMINE PLAYERS' ELIGIBILITY**

Each National Federation has the right to determine the eligibility of its players subject to the provisions of the FIVB Constitution and Regulations.

#### **1.3           CRITERIA FOR THE ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

The eligibility of a player may be determined after taking into consideration the following criteria:

- a.    nationality;
- b.    age;
- c.    sex;
- d.    height (if applicable); and
- e.    other eligibility criteria.

#### **1.4           PLAYER PARTICIPATION IN A MATCH**

A player is considered to be in the match when:

- 1.4.1    his/her name is listed in the Confirmed Entry list with his/her presence is confirmed at the Preliminary Inquiry, and
- 1.4.2    there is visual confirmation from the passport / ID (identification document) that the player is actually present at the Preliminary Inquiry of an event.

## **2. NATIONALITY**

### **2.1 ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY FOR A NATIONAL TEAM**

Any person holding the nationality of a country, whether acquired at birth or later (by application or any other means), is eligible to play for the national team of the National Federation of the same country, provided that said National Federation is his/her Federation of Origin and that the conditions set out in these Regulations are fulfilled.

### **2.2 ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY FOR A NATIONAL TEAM AFTER A CHANGE OF FEDERATION OF ORIGIN**

2.2.1 Only one (1) player having previously played for another national team of the same age category can be part of a team, for a given event.

### **2.3 ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY FOR A THIRD NATIONAL TEAM**

A player is not eligible to play for a third national team, nor may he/she return to the initial national team of his/her Federation of Origin after having changed his/her Federation of Origin (see also Article 5).

### **2.4 FIRST REGISTRATION IN OWN OR FOREIGN COUNTRY**

2.4.1 The Federation which is the first to:

- a. register the player in its national team for an FIVB, world or official Competition through the Volleyball Information System (VIS) in the Confirmed Entry List, with the player's presence being certified by the FIVB Technical Delegate; or
- b. issue a national license for the player or otherwise register the player within its Federation;

is considered to be the player's Federation of Origin regardless of the player's nationality.

2.4.2 If at the time of registration the player holds the nationality of another country only, he/she becomes eligible to play in the national team of his/her Federation of Origin immediately after obtaining the same nationality as his/her Federation of Origin.

### **2.5 PASSPORT**

All players wishing to participate in FIVB, world or official competitions, must present an individual passport issued by the competent authorities of the country they represent. The FIVB Board of Administration may establish different or additional requirements.

### **3. AGE AND GENDER**

#### **3.1 AGE AND GENDER CATEGORIES**

The FIVB has determined the following age categories for Beach Volleyball:

- Girls' Under 19,
- Boys' Under 19,
- Women's Under 21,
- Men's Under 21,

#### **3.2 GENDER VERIFICATION CERTIFICATE**

3.2.1 The gender must be attested by the National Federations through the birth certificate of the player.

3.2.2 Women competitors in FIVB, world and official competitions, may be required to present the official Gender verification certificate issued by the FIVB Medical Commission or by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

### **4. OTHER ELIGIBILITY RULES**

#### **4.1 GENERAL RULE**

Any player who fulfils the requirements of the rules on nationality, age, gender and other criteria established by FIVB (and/or IOC, where applicable), is eligible for participation in FIVB competitions, including the Olympic Games and qualifying tournaments, on the condition that he/she complies with the principles of affiliation established by the respective National Federation and fulfils the conditions set out in these Regulations.

#### **4.2 ELIGIBLE PLAYERS**

4.2.1 An eligible player may receive, during the period of his/her preparation and his/her sports activity, material and financial assistance, either from sports organisations (National Federation, NOC, National Tour, Committees or Clubs belonging to voluntary organisations recognized by his/her Federation), or from private or public institutions.

- 4.2.2 An eligible player may receive his/her country's support for preserving and raising the level reached in his/her studies and in his/her work within his/her community at the moment of his/her incorporation in a sports program.
- 4.2.3 Material assistance includes:
- a. board and lodging expenses;
  - b. sportswear and equipment;
  - c. travel expenses; and
  - d. expenses for medical and dental treatment, physiotherapy, including therapeutic and psychological services and necessary medicine.
- 4.2.4 Financial help may be granted without limitation as follows:
- a. compensation to replace a justified loss of salary or a scholarship to continue his/her studies or to continue his/her professional career;
  - b. pocket money;
  - c. subscription to an insurance or pension plan whether governmental or private under the terms of the national law; and
  - d. engagement by or endorsement for a sports, government, private organisation, or sports club.
- 4.2.5 No National Federation, club or player may demand any financial guarantee or special economic conditions to participate in FIVB competitions. Infringement of this rule is a basis for sanctions according to FIVB Regulations.

#### **4.3 DECISIONS ON THE ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS**

The FIVB Board of Administration, or, in urgent cases, the Executive Committee/the President, decides on the application of the rules for the eligibility of players. It may ask the Legal Commission to study the case and submit recommendations.

### **5. CHANGE OF FEDERATION OF ORIGIN**

The same regulations of the latest version of FIVB Sports Regulations for Volleyball will apply. For details, please refer to point 5, Chapter 1 of the above-mentioned document at:

[http://www.fivb.org/en/FIVB/Document/Legal/FIVB\\_Sports\\_Regulations\\_2016\\_\(20160714\).pdf](http://www.fivb.org/en/FIVB/Document/Legal/FIVB_Sports_Regulations_2016_(20160714).pdf).

## CHAPTER 2 Status of Teams, Tours and Other Organisations

### **6. TEAMS**

#### **6.1 NATIONAL TEAM**

- 6.1.1 The team selected by its National Federation to play in the Olympic Games, FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships (Senior and Age Group), Swatch FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour Finals and FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-5 star), and authorized to bear its country's name is considered the national team.
- 6.1.2 The national team must not include foreign players, in accordance with Section I, Chapter II Article 5 of the FIVB Event Regulations and Section I, Chapter 1 of these Regulations.
- 6.1.3 A national team may only play against another national team.

### **7. TOURS AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

#### **7.1 SPORT ORGANISATION, PROFESSIONAL TOURS, NATIONAL TOURS, CLUBS, TEAMS AND CIRCUITS**

- 7.1.1 Any sport organisation, professional tours, national tours, clubs, teams and circuits wishing to organise an official Beach Volleyball competition in their country, must obtain prior consent of their national federation.
- 7.1.2 However if a national federation for any legal or valid reason, is not able to recognize such organisations or to authorize their registration, the latter can appeal directly to FIVB for their recognition (and registration).
- 7.1.3 Only National Tours registered with the FIVB are entitled to enroll foreign players in accordance with the rules of their respective National Federation, if they respect FIVB regulations and submit the homologation form of National Tours for the approval of FIVB.
- 7.1.4 Registered National Tours are secured via an internet link with the FIVB website and will be provided with one page of space for their own news, plus an emergency line with FIVB for urgent cases.



## **SECTION II Competition and Technical Regulations**

### **CHAPTER 3 Entries**

#### **8. ATHLETE ENTRIES**

##### **8.1 GENERAL CONDITIONS**

All athletes participating in an FIVB sanctioned beach volleyball event must:

- Hold the nationality of the country they represent, subject to the conditions set out in the Chapter 1 Status of players of FIVB Beach Volleyball Sports Regulations.
- Register with their respective NF. The Federation which is the first to issue a license or register the player is considered to be the Federation of Origin regardless of the player's citizenship. For a Change of Federation of Origin, please refer to the Chapter 1 Status of players of FIVB Beach Volleyball Sports Regulations and contact the FIVB Transfer Department ([transfer@fivb.org](mailto:transfer@fivb.org)).
- Register with the FIVB through their respective NF.
- Upload on the VIS - via their NF - the Beach Volleyball NF-Athlete's Commitment (BVB-01 Form) signed by the NF and the athlete on each page minimum thirty (30) days before the first event's participation of the season. NF-Athlete's Commitments (one (1) per team) are then approved in the VIS system by the FIVB which allows online status verification. Failure to upload the signed commitment within the deadline shall prevent the athlete from taking part in an FIVB event. The Beach Volleyball NF-Athlete's Commitment (BVB-01 Form) is available on the FIVB website under the Forms section.
- Upload on the VIS - via their NF - an annual health certificate (BVB-10 Form) to the FIVB at minimum thirty (30) days before the first event's participation of the season. The annual health certificate is mandatory for all athletes that have signed the Beach Volleyball NF-Athlete's Commitment. The annual health certificate (BVB-10 Form) is available on the FIVB website under the Forms section.
- Undertake the FIVB Anti-Doping education program "We play it clean!" For further information, please access the FIVB online Anti-Doping education program at: <http://www.fivb.org/RealWinner/>.
- Directly complete and modify their personal data (such as his/her exact coordinates, bank account information, etc.) through the FIVB beach volleyball

Web based application system(<http://www.fivb.org/visasp>). Each athlete is provided with an individual user name and password sent to his/her own e-mail address. In case a new athlete wants to register, his/her NF fills in the basic personal data of the athlete and his/her e-mail address. Athlete can modify his/her personal data (i.e. photo, personal data, physical data, Volleyball/Beach Volleyball Career, education, family, etc.) with an exception of the bank account information and team name, which have to remain the same for the duration of a season. The following fields: FIVB #, first name, last name, date of birth, passport number, nationality, gender and the team name of each athlete may only be edited by the FIVB or by the NF concerned.

- Be entered in the FIVB beach volleyball event(s) by their NF according to the specific regulations of the event concerned.
- Abide by the FIVB Regulatory Framework, namely the FIVB Constitution, the FIVB Regulations and the FIVB decisions (i.e. Board of Administration and/or World Congress) as well as the regulations contained in the present FIVB Beach Volleyball Sports Regulations.
- Not have outstanding sanction fees.
- Not be suspended by the FIVB for the competition period concerned.

## **8.2 ATHLETE PARTICIPATION**

Subject to meeting the relevant conditions [or applicable rules], freedom to play shall apply for all the FIVB beach volleyball events including FIVB World Championships; Swatch Beach Volleyball FIVB World Tour Finals, FIVB World Tour (1-5 star tournaments). This principle will also apply for other FIVB sanctioned tournaments.

NFs are strongly recommended to enter their top ranked teams in the FIVB World Championships, FIVB World Tour (3-5 star tournaments) events to support the promotion of the elite FIVB properties.

The universality principle is applied in all FIVB events in accordance with the FIVB Sports Regulations. FIVB event's entry principles facilitate participation of athletes from all Confederations in FIVB sanctioned Tournaments.

## **8.3 TOP RANKED ATHLETE PARTICIPATION RESTRICTION**

- FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-2 star tournaments)  
Athletes from the top 10 ranked teams per gender per the FIVB World Rankings (Chapter 5) at 30 days before an event are not allowed to take part in 1-2 star tournaments, whether or not the tournament concerned clashes

with the FIVB World Senior Championships or FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour 3-5 star tournaments.

This rule does not apply to host country teams.

- National Tour

In case of a clash with the FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships, Swatch FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour Finals and/or FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-5 star tournament), the top 64 ranked athletes in the individual FIVB Entry Ranking per gender (upon Tentative NF Entry List), except the hosting country teams, cannot take part in such a National Tour leg unless authorized by the FIVB in writing. For further information, please see the link: <http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/NationalTour.asp>.

#### **8.4 ENTRY PROCEDURES**

The FIVB is willing to accept the provisional enrolment of an Athlete and upon the request of the Athlete through his/her NF offer the right to be tentatively admitted into 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 Beach Volleyball NF-Player's Commitment and the health certificate are duly signed by the NF and the Athlete concerned.

Once the aforementioned condition is agreed upon 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 tournaments 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 each Main Draw.

- 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 Sports regulations and register it in the FIVB sanctioned 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 ([vis@fivb.org](mailto:vis@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 FIVB sanctioned events until the related fine is duly paid to the FIVB.
- The entry deadline for each event is posted on the FIVB website.
- Each National Federation and athlete will be responsible for checking the entry through the internet by consulting the tentative “Entry List” for each event.
- The Tentative Entry List is constantly updated on the FIVB website and up to -30 days can be amended by each participating National Federations.

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 athlete encounters problems communicating with his/her National Federations 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 enroll directly through the FIVB Beach Volleyball Department in Lausanne, provided that:

- The athletes concerned have no commitment in force with any NF and/or a contract with a club through which they have agreed that they cannot take part in an FIVB beach volleyball event unless formally authorized by the above entity(ies);
- The athletes concerned are not currently suspended by their NF and/or by the FIVB;
- The athletes concerned are eligible as per the criteria defined in the present FIVB Beach Volleyball Sports Regulations;
- The athletes concerned do not require financial support from their NF.

**8.4.1 TENTATIVE ENTRY LIST**

Any eligible athletes/teams can be entered in the Tentative Entry List for an FIVB beach volleyball event through the Beach Volleyball Information System (VIS) until the deadline set out:

FIVB Senior World Championships	- 60 days
FIVB World Tour (1-5 Star tournaments)	-30 days
Swatch FIVB World Tour Finals	-14 days

	Entered directly by FIVB
FIVB Age Group World Championships	-45 days

Each NF is the only entity able to enter team(s) in an FIVB beach volleyball event(s) through the VIS and this is done at the NFs' discretion. The points always remain with the athlete(s).

NFs can enter/delete or change a team's composition once an entry has been completed until the deadline set out for the Tentative Entry List of the FIVB beach volleyball event.

After the team(s) entry deadline set out for the Tentative Entry List and before the deadline set out for the Confirmed Entry List, NFs can still delete or change a team's composition (but no longer enter a team) of the FIVB beach volleyball event.

For the Swatch Beach Volleyball FIVB World Tour Finals, NFs are not required to enter any teams. FIVB will directly issue the Confirmed Entry list as per the set deadline.

#### **8.4.2 LATE ENTRY**

Past the deadline for the Tentative Entry List (-30 days prior to the start of each tournament) the NF 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 until the confirmed Entry List is issued and a USD 1,000 Late Entry Fee per team must be paid by the NF concerned to the FIVB through the bank transfer.

FIVB reserves the right to evaluate and accept a Late Entry request on a case by case basis. If the team is accepted, it will automatically be registered in the Qualification Tournament (if applicable) provided that the roster of Qualification Tournament (if applicable) is incomplete; otherwise it will be placed as last in the Reserve teams list.

