



SPORT OPERATIONS MANUAL

Beach Volleyball

Version: 1 January 2023

(Reviewed by FIVB Beach Volleyball Commission and Athletes Commission)

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(OVERVIEW)**

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2023 edition of FIVB Beach Volleyball Sport Operations Manual.

The purpose of the FIVB Beach Volleyball Sport Operations Manual is to provide a compendium focusing on the technical aspects of the competitions, such as entries, withdrawals, competition format, ranking system, etc.

The document mainly addresses event organizers (promoters and National Federations), Continental Confederations, participating National Federations and their athletes, FIVB/Volleyball World partners, FIVB/Volleyball World delegates and officials.

SECTION I Entries and Withdrawals

CHAPTER 1 Entries

1. ATHLETE'S ELIGIBILITY

1.1 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 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 FIVB Beach Volleyball Sports Regulations and contact the FIVB (transfer@fivb.com).
- Register with the FIVB through their respective NF.
- Upload in the VIS the Beach Volleyball Players' Participation Agreement at least thirty-five (35) days before the first event's participation of the season. Beach Volleyball Players' Participation Agreements (one (1) per athlete) 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 Players' Participation Agreement is available on the FIVB website under the Forms section (www.fivb.com/EN/BeachVolleyball/Forms.asp).
- Upload in the VIS an annual health certificate (BVB-10 Form) to the FIVB at minimum thirty-five (35) 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 Players' Participation Agreement. The annual health certificate (BVB-10 Form) is available on the FIVB website under the Forms section (www.fivb.com/EN/BeachVolleyball/Forms.asp).
- Undertake the FIVB Anti-Doping education program "Play clean!" For further information, please access the FIVB online Anti-Doping education program at: <https://e-learning.fivb.com/access/login>
- Undertake the FIVB "Prevention of Competition Manipulation E-Course". For further information please access the FIVB Prevention of Competition Manipulation E-Course at: <https://www.fivb.com/en/development/manipulationcourse>

- Directly complete and modify their personal data (such as his/her exact measurements, address, bank account information, etc.) through the FIVB beach volleyball Web based application system (<http://www.fivb.com/visasp>). Each athlete is provided with an individual username 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 the season. (In case there is a need to change the bank account information during the season, the FIVB Finance Department must be informed in writing at finance@fivb.com immediately after the change is made and no later than the next event participated.) The following fields: FIVB #, first name, last name, date of birth, passport number, nationality, gender and the team's name of each athlete may only be edited by the FIVB or by the NF concerned.
- Be entered in the FIVB/Volleyball World beach volleyball event(s) 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.

1.2 ATHLETE'S PARTICIPATION

Subject to meeting the relevant conditions [or applicable rules], freedom to play shall apply for all the FIVB/Volleyball World Beach Volleyball events including FIVB World Championships (Senior and Age Group) and Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour. This principle will also apply for other FIVB sanctioned tournaments.

1.3 ATHLETE PARTICIPATION RESTRICTION

1.3.1 Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour

Following the FIVB Board of Administration decision on 1st March 2022, all Russian and Belarussian athletes are ineligible for participation in FIVB and continental beach volleyball competition until further notice.

1.3.2 National Tour

In case of a clash with the FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships and FIVB/Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Elite16/Challenge/Future tournaments, athletes from the top 32 ranked teams per gender per the FIVB World Rankings at 35 days before an event, except the hosting country teams, cannot take part in such a National Tour leg unless authorized by the FIVB in writing.

1.3.3 Other FIVB Sanctioned Tournaments

In case of a clash with the FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships and FIVB/Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Elite16/Challenge/Future tournaments, athletes from the top 32 ranked teams per gender per the FIVB World Rankings at 35 days before an event, except the hosting country teams, cannot take part in such a tournament unless authorized by the FIVB in writing.

1.4 REGULATIONS OF ORGANIZER'S VACANCY

The following policy will be implemented at the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour.

National Federations that organize a Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournament will be granted one (1) vacancy in each tournament for the corresponding gender in the Qualification tournaments of Challenge/Future if no team registered from that country qualifies in such tournament. The vacancy only applies to the same season as indicated below:

- NFs organizing an Elite or Challenge tournament: one (1) vacancy in Qualification tournament for all Challenge tournaments.
- NFs organizing a Future tournament: one (1) vacancy in Qualification tournament for all Future tournaments.

National Federations that already have a team in the tournament will not benefit from the above rule.

* Note:

In case the National Federation organizes a single gender event, the vacancy described above shall only be awarded to events of the same gender.

By -35 days before the tournament, the National Federation concerned shall nominate the specific team for the above vacancy and communicate in writing the team name to the FIVB at beachvolleyball@fivb.com. Otherwise, the vacancy will be awarded to the eligible team registered in the tournament with the most entry points.

After the announcement of Confirmed Entry List, should the above team withdraw from the tournament, the vacancy will not be maintained and the standard withdrawal procedure will apply, by picking up the next best ranked eligible team from the reserve list to the Qualification tournament. However, the vacancy will be kept in the case of change of a player.

2. ENTRY PROCEDURE

The FIVB is willing to accept the provisional enrolment of an athlete and upon the request of the athlete offer the right to be tentatively admitted into Beach Volleyball tournaments sanctioned by the FIVB and organised by an affiliated Promoter and/or by a National Federation and/or the FIVB/Volleyball World itself in any part of the world provided that the Beach Volleyball Players' Participation Agreement and the health certificate are duly signed by the Athlete concerned.

Once the aforementioned condition is agreed upon by all parties concerned, the National Federation (exclusively) is required to comply with the following procedures in order to tentatively register its Beach Volleyball teams in all FIVB sanctioned tournaments per the registration deadline for each tournament.

Deadlines concerning entries are calculated from the start of each event, i.e. Qualification Tournament of the Men or Women tournament concerned. In case there is no Qualification Tournament organised, then the deadlines are calculated from the start of the Main draw of Men or Women tournament concerned.

- Each National Federation is provided with an individual and secured user access (username and password) through its own e-mail address.
- After "Log in", the National Federation may select any team and register it in 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.

* Note:

The first player selected will be automatically player #1 and the teammate selected will be player #2. Such numbers will be used for the tournament the team is registered including the jersey number, TV graphics, etc.

Each National Federation can change the above numbering until the day when the Confirmed Entry list is published (details see section 2.3 Confirmed Entry List).

- The team is automatically registered in the selected tournament database and is instantly included in the tentative list posted on the FIVB/Volleyball World 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.com) 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 username 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 at <http://www.fivb.org/visasp>.
- 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/Volleyball World website and until the specific deadline 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/Volleyball World 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, on a case by case basis, the eventual participation of this player/team in the FIVB competitions and decide whether or not to allow his or her participation in its sole discretion.

The player/team concerned must submit the request in writing to FIVB (beachvolleyball@fivb.com) no later than 35 days before the start to the event, in order to allow sufficient time of evaluation and coordination between FIVB and NFs concerned. Accordingly, the FIVB will evaluate the request and may require further information from the National Federations for their criteria, procedure and publications regarding the selection of national team members. The FIVB may not accept the request if the player/team fails to submit in due time.

2.1 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 below:

- Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour (Elite/Challenge/Future): - 35 days
- Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour The Finals: Monday after the last Elite event

in the same season

- FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships: as per its Specific Competition Regulations
- FIVB Beach Volleyball U21 and U19 World Championships: - 35 days
- Olympic Games and Youth Olympic Games: as per its Specific Competition Regulations
- Other FIVB sanctioned tournaments. as per its Specific Competition Regulations

Teams can be registered/deleted or have its composition changed once an entry has been completed and until the deadline set out for the tentative entry list of a FIVB sanctioned Beach Volleyball event. After the entry deadline set out for the tentative entry list and before the deadline set out for the confirmed entry list, a team can still be deleted or have its composition changed for a FIVB sanctioned Beach Volleyball event. However, it is not possible to register any team after the tentative entry list.

It is not required to enter any teams through the VIS system for tournaments including Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour The Finals, Olympic Games, Youth Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, etc., the FIVB will directly issue the confirmed entry list as per the set deadline.

2.2 LATE ENTRY

Past the deadline for the tentative entry list, it is not allowed to enter a team in the event, unless regulations of late entry are implemented as per the specific competition regulation of respective tournament.

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 the FIVB via bank transfer.

Within the above deadline, 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 as last in the Reserve Team List and will always be the last teams to be picked up to fill the roster if applicable. If the roster of the Qualification Tournament is still incomplete after picking up all other teams in the Reserve Team List, the team of late entry will then be placed in the Qualification Tournament. If the Qualification Tournament is not applicable, the same principle as above will apply for the Main Draw should the case arise.

2.3 CONFIRMED ENTRY LIST

The confirmed entry list will be issued following the deadline set out below:

- Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour (Elite/Challenge/Future): - 28 days
- Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour The Finals: Monday after the last Elite event in the same season
- FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships: as per its Specific Competition Regulations
- FIVB Beach Volleyball U21 and U19 World Championships: - 28 days
- Olympic Games and Youth Olympic Games: as per its Specific Competition Regulations
- Other FIVB sanctioned tournaments. as per its Specific Competition Regulations

The FIVB is responsible for issuing the confirmed entry list of teams (as per the deadline above) with the Main Draw teams, Qualifications teams (if applicable) and the Reserve Team List (if applicable), on the FIVB/Volleyball World website, together with the approved specific competition regulation.

Notes:

- Any delays with respect to the procedure's deadlines are, in principle, caused by the organiser's non-compliance of major contractual obligations. The FIVB will inform the parties concerned via the FIVB website should the Confirmed Entry List not be issued in due time as per the deadlines above.
- If a date falls on a weekend or a holiday, the next working day is considered the deadline.
- The deadlines are calculated from the start of the Qualification Tournament of the event. If the Qualification Tournament is not played, the deadlines are calculated from the start of the Main Draw of the event.

2.4 ENTRIES TO THE TOURNAMENTS HELD IN THE SAME WEEK AT VOLLEYBALL WORLD BEACH PRO TOUR

During the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour, it is possible that multiple tournaments are scheduled in the same week. Accordingly, an athlete can register for a maximum of two (2) Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournaments held in the same week, provided that such two tournaments are in different event categories. For clarification, an athlete can register for one Beach Pro Tour Elite and one Future tournament held in the same week, however, it is not allowed to register for two (2) Beach Pro Tour Future tournaments held in the same week. In case an athlete registers for more than two (2) tournaments held in the same week, the two (2) entries from the highest tournament categories will be kept while any additional registration will be removed. If the above procedure is not applicable, the FIVB has the full authority to remove

additional entries at its discretion and keep the registration at a maximum of two (2) tournaments.

Once the confirmed entry list is issued as per the respective deadline of the tournament, the athlete concerned will have twenty-four (24) hours to inform the FIVB in writing via its affiliated National Federation, to confirm which event his/her entry will be kept. Failure to send the above confirmation will result in the FIVB having the full authority to remove the additional entry as per the principles below.

- If entries are granted for the Main Draw of both tournaments, the entry at the tournament with the higher event category will be kept, while the other entry will be removed.
- If entries are granted for the Main Draw of one event and the Qualification event, the Main Draw entry (regardless of event category) will be kept, while the other entry will be removed. For example, a Main Draw entry in a Future event will be kept while the entry in the Qualification tournament of a Challenge will be removed.
- If entries are granted for the Qualification Tournament of both tournaments, the entry at the tournament with the higher event category will be kept, while the other entry will be removed.
- If entries are granted for the Main Draw of one tournament and the Reserve team list of the other tournament, the Main Draw entry (regardless of event category) will be kept and the Reserve team list entry will be removed. For example, entry into the Main Draw at a Future will be kept while the entry into the Reserve team list at a Elite16 will be removed.
- If entries are granted for the Qualification Tournament of one tournament and the Reserve team list of another tournament, the Qualification entry (regardless of the event category) will be kept and the Reserve team list entry will be removed. For example, the entry into the Qualification at a Future will be kept while the entry into the Reserve team list at a Challenge will be removed.
- If the above procedure is not applicable, the FIVB has the full authority to remove the additional entry at its discretion and keep the registration of one (1) tournament, taking into consideration the geographic, travel and/or other possible factor(s) of the athlete concerned.

