



**Volleyball**  
**Canada**

# **Beach Policy Manual**

**February 12, 2025**

# Volleyball Canada Beach Policy Manual

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## 1. Sport Acronyms and Organization Names

Below are descriptions of some of the sport acronyms and organization names:

- IF – International Federation (International Sport Federations – FIFA, FIBA, FIVB...etc.)
- FIVB – International Volleyball Association (Fédération Internationale de Volleyball) – the IF for Volleyball and beach volleyball (Manages the Olympic Games Competition)
- VW – Volleyball World – the entity that organizes FIVB Volleyball and Beach Volleyball Competitions
- IOC – International Olympic Committee (Awards the Olympic Games)
- NORCECA – **N**orth America, **C**entral America and **C**aribbean (Continental Confederation within FIVB – the others are Europe (CEV), Asia (AVC), Africa (CAVB) and South America (CSV))
- NSO – National Sport Organization (Volleyball Canada is the NSO for indoor, beach and sitting volleyball)
- VC – Volleyball Canada
- NF – National Federation (Same as NSO – VC is the NF for indoor, beach and sitting volleyball)
- PSO – Provincial Sport Organization (The OVA is the PSO for indoor and beach volleyball in Ontario)
- PTA – Provincial Territorial Association (Similar to PSO but includes the three Canadian Territories)
- SC - Sport Canada (Government Agency responsible for funding NSO's and providing carding (AAP) to Canada's National Team athletes). Sport Canada officially recognizes the NSOs
- MSO – Multi-Sport Organization (Works with multiple NSOs e.g., COC, CGC, CAC, CPC)
- AAP – Athlete Assistance Program (Sport Canada Carding – Tax free expense reimbursement to Canadian National Team Athletes)
- Quest for Gold – The Ontario Athlete Assistance Program (Provincial carding to Ontario's amateur High Performance Athletes)
- OHPSI – Ontario High Performance Sport Initiative
- B2Ten – Private funding organization for top Canadian Olympic athletes
- COC – Canadian Olympic Committee (The National Olympic Committee of the IOC in Canada)
- IPC – International Paralympic Committee (Leads the Paralympic Games)
- CPC – Canadian Paralympic Committee (MSO for Sitting Volleyball and other sports)
- OTP – Own the Podium (A not-for-profit organization that prioritizes and determines investment strategies for National Sport Organizations in an effort to deliver more Olympic and Paralympic medals for Canada).
- CAC – Coaching Association of Canada (Administers the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP))
- CGF – Commonwealth Games Federation (Awards the Commonwealth Games)
- CGC – Commonwealth Games Canada
- PASO – Pan American Sports Organization (Awards the Pan American Games)
- PAVU – Pan American Volleyball Union (NORCECA and CSV – Manages the Pan Am Games Competition)
- CAIP – Canadian Athlete Insurance Policy (Travel Medical Insurance & Rehabilitation Insurance)
- CCES – Canadian Centre of Ethics in Sport (Canada's National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO))

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- WADA – World Anti-Doping Agency
- ADAMS – Anti-Doping Administration & Management System (WADA whereabouts system)
- CSIO – Canadian Sport Institute Ontario
- TPASC – Toronto Pan Am Sport Centre (Home of CSIO)
- HPC – High Performance Centre (Downsview Park)
- DTE – Daily Training Environment
- CTL – Coaching and Technical Leadership
- SSSM – Sport Science and Sport Medicine
- PSRI – Performance Services, Research and Innovation
- IST – Integrated Support Team
- CSO – Chief Sport Officer (Kerry MacDonald)
- HPD – High Performance Director (Ed Drakich)
- HPM – High Performance Manager (TBD)
- HPA – High Performance Advisor OTP (Justin Oliveria)
- NG – Next Generation
- S & C – Strength and Conditioning
- MPC – Mental Performance Consultant
- MHL – Mental Health Lead (Susan Cockle)

## 2. Useful Websites

- <https://fivb.12ndr.at/>
- International Olympic Committee [www.olympic.org](http://www.olympic.org)
- FIVB Beach Volleyball [www.fivb.org/EN/beachvolleyball](http://www.fivb.org/EN/beachvolleyball)
- Volleyball World <https://en.volleyballworld.com/>
- NORCECA [www.norceca.net](http://www.norceca.net)
- World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) [www.wada-ama.org](http://www.wada-ama.org)
- Canadian Olympic Committee [www.olympic.ca](http://www.olympic.ca)
- Sport Canada [www.pch.gc.ca](http://www.pch.gc.ca)
- Canadian Sports Institute Ontario [www.csiontario.ca](http://www.csiontario.ca)
- Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport [www.cces.ca](http://www.cces.ca)
- Canadian Athlete Insurance Program (CAIP) <http://mkirsch.ca/>
- Athletes CAN [www.athletescan.com](http://www.athletescan.com)