#### **8.4.3 CONFIRMED ENTRY LIST**

Entry points are used to determine which teams have earned berth(s) into a tournament and into the Reserve list.

The Confirmed Entry list will be issued following the deadline set out below:

FIVB Senior World Championships	-35 days
FIVB Age Group (U21/U19) World Championships	-30 days

FIVB World Tour (1-5 Star tournaments)	-21 days
Swatch FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour Finals	-14 days

- The FIVB is responsible for issuing the confirmed list of teams (as per the deadline above) with the Main Draw teams and the Qualifications teams (if applicable), as well as the Reserve team lists, as per the Entry Points of that day and to send it to the hosting NF concerned, together with the approved Events Regulation and the invitation letter (for visa purpose). This Confirmed List is also posted on the FIVB website.
- Entry Points are the sum of individual Entry Points of the two players concerned (see the FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking and Seeding Definitions).
- For the Swatch FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour Finals, the confirmed Entry list is based on the eight (8) best teams per gender per the FIVB World Ranking (see the FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking Points Definitions below) plus four (4) wild cards granted at the discretion of FIVB in agreement with the promoter. Should the Host NF not have a team in the top eight (8) best teams as per the FIVB World Ranking, the FIVB may allocate a minimum of one (1) Wild Card to the host NF for the gender tournament concerned.
- The hosting NF forwards the Confirmed Entry List, the approved Official Invitation letter and the Specific Event's Regulations of the FIVB beach volleyball event to the participating NFs, FIVB Officials and Sponsors the day after the confirmed Entry List is published, as per the below deadlines:

FIVB Senior World Championships	-34 days
FIVB Age Group (U21/U19) World Championships	-30 days
FIVB World Tour (1-5 Star tournaments)	-20 days
Swatch FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour Finals	-13 days

*Notes:*

- Any delays with respect to the procedures deadlines are, in principle, caused by the Promoter's non-fulfillment of the terms of the event's Master Plan. The FIVB will inform the parties concerned via the FIVB website should the confirmed list not be issued in due time as per the deadlines above, due to the Organiser's non-compliance of major contractual obligations.
- If a date falls on a weekend or a holiday, then the next working day becomes the deadline.
- The deadlines refer to the numbers of days before the first Main Draw competition

date of the event.

## **8.5 COUNTRY QUOTA**

### **8.5.1 HOST COUNTRY TEAMS**

- For FIVB Senior World Championships, the Host Country may enter a maximum of eight (8) teams (including the wild cards) in the Tentative Entry List of FIVB Senior World Championships. A minimum of two (2) Host Country teams are granted a place in the Main Draw (despite insufficient Entry points). These two (2) teams shall have the highest Entry points among the other Host Country teams participating in the event. In case all the Host NF teams possess no points, the hosting NF must inform the FIVB of the two (2) Host Country Teams with the right to enter directly into the Main Draw Tournament.
- For FIVB Senior World Championships, a maximum of four (4) Host country teams (excluding wild cards) can play in the Main Draw tournaments by entry points. The remaining teams will be listed in Reserve Team lists in case of contingency case such as 'force majeure' which may cause the last-minute withdrawals prior to the start of senior World Championships.
- Should the FIVB Senior World Championships be held in multiple countries, the same principle as above will be maintained and the quota of the host country teams will be split among the host countries. If there are special requests, the FIVB will make the final decision on a case by case basis.
- For FIVB Age Group World Championships, the Host Country may enter a maximum of four (4) teams including the wild cards in the Tentative Entry List of FIVB Age Group (U21/U19) World Championships, from which two (2) Host Country teams per gender will be listed in the Main Draw tournaments. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> teams per gender will be listed in the Reserve Team lists to fill the roster of Qualification Tournament in case of any last-minute withdrawals prior to the start of Preliminary Inquiry of Qualification tournament.
- For FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (3-5 star tournaments), the Host Country may enter a maximum of six (6) teams (including the wild cards) in the Tentative Entry List of an FIVB World Tour event (3-5 star tournaments). A minimum of two (2) Host Country teams are granted a place in the Main Draw (despite insufficient Entry points). These two (2) teams shall have the highest Entry points among the other Host Country teams participating in the event. In case all the Host NF teams possess no points, the hosting NF must inform the FIVB of the two (2) Host Country Teams with the right to enter directly into the Main Draw Tournament.

- For FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (3-5 star tournaments), a maximum of four (4) Host Country teams (excluding Wild Cards) can play in the Main Draw tournament and Qualification Tournament by Entry points. A maximum of three (3) Host Country teams may enter the Main Draw tournament by entry points, while the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) ranked host Country team may enter Qualification Tournament even if it has sufficient Entry points to take part to the Main Draw tournament. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> ranked Host Country team will be listed in the Reserve Team List to fill the roster of Qualification Tournament in case of contingency case such as 'force majeure' which may cause last minute withdrawals prior to the start of Qualification Tournament.
- For FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (2-star tournament), a minimum of eight (8) Host Country teams can play in the Main Draw (despite insufficient Entry points). These eight (8) teams shall have the highest Entry points among the other Host Country teams participating in the event. In case all the NF teams possess no points, the hosting NF must inform the FIVB of the eight (8) host country teams with the right to enter the Main Draw. Should the Host Country not use the entire quota, the unused quota will be reallocated to the foreign teams by entry points.
- For FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-star tournament), a minimum of six (6) Host Country teams can play in the Main Draw (despite insufficient Entry points). These six (6) teams shall have the highest Entry points among the other Host Country teams participating in the event. In case all the NF teams possess no points, the hosting NF must inform the FIVB of the six (6) host country teams with the right to enter the Main Draw. Should the Host Country not use the entire quota, the unused quota will be reallocated to the foreign teams by entry points.
- For the Swatch Beach Volleyball FIVB World Tour Finals, a maximum of two (2) Host Country teams (including Wild Cards) will play in the Main Draw tournament. A minimum one (1) Host Country team is granted a place in the tournament (if not yet qualified) through Wild Card.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Host Country Min. Quota Main Draw</b>	<b>Host Country Max. Quota Main Draw (Max. Quota direct in Main Draw)</b>	<b>Host Country Max. Quota of Registration</b>
Senior WCHs	2	4 (4), excluding Wild Cards	8
Age-Group WCHS	2	2 (2), including Wild Cards	4
Swatch	1	2 (2), including Wild Cards	N/A



World Tour Finals	(possibly by Wild card)		
5-star	2	4 (3), excluding Wild Cards	6
4-star	2	4 (3), excluding Wild Cards	6
3-star	2	4 (3), excluding Wild Cards	6
2-star	8	N/A	N/A
1-star	6	N/A	N/A

### 8.5.2 FOREIGN TEAMS

- For FIVB Senior World Championships, a foreign NF may enter a maximum of six (6) teams (including Wild Cards) in the Tentative Entry List, from which a maximum of four (4) foreign teams per gender (excluding the Wild Cards) can play in the Main Draw by Entry points.
- For FIVB Age Group (U21/U19) World Championships, a foreign NF may enter a maximum of two (2) teams (including Wild Cards) in the Tentative Entry List. The 1<sup>st</sup> ranked foreign team will be listed in the Main Draw or Qualification Tournament based on the form submitted by respective Confederations. The 2<sup>nd</sup> foreign team will be listed in the Reserve List to fill the roster of Qualification Tournament if it is not full. In case the team roster of Qualification Tournament is not full, the priority will be given to the 2<sup>nd</sup> foreign team then the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Host Country teams.
- For FIVB World Tour (3-5 star tournament), a foreign NF may enter a maximum of six (6) teams (including Wild Cards) in the Tentative Entry List, from which a maximum of four (4) foreign teams (excluding Wild Cards) can play in the Main Draw tournament and Qualification Tournament by Entry points. A maximum of three (3) foreign teams may enter the Main Draw tournament by entry points, while the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) ranked foreign team may enter Qualification Tournament even if it has sufficient Entry points to take part to the Main Draw tournament.
- For FIVB World Tour (2-star tournament), a foreign NF may enter a maximum of four (4) teams (including Wild Cards) in the Tentative Entry List, from which a maximum of three (3) foreign teams (excluding Wild Cards) can play in the Main Draw by Entry points. Should there be insufficient foreign teams in the Main Draw team list, the Host Country teams may fill the roster despite insufficient Entry points.
- For FIVB World Tour (1-star tournament), a foreign NF may enter a maximum of three (3) teams (including Wild Cards) in the Tentative Entry List, from which a maximum of two (2) foreign teams (excluding Wild Cards) can play in the Main

Draw by Entry points. Should there be insufficient foreign teams in the Main Draw team list, the Host Country teams may fill the roster despite insufficient Entry points.

- For the Swatch Beach Volleyball FIVB World Tour Finals, a maximum of two (2) foreign teams per NF can play in the Main Draw (including the Wild Cards).
- For FIVB World Tour (3-5 star tournaments), the universality principle is applied to allow the participation, in the Qualification Tournament, of teams (with insufficient points to directly enter the event) from all five (5) Continents. A maximum of three (3) Continental teams (without enough points to directly enter the Main Draw) will be allowed to play the Continental Quota Playoff in single elimination format to allow one (1) team to enter the Main Draw, following the universality principles implemented by IOC for the Olympic Games. In case the number of the Continental teams will be less than three (2) (two (2), one (1)) when necessary, the correct number of Continental Quota Playoff matches will be played to allow one (1) team to enter the Qualification Tournament. The single-elimination format will be adopted to determine the vacancies of Continental teams advancing to the Qualification Tournament based on the seeding establish at the Continental Quota Playoff Preliminary Inquiry.

<b>Tournament</b>	<b>Foreign Team Max. Quota Main Draw (Max. Quota direct in Main Draw)</b>	<b>Foreign Team Max. Quota of Registration</b>
Senior WCHs	4 (4), excluding Wild Cards	6
Age-Group WCHS	2 (1), including Wild Cards	2
Swatch World Tour Finals	2 (2), including Wild Cards	N/A
5-star	4 (3), excluding Wild Cards	6
4-star	4 (3), excluding Wild Cards	6
3-star	4 (3), excluding Wild Cards	6
2-star	3 (3), excluding Wild Cards	4
1-star	2 (2), excluding Wild Cards	3

## 8.6 WILD CARDS

- The quota of Wild Cards allocated to each tournament is as following:

<b>Tournament</b>	<b>No. of teams</b>	<b>WC Host NF</b>	<b>WC FIVB</b>
Senior WCHs	Main Draw: 48 teams	1	2

Age-Group WCHS	Main Draw: 32 teams	N/A	1
Swatch World Tour Finals	Main Draw: 12 teams	2	2
5-star	Main Draw: 32 teams	1	1
	Qualification: 24 teams	1	1
4-star	Main Draw: 32 teams	1	1
	Qualification: 16 teams	1	1
3-star	Main Draw: 32 teams	1	1
	Qualification: 16 teams	N/A	2
2-star	Main Draw: 24 teams	N/A	1
1-star	Main Draw: 16 teams	N/A	1

- NFs must submit a filled out BVB-02 Form to the FIVB upon the entry deadline (- 30 days) for the FIVB beach volleyball event concerned. Any requests for Wild Cards received after the entry deadline will not be taken into consideration.
- The FIVB will take into consideration the promotional aspects, technical merits, athletes' career, rookie team, satisfactory technical/status of the team, etc. to evaluate the requests presented by the NFs possibly following the recommendation of the Promoter concerned.
- Wild Cards are announced through the Confirmed Entry List issued by the FIVB for the FIVB beach volleyball event concerned.
- The Wild Card is not transferrable if there is a disbanding of the team, despite of 'force majeure' or injury of one or both athletes. However, as exception, the Wild Card may be transferred at FIVB's discretion due to the new team's merits.
- In principle, an athlete can receive a maximum of 2 Wild Cards during the Olympic Qualification period, irrespective if for the Main Draw or the Qualification Tournament. During the Olympic Qualification period, FIVB does its utmost not to allocate the Wild Cards to teams that will benefit from this to qualify to the Olympic Games to create a fair condition for teams with potential to qualify to the Olympic Games through World Tour. Should any additional Wild Cards be requested for an athlete who already received 2 Wild Cards, the FIVB then reserves the right to further evaluate this demand based on promotional purposes and to decide accordingly.
- In principle, Wild Cards are not granted to Host NF where none of the Host NF teams are eligible to enter the Main Draw directly by their Entry points. Exceptions to this principle can be made for promotional purposes and in case relevant reasons are brought up by the Organisers to the FIVB.

- The winning teams of FIVB U19 World Championships will be granted a Wild Card for a Main Draw tournament at the next FIVB U21 World Championships. The winning teams of FIVB U21 World Championships will be granted a Wild Card for a Main Draw Tournament at an FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour event (possibly in the 3-star tournament but not restricted to 4-5 star tournaments) of the same season or of the following season.
- In the case one wild card is not issued for a FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour event, the next eligible team from the Entry List, either in the Qualification tournament team list (if applicable) or reserve team list, before the completion of the preliminary inquiry, based on Entry Points will enter the Main Draw (respecting country quota rules). Should two wild cards not be issued, then the next two eligible teams will move to the Main Draw as per the above procedure.

## CHAPTER 4 Withdrawal/Disband/Change of Athletes

### **9. WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES – FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR**

#### **9.1 UP TO THE CONFIRMED ENTRY LIST**

Before the Confirmed Entry list deadline, the participating NFs may:

- Withdraw or remove a team(s) from an FIVB beach volleyball event directly through the Volleyball Information System (VIS).
- Disband/alter a composition of a team(s) directly through the Volleyball Information System(VIS).

#### **9.2 AFTER THE CONFIRMED ENTRY LIST AND UP TO 4:00 PM (SWISS TIME), 5 DAYS BEFORE THE START DATE OF MAIN DRAW TOURNAMENT**

Once the Confirmed Entry List is issued by FIVB, the participating NFs may:

- Submit through the BVB-03 form (withdrawal request) with the supporting Medical certificate and flight ticket (issued with flight number) to FIVB Beach Department to submit the withdrawal, disband or 'change of athlete' request.

For FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (3-5 star tournaments), the following rule will apply:

- If the withdrawal, disband or 'change of athlete' request is for an athlete/team in the Main Draw tournament, the new team shall have enough entry points to maintain their Main Draw position, otherwise, the team shall be placed in the Qualification tournament.
- If the withdrawal, disband or 'change of athlete' request is for an athlete/team in the Qualification tournament, the team shall have enough entry points to main their Qualification tournament position, otherwise, the team shall be placed in the reserve list. However, if the team has enough entry points to enter Main Draw, the team will remain in the Qualification tournament and be seeded per the seeding points of the new team.
- Not withdraw an athlete/team entered in the Qualification tournament or Main Draw tournament of the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (3-5 star tournaments) to participate in another beach volleyball activity/tournament (national or regional or Continental or any other tournament similar in nature) scheduled at the same time. Athlete/team, failing to comply with the above regulation, will be subject to the same scale of sanction applied to last minute withdrawal.
- The list of reserve teams is constantly updated until the preliminary inquiry of the Qualification tournament. Reserve teams must be present at the Preliminary inquiry of the Qualification tournament and both players must sign to register in the tournament to be considered for the potential inclusion in the event due to late withdrawals or no shows.

For FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-2 star tournaments), the following rule will apply:

- If the withdrawal, disband or 'change of athlete' request is for an athlete/team in the Main Draw tournament, the new team shall have enough entry points to maintain their Main Draw position, otherwise, the team shall be placed in the reserve list.
- Not withdraw an athlete/team entered in the Main Draw tournament of the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-2 star tournaments) to participate in another beach volleyball activity/tournament (national or regional or Continental or any other tournament similar in nature) scheduled at the same time. Athlete/team, failing to comply with the above regulation, will be subject to the same scale of sanction applied to last minute withdrawal.
- The list of reserve teams is constantly updated until the preliminary inquiry of the Main Draw. Reserve teams must be present at the Preliminary inquiry of the Main Draw and both players must sign to register in the tournament to be considered for the potential inclusion in the event due to late withdrawals or no shows.

### 9.3 LAST MINUTE WITHDRAWAL (AFTER 4:00 PM SWISS TIME, 5 DAYS BEFORE THE START DATE OF MAIN DRAW TOURNAMENT)

After 4:00 PM (Swiss Time), 5 days before the start date of the Main Draw tournament, until the start of the preliminary inquiry of Qualification tournament (where applicable) or a Main Draw tournament, the participating NFs may submit through the BVB-03 form (withdrawal request) with the supporting Medical certificate and flight ticket (issued with flight number) to FIVB Technical Delegate assigned with a copy to FIVB Beach Department to submit the withdrawal, disband or 'change of athlete' request.

However, the following fines will be applied to the athlete/team concerned regardless of the reason:

Qualification tournament of 5-star tournament	USD 1,000 per athlete
Main Draw of 5-star tournament	USD 3,000 per athlete
Qualification tournament of 4-star tournament	USD 650 per athlete
Main Draw of 4-star tournament	USD 2,000 per athlete
Qualification tournament of 3-star tournament	USD 300 per athlete
Main Draw of 3-star tournament	USD 1,000 per athlete
Main Draw of 2-star tournament	USD 850 per athlete
Main Draw of 1-star tournament	USD 200 per athlete

In addition to the above fines, the last-minute withdrawal(s) (including disband and change of athlete) shall result in the event being counted as zero (0) points for the Athlete Entry Points calculation towards the athlete(s) concerned with consequent impact for entry and seeding purposes at the FIVB Beach Volleyball tournament.

Teams picked up from the list of reserve teams after 4:00 PM (Swiss time), 5 days before the start date of Main Draw, shall not be subject to the above fines.

The same scale of sanction as above will also apply to team(s) who has no show at the Preliminary Inquiry of the Qualification tournament (if applicable) or Main Draw. In addition, the teams will be excluded from the tournament concerned.

For FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (3-5 star tournaments), the following rule will apply:

- If the withdrawal, disband or 'change of athlete' request is for an athlete/team in the Main Draw tournament, the new team shall have enough entry points to maintain

their Main Draw position, otherwise, the team shall be placed in the Qualification tournament.

- If the withdrawal, disband or 'change of athlete' request is for an athlete/team in the Qualification tournament, the team shall have enough entry points to maintain their Qualification tournament position, otherwise, the team shall be placed in the reserve list. However, if the team has enough entry points to enter Main Draw, the team will remain in the Qualification tournament and be seeded per the seeding points of the new team.
- Not withdraw an athlete/team entered in the Qualification tournament or Main Draw tournament of the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (3-5 star tournaments) to participate in another beach volleyball activity/tournament (national or regional or Continental or any other tournament similar in nature) scheduled at the same time. Athlete/team, failing to comply with the above regulation, will be subject to the same scale of sanction applied to last minute withdrawal.
- The list of reserve teams is constantly updated until the preliminary inquiry of the Qualification tournament. Reserve teams must be present at the Preliminary inquiry of the Qualification tournament and both players must sign to register in the tournament to be considered for the potential inclusion in the event due to late withdrawals or no shows.
- In case of the withdrawal(s) of team(s), in the Main Draw tournament, prior to the start of the completion of the Preliminary Inquiry of Qualification tournament, the next eligible team(s) with highest entry points in the Qualification tournament shall be picked up to advance to the Main Draw, respecting the regulations of the country quota.
- In case of the withdrawal(s) of team(s), in the Main Draw tournament, after the completion of preliminary inquiry of Qualification tournament when the seeding list and match of the Qualification tournament is scheduled, the regulations of the lucky loser draw shall be implemented to determine the extra team(s) qualify to the Main Draw. The Lucky loser draw regulation is as follows:
  - The lucky loser draw is conducted by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned after the completion of the preliminary inquiry of Main Draw;
  - The lucky loser draw is implemented among the teams losing the last round of the Qualification tournament, provided they attend the preliminary inquiry of Main Draw tournament as eligible 'lucky losers';
  - The first draw is between the two highest seeded teams among the eligible 'lucky loser';
  - For each additional available spot to the Main Draw, the next highest seeded team must be drawn against the loser of the previous draw;

- This procedure continues until all additional open spots of the Main Draw are filled.
- In case of the withdrawal(s) of team(s), in the Qualification Tournament, the next eligible team(s) in the Reserve List shall be picked up. In case there are no eligible reserve team(s) physically present at the Preliminary Inquiry of the Qualification Tournament, the Host reserve teams as in the Confirmed Entry list will be picked up and the priorities will be given to the teams with more entry points. If there is a tie between the 2 Host country reserve teams, a drawing of lots shall be conducted to determine the priority.
- The Qualification and Main Draw Tournaments are deemed to have started once the seeding has been confirmed and no further changes are allowed.

For FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-2 star tournaments), the following rule will apply:

- If the withdrawal, disband or 'change of athlete' request is for an athlete/team in the Main Draw tournament, the new team shall have enough entry points to maintain their Main Draw position, otherwise, the team shall be placed in the reserve list.
- Not withdraw an athlete/team entered in the Main Draw tournament of the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-2 star tournaments) to participate in another beach volleyball activity/tournament (national or regional or Continental or any other tournament similar in nature) scheduled at the same time. Athlete/team, failing to comply with the above regulation, will be subject to the same scale of sanction applied to last minute withdrawal.
- The list of reserve teams is constantly updated until the preliminary inquiry of the Main Draw. Reserve teams must be present at the Preliminary inquiry of the Main Draw and both players must sign to register in the tournament to be considered for the potential inclusion in the event due to late withdrawals or no shows.
- In case of the withdrawal(s) of team(s), in the Main Draw, the next eligible team(s) in the Reserve List shall be picked up. In case there are no eligible reserve team(s) physically present at the Preliminary Inquiry of the Main Draw Tournament, additional host teams will be entered upon agreement between promoter and FIVB Technical Delegate assigned.
- The Main Draw Tournament is deemed to have started once the seeding has been confirmed and no further changes are allowed.

#### **9.4 LATE ARRIVAL**

If an athlete arrives late to the Preliminary Inquiry, a fine of USD 150 (Qualification tournament, if applicable) or USD 250 (Main Draw tournament) will be imposed on him/her.



There is a huge risk if the player/team failed to attend the preliminary inquiry in due time and upon the decision of the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned, teams failed to attend the preliminary inquiry will be excluded from the tournament concerned. The fine for Late Arrival only applies if the player/team is witnessed and/or confirmed to be onsite by the FIVB Technical Delegate but did not attend the Preliminary Inquiry in due time (e.g. witnessed to have been training in the venue, or check in at the hotel or other reliable information that the team confirming that the team is present at the event).

Special cases of late arrival may only be considered upon proof of 'force majeure' reason, such as cancel of the flight by the airline company, transportation failure, etc., and such proof must be communicated to the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned with a copy to FIVB Beach Department in due time before the start of the Preliminary Inquiry. No fine shall apply.

#### **9.5 SPECIAL CASE**

In case of an injury or 'force majeure' occurs prior to the tournament but after the arrival of the athlete/team on site at the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-5 star), the athlete/team concerned shall inform the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned and the official tournament doctor/FIVB Medical Delegate (if assigned) and no fine or point penalty shall apply.

In case of a withdrawal or disband or 'change of athlete' is due to injury or 'force majeure' which occurs in another FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-5 star) tournament held before the current tournament (such tournament shall be held or ongoing after 4:00 PM Swiss time, 5 days before the start date of current Main Draw tournament), the athlete/team will be waived from the fines and point sanction only if the following documents will be provided and such documents must be sent to FIVB no later than 3 working days after such case happens:

- Medical Statement from the tournament doctor/FIVB Medical Delegate (if assigned) at the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-5 star), such statement shall be acknowledged by the FIVB Technical Delegate with signature.
- WT/49 Form (Medical Injury Timeout & Medical Forfeit form) if applicable and such form shall be duly signed by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned.

In case the above case happens in a Continental/Regional/National tournament/other activities in the same time frame described above before the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-5 star), the FIVB will evaluate, on a case by case basis, any exceptional case for the exemption of the fines and points penalty that are caused by the last-minute withdrawal. And to allow the FIVB evaluate such

case, the following documents must be provided to FIVB Beach Volleyball Department no later than 3 working days after such case happens:

- Medical statement (translated in English) from the tournament doctor at the tournament concerned and acknowledged by the respective Technical Delegate onsite with signature.
- Paper scoresheet duly signed by match officials and teams, if applicable.
- Team video of the match concerned, if any.
- Picture of the injury concerned, if any.
- A copy of flight ticket issued (if necessary the boarding pass) to travel to the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (1-5 star) that the athlete/team is registered/entered.
- Should such case happen in the regional/continental tournament, the medical statement shall also be acknowledged by the Confederation concerned with the signature/stamp.

## **10. WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES – SWATCH FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR FINALS**

For the Swatch Beach Volleyball FIVB World Tour Finals, NFs are not required to enter any teams. FIVB will directly issue the Confirmed Entry list as per the above deadline.

Once the Confirmed Entry List is issued by FIVB, the participating NFs may:

- Submit through the BVB-03 form (withdrawal request) with the supporting Medical certificate and flight ticket (issued with flight number) to FIVB Beach Department to submit the withdrawal request. The FIVB will evaluate on a case by case basis to decide if the fines will be applied. The scale of the fine will be:

Main Draw of Swatch Beach Volleyball World Tour Finals	USD 3,000 per athlete
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- Should there be request from the participating NFs on the disbanding of a team or the 'replacement of the player', the vacancy will not be transferred to the new team and the FIVB will reallocate such vacancy to the next eligible team.
- Should there be any last-minutes withdrawal which happens on site due to 'force majeure', the FIVB, after agreement with the promoter, will reallocate the vacancy to the host country team whenever deemed necessary.

## **11. WITHDRAWALS PROCEDURES – FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The withdrawal procedures for the FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World

Championships will be regulated in the Handbook and Specific Events Regulation of the above-mentioned tournament.

## **12. WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES – FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL AGE GROUP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The withdrawal procedures for the FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships will be regulated in the Handbook and Specific Events Regulation of the above-mentioned tournament.

# **CHAPTER 5 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL RANKINGS**

## **13. FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL RANKING POINTS**

### **13.1 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL SANCTIONED AND HOMOLOGATED EVENTS**

The FIVB Beach Volleyball Rankings provide an objective scale of values of all athletes/teams participating in recognized beach volleyball events, on a merit basis.

FIVB Ranking Points are earned by each player competing in any recognized beach volleyball event. The higher the tournament ranking, the higher the points earned and the higher the level of the event the higher the points that are available.

The following event categories are recognized by the FIVB and, thus the FIVB Beach Volleyball Rankings:

<b>Event Category</b>	<b>Under the Jurisdiction of</b>
FIVB Senior World Championships	FIVB
FIVB World Tour (1-5 star)	FIVB
FIVB Age Group (U19 & U21) World Championships	FIVB
FIVB homologated Continental Tour Championships /Final/Master/Open/zonal Tour*	Confederation concerned
Continental Cup Final / Continental Cup	Confederation concerned homologated by FIVB
Recognized Multi Sport Games	FIVB or Confederation concerned

FIVB homologated Continental Challenger/Satellite	Confederation concerned
FIVB homologated Continental Age Group Championships	Confederation concerned
FIVB homologated National Tour	NF concerned
Other events (if any)	As required by the FIVB

*\*Continental Tour Championships/Final/Master/Open/zonal Tour*

- Each Confederation sets the conditions for sanctioning Continental tournament including the Continental Tour Championships, Continental Tour Final, Continental Master, Continental Open and Continental Zonal Tour.
- Each Confederation shall confirm to the FIVB the condition criteria of the above-mentioned Continental tournament and the number of events to be held via the Continental Tour homologation form, which will be homologated and approved by FIVB before FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking Points are allocated.

**Important Note:**

Each tournament as above shall be managed by the FIVB Volleyball Information System (VIS) through the NFs, Confederations and FIVB. If the results of each recognized event are not uploaded through such system on the last day of the event, the FIVB Ranking points will not be allocated.