2.5 COUNTRY QUOTA

In principle, no restrictions of country quota are applied to the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournaments, with exceptions for Future tournaments and The Finals. The details of country quota regulations implemented at Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour

is as follows:

- Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour The Finals: maximum two (2) teams from the same NF including any eventual wild cards in the confirmed entry list;
- Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Elite 16: no limit of country quota until further notice.
- Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Challenge: no limit of country quota until further notice.
- Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Future: maximum four (4) teams excluding any eventual wild cards from the same NF in the confirmed entry list.

Notes:

- For Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Future tournaments, a maximum of three (3) teams from the host country, excluding wild cards, may enter the Main Draw tournament directly despite insufficient ranking points calculated at their entry to the tournament. The fourth (4th) team from the host country may enter the Qualification Tournament if it has enough ranking points calculated at its entry to the tournament. Otherwise, the team will be placed in the reserve list.
- For Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Future tournaments, two (2) more host teams will be registered outside the limit of country quota and will be listed as the host reserve teams to fill the roster of the Qualification Tournament in case of contingency case such as 'force majeure' (including any Covid-19 related cases) which may cause last minute withdrawals prior to the start of the Qualification Tournament. They will be picked up in sequence as per their ranking points calculated at their entry to the tournament. If teams are tied in ranking points, the host NF shall confirm in writing latest by -28 days which teams will be picked up in priority.
- For Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Future tournaments, a maximum of two (2) teams from each foreign country, excluding wild cards, may enter the Main Draw tournament directly should the teams have sufficient ranking points calculated at their entry to the tournament. The remaining teams from the foreign country may enter the Qualification Tournament if it has enough ranking points calculated at its entry to the tournament. Otherwise, the teams will be placed in the reserve list.
- All other foreign teams and host teams outside the above-mentioned country quota will be placed at the bottom of the reserve list and will be the last to be picked up. The following order is applied to pick up teams from the reserve list. Firstly, teams within country quota in the reserve list, then followed by two (2) teams in the host reserve list. Once the Confirmed Entry List is issued (For

clarify, after any double-entry teams are removed from the respective tournament scheduled in the same week, the updated Confirmed Entry List is issued respecting the country quota of 4), the status of such teams outside the country quota will not change, even if further withdrawals may occur from any of teams from its National Federation within the country quota of 4.

- However, should the Qualification tournament roster not be full, and no other teams (respecting the country quota of 4 in total) in the reserve team list are available, the 5th and eventually the 6th host teams who are placed in the host reserve list will be picked up to fill the roster of the Qualification tournament. Should the above efforts be explored, and the Qualification tournament is still not full, then any eventual teams (over the total country quota respectively for foreign teams and host teams, excluding wild cards) will be picked up to fill the roster, respecting the priority of the teams' entry points.

For FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships, a maximum four (4) teams excluding any eventual wild cards from the same NF can participate in the confirmed entry list.

For FIVB Beach Volleyball U21 and U19 World Championships, in principle one (1) team, including wild cards, from the same NF can participate in the Main Draw as per the confirmed entry list, while a second team may participate in the Qualification Tournament if approved by the FIVB.

For other FIVB sanctioned beach volleyball tournaments, the regulations of country quota will be stipulated in its specific competition regulations.

3. WILD CARD

For the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour, the quota of wild cards allocated to each tournament is as following:

Tournament	Maximum number of Wild Card Per Gender
The Finals	Two (2) decided by FIVB/Volleyball World
Elite16	Main Draw: One (1) decided by FIVB/Volleyball World
	Qualification: Two (2) decided by FIVB/Volleyball World
Challenge	Main Draw: Two (2) decided by FIVB/Volleyball World
	Qualification: Two (2) decided by FIVB/Volleyball World
Future	Main Draw: Two (2) decided by FIVB/Volleyball World
	Qualification: Two (2) decided by FIVB/Volleyball World

- NFs must submit a filled out BVB-02 Form to the FIVB by the specific entry deadline (in principle -35 days) for the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournament concerned (including The Finals/Elite16/Challenge/Future). Any requests for wild cards received after the entry deadline will not be taken into consideration.
- In principle, Wild Card allocations are at the discretion of the FIVB/Volleyball World. The FIVB/Volleyball World will take into consideration the promotional aspects, technical merits, athletes' career, satisfactory technical/status of the team, etc. to evaluate the requests following the recommendation of the organizer concerned. There is no guarantee the host country is entitled to receive any wild card should they fail to meet above criteria.
- Wild cards are announced through the confirmed entry list issued by the FIVB for the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournament concerned.
- The Wild Card is not transferrable if there is a disbanding of the team or withdrawal of the team. However, considering 'force majeure' or injury of one or both athletes, as exception, the Wild Card may be transferred at FIVB's discretion due to the new team' merits.
- In the case the team receiving a Wild Card, moves to the Main Draw (or Qualification tournament) in its capacity of entry points (and respecting country quota if any), due to the withdrawal of teams from such tournament, the Wild Card is not transferrable to a new team. However, in such case, the allocation of the Wild Card will not be counted towards the maximum number a team is entitled in the same season or Olympic Qualification period.

- In principle, an athlete can receive a maximum of 2 Wild Cards, irrespective if for the Main Draw or the Qualification Tournament during one season, which is not part of Olympic Qualification period. Such quota of 2 Wild Cards per season doesn't count any eventual Wild Card as host country team.
- 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, the FIVB does its utmost not to allocate Wild Cards to teams that will benefit from this to qualify for the Olympic Games to create a fair condition for teams with potential to qualify to the Olympic Games through the Volleyball World Beach Pro 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. Such quota of 2 Wild Cards per Olympic Qualification period, doesn't count any eventual Wild Card as host country team.
- In case any Main Draw wild card is not issued for a Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournament, the next eligible team from the Entry List, either in the Qualification Tournament team list or Reserve Team list (only if the Qualification Tournament is not organized), will be picked up, based on ranking points calculated at the entry to the tournament (respecting country quota regulations). Should two (2) Wild Cards not be issued (in the case of Challenge tournament), then the next two eligible teams will move to the Main Draw as per the above procedure.

For FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships, there are three (3) wild cards allocated to each gender, unless otherwise regulated in its specific competition regulations.

For FIVB Beach Volleyball U21 and U19 World Championships, there is one (1) wild card each allocated to Main Draw as well as to Qualification tournament per gender, unless otherwise regulated in its specific competition regulations. The winning team of the U19 World Championships can be considered one (1) wild card in the Main Draw tournament of the upcoming edition of U21 World Championships.

For other FIVB sanctioned beach volleyball tournaments, if the wild cards are applicable, the wild card regulations will be stipulated in its specific competition regulations.

CHAPTER 2 Withdrawals/Change of Athlete

4. WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE

4.1 VOLLEYBALL WORLD BEACH PRO TOUR

4.1.1 Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Elite16

- Up to the confirmed entry list: Team is free to withdraw or change team composition through the VIS.
- After the issue of confirmed entry list and up to 16:00 CET Wednesday, - 3 weeks before the start of tournament: teams can withdraw or change team composition through BVB-03 form (withdrawal request) or BVB-04 form (change of athlete request) with the supporting medical certificate.
- After 16:00 CET Wednesday, - 3 weeks before the start of tournament, up to 16:00 CET Friday the week before the start of tournament: teams can submit the BVB-03 form (withdrawal request) or BVB-04 form (change of athlete request), with the supporting medical certificate and proof of travel (flight itinerary issued with ticket number, train ticket, etc.) to FIVB Beach Volleyball Department at beachvolleyball@fivb.com to withdraw or change team composition. Failure to provide the full documentation required above, will result in a monetary fine of USD 1,500 per athlete to the athlete concerned in the Main Draw, and a monetary fine of USD 500 per athlete to the athlete concerned in the Qualification tournament.
- After 16:00 CET Friday the week before the start of tournament, up to the start of the Preliminary Inquiry of the Qualification Tournament (where applicable) or the Main Draw tournament: teams can submit the BVB-03 form (withdrawal request) or BVB-04 form (change of athlete request) to FIVB Beach Volleyball Department at beachvolleyball@fivb.com to withdraw/change team composition. However, a monetary fine of USD 1,500 per athlete (Main Draw) and USD 500 per athlete (Qualification tournament) will be applied to the athlete concerned regardless of the reason.
- Teams picked up from the reserve team list after 16:00 CET Friday the week before the start of tournament, shall not be subject to the above monetary fine should they not participate in the tournament.
- If a withdrawal or change of team composition is due to injury or 'force majeure' which occurs in another Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournament held before the current tournament or after 16:00 CET Friday the week before the start of the upcoming tournament, the athlete/team will be

waived from the fines, provided the following documents will be submitted to the FIVB no later than 3 working days after such case happens:

- Medical statement from the tournament doctor or FIVB Medical delegate (if assigned) at the tournament concerned, such statement shall be acknowledged by the FIVB Technical Delegate with signature.
 - WT/49 form (Recovery Interruption & Injury Forfeit form) if applicable and such form shall be duly signed by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned.
- If the above case happens in other FIVB sanctioned tournaments including a continental/regional/zonal/national tournament/other activities, the FIVB will evaluate, on a case-by-case basis, any exceptional case for the exemption of the monetary fines that are caused by the last-minute withdrawal. To allow the evaluation such case, the following documents must be provided to the FIVB no later than 3 working days after such case happens:
 - Medical statement (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 the match officials and teams concerned, if applicable.
 - Team video of the match concerned, if applicable.
 - Picture of the injury concerned, if applicable.
 - A copy of travel proof to go to the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournaments that the athlete/team is registered.
 - If the withdrawal or 'change of athlete' request is for an athlete/team among the 12 teams directly in Main Draw, the new team shall have enough entry points calculated at the date of confirmed entry list to maintain their position in the Main Draw, otherwise, the team shall be placed in the Qualification Tournament. Should the team not have enough entry points for the Qualification Tournament, the team will be placed accordingly in the reserve list.
 - Following the withdrawal request, the next highest ranked eligible team in the Qualification tournament list as per entry points calculated at the date of the confirmed entry list, will be picked up to replace the withdrawal team and accordingly the seeding list, pool composition as well as the match schedule will be updated accordingly.
 - Team/athlete shall not withdraw from a Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournament (Finals/Elite/Challenge/Future) to participate in another beach volleyball tournament and/or activities of any categories (national or zonal or

regional or continental or any other tournament similar in nature) scheduled during the same competition period, unless otherwise approved by the FIVB/Volleyball World.

- The list of reserve teams is constantly updated until the Preliminary Inquiry of the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Elite16. Reserve teams must be present at the Preliminary Inquiry and both players must sign in to register for the tournament to be considered for the potential inclusion in the event due to last-minute withdrawals or no shows.
- Should there be no reserve teams physically present at the Preliminary Inquiry and there are cases of last-minute withdrawals or no shows, corresponding number of teams from host country can be registered to fill the roster of Main Draw and participate. For clarity, this is not applied to the Qualification tournament should the roster not be complete and no reserve teams physically present at the Preliminary Inquiry.
- If the withdrawal(s) of team(s), from the 12 teams directly in the Main Draw tournament of Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Elite16, occurs after the completion of Preliminary Inquiry of the Qualification Tournament when the Qualification match schedule has been developed and published, the regulations of the lucky loser draw shall be implemented to determine the extra team(s) qualifying 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 and sign in at the Preliminary Inquiry of Main Draw tournament as eligible 'lucky losers'. For clarity, it is highly recommended but not mandatory that the eligible 'lucky losers' shall attend the Lucky Loser draw after physically signing in at the Preliminary Inquiry of Main Draw tournament.
 - The first draw is between the two highest seeded teams among the eligible 'lucky losers'.
 - 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.

