



# **2020 Beach Nationals Handbook - Youth**

**Ashbridges Bay | Toronto, Ontario**

**August 14 - 16, 2020**



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Beach Nationals is an open event, hosted in two major categories, Youth and Senior. The event focuses on providing a competitive environment for athletes and allows them to compete against elite players from across the country for the title of National Champion! This year, the city of Toronto is honoured to host the 2020 Beach Nationals at Ashbridges Bay.

In addition, the 2020 event will be attended by Steve Anderson and Adriana Bento Volleyball Canada's Next Gen Head Coaches. Steve and Adriana will be available throughout the weekend to discuss the National Team programs.

## Technical Organisation

### 01

## Eligibility

All athletes wishing to participate in Nationals are required to participate in their respective Provincial and Territorial Association (PTA) Championship. Exemptions may be granted in the following cases:

1. If the team members are participating in a VC sanctioned event or program, which include:
  - a. NORCECA or FIVB circuit
  - b. Canada Cup
  - c. Provincial Team programs
  - d. Canada Games
  - e. Member of the National Team
2. Extenuating circumstances, which will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Any athlete wishing to request an exemption is required to fill out the [2020 Beach Nationals Exemption Form](#) with their request by **Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>**. *Please refer to Appendix A for a summary of important dates to remember.*

### 02

## Age Categories

The 2020 Youth Beach Nationals will feature six age categories:

**20U:** Athletes born September 1, 1999 or younger.

**18U:** Athletes born September 1, 2001 or younger. \*FIVB U19 WC Selection Event\*



**17U:** Athletes born September 1, 2002 or younger. **\*NEW\***

**16U:** Athletes born September 1, 2003 or younger.

**15U:** Athletes born September 1, 2004 or younger. **\*NEW\***

**14U:** Athletes born September 1, 2005 or younger.

**\*NEW\* Expanded Age Division Pilot:** In an effort to offer additional developmental opportunities for beach athletes, Beach Nationals will see the inclusion of three (3) new age-categories to be piloted at the 2020 event.

The new age divisions are:

- 17U Boys
- 17U Girls
- 15U Boys

Please note, Beach Nationals Minimum Entry Requirements (8 teams) will apply for these pilot events.

**FIVB U19 WC Selection Event:** The 2020 U18 Beach Nationals events will be used as selection tournaments to determine the teams nominated to compete at the 2020 FIVB U19 Beach Volleyball World Championships. For questions pertaining specifically to the 2020 FIVB U19 World Championships, or the nomination process, please contact Ryan Aktari, Beach High Performance Coordinator at [raktari@volleyball.ca](mailto:raktari@volleyball.ca)

**Playing Up:** Athletes may play up to an older age category if they choose to, or if their age division is not offered. Please refer to the Age Categories Chart located in Appendix B or on the [Beach Nationals event page](#).

**Minimum Entry Requirements:** VC reserves the right to combine or cancel any age-groups with fewer than eight (8) teams registered. In these situations, players would be provided the opportunity to withdraw, with a full refund, or play-up an age-category.



03

## Registration

All teams must register at [register.volleyball.ca](http://register.volleyball.ca). Registration dates and fees can be found below:

### 3.1 Deadlines & Fees

**Registration Opens:** Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM ET

**Early Bird Deadline:** Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM ET

**Registration Deadline:** Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:59 PM ET\*

\*Late entries are subject to a \$75 late registration fee (per team). Volleyball Canada reserves the right to accept teams after the deadline if it benefits the tournament draws and/or refuse late entry to teams if it is to the detriment of the tournament draw. Late registrations will **not** be considered after August 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:01 PM ET.

Registration is open on a first come, first serve basis – there are no spots reserved.

<b>Early Bird Price</b>	June 16 <sup>th</sup> – July 7 <sup>th</sup>	\$235
<b>Regular Price</b>	July 8 <sup>th</sup> – August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$285

**Note:** Teams should register according to the above stated deadlines. You can register for Nationals prior to participating in your Provincial and Territorial Association (PTA) championship.