The following total amount of Prize money will be awarded to the above-mentioned FIVB events in 2017:

Event Category	Total amount of Prize money
FIVB Senior World Championships	USD 500,000 per gender
FIVB Age Group (U19 & U21) World Championships	No Prize money
Swatch FIVB World Tour Final	USD 400,000 per gender
FIVB World Tour (5-star)	USD 300,000 per gender
FIVB World Tour (4-star)	USD 150,000 per gender
FIVB World Tour (3-star)*	USD 75,000 per gender
FIVB World Tour (2-star)*	USD 50,000 per gender
FIVB World Tour (1-star)*	USD 10,000 per gender

- The breakdown of the prize money per event will be featured in the FIVB Handbook for 2017 season and the Specific Event Regulation of each tournament.
- For FIVB World Tour (1-3 star), greater amount of prize money might be approved

by FIVB and the detailed breakdown will be featured I the FIVB Handbook for 2017 season and the Specific Event Regulation of each tournament.

**13.2 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL RANKING POINTS BREAKDOWN**

Rank	Senior WCHs	Swatch WT Finals	5*	4*	3*	2*	1*	U21 & U19 WCHs
1st	800	N/A	600	400	300	200	100	100
2nd	640		480	320	240	160	80	80
3rd	480		360	240	180	120	60	60
4th	400		300	200	150	100	50	50
5th	320		240	160	120	80	40	40
9th	240		180	120	90	60	30	30
17th	160		120	80	60	40	N/A	20
25th	N/A		90	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15
33rd	80		60	40	30	N/A	N/A	10
37th	40		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5
41st	32		24	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-

Rank	Con. Championship	Con. Cup Final	Con.Tour Master	Recognized Multi-Sports Games	Con. Tour Open/Satellite	Con.Age Group Championships	Continental Cup/Con.Zonal Tour	Homologated National Tour
1st	300	200	160	120	100	80	60	10
2nd	240	160	128	96	80	64	48	8
3rd	180	120	96	72	60	48	36	6
4th	150	100	80	60	50	40	30	4
5th	120	80	64	48	40	32	24	2
9th	90	60	48	36	30	24	18	1
17th	60	40	32	24	20	16	12	-
25th	45	30	24	18	15	12	9	-
33rd	30	20	16	12	10	8	6	-
37th	15	10	8	6	5	4	3	-
41st	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*Con.=Continental

**Important Note:**

- No FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking points will be allocated to the Swatch FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour Finals.

- No FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking points will be allocated to the FIVB World Continental Cup Olympic Qualification.
- Should there be different competition format adopted to above tournaments and thus results in a different scale of rank, the new breakdown of the Beach Volleyball Ranking points must be approved by FIVB.

## **14. FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL RANKING POINTS DEFINITIONS**

### **14.1 ATHLETE ENTRY POINTS:**

Athlete Entry Points are the FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking Points earned at the best six (6) of the last eight (8) FIVB World Tour (1-5 star) & FIVB Senior World Championships events within the last 365-days period at -21 days prior to the start date of Main Draw of an event.

### **14.2 ATHLETE SEEDING POINTS**

Athlete Seeding Points are the sum of the two individual Athlete Entry Points on the date of the Preliminary Inquiry of an event.

### **14.3 ATHLETE TECHNICAL ENTRY POINTS**

Athlete Technical Entry Points are the sum of the FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking Points earned at the last eight (8) FIVB World Tour (1-5 star) & FIVB Senior World Championships events within the last 365-days period at -21 days prior to the start date of Main Draw of an event.

### **14.4 ATHLETE TECHNICAL POINTS**

Athlete Technical Points are the sum of the FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking Points earned at the FIVB sanctioned or homologated Beach Volleyball Events (as per the above table) over a 365-days period from the date the ranking is published. Depending on the date of the ranking, it is possible for this ranking to include FIVB Ranking points from two FIVB reasons.

### **14.5 METHOD IN CALCULATING ATHLETE ENTRY POINTS**

- The FIVB Ranking points obtained at other FIVB sanctioned or homologated events (as per the above table) outside the FIVB World Tour (1-5 Stars) & FIVB Senior World Championships will be counted in the Entry Points only if they improve the athlete's standing.
- The method used to calculate Athlete Entry Points is:
  - To define the date window comprised of the last eight (8) events (i.e. FIVB World Tour 1-5 star tournaments & FIVB Senior World Championships) within 365 days;
  - Then add the total of the best six (6) results from any events within the date window including all FIVB sanctioned or homologated events (as per the above table).

## **15. FIVB WORLD RANKING DEFINITIONS**

FIVB World Ranking is established based on the FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking Points earned at the eight (8) best performance as a team in all FIVB sanctioned or homologated Beach Volleyball Events (as per the above table) over a 365-days period.

The FIVB World Ranking is updated every Monday after an FIVB sanctioned or homologated event granting FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking Points.

When two or more players have the same sum of points, tie shall be broken as follows:

- The most total points earned from the FIVB Senior World Championships, 5-star & 4-star tournament, and if still tied, then;
- The highest sum of two players' Athlete Technical Points, and if still tied, then;
- The highest number of points from one single tournament, then, if needed, the second highest, and so on;
- If the above methods can't break the ties, the two teams will then have the same FIVB World Ranking.

## **16. EXTENDED ABSENCE DUE TO MATERNITY LEAVE OR SERIOUS INJURY**

### **16.1 MATERNITY LEAVE**

- To benefit from the Maternity Leave points, the athlete concerned shall return within 2 years from the birth of the child.
- If an athlete returns to play within 365 days from the birth of the child, 5/6 of their Entry Points within eighteen (18) months before the birth of the child shall apply; if they return to play after 365 days, 3/6 of their Entry Points within eighteen (18) months before the birth of the child shall apply.
- For an entry into subsequent event the FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking Points earned at the first event shall be added, but 1/6 shall be subtracted from the starting total. For each subsequent entry, the same rule applies.
- To apply for the Entry points calculation due to maternity leave, the NF of the athlete must submit a birth certificate of the child and announce the next FIVB tournament the athlete plans to taking part to a minimum 60 days before the said tournament.
- After six (6) tournaments, the starting total will be zero (0) and the FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking Points earned at those six (6) tournaments will be her Entry Points. The same rule applies for the Seeding Points of the athlete concerned.

**16.2 SERIOUS INJURY**

- To benefit from the Serious Injury points, the athlete concerned shall return within 2 years starting from the date when the injury happens.
- In case of severe injury, the athlete must provide a valid medical certificate and must not be able to play for a minimum of six (6) months or a minimum of four (4) months in the same season, 5/6 of their Entry Points calculated within 365 days before the injury shall apply upon their return.
- For entry into subsequent events the FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking Points earned at the first event shall be added, but 1/6 shall be subtracted from the starting total. For each subsequent entry, the same rule applies.
- To apply for the Entry points calculation due to a serious injury, the NF of the athlete must submit a valid medical certificate and announce the next FIVB tournaments the athlete plans on taking part to a minimum 60 days before the said tournament. The same rule applies for the seeding points of the athlete concerned.

## CHAPTER 6 COMPETITION FORMAT

### 17. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

In principle, the following competition phases will be adopted in the FIVB Beach Volleyball Events:

**17.1 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- Main Draw tournament of 48 teams per gender

**17.2 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (5 STAR)**

- Main Draw tournament of 32 teams per gender
- Qualification tournament of maximum 24 teams per gender
- Continental Quota Playoff (if any)

**17.3 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (4 STAR)**

- Main Draw tournament of 32 teams per gender
- Qualification tournament of maximum 16 teams per gender
- Continental Quota Playoff (if any)

**17.4 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (3 STAR)**

- Main Draw tournament of 32 teams per gender
- Qualification tournament of maximum 16 teams per gender
- Continental Quota Playoff (if any)



**17.5 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (1-2 STAR)**

- Main Draw tournament of 24 teams (2-star) or 16 teams (1-star)
- Continental Quota Playoff (if any)

**17.6 SWATCH BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR FINALS**

- Main Draw tournament of 12 teams per gender

**17.7 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL AGE GROUP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- Main Draw tournament of 32 teams per gender
- Qualification tournament of maximum 24 teams per gender

**17.8 OTHERS**

Upon individual organiser's request, FIVB may consider other competition formats to be adopted for the above-mentioned tournaments. And should the new formats be approved by FIVB, the teams will be informed well in advance before the tournaments.

**18. COMPETITION FORMATS**

The following competition formats are applied for the FIVB Beach Volleyball events as follows:

**18.1 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- Main Draw tournament of 48 teams each gender played in two (2) phases:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> phase: 48 teams playing in twelve (12) pools of four (4) teams each in round robin system, followed by the Lucky-loser round between the 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked teams (as per the main points, set point ratio then rally point ratio) from each pool;
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> phase: The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> ranked teams of each pool after the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase plus the four (4) best 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked teams from all pools (as per the main points, set ratio and rally points ratio, etc.) and the four (4) winners of lucky-loser round advance to the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of 32-teams bracket in single elimination format.

**18.2 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (5 STAR)**

- Continental Quota Playoff (if any): depending on the number of teams concerned, the single elimination format will be adopted to qualify one (1) team to the Qualification tournament.
- Qualification tournament of maximum 24 teams per gender played in 24-teams bracket of single elimination format to qualify 8 teams to the Main Draw

tournament.

- Main Draw tournament of 32 teams per gender played in two (2) phases:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> phase: 32 teams playing in eight (8) pools of four (4) teams each in round robin system;
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> phase: the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked teams of each pool after the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase advance to the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of 24-teams bracket in single elimination format.

### **18.3 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (4 STAR)**

- Continental Quota Playoff (if any): depending on the number of teams concerned, the single elimination format will be adopted to qualify one (1) team to the Qualification tournament.
- Qualification tournament of maximum 16 teams per gender played in 16-teams bracket of single elimination format to qualify 8 teams to the Main Draw tournament.
- Main Draw tournament of 32 teams per gender played in 32-teams bracket of single elimination format.

### **18.4 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (3 STAR)**

- Continental Quota Playoff (if any): depending on the number of teams concerned, the single elimination format will be adopted to qualify one (1) team to the Qualification tournament.
- Qualification tournament of maximum 16 teams per gender played in 16-teams bracket of single elimination format to qualify 8 teams to the Main Draw tournament.
- Main Draw tournament of 32 teams per gender played in 32-teams bracket of single elimination format.

### **18.5 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (2 STAR)**

- Continental Quota Playoff (if any): depending on the number of teams concerned, the single elimination format will be adopted to qualify one (1) team to the Qualification tournament.
- Main Draw tournament of 24 teams per gender played in 24-teams bracket of single elimination format.

### **18.6 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (1STAR)**

- Continental Quota Playoff (if any): depending on the number of teams concerned, the single elimination format will be adopted to qualify one (1) team to the Qualification tournament.

- Main Draw tournament of 16 teams per gender played in 16-teams bracket of single elimination format.

### **18.7 SWATCH BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR FINALS**

- Main Draw tournament of 12 teams per gender played in two (2) phases:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> phase: 12 teams playing in four (4) pools of three (3) teams each in round robin system;
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> phase: all teams advance to the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of 12-team bracket in single elimination format.

### **18.8 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL AGE GROUP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- Qualification tournament of 24 teams per gender played in 24-teams bracket of single elimination format to qualify 4 teams to the Main Draw tournament
- Main Draw tournament of 32 teams per gender played in two (2) phases:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> phase: 32 teams playing in eight (8) pools of four (4) teams each in round robin system;
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> phase: the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked teams of each pool after the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase advance to the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of 24-teams bracket in single elimination format.

## **19. CONTINENTAL QUOTA PLAYOFF**

### **19.1 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (3-5 STAR)**

- A maximum of three (3) Continental teams (without enough points to directly enter the Qualification tournament) will be allowed to play the Continental Quota Playoff in single elimination format to allow one (1) team to enter the Qualification tournament, following the universality principles implemented by IOC for the Olympic Games.
- Depending on the number of continental teams as described above, the correct number of Continental Quota Playoff matches will be played to allow one (1) team to enter the Qualification tournament.
- The Continental Quota Playoff shall be played in the same day of Qualification Tournament and completed no later than one (1) hour before the finish of the Preliminary Inquiry of Qualification Tournament.

### **19.2 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (1-2 STAR)**

- A maximum of three (3) Continental teams (without enough points to directly enter the Main Draw) will be allowed to play the Continental Quota Playoff in single elimination format to allow one (1) team to enter the Main Draw, following the

universality principles implemented by IOC for the Olympic Games.

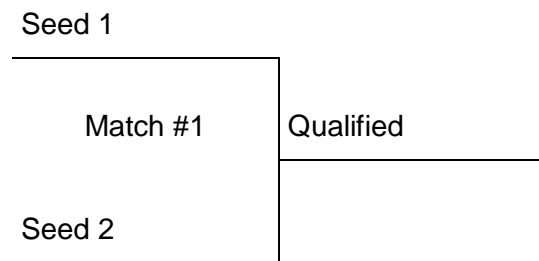
- Depending on the number of continental teams as described above, the correct number of Continental Quota Playoff matches will be played to allow one (1) team to enter the Main Draw.

**19.3 SEEDING FOR THE CONTINENTAL QUOTA PLAYOFF**

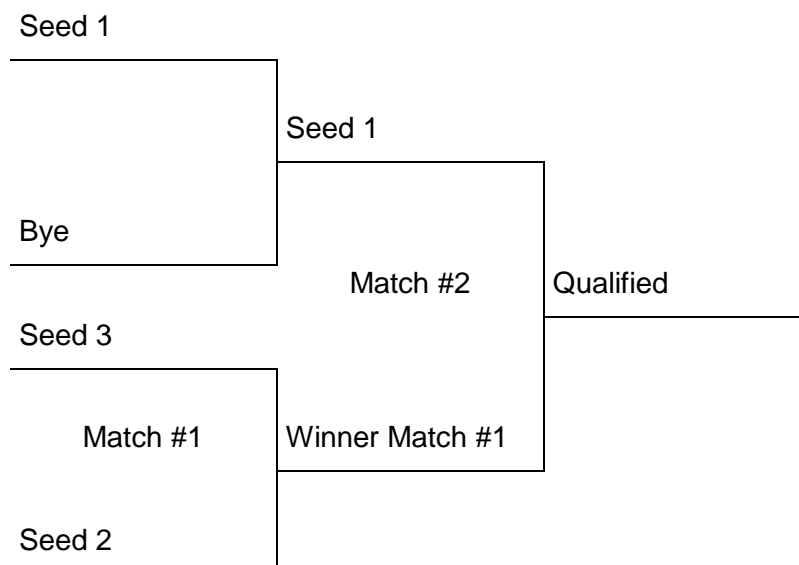
- The sum of athletes seeding points on the day of the preliminary inquiry will be used to establish the seeding for the Continental Quota playoff teams.
- Should there be a tie between two teams or three teams, a drawing of lots will be implemented to break the tie.