Furthermore, in the above case when the lucky loser draw is implemented, the same principle described above shall be respected to have the highest ranked team advanced from the Qualification tournament to fill the pool of highest seeded position, and then 2nd highest ranked team advanced from the Qualification tournament to fill the pool of the 2nd highest seeded position, while having the lucky losers always placed at the bottom for the seed #16, and if necessary seed #15, seed #14, etc.

- If the withdrawal 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 team list. Should the new team have enough entry points to stay in the Qualification, it will be seeded as per the seeding points of the new team. However, if the team has enough entry points to enter Main Draw, the team will still remain in the Qualification Tournament in its original position as per the Confirmed Entry List (in all cases, including the scenario due to further withdrawal of 12 teams directly from Main Draw) and be seeded per the seeding points of the new team.

4.1.2 Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Challenge/Future

- Up to the confirmed entry list: Team is free to withdraw or change team composition through the VIS.
- After the issue of confirmed entry list and up to 16:00 CET Tuesday, - 3 weeks before the start of tournament: teams can withdraw or change team composition through BVB-03 form (withdrawal request) or BVB-04 form (change of athlete request) with the supporting medical certificate.
- After 16:00 CET Tuesday, - 3 weeks before the start of tournament, up to 16:00 CET Friday the week before the start of tournament: teams can submit the BVB-03 form (withdrawal request) or BVB-04 form (change of athlete request), with the supporting medical certificate and proof of travel (flight itinerary issued with ticket number, train ticket, etc.) to FIVB Beach Volleyball Department at beachvolleyball@fivb.com to withdraw, or make 'change of athlete'. Failure to provide the full documents required above, it will result in a monetary fine as follows:

Tournament	Monetary fine per athlete
Main Draw of Challenge tournament	USD 750 per athlete
Qualification Tournament of Challenge tournament	USD 250 per athlete
Main Draw of Future tournament	USD 200 per athlete
Qualification Tournament of Future tournament	USD 100 per athlete

- After 16:00 CET Friday the week before the start of tournament, up to the start of the Preliminary Inquiry of Qualification Tournament (where applicable) or Main Draw tournament: teams can submit the BVB-03 form (withdrawal request) or BVB-04 form (change of athlete request) to FIVB Beach Volleyball Department at beachvolleyball@fivb.com to withdraw or change team composition. However, a monetary fine will be applied as follows, regardless of the reason.

Tournament	Monetary fine per athlete
Main Draw of Challenge tournament	USD 750 per athlete
Qualification Tournament of Challenge tournament	USD 250 per athlete

Main Draw of Future tournament	USD 200 per athlete
Qualification Tournament of Future tournament	USD 100 per athlete

- If a withdrawal or change of team composition is due to injury or ‘force majeure’ which occurs in another Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournament held before the current tournament or after 16:00 CET Friday the week before the start of the upcoming tournament, the athlete/team will be waived from the fines, provided the following documents will be submitted to the FIVB no later than 3 working days after such case happens:
 - Medical statement from the tournament doctor or FIVB Medical delegate (if assigned) at the tournament concerned, such statement shall be acknowledged by the FIVB Technical Delegate with signature.
 - WT/49 form (Recovery Interruption & Injury Forfeit form) if applicable and such form shall be duly signed by the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned.
- If the above case happens in other FIVB sanctioned tournaments including a continental/regional/zonal/national tournament/other activities, the FIVB will evaluate, on a case-by-case basis, any exceptional case for the exemption of the monetary fines that are caused by the last-minute withdrawal. To allow the evaluation such case, the following documents must be provided to the FIVB no later than 3 working days after such case happens:
 - Medical statement (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 the match officials and teams concerned, if applicable.
 - Team video of the match concerned, if applicable.
 - Picture of the injury concerned, if applicable.
 - A copy of travel proof to go to the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournaments that the athlete/team is registered.
- If the withdrawal or ‘change of athlete’ request is for an athlete/team in the Main Draw, the new team shall have enough entry points to maintain their Main Draw position and will be seeded accordingly as per its actual seeding points, otherwise, the team shall be placed in the Qualification Tournament. Should the team not have enough entry points for the Qualification Tournament, the team will be placed accordingly in the reserve list.
- If the withdrawal(s) of team(s), in the Main Draw tournament of Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Challenge/Future, occurs after the completion of

Preliminary Inquiry of the Qualification Tournament when the Qualification match schedule have been developed and published, 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 and sign in at the Preliminary Inquiry of Main Draw tournament as eligible 'lucky losers'. For clarity, it is highly recommended but not mandatory that the eligible 'lucky losers' shall attend the Lucky Loser draw after physically signing in at the Preliminary Inquiry of Main Draw tournament.
 - The first draw is between the two highest seeded teams among the eligible 'lucky losers'.
 - 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.
- If the withdrawal 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 team list. Should the new team have enough entry points to stay in the Qualification and will be seeded as per the seeding points of the new team. However, if the team has enough entry points to enter Main Draw, the team will still remain in the Qualification Tournament in its original position as per the Confirmed Entry List and be seeded per the seeding points of the new team.
 - If the withdrawal(s) of team(s) in the Qualification Tournament of the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Future 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 team with highest ranking points calculated at the entry to the tournament. If there is a tie between the host reserve teams, a drawing of lots shall be conducted to determine the priority.
 - Team/athlete shall not withdraw from a Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournament (Finals/Elite/Challenge/Future) to participate in another beach

volleyball tournament and/or activities of any categories (national or zonal or regional or continental or any other tournament similar in nature) scheduled during the same competition period, unless other approved by the FIVB/Volleyball World.

4.1.3 Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour The Finals

- For the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour The Finals, the FIVB/Volleyball World will directly issue the confirmed entry list and doesn't require the teams to register through the VIS.
- The team can submit through the BVB-03 form (withdrawal) request with the supporting medical certificate and travel proof to FIVB Beach Department at beachvolleyball@fivb.com to submit the withdrawal request. The FIVB/Volleyball World will evaluate on a case-by-case basis to decide if monetary fines will be applied as follows:

Tournament	Monetary fine per athlete
Main Draw of The Finals	USD 3,000 per athlete

- Should there be a request change the team composition, the vacancy will not be transferred to the new team unless otherwise approved by FIVB/Volleyball World and will be reallocated to the next eligible team.
- Should there be any last-minute withdrawal which happens onsite due to 'force majeure' including Covid-19 related matters, the FIVB/Volleyball World will reallocate the vacancy to the host country team whenever deemed necessary.

4.2 FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships

- The withdrawal procedure for the FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships will be regulated in the specific competition regulations of that tournament.

4.3 FIVB Beach Volleyball U21 and U19 World Championships

- The withdrawal procedure for the FIVB Beach Volleyball U21 and U19 World Championships will be regulated in the specific competition regulations of that tournament.

4.4 Olympic Games and Youth Olympic Games

- The withdrawal procedure for the beach volleyball tournament at the Olympic Games and Youth Olympic Games will be regulated as per the Qualification System of that tournament stipulated by the IOC and the FIVB.

4.5 Other FIVB Sanction Tournaments

- The withdrawal procedure for other FIVB sanctioned tournaments will be regulated in the specific competition regulations of the said tournament.

5. NO SHOW AND LATE ARRIVAL

5.1 NO SHOW

- If an athlete fails to attend the Preliminary Inquiry and fails to notify the FIVB/Volleyball World in advance, that athlete's team is removed from the tournament and the same monetary fine may be applied as per the specific competition regulations of this tournament, unless the FIVB accepts the reason as 'force majeure'. The athlete is required to prove the circumstance constituting the 'force majeure'.

5.2 LATE ARRIVAL

- There is a huge risk if the athlete/team fails to attend the Preliminary Inquiry in due time, upon the decision of the FIVB Technical Delegate assigned, teams that fail to attend the Preliminary Inquiry will be excluded from the tournament concerned.
- Exceptions can be applied should the athlete/team be witnessed and/or confirmed to be onsite by the FIVB Technical Delegate but didn't attend the Preliminary Inquiry in due time (e.g. witnessed to have training in the venue, or checked in at the hotel or other reliable information that the team confirming that the team is present at the event.) Should such case occur, a monetary fine will be applied for USD 100 (Qualification tournament) and USD 200 (Main Draw)
- Special cases of late arrival may only be considered upon proof of 'force majeure' reason, such as cancelation 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 Volleyball Department at beachvolleyball@fivb.com in due time before the start of the Preliminary Inquiry. Should such case be justified, no fine will be applied.

SECTION II COMPETITION REGULATIONS

CHAPTER 3 FIVB Beach Volleyball Ranking Points

6. DEFINITION

The FIVB Beach Volleyball ranking points provide an objective scale of values of all athletes participating in FIVB sanctioned events, on a merit basis. The higher the tournament ranking, the higher the points earned, and the higher the level of the event, the higher the points are awarded.

Each tournament shall be managed by the FIVB Volleyball Information System (VIS) through the FIVB, the confederations and National Federations. If the results of each FIVB sanctioned tournament are not uploaded through the VIS system on the last day of the event, the FIVB Beach Volleyball ranking points will not be allocated.

7. FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL RANKING POINTS BREAKDOWN (PER ATHLETE)

Rank	Senior WCHs	Beach Pro Tour - Elite16	Beach Pro Tour - Challenge	Beach Pro Tour - Future	U21 & U19 WCHs
1st	800	600	400	200	160
2nd	720	550	380	180	144
3rd	640	500	360	160	128
4th	560	450	340	140	112
5th	480	380	300	120	96
7th	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
9th	400	300	230	90	72
13th	N/A	230	N/A	70	56
17th	320	200	180	50	40
19th	N/A	N/A	150	N/A	N/A
21st	N/A	170	N/A	30	N/A
25th	N/A	N/A	110	N/A	24
31st	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
33rd	160	N/A	70	N/A	16
37th	80	N/A	N/A	N/A	8
41st	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4

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Rank	Continental Championships	Continental Olympic Qualification Final	Recognized Multi-Sports Games	Continental Tour Open	Continental Age Group Championships*	Continental Olympic Qualification Preliminary Phase/ Continental Zonal Tour	Homologated National Tour
1st	400	300	240	160	128	120	20
2nd	380	270	216	144	115	108	18
3rd	360	240	192	128	105	96	16
4th	340	210	168	112	90	84	14
5th	300	180	144	96	80	72	12
6th	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	75	N/A	N/A
7th	N/A	165	N/A	N/A	70	N/A	11
8th	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	65	N/A	N/A
9th	230	150	108	72	60	54	10
13th	N/A	N/A	84	56	45	42	N/A
17th	180	120	60	40	35	30	8
19th	150	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
21st	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	28	N/A	N/A
25th	110	90	36	24	20	18	6
29th	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	16	N/A	N/A
33rd	70	N/A	24	16	12	12	4
37th	N/A	N/A	12	8	6	6	2
41st	N/A	N/A	6	4	3	3	N/A

Note:

- No FIVB Beach Volleyball ranking points will be allocated to the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour The Finals.
- Should there be a different competition format adopted to above events and thus results in a different scale of rank, the new breakdown of the FIVB Beach Volleyball ranking points shall be approved by the FIVB and will be published in the specific competition regulations of that event.
- Should there be early termination of tournament or tournament cancellation due to force majeure, the following principles will be respected:
 - If tournament has commenced with matches played and then has been terminated before the tournament is concluded, athletes will receive their ranking points earned through the last completed round only, and the tournament will only count as a tournament played and will only count for future Entry points and/or Seeding points if such tournament is beneficial to the team.

