

2019 FIVB Beach Volleyball Olympic Qualification Tournaments

OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION NO. 1

1. General Information

1.1 Date and Venue

The 2019 FIVB Beach Volleyball Olympic qualification tournaments will be hosted in China. The host city and date will be announced soon by FIVB upon approval.

The event will feature both men and women tournament and is scheduled for four (4) to five (5) days. Detailed information on the competition calendar will be circulated later with other practical information received from the host.

1.2 Competition Format

The total number of teams participating is 16 per gender. There is no Qualification tournament.

Currently, the following competition format with four (4) phases is planned (in further discussion with the Host TV broadcaster in consultation with the organizer). Further confirmation will be announced by the FIVB upon approval.

- First phase:

Four (4) pools (A to D) of four (4) 4 teams each playing modified Round Robin format (a total of sixteen (16) matches per gender).

Top three (3) ranked teams from each pool will advance to the second phase (a total of twelve (12) teams per gender).

- Second phase:

Four (4) pools (E to H) of three (3) teams each playing standard round robin format (a total of twelve (12) matches per gender).

Top two (2) ranked teams from each pool will advance to the third phase (a total of eight (8) teams).

- Third phase:

Two (2) pools (I & J) of 4 teams each playing standard round robin format (total of twelve (12) matches).

The top two (2) ranked teams from each pool (I & J) will advance to the Final phase.

- Final phase:

The first ranked team from each pool playing against the second ranked team from the other pool.

- Best ranked team in Pool I vs. 2nd best ranked team in Pool J
- Best ranked team in Pool J vs. 2nd best ranked team in Pool I

Two (2) winners of the above matches will get the quota place for its NOC / NF to the 2020 Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo, providing meeting the Athlete's Eligibility requirements stipulated by IOC in the qualification system.

2. Event Regulations

2.1 Number of Participating Teams

The tournament is composed of 16 teams per gender as follows:

- Host country
- Top fifteen (15) teams as per the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking as of 31st December 2018, with 1 team per gender per National Federation (NF). The best ranked team of each NF in the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking list will qualify one (1) quota place for their NF to the 2019 FIVB Beach Volleyball Olympic Qualification tournament.
- In case the Host country team (China) is already among the top fifteen (15) teams as per the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking as of 31st December 2018, the next highest ranked eligible team will qualify the quota place for their NF.

2.2 Country Quota

- Each National Federation will have maximum one (1) team per gender.
- The National Federation is the sole entity responsible to nominate their players and register them respectively in the VIS.
- The National Federation is recommended to select the players from its top players/teams to ensure the best level of the technical performance.
- National trial is also recommended for the participating National Federations to determine the team registered in the 2019 FIVB Beach Volleyball Olympic Qualification tournament. Should the national trial be organized, the NF(s) concerned must communicate in writing to FIVB at least five (5) working days prior to the start of such tournament to inform the date/location/format.

2.3 Seeding

The seeding of the 2019 FIVB Beach Volleyball Olympic Qualification tournament is as follows:

- The seeding of each team is based on the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking (as of 31st December 2018), with exception of the host country. The points obtained by the best ranked team of each NF in the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking list (as of 31st December 2018) will be used as the seeding points for their NFs in the tournament.
- Seed #1: Host Country team
- Seed #2 to #16: As per the seeding points defined above and teams will be placed following the serpentine system.

2.4 Registration of Athletes

The National Federations must register their teams through the VIS <http://www.fivb.org/vis> prior to the registration deadline (exact date to be announced later by the FIVB).

The National Federations must also ensure the valid NF-Athlete's Commitment (BVB-01 form) duly signed by the NF and the athlete on each page, plus their annual health certificate (BVB-10 form), are uploaded to the VIS prior to registration deadline.

The National Federations must also ensure that each athlete has completed the FIVB Anti-doping Education and Certification program 'Play Clean'.