**19.4 ELIMINATION BRACKET**

- Two (2) teams:



- Three (3) teams:



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## **20. QUALIFICATION TOURNAMENT**

### **20.1 QUALIFICATION TOURNAMENT OF FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR**

#### **20.1.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- Only for FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (3-5 star), the Qualification tournament will be played.
- For FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (5-star), a maximum of twenty-four (24) teams can be entered in the Qualification Tournament.
- For FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour (3-4 star), a maximum of sixteen (16) teams can be entered in the Qualification Tournament.
- The qualification tournament will be played in single elimination format to advance the eight (8) winning teams to the Main Draw tournament.
- In case of withdrawal(s) of team(s) in the Qualification tournament, the next eligible team(s) in the Reserve of Confirmed Entry list shall be picked up to fill the 24-teams bracket (5-star)/16-teams bracket (3-4 star).
- In case there are no eligible Reserve teams physically present at the Preliminary Inquiry of the Qualification Tournament, the two (2) host country reserve teams will be entered to fill the roster of Qualification tournament, with the priority given to the one with higher Entry Points. If there is a tie between the two (2) host country reserve teams in the Entry Points, the tie shall be broken by the drawing of lots.
- A minimum of eight (8) teams will qualify to the Main Draw tournament from the Qualification tournament. Additional teams may also be drawn to the Main Draw tournament if there are any last-minute withdrawals in the Main Draw after the seeding of the Qualification tournament is established or the wild card(s) are not allocated to the Main Draw tournament. Should this happen, the procedure of lucky loser draw will be implemented as per regulation 9.3.
- Should the number of teams in the Qualification tournament be less than the number of teams required to fill the Main Draw tournament, the FIVB shall notify these teams concerned of their direct entry into the Main Draw tournament and no Qualification tournament will be played.

#### **20.1.2 SEEDING**

- Teams in the Qualification tournament are seeded per the FIVB Seeding Points, i.e. the sum of the two individual Athlete Entry Points on the date of the Preliminary Inquiry.
- When two teams or more teams have the same sum of FIVB Seeding points, ties shall be broken as follows:
  - The most sum of Athlete Technical Entry Points will be seeded higher, and

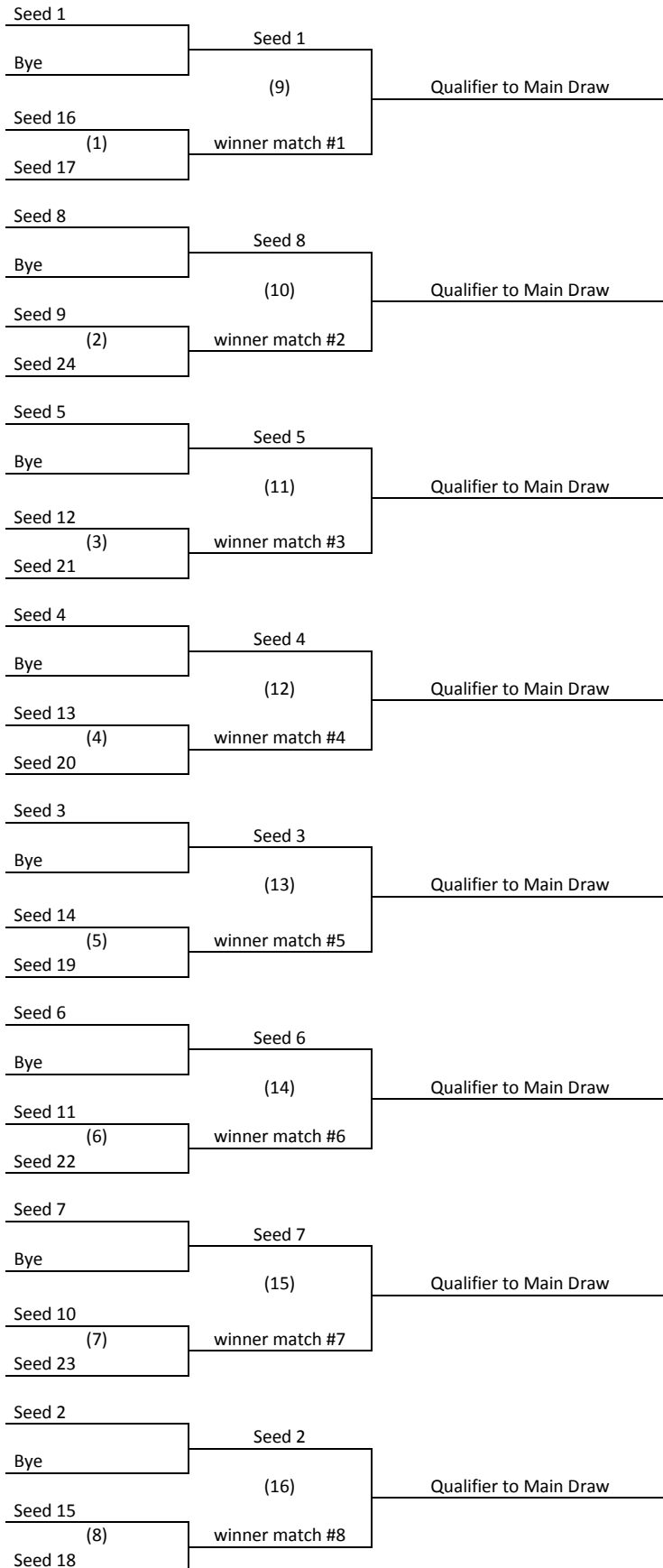
if still tied, then;

- The most sum of Athlete Technical Points will be seeded higher, and if still tied, then;
- The drawing of lots is implemented among the teams still tied.

### **20.1.3 ELIMINATION BRACKET**

**FIVB World Tour (5-star) – Qualification Tournament Bracket**

*Losers ranked 41th*      *Losers ranked 33rd*



**FIVB World Tour (3-4 star) – Qualification Tournament Bracket**

*Losers ranked 33th*





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## **20.2 QUALIFICATION TOURNAMENT OF FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL AGE GROUP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The competition regulations for the Qualification tournament of FIVB Beach Volleyball Age Group World Championships will be regulated in the Handbook and Specific Events Regulation of the above-mentioned tournament.

## **21. MAIN DRAW**

### **21.1 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The competition regulations for the FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships will be regulated in the Handbook and Specific Events Regulation of the above-mentioned tournament.

### **21.2 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (5 STAR)**

#### **21.2.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- The Main Draw tournament of each gender event is played by 32 teams through a first phase of eight (8) pools of four (4) teams each in round robin system and a second phase with twenty-four (24) teams playing in a single elimination format.
- The losers of the semi-finals will play the bronze medal match, while the winners will play the gold medal match.
- The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked teams of each pool after the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase advance to the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of 24-teams bracket in single elimination format.
- A drawing of lots will be held after the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of pool play to decide the bracket of the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase and this will be conducted and approved by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned.
- In principle, the match format is fixed so that the drawing of lots after 1<sup>st</sup> phase of pool play finishes late in the afternoon and no matches are played the same day in single elimination format. 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 matches in Single Elimination cannot be earlier than two (2) hours after the bracket has been determined at the drawing of lots by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned.
- The FIVB Technical Delegate assigned must be responsible to verify the competition schedule fulfils the FIVB sports regulations in the planning phase of the event, together with the FIVB Beach Department. The key points to verify includes the start time, duration of the match, matches per day, break between matches, sunrise/sunset, number of courts, TV matches start time, etc.)

#### **21.2.2 SEEDING**

- Teams in the Main Draw, including the teams advance from the Qualification

tournament, wild cards as well as teams picked up by the lucky-loser draws (if any), are seeded per the FIVB Seeding Points, i.e. the sum of the two individual Athlete Entry Points on the date of the Preliminary Inquiry.

- When two teams or more teams have the same sum of FIVB Seeding points, ties shall be broken as follows:
  - The most sum of Athlete Technical Entry Points will be seeded higher, and if still tied, then;
  - The most sum of Athlete Technical Points will be seeded higher, and if still tied, then;
  - The drawing of lots is implemented among the teams still tied.

Women's Teams and Men's Teams							
Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D	Pool E	Pool F	Pool G	Pool H
Seed #1	Seed #2	Seed #3	Seed #4	Seed #5	Seed #6	Seed #7	Seed #8
Seed #16	Seed #15	Seed #14	Seed #13	Seed #12	Seed #11	Seed #10	Seed #9
Seed #17	Seed #18	Seed #19	Seed #20	Seed #21	Seed #22	Seed #23	Seed #24
Seed #32	Seed #31	Seed #30	Seed #29	Seed #28	Seed #27	Seed #26	Seed #25

- Seeding of the host countries teams:
  - Best ranked host country team (as per its seeding points) will receive Seed #1 (Pool A) if the team is ranked with the first eight (8) teams. Otherwise, the best ranked host country team will receive Seed #8 (Pool H).
  - The remaining host country teams will be seeded naturally as per their Seeding Points.
  - Host country teams shall never be placed in the same pool. The 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and any other eventual host country team(s) will have their seed increased (for example from Seed #15 to Seed #16) until they are in a different pool than the other host country teams. Should increasing the seed not work (or not be possible) then the seed is reduced (for example from Seed #32 to Seed 31) until the host country team is in a different pool.
  - The relative seeding of the host country teams must be respected and preserved after the host country teams have been placed in separate pools.

21.2.3

Example: As showed in the below diagram, 6 teams already in the Main Draw from the host country (including the wild cards), their seeding positions are USA 1 (seed #1), USA 2 (seed #2), USA 3 (seed #15), USA 4 (seed #19), USA 5 (seed #30) and USA 6 (seed #32).

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D	Pool E	Pool F	Pool G	Pool H
USA 1	USA 2	seed #3	seed #4	seed #5	seed #6	seed #7	seed #8
Seed #16	USA 3	Seed #14	Seed #13	Seed #12	Seed #11	seed #10	seed #9
Seed #17	Seed #18	USA 4	Seed #20	Seed #21	Seed #22	Seed #23	Seed #24
USA 6	Seed #31	USA 5	Seed #29	Seed #28	Seed #27	Seed #26	Seed #25

Based on the above mentioned regulations, the final seeding will be established as below:

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D	Pool E	Pool F	Pool G	Pool H
USA 1	USA 2	seed #3	seed #4	seed #5	seed #6	seed #7	seed #8
Seed #17	Seed #16	Seed #14	Seed #13	Seed #12	Seed #11	seed #10	seed #9
Seed #18	Seed #20	USA 3	USA 4	Seed #21	Seed #22	Seed #23	Seed #24
Seed #31	Seed #29	Seed #28	Seed #27	USA 6	USA 5	Seed #26	Seed #25

*Note: In principle, the host team with higher seeding points shall always have higher seed among the host country teams.*

**1<sup>ST</sup> PHASE: POOL PLAY IN ROUND ROBIN SYSTEM**

- 32 teams per gender will be placed into eight (8) pools with four (4) teams each based on their seeding and will be placed per the serpentine principle.
- Every team plays the three (3) other teams in their pool.
- If there are two (2) teams from the same NF in the pool, then the match between these two (2) teams shall be played first, if the TV matches schedule permits.
- With all possible efforts, the two (2) matches of the last round in the same pool shall be scheduled to start in the same time. However, due to TV request or other promotional purpose, there will be exceptional cases when approved by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned.
- Pool standing:
  - The ranking of teams within their pools will be determined by the total number of match points, with the following points awarded per match to each team:

Match won	2 points
Match lost	1 point
Match forfeited	0 points (21-0; 21-0)

- In case of a tie in the total number of match points during the pool play, the following rules will apply:
  - Between two (2) teams:

- ✓ The team with higher rally point ratios in the matches between all teams in the pool, is ranked higher;
- ✓ If a tie still exists, then the teams have the same position in ranking.
- Between three (3) teams:
  - ✓ If three (3) teams have a tie in the total number of match points, their ranking is determined by the rally point ratio in the matches between the three (3) tied teams;
  - ✓ If still tied, then the tied teams are ranked by the rally point ratio between all teams in the pool;
  - ✓ If still tied, then the teams will have the same position in ranking.
- Between four (4) teams:
  - ✓ The ranking is determined by the points ratio between all teams in the pool;
  - ✓ If still tied, then the teams have the same position in the ranking.
- In case of a tie in the total number of match points after the completion of pool play, the following rules will apply:
  - Between two (2) teams:
    - ✓ The team with higher rally point ratio in the matches between all teams in the pool, is ranked higher;
    - ✓ If still tied, then the winner of head-to-head match is ranked higher.
  - Between three (3) teams:
    - ✓ The ranking is determined by the rally point ratio in the matches between the three (3) tied teams;
    - ✓ If still tied, then the teams still tied are ranked by the rally point ratios between all teams in the pool;
    - ✓ If still tied, then the ranking of teams still tied is determined by the tournament seeding established after the Main Draw Preliminary Inquiry and the better seed of the tied teams will be higher ranked (for example, seed #15 is ranked higher than seed #18, while seed #18 is ranked higher than seed #31).
- All discontinued matches or matches that have not started are to be assessed by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned to determine if the

