

2023 Volleyball Canada Youth Beach Nationals Competition Guide



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Table of Contents

2023 Beach Nationals Overview.....	3
Beach Nationals’ COVID-19 Considerations	3
Eligibility & Registration.....	3
Team Registration.....	3
Foreign Participation.....	6
Coach Certification Policy.....	7
Age Categories.....	8
Competition Regulations & Participation Information.....	8
Hosting Guidelines.....	9
Rules of the Game.....	9
Team & Coach Check-in.....	10
Practice Times.....	11
Players Meeting.....	11
Referees.....	11
Competition Ball & Uniforms.....	11
Competition Management.....	12
Schedules & Seeding.....	12
Medical.....	14
Awards.....	15
Sanctions.....	15
Protest & Appeal Process.....	16
Scouting and Recruiting.....	17
Code of Conduct & Policies.....	17
Safe Sport.....	17



2023 Beach Nationals Overview

Volleyball Canada (VC) will host two events with 14U-16U categories to provide regional access to teams, while 17U-20U age categories will be held together with the Senior competition in Toronto.

Tournament Dates	Check-In Opens	City	Age/Gender	Venue
August 18 - 20	August 17 th	Toronto	14U-20U B&G, Senior M/W	Ashbridges Bay
August 25 - 27	August 24 th	Vancouver	14U-16U B&G	Spanish Banks East

Beach Nationals' COVID-19 Considerations

VC will continue to follow Governmental and Public Health guidelines regarding covid-19 precautions and mandates. Changes to event protocols may be required leading up to the 2023 Nationals to ensure the health and safety of all participants; any changes will be noted on the event webpage at that time.

Eligibility & Registration

This section deals with the registration, certification, and eligibility requirements for all Beach Nationals events. These requirements are in place to ensure an equal competitive structure.

01

Team Registration

1.1 Players: A team in any age category must have two (2) players on the team roster.

In order to be eligible to participate in Beach Nationals, each athlete on the official roster must be registered as a Youth Competitive Player with their respective Provincial/Territorial Association (PTA) and with VC. Players can only appear on one roster (one age category) per event.

1.2 Team Personnel

Person(s) in Authority (PIA): This is the individual/parent responsible for the on-site management of the team at Beach Nationals. This individual must be certified in accordance with VC's Safe Sport requirements below.

All 14U-18U teams must include a PIA during registration. Changes to the PIA can be made after registration by submitting a Team Personnel Change Form online. Please refer to the event webpage for details.

Mandatory Requirements for Person(s) in Authority (PIA)		
Coaches Association of Canada (CAC) Safe Sport Training	Free	Credit will also be given for equivalent programs recognized by Sport Canada, i.e. Respect in Sport, Activity Leader.
Volleyball Canada Screening Discloser or Canada Record Check (CRC)	Free/Cost Varies	One of either the VC Screening Disclosure Form or a CPC completed within the last 3 years



Coach: The person who is primarily responsible for coaching the team. This individual must be certified in accordance with VC's Safe Sport requirements (See Section 3). If the team does not have a coach traveling with them for Beach Nationals, they may leave this section blank.

- **Important:** Only those coaches identified on the team roster who have met the required Safe Sport coaching requirements will be permitted to provide coaching onsite at Beach Nationals. Please refer to *Section 3.1, Coaching Guidelines*, for details on what types of coaching are permissible.

Team Contact: Each team must list a team contact during the registration process. This person will be responsible for ensuring communication between the team and VC. The Team Contact will not be listed on the Official Roster unless they have a dual role as a coach.

1.3 Annual Membership: All participants (athletes and team personnel) must complete their membership registration process with their respective PTA. By registering with their PTA, these participants will automatically become registered members with VC. Only individuals that are properly registered and in good standing are eligible to take part in competitions sanctioned or hosted by a PTA or VC.

1.4 Province/Territory of Residence: A player/team must purchase their annual membership(s) within the province/territory in which they reside. No player/team is allowed to register with a PTA outside their province of residence without the prior approval of VC and the two (2) PTAs involved. In addition, no player/team is permitted to register with more than one PTA at the same time; players who wish to change PTAs mid-season must receive approval from VC and the PTAs involved.

1.5 Participating at Beach Nationals with an athlete from another PTA: If two athletes, from different PTAs, wish to register as a team together at Beach Nationals the process is as follows:

1. **Submit Request to Play:** Players must submit a Request to Play form to VC. VC will then follow up with the two (2) PTAs involved for approval. Team contacts will receive an email within five (5) to seven (7) business days, with the results of their request.