### 3.2 Wait List

VC has the right to put a limit to the number of teams allowed in each category. Should one event fill, a wait list will be maintained for the extra teams. If a registered team withdraws from the event, or draws are expanded, teams on the wait list will be contacted and given the opportunity to register.

### 3.3 Withdrawals

Any team wishing to withdraw from Nationals, needs to complete the [Team Withdrawal Form](#). Refunds will be issued based on the following timelines.

**Withdrawal before registration deadline:**

Teams who withdraw before the registration deadline (Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:59PM) will be refunded their registration fee, less a \$50 admin fee.



### **Withdrawal after registration deadline:**

If a team withdraws from the event after the registration deadline (Monday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:00 AM), NO reimbursement will be issued.

**Note:** The effects of the withdrawal of a team on the tournament schedule will be reviewed by the Tournament Committee. Please note that late withdrawals may affect the schedule.

### **3.4 Partner Change Request**

If a partner change is required prior to tournament check-in, players must complete the online [Partner Change Request Form](#) found on the Beach Nationals tournament page. Players/Coaches will be required to submit the below information.

- Name of person submitting change and contact info
- Original team' s full names
- Division/Age-Group of original team
- New team' s full names
- Division/Age-Group of new team
- Reason for Change

### **3.5 Team Uniforms**

All teams registered for the event will receive a team uniform that must be worn for all matches. VC will make every attempt to fulfill size requests, however, sizing cannot be guaranteed.

**Women:** players will be able to choose between a lululemon sport bra or tank top.

**Men:** players will receive a lululemon tank top.

**Other Uniform Options:** In addition to the jerseys provided by VC, teams may wear any other matching lululemon tanks or bras. These must not have any additional branding on them other than the lululemon or Volleyball Canada logos. If athletes are seen wearing uniforms that do not meet these requirements, they will be asked to change into their VC provided clothing.

### **Cold Weather Uniforms:**

In cold temperatures and wet conditions, athletes are permitted to wear additional compression-style clothing under their team uniforms. These items should be consistent in style, fabric and colour for both athletes.

Approval must be granted by the referees or by the VC Tournament Committee.



## 04

# Competition Format

The competition will run with two days of pool play followed by one day of single-elimination playoff matches. This format could vary based on the number of teams registered. All teams are guaranteed their pool rounds and at least one playoff match.

- Day 1** August 13<sup>th</sup> Pool Play
- Day 2** August 14<sup>th</sup> Power Pools
- Day 3** August 15<sup>th</sup> Playoffs (single elimination)

### 4.1 Format of Play

Match play – best 2 out of 3, with first 2 games to 21 points. A third game (if necessary) will be to 15. This format could change at the discretion of VC.

## 05

# Competition Equipment

### 5.1 Official Ball

The official game ball supplier for Beach Nationals is Wilson.

### 5.2 Net Height

	Female	Male
Net Heights (in meters)	14U: 2.15	14U: 2.20
	15U/16U: 2.20	15U/16U: 2.35
	17U/18U/20U: 2.24	17U/18U/20U: 2.43

### 5.3 Line Width

For VC Beach Nationals width of lines is 2.5 - 8.0cm. *Please refer to the Rules & Regulations section for a full description of the FIVB Official Beach Volleyball Rules and any Volleyball Canada variations.*

## 06

# Team Check-In & Player's Meeting

Team check-in will occur on Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 1:00PM until 7:00PM. The team check-in location will be posted on the [2020 Beach Nationals webpage](#) prior to the event date.



Please note that all athletes must provide photo identification when checking in (original/copy of driver's license, health card, or passport). A team representative may also check a team in, as long as they have a copy of their IDs and assume responsibility for player uniforms. Both athletes do not need to be present in order to check in.

