

2026 Volleyball Canada Youth Beach Nationals Competition Guide



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2026 Youth Beach Nationals Overview

Volleyball Canada will host two events with 14U-16U categories to provide regional access to teams, while 17U, 18U and 20U age categories will be held together with the Senior competition in Toronto.

Tournament Dates	Check-In Opens	City	Age/Gender	Venue
August 14 - 16	August 13 th	Toronto	14U-18U, 20U B&G	Ashbridges Bay
August 21 - 23	August 20 th	Vancouver	14U-16U B&G	Spanish Banks East

Health & Safety Considerations

In order to ensure the continued safety of participants, Volleyball Canada will follow Governmental and Public Health guidelines regarding current health precautions and mandates, including Covid-19 and smoke inhalation from forest fires. Changes to event protocols may be required leading up to Beach Nationals to ensure the health and safety of all participants; any changes will be noted on the event webpage and shared with all participating teams.

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: Each team must consist of two (2) players on the official team roster. Players can only appear on one (1) roster, in one (1) age category, per event.

1.2 Team Personnel/Person(s) in Authority (PIA): These are the individuals responsible for the management and supervision of the team.

Please note the following guidelines for Beach Nationals:

- One (1) individual must be named as the Team Manager for 14U – 18U teams.

1.3 Team Manager: The Team Manager is the individual responsible for the on-site management of the team during Beach Nationals. This individual must meet all of Volleyball Canada’s Safe Sport requirements outlined below.

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	Volleyball Canada Screening Disclosure Form or a CRC completed within the last 3 years



1.4 Team Contact

Each team must designate a team contact during the registration process. The Team Contact is responsible for ensuring effective communication between the team and Volleyball Canada. The Team Contact will not appear on the Official Roster.

1.5 Annual Membership

All athletes must purchase a competitive membership with their respective Provincial/Territorial Association (PTA). By registering with their PTA, these participants will automatically become registered members with Volleyball Canada. Only individuals that are properly registered and in good standing are eligible to take part in competitions sanctioned or hosted by a PTA or Volleyball Canada.

1.6 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 Volleyball Canada 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 Volleyball Canada and the PTAs involved.

1.7 Participating at Beach Nationals with an athlete from another PTA

There are no restrictions on athletes from different PTAs competing together. Teams will be required to declare which province they will represent at the time of registration

1.8 Provincial Championships

All athletes wishing to participate in Beach Nationals are required to participate in their respective Provincial and Territorial Association (PTA) Championship. Athletes must compete in an age category that matches, or is lower, than the one they plan to enter at Beach Nationals. *See Section 1.9 for regulations on playing up.*

Exemptions to the Provincial Championship requirement may be granted in the following cases:

1. If the team members are participating in a Volleyball Canada sanctioned event or program that conflicts with their Provincial Championships. These include:
 - a. NORCECA or FIVB circuit
 - b. Canada Cup
 - c. Provincial Team programs
 - d. Canada Games
2. Member of the National Team
3. Extenuating circumstances, which will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
4. Participation in the 17U Girls event

Any athlete wishing to request an exemption is required to submit an Exemption Request Form by July 20th. The form can be found on the event webpage.

1.9 Minimum Age: All athletes and team personnel must be a minimum of 11 years of age.

1.10 Age Categories

Beach Nationals features six (6) age-categories for youth from 14U – 20U.



Important Reminder! Athletes are not permitted to play in a lower age category at Beach Nationals than they played at Provincials unless an Exemption has been provided by Volleyball Canada.

See *Section 1.10 for details on Playing Up or Section 4.0* for full details on age categories.

1.11 Registration for teams playing up

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 played at Provincial Championships. For example, an athlete/team who plays primarily at 15U during the season and competes at 15U Beach Provincials would be considered “playing up” if they registered for 16U Beach Nationals. If a team plays in an older age category all season and at provincials, they are not considered as playing up for Beach Nationals. For example, a 13U team plays 14U during the season and at provincials.