All forms are located on the Beach Nationals event page.

2. **Register for Beach Nationals:** Once approval has been received from VC, teams may register for Beach Nationals.

Note: Teams may register for Beach Nationals, prior to receiving final approval from VC. However, any teams who are denied, or fail to submit their request to VC, prior to the event withdrawal deadline, will be removed from the draw and their refund will be subject to an administration fee.

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

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
- f. Extenuating circumstances, which will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.



Any athlete wishing to request an exemption is required to submit an **Exemption Form** with their request by **Wednesday, August 9th**. The form can be found on the event webpage.

1.7 Minimum Age: All athletes, coaches and team personnel members that are on the official roster for Beach Nationals must be a minimum of 11 years of age.

1.8 Age Categories: Beach Nationals features seven (7) age-categories for youth from 14U – 20U. Athletes should participate in the age category associated to their Chronological Age Class, unless choosing to play up. See *Section 4* for full details on age categories.

1.9 Registration for teams playing up:

There are no restrictions on teams or athletes playing up an age group at Beach Nationals.

A team “playing up” is defined as a team who is registering to play in an age group that is older than the one they declared for with their PTA during the club season. For example, a team who declares and plays primarily as a 15UB team with their PTA who wants to play in the 16UB Beach Nationals.

1.10 Registration Dates:

Registration is on a first come, first served basis. Teams may register for Beach Nationals prior to participating in their Provincial and Territorial Association (PTA) championship.

Event		Registration Date	Registration Time
Toronto	Registration Opens	June 13 th	12:00 pm EST
	Early Bird Deadline	July 11 th	5:00 pm EST
	Registration Deadline	August 6 th	11:59 pm EST
Vancouver	Registration Opens	June 13 th	12:00 pm EST
	Early Bird Deadline	July 11 th	5:00 pm EST
	Registration Deadline	August 13 th	11:59 pm EST

1.11 Registration Fee

Registration fees are charged on a per team basis. Taxes are not charged on the registration fee.

	Toronto Team Fee	Vancouver Team Fee
Early Bird	\$247	\$227
Regular Rate	\$297	\$277

Late Entries, received after the registration deadline, are subject to a \$50 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.

1.12 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 with the opportunity to withdraw with a full refund or play-up an age-category.

1.13 Waitlist: If an age/gender category for a Beach Nationals is full at the time of registration, it is strongly encouraged that you register your team onto the waitlist. If additional spots become available in that age/gender category or if a team cancels, waitlisted teams will be notified based on their position on the waitlist. Only those on the waitlist will have an opportunity to participate in the event.



There is no cost to register onto the waitlist for an event. You will only be charged once you accept your invitation to join the event.

1.14 Withdrawal Policy:

Teams who withdraw from Beach Nationals will be eligible for a refund as per the following timelines:

Date	Refund
Prior to registration closing date	Registration fee less \$50 admin fee
Post registration closing date – team is replaced by a waitlisted team	Registration fee less \$50 admin fee
Post registration closing date – team is NOT replaced by a waitlisted team	No refund

1.15 Partner Changes: Teams can request changes to their roster by completing the Roster Change Request form on the event webpage. Roster amendments will be allowed until the registration deadline for the event. After this date, changes will only be accepted under extraordinary circumstances.

1.16 Participation Restrictions: For Beach Nationals, only Canadian teams are permitted to register. Foreign teams must be approved by the National Beach Committee in order to participate. Please refer to *Section 2.0, Foreign Participation*, for further details.

1.17 Unsanctioned Events: Any teams who participate in an unsanctioned event outside of Canada could be deemed ineligible to compete at Nationals.

1.18 Participation Eligibility: All teams (including each individual on the official roster) must meet the following minimum criteria in order to be eligible to attend Beach Nationals:

- Be a registered member, and in good standing, with their respective PTA and with VC.
- Any foreign team looking to participate in an event must be registered and in good standing with their own National Federation (See Section 2).
- Participate in a Provincial/Territorial Championship (unless an exemption has been applied for and approved).
- Meet all additional registration requirements of their PTA and VC.

2.0

Foreign Participation

2.1 Participation Restrictions: A foreign team that wants to participate in Beach Nationals must receive approval from their National Federation in order to participate. Each foreign team must provide VC with an official letter from their National Federation that states that the team is registered and in good standing. Each Foreign Team's participants must purchase health and travel insurance and comply with VC's registration protocols.