**If for some reason you are unable to attend team check-in, please let us know by Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at [nationals@volleyball.ca](mailto:nationals@volleyball.ca).**

### **6.1 Players' Meeting**

The players meeting for Youth Beach Nationals will occur at 9am\* on Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. This meeting is **MANDATORY** for all players and will cover the tournament format, as well as Beach Nationals policies and regulations.

\*Note, this time could change based on scheduling requirements.

### **6.2 Practice Opportunity**

Teams are welcome to practice on the courts from 1:00PM to 5:00PM on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> on a first come, first served basis. The courts will **NOT** be available for practice in the evening due to the local league.

## **07**

# **Referees**

### **7.1 Player Referees**

All teams will be required to help score and officiate matches throughout the tournament. A schedule will be issued detailing when you play and when you are expected to officiate each day. Please note, this will include duties after the match you are eliminated.

Failure to show up to your refereeing assignment will result in a \$50 fine to the team. If a team is not able to complete their referee assignment, they must identify another team to referee on their behalf and notify the Control Tent (as soon as possible) of the change.

### **7.2 Court Supervisors**

Court Supervisors (official Volleyball Canada referees) will be walking around throughout the competition. If there is an issue on your court, please see a court supervisor immediately before resuming play.





**Note:** More information on Court Supervisors will be provided during the players' meeting.

**08**

## Medical Services

Medical services will be available on-site during the tournament from Thursday through Sunday. You will find the medical tent located beside the Volleyball Canada control tent. Free taping and medical service will be available to all participants.

For information on our Concussion Policy, please refer to Section 17, VC Policies, section below.

## Competition Regulations

**09**

### Seeding

**Important Notice:** The Beach Nationals Youth Seeding Policy has been revised for the 2020 event. Please refer to *Appendix C, Beach Nationals Youth Seeding Policy*, or the [Beach Nationals webpage](#), to review the new seeding process.

**10**

### Schedules

All **FINAL** tournament schedules will be available online at <http://www.iset.net> after check in has finished, on Thursday, August 13<sup>th</sup> 2020.

Draft master schedules can be found on the Beach Nationals page on the VC Website.

- All matches have pre-assigned start times. No match is to start prior to the pre-assigned start time without approval from VC.

Should a court run late, the next match will start 10 minutes after the end of the previous match.

#### 10.1 Scheduled Breaks

Volleyball Canada will attempt to schedule a mid-day break on each day of the tournament. If at any time, however, play should fall behind schedule, these breaks will be played through to ensure all matches complete before 5pm when Volleyball Canada's rental agreement ends. It is



each player' s responsibility to ensure they are aware of the matches on court, and the order of play, to ensure they are ready for their match.

## 11

### Sanctions

A team or an individual may be sanctioned, including fines, if any of the following infractions occur while the team is participating at Beach Nationals:

- The accommodation facilities or tournament facilities are deliberately damaged by a member of their team.
- The tournament equipment is deliberately damaged by any member of their team.
- The Volleyball Canada Code of Conduct is violated in any way.
- The FIVB Official Rulebook, and Volleyball Canada Rule Variations are violated in any way.
- A team does not fulfill its competitive obligations to an event. If for some reason your team is unable to attend an event that they have registered for or is unable to attend a game that they are scheduled for, it is the team' s responsibility to notify a VC representative as soon as possible.
- Any other infraction that the Beach Nationals Committee deems to be detrimental to the event and/or its participants.

#### 11.1 Sanctions/Payments

In addition to performance bond related sanctions listed above, Volleyball Canada also has the following sanctions/payments in place for all VC Beach Nationals:

- \$50.00 fine for missing a Referee Assignment
- \$50.00 cash to lodge an official protest

#### 11.2 Bad Standing

A team or player that is sanctioned in any way because of an infraction related to a VC Beach Nationals will be placed in bad standing with VC and their respective PTA. The team or club will remain in bad standing until the sanction has been removed or paid in full to Volleyball Canada. While a team or club is in bad standing they will not be able to register for any events sanctioned by their PTA or VC.