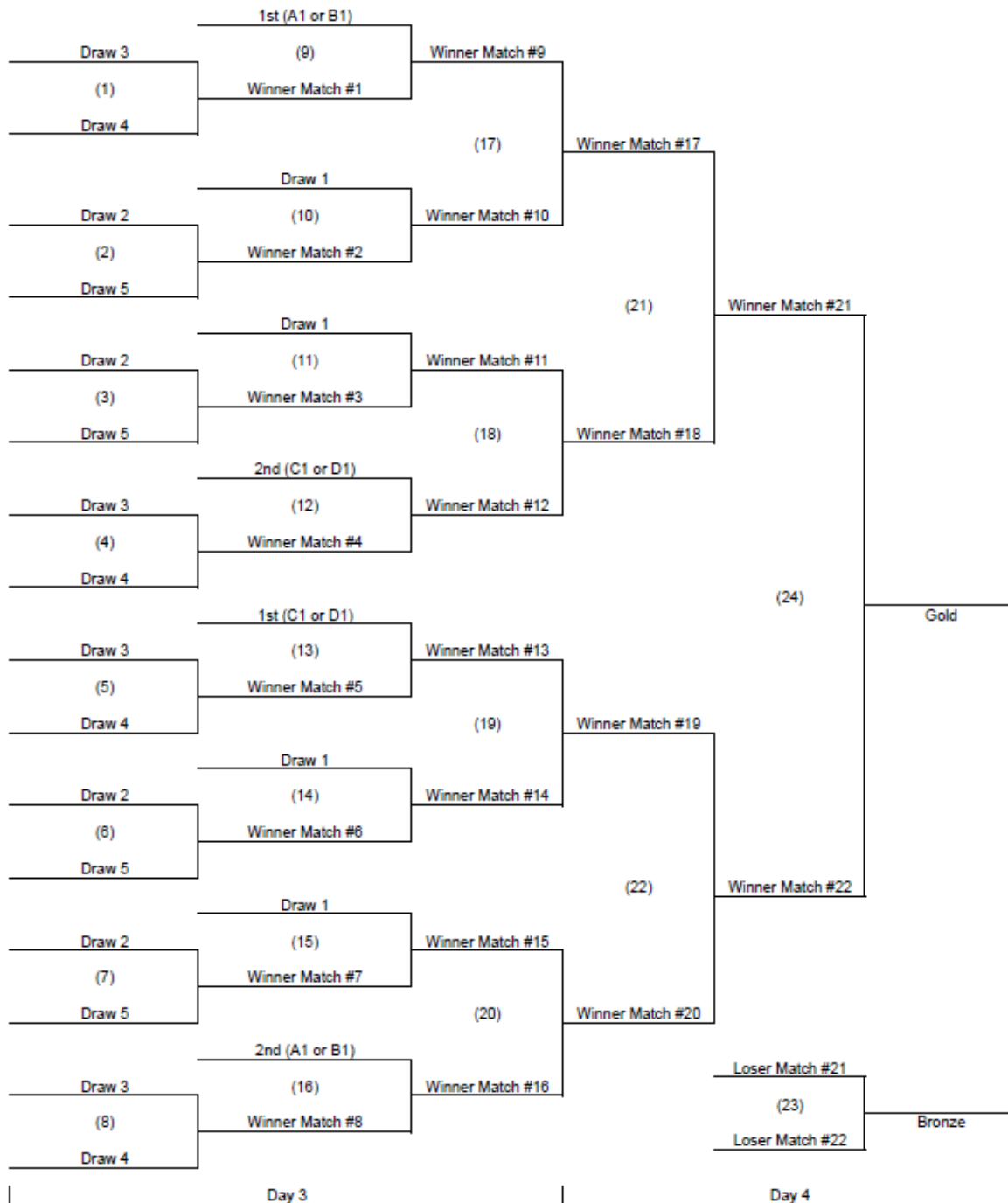
losing team is marked as Disqualification (DSQ) or Disqualification by Injury(INJ/DSQ) and whether they will receive any match points.

- If a team withdraws due to an injury before or during a match or gets disqualified during a match, it will earn one (1) match point and will keep the sets and points earned up to that moment, but the sets and points against will be the maximum. For example, if a team wins the first set 21:19 and is injured and forfeits the match when they are winning the second set 6:4, this injured team would earn 1 match point with sets of 1:2 and rally points of 21:19, 6:21 and 0:15. In this example, the winning team would get 2 match points with sets of 2:1 and rally points of 19:21, 4:6, 0:0. In addition, its match result will be marked with "INJ/DSQ".
- If the injury occurs before the match begins, the match will be marked "INJ/DSQ" and the losing team will be awarded 1 match point with sets of 0:2 and rally points of 0:21, 0:21. In this case, the winning team will be awarded 2 match points with sets of 2:0 and rally points of 0:0, 0:0.
- If a team withdraws without a valid reason before a match (e.g. no show) or during a match (e.g. refusal to continue) they will lose by forfeit 0-2 (0:21, 0:21) and will earn 0 match points. In addition, this match result will be marked with "DSQ". The winning team will receive 2 match points with sets of 2:0 and rally points of 0:0, 0:0.
- If a team is disqualified during the pool play due to a positive doping test, it will lose all the matches in the pool (played or to be played) by forfeit (see above). It will receive no rank. All of the team's matches in the Pool will be recorded as a forfeit for ranking purposes. (e.g. All winning teams receive - Sets 2:0 - Rally Points 0:0 , 0:0).
- If a team is disqualified after the pool play (after the Drawing of Lots) of the tournament due to a positive doping test, it will lose the last pool matches played by forfeit (see above). If the single elimination phase has already started and if they have not played yet they forfeit their match and the opponent will be then moved to the next round. The final pool ranking will be maintained. If the team already played its match and won the match, the match result will not be changed and this team will forfeit the next round. However, if a team is disqualified from the tournament due to a positive doping test after the conclusion of the drawing of lots (for

the seeding of the single elimination phase) but before the commencement of the first match of the single elimination phase, they will be replaced in the draw directly by the 4<sup>th</sup> ranked team in its pool. And the final pool ranking will be maintained. The disqualified team will receive no final ranking. It should be shown on the bottom of the final standing without rank and “DSQ”.

#### **21.2.4 2<sup>ND</sup> PHASE: 24-TEAM BRACKET IN SINGLE ELIMINATION FORMAT**

- The 1st, 2nd and 3rd ranked teams of each pool after the completion of the 1st phase advance to the 2nd phase of 24-teams bracket in single elimination format.
- A drawing of lots shall be organized after the completion of the last pool play match of each gender (possibly within 30 minutes) to establish the 24-teams bracket.
- The draw will follow the graphic as below:



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

Draw 1 = E1 + F1 + G1 + H1

Draw 2 = 4 x 2nd place teams from pool play with best ratio (match points, set ratio, rally point ratio, and if a tie still exists in rally point ratio, a draw will be conducted to break the tie)

Draw 3 = 4 x 2nd place teams from pool play with worst ratio (match points, set ratio, rally point ratio, and if a tie still exists in rally point ratio, a draw will be conducted to break the tie)

Draw 4 = 4 x 3rd place teams from pool play with best ratio (match points, set ratio, rally point ratio, and if a tie still exists in rally point ratio, a draw will be conducted to break the tie)

Draw 5 = 4 x 3rd place teams from pool play with worst ratio (match points, set ratio, rally point ratio, and if a tie still exists in rally point ratio, a draw will be conducted to break the tie)

1) In the first two rounds teams from the same pool can't meet

e.g. If Match #9 = B1 vs Winner of Match #1 then Match #1 can't have a team from Pool B

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

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## **21.3 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (3-4 STAR)**

### **21.3.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- The Main Draw tournament of 32 teams per gender will be played in single elimination format.
- The losers of the semi-finals will play the bronze medal match, while the winners will play the gold medal match.
- A drawing of lots will be implemented by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned after the completion of the Preliminary Inquiry of Main Draw to establish the bracket.

### **21.3.2 SEEDING**

- Teams in the Main Draw, including the teams advance from the Qualification tournament, wild cards as well as teams picked up by the lucky-loser draws (if any), are seeded per the FIVB Seeding Points, i.e. the sum of the two individual Athlete Entry Points on the date of the Preliminary Inquiry.
- When two teams or more teams have the same sum of FIVB Seeding points, ties shall be broken as follows:
  - The most sum of Athlete Technical Entry Points will be seeded higher, and if still tied, then;
  - The most sum of Athlete Technical Points will be seeded higher, and if still tied, then;
  - The drawing of lots is implemented among the teams still tied.
- Seeding of the host countries teams:
  - Best ranked host country team (as per its seeding points) will receive Seed #1 if the team is ranked with the first eight (8) teams. Otherwise, the best ranked host country team will receive Seed #8;
  - The remaining host country teams will be seeded naturally as per their Seeding Points.
- Drawing of lots:

The seeding list will be established after the completion of the preliminary inquiry of Main Draw.

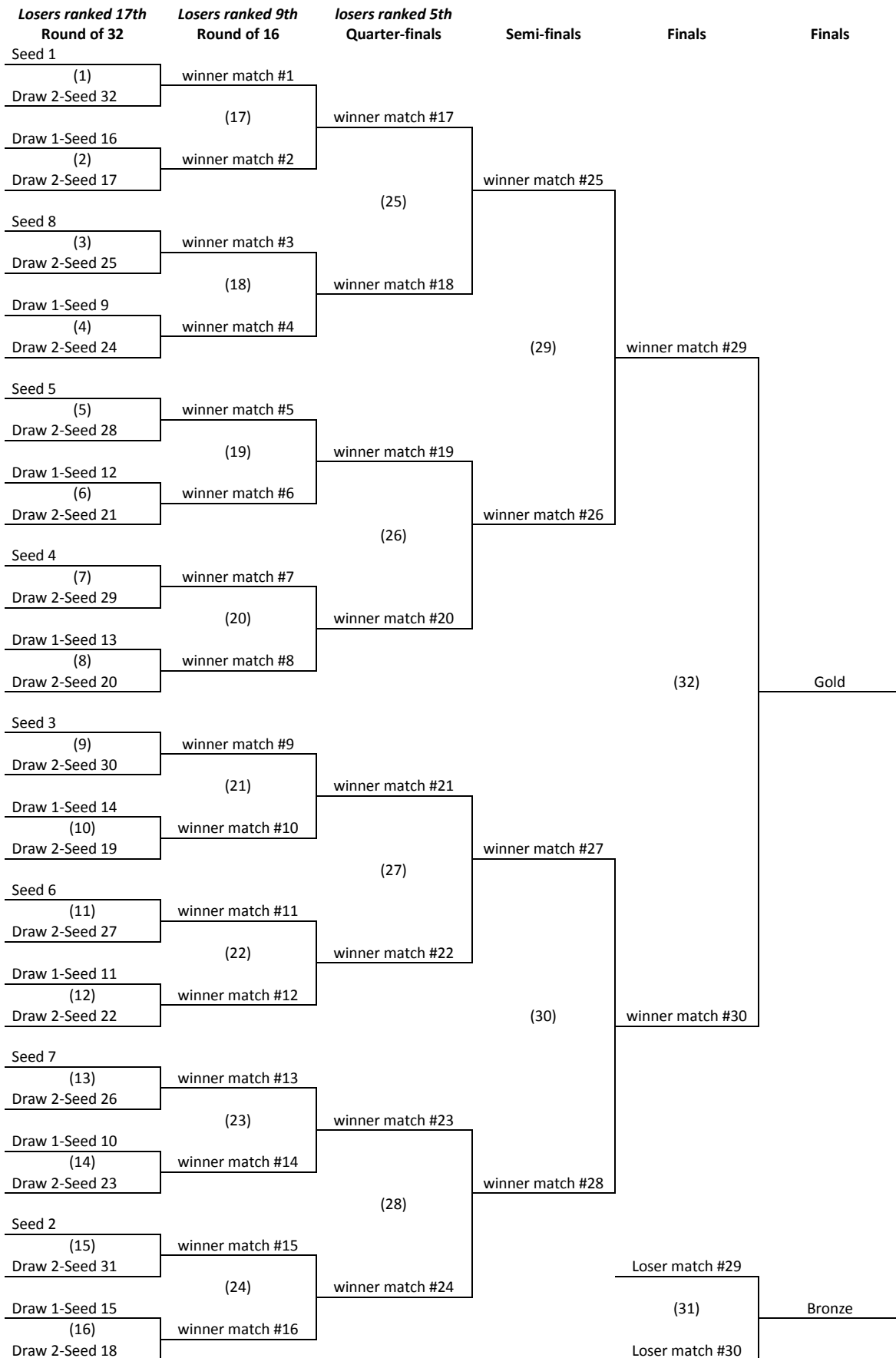
The drawing of lots must be implemented by the FIVB Technical Delegate as soon as the seeding list is established.

  - Seed #1 - #8 will automatically be placed into the bracket, taking into the consideration of seeding regulation for best host country team.
  - Draw 1 will be among Seed #9 - #16. The first team drawn will be seed #16, 2<sup>nd</sup> team drawn being seed #9, 3<sup>rd</sup> team drawn being seed #12, 4<sup>th</sup>



team drawn being seed #13, 5<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #14, 6<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #11, 7<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #10 and the last team being seed #15.

- Draw 2 will be among Seed #17 - #32. The first team drawn will be seed #32, 2<sup>nd</sup> team drawn being seed #17, 3<sup>rd</sup> team drawn being seed #25, 4<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #24, 5<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #28, 6<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #21, 7<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #29, the 8<sup>th</sup> team being seed #20, the 9<sup>th</sup> team being seed #30, the 10<sup>th</sup> team being seed #19<sup>th</sup>, the 11<sup>th</sup> team being seed #27, the 12<sup>th</sup> team being seed #22, the 13<sup>th</sup> team being seed #26, the 14<sup>th</sup> team being seed #23, the 15<sup>th</sup> team being seed #31 and the last team being seed #18
  - Teams from the host country can't meet each other in the first two rounds, i.e. round of 32 and round of 16. However, teams from the other countries can play each other in any round of the 32-team bracket.
- If a host country team is blocked from being placed in its drawn position, the team will be placed aside and a new team drawn until an eligible team is obtained. The team blocked will then be returned to the container.
  - If all possibilities for drawings are exhausted, then the remaining teams will be placed in the bracket as required.
  - If an error is made then the drawing will only be revised back to the point where the error was made, not from the beginning of the draw.



**21.4 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (2 STAR)****21.4.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- The Main Draw tournament of 24 teams per gender will be played in single elimination format.
- The losers of the semi-finals will play the bronze medal match, while the winners will play the gold medal match.
- A drawing of lots will be implemented by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned after the completion of the Preliminary Inquiry of Main Draw to establish the bracket.

