

Beach Volleyball **Competitions Rules** 2021

To be approved by Board of Directors



Scottish
Volleyball

Introduction

Beach volleyball has been developing rapidly in the past decades. With the first appearance in the Olympics in 1996. Beach volleyball managed to assert itself as a major discipline and it is governed by the FIVB. In Scotland the game has gained profile in recent years, especially with the representation at the Youth Commonwealth Games in 2017 and Commonwealth Games in 2018, where beach volleyball made its first appearance in multi-sport events.

The visibility of beach volleyball in Scotland is continuously growing and is governed by the National Body, Scottish Volleyball,

The beach volleyball regulations are a set of competitions rules to follow when organising and participating on the beach tour. An organisational chart, workflow, practical information and event requirements are explained in this handbook.

The aim of the regulations is to support clubs, local authorities, schools and anyone who wishes to organise a beach volleyball event in Scotland, with the hope to increase the profile and the scope of the sport.

1. General

- 1.1. Scottish Volleyball (SV) is the National Governing Body for all the volleyball disciplines in Scotland. Scottish Volleyball is responsible for the development and promotion of volleyball, beach volleyball, and sitting volleyball.
- 1.2. Scottish Volleyball organises each season, official beach volleyball competitions in Scotland, with the support of the collaborative approach of all commissions.
 - 1.2.1. The Beach Volleyball tour organisation sub-committee is formed by one representative of each club/organising committee. The aim of this committee is to ensure fair and equal representation of all organisers.
 - 1.2.2. At the end of each beach volleyball season, players and participants will be provided with a platform where they can share ideas and provide the governing body with feedback on the organisation of the tour.
- 1.3. Official beach volleyball competitions in Scotland must follow:
 - 1.3.1. The [Official FIVB Beach Volleyball Rules of the game](#)
 - 1.3.2. The SV Beach Volleyball Competition Rules set out in this Handbook

2. Objectives

- 2.1. The Scottish Volleyball National Beach Volleyball Tour, hereinafter the “National Tour” serves as the official national competition for Scotland.
- 2.2. The National Tour aims to showcase and develop beach volleyball as a discipline across Scotland.
- 2.3. To develop a strong beach volleyball community.
- 2.4. The purpose of these rules is to ensure:
 - 2.4.1. Fairness and integrity in any Beach Volleyball competition organised or sanctioned by SV.
 - 2.4.2. All stakeholders alike have a common set of guidelines.
 - 2.4.3. Equal opportunities and resources are given to the event’s organisers.
 - 2.4.4. A consistently high level of standards in the delivery of the events.

3. Definitions

- 3.1. Beach season: the season runs from May until September. This period might be shortened or prolonged according to specific circumstances in any given year.
- 3.2. UK Beach volleyball Tour (UKBT). Additional UKBT tour dates might be added or removed on a yearly basis by Scottish Volleyball)
- 3.3. National Finals: finals of the Scottish National Tour, played on a weekend, accessed via ranking points.
- 3.4. Participants List: list of the teams that have been admitted to the tournament.
- 3.5. Ranking: list created after addition of all ranking points per player.

- 3.6. Ranking points: points obtained by a player/team when reaching a specific placement in a tournament (regional, national, CEV and FIVB).
- 3.7. Wild card: tournament entry awarded to athletes who do not qualify for a tournament via ranking points.
- 3.8. Seeding: list showing the ranking points of a team upon tournament entry, to define draws.
- 3.9. Organiser: organising committee/clubs running the tournament on the day of the event.

4. Eligibility

- 4.1. All players must be active Tier 1 Scottish Volleyball Members on the [GoMembership Database](#).
 - 4.1.1. Membership can be obtained only through the [GoMembership Database](#), available on the Scottish Volleyball website.
 - 4.1.2. All players must abide by the Code of Conduct, Section 20 of the Beach Volleyball rules.

5. Tour organisation

- 5.1. The Scottish Beach Volleyball National Tour is managed and promoted by Scottish Volleyball.
 - 5.1.1. Scottish Volleyball manages the calendar, the rules, ranking, membership system, and promotion of the tour.
 - 5.1.2. The calendar is published on the Scottish Volleyball website. The calendar may be amended during the season according to organisers' request and upon Scottish Volleyball's approval.
- 5.2. Clubs are the event organisers for the tour dates. Clubs oversee the delivery of the event on the day.
- 5.3. Scottish Volleyball is the organiser of the Scottish Beach Volleyball National Tour finals.