## 12

### Protests

In case of an incident during a match, the protest has to be requested at the moment the incident occurs, before play resumes. Please remember that NO match will be replayed, as protests have to be placed at the moment of the incident.

A fee of \$50 must be provided in cash immediately to the Tournament Desk in order for the protest to be assessed. The funds will be returned if the protest is upheld; however, if it is overturned, the funds will go towards referee development.

- The player must lodge the protest immediately to the first referee who will then indicate to the scorekeeper that a protest has been lodged and play must stop immediately.
- The protest is then referred to the appropriate higher authority (i.e. Head Officials) for acceptance or refusal.
  - Refusal means that the game or match continues or result stands as played.
  - Acceptance involves replaying of the point/set/match in whole or in part depending on the judgment and on the next available court allocated by the ground jury.

For further explanation, please refer to [Protest Policy here](#).

#### 12.1 Types of Issues

The following types of issues can be protested or appealed:

- An improper decision by the referee who did not apply the rules or regulations.
- An improper decision of the scorer who made a mistake on the rotational order or on the score.
- Please note that judgement calls cannot be protested. A referee' s decision regarding a playing action (i.e. ball handling or misconduct) cannot be protested.
- The protest will be accepted or rejected prior to the resumption of play by the Tournament Committee.



## 13

### Results

Match times and results can be found on [ISET Sports](#).

You can follow your team on ISET for team-specific updates:

- Step 1 – Go to the ‘Teams’ tab of the event page (once available)
- Step 2 – Click on your team name to open your team profile
- Step 3 – Click on ‘Get Updates’ and subscribe to get email updates, including competition scores for your team

## 14

### Tie Breakers

Tie-breaking procedures after pool play has been completed will be broken by the following procedures in priority order. ONLY tied teams are taken into consideration.

- **Tie between two teams:**
  - The team with the higher rally point ratio in the matches between all teams in the pool is ranked higher.
  - If still tied, then the winner of the head-to-head match is ranked higher.
- **Tie between three teams:**
  - The ranking is determined by the rally point ratio in the matches between the three (3) tied teams;
  - If still tied, then the teams still tied are ranked by the rally point ratios between all teams in the pool.
  - If still tied, then the ranking of teams still tied is determined by the tournament seeding.

## 15

### Coaching

**Important Notice:** Coaching requirements will be further established prior to the 2020 Nationals.

Once formalised the new regulations will be communicated to all members and updated on the website and within this handbook.



16

## Anti-Doping

Following the guidelines of the Canadian Center for Ethics in Sports (CCES), any Canadian athlete competing at a National or International level can be tested for banned and/or illegal substances. It is the athlete's responsibility to be aware of and comply with CCES anti-doping policies.

Consult the website for more information: [www.cces.ca](http://www.cces.ca)

17

## Rules of the Game

The FIVB Official Beach Volleyball Rules 2017-2020 will be used for the 2020 Beach Volleyball Nationals with the exception of the Volleyball Canada variations. A few notable variations for Youth are included below. Please refer to the Volleyball Canada website for a full description of all rule variations.

### 17.1 Beach Hand Setting Rule

As of 2019, all 16U and younger age-categories will follow Volleyball Canada's Beach Hand Setting Rule.

*A player may have a double contact on their second contact when completing a set to their teammate using an overhand pass provided the ball has a trajectory perpendicular to the line of the player's hands, shoulders, and hips (ie. The player is being "square" ) and the double contact involves only the hands.*

### 17.2 Service Rules (16U and Younger)

After a team loses service, the last player to serve for that team, at the moment of service by the opposing team, must be positioned closer to the right sideline than their teammate. This requirement must be followed until that team regains the right to serve. During the rally each athlete has the right to position him/herself anywhere on the court. Outcome for violation: 1. Official ends rally immediately upon contact by the server. 2. Point awarded to the serving team.