2.5 Replacement of Athletes

The National Federations may replace athletes following the below regulations:

Before the registration deadline: The National Federation may replace an athlete or both athletes from a team through the VIS, without any documents.

After the registration deadline and before the announcement of tournament seeding for the first phase: The National Federation may replace an athlete or both athletes from a team through the VIS, in case of injury/medical reason or force majeure case through the Withdrawal request form (BVB-03 form) with the valid medical certificate. All documents must be sent to the FIVB.

After the announcement of tournament seeding for the first phase: The National Federation may replace an athlete or both athletes from a team through the VIS, in case of injury/medical reason or force majeure case through the Withdrawal request form (BVB-03 form) with the valid medical certificate. In addition, a valid proof of travel (issued flight ticket, etc.) must be provided. All documents must be sent to the FIVB.

2.6 Withdrawal and Reallocation

In case the National Federation withdraw a team or confirms not to use the quota place, the following regulations will be implemented:

Before the registration deadline: The National Federation who confirms not to use the quota place at the 2019 FIVB Beach Volleyball Olympic Qualification tournament or

withdraw its team from such tournament, can do so before the registration deadline. Such quota place will be reallocated to the NF of the next highest ranked eligible team as per the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking (as of 31st December 2018).

After the registration deadline and before the announcement of tournament seeding for the first phase: The National Federation may withdrawal its team from the tournament, in case of injury/medial reason or force majeure case through the Withdraw request form (BVB-03 form) with the valid medical certificate. In such case, such quota place will be reallocated to the NF of the next highest ranked eligible team as per the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking (as of 31st December 2018). The seeding for the first phase will be adjusted accordingly as per 2.3 seeding.

After the announcement of tournament seeding for the first phase: The National Federation may withdraw its team from the tournament, in case of injury/medial reason or force majeure case through the Withdrawal request form (BVB-03 form) with the valid medical certificate and flight ticket. In such case, such quota place will be reallocated to the NF of the next highest ranked eligible team as per the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking (as of 31st December 2018). However, the seeding for the first phase will not be changed, and the vacant position will be taken up by the new team obtaining the reallocated quota place.

Last minute withdrawal: In case the National Federation has to withdraw its team from the tournament in the last minute, due to onsite injury/medical reason or force majeure case during the travel, and reallocation of such quota place can't be implemented due to short notice or visa problem, the team concerned will be treated as forfeit from the tournament with no replacement team.

The FIVB reserves the right to apply the fine and sanctions towards the Last-Minute Withdrawals as it sees fit. The evaluation of the fines and sanctions will be on a case-by-case scenario.

2.7 Prize Money and Ranking Points

No prize money or FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking points will be awarded to teams playing in this tournament.

2.8 Competition Equipment

The official match ball is Mikasa VLS 300.

The official Beach Volleyball net system at the competition court is Senoh.

The sand used in the event shall respect the FIVB sand specifications and must be homologated by the FIVB official Sand Laboratory.

2.9 Rules of the Game

All matches shall be played according to the FIVB official Beach Volleyball Rules of the Games 2017-2020 in their latest version.

3. Financial Regulations

3.1 Transportation

Each participating team is responsible for their own international travel to and from the event.

The organizer will provide local transportation, to and from the airport and hotel, as well as between the venue and hotel.

3.2 Board and Lodging

The organizer will provide hotel accommodation for all participating teams (players only), including 3 meals from one (1) day before the start of the tournament to the next morning after the team is eliminated.

3.3 Visa

All participating teams and their accompanying officials and coaches are recommended to apply early enough for visa to China, whenever needed and are responsible for the cost related.

The organizer shall be contacted to provide the invitation letter for visa purpose.

4. Further Information

Further information related to the 2019 FIVB Beach Volleyball Olympic Qualification tournament will be circulated to the National Federations once more information is received from the organizer and stakeholders concerned.

For further inquiries, please feel free to contact:

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