### **3. Past Canadian Beach Volleyball Olympic Teams**

#### **1996 Atlanta Olympics**

- John Child / Mark Heese (3<sup>rd</sup>)
- Ed Drakich / Marc Dunn (17<sup>th</sup>)
- Margo Malowney / Barb Broen-Ouellette (17<sup>th</sup>)

#### **2000 Sydney Olympics**

- John Child / Mark Heese (5<sup>th</sup>)
- Jodi Holden / Conrad Leinemann (9<sup>th</sup>)

#### **2004 Athens Olympics**

- John Child / Mark Heese (5<sup>th</sup>)
- Guylaine Dumont / Annie Martin (5<sup>th</sup>)

#### **2012 London Olympics**

- Josh Binstock / Martin Reader (17<sup>th</sup>)
- Marie-Andrée Lessard / Annie Martin (19<sup>th</sup>)

#### **2016 Rio Olympics**

- Heather Bansley / Sarah Pavan (5<sup>th</sup>)
- Ben Saxton / Chaim Schalk (9<sup>th</sup>)
- Jamie Broder / Kristina Valjas (9<sup>th</sup>)
- Josh Binstock / Sam Schachter (19<sup>th</sup>)

#### **2020 Tokyo Olympics**

- Sarah Pavan / Melissa Humana-Paredes (5<sup>th</sup>)
- Heather Bansley / Brandie Wilkerson (5<sup>th</sup>)

#### **2024 Paris Olympics**

- Brandie Wilkerson / Melissa Humana-Paredes (2<sup>nd</sup>)
- Sam Schachter / Dan Dearing (17<sup>th</sup>)
- Heather Bansley / Sophie Bukovec (19<sup>th</sup>)

**Total = 24 Canadian Beach Volleyball Olympians (12 Male and 12 Female)**

## 4. 2026 VC Beach Carding Policy

Under the VC Beach Athlete Agreements, the VC Beach Carding Policy must be published eight months before the end of the year (By April 30<sup>th</sup> each year).

The following highlights of the **2026 VC Beach Carding Policy** have been approved by Sport Canada (The full 2026 VC Beach Carding Policy will be published online before April 30, 2025). Please refer to the published policy for further details and specifics.

### 3. Number of Cards Available and Distribution

There is a limit on the number of Cards available to the Beach Volleyball program. Currently, the quota is 20 senior cards or the equivalent of \$522,000.

#### 3.1 Carding quotas per gender

The maximum amount and minimum number of cards will be distributed as follows to each gender:

Gender	Senior Card (SR1/SR2 and SR) Maximum amount	Development Cards (D) Minimum amount
Male	\$208,800	\$52,200
Female	\$208,800	\$52,200

#### 3.2 Principles for the allocation of cards per gender

A minimum of 4 months of carding may be allocated to an athlete.

Carding support will be allocated in monthly payments equivalent to the card level, i.e.: SR1, SR2 and SR cards are worth **\$2,175/month** while D cards are worth **\$1,305/month**.

### 4. Senior International Criteria (SR1/SR2 - \$2,175/month)

SR1/SR2 cards are T2W cards (The highest level of carding)

- Criteria: Athletes who placed in the top 8 and top ½ at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games will be SR2 carded in 2026, provided they meet the minimum eligibility requirements described in point 2.
- Criteria: Athletes who placed in the top 8 and top ½ at the 2025 FIVB World Championships will be SR1 carded in 2026, provided they meet the minimum eligibility requirements described in point 2.

Athletes that qualify for carding under the Senior International criteria are eligible for two years of AAP support, with the card for the first year referred to as an SR1 Card and the card for the second year referred to as an SR2 Card.

#### 4.1 Senior National Criteria (SR - \$2,175/month)

Once an athlete reaches the FIVB post-U21 age category, he/she may be carded at the Senior Card level (SR) for a maximum of five (5) years. In order to be recommended as Senior Carded for additional years, the athlete must demonstrate continued progress towards Senior International Card status results and must be recommended by Volleyball Canada.