### **17.3 Beach First Contact Rule (16U and younger)**

Volleyball Canada, 16U and younger competitions, receiving serve or a first contact with an overhand motion using the fingers (volleying/setting) is not permitted, regardless of the quality of the contact. The first referee will use the "double-contact" signal to indicate this infraction.

## **18**

# **Volleyball Canada Policies**

Please refer to the links below for full descriptions of Volleyball Canada's Beach Nationals policies.

### **18.1 [Suspended Play](#)**

For information on inclement weather, extraordinary circumstances, safety concerns, and other discretionary reason to clear the beach (i.e. darkness).

### **18.2 [Extreme Heat](#)**

For information on how we respond to extreme weather conditions.

### **18.3 [Concussion Policy](#)**

For information on the measures implemented at all VC Nationals. For details on the [Concussion Management Pathway](#) [click here](#).

### **18.4 [Code of Conduct](#)**

For the official Volleyball Canada Code of Conduct Policy.

### **18.5 [Discipline & Complaints](#)**

For information on the discipline and complaints process.

### **18.6 [Protest Policy](#)**

For full details on the procedure and criteria when evaluating a protest.

## **19**

# **Tournament Committee**

The Beach Tournament Committee will consist of three (3) individuals:

- Tournament Director;
- Tournament Referee Supervisor; and a
- Volleyball Canada Representative.



## 19.1 Committee Authority

The Tournament Committee has the highest level of authority at Nationals and its decisions take precedence and cannot be appealed. They are in place to evaluate complaints and render decisions regarding issues that arise about the event organization and all technical matters.

Tournament Committee may be called upon to make decisions on, but not limited to, any of the following matters:

- Competition Protests
- Player Eligibility
- Uniforms
- Spectators
- Playing surface/area
- Schedules and Draws

## 20

### Safe Sport

Volleyball Canada is committed to providing a safe sport environment for all our participants.

If you are a victim or witness of criminal behavior, please contact your local law enforcement agency or dial 911 in emergencies. The Government of Canada has also provided a designated contact line to report abuse in sport:





## Appendix A

# Important Dates

Item	Deadline/Date	Additional Information
Registration Open	Tuesday, June 16 <sup>th</sup> 12:00 PM ET	
Early Bird Deadline	Tuesday, July 7 <sup>th</sup> By 5:00PM ET	
Registration Deadline	Sunday, August 2 <sup>nd</sup> 11:59PM ET	
Exemption Form	Tuesday, August 4 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="#">Exemption Form</a>
Unable to attend Team Check-in	Tuesday, August 4 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="mailto:nationals@volleyball.ca">nationals@volleyball.ca</a>
Withdrawal	Sunday, August 2 <sup>nd</sup> By 11:59PM ET	Less a \$50 administration fee No refund after Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 12:00AM ET
Practice Opportunity	Thursday August 13 <sup>th</sup> 1:00PM – 5:00PM ET	No Practice available after 5:00PM
Team Check-in	Thursday, August 13 <sup>th</sup> 1:00PM – 7:00PM ET	
Final Tournament Schedules	Thursday, August 13 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="#">Beach Nationals Website</a> , ISET
Mandatory Meeting (Youth Only)	Friday August 14 <sup>th</sup> , 9AM*	At VC Control Tent *Meeting time subject to change if schedule requires it.





**Appendix B**

## 2020 Beach Nationals Age Categories

	Senior	20U	18U	17U*	16U	15U*	14U
<b>Sept</b>	OPEN	1999	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>Oct</b>		1999	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>Nov</b>		1999	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>Dec</b>		1999	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
<b>Jan</b>		2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Feb</b>		2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Mar</b>		2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Apr</b>		2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>May</b>		2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>June</b>		2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>July</b>		2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Aug</b>		2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Sept</b>		2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Oct</b>		2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Nov</b>		2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Dec</b>		2000	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006

**\*NEW\* Expanded Age Divisions Pilot**

In an effort to offer additional developmental opportunities for beach athletes, Beach Nationals will see the inclusion of three (3) new age-categories to be piloted at the 2020 event. The new age divisions are: 17U Boys, 17U Girls and 15U Boys.