8. CALCULATION OF RANKING POINTS FOR ENTRY AND SEEDING

- Entry and Seeding Points are the FIVB Beach Volleyball ranking points earned at the best three (3) of the last four (4) Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour (Elite16/Challenge/Future) and FIVB Senior Beach Volleyball World Championships tournaments within the last 365-days period at the given date, for entry and for seeding purpose, prior to the start of an event.
- Entry and Seeding Points for a team are defined as the sum of the points of the two athletes that compose the team.
- The FIVB Beach Volleyball ranking points obtained at other FIVB sanctioned or homologated events outside the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour (Elite/Challenge/Future events) and FIVB Beach Volleyball senior World Championships will be counted in the Entry points and Seeding Points only if they improve the athlete's standing.
- The FIVB Beach Volleyball ranking points obtained from the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Future tournaments for the host country teams, will only be calculated for Entry Points and Seeding Points if they will be beneficial for the team (i.e. improve the teams' Entry Points and Seeding Points).
- For Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Elite16 tournaments, the Entry Points of Main Draw tournament will be calculated -28 days prior to the start of the tournament, while the Seeding points of Main Draw will be calculated -14 days prior to the start of the tournament. The Entry Points of the Qualification tournament will be calculated -28 days prior to the start of the tournament, while the Seeding Points of the Qualification tournament will be calculated on the day of the preliminary inquiry (-1 day).
- For Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Challenge and Future tournaments, the Entry Points will be calculated -28 days prior to the start of the tournament. The Seeding Points will be calculated on the day of the preliminary inquiry (-1 day).
- For FIVB Beach Volleyball senior World Championships, the Entry Points and Seeding Points will be calculated at the given date, as per the specific competition regulations of that event.
- For FIVB Beach Volleyball U21 and U19 World Championships, the Entry Points and Seeding Points will be calculated at the given date, as per the specific competition regulations of that event.

- For Olympic Games and Youth Olympic Games, the Entry points and Seeding Points will be established as per the specific competition regulations and other legal framework stipulated by the IOC and FIVB.
- For other FIVB sanctioned tournaments, the Entry points and Seeding Points will be established as per the specific competition regulations of that event.
- Should there be a tie on the Entry points and/or Seeding Points, the following procedure will be applied to break the tie:
 - First tie break is athlete Technical points, which are the sum of ranking points earned at the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour tournaments, FIVB Beach Volleyball senior World Championships, and FIVB sanctioned or homologated Beach Volleyball tournaments over a 365-day period from the date the ranking points are awarded.
 - If the tie still exists a drawing of lots will be conducted to determine the entry ranking and/or seeding.

9. CALCULATION OF RANKING POINTS DUE TO MATERNITY

LEAVE

- To benefit from maternity leave points, the athlete concerned shall return within two (2) years from the birth of the child.
- To apply for an athlete entry points calculation due to maternity leave, the athlete concerned must submit to the FIVB at beachvolleyball@fivb.com a birth certificate of the child and announce the next Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour or FIVB sanctioned tournaments the athlete plans to take part in a minimum of 35 days before said tournament.
- If an athlete returns to play within two (2) years from the birth of the child, 100% of her Entry Points obtained from the date of the birth within eighteen (18) months before the birth of the child shall be maintained. For clarity, the individual FIVB Entry Ranking of the athlete concerned, as per Monday after the last tournament played, will be maintained as the basis of reference to calculate her starting total when returning to the competition. Upon returning to the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour and/or FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships, her individual FIVB entry ranking points will be set as same amount of the corresponding ranking position as per Monday of the week that is -28 days before her first event she returns to play, and such entry ranking points will be set as the starting total.
- For an entry into subsequent tournament, the FIVB Beach Volleyball ranking points earned at the first tournament shall be added, but 1/3 shall be subtracted from the starting total. For each subsequent entry, the same rule applies.

However, should the ranking points earned at the first tournament are less than 1/3 of the starting total, such result will not be taken into calculation and the 1/3 deduction will start from the second tournament after her return to play.

- After maximum four (4) tournaments, the starting total will be zero (0) and the FIVB Beach Volleyball ranking points earned at those tournaments will be her Entry points. The same rule applies for the seeding of the athlete concerned.
- Benefiting from maternity leave is applicable for one year after her return to play from maternity. Once the one-year period is over, no more benefits will be applied even though the athlete has not yet played maximum four (4) tournaments.

Example:

Player A stopped playing in 2021 due to maternity leave and didn't compete in 2022 season. Her last tournament played was 2021 Itapema 4-star, and her individual FIVB Entry Ranking as per Monday after 2021 Itapema 4-star was 38th in the World.

Upon returning to the tour in 2023 at her first event in Doha Elite16, her individual entry points will be set at the amount that would place her in the 38th position on the individual FIVB Entry Ranking as per Monday of the week that is -28 days before her first tournament in 2023 (Doha Elite16). That being said, her individual entry points will be 1130 points.

Her finish in Doha Elite16 will be 17th place with 200 points, which is less than 1/3 of the starting total. Accordingly, such result from Doha Elite16 will not be taken into calculation and the 1/3 deduction will start from the second tournament after her return to play.

10. CALCULATION OF RANKING POINTS DUE TO SERIOUS INJURY

- To benefit from serious injury, the athlete concerned shall return within two (2) years from the date the injury occurs.
- To apply for an athlete Entry points calculation due to a serious injury, the athlete shall submit to the FIVB at beachvolleyball@fivb.com a valid medical certificate and announce the next Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour or FIVB sanctioned tournaments the athlete plans to take part in a minimum of 35 days before said tournament.
- In case of serious injury, the athlete must provide a valid medical certificate and must not be able to play for a minimum of twelve (12) months. If an athlete

returns to play within two (2) years from the date the injury occurs, 100% of his/her Entry Points shall be maintained. For clarity, the individual FIVB Entry Ranking of the athlete concerned, as per Monday after the last tournament played, will be maintained as the basis of reference to calculate his/her starting total when returning to the competition. Upon returning to the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour and/or FIVB Beach Volleyball World Championships, his/her individual FIVB entry ranking points will be set as same amount of the corresponding ranking position as per Monday of the week that is -28 days before his/her first event he/she returns to play, and such entry ranking points will be set as the starting total. ..

- For entry into a subsequent tournament the FIVB Beach Volleyball ranking points earned at the first tournament shall be added, but 1/3 shall be subtracted from the starting total. For each subsequent entry, the same rule applies.
- After three (3) tournaments, the starting total will be zero (0) and the FIVB Beach Volleyball ranking points earned at those three (3) tournaments will be his/her athlete Entry points. The same rule applies for the Seeding of the athlete concerned.
- Benefiting from serious injury calculation is applicable for one (1) year after the return of the athlete from such injury. Once the one-year period is over, no more benefits will be applied even though the athlete has not yet played three (3) tournaments.

CHAPTER 4 FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL WORLD RANKING

11. DEFINITION

The FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking is established 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 tournaments over a 365-days period.

The FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking is updated very Monday after an FIVB sanctioned or homologated tournament granting FIVB Beach Volleyball ranking points.

The FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking is published on the FIVB/Volleyball World website and will be constantly updated.

12. TIE BREAKING PROCEDURE

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

- The most total points earned from the FIVB Senior World Championships, Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Elite/Challenge tournaments that are part of eight (8) best performance as a team, and if still tied, then;
- The highest sum of two athlete's 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 Beach Volleyball World Ranking.

SECTION III Competition

CHAPTER 5 Competition Formats

FIVB/Volleyball World Beach Volleyball competitions are composed of a Main Draw Tournament and sometimes an additional Qualification Tournament.

Normally, the main draw competition format involves a Preliminary Phase and an Elimination Phase. The following FIVB/Volleyball World Beach Volleyball Competitions consist of either a Pool Play (Round Robin) format or a Modified Pool Play format in the Preliminary Phase followed by a Single Elimination Playoff in the Elimination Phase:

- Olympic Games (No Qualification Tournament)
- FIVB World Championships (No Qualification Tournament)
- Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour
 - Elite16 events
 - Challenger events
 - Future events
 - The Finals (No Qualification Tournament)
- FIVB U19 World Championships
- FIVB U21 World Championships

Other approved FIVB Beach Volleyball competition formats will be specified in the Specific Competition Regulations of that event.

Qualification Tournaments involve only an Elimination Phase using a Single Elimination Playoff.

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 to 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. Efforts shall be made to allow 120 minutes, but as a minimum of 90 minutes should be allocated to allow teams to 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 45 minutes.

Note: If a team withdraws due to an injury before or during a match or gets disqualified during a match it will earn 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 losing the second set 4:6, this injured team would earn 1 match point with sets of 1:2 and rally points of 21:19, 4:21 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, 6:4, 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.

CHAPTER 6 Seeding

In principle, the seeding, established from Seeding Points, is a pre-tournament ranking of participating teams based on the strength of their previous records usually from FIVB Ranking Points. In FIVB/Volleyball World Beach Volleyball Competitions, the seeding is used to establish the bracket in the Elimination Phase of a Qualification Tournament and the composition of the Pools (Round Robin Play or Modified Pool Play) in the Preliminary Phase of the Main Draw Tournament using a Serpentine System.

CHAPTER 7 Specific Tournament Format

13. VOLLEYBALL WORLD BEACH PRO TOUR – ELITE16

- Main Draw: 16-team pool play (4 pools of 4 teams following serpentine system)
- Qualification tournament: 16-team bracket played in single elimination to qualify 4 teams to the Main Draw.
- Entry Points at -28 days: best 3 of last 4 events in 365 days
- Seeding Points at -14 days (for teams directly in the Main Draw) and day of the preliminary inquiry (in principle the day before, for teams in the Qualification tournament): best 3 of last 4 events in 365 days
- 14 Qualification teams enter directly with maximum two (2) wild cards allocation to complete the 16-team roster.
- 11 Main Draw teams, together with one (1) Main Draw wild card team (if applicable) enter directly to the Main Draw, plus 4 teams qualified from the Qualification tournament
- No country quota
- Seeding of the host country:
 - If the best ranked host team is among top 4 teams, then the team will be seed #1 in Pool A, if the best ranked host team is among 5 to 11 teams, then the team will be seed #4 in Pool D. Otherwise, such team will be seed #12 in Pool D. Other host country teams will be seeded naturally as per their Seeding Points.
 - The remaining host country teams will be seeded naturally as per their Seeding Points
 - Host country teams shall not be placed in the same pool, while this is possible for foreign teams. If the number of host country teams are equal or less than the number of pools in the tournament, each host country team shall be placed in a different pool respecting their natural seeding position. If there are more host country teams than the number of pools, then the natural seeding will stay in place with minimum one host country team in each pool. That being said, in Elite16 tournament, the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th (whenever applicable) host country team(s) will have their seed increased (for example from Seed #6 to Seed #7) until they are in different pool then the other host country team(s) 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 is in a different pool.
 - The relative seeding of the best four (4) host country teams must be respected and preserved after the host country teams have been placed in separate pools.