2.2. Registration: Foreign teams will be required to register for the event in which they wish to participate via the VC website. The registration process will only be complete once VC provides final confirmation of the foreign team's acceptance into the event. Confirmation will be provided in writing within fourteen (14) days of registration.

**VC reserves the right to deny the registration of a foreign team based on the registration capacity of the competition.*



For further information regarding provincial registration for foreign teams please consult the [Foreign Team and Foreign Player guide](#).

2.3 Seeding: All foreign teams are encouraged to play in a Provincial or Territorial event the same year that they plan to participate in a Beach Nationals in order to assist with the seeding process. Final results will be used to seed the foreign team in order to ensure meaningful matches for all teams participating in the Beach Nationals.

3.0

Coach Certification Policy

Volleyball Canada’s Beach National Championships Coach Eligibility Requirements are to ensure that all coaches participating in a Beach Nationals have the knowledge and training necessary to provide every athlete with a safe, inclusive and responsible sport experience.

Guiding Principles:

All athletes have the right to a NCCP Certified coach.

All coaches have the responsibility to:

- Have the required training to provide an environment that is physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially safe for all athletes and participants.
- Ensure that all training is current and updated as required, to be able to provide a safe and responsible sport experience for all.

Mandatory Eligibility Requirements for Coaches:

All Coaches listed on a Beach Nationals roster must complete the requirements in Section A (below) to be eligible to participate. These requirements are mandatory for all Coaches regardless of certification status.

DEADLINE: Beach Nationals registration deadlines.

SANCTIONS: Coaches who are missing any or all of the requirements in *Section A* will be ineligible to participate with their team in a Coach capacity at a Beach Nationals for that year and will not be listed on the final team roster.

A	Canadian Record Check (CRC)	Cost varies	CPC completed within the last 3 years Screening Process completed annually
	Coaches Association of Canada (CAC) Safe Sport Training	Free	Credit will also be given for equivalent programs recognized by Sport Canada, i.e., Respect in Sport, Activity Leader.
	Making Head Way in Sport eLearning	Free	The Making Head Way eLearning provides coaches with the latest information specific to Concussion Management

3.1 Coaching Guidelines

Volleyball Canada defines coaching as advice, instruction, or external assistance of any kind to a team/player. Coaching during play is NOT allowed for any age-categories at Youth Beach Nationals.

Coaching during breaks-in-play is permissible, for certain age-categories. Please refer to the guidelines below. All coaches are required to fulfill the minimum requirements, as listed in *Section 3.0*, to coach at Beach Nationals.



17U -20U

- Coaching is NOT allowed during any point of the match, including time-outs and between sets.

16U and Younger

- Coaching is allowed during time-outs and between sets.

4.0

Age Categories

Volleyball Canada will offer the following age categories at Youth Beach Nationals.

Toronto: 14U – 20U Boys & Girls

Vancouver: 14U – 16U Boys & Girls

	20U*	19U	18U	17U	16U	15U	14U
Sept		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Oct		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Nov		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Dec		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Jan	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Feb	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Mar	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Apr	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
May	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
June	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
July	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Aug	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Sept	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Oct	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Nov	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Dec	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009

**The 20U age category is being offered as a qualification event for U21 World Championships. To meet FIVB eligibility athletes must be born on January 1, 2003, or later.

Competition Regulations & Participation Information

This section outlines the rules and regulations which govern VC National Championships beyond the Rulebook. In addition, general information and guidelines for participants and spectators are covered here.



5.0

Hosting Guidelines

5.1 For an event to be recognized as a Beach National Championship, VC requires the participation from a minimum of eight (8) teams from three (3) PTAs for 14U – 20U events.

5.2 If an event does not meet the format event criteria listed above, VC reserves the right to cancel or alter the event.

6.0

Rules of the Game

[FIVB Official Beach Volleyball Rules](#) will be used apart from 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.

6.1 Beach Hand Setting Rule (16U and below):

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.

6.2 Service Rules (16U and below):

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.

6.3 Beach First Contact Rule (16U and below)

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.

