



VOLLEYBALL ENGLAND BEACH VOLLEYBALL

2026 Performance Plan and Selection Rationale

This document should be read in conjunction with [England Beach Volleyball Selection and Eligibility Policy 2026.pdf](#)

1. 2026 Strategic Priorities

- Improve competitive ranking and finishing positions across all international events.
- Ensure full and well-prepared representation at every event.
- Develop a clear competition athlete pathway from U18 through to senior.
- Leverage home events (NEVZA Bridlington, BPT Futures Bridlington) for development and visibility.
- Establish consistent coaching structures and support standards across all age groups.

2. 2026 Competition Calendar

The table below outlines all confirmed and expected international competition dates across senior and age group programmes for 2026. Dates for NEVZA Youth and CEV age group events are confirmed; some auxiliary Futures dates may be refined as the season progresses.

Senior Programme

Date	Event	Location	Category	Gender
5–6 June 2026	Nations Cup Prelim Phase	Alanya, Türkiye	Nations Cup	Male and Female
16–19 July 2026	Nations Cup Final	Budapest, Hungary	Nations Cup	Male and Female
21–23 June 2026	NEVZA Senior Beach Championships	Bridlington, England	NEVZA Senior	Male and Female
25–28 June 2026	BPT Futures Bridlington	Bridlington, England	Futures	Male and Female

Youth Programme (U18 & U20)

England will host the NEVZA Youth Beach Championships for the third consecutive year at Bridlington. The 2026 edition carries qualification status for the CEV U18 and U20 European Championships. CEV Beach Volleyball Age Group European Championships are confirmed across three host cities. The U18 and U20 events will be preceded by zonal qualifying rounds through which England must qualify.

Date	Event	Location	Category	Gender
30 June – 2 July 2026	NEVZA Youth Beach Championships (U18 & U20)	Bridlington, England	NEVZA Youth	Male and Female
17-20 September 2026	CEV U18 Beach Volleyball European Championship	Izmir, Türkiye	U18	Male and Female
3–6 September 2026	CEV U20 Beach Volleyball European Championship	Battipaglia, Italy	U20	Male and Female
10–13 September 2026	CEV U22 Beach Volleyball European Championship	Madrid, Spain	U22	Male and Female
8-9 August 2026	International Cup	Porthcawl, Wales	U20	Male and Female

3. Performance Outcomes & Targets

The following section defines specific, measurable outcome targets for each competition. Targets are set as Expected Performance (EP), and Exceptional Performance (XP). All finishing positions reflect the number of teams typically entered.

3.1 Senior – CEV Beach Volley Nations Cup

The Nations Cup follows a country vs. country format. England must win preliminary event to qualify through the Preliminary Phase to reach the Final in Budapest (16–19 July). In 2026, 25 men's and 21 women's national federations have registered.

Programme	Expected (EP)	Exceptional (XP)	Key Measure
Men's Nations Cup	Win 1 group match from group stage in Prelim Phase	Qualify for Budapest Final	Win at least 1 match in Prelim Phase
Women's Nations Cup	Win 1 group match from group stage in Prelim Phase	Qualify for Budapest Final	Win at least 1 match in Prelim Phase

Selection Rationale

The purpose of this selection approach is to nominate two England (ENG) teams per gender, each comprising two pairs to ensure competitive representation at the CEV Beach Volleyball Nations Cup.

Selection priority will be given to athletes currently supported through the British Volleyball Federation (BVF), recognising their ongoing investment, commitment, and alignment with the programme's performance objectives.

In addition to current performance levels, consideration will be given to athletes demonstrating strong future potential, supporting the long-term development of England’s international pathway.

Final selection decisions will be made at the discretion of the Selection Panel, who will assess whether nominated pairs meet the required performance standards. Where a pair may not yet meet the immediate performance benchmark, they may still be selected if they are deemed to have clear potential for future success and progression within the programme.

Selection Panel Meeting

Monday 11 May 2026

3.2 Senior – Beach Pro Tour Futures (Including Home Event)

The BPT Futures Bridlington (25–28 June) is England's highest-profile international event to date. Up to three home pairs per gender may enter the main draw (plus one additional team in qualifying). Additional Futures events abroad provide vital ranking points and competitive exposure.

Programme	Expected (EP)	Exceptional (XP)	Key Measure
Men – Bridlington Futures	2 pairs reach quarter finals	1 pair medal	Points accumulated FIVB ranking
Women – Bridlington Futures	2 pairs reach quarter finals	1 pair medal	Points accumulated on FIVB ranking

Wild Card Selection Rationale (Senior NEVZA)

Volleyball England will use wild card entries to optimise competitive performance and support future athlete development within the programme. Selection will prioritise pairs assessed as having the greatest likelihood of achieving the highest possible finishing position at the event, based on current form and performance evidence.