Example: As shown in the below diagram, 6 teams already in the Main Draw from the host country (including the wild cards) are: USA 1 (Seed #1), USA 2 (Seed #2), USA3 (Seed #5), USA4 (Seed #8), USA5 (Seed #10), USA6 (Seed #15). See below:

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
USA 1	USA 2	Seed #3	Seed #4
USA 4	USA 3	Seed #6	Seed #5
Seed #9	USA 5	Seed #11	Seed #12
Qualifier 4	Qualifier 3 (USA) 6	Qualifier 2	Qualifier 1

Based on the above mentioned principles, the final seeding will be established as follows:

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
USA 1	USA 2	Seed #3	Seed #4
Seed #11	Seed #9	Seed #6	Seed #5
Seed #12	USA 5	USA 3	USA 4
Qualifier 4	Qualifier 3 (USA) 6	Qualifier 2	Qualifier 1

- The Main Draw tournament consists of 16 teams per gender and is played in two phases as follows:
 - First phase: 16-team pool play in standard round robin format (4 pools of 4 teams following serpentine system) with top three (3) teams from each pool advancing to the second phase in single elimination format, in the playoff round of 12 teams following by quarter-finals
 - The 4th ranked team of each pool will rank 13th place.
 - Second phase: knock-out bracket (quarter finals) in single elimination format
- Main Draw pool play distribution

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
Seed 1	Seed 2	Seed 3	Seed 4
Seed 8	Seed 7	Seed 6	Seed 5
Seed 9	Seed 10	Seed 11	Seed 12
Seed 16	Seed 15	Seed 14	Seed 13

- 11 Main Draw teams, together with 1 Main Draw wild card team (if applicable) enter directly to the Main Draw, will be distributed directly into Pool A to D following serpentine system, according to their ranking points calculated at -14 days before the start of the tournament.
- The 4 teams qualified from the qualification tournament will automatically go to Pool D to A, following seeding points calculated the day before the start of the tournament, with best ranked team advanced from the Qualification tournament goes to Pool D as seed #13, 2nd best ranked team advanced from the Qualification

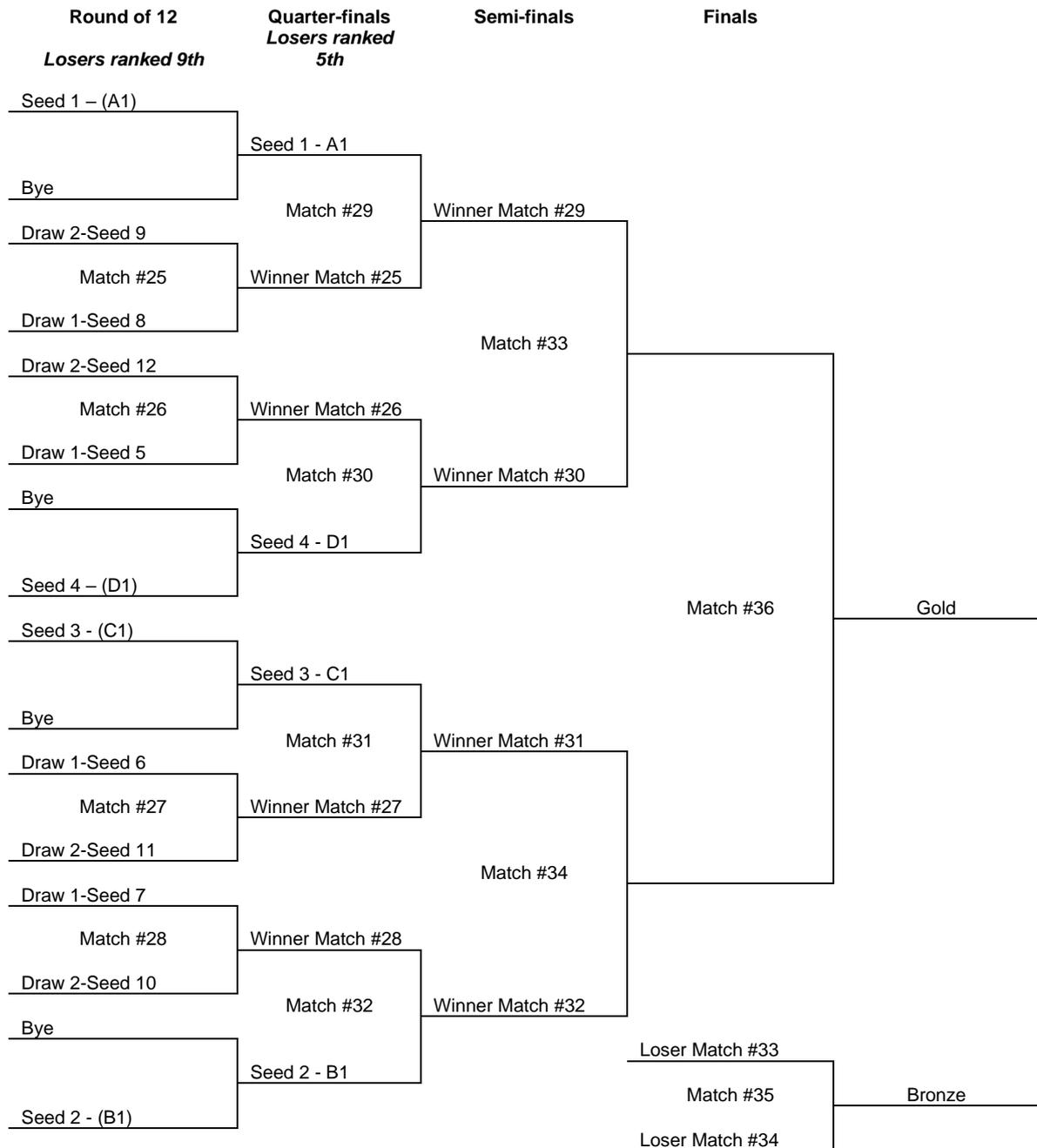
tournament goes to Pool C as seed #14, 3rd best goes to Pool B as seed #15 and 4th best goes to Pool A as seed#16.

- Four teams will play standard round robin system in the first phase. Every team will play the three other teams in their pool. 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 the case of a tie in the pools (match points) during the round robin, the following rules will apply:
 - Between two teams in the same pool:
 - The team with higher rally points ratio in the matches between all teams in the pool, is ranked higher.
 - If a tie still exists by rally points ratio, then the teams have the same position in ranking.
 - Between three teams in the same pool:
 - If three teams have a tie in the main points, then the teams are ranked by the rally points ratio in the matches between the three tied teams.
 - If a tie still exists then the tied teams are ranked by the rally points ratio between all teams in the pool.
 - If a tie still exists then the teams have the same position in the ranking.
 - Between four teams in the same pool:
 - The ranking is determined by the rally points ratio between all teams in the pool.
 - If a tie still exists then the teams have the same position in the ranking.
- In the case of a tie in the pools (match points) at the end of the round robin, the following rules will apply:
 - Between two teams in the same pool:
 - The team with higher rally points ratio in the matches between all teams in the pool, is ranked higher.
 - If a tie still exists, then the winner of head-to-head match is ranked higher.
 - Between three teams in the same pool:
 - Teams are ranked by the rally points ratios in the matches between the three tied teams.
 - If a tie still exists then the teams still tied are ranked by the rally points ratio between all teams in the pool.
 - If a tie still exists then the teams still tied are determined by the tournament seeding established at the tournament (the better seed of the tied teams ranked higher, i.e. seed 12 is ranked higher than 13).
- Main Draw playoff bracket (12 teams)

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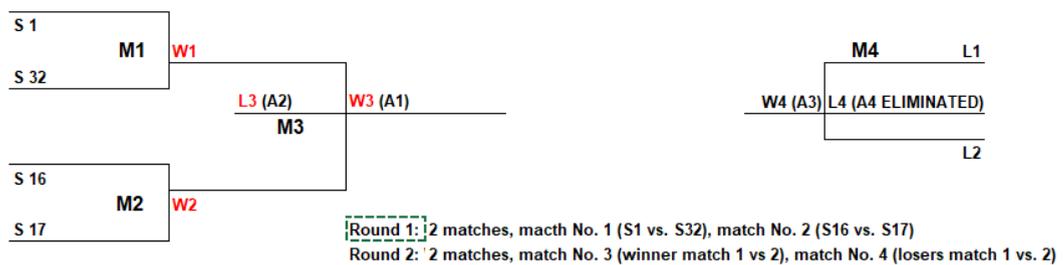
Note:

- Draw 1 is conducted between 2nd ranked teams from Pool A, B, C and D, while Draw 2 is conducted between 3rd ranked teams from Pool A, B, C and D, and the draw is conducted from top to bottom of the draw bracket, firstly Draw 1 followed by Draw 2.
- Teams from the same pool shall not meet in the round of 12 and quarterfinals.

14. VOLLEYBALL WORLD BEACH PRO TOUR – CHALLENGE

- Qualification Tournament: 32-teams in single elimination format to qualify 8 teams
- 30 Qualification teams enter directly, together with 2 Qualification wild cards teams
- Main Draw: 24-team modified pool play (6 pools of 4 teams following serpentine system)
- 14 Main Draw teams, together with 2 Main Draw wild cards teams enter directly
- Main Draw of 24 teams per gender is played in two phases as following:
 - First phase: six (6) pools of four (4) teams playing modified pool play. Top three (3) teams from each pool will advance to the second phase;
 - Second phase: knock-out bracket (18 teams) in single elimination format.
- Entry Points at -28 days: best 3 of last 4 events in 365 days
- Seeding Points at -1 day: best 3 of last 4 events in 365 days
- For the Pool Phase, matches will be played in the modified pool play competition format, i.e. the highest seeded team will play the lowest seeded team in the same pool, while the 2nd highest seeded team will play the 3rd highest seeded team in the same pool. The winners of the above two matches will play each other, with the winner being the 1st ranked team in the pool and the loser as 2nd ranked team in the pool. The losers of the above two matches will play each other, with the winner being the 3rd ranked team in the pool and the loser being the 4th ranked team in the pool and eliminated from the Pool Phase.

GROUP



- For the first phase of modified pool play, 24 teams per gender will be placed into six (6) pools with four (4) teams each based on Seeding Points and will be placed per the serpentine principle.

First phase of Modified Pool Play					
Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D	Pool E	Pool F
Seed #1	Seed #2	Seed #3	Seed #4	Seed #5	Seed #6
Seed #12	Seed #11	Seed #10	Seed #9	Seed #8	Seed #7
Seed #13	Seed #14	Seed #15	Seed #16	Seed #17	Seed #18
Seed #24	Seed #23	Seed #22	Seed #21	Seed #20	Seed #19

- Seeding of the host country teams:
 - best ranked host country team (as per the team’s seeding points) will be seeded #1 in Pool A if the team is seeded naturally within the first six (6) teams. Otherwise,

the best ranked host country team will receive Seed #6 in Pool F.

- The remaining host country teams will be seeded naturally as per their Seeding Points.
- Host country teams shall not be placed in the same pool, while this is possible for foreign teams. If the number of host country teams are equal or less than the number of pools in the tournament, each host country team shall be placed in a different pool respecting their natural seeding position. If there are more host country teams than the number of pools, then the natural seeding will stay in place with minimum one host country team in each pool. That being said, in Challenge tournament, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th (whenever applicable) host country team(s) will have their seed increased (for example from Seed #15 to Seed #16) until they are in different pool then the other host country team(s) should increasing the seed not work (or not be possible), then the seed is reduced (for example from Seed #24 to Seed #23) until the host country is in a different pool.
- The relative seeding of the best six (6) host country teams must be respected and preserved after the host country teams have been placed in separate pools.

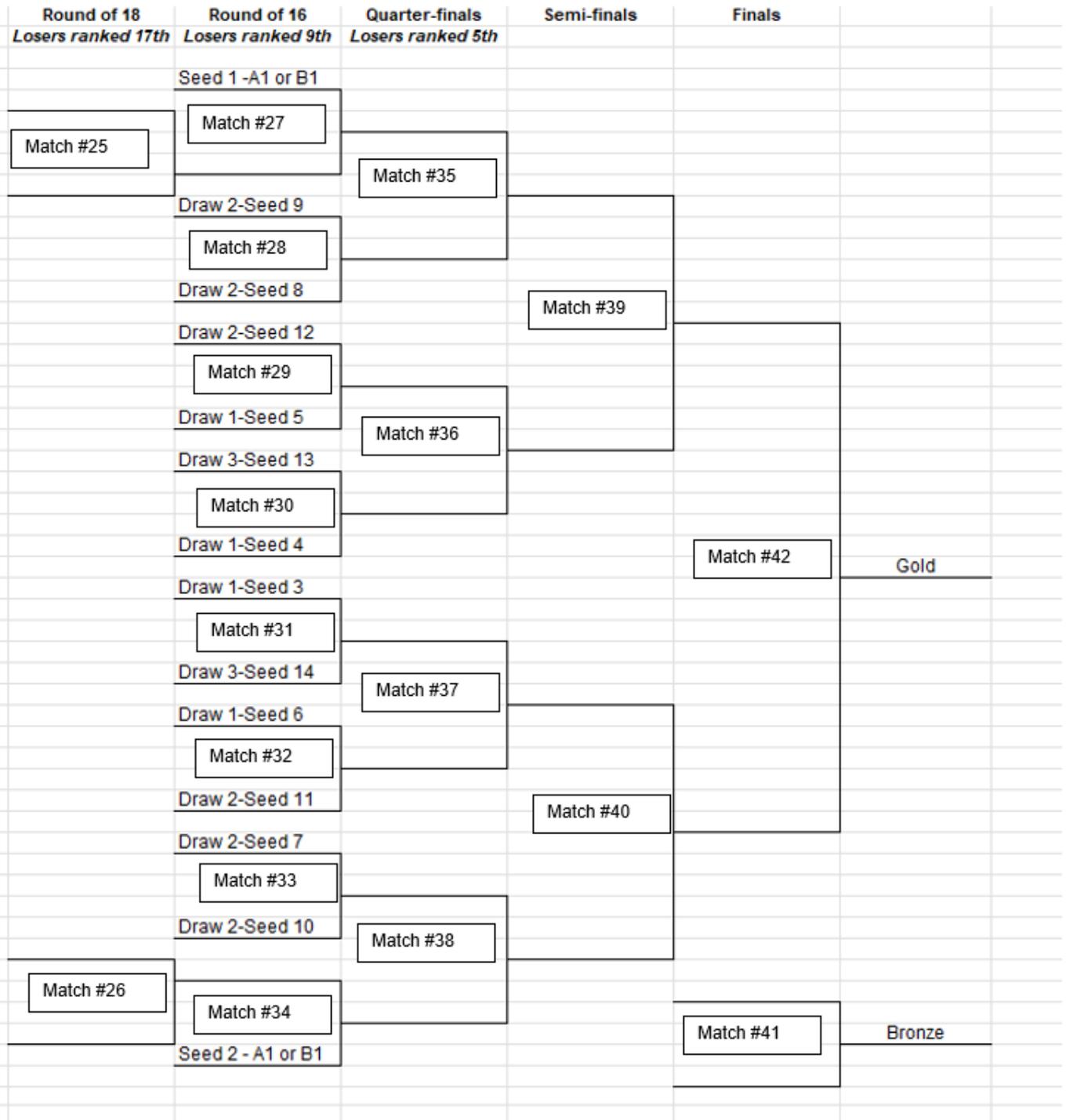
Example: As shown in the below diagram, 8 teams already in the Main Draw from the host country (including the wild cards) are: USA 1 (Seed #1), USA 2 (Seed #2), USA3 (Seed #5), USA4 (Seed #8), USA5 (Seed #11), USA6 (Seed #12), USA7 (Seed #14), USA8 (Seed #17) See below:

