

Competition Form

The Olympic Volleyball competition will be conducted over the full 16-day program of the Olympic Games, from Saturday 14 August (Day 1) to Sunday 29 August 2004 (Day 16).

There will be only one competition venue, the 14,000-seat Peace and Friendship Stadium on the seaside at Faliro, south of the Piraeus Harbour. There will be 12 men's teams, consisting of 12 players each, and 12 women's teams, also consisting of 12 players each.

The competition for both men and women, consists of a preliminary round leading to quarter-finals for the first four places in each pool, semi-finals and two finals, one for the bronze medal (semi-finals losers) and one for the gold and silver medals (semi-finals winners). There will be a total of 38 matches for men and 38 matches for women.

Preliminary Round

Two pools (A and B) of six teams each. Round robin formula, each team playing once the five other teams in their pool to reach the quarter-finals.

Quarter-Finals

The first four teams in each preliminary pool will advance to Quarter-finals, eight teams in total. The format will be as follows: A1 vs B4 B2 vs A3 A2 vs B3 B1 vs A4.

Ranking

The teams ranked sixth in each preliminary pool will be classified as eleventh ex aequo.

The teams ranked fifth in each preliminary pool will be classified as ninth ex aequo.

The losers of the quarter-final matches will be classified as fifth ex aequo.

Semi-finals

The four winners of the quarter-finals will advance to the semi-finals.