6.4 Cameras and Tripods

Teams are permitted to record matches throughout the Beach Nationals tournament, however, please note:

- Tripods are not permitted on the court
- Cameras on tripods cannot be left unattended
- VC is not responsible for any damage to the camera or related equipment
- VC reserves the right to restrict/deny the filming of any matches for safety and/or other reasons



7.0

Team & Coach Check-In

7.1. Team check-in will be held the day prior to Day 1 of competition in addition to the morning of Day 1. Please refer to the event specific check-in dates/times below:

Toronto	Vancouver
Thursday, August 17 th = 1:00PM - 7:00PM, and Friday, August 18 th = 8:00AM - 8:45AM	Thursday, August 24 th = 1:00PM – 7:00PM, and Friday, August 25 th = 8:00AM - 8:45AM

7.2 All teams must check-in during the above-listed dates/times.

7.3 Only individuals listed on the official roster can check-in their team (athlete, PIA, Coach). If an official team member cannot attend, another representative may do so in their place, however written consent must be provided.

7.4 The team representative will be required to perform the following duties at team check-in:

- Assume responsibility of player competition tops
- Provide written acknowledgement that the team understands and must compete at Beach Nationals as per the following:
 - 2023 VC Beach Nationals Competition Guide
 - FIVB Official Beach Volleyball Rule Book & Volleyball Canada rule variations
 - VC Code of Conduct
 - VC Concussion Guidelines

7.5 Coach Check-In

Any Coach on an official team roster, who wishes to participate at Beach Nationals, must check-in at the main control tent prior to their team's first match.

Coaches will be required to perform the following duties at check-in:

- Show identification that matches the details on the official team roster
- Provide written acknowledgement that they have read and understand the following:
 - 2023 VC Beach Nationals Competition Guide
 - FIVB Official Beach Volleyball Rule Book & Volleyball Canada rule variations
 - VC Code of Conduct
 - VC Concussion Guidelines
 - Safe Sport training requirements
- Collect a badge to identify them as a coach during the tournament day.
 - Coaches must wear the badge for all matches they are coaching and it must be visible.
 - The badge is to be returned at the end of the tournament.



8.0

Practice Opportunity

Teams may take advantage of practice courts at the event facility which are available from 1:00PM to 5:00PM the day prior to Day 1 of competition (the same day Check-In opens). Courts are on a first come first served basis.

Teams are required to supply their own ball for practice. A limited quantity of balls will be available to rent. Please refer to the event webpage for details.

9.0

Players Meeting

The players meeting for Youth Beach Nationals is **mandatory** and will occur the morning of the first day of play. It will begin shortly after check-in has closed.

At this meeting, the Tournament Director will debrief the participants with the day's schedule and any new or relevant information.

10.0

Referees

10.1 Player Referees

All teams at Beach Nationals are required to score and officiate matches throughout the tournament. A schedule will be issued detailing when each team is expected to officiate each day. This may include referee duties for one (1) match after the match you are eliminated from the tournament.

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 representative to referee on their behalf and notify the VC Control Tent, as soon as possible, of the change.

10.2 VC Officials

Court Supervisors (official Volleyball Canada referees) will be monitoring play throughout the competition. If there is an issue on your court, please see a court supervisor immediately before resuming play. Further information on Court Supervisors will be provided during the players' meeting.

All medal matches will be officiated by a Volleyball Canada referee.

11.0

Competition Ball & Uniforms

11.1 Official Game Ball

The official ball for Beach Nationals is the Mikasa VLS300.

Game balls will be supplied for all matches. Teams are required to provide their own warm up balls.



11.2 Net Heights

Girls/Women

14U: 2.15m

15U: 2.20m

16U - 20U: 2.24m

Boys/Men

14U: 2.20m

15U, 16U: 2.35m

17U - 20U: 2.43m

11.3 Line Width: For VC competitions width of lines is 2.5 - 8.0cm.

11.4 Competition Uniforms

- A player's equipment consists of a jersey and shorts/bottoms.
- All teams registered for Beach Nationals will receive a competition top that must be worn for all matches. Sizing and style requests can be made during the registration process.
 - Girls: players will be able to choose between a bra top or a tank top.
 - Boys: players will receive a tank top.
- It is strongly recommended that team bottoms are of similar colour and style.

Other Uniform Options: In addition to the competition tops provided by VC, teams are permitted to wear tanks or bra tops purchased during the online presale or on-site at the Merchandise Tent. If athletes are wearing uniforms that do not meet these requirements, they will be asked to change into their VC provided clothing.

11.5 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.

12.0

Competition Management

All competition schedules and results will be available on the tournament results management portal. Please refer to the event webpage prior to the event for further details.