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D	Pool E	Pool F
USA 1	USA 2	Seed #3	Seed #4	USA 3	Seed #6
USA 6	USA 5	Seed #10	Seed #9	USA 4	Seed #7
Seed #13	USA 7	Seed #15	Seed #16	USA 8	Seed #18
Seed #24	Seed #23	Seed #22	Seed #21	Seed #20	Seed #19

Based on the above-mentioned principles, the final seeding will be established as follows:

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D	Pool E	Pool F
USA 1	USA 2	Seed #3	Seed #4	USA 3	Seed #6
Seed #15	Seed #13	Seed #10	USA 4	Seed #9	Seed #7
Seed #16	USA 7	USA 5	Seed #18	USA 8	USA 6
Seed #24	Seed #23	Seed #22	Seed #21	Seed #20	Seed #19

- Top 3 teams in each pool qualify for the 18-team playoff



Draw 1: between C1, D1, E1 and F1

Draw 2: between A2, B2, C2, D2, E2 and F2

Draw 3: between the top two teams ranked 3rd from all pools (match points, then set ratio then point ratio)

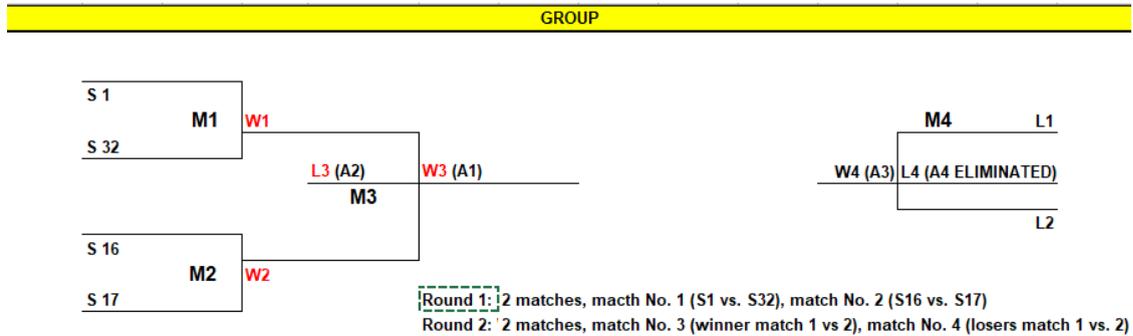
- Seed 1 and Seed 2: Between A1 and B1. A1 or B1 are decided by first by match points, then set ratio followed by rally point ratio, with the higher one seeded #1 and lower one seeded #2.
- Match #25 shall be played between 3rd ranked vs. 6th ranked teams that ranked 3rd from all pools (sorted by match points, then set ratio then point ratio), while Match #26 shall be played between 4th ranked vs. 5th ranked teams that ranked 3rd from all pools (sorted by match points, then set ratio then point ratio).
- Teams from the same pool shall not meet in the round of 18 and round of 16. For clarity, the round of 18 shall be played firstly, and depending on whether the winner of round of 18 is from the same pool as A1/B1, the match-up of match #27 and match #34 may be switched to avoid teams from the same pool playing in the round of 16.

15. VOLLEYBALL WORLD BEACH PRO TOUR – FUTURE

- Qualification Tournament: 16-teams in single elimination format to qualify 4 teams
- 14 Qualification teams enter directly, together with 2 Qualification wild cards teams (if applicable)
- Main Draw: 16-team modified pool play (4 pools of 4 teams following serpentine system)
- 10 Main Draw teams, together with 2 Main Draw wild cards teams enter directly, plus 4 teams advanced from Qualification tournament
- Entry Points at -28 days: best 3 of last 4 events in 365 days
- Seeding Points at -1 day: best 3 of last 4 events in 365 days
- Country quota: see section 2.5
- Continental Quota:
 - Respecting the principle of Universality in the participation of Future tournament, to allow the participation teams (with insufficient entry points to directly enter the tournament) from all five (5) continents, with one (1) quota place per continent that is awarded to the team from such continent with highest entry points.
 - Any team benefit from such regulation of Continental quota will have maximum 24 hours, after the publish of the Confirmed entry list, to confirm to the Continental Confederation managing the Future tournament, with a copy to FIVB at beachvolleyball@fivb.com to confirm the use of such continental quota place, and that the team confirms to participate in this tournament. Failure to confirming this in writing, will result in losing such Continental Quota, and automatically the quota goes to the next highest team for this continent (if any).
- The Main Draw of 16 teams is played in two phases as following:
 - First phase: four (4) pools of four (4) teams playing modified pool play. Top three (3) teams from each pool will advance to the second phase.
 - Second phase: knock-out bracket (12 teams) in single elimination format.

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- For the Pool Phase, matches will be played in the modified pool play competition format i.e. the highest seeded team will play the lowest seeded team in the same pool, while the 2nd highest seeded team will play the 3rd highest seeded team in the same pool. The winners of the above two matches will play each other, with the winner being the 1st ranked team in the pool and the loser being the 2nd ranked team in the pool. The losers of the above two matches will play each other, with the winner being the 3rd ranked team in the pool and the loser being the 4th ranked team in the pool and eliminated from the Pool Phase.



- Seeding of the host country: the best host country team will be seeded #1 in Pool A if the team is among top 4 seeded teams, otherwise, it will be seeded #4 in Pool D. Other host country teams will have their natural seeding.
- The top four (4) host country teams (as per Seeding Points) shall never be placed in the same pool. The 2nd, 3rd and 4th host country team(s) will have their seed increased (for example from Seed #5 to Seed #6) until they are in a different pool than the other top four (4) host country teams. Should increasing the seed not work (or not be possible) then the seed is reduced (for example from Seed #16 to Seed 15) until such host country team is in a different pool. However, for 5th, 6th and any other eventual host country team(s), it is possible to be placed in the same pool with the top four (4) host country teams. The relative seeding of the top four (4) host country teams must be respected while this is not applicable for the 5th, 6th and any other eventual host country teams.

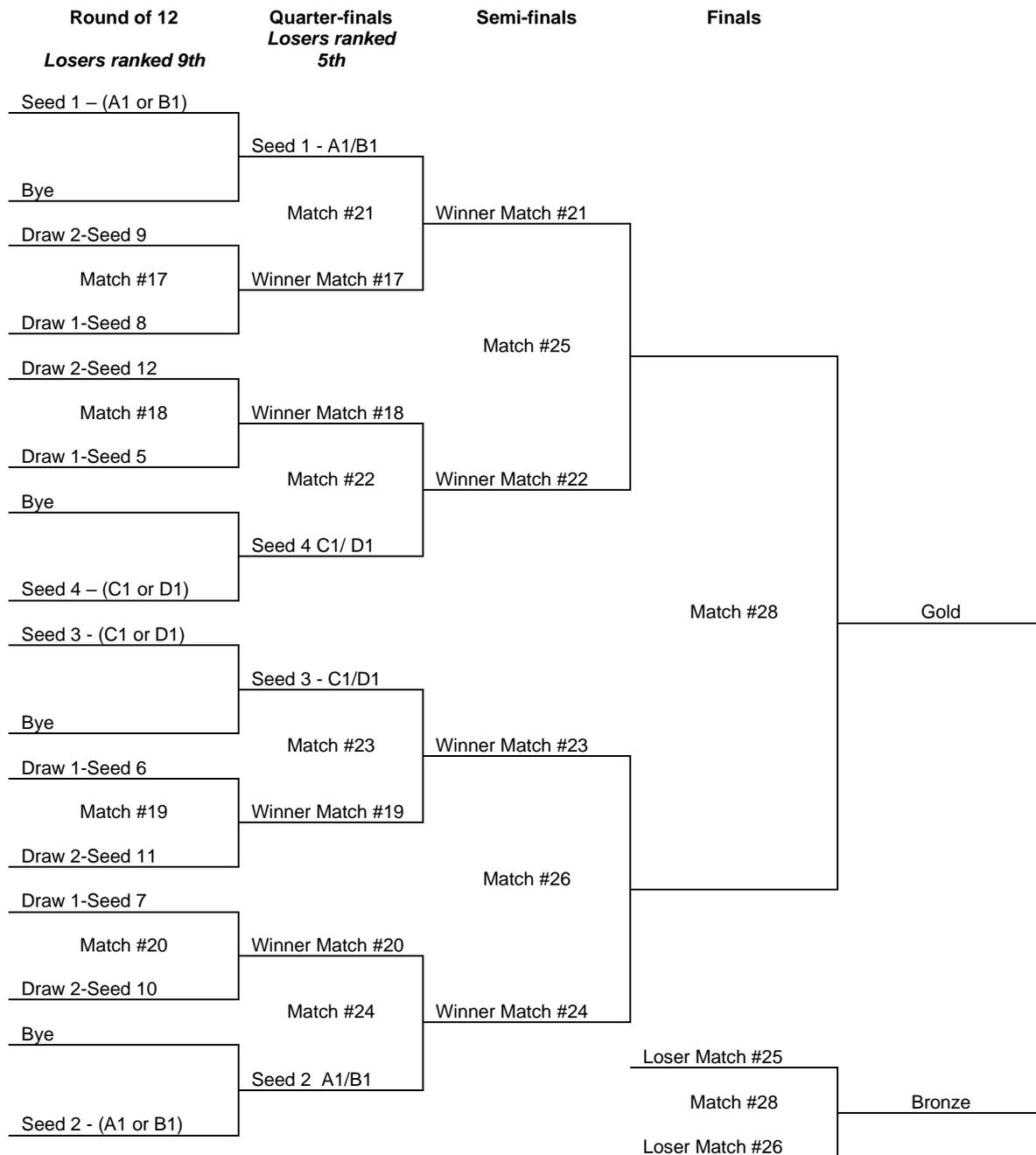
Example: As showed in the below diagram, 8 teams already in the Main Draw from the host country (including wild cards), their seeding positions are AUS 1 (seed #1), AUS 2 (seed #3), AUS 3 (seed #6), AUS 4 (seed #8), AUS 5 (seed #10), AUS 6 (seed #13), AUS 7 (seed #14) and AUS 8 (seed #15)