**21.4.2 SEEDING**

- Teams in the Main Draw, including the wild cards, are seeded per the FIVB Seeding Points, i.e. the sum of the two individual Athlete Entry Points on the date of the Preliminary Inquiry.
- When two teams or more teams have the same sum of FIVB Seeding points, ties shall be broken as follows:
  - The most sum of Athlete Technical Entry Points will be seeded higher, and if still tied, then;
  - The most sum of Athlete Technical Points will be seeded higher, and if still tied, then;
  - The drawing of lots is implemented among the teams still tied.
- Seeding of the host countries teams:
  - Best ranked host country team (as per its seeding points) will receive Seed #1 if the team is ranked with the first eight (8) teams. Otherwise, the best ranked host country team will receive Seed #8.
  - The remaining host country teams will be seeded naturally as per their Seeding Points.
- Drawing of lots:
  - The seeding list will be established after the completion of the preliminary inquiry of Main Draw.
  - The drawing of lots must be implemented by the FIVB Technical Delegate as soon as the seeding list is established.
  - Seed #1 - #8 will automatically be placed into the bracket, taking into the consideration of seeding regulation for best host country team.
  - Draw 1 will be among Seed #9 - #16. The first team drawn will be seed #16, 2<sup>nd</sup> team drawn being seed #9, 3<sup>rd</sup> team drawn being seed #12, 4<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #13, 5<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #14, 6<sup>th</sup> team drawn

being seed #11, 7<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #10 and the last team being seed #15.

- Draw 2 will be among Seed #17 - #24. The first team drawn will be seed #17, 2<sup>nd</sup> team drawn being seed #24, 3<sup>rd</sup> team drawn being seed #21, 4<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #20, 5<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #19, 6<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #22, 7<sup>th</sup> team drawn being seed #23 and the last team being seed #18.
- Teams from the same country (including host country teams) can meet in any round of 24-teams bracket.



**21.5 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR (1 STAR)****21.5.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- The Main Draw tournament of 16 teams per gender will be played in single elimination format.
- The losers of the semi-finals will play the bronze medal match, while the winners will play the gold medal match.
- A drawing of lots will be implemented by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned after the completion of the Preliminary Inquiry of Main Draw to establish the bracket.

**21.5.2 SEEDING**

- Teams in the Main Draw, including the wild cards, are seeded per the FIVB Seeding Points, i.e. the sum of the two individual Athlete Entry Points on the date of the Preliminary Inquiry.
- When two teams or more teams have the same sum of FIVB Seeding points, ties shall be broken as follows:
  - The most sum of Athlete Technical Entry Points will be seeded higher, and if still tied, then;
  - The most sum of Athlete Technical Points will be seeded higher, and if still tied, then;
  - The drawing of lots is implemented among the teams still tied.
- Seeding of the host countries teams:
  - Best ranked host country team (as per its seeding points) will receive Seed #1 if the team is ranked with the first four (4) teams. Otherwise, the best ranked host country team will receive Seed #4.
  - The remaining host country teams will be seeded naturally as per their Seeding Points.
- Drawing of lots:
  - The seeding list will be established after the completion of the preliminary inquiry of Main Draw.
  - The drawing of lots must be implemented by the FIVB Technical Delegate as soon as the seeding list is established.
  - Seed #1 - #4 will automatically be placed into the bracket, taking into the consideration of seeding regulation for best host country team.
  - Draw 1 will be among Seed #5-#8. The first team drawn will be seed #8, 2<sup>nd</sup> team drawn being Seed #5, 3<sup>rd</sup> team drawn being Seed #6 and the last team drawn being Seed #7.

- Draw 2 will be among Seed #9 - #16. The first team drawn will be seed #16, 2<sup>nd</sup> team drawn being Seed #9, 3<sup>rd</sup> team drawn being Seed #12, the 4<sup>th</sup> team drawn being Seed #13, the 5<sup>th</sup> team drawn being Seed #14, the 6<sup>th</sup> team drawn being Seed #11, the 7<sup>th</sup> team drawn being Seed #10 and the last team drawn being Seed #15.
- Teams from the same country (including host country teams) can meet in any round of 16-teams bracket.





**21.6 SWATCH FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD TOUR FINALS****21.6.1 GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- The Main Draw tournament of each gender event is played by 12 teams through a first phase of four (4) pools of three (3) teams each in round robin system and a second phase with twelve (12) teams playing in a single elimination format.
- The losers of the semi-finals will play the bronze medal match, while the winners will play the gold medal match.
- The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked teams of each pool after the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase advance to the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of 12-teams bracket in single elimination format.
- A drawing of lots will be held after the completion of the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of pool play to decide the bracket of the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase and this will be conducted and approved by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned.

**21.6.2 SEEDING**

- Teams in the Main Draw, including the wild cards, are seeded per the FIVB Seeding Points, i.e. the sum of the two individual Athlete Entry Points on the date of the Preliminary Inquiry.
- When two teams or more teams have the same sum of FIVB Seeding points, ties shall be broken as follows:
  - The most sum of Athlete Technical Entry Points will be seeded higher, and if still tied, then;
  - The most sum of Athlete Technical Points will be seeded higher, and if still tied, then;
  - The drawing of lots is implemented among the teams still tied.
- Seeding of the host countries teams:
  - Best ranked host country team (as per its seeding points) will receive Seed #1 (Pool A) if the team is ranked with the first four (4) teams. Otherwise, the best ranked host country team will receive Seed #4 (Pool D).
  - The remaining host country team (if any) will be seeded naturally as per their Seeding Points.
  - Host country teams shall never be placed in the same pool. The 2<sup>nd</sup>, host country team(s) will have their seed increased (for example from Seed #9 to Seed #10) until they are in a different pool than the other host country teams. Should increasing the seed not work (or not be possible) then the seed is reduced (for example from Seed #12 to Seed 11) until the host country team is in a different pool.

**21.6.3 1<sup>ST</sup> PHASE: POOL PLAY IN ROUND ROBIN SYSTEM**

- 12 teams per gender will be placed into four (4) pools with three (3) teams each based on their seeding and will be placed per the serpentine principle.
- Every team plays the two (2) other teams in their pool.
- If there are two (2) teams from the same NF in the pool, then the match between these two (2) teams shall be played first, if the TV matches schedule permits.
- Pool standing:
  - The ranking of teams within their pools will be determined by the total number of match points, with the following points awarded per match to each team:

Match won	2 points
Match lost	1 point
Match forfeited	0 points (21-0; 21-0)

- In case of a tie in the total number of match points during the pool play, the following rules will apply:
  - Between two (2) teams:
    - ✓ The team with higher rally point ratios in the matches between all teams in the pool, is ranked higher;
    - ✓ If a tie still exists, then the teams have the same position in ranking.
  - Between three (3) teams:
    - ✓ If three (3) teams have a tie in the total number of match points, their ranking is determined by the rally point ratio in the matches between all teams;
    - ✓ If still tied, then the teams will have the same position in ranking.
- In case of a tie in the total number of match points after the completion of pool play, the following rules will apply:
  - Between three (3) teams:
    - ✓ The ranking is determined by the rally point ratio in the matches between all teams;
    - ✓ If still tied, then the ranking of teams still tied is determined by the tournament seeding established after the Main Draw Preliminary Inquiry and the better seed of the tied teams will be higher ranked (for example, seed #4 is ranked higher than seed #5, while seed #5 is ranked higher than seed #12).

- All discontinued matches or matches that have not started are to be assessed by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned to determine if the losing team is marked as Disqualification (DSQ) or Disqualification by Injury (INJ/DSQ) and whether they will receive any match points.
  - If a team withdraws due to an injury before or during a match or gets disqualified during a match, it will earn one (1) match point and will keep the sets and points earned up to that moment, but the sets and points against will be the maximum. For example, if a team wins the first set 21:19 and is injured and forfeits the match when they are winning the second set 6:4, this injured team would earn 1 match point with sets of 1:2 and rally points of 21:19, 6:21 and 0:15. In this example, the winning team would get 2 match points with sets of 2:1 and rally points of 19:21, 4:6, 0:0. In addition, its match result will be marked with “INJ/DSQ”.
  - If the injury occurs before the match begins, the match will be marked “INJ/DSQ” and the losing team will be awarded 1 match point with sets of 0:2 and rally points of 0:21, 0:21. In this case, the winning team will be awarded 2 match points with sets of 2:0 and rally points of 0:0, 0:0.
  - If a team withdraws without a valid reason before a match (e.g. no show) or during a match (e.g. refusal to continue) they will lose by forfeit 0-2 (0:21, 0:21) and will earn 0 match points. In addition, this match result will be marked with “DSQ”. The winning team will receive 2 match points with sets of 2:0 and rally points of 0:0, 0:0.
  - If a team is disqualified during the pool play due to a positive doping test, it will lose all the matches in the pool (played or to be played) by forfeit (see above). It will receive no rank. All of the team’s matches in the Pool will be recorded as a forfeit for ranking purposes. (e.g. All winning teams receive - Sets 2:0 - Rally Points 0:0 , 0:0).
  - If a team is disqualified after the pool play (after the Drawing of Lots) of the tournament due to a positive doping test, it will lose the last pool matches played by forfeit (see above). If the single elimination phase has already started and if they have not played yet they forfeit their match and the opponent will be then moved to the next round. The final pool ranking will be maintained. If the team already played its match and won the match, the match result will not be changed and this team will forfeit the next round. The

final pool ranking will be maintained. The disqualified team will receive no final ranking. It should be shown on the bottom of the final standing without rank and “DSQ”.

#### **21.6.4 2<sup>ND</sup> PHASE: 24-TEAM BRACKET IN SINGLE ELIMINATION FORMAT**

- The 1st, 2nd and 3rd ranked teams of each pool after the completion of the 1st phase advance to the 2nd phase of 12-teams bracket in single elimination format.
- A drawing of lots shall be organized after the completion of the last pool play match of each gender (possibly within 30 minutes) to establish the single elimination bracket.
- Drawing of lots:
  - The better A1 or B1 (as decided by most match points then set ratio and lastly by rally points ratio) will be seeded #1. The other team will be seeded #2.
  - The better C1 or D1 (as decided by most match points then set ratio and lastly by rally points ratio) will be seeded #3. The other team will be seeded #4.
  - Draw 1 will be among the 2<sup>nd</sup> ranked teams from Pool A, B, C and D. The first team drawn will be Seed #8, 2<sup>nd</sup> team drawn being Seed #5, 3<sup>rd</sup> team drawn being Seed #6 and the last team drawn being Seed #7.
  - Draw 2 will be among the 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked teams from Pool A, B, C and D. The first team drawn will be Seed #9, 2<sup>nd</sup> team drawn being Seed #12, 3<sup>rd</sup> team drawn being Seed #11 and the last team drawn being Seed #10.
  - Teams from the same pool will not play each other in the first two (2) rounds, i.e. round of 12 and quarter-finals.
  - In addition, teams ranked 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in each pool will not meet in the semi-finals.
  - The draw will follow the graphic as below:



**21.7 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL AGE GROUP WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The competition regulations for the FIVB Beach Volleyball Age Group World Championships will be regulated in the Handbook and Specific Events Regulation of the above-mentioned tournament.

**22. MATCH FORMAT**

- All matches are played according to the Rally Point Scoring System.
- All matches are the best two (2) out of three (3) sets. A match is won as soon as a team first wins two (2) sets. The first two sets are played to 21 points, won with a margin of two points. Switch court occurs every 7 total points (e.g.: 4-3, 9-5, etc.). One (1) Technical Time Out (of 30seconds in length) occurs at 21 total points (e.g.: 11-10 or 12-9) during the first two (2) sets. Each team is entitled to one (1) additional Time Out (of thirty (30) seconds in length) per set.
- The third eventual set (deciding set) is played to 15 points won by a margin of two (2) points. Switch court occur every 5 total points (e.g.: 3-2, 6-4, etc.). There is no Technical Time Out in the third set. Each team is entitled to one (1) time out (of 30 seconds in length) in the third set. Intervals between sets must last one (1) minute each.
- Only one (1) Medical Time Out per match is allowed for each athlete. The timing of the maximum five (5) minutes recovery time allowed for an injury shall start from the arrival at the court area of the appropriate medical personnel (among the official medical personnel available on site) or in case the athlete chooses to be treated by their own medical personnel, from the moment they have made the request. Recovery time refers to the time needed for the accredited medical personnel to provide the relevant medical treatment. When the treatment has been completed or if no treatment can be provided, play must resume or the relevant team is declared incomplete. In all cases, the official medical personnel supervise the treatment and reports to the 1st referee when this has been completed, unless the athlete declares her/himself ready to resume play before their arrival at the court area. A Medical Time Out will be assigned to that player in any case.

**23. COMPETITION PROGRAM AND MATCH PROGRAM****23.1 WARM UP**

- The time allowed for teams to warm-up on the court must be decided by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned.
- Warm-up on the official court cannot last less than three (3) minutes. The FIVB

Technical Delegate assigned must inform the athletes well in advance (possibly at the Preliminary Inquiry) about the minimum time allocated for warm-up on official courts, of the distance from the warm-up courts to the official courts, and of the procedures to follow in order to utilize the available courts.

## **23.2 COURT ASSIGNMENT**

- It is the FIVB Technical Delegate's responsibility to assign the competition courts. Pre-assigning courts is strongly recommended for all tournaments, whenever possible.
- By pre-assigning courts, compelling matches (i.e. host country versus foreign country) can be scheduled on the center court in advance which dramatically increases the positive atmosphere within the stadium as fans have a vested interest in the outcome.
- The schedule of the next day shall be ready as early as possible before the completion of daily program and must not be one hour after the end of the last match at the latest. The match schedule must be properly circulated. This allows also spectators and media to follow their favorite teams and helps the overall promotion of the tournament.
- Since match times can vary greatly (for example, there usually are fast courts and slow courts), the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned and the tournament competition director must always pay attention to the flow of the tournament and make the new assignments accordingly. Whenever the new assignments are required, which will replace the old assignments, the match schedule shall always be announced as early as possible and recommended to be no later than one (1) hour before the start of the next matches affected to allow the teams have sufficient warm-ups and preparation.
- While an outside competition court may at times sit empty as teams are resting before their next match, the center court should however never be vacant and the last match of the day must be scheduled on the center court.
- The court assignments must always be posted in players' area and in the referee' lounge, media working area as well as to the public entrance as soon as the match schedule is available.
- A minimum of 90 minutes should be allocated to allow teams have sufficient rest time between two consecutive matches, except under extreme circumstance and/or for live televised matches where the time between each match should not be less than forty-five (45) minutes.
- A billboard including match/court assignments schedule which must be constantly updated, should be exhibited by the organiser of each event on site, as per the

following example:

Start Time	Court 1	Court 2	Court 3	Court 4
8:00	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....
9:00	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....
10:00	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....
11:00	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....
12:00	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....
13:00	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....
14:00	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....
15:00	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....
16:00	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....
17:00	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....
18:00	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....
19:00	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....	..... VS .....