There are no restrictions on teams or athletes playing up an age group at Beach Nationals. However, seeding points will be adjusted if the age group is different than the age-group at Provincial Championships.

Please refer to the Seeding Policy on the event webpage for full details.

*17U Girls teams: please refer to the subsection 1.23: 17U Girls Eligibility, for updated eligibility requirements.

1.12 Playing Down

Teams are not permitted to register for a lower age group at Beach Nationals than they competed in at Provincials. Any team found in violation of this rule will be required to withdraw from the event. Refunds, if applicable, will be issued in accordance with the event’s refund policy.

*17U Girls teams: please refer to the subsection 1.23: 17U Girls Eligibility, for updated eligibility requirements.

1.13 Registration Dates:

Pre-registration

A pre-registration period will be offered to all 2025 Beach Nationals Championship Tier medalists (Gold, Silver, and Bronze) and 2025 Provincial/Territorial Champions (Gold Medalists) for 14U – 20U.

For Provinces/Territories that conduct a combined provincial championship (two age categories within a single draw), pre-registration will be offered to the highest-ranked team in each age category.

General Registration

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 & Vancouver	Pre-Registration Opens	May 1 st	12:00 pm ET
	General Registration Opens	May 15 th	12:00 pm ET
	Early Bird Deadline	June 30 th	12:00 pm ET
	Registration Deadline	July 27 th	12:00 pm ET

1.14 Registration Fee

Registration fees are charged on a per team basis. Taxes are not charged on the registration fee. Fees may vary per event. Please review the Beach Nationals webpage for current fees.



1.15 Registering in Multiple Events

Teams may register for only one tournament (Toronto or Vancouver) prior to July 1. As of July 1, if space remains available, teams may register for a second tournament. If a team is found registered in both events before that date, Volleyball Canada will ask the team to indicate their preferred tournament and will remove them from the other event.

1.16 Waitlist

If an age/gender category for a Beach Nationals is full at the time of registration, teams may add themselves to 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.

Athletes are not allowed to be listed on multiple teams, either on the waitlist or registered teams list.

1.17 Withdrawal Policy

Teams who withdraw from Beach Nationals must complete the withdrawal form found on the Beach Nationals webpage.

Teams will be eligible for a refund as per the following timelines:

Date	Refund
Prior to registration closing date	Registration fee less \$50 admin fee & system fees
Post registration closing date – team is replaced by a waitlisted team and the request is more than 2 weeks from check-in	Registration fee less \$50 admin fee & system fees
Post registration closing date – team is NOT replaced by a waitlisted team and the request is more than 2 weeks from check-in	No refund
Within 2 weeks of check-in	No refund

Please see *Section 16 Sanctions* for sanction and fine implications for improper withdrawals.

1.18 Ownership of Registration Spot

The listed purchaser, whether an athlete, parent, or guardian, is considered the registration owner, and any applicable refund will be issued to that individual in accordance with the refund policy.

If a team withdraws and the partners separate, the partner who does not own the registration spot may request first right of refusal to assume the registration spot before it is offered to waitlisted teams.

1.19 Roster/Partner Changes

Teams can request a roster change by completing the applicable form on the event website. Changes can be made up until the registration deadline. After this date, changes will only be accepted under extraordinary circumstances.

1.20 Participation Restrictions

For Beach Nationals, only Canadian nationals are permitted to register. Foreign athletes/teams must be approved by Volleyball Canada to participate. Please refer to *Section 2.0, Foreign Participation*, for further details.



1.21 Unsanctioned Events

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

1.22 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 Provincial/Territorial Association (PTA) and with Volleyball Canada.
- Any foreign team looking to participate in an event must be registered and in good standing with their own National Federation (See Section 2.0).
- Participate in a Provincial/Territorial Championship (unless an exemption has been applied for and approved).
- Meet all additional registration requirements of their PTA and Volleyball Canada.