All matches will be scored via paper scoresheets.

13.0

Schedules & Seeding

13.1 Draw

Each Beach Nationals varies based on location, age category, venues, and number of courts. These variables may affect how the tournament will be organized. VC has developed a set of principles for governing how the draws will be structured.



VC strives to provide a minimum of seven (7) matches at Youth Beach Nationals. Due to unforeseen circumstances, VC may not always be able to provide seven (7) matches per team.

- All matches are best-of-three.
- Maximum of four matches per day.
- Maximum of one back-to-back match per day.

13.2 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 18th Pool Play

Day 2 August 19th Power Pools

Day 3 August 20th Playoffs (single elimination)

13.3 Tie-Breaking Procedure

End of Pool Play Ranking

Ties between teams within pool-play are broken by the following procedures in priority order. ONLY tied teams are taken into consideration.

Tie Between 2 teams:

- The team with higher rally points ratio in the matches between all teams in the pool;
- Result of head-to-head match

Tie Between 3 or more teams:

- The team with higher rally points ratio in the matches between the tied teams;
- The team with higher rally points ratio in the matches between all teams in the pool;
- If still tied, the ranking is determined by the tournament seeding.

Pre-Event Seeding

Please refer to Section 13.4.

13.4 Seeding

The seeding for Beach Nationals events will be based on rankings provided by Provincial/Territorial Associations (PTAs) from final placings at Provincial Championships. PTAs are required to break any ties in placement. Please see the 2023 VC Beach Nationals Seeding document for full details regarding the seeding rules for each age category.

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



13.5 Competition Schedule

VC strives to release draft schedules no later than the Monday prior to the event start date. Draft schedules are subject to change and are not final until check-in has closed. Once final schedules are released, no changes will be made for withdrawals. All final schedules will be posted on the tournament website and the tournament's results management system.

It is the athlete's responsibility to verify the final schedule to ensure they are on time for matches.

13.6 Scheduled Breaks

Volleyball Canada will attempt to schedule at least one break for all teams, 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 at Ashbridges 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.

13.7 No-Show or Forfeit

Teams are expected to begin their match on time and in accordance with the schedule provided. If a team fails to show up within 10 minutes of start-time, their first set will be automatically forfeited. After a subsequent 10 minutes, the entire match will be forfeited.

14.0

Medical

Medical services will be provided to all participating teams free of charge via certified athletic therapists. Services for athletes include first aid response, concussion management, as well as athletic taping.

14.1 Concussion Management

All teams participating in Beach Nationals are required to follow the VC Concussion Protocol. Further details on the protocol can be found in the [Policy section](#) of the VC website.

Any athlete who has a suspected concussion is strongly encouraged to visit the onsite medical team to complete a concussion assessment via the Sport Concussion Assessment Tool (SCAT 5). Should an athlete fail the assessment their team will be withdrawn from the tournament.

14.2 Medical Time-Outs

Youth athletes are allowed one (1) medical time-out, per player, per tournament day.

All medical time-outs must be supervised by one of the tournament athletic therapists. Players are not allowed to leave the playing area during a medical timeout. Players are permitted up to five (5) minutes total for a medical time-out, with the time starting from the moment the athletic therapist arrives on the court.

If an athlete becomes injured or ill during the tournament and as a result cannot continue to compete, no refund will be issued. Points will be awarded up to the point of withdrawal from the tournament. If the injury or illness occurs before the tournament you may be eligible for a refund of the tournament fee, please see *Section 1.14* regarding withdrawals for further details.

To view the Medical Time-Out Policy in its entirety, please refer to the Policy section on the VC website.



15.0

Awards

15.1 All Beach Nationals will distribute the following awards:

- Medals
 - 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place medals for all tiers
- Club Champion Banner (Toronto only)

15.2 Club Champion

The Club Champion award will be presented to the club collecting the most points for individual results across all youth age-groups at the Toronto Beach Nationals. The club with the most points at the conclusion of the tournament will be crowned the Club Champion for that year.

Please refer to the event website for the full award rules and eligibility.

15.3 Awards Ceremony – Championship Tier:

Teams in the Championship Tier will be presented their medals, prizes, and any additional awards associated with the Championship Tier during the awards ceremony. Award ceremonies will be held on the last day of competition following the completion of the final match or shortly thereafter. Teams should refer to the Beach Nationals webpage for ceremony times and locations.

All other medalist teams will collect their medals at a designated pick-up area. No formal ceremony will be held for medalists outside of the Championship Tier.