##### 4.1.1 Volleyball Canada T2W Carding Criteria (SR T2W)

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- Must meet the minimum eligibility requirements described in point 2.
- Must achieve a minimum total of **three (3) of the following results between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025:**
  - 5<sup>th</sup> place finishes at 2025 Volleyball World Elite 16 events or
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishes at a 2025 Volleyball World Challenge events or
    - For example, two 5<sup>th</sup> place finishes in a Volleyball World Elite 16 event and one 2<sup>nd</sup> place in a Volleyball World Challenge event

## 4.1.2 Volleyball Canada L2W Performance Carding Criteria (SR L2W)

- Must meet the minimum eligibility requirements described in point 2.
- Must achieve a minimum total of **three (3) of the following results between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025:**
  - 9<sup>th</sup> place finishes at 2025 World Championships or
  - 9<sup>th</sup> place finishes at 2025 Volleyball World Elite 16 events or
  - 4<sup>th</sup> place finishes at a 2025 Volleyball World Challenge events or
    - For example, two 9<sup>th</sup> place finishes in a Volleyball World Elite 16 event and one 4<sup>th</sup> place in a Volleyball World Challenge event

## 4.1.3 Volleyball Canada T2C Performance Carding Criteria (SR Next Gen P)

- Must meet the minimum eligibility requirements described in point 2.
- Must achieve a minimum total of **three (3) of the following results between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025:**
  - 17<sup>th</sup> place finish at the 2025 World Championships
  - 13<sup>th</sup> place finishes at 2025 Volleyball World Elite 16 events or
  - 5<sup>th</sup> place finishes at a 2025 Volleyball World Challenge events or
    - For example, two 13<sup>th</sup> place finishes in a Volleyball World Elite 16 event and one 5<sup>th</sup> place in a Volleyball World Challenge event

## 4.1.4 Development Card Criteria (D T2C - \$1,305/month)

Development Cards are intended to support the developmental needs of younger Next Gen “Training to Compete” (T2C) athletes who clearly demonstrate the potential to achieve the Senior International Card criteria but are not yet able to meet the Senior National Card criteria.

Development Cards are normally divided up among up to 8 Next Gen (T2C) athletes per gender. Additional athletes above 8 per gender can receive Development Cards and these can include Next Gen T2C (D) athletes and Next-Next Gen “Learning to Compete” L2C (D) Summer Program athletes (4 months or 8 months of carding).

## Sport Canada Cards

SR1/SR1 = Senior International Carding \$2,175/Month (SR1 = Year 1 & SR2 = Year 2) + Tuition Support

SR = Senior Carding \$2,175/Month + Tuition Support

D = Developmental Carding \$1,305/Month + Tuition Support

## 5. VC Beach Internal Nominating Procedures for Major Games

Volleyball Canada will publish the Internal Nominating Procedure (INP) at least 8 months in advance of Major Games.  
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## 6. Athlete Health

### Canadian Athlete Insurance Program (CAIP)

Volleyball Canada purchases CAIP medical insurance (<http://mkirsch.ca/>) for every athlete that represents Volleyball Canada Internationally (NORCECA, FIVB, FISU plus others). Volleyball Canada spends in excess of **\$5,000** annually for this coverage.

### Integrated Support Team (IST)

The VC Beach National Team Integrated Support Team (IST) is composed of Coaching and Technical Leadership experts as well as Sport Science and Sport Medicine professionals. The purpose of the integrated support team is to provide “Integrated” support services (E.g., Coaching, Medical, Mental Performance, Strength and Conditioning, Nutrition and Performance Analysis services) to Beach National Team Athletes. Services are provided based on the National Team Status and by Targeted Group (2028 and Next Gen (2028/2032)).

### Medical Assessments and Physical Testing

National Team Athletes (Senior and Next Gen) will receive a medical assessment in January each year. Summer Program Athletes will receive a medical assessment in May each year on a case-by-case basis. Physical Testing will happen at multiple times throughout the year strategically based on the athletes’ Yearly Training Plan (YTP).