*17U Girls teams: please refer to the subsection 1.23: 17U Girls Eligibility, for updated eligibility requirements.

1.23 17U Girls Eligibility

New for 2026: The 17U Girls event at the 2026 Beach Nationals will serve as the selection event for Canada's entry to the 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal. The winning team will be offered the opportunity to represent Canada in the Women's Beach Volleyball tournament at the Youth Olympics Games.

Due to the division's role as a selection event, several eligibility requirements have been adjusted. These changes are important for all athletes and coaches planning to participate:

- Open to all eligible athletes (born in 2009 or later)
- No playing up or playing down restrictions – athletes may compete at a different age group within their provincial tours or championships
- No provincial championship participation requirement for this age group

These updates differ from standard Beach Nationals regulations and are intended to ensure all eligible athletes have the opportunity to compete for selection.

For questions regarding the 17U selection event, please contact Volleyball Canada at nationals@volleyball.ca.

2.0

Foreign Participation

2.1 Participation Restrictions

A foreign athlete/team that wants to participate in Beach Nationals must receive written approval from Volleyball Canada to participate.

Each foreign team must provide Volleyball Canada with:



- An official letter from their National Federation stating the athlete/team is a registered member in good standing.
- Proof of health and travel insurance covering the dates of the event

Interested athletes/teams must submit their request to nationals@volleyball.ca before July 20th for consideration. Confirmation will be provided in writing within ten (10) days of receipt of all documents.

2.2. Registration

Foreign teams will be required to register for the event in which they wish to participate via the Volleyball Canada website. The registration process will only be complete once Volleyball Canada provides final confirmation of the foreign team/athlete's acceptance into the event. Volleyball Canada reserves the right to deny the registration of a foreign team based on the registration capacity of the competition.

2.3 Seeding

All foreign athletes/teams are encouraged to play in a Provincial or Territorial event the same year that they plan to participate in a Beach Nationals 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 Eligibility Requirements

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.

Coaches' responsibilities include:

- Provide an environment that is physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially safe for all athletes and participants.
- Provide a learning environment that incorporates teaching methodologies, technical guidelines, and long-term development principles.
- Ensure that all training is current and updated, as required.

Please review the [Coach Eligibility Requirements](#) for further details.

4.0

Age Categories

Volleyball Canada recognizes the following age categories for beach national competitions in the 2026 season:

Birth Month	20U	18U	17U	16U	15U	14U
Sept. – Dec.	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Jan. – Dec.	2006	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012



Competition Regulations & Participation Information

This section outlines the rules and regulations which govern Volleyball Canada Beach 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, Volleyball Canada requires the participation from a minimum of eight (8) teams from three (3) PTAs for 16U – 20U events and 2 PTAs for 14U/15U events.

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

5.2 All age categories will be played in the 2v2 format.

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 First Contact Rule (15U and below)

Receiving serve or 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. Exception: Hard driven ball.

6.2 Second Contact Rule (15U and below)

On a team's second hit, contacting the ball more than once with fingers (double contact) in a single attempt to play the ball is not a fault if the ball is next legally contacted by a teammate.

6.3 Service Rules (15U and below)

The scorer must indicate the proper server order and correct any incorrect server. A scorekeeper's errors in service order are to be corrected when the fault is discovered, with no penalty to either team.



A service order fault is punished by loss of rally or points scored if a team, prior to their service, has been correctly notified by the scorer, second referee or first referee, that they are out of order. If it is possible to establish the exact time of the fault, the points scored after the fault are cancelled for that team.

6.4 Service Receive Rule (15U and below)

In sets 1 and 2 of a match, up until the technical timeout, the last player to serve for their team (at the moment of service hit by the opposing team) must be positioned closer to the right sideline than their teammate. These court positions must be maintained (for service reception) until the team regains the right to serve.