The Club Champion banner will be presented to a club representative and/or the participating athletes during the awards ceremony.

16.0

Sanctions

16.1 A team or an individual may be sanctioned, including fines, if any of the following infractions occur while the team is participating at a 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 Rulebook or 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 competition officials deem to be detrimental to the event and/or its participants.

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



- \$50.00 for withdrawal prior to the registration deadline (see *Section 1.14* for a full list of withdrawal fees);
- \$50.00 cash for assembling the Competition Jury to assess an official protest;
- \$50.00 for missing a referee assignment;

16.3 A team or club that is sanctioned in any way because of an infraction related to 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 VC. 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.

17.0

Protest & Appeal Process

17.1 Any protest or appeal at Beach Nationals will be overseen by a Competition Jury, composed of the following:

- A member of the NBC or an approved designate.
- A representative of the Host Committee.
- A member of the Referee Development Team or approved designate.

A Competition Jury member or an approved designate will be present at all venues.

17.2 The Competition Jury has the highest level of authority at Beach 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. The Competition Jury 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

17.3 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.
- A technical aspect of the match conditions (weather, light etc).
- Please note that judgement calls cannot be protested. A referee's decision regarding a playing action (ie. ball handling or misconduct) cannot be protested.
- The protest will be accepted or rejected prior to the resumption of play by the tournament jury.



17.4 To officially protest or appeal a decision, the captain must launch the protest immediately to the first referee who will then indicate to the scorekeeper that a protest has been lodged.

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

17.5 In case of an incident during a match, the protest has to be requested at the moment the incident occurs, before play resumes. To review the full Protest Policy, please refer to the Policies page on the VC website.

18.0

Scouting & Recruiting

It is important to note that VC does not police recruiters onsite and that it is expected that recruiters will abide by the regulations set out by [USport](#), CCAA, or any other University or Collegiate organization. VC bears the right to ask a recruiter to leave the venue if the recruiting policies are not respected.

19.0

Code of Conduct & Competition Policies

All participants at Beach Nationals are expected to adhere to the policies and guidelines as set out by Volleyball Canada. Any breach of these policies are subject to fines and/or sanctions as outlined on in the [Volleyball Canada's Discipline and Complaints Policy](#).

Below are some of the key competition related policies for Beach Nationals:

19.1 [Code of Conduct](#)

19.2 [Suspended Play](#)

19.3 [Extreme Heat](#)

19.4 [Anti-Doping Policy](#)

For a complete list of all of Volleyball Canada's policies, please visit the [VC website](#).

20.0

Safe Sport

VC is committed to a sport environment free from abuse that is safe for all participants. For more information, our policies, and resources, [please click here](#).

Safe Sport Reporting

VC has zero tolerance for any type of abuse. Individuals are required to report abuse or suspected abuse to VC or to a Provincial/Territorial Association so that those matters can be addressed in an expeditious manner.

For more information, please see the Safe Sport [Complaint Process Overview](#). Reports can be made to the Canadian Sport Helpline - 1-888-837-7678 or email info@abuse-free-sport.ca or electronically through: <https://sportintegritycommissioner.ca/report>



Education - As of April 1, 2020, anyone associated with a Sport Canada-funded organization must be trained on conduct to prevent and address maltreatment. This includes coaches, referees, parents of youth athletes, high-performance staff and contractors, officials; and all administrative staff and volunteers whether they may have direct contact with athletes or not.

VC requires that all individuals involved with the sport across the country take an approved safe sport e-learning module:

1. [Respect in sport for Activity leaders](#) – this course educates youth leaders, coaches, officials and participants to recognize, understand and respond to issues of bullying, abuse, harassment and discrimination.
2. [Coaching association of Canada's Safe Sport Training](#) – this eLearning module gives all participants the tools to recognize, address, and prevent maltreatment in sport. The module aligns with the principles of the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport.

Background Screening - All coaches, staff members, volunteers, referees, team staff members and Integrated Support Team (IST) members involved in VC domestic competitions are required to have completed a criminal record/police check issued within 36 months of the activity being attended. These requirements apply to all disciplines.

Volleyball Canada has a partnership with Sterling Talent Solutions, who provide an online, Canada-wide criminal record check service. This is a more secure check and can be shared with other organizations. To get your check click here - [Backcheck Canada - Sterling Backcheck](#)

To provide further clarification, we have compiled the following [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#).