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
AUS 1	Seed #2	AUS 2	Seed #4
AUS 4	Seed #7	AUS 3	Seed #5
Seed #9	AUS 5	Seed #11	Seed #12
Seed #16	AUS 8	AUS 7	AUS 6

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

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
AUS 1	Seed #2	AUS 2	Seed #4
Seed #9	AUS 3	Seed #7	Seed #5
AUS 5	Seed #11	Seed #12	AUS 4
Seed #16	AUS 8	AUS 7	AUS 6

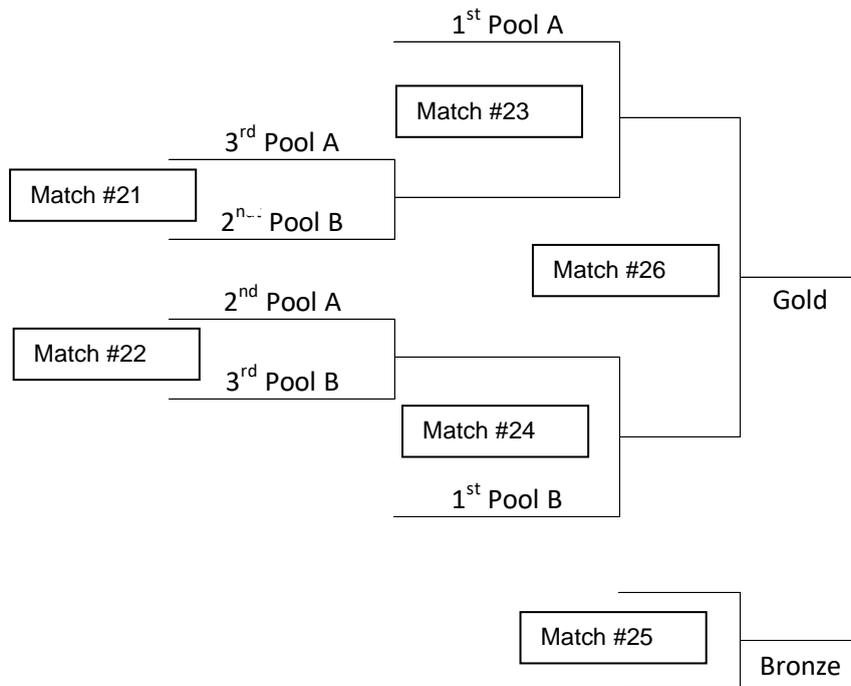
- Top 3 teams in each pool qualify for the 12-team playoff



- Seed 1 and Seed 2: Between A1 and B1. A1 or B1 are decided by first by match points, then set ratio followed by rally point ratio, with the higher one seeded #1 and lower one seeded #2.
- Seed 3 and Seed 4: Between C1 and D1. C1 or D1 are decided by first by match points, then set ratio followed by rally point ratio, with the higher one seeded #3 and lower one seeded #4.
- Draw 1: A2, B2, C2 and D2
- Draw 2: A3, B3, C3 and D3
- Teams from the same pool shall not meet in the first two rounds of Future tournament, i.e. round of 12 and Quarterfinals. However, teams from same NF will be able to play in the first two rounds.

16. VOLLEYBALL WORLD BEACH PRO TOUR – THE FINALS

- Main Draw: 10-team pool play (2 pools of 5 teams following serpentine system)
- Entry/Seeding Points calculated at the day after the last Elite tournament of the same season, as per the FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking.
- For the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Finals, the Confirmed Entry List is based on the eight (8) best teams per gender per the FIVB World Ranking (refer to the Chapter 6 FIVB Beach Volleyball World Ranking Definitions below) of that day, plus two (2) Wild Cards granted at the discretion of FIVB in agreement with the promoter/organiser. Should the Host NF already have one (1) or two (2) teams in the top eight (8) best teams as per the FIVB World Ranking, the next eligible team(s) in the FIVB World Ranking will be picked up.
- 2 Main Draw wild card teams
- Top 3 teams in each pool qualify to the 6-team playoffs
- Country quota: maximum 2 teams per NF
- Seeding of the host country: the best host country team, regardless of its status of wild card, will be seeded#1 in Pool A. The 2nd best ranked host country team will be seeded naturally.
- Main Draw pool play distribution: teams will be placed in the two pools in a serpentine system, except for the seed#9 and #10, which will be reversed. The purpose of doing so is to respect the benefit of the top seeded team.
- Teams from the same country (including host country and foreign countries) will not be placed in the same pool. If the above happens, the 2nd best ranked team of the concerned country, will have its seed increased (for example from seed#3 to seed#4) until the team is in a different pool than the other team from that country. Should increasing the seed not work (or not be possible), then the seed of the team concerned will be reduced (for example from seed#10 to seed#9) until the team is in a different pool.
- In case of a tie in the total number of match points after the completion of pool play, the following rules will apply.
 - Between 2 teams in the same pool: 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 winner of head-to-head match is ranked higher.
 - Between 3 or more teams in the same pool: the ranking is determined by the sum of match points earned in the matches between the tied teams; if still tied, then the teams still tied are ranked by the rally point ratios in the matches between the 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 a tournament seeding.
 - Between 5 or more teams: the ranking is determined by the rally point ratios between all teams in the pool; if still tied, then the ranking is determined by the tournament seeding.
- Main Draw playoff bracket (6 teams): at the end of first phase of pool play, the top ranked team from each pool will directly advance to the semi-finals, while the 2nd ranked and 3rd ranked teams from each pool will play the quarter-finals as followed:



17. FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Main Draw: 48-team pool play (12 pools of 4 teams following serpentine system)
- Entry/Seeding Points: as per specific competition regulations this tournament
- 25 Main Draw teams enter directly, including a minimum of 2 best ranked host country teams (regardless of insufficient entry points), as per ranking points calculated at the date of entry into the tournaments, following the specific competition regulations of this tournament
- 20 Main Draw teams enter directly, following the approved continental confederation’s qualification pathway with 4 teams per gender from each continental confederation.
- 3 Main Draw wild card teams
- Country quota: maximum 4 teams per gender per NF excluding wild cards for the foreign teams and maximum 6 teams per gender excluding wild cards for host teams.
- Main Draw pool phase distribution:

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D	Pool E	Pool F	Pool G	Pool H	Pool I	Pool J	Pool K	Pool L
# 1	# 2	# 3	# 4	# 5	# 6	# 7	# 8	# 9	# 10	# 11	# 12
Draw 2						Draw 1					
Draw 3											
Draw 4											

- Four draws will be conducted as follows: draw 1 is between seed#13 to seed#8 into Pool L to G; draw 2 from seed#19 to seed#24 into pool F to A; draw 3 from seed#25 to seed#36 into Pool A to L; draw 4 from seed#37 to seed#48 into Pool L to A. All is in respect of serpentine system.
- In case of late withdrawals received after the official announcement of seeding list and pool phase match schedule, the withdrawal policy will be implemented as per the specific competition regulations stipulated for this tournament.
- Seeding of the host country teams will be seeded #12 into Pool L if they are below the top 12 pairs in the seeding list. The best host country team will be seeded #1 if they are one of the top 12 pairs in the seeding list. The other host country teams will be placed as per their natural seeding.
- Teams from the host country cannot be placed in the same pool. For teams from other countries, maximum 2 teams from the same country, can be placed in the same pool. In case the third team is drawn to the same pool where 2 teams from the same country already placed, the team will be placed aside, and a new draw will be picked.
- In case of a tie in the total number of match points after the completion of pool play, the following rules will apply.
 - Between 2 teams in the same pool: 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 winner of head-to-head match is ranked higher.
 - Between 3 teams in the same pool: teams are ranked by the rally point ratios in the matches between the three 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 the tournament seeding.
- The first 2 ranked teams from each pool, and the best 4 teams that rank 3rd in their respective pools (first by match points, then by set ratio followed by rally ratio and lastly by tournament seeding established), will advance automatically to the final phase. The 8 remaining 3rd ranked teams in each pool will play a 4-match lucky loser round, i.e. 5th ranked vs. 12th ranked, 6th ranked vs. 11th ranked, 7th ranked vs. 10th ranked, while 8th ranked vs. 9th ranked. The 4 winning teams in the lucky loser round will also qualify for the 32-team playoff.
- The 32-team playoff will follow the single elimination format below:



Draw 1 = 4 x 2nd place teams with best 4 ratios (Match points, rally points)

Draw 2 = 4 x 2nd place teams with ratios 5-8 (Match points, rally points)

Draw 3 = 4 x 2nd place teams with worst 4 ratios (Match points, rally points)

Draw 4 = 4 x 3rd place teams with best 4 ratios (Match points, rally points)

Draw 5 = 4 x Lucky Loser winners

Teams from the same pool can't meet in the first round

18. FIVB BEACH VOLLEYBALL U21 AND U19 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

- The competition specific details are published in the specific competition regulations of these tournaments.

SECTION IV Athlete's Uniform Guidelines

CHAPTER 8 Athlete's Uniform Guidelines

19. DEFINITIONS

- The beach volleyball men's uniform is consisted of a tank top and shorts, as well as eventual accessories.
- The beach volleyball women's uniform consists of different varieties of playing uniforms, including but not limited to the following, as well as eventual accessories:
 - Two pieces uniform (a top and brief/shorts for women);
 - One-piece uniform;
 - Half sleeve top and knee length pants;
 - No sleeve top and shorts;
 - Long sleeve top and long pants;
 - Other style of uniforms preferable by the athletes and acknowledged by the FIVB.
- It is important to note that the athlete is free to wear their preferable style of uniforms, in respecting the uniform guidelines of respective tournaments following specific competition regulations of that tournament (if applicable) and guarantee the space for sponsorship to be displayed at the playing uniforms (if applicable).
- At the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour (Elite/Challenge/Future/Finals) and FIVB Beach Volleyball Senior World Championships, FIVB/Volleyball World will provide the playing tops to all participating athletes. Should any athlete prefer to wear playing tops in a different style than the official playing tops provided, a request can be submitted to the FIVB before the start of the tournament (-28 days before prior to the tournament).
- It is highly recommended that both athletes of the same team wear the uniform of same style, however this is not mandatory, e.g. one athlete can wear long sleeve and long pant for his/her consideration of medical condition/weather condition, while the partner can wear tops and shorts.
- It is mandatory though to wear uniform of same color.

20. EXAMPLE OF UNIFORM STYLE

- The below diagram shows the example of different uniform options above mentioned.