Winner A1/B4 vs Winner A3/B2

Winner A2/B3 vs Winner A4/B1

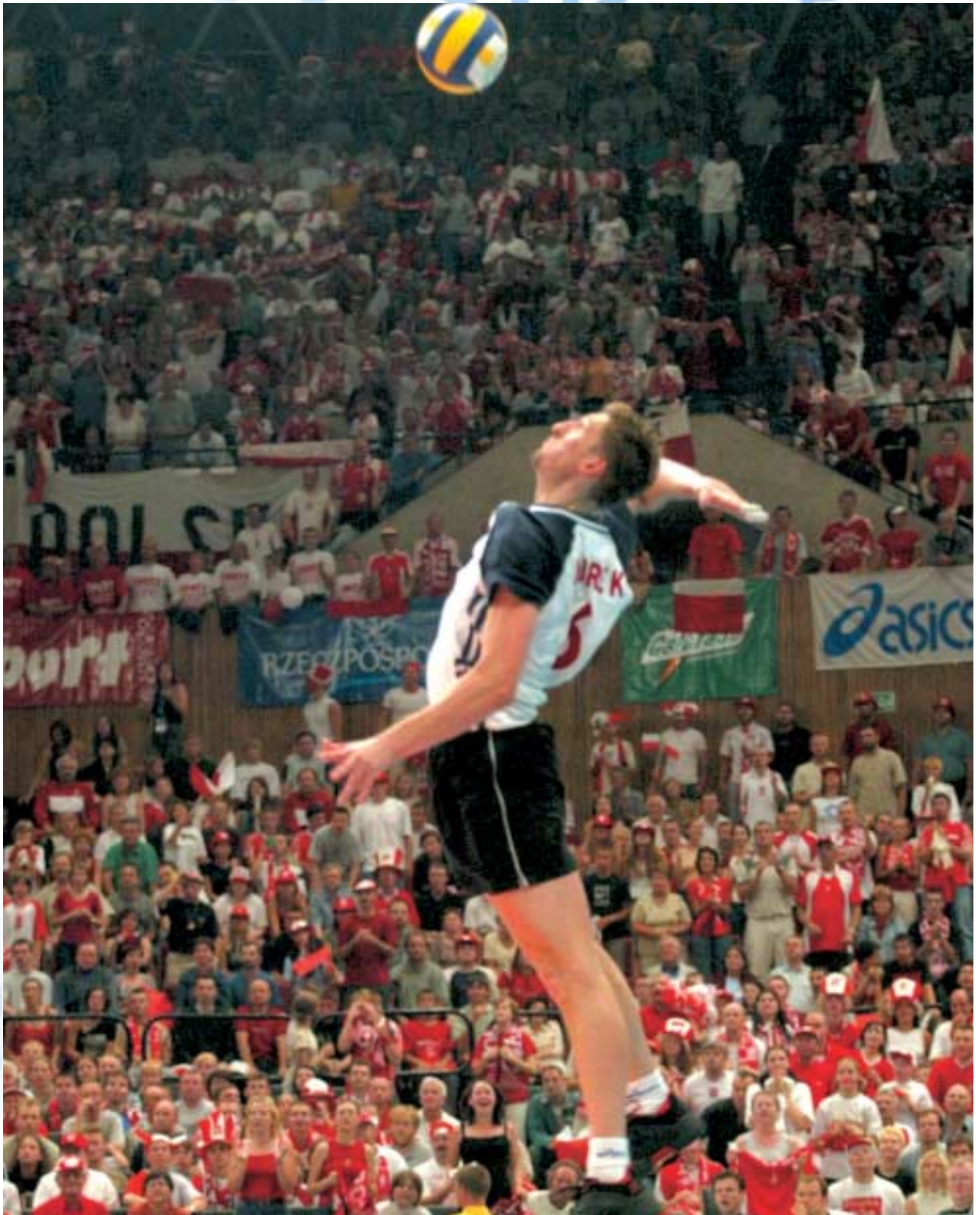
Finals

Winners of the two semi-finals will play for first and second places (gold and silver medals match).

Losers of the two semi-finals will play for third place (bronze medal match).



at



Rules of the Game

Rally Point System

With the rally point system (sometimes referred to as RPS), the team winning a rally scores a point regardless of which team is serving. When a team wins a rally, it gains a point and the right to serve.

The match format for international Volleyball competitions is the best of five sets to 25 points for sets 1 to 4 and to 15 points for set 5, with all sets requiring a 2-point advantage (unlimited). This new scoring system was introduced after the 1998 FIVB World Congress held in Tokyo. Since introduction, it has been used in the following major FIVB competitions: World Cups, World League and the World Grand Prix.

Libero Player

The libero is a specialist defensive player, dressed in a different color that can replace any player in a back row position. The libero is not allowed to serve, to block or to attack.

Let Service in play

If, when serving, the ball touches the net and continues to the opposite side, the play continues.

Touching the Net

Touching the net with the body is not a fault except when playing the ball or interfering with the play.

Time-outs

Each team is entitled to a maximum of two time-outs and all time outs last for 30 seconds. For FIVB world and official competitions, during sets 1-4, two additional 60 second Technical Time-Outs are applied automatically, when the leading team reaches the 8th and 16th points. In the deciding 5th set, there are no Technical Time-Outs, only two Time-Outs of 30 seconds duration may be requested by each team.

Intervals between sets

All intervals between sets are for 3 minutes. Interval between the 2nd and 3rd set can be extended up to 10 minutes at the request of the organizer.



Coach movements

The coach may, as well as other team members, give instructions to players on the court while sitting on the bench. The coach may also give these instructions by standing or walking within the free zone of his/her team's bench up to the warm-up area, provided that he/she does not disturb or delay the match.

Screening

The players of the serving team must not prevent their opponents through individual or collective screening, from seeing the server or the flight path of the ball.

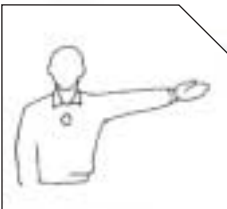
Other Initiatives

The use of a three-color ball, produced by Mikasa, will apply for the time in the Olympic Games.

The full Rules of the Game text for Volleyball can be found at the website (www.fivb.org).