## SECTION III Special Sanctions Related to the Players

### CHAPTER 7 Responsibilities of the Players

#### 24. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

- Pursuant to the powers vested in it by the FIVB Constitution, the FIVB Board of Administration adopted in 2013 the “FIVB Disciplinary Regulations”.
- Violations will be sanctioned under the provisions of the Disciplinary Regulations which apply, without distinction, to any discipline (Volleyball, Beach Volleyball) under the FIVB authority, except when otherwise provided.
- Lack of knowledge of the provisions of the FIVB Constitution and Regulations may not be considered as an excuse.
- National Tours, clubs, teams and their leaders, managers, coaches, athletes, referees, and all those participating in the activities of a NF must follow strictly the rules, regulations, and decisions of the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned, Control Committees or FIVB Representatives of the competitions in which they take part.
- Organisers, NFs, and athletes breaching the FIVB Constitution and Regulations or other rules included in the FIVB Beach Volleyball Sports Regulations and FIVB Beach Volleyball Events Regulations are subject to sanctions established in the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations and the FIVB Beach Volleyball Sports Regulations.
- Sanction scale:

LEVEL	ACTION
Verbal warning from the FIVB Technical Delegate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbal warning recorded by the FIVB Technical Delegate in the report;</li> <li>• Athlete acknowledges warning</li> </ul>
Written warning from the FIVB Technical Delegate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written warning using the official form recorded by the FIVB Technical Delegate in the report;</li> <li>• Copies sent to the FIVB, NF, athletes and their representatives (if any);</li> <li>• Athlete acknowledges warning</li> </ul>

<p>Monetary Fine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scale of fines;</li> <li>• Written warning using the official form recorded by the FIVB Technical Delegate in the report;</li> <li>• Copies sent to the FIVB, NF, athletes and their representatives (if any);</li> <li>• Athlete acknowledges the fines.</li> </ul>
<p>Suspension for a time period</p>	<p>The FIVB imposes the sanction based on the recommendation of the FIVB Technical Delegate;</p> <p>The FIVB Technical Delegate must present a written report backed up by the necessary evidence (documents, videos, pictures, summary of interviews, etc.).</p>

## 25. RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Athlete must be fully aware of the Official Beach Volleyball Rules and the FIVB Beach Volleyball Sports Regulations, FIVB Beach Volleyball Events Regulations and the FIVB Regulations, the Disciplinary and Medical Regulations.
- The FIVB Disciplinary Regulations is available on the FIVB website as follows: [http://www.fivb.org/EN/FIVB/Document/Legal/FIVB\\_Disciplinary\\_Regulations\\_2016\\_11.04.2016.pdf](http://www.fivb.org/EN/FIVB/Document/Legal/FIVB_Disciplinary_Regulations_2016_11.04.2016.pdf)
- The FIVB Medical & Anti-doping Regulations is available on the FIVB website as follows [http://www.fivb.org/EN/FIVB/Document/Legal/FIVB\\_Medical\\_and\\_Anti-Doping\\_Regulations\\_2016\\_en\\_20160418.pdf](http://www.fivb.org/EN/FIVB/Document/Legal/FIVB_Medical_and_Anti-Doping_Regulations_2016_en_20160418.pdf)
- Should the Athlete violate the above-mentioned rules, the FIVB and/or the NF concerned have the right to take disciplinary action against the Athlete as deemed necessary by imposing a fine which shall either be deducted from any Prize Money earned by the Athlete during the events or paid to the FIVB before the next event in the calendar.
- The FIVB will in all cases allow the Athletes concerned to argue their case prior to imposing a disciplinary fine higher than USD 5'000. Concerning fines given during an event, the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned shall personally inform the athlete(s) concerned, in addition to posting such fines on the daily bulletin and shall obtain the athlete(s) signature and acknowledgement of the fine in writing. In all cases, any fines and sanctions will be communicated to the NFs, as well as to the

athlete(s) concerned by email if the fine is applied before the start of the event.

- Athletes are registered with their country's National Volleyball Federation (Association) and as such, this is the only association the FIVB recognizes as having the right to represent the athlete(s) interest to the FIVB for any issues related to international Beach Volleyball events. No other association will be recognized by the FIVB as having this right. The Athletes are also required to respect the conditions established in the FIVB Beach Volleyball Sports Regulations and FIVB Beach Volleyball Event Regulations, which are applicable to all FIVB events.
- Athletes and Officials directly or indirectly involved in any FIVB or FIVB-sanctioned events are not allowed to participate in any online betting and gambling activities associated with the FIVB World Championships (Senior and Age Group Championships), Swatch Beach Volleyball FIVB World Tour Finals, FIVB World Tour (1-5 star).

## CHAPTER 8 Special Sanctions

### **26. SANCTIONS RELATED TO ENTRIES**

- Athletes must comply with the following requirements, otherwise they will not be permitted to compete in FIVB Beach Volleyball events.
  - Comply with the Eligibility Rules.
  - Sign the NF-Athlete's Commitment & Health Certificate.
  - Complete successfully the FIVB Anti-Doping Education Program.
  - Comply to undergo a medical examination/doping control if requested.
- Once the late entry request is accepted by the FIVB, the following fee must be paid to the FIVB within twenty-four (24) hours after notification of the acceptance of late entry is received.
  - USD 1,000 per team for senior events, including the FIVB Senior World Championships, FIVB Beach Volleyball World Tour, etc.
  - USD 200 per team for age group events, including the FIVB U21 & U19 World Championships, etc.

### **27. SANCTIONS RELATED TO THE WITHDRAWALS**

Please refer to Chapter 4 Withdrawal/Disband/Change of Athletes for the sanctions.

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**28. SANCTIONS RELATED TO COMPETITION REGULATIONS**

- Athletes participating in a beach volleyball National Tour outside the territory of their NF without having the written consent of their NF or in a National Tour not sanctioned by the host NF will be declared ineligible for FIVB competitions, including the Olympic Games, the FIVB Senior World Championships, FIVB World Tour and FIVB Age Group World Championships.
- Following the decision of the FIVB Executive Committee in Tokyo on the 25th of November 2009, athletes participating in events not authorized by the FIVB (as per FIVB Constitution, Disciplinary Regulations, and decisions) will be sanctioned by FIVB with period of ineligibility up to a lifetime ban from any FIVB competitions. A fine for a major offence may be additionally imposed. Each NF must contact the FIVB in case of any doubt in regards to the procedures for the enrolment of their athletes in a specific event. A list of FIVB approved events is posted on the FIVB website.
- Athletes who perform media interviews immediately after a match without the official athlete's top supplied by the FIVB uniform supplier where photographs or other video/broadcast footage is shot, will be subject to a fine of up to USD 300 per incident.
- Athletes absent from the Awarding Ceremony will be fined up to USD 3,000.
- Athletes refusing to undergo doping controls are automatically disqualified. The team concerned will lose the match(es) to its opponent by forfeit. Athletes who test positive during the doping control or commit any other type of anti-doping rule violation may be suspended for up to four (4) years for a first offence (please refer to the FIVB Medical Regulations in force). Any Prize Money and FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking Points related to the event concerned are withheld/deducted.
- Athletes will be disqualified from the event if their team does not sign the score sheet. The FIVB Disciplinary Regulations are to be referenced in any additional circumstances in which athletes, Organisers, Officials, etc. can be subject to a fine and/or suspension.
- In case of players' violations of regulations that may lead to disqualification, final decision making ability falls on the Organising Committee (composed of FIVB Technical Delegate, NF Beach Volleyball Coordinator/Representative and Tournament Director, and/or other FIVB officials nominated). The individuals directly concerned must be informed and invited to reply during the decision-making process. Possible witnesses may be invited to testify. Athletes have the right to notify and be assisted by their athlete representative during the decision-making process.

- On court disputes, shall be resolved in accordance with the FIVB Regulations with relevance to Protest Protocol directives and the sanction fee scale below:
  - A progressive fee is applied (USD 500 for the first time at a given tournament, with a minimum of USD 1,000 for the second time and doubling after that) where the Protest Protocol is judged as “Rejected” by the FIVB Referee Delegate or FIVB Technical Delegate if the Referee Delegate is not assigned to the tournament. If this occurs on Centre Court a USD 1,000 fee will apply for the first instance, with a minimum of USD 2,500 for the second and doubling after that. The same fees shall apply in any situation where the first Referee, by calling the FIVB Referee Delegate or Technical Delegate onto the court, gives a sequence to a protest not meeting the criteria.
  - After a Level 2 protest has been officially recorded on the score sheet at the end of the match, all arguments must be presented in writing to the FIVB Technical Delegate no later than 30 minutes after the end of the match and accompanied by a deposit of USD 1,000 (USD 2,500 for any incidents taking place on Centre Court). A final verdict will be given by the Organising Committee no later than 2 hours after the protests have been submitted, or at the latest before the start of the matches eventually affected by the outcome of the procedure. Organising Committee members of the same nationality as the team making a protest will be excluded from the deliberations. The decision is final and no appeals will be granted.

## **29. SANCTIONS RELATED TO EQUIPMENT ABUSE**

- Any incidence of equipment abuse by athletes which leads to a penalty or higher sanction from the Referee (to be judged in accordance with the Official Beach Volleyball Rules) shall incur a monetary sanction, depending on the nature of the abuse, in accordance with the scale below.
- There will be a difference between no damage and damage as this will dictate the time needed to rectify the situation. Should the abuse occur during a match played on Center court, this will also be taken into consideration when establishing the consequence of the abuse.
- The sanction applied by the referee and duly registered on the scoresheet (e-scoresheet and/or paper scoresheet), will then be communicated to the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned, who will be responsible for issuing the fine in accordance with the fine scale as follows and inform formally the athletes concerned.
- Any incidence of abuse of equipment described as per below table, will double in

the scale of sanction if it happens in a TV match.

Nature of the offence	Consequences of the offence	Simple offence with no further consequences	Match delay or equipment lost/replaced	Match delay or equipment lost/replaced for matches played on Centre Court
Abuse of Balls, Athlete Areas and *Athlete Uniforms		USD 100 (*if replaced)	USD 250 (*if replaced with delay)	USD 500 (*if replaced with delay)
Abuse of Net System, Lines, Referee Stand, Advertising Panels and other offences similar in nature		USD 100	USD 500	USD 2,500

### 30. SANCTIONS RELATED TO OFFICIALS AND COURT

#### PERSONNEL ABUSE

- Any incidence of abuse of officials or on court personnel by athletes which leads to a penalty or higher sanction from the Referee (to be judged in accordance with the Official Beach Volleyball Rules) shall incur a monetary sanction, depending on the nature of the abuse, in accordance with the scale below.
- There will be no difference between verbal or non-verbal abuse. Should the offense occur during matches played on the Center court, this will also be taken into consideration as this will contribute to the negative exposure of the sport of Beach Volleyball.
- The sanction applied by the referee and duly registered on the scoresheet (e-scoresheet and/or paper scoresheet), will then be communicated to the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned, who will be responsible for issuing the fine in accordance with the fine scale as follows and inform formally the athletes concerned.
- Any incidence of abuse of equipment described as per the below table, will double in scale if it happens in a TV match.

Nature of the offence	Consequences of the offence	In a match played on outside courts	In any matches on Centre Court
Abuse (verbal or non-verbal) leading to	penalty	USD 250	USD 500
	expulsion	USD 500	USD 2,500
	disqualification	USD 2,500	USD 5,000

**31. SANCTIONS RELATED TO MEDICAL TIMEOUT VIOLATIONS**

- A maximum of two (2) medical injury time-outs per athlete within a rolling 12-month period are allowed. Additional medical injury time-outs will be sanctioned according to the following monetary fee scale:
  - USD 1,000 for 3rd injury time-out within a rolling 12-month period;
  - USD 2,000 for 4th injury time-out within a rolling 12-month period;
  - USD 3,000 for 5 or more injury time-outs within a rolling 12-month period.
- Medical injury time-outs given by the referee due to blood injuries requiring medical assistance will not count towards the total number of medical time-outs used by an athlete during the rolling 12-month period. Any medical time-out resulting directly from a traumatic incident during the course of the game (e.g. clash between opponents, athlete hitting an object such as the pole, banner, etc.) and that can be certified by the official medical doctor shall follow the same principle as that related to blood injuries. However, these exceptions will not be carried over to the next game played by the same athlete in the same or any future tournament. (i.e. any further medical time-outs in the same tournament or future tournaments attributed to the same certified trauma incident, will not be exempt from the “two (2) medical time-outs per athlete” quota).

**32. SANCTIONS RELATED TO UNIFORM AND ACCESSORY VIOLATIONS**

- Subject to the provisions of the FIVB Beach Volleyball Events Regulations and other FIVB requirements regarding personal sponsors, players are not permitted to print any religious or political statements, as well as any symbols of any organisations other than their NFs, on their uniforms.
- The athletes’ shorts cannot be baggy and must finish above the kneecap. This rule must be respected at all times in the competition areas, including during warm up, match protocol, awarding ceremonies and so on. Failure to comply with such requirement will lead to a fine of USD 200 for the first match and doubling every match thereafter.
- It is mandatory that the team name must be printed on the men’s shorts. Failure to comply with said requirement will lead to the following fines:
  - Up to USD 200 for the first day;
  - Up to USD 500 for the second day;
  - Doubling every day thereafter.
- It is strongly recommended that the team name is printed on the women’s briefs

but due to the limited space available, it is not compulsory and no sanctions will be applied.

## CHAPTER 9 Appeal

- The nature/reason and date of athletes' fines will be posted in a confidential area within the Players' Database.
- Protests based on the Official Beach Volleyball Rules, potentially affecting the result of a match, must be mentioned on the score sheet and dealt with immediately. No further appeals will be allowed.
- For other types of sanctions, athletes have 14 days to appeal against a FIVB decision imposing a sanction, in accordance with the FIVB Disciplinary Regulations