Example One:

Already printed for 4-5* events
For 1-3*events: FIVB logo to be printed by the organizers Manufacturer logo to be approved by FIVB.
Players Number H8 x W6cm
Country Name Abbreviation H8 x W12cm
Promoter Sponsor A 300cm ²
Already Printed for 4-5* events
For 1-3*events: FIVB logo to be printed by the organizers
Players Number H8 x W10cm
Country Name Abbreviation H8 x W12cm
Players Name Should fit the design
Promoter Sponsor B 300cm ²

Uniforms Guide – 2019/2020

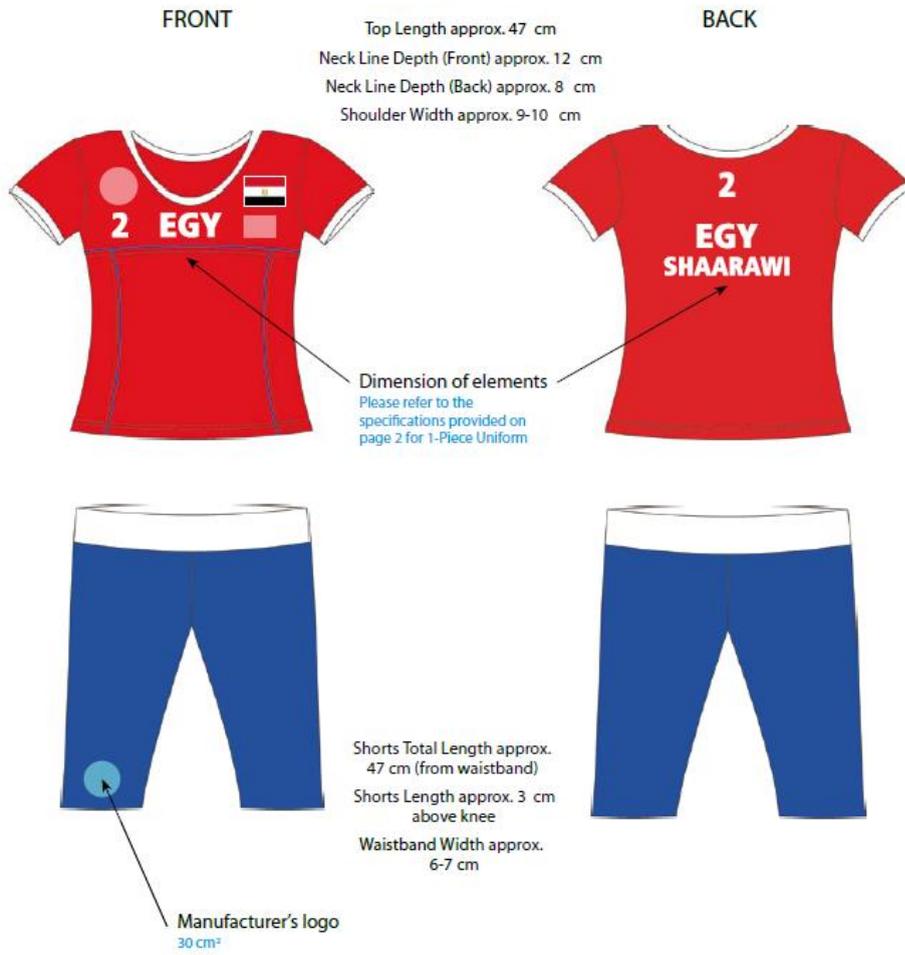
Promoter Sponsor B Approx 25,5cm ² = W8,5 x H3cm
Players Number W2,5 x H5,5cm
Country Name Abbreviation W6 x H3cm
Promoter Sponsor A 90cm ²
Already printed for 4-5* events
For 1-3*events: FIVB logo to be printed by the organizers. Manufacturer logo to be approved by FIVB.
Already printed for 4-5* events
For 1-3*events: FIVB logo to be printed by the organizers
Players Number W2,5 x H5,5cm
Country Name Abbreviation W6 x H3cm
Players Name Should fit the design

3des

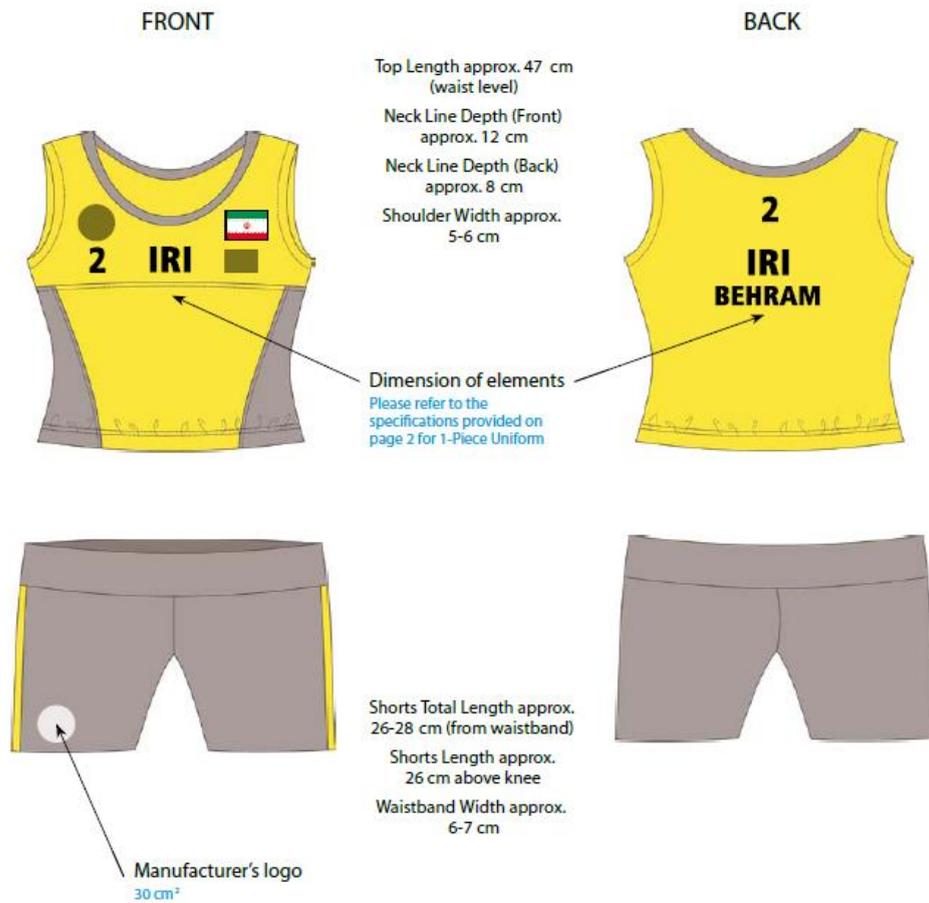
Example Two:



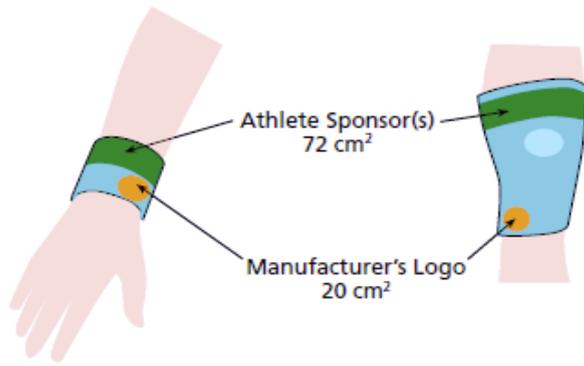
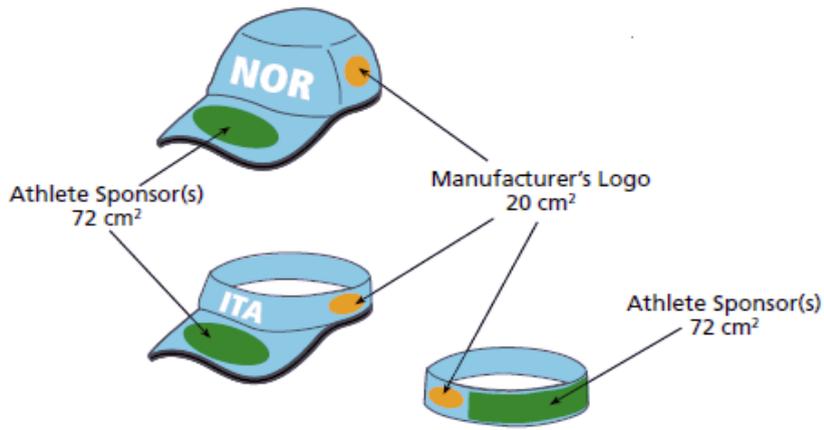
Example Three:



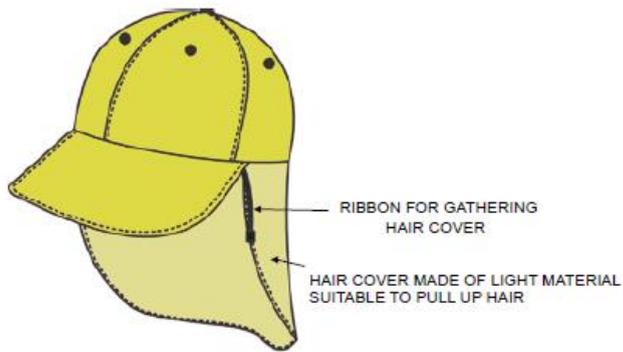
Example Four:



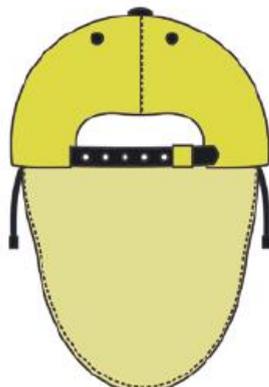
Example of Accessories:



WOMEN'S CAP FRONT VIEW



WOMEN'S CAP BACK VIEW



SECTION V Special Sanctions Related to the Players

CHAPTER 9 Responsibilities of the Players

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

Monetary Fine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scale of fines; • Athlete acknowledges the fines.
Suspension for a time period	<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>

22. RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Athlete must be fully aware of the Official Beach Volleyball Rules and the FIVB Beach Volleyball Sport Regulations, Player Participation Agreement, FIVB Beach Volleyball Sport Operations Manual, Specific Competition Regulation, and the Disciplinary and Medical Regulations.
- The FIVB Disciplinary Regulations is available on the FIVB website as follows: <https://www.fivb.com/en/thefivb/legal>
- The FIVB Medical & Anti-doping Regulations is available on the FIVB website as follows: <https://www.fivb.com/en/medical/education/anti-doping>
- 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 whenever necessary, 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 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 Sport Regulations, Player Participation Agreement and FIVB Beach Volleyball Sport Operations 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), Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour (Elite/Challenge/Future/Finals).

CHAPTER 10 Special Sanctions

23. 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 Player Participation Agreement & Health Certificate.
 - Complete successfully the FIVB Anti-Doping Education Program.
 - Complete successfully the FIVB Prevention of Competition Manipulation E-Course
 - 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. However, the team will be placed at the end of reserve list.
 - USD 1,000 per team for senior events, including the FIVB Senior World Championships, Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour (Elite/Challenge/Future), etc.
 - USD 200 per team for age group events, including the FIVB U21 & U19 World Championships, etc.

24. SANCTIONS RELATED TO THE WITHDRAWALS

Please refer to Chapter 2 Withdrawal/Change of Athletes for the sanctions.

25. 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 subject to the sanction scale establish by their affiliated National Federation.
- 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) may be sanctioned by

FIVB with period of ineligibility from any FIVB competitions and/or a fine for a major offence. Each NF must contact the FIVB in case of any doubt in regard to the procedures for the enrolment of their athletes in a specific event. A list of FIVB approved events is posted on the FIVB/Volleyball World website.

- Athletes are required to exit the center court and side court through the mixed zone area when requested. Athletes not following the FIVB delegate's instruction will be fined of USD 500 per incident per athlete.
- Athletes who perform media interviews immediately after a match without the official athlete's top supplied by the FIVB or organiser's 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 Coach or FIVB Technical Delegate if the Referee Coach 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 Coach 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.

26. 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

27. 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

28. SANCTIONS RELATED TO MEDICAL RELATED VIOLATIONS

- As per the decision of FIVB World Congress in Cancun, Mexico, the Medical Timeout only covers significant blood related injury to be treated on the court for a maximum of 5 minutes.
- There will be no limit on the number of medical timeouts awarded to a given athletes in the season.
- For any significant traumatic injury that occurs during the match (e.g. player hitting the net pole or the referee stand; contact between players; player being hit by the ball, etc.), the first referee can authorize a Recovery Interruption (RIT) that can last up to 5 minutes total. After the designated time has expired, the player needs to decide whether to resume play or forfeiting the match.
- A maximum of two (2) "Recovery interruption" due to illness in relation to Severe Weather conditions, or use of toilet, per athlete within a rolling 12-month period are allowed. Additional use of "Recovery interruption" by a given athlete due the reasons above will be sanctioned according to the following monetary fee scale:
 - USD 1,000 for 3rd "Recovery interruption" within a rolling 12-month period;
 - USD 2,000 for 4th "Recovery interruption" within a rolling 12-month period;
 - USD 3,000 for 5 or more "Recovery interruption" within a rolling 12-month period

29. SANCTIONS RELATED TO UNIFORM AND ACCESSORY VIOLATIONS

- 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. 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 recommended that the team name must be printed on the shorts/briefs. It is not compulsory and no sanctions will be applied.

CHAPTER 11 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.