6. Venue

- 6.1. The venue of the tour dates is the home venue of the organiser or a venue nominated by the organiser. The venue will be published on the Scottish Volleyball website, alongside the calendar.
- 6.2. The venue consists of 8 courts (where possible), 2 of them are the "centre courts".
 - 6.2.1. The centre courts will have appropriate SV branding.
- 6.3. The venue for the finals is to be discussed and agreed together with all stakeholders.

6.3.1. The venue for the finals will be communicated in due course via the official communication channels of SV.

6.4. Every participant to the event, should treat the venue with respect and in accordance with the guidelines set by the event organiser/host venue.

7. Format

7.1. Each event will be double gender.

7.2. There will be maximum 16 teams per gender competing in a single event.

7.2.1. The format of the competition (where applicable) will be the following:

7.2.1.1. Each team must play at least 3 games.

7.2.1.1.1. Pool Play into single elimination (see FIVB [Sports Regulations](#) for format reference)

7.2.1.1.2. Modified pool play into double elimination (see FIVB [Sports Regulations](#) for format reference)

7.2.1.1.3. If the organiser intends to use a different format, this will be taken into consideration by SV, provided the organisers asks for approval to Scottish Volleyball.

7.2.1.2. Best of 3 sets

7.2.1.2.1. 15 points set during pool play matches

7.2.1.2.2. 21 points set (with 15 points eventual 3rd set) during the elimination rounds

7.2.1.3. Seeding will be based on average ranking points.

7.2.2. Classification matches will be played.

7.2.2.1. If classification matches cannot be played (e.g. special conditions, venue availability etc), teams eliminated at the same round in the tournament will be awarded the same ranking points.

7.2.2.2. Final 3rd 4th will be played.

7.2.3. See Appendix B for competition schedule templates.

8. Team entries

8.1. To enter a tournament, teams need to sign up for it via the [GoMembership](#) system, available on the Scottish Volleyball website.

8.2. Team entry is communicated and paid via the [GoMembership](#) system.

8.3. Any questions regarding memberships and payments should be emailed to <mailto:membership@scottishvolleyball.org>

9. Ranking Points

9.1.1.

Div 1	
Place	Points
1	70
2	68
3	66
4	64
5	63
7	61
9	59
13	55
16	52

Div 2	
Place	Points
1	54
2	52
3	50
4	48
5	47
7	45
9	43
13	39
16	36

9.1.2. Ranking points will be awarded to each participant according to their final standing in each event.

9.1.3. The final ranking to access the Scottish Tour finals will be based on the average of top 3 results of the season 2021.

9.1.3.1. This may vary according to number of tournaments offered during the season. Number will be confirmed at the beginning of each season.

10. Finals

10.1. The tour finals will be organised by Scottish Volleyball

10.2. 8 teams per gender will access the finals according to 9.1.3.

10.2.1. Allocation of wild cards for the finals is possible. Refer to Section 16 of these rules

10.3. The winner of the finals will be the winner of the Scottish Beach Volleyball National Tour.

11. Officiating

11.1. The matches will be self-refereed. Each participant will receive the schedule of their matches and the matches they should referee prior to the day of the competition. The schedule will be available via the online system, which will be available on the website.

- 11.1.1. Each participant will make sure to be punctual to any match they are required to attend.
- 11.1.2. When qualified officials are available for tournaments, the organiser will be made aware, and the refereeing schedule will be adjusted accordingly in timely fashion at least 2 days prior to the start of the competition.
- 11.2. If possible, the finals will be refereed by qualified officials.

12. Results

- 12.1. Results will be registered by the refereeing teams on the bespoke software provided by Scottish Volleyball.
- 12.2. Match officials will be able to insert the results as soon as the match is finished and/or they are going to be able to live score the match via phone webapp, so the results will be automatically registered.
- 12.3. The event organiser will ensure all results are uploaded and registered correctly.
- 12.4. Any questions about results should be emailed to results@scottishvolleyball.org

13. Enrolment to the event and technical meeting

- 13.1. The enrolment to the tournament will happen no later than 30 minutes before start of the competition.
 - 13.1.1. Tardiness should be communicated to the competition organiser as soon as possible.
- 13.2. The event organiser will have a technical meeting 15 minutes before the start of the competition to ensure the participants are comfortable with the format and regulations and general management of the event.

14. Timeline

- 14.1. Entries to each event will be closed 5 days prior to the event, at 2pm.
- 14.2. Practical information about the event will be sent out to all participants 4 days prior to the event.