In addition, consideration will be given to pairs demonstrating strong future potential. Where a pair may not yet meet the immediate performance standard, they may still be awarded a wild card if they are judged to have clear prospects for future success and progression within the England performance pathway.

Selection Panel Meeting

Monday 11 May 2026

3.3 Emerging Senior – CEV U22 Beach Volleyball European Championship

The U22 European Championship is held in Madrid, Spain (10–13 September). In 2026. There are no NEVZA zonal qualifiers for U22; nations enter through the CEV Age Group Ranking.

Programme	Expected (EP)	Exceptional (XP)	Key Measure
U22 Boys	Qualify for the main draw	Advance from pool play	Finishing position vs prior year

Programme	Expected (EP)	Exceptional (XP)	Key Measure
U22 Girls	Qualify for the main draw	Advance from pool play	Finishing position vs prior year

Selection Rationale – CEV U22 European Championships

Selection for the CEV U22 Beach Volleyball European Championships will focus on athletes and pairs who have demonstrated the capability to compete effectively at this level and meet the required performance standards. Priority will be given to those pairs assessed as having the ability to perform competitively within the demands of the competition and achieve meaningful outcomes relative to international benchmarks.

The Selection Panel reserves the right not to nominate a pair for a particular event where it is deemed that the required performance or strategic criteria are not sufficiently met.

Selection Panel Meeting

Friday 3rd July 2026

3.4 Youth – NEVZA U18 & U20 Championships (Bridlington)

England will compete against NEVZA nations (Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland). The NEVZA event also serves as a CEV qualifying round for U18 and U20 European Championships. The top two nations from qualifying events secure main draw places.

Programme	Expected (EP)	Exceptional (XP)	Key Measure
U18 Boys	Reach the semi-finals	Reach the Final	Finishing position at competition
U18 Girls	Reach the semi-finals	Reach the Final	Finishing position at competition
U20 Men	Reach the semi-finals	Win the event	Finishing position at competition
U20 Women	Reach the semi-finals	Podium finish	Finishing position at competition

Selection Rationale

Selection will prioritise the top two teams per gender based on current performance level and their demonstrated ability to achieve the highest possible finishing position at the competition. These selections will reflect the pairs most capable of delivering immediate competitive outcomes aligned with the performance targets of the programme.

The remaining two teams will be selected through a balanced approach incorporating both Pair Testing and Performance Development. This approach allows for the evaluation of new or developing partnerships under competition conditions, while also supporting athlete progression within the England pathway.

3.5 Youth – CEV U18 Beach Volleyball European Championship

The U18 European Championship is held in Izmir, Türkiye. England must qualify through the NEVZA zonal qualifying round (top 2 nations qualify). The U18 competition is the key development stage for identifying future senior programme athletes.

Programme	Expected (EP)	Exceptional (XP)	Key Measure
U18 Boys	Advance from pool play	Reach the last 16	Finishing position at championship
U18 Girls	Advance from pool play	Reach the last 16	Finishing position at championship

3.6 Youth – CEV U20 Beach Volleyball European Championship

The U20 European Championship is held in Battipaglia, Italy (3–6 September). As with U18, England must qualify through NEVZA zonal qualifiers. This event bridges youth and emerging senior performance.

Programme	Expected (EP)	Exceptional (XP)	Key Measure
U20 Men	Advance from pool play	Reach the quarter final	Finishing position at championship
U20 Women	Take match to a third set	Advance from pool play	Finishing position at championship

Selection Rationale – CEV U18 & U20 European Beach Volleyball Championships

Selection for the CEV U18 and U20 Beach Volleyball European Championships will be primarily based on current performance, with priority given to the pair assessed as having the greatest likelihood of achieving the highest possible finishing position at the competition.

In addition, consideration will be given to athletes and pairs demonstrating strong future potential. Where a pair may not yet meet the immediate performance standard required for the event, they may still be selected if they are identified as having clear prospects for future.

Selection Panel Meeting

Friday 3rd July 2026

3.7 Youth – Fireball International Cup

The U20 International Cup takes place in Porthcawl, Wales (8-9 August) This event provides the strategic development of athletes for future international performance.

Programme	Expected (EP)	Exceptional (XP)	Key Measure
U20 Men	Podium Finish	Win the event	Finishing position vs prior year
U20 Women	Podium Finish	Win the event	Finishing position vs prior year