Referee's Signals

Technical indications



Team to serve



Time-out



End of set (or match)

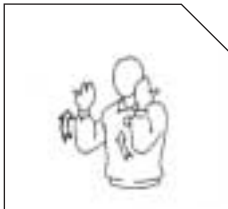


Substitution

Judgment on the ball



Ball "in"



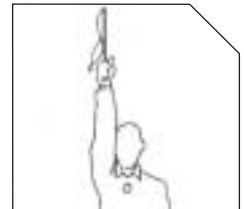
Ball "out"



Ball touched



Ball "in" (flag signals)



Ball "out" (flag signals)

Ball handling



Held Ball



Double contact



Double fault and replay

Player's faults



Blocking fault



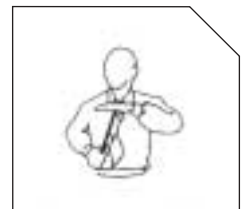
Attack-hit fault by a backrow player



Net touch by a player



Reaching beyond the net



Ball touched (flag signals)

Sanctions



Delay «warning»



Expulsion



Disqualification



Missconduct warning

Venue Informatio

The Peace and Friendship Stadium

Capacity of the Peace and Friendship Stadium is 14,000 seats.

Number of courts: Three (two warm up courts and one main court).

Total number of teams: 12 men and 12 women.

Total number of athletes: 144 men and 144 women

Total number of matches: 76, comprising of 38 men's and 38 women's matches.

Schedule: From Day 1 to Day 16 (14/8 to 29/8 - 9:00 to 23:30). Three sessions per day, two matches per session.

Travel time from the Olympic Village: 35 minutes in special motorway lane.

The Peace and Friendship Stadium (PFS), the venue that will host the Men's and Women's Volleyball tournaments at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games, is part of the Faliro Coastal Zone Olympic Complex, which also includes the Olympic Beach Volleyball Centre and the Sports Pavilion, which will host the Handball and Taekwondo Olympic tournaments.

The stadium is built alongside the Gulf of Faliro, in the area between Mikrolimano and the river Kifissos. It is 25 km from the Olympic Village, 17 km from the Main Press Centre, 10 km from the Athens Eleftherios Venizelos International Airport, and 4 km from the port of Piraeus. It is also located in a major transport hub with good connections by almost all public transport systems (bus, tram, and rail link).

The Peace and Friendship Stadium was built in 1984 and inaugurated by the then Greek Prime Minister, Andreas Papandreou on 16 February 1985. The first major sport competition, held at the stadium was the European Indoor Athletics Championships in March 1985. Other major events held there were: the Rhythmic Gymnastics World Championships in 1991 and the best part of the Men's World Volleyball Championships in 1994. In 1998, the stadium hosted several matches of the 13th Men's World Basketball Championships; and in 1999, it was the venue of the 70th Men's and the 13th Women's World Weightlifting Championships.



Press Services at the Peace and Friendship Stadium

- **Work Room**

The Media Work Room (150 work stations) is on Level 0; while the Photo Work Area (35 work stations) is on Level 1. Each is equipped with desktop payphones, INFO 2004 terminals, printers, fax machines, and CCTV monitors. In the same area are the Info Desk, the Olympic News Service, the offices of the Media and Photo Managers, the results pigeonholes and an adequate number of photo lockers.

- **Press Tribune**

In the Press Tribune there are 440 seats for written and electronic Press, and of these 220 are tabled. There are CCTV monitors and power points and a phone line can be ordered on the Rate Card.

- **Press Conference Room**

There is a Press Conference Room seating 400 seats on the same level as the Work Room.

- **Mixed Zone**

The Mixed Zone will be at the athletes' exit from the Field of Play.

- **Photo Positions**

The bulk of the photo positions are on the perimeter of the Field of Play, in single or double rows of benches, behind the barricades. In addition, there are a limited number of photo positions in the spectator stands. For the Medal Ceremonies there are Pool Positions.

- **Media Lounge**

There is a Media Lounge on Level 0.



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