15. Sanctions

- 15.1. Teams who wish to withdraw after the registration deadline will be sanctioned £10 pounds to be paid to Scottish Volleyball.
 - 15.1.1. The players might support their withdrawal with a declaration of good faith as to why they wish to withdraw from the tournament (e.g. sickness).
- 15.2. Teams who do not show up on the day of the event will be sanctioned £20
 - 15.2.1. Failure to pay any outstanding sanctions will prevent teams/players entering future tour events.

16. Wild Card

- 16.1. Wild cards may be issued for teams who do not meet the criteria to qualify or register for an event.
- 16.2. A wild card application needs to be sent 14 days prior the event to competitions@scottishvolleyball.org .
 - 16.2.1. The Beach Volleyball Commission will evaluate the application and decide whether to accept it or not. In the application, reasons why the team should be considered, including what added value the team would bring to that event needs to be included. Templates will be available on the Scottish Volleyball website.
 - 16.2.2. The Beach Commission and the Competitions Officer will issue a decision on the wild card at least 7 days prior the event.
 - 16.2.3. The organisers have the right to grant two wild cards per gender per event.
 - 16.2.4. The organisers reserve the rights to allocate wildcards to the Tour Finals to ensure there is a fair and proper competition.
 - 16.2.4.1. Commission can revise seeding according to FIVB ranking points if an international player wishes to enter to specific events during the tour.

17. Prize

- 17.1. Each tournament will have a prize money awarded to each 3 top teams per gender
 - 17.1.1. The prize split will be communicated via the practical information document sent out to all participants prior the event.

18. Uniforms

- 18.1. Each team should be wearing t-shirts or tops of similar colour, to ensure there is uniformity amongst same team players.
 - 18.1.1. Cold weather clothing is allowed.

19. Cancellation & postponements

- 19.1. Each event might be cancelled because of [force majeure causes](#).
- 19.2. An event may be postponed in case of impracticable weather. All participants will be notified a day in advance if the weather conditions do not allow for the event to happen.
- 19.3. If an event is cancelled, when possible, it will be rescheduled at the next available weekend date.

20. Code of conduct

- 20.1. Every participant should be respectful of the other athletes, officials, organisers and volunteers involved in the event.

- 20.2. All participants are required to be on time for any duty they need to perform (playing, officiating etc).
- 20.3. Any shouting, aggressive behaviour towards any other party involved in the event will not be tolerated and the organiser has the right to report any misconduct to Scottish Volleyball.
- 20.3.1. In case of gross misconduct during an event, the event organiser has the right to exclude a participant from the event
- 20.3.1.1. This will result in automatic elimination from the event and the Scottish Volleyball will take the appropriate disciplinary measures.
- 20.4. If a participant is deemed to bring the event into disruption, the organiser/supervisor of the event has the right to report to Scottish Volleyball.
- 20.4.1. Scottish Volleyball has the right to sanction the participant.
- 20.5. This and any other Scottish Volleyball competition follows our [anti-doping policy](#).
- 20.6. Alcohol consumption is not allowed for participating teams and volunteers.
- 20.7. Tardiness:

Lateness	Sanction
>5 minutes	Loss of warm up
>20 minutes	Loss of 1 st set
>30 minutes	Loss of match

21. Disputes

- 21.1. The event organiser oversees handling disputes on the day of the event.
- 21.2. The event organiser should always refer to these Scottish Volleyball Beach Volleyball rules in case of disputes.
- 21.3. In case of technical disputes, [FIVB Rules of the game](#) shall prevail.
- 21.4. If a participant wishes to raise an official complaint, they must email it to competitions@scottishvolleyball.org. The subject of the email should be "Beach Volleyball Complaint".
- 21.4.1. The complaint will be forwarded on to the disputes panel, who will assess the case according to the information provided.
- 21.4.2. The disputes panel is formed by three independent parties, who are not involved in any other Scottish Volleyball activity. The updated list of members who constitute the disputes panel is available on the Scottish Volleyball website.
- 21.4.3. A decision will be communicated in due course to the complainant.
- 21.4.3.1. If the complainant wishes to appeal, they can appeal to the Board of Directors, who will then examine the initial complaint, the dispute resolution and will make a final decision on it.

22. Child Protection and Wellbeing

- 22.1. The Scottish National Tour follows the [Scottish Volleyball Child Protection and Wellbeing policy](#).

23. COVID-19

- 23.1. All our competitions follow the latest [Scottish Volleyball Play it Safe guidance](#).
- 23.2. Events might be cancelled due to COVID-19.