6.5 Cameras and Tripods

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

- Tripods are not permitted on the court, nor can they be placed in any team or player areas (team seating, serving area)
- Tripods cannot be placed in areas not permitted for spectators
- Volleyball Canada is not responsible for any damage to the camera or related equipment
- Volleyball Canada reserves the right to restrict/deny the filming of any matches or to move or remove a camera

6.6 Tie-Breaking Procedure

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:

- 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.

7.0

Team & Coach Check-In

7.1. Team Check-In

Team check-in will be held the day prior to Day 1 of competition. Please refer to the event webpage for your event's check-in date and time.

All teams are required to check-in during the check-in window. If a team does not check-in before check-in closes, they will be removed from the tournament and may face sanctions for an improper withdrawal.

Athlete proof of age checks will not be completed during the Team Check-in process; however, Volleyball Canada reserves the right to verify the age of any player on the official roster at any time during the event. Therefore, team personnel should carry proof of age for all players throughout the entirety of the event.



7.2 Team Bag Pick-Up

Only individuals listed on the official roster can pick up their team bag (athlete, Team Manager, Team Contact). If an official team member cannot attend, another representative may do so in their place, however written consent must be provided.

The team representative will be required to perform the following duties at team bag pick-up:

- Assume responsibility of player competition tops
- Confirm local contact information
- Provide written acknowledgement that the team understands and must compete at Beach Nationals as per the following:
 - 2026 Volleyball Canada Beach Nationals Competition Guide
 - FIVB Official Beach Volleyball Rule Book & Volleyball Canada rule variations
 - Volleyball Canada Code of Conduct
 - Volleyball Canada Concussion Guidelines

7.3 Coach Check-In

Coaches who wish to participate at Beach Nationals, must check-in at the main control tent prior to their team's first match.

Important Reminder: Coaches must register and provide their proof of eligibility requirements to Volleyball Canada for approval. Coaches who do not submit this before the deadline (refer to Volleyball Canada website for deadline and submission process), will not be eligible to coach.

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

- Show identification that matches the details on their registration
- Provide written acknowledgement that they have read and understand the following:
 - 2026 Volleyball Canada Beach Nationals Competition Guide
 - FIVB Official Beach Volleyball Rule Book & Volleyball Canada rule variations
 - Volleyball Canada Code of Conduct
 - Volleyball Canada 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.

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. Courts are on a first come first served basis.

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

9.0

Players Meeting

NEW for 2026 - There will be no in-person players meeting at Beach Nationals. Instead, teams will receive an electronic video in advance of the tournament, outlining key technical and competition related information. All



teams will be required to confirm they have watched the video and understand the policies and procedures covered.

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 \$100 fine for 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 Volleyball Canada Control Tent, as soon as possible, of the change.

10.2 Volleyball Canada 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 in the Team Technical Video.

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

11.0 Competition Equipment & Uniforms

11.1 Official Game Ball

The official ball for Beach Nationals is the Mikasa BV550C.

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

11.2 Net Heights

	Girls	Boys
14U	2.15m	2.20m
15U	2.20m	2.35m
16U	2.24m	2.35m
17U	2.24m	2.43m
18U	2.24m	2.43m
20U	2.24m	2.43m

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

11.4 Competition Uniforms

- A player's equipment consists of a top 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 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 Volleyball Canada, teams are permitted to wear any Left On Friday or Jumplete apparel. These can be items purchased previously or on-site at their sponsor booths. Additionally, Left On Friday and Jumplete competition tops from previous Beach Nationals events are also permitted.

If athletes are wearing uniforms that do not meet these requirements, they will be asked to change into their Volleyball Canada 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 Volleyball Canada 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.

13.0

Schedules & Seeding

13.1 Draw

Beach Nationals are held as three (3) day events. Day 1 is Pool Play; Day 2 is Power Pools and Day 3 is Playoffs. Teams will play all three days of the event with a minimum of one (1) match on the playoff day.