Please note, Beach Nationals minimum registration requirements (8 teams) will apply for these pilot events.

**20U: Athletes born on September 1, 1999 or younger. (16 months)**

**18U: Athletes born on September 1, 2001 or younger. (16 months)**

**17U: Athletes born on September 1, 2002 or younger. (16 months)**

**16U: Athletes born on September 1, 2003 or younger. (16 months)**

**15U: Athletes born on September 1, 2004 or younger. (16 months)**

**14U: Athletes born on September 1, 2005 or younger. (16 months)**



## Appendix C

# Beach Nationals Youth Seeding Policy

The following document summarizes the methods used to seed participating teams in the Volleyball Canada Youth Beach National Championships. Rankings are provided by Provincial/Territorial Associations (PTAs) based on final placings at Provincial Championships. PTAs are required to break any ties in placement.

Volleyball Canada reserves the right to adjust the seeding in an effort to offer the best competition experience to participating teams.

## 1.0

# Seeding

Seeding of all youth divisions will be done according to the following principles:

**Step 1:** The top four (4) placements of all age-categories will be determined by the standings of the previous year's Beach Nationals, from the age-group directly preceding it. The following provides a break down for each age group:

- U20 will be determined by the previous year's U18 results.
- U18 will be determined by the previous year's U17 results.
- U17 will be determined by the previous year's U16 results.
- U16 will be determined by the previous year's U15 results.
- U15 will be determined by the previous year's U14 results.
- U14 age-categories will skip this step, and move directly to Step 2 for seeding.

\* To be eligible for this PTA berth, and to receive the seed, teams from these provinces will need to meet the following requirements.

- Teams from ON must have finished in the Top 8 of their PTA Championship to be seeded in the pre allocated top 4 at the VC Beach National Championships.
- All other provinces must have placed in the top 5 of their PTA Championship to be seeded in the pre allocated top 4 at the VC Beach National Championships.

Provincial allocations in the top four (4) will be removed if there are not sufficient teams from that PTA who meet the above listed requirements participating in the event.

**Step 2:** The remaining teams, not seeded in Step 1, will then be seeded in the following sequence. In the event of a tie, i.e. multiple teams qualify in each substep, the order will be determined via the tiebreaking procedure as per section *1.1 Tie-Breaking Procedure*.

1. The PTA Champions from the following 4 provinces: AB, BC, ON, QC
2. The PTA Silver Medalists from the following 4 provinces: AB, BC, ON, QC
3. The PTA Bronze Medalists from the following 4 provinces: AB, BC, ON, QC
4. The PTA Champions from the following 6 provinces: MB, NS, NB, NL, PEI, SK
5. The PTA Silver Medalists from the following 6 provinces: MB, NS, NB, NL, PEI, SK



**Step 3:** Any PTAs or territories not yet represented through the first two (2) steps will receive one (1) placement.

**Step 4:** The first three (3) steps will provide the order of provincial (PTA) seeds to be used for the remainder of the seeding process. This order will be repeated, as necessary, until all registered teams are seeded.

*Note 1:* If an age category is newly added, i.e. doesn't have results from the previous year, Step 1 is removed and seeding will begin with Step 2.

*Note 2:* Teams who have received an exemption from their PTA Provincial Championships, and therefore do not hold a PTA ranking, will be assigned one to assure a balanced tournament. The ranking will be decided based on previous tournament performances with input from the team's PTA.

## 1.1

# Tie-Breaking Procedure

Ties will be broken by the following criteria:

- 1) Order of highest final standing of the PTA at the previous year's VC Beach National Championships.
- 2) Greater number of teams from the PTA in Tier 1 of that age-group at the previous year's VC Beach National Championships.
- 3) Greater number of teams from the PTA in all tiers of that age-group at the previous year's VC Beach National Championships.
- 4) If still tied, a draw will determine the seed.