## 7. Travel Guidelines for International Events

### Booking Flights, Hotel and Local Transportation

Beach players representing Canada athletes must book and purchase their own flights, hotel and local transportation to events. Once an athlete has purchased their flights, they need to email their travel itinerary to the Beach Operations Manager (Ryan Aktari, [raktari@volleyball.ca](mailto:raktari@volleyball.ca)) so their travel itinerary can be forwarded to the Tournament Promoters. On the Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour, Main Draw teams are guaranteed free local transportation if their itinerary is communicated in advance. Qualification teams are not guaranteed local transportation from the Tournament Promoter, but some may provide this service either for a fee or for free. At NORECCA events local transportation is organized by the tournament promoter on the Thursday before the tournament but it can be very inconvenient (Long wait times) and is sometimes unreliable.

## 8. Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour – VC Registration and Withdraw Policies

- Canadian teams must register via email with the VC Beach Operations Manager (Ryan Aktari, [raktari@volleyball.ca](mailto:raktari@volleyball.ca)) on or in advance of **-38 days** before an FIVB event. There is no Country Quota Playoff for Elite 16 and Challenge events. Please note that both players must be copied on any email requesting registration for any FIVB event.
- VC will attempt to register a team between **-37 days** until the FIVB registration system closes; however, registration is not guaranteed. If registration is successful, VC reserves the right to issue a **\$250 CAD** late registration fine per player. Payment must be made within seven days of registration; otherwise, the team will be withdrawn from the event.
- Teams can withdraw from an FIVB event without a medical note before **-28 days FIVB Confirmed Entry Deadline**. After **-28 days** a medical note is required to withdraw without an FIVB fine. After **-21 days** both a medical note and travel proof are required to avoid an FIVB fine.



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- VC Late Withdrawal Policy: If a Canadian team receives an FIVB fine for late withdrawal then each player on that team will be fined **\$250 CAD** by Volleyball Canada. If withdrawal is due to injury, the player will have to present a doctor's note and proof of purchasing a flight ticket (If after -21 days) to the VC Beach Operations Manager (Ryan Aktari, [raktari@volleyball.ca](mailto:raktari@volleyball.ca)).

## VC Beach FIVB Wild Card Application Policy

Volleyball Canada will apply for an FIVB Wild Card (Both a Main Draw Wild Card and a Qualification Wild Card) for each Volleyball World event. Each VC FIVB Wild Card Application will have **one** Canadian team listed. The FIVB selects the FIVB Wild Cards so VC's choices may not be followed by the FIVB.

VC will always list the teams in the order of their FIVB Entry Points (**Best 3 of 4 in the last 365 days**) for Beach Pro Tour Events or the FIVB World Ranking Points for the Beach Pro Tour Finals on the FIVB Wild Card Application. For the FIVB Main Draw Wild Card Application, VC will predict the highest Canadian team not in the main draw of the upcoming event. This is not an exact science because the Wild Card Application must be in before -35 days and the confirmed team list for an event comes out at -28 days. For the FIVB Qualification Wild Card Application, VC will predict the highest Canadian team not in the qualification of the upcoming event.

Once a Canadian team is awarded an FIVB Main Draw Wild Card in the 2025 season, they will not be part of a VC FIVB Main Draw Wild Card Application again in the same season. Once a Canadian team is awarded an FIVB Qualification Wild Card in the 2025 season they will not be part of a VC FIVB Qualification Wild Card Application again in the same season.

It should be noted that this policy applies to the FIVB Wild Card and not the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) Wild Card which is determined by the promoter of the respective event.

## VC Beach Local Organizing Committee (LOC) Wild Card Process

LOC Wildcards are considered promotional wild cards and can be assigned at the discretion of the LOC. LOC Wildcards to events outside of Canada will be made by the local LOC and without the involvement of Volleyball Canada. For Canadian Beach Pro Tour events, the LOC may request Volleyball Canada to nominate the teams for LOC wildcards. When this is the case Volleyball Canada will use the same process as used for FIVB wildcards to nominate teams for main draw LOC wild cards. That is the team with the highest FIVB entry points and not in the main draw of the upcoming event. The same process may be used for LOC qualification wildcards; however, Volleyball Canada reserves the right to nominate these wildcards at their discretion and based upon developmental rationale. Volleyball Canada will not nominate two LOC wild cards to the same team within the same year.