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

Volleyball Canada strives to provide each team a minimum of seven (7) matches at Youth Beach Nationals. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Volleyball Canada 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 Seeding

The seeding for all age/gender categories at Beach Nationals is based on a point system. Volleyball Canada will collect two data points from each Provincial/Territorial Association: an individual's Provincial Championship Seeding and Provincial Championship result.

Please see the Volleyball Canada Youth Beach Nationals Seeding document for full details regarding the seeding rules for each age category.

Seeding will only be completed once all Provincial Championships have been completed.

13.3 Competition Schedule

Volleyball Canada aims to release draft schedules by the Wednesday prior to the event start date. *Please note, draft schedules cannot be made until seeding has been completed which cannot be finalised until all Provincial Championships have concluded.* Draft schedules are subject to change.

Schedules will be considered final the evening prior to the competition start date, after check-in concludes. No changes will be made to final schedules once posted on Volleyball Life.

Schedules will be developed to best suit the needs of the age/gender category, venue and draw size. A division-based or tier-based schedule may be used. Full details regarding schedules will be posted on the event webpage.

Volleyball Canada reserves the right to move a match to a different court at their discretion. Teams must abide by these changes or will be subject to the forfeit procedures. A match may start early with agreement from both teams, the competition staff and the referees.

Teams who are in a pool of three (3) and have a 'bye' in their schedule are permitted to play a third set in lieu of playing a third team in their pool. Teams will be permitted to play a third set to 21 points (which will not count towards their match score) should they complete the match within two sets. If a match is to go to a third set, the set will proceed per standard competition regulations. Both teams must agree to this additional set.

13.4 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 Volleyball Canada Concussion Protocol. Further details on the protocol can be found in the [Policy section](#) of the Volleyball Canada 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 6). The athlete with a suspected concussion, the athlete's parent/ guardian, or the athlete's coach, have the authority to request a



concussion assessment. If a concussion assessment is denied by an athlete who is under the age of 18, their parent/ guardian can override their decision. Should an athlete fail the assessment they will be removed from play. Any subsequent matches for the team will be recorded as a forfeit.

Athletes are permitted to follow-up their initial assessment. If there isn't a designated medical practitioner on site, the athlete may seek an assessment from one of the approved medical practitioners provided by Volleyball Canada. Once the athlete is deemed safe to return to immediate sport participation, they may do so with submission of the Medical Assessment Letter to the on-site medical team and/or competition staff. An athlete cannot submit a Medical Assessment Letter clearing them for immediate sport participation after the first round of play-offs.

If there is a medical professional on site designated to manage concussion assessments, athletes are not permitted to seek an assessment from an off-site medical professional.

14.2 Medical Time-Outs

Medical time-outs will be administered in accordance with the Medical Time-Outs Policy available on the event webpage. Teams are expected to review this policy in advance of the competition.

The following medical time-outs may be applied during match play:

- Blood Timeout (BTO): used exclusively for significant blood-related injuries
- Recovery Interruption Timeout (RIT): used for non-blood injuries, illness related to officially declared severe weather, or urgent toilet use outside of regular game interruptions

All medical time-outs:

- Must be supervised by a tournament athletic therapist
- Are limited to a maximum of five (5) minutes, starting from the arrival of the therapist on court
- Do not permit players to leave the playing area

Additional conditions, including usage limits and procedures, are outlined in the Medical Time Outs policy.

If an athlete is unable to continue competing due to injury or illness, no registration refund will be issued.

15.0

Awards

All Beach Nationals will distribute the following awards:

- Medals
 - 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place medals for the Championship Tier
 - 1st, and 2nd place medals for all other tiers
- Club Champion Banner

15.1 Beach Club Champion

The Beach Club Champion award will be presented to the club collecting the most points for individual results across all youth age-groups at that Beach Nationals. Please refer to the event website for the full award rules and eligibility.