## 2025 FIVB Beach Volleyball Sport Regulations (TBC)

### Entry and Seeding

- **Entry and Seeding Points**
  - Entry Points = **Best 3 of last 4** Beach Pro Tour & WCH finishes within 365 days at **-28 days**
  - Seeding Points = **Best 3 of last 4** Beach Pro Tour & WCH finishes within 365 days at:
    - Elite 16: **-14 Days** and **reseeded if withdraws are after -14 days**
    - Challenge and Futures: Date of Preliminary Inquiry (**-1 day**)

### Competition Format

- **Elite 16**
  - 16 Main Draw Teams (4 Pools of 4 with **full pool play**) + 16-team Qualification to qualify **4 teams**

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- **Top 3** in each pool advance to playoffs (1<sup>st</sup> place to Quarterfinals, 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> place in Round of 12)
- **Challenge**
  - 24 Main Draw Teams (6 Pools of 4 with **modified pool play**) 32-team Qualification to qualify **8 teams**
  - **Top 3** in each pool advance to 18-team single elimination
- **Futures**
  - 16 Main Draw Teams (4 Pools of 4 with **modified pool play**) 16-team Qualification to qualify **4 teams**
  - **Top 3** in each pool advance to 12-team single elimination
- **The Finals**
  - 10 Main Draw Teams (2 Pools of 5 with **full pool play**) – No Qualification Tournament
  - Top 8 teams based on FIVB World Ranking (**Best 8 results in 365 days**) after last Elite 16 event before The Finals
  - **Top 3** in each pool advance to playoffs (1<sup>st</sup> place to semifinals, 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> place in quarterfinals)

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## 2025 FIVB Points Breakdown per Athlete

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

## 2025 FIVB Points Breakdown per Athlete (Continental Events (NORCECA), Multi-Sport Games, National Tour)

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

## FIVB Policy Extended Absence Due to Maternity Leave

- VC must submit a birth certificate and declare a return to play event at least **35 days** before the event
- Athlete must return within 2 years of birth:
  - **FIVB Entry Ranking** after the last tournament played before maternity leave is **preserved** upon return, so the **Starting Total** equals the FIVB Entry Points necessary to maintain the same FIVB Entry Ranking
- First event upon return will count in best 3 of 4 events if beneficial only
- **Starting Total** is decreased by 1/3 after each additional event participation
- After 4 events the Starting Total is zero
- Maternity Benefit lasts for 1 year after return

## FIVB Policy Extended Absence Due to Serious Injury

- VC must submit a valid medical certificate at least **35 days** before the event showing that the athlete was not able to play for at least **12 months**
- Athlete must return within 2 years from the date of the injury:
  - **FIVB Entry Ranking** after the last tournament played before serious injury is **preserved** upon return, so the **Starting Total** equals the FIVB Entry Points necessary to maintain the same FIVB Entry Ranking
- **Starting Total** is decreased by 1/3 after each additional event participation
- After 3 events the Starting Total is zero
- Serious Injury Benefit lasts for 1 year after return

## 9. NORCECA Beach Tour and VC NORCECA Selection Policy

### NORCECA Beach Tour – Important Considerations

Athletes should always travel to NORCECA Beach Tour Events with matching player tops with **#1 / #2 and CAN** on the tops. **NORCECA will not allow players to play if they don't have matching player tops with #1/#2 and Country Code (CAN)**

At NORCECA Events the hotel and food are covered from Thursday evening until Monday morning. Any additional hotel nights are the responsibility of the players concerned. Usually, the CAN2 team will be required to pay for their hotel and food costs from Thursday night to Sunday night. For the 2025 season, VC will pay the **\$500 USD** NORCECA registration fee for all Canadian teams.

### NORCECA Selection Policy

#### Selecting Canadian Teams for 2025 NORCECA Beach Tour Events

Volleyball Canada (VC) is only **guaranteed one (1) berth** in each gender of a 2025 NORCECA Beach Tour event. If there is space, then VC can also receive a 2<sup>nd</sup> berth to 2025 NORCECA Beach Tour events (VC is informed of this 2<sup>nd</sup> berth less than 14 days before the NORCECA Beach Tour event).

Since NORCECA Beach Tour events are a primary pathway for new teams with zero FIVB points to gain entry into FIVB events and since the access to NORCECA events is so limited versus FIVB events (1 maybe 2 CAN teams at NORCECA events versus multiple CAN teams at FIVB events), VC must ensure that teams with substantial FIVB points do not compete in the majority of NORCECA events because they will effectively block the pathway to the FIVB for new teams.

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Below is the 2025 VC NORCECA Selection Policy used to determine the registration by VC of Canadian teams into the 2025 NORCECA Beach Tour events:

## 2025 NORCECA Selection Policy

- In order to register for a NORCECA Event both players on a team must be medically cleared to play
- FIVB Entry Points are calculated at **-33 days** prior to any NORCECA Beach Tour Event
- Teams with **1200+ FIVB Entry Points** will not be permitted to enter into 2025 NORCECA Beach Tour events.

Exception:

- Entry in the following 2025 NORCECA events will be determined **by FIVB Entry Points** (no limit):
  - The 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 NORCECA Event plus any 2025 NORCECA Beach Tour Event organized in Canada
  - The 2025 NORCECA Championships (Finals)
- VC will register teams on the 2025 NORCECA Beach Tour (Except teams above) by the VC NORCECA Trials System below:
  - VC Trials (All):
    - Teams with **1,200+ FIVB Entry Points** will not be permitted to participate in NORCECA Trials
    - The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place teams will play a match after the gold and bronze matches to determine the actual 2<sup>nd</sup> ranked team **if the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked teams have not played** each other in the Trials. Otherwise, the result of their most recent match (A playoff match supersedes a pool play match) in the Trials will determine the 2<sup>nd</sup> ranked team.
  - VC Closed NORCECA Trials - Indoor at the VC Beach HP Centre at Downsview (Feb/Mar 2025)
    - At least one player on each competing team must be a 2025 National Team Member (16-team maximum per gender) or earned FIVB points in 2023.
    - **For entry into NORCECA events up to July 2025**
  - VC Open NORCECA Trials May/June/July 2025 (At Ashbridges Bay, Toronto)
    - Open entry to any Canadian citizen (32 Team maximum per gender)
    - **For entry into NORCECA events starting in August 2025**
  - These VC NORCECA Trials will determine a final ranking of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and these **4 teams** will comprise the updated **VC NORCECA Eligibility List**.
    - Teams which finish below 4<sup>th</sup> place will not earn a spot on the latest VC NORCECA Eligibility List
    - Teams will be offered entry based on their position in the VC NORCECA Eligibility List
    - If no team accepts from the VC NORCECA Eligibility List of 4 teams, VC reserves the right to either hold additional NORCECA Trials or name the team directly. This decision is at the discretion of the Beach High Performance Director in consultation with Next Gen Coaches.
    - The 1<sup>st</sup> place team will be offered their choice of which is their first NORCECA event they plan to participate in. If the 1<sup>st</sup> place team from a NORCECA Trials selects the second, third or fourth NORCECA event then the CANADA 1 team that plays in the event proceeding the event selected by the 1<sup>st</sup> place NORCECA Trials team will be moved to CANADA 2 for that selected event.
    - Teams will be offered entry into one NORCECA event-and must average a medal finish over **2 events (Maximum total of 2 finishes is 6)** to earn another NORCECA nomination otherwise the next team on the VC NORCECA Eligibility List will be offered entry. For example, **a team must finish 5<sup>th</sup> at their first NORCECA event in order to be registered at a second tournament. If a team finishes 6<sup>th</sup> or worse at their first event, they are removed from participating in NORCECA events and the next team in the VC NORCECA Eligibility List will be offered entry into the next NORCECA event.**
      - NORCECA results from June 2025 and earlier do not carry over past June 2025 with respect to this policy.

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- A team will be offered an automatic second NORCECA event, regardless of that team's performance at the first event, if the second NORCECA event is the next weekend after the first event.
- A Player may be replaced due to injury (With the new team keeping the NORCECA Berth) once in 2025 provided:
  - The injury occurs within 7 days of the NORCECA event, and
  - The injured player shows proof of purchase of an airline ticket to this NORCECA Event
  - The injured player will be withdrawn from any future NORCECA event they are already registered for
  - The injured player must be medically cleared before being allowed to register for a future NORCECA event
- In the event of a force majeure (Where no team in the VC NORCECA Eligibility List agrees to participate), VC reserves the right to nominate any team to ensure that two Canadian teams are registered to compete in each gender at every 2025 NORCECA Beach Tour event.
- All teams which accept NORCECA nominations must provide proof of purchased flights for both players by -14 days before the start of the NORCECA event they have committed to participating in. Volleyball Canada reserves the right to transfer the NORCECA nomination to another team if proof of purchased flights is not provided at -14 days.

### 10. VC Beach Selection Camps and Trials Dates

VC Beach Selection Camps and Trials (NORCECA, FIVB Age Group U19/U21, FISU...etc.) dates can be found on the VC Website (<https://volleyball.ca/en/beach-teams>). Online registration will be used for all Selection Camps and Trials Tournaments.