15.2 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 however photo/presentation areas will be provided for teams.

16.0 Sanctions

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 Volleyball Canada representative as soon as possible.
- Any other infraction that the competition officials deem to be detrimental to the event and/or its participants.

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

- Fees:
 - Withdrawal Admin Fee - \$50.00 administrative fee for a withdrawal prior to the registration deadline (see *Section 1.14* for a full list of withdrawal fees);
 - Official Protest Fee - \$100.00 fee for assembling the Competition Jury to assess an official protest.
- Sanctions:
 - Missed Referee Assignment – A team who misses their scheduled referee assignment will be subject to a \$100 fine per missed assignment.
 - Failure to Notify of Withdrawal – A team who withdraws without notification directly to Volleyball Canada will be subject to any or all the following penalties:
 - No refund for registration fees
 - A fine in the amount of \$317.00



16.2 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 Volleyball Canada 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 Volleyball Canada.

17.0

Protest & Appeal Process

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

- A Volleyball Canada Representative, member of the National Beach Committee or an approved designate.
- A member of the Senior Competition Staff, notably the Competition Director.
- A member of the Referee Development Team or approved designate.

A Competition Jury member or an approved designate will be present at all venues. Members of the competition jury will be established pre-event and will be chaired by the Competition Director. The members of the competition jury may vary throughout the day depending on the event schedule.

17.1 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

17.2 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.

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

A fee of \$100 must be provided 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.



17.4 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 must be placed at the moment of the incident.

In the event of a protest, the following will occur:

- The referee will notify both teams that there is protest.
- The protesting team will be asked to pay the \$100 protest fee.
- Both teams will be asked to stay on the court until the final decision is rendered.
- The chairperson of the jury will convene the jury.
- The jury will interview the captain of the protesting team and any/all parties, as they see fit. Video will not be permitted to support a protest.
- The jury will deliberate and render a decision.
- The chairperson of the jury will inform all parties involved of the decision made.

18.0

Scouting & Recruiting

It is important to note that Volleyball Canada 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. Volleyball Canada 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 [Volleyball Canada website](#).

20.0

Zero Tolerance Protocol

Volleyball Canada aims to ensure a SAFE and POSITIVE environment for all participants, spectators, referees and staff at all National Championships. Rude, profane, disrespectful, aggressive, and disruptive behavior will



not be tolerated from any individuals. All event attendees are encouraged to communicate in an appropriate manner at all times.

Volleyball Canada will be enforcing a zero-tolerance approach in all incidences of inappropriate conduct, which may include but is not limited to:

- Any comment(s) or action(s) deemed rude, profane, disrespectful, disruptive, or aggressive, exhibited while on-site at Volleyball Canada Beach Nationals.
- Any actions or behaviour that contravene Volleyball Canada's Code of Conduct.
- Any actions contrary to policies that impede or disrupt the safe and effective operation of a Volleyball Canada National Championship.

Please review the [Zero Tolerance Protocol](#) for full details.

21.0

Safe Sport

Volleyball Canada 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](#).

21.1 Safe Sport Reporting

Volleyball Canada maintains a zero-tolerance policy toward any form of abuse. If you witness or suspect abuse or maltreatment, it is your responsibility to report it promptly to the appropriate organization, so action can be taken. To file a safe sport complaint, please visit the [Reporting Super Highway](#). This platform is designed to assist athletes, coaches, parents, officials, and others in the volleyball community by helping them identify the correct third party/organization to report concerns related to maltreatment or inappropriate conduct in sport. Based on your location and the nature of the concern, the Super Highway will guide you to the appropriate organization with jurisdiction to handle your complaint.

21.2 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.

Volleyball Canada 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.

21.3 Background Screening

All coaches, staff members, volunteers, referees, team staff members and Integrated Support Team (IST) members involved in Volleyball Canada 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](#)