

National Beach Volleyball Selection Policy

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Purpose of this policy

1. This policy is designed highlight eligibility criteria and to facilitate a fair and transparent selection process for representing England at Beach Volleyball in international events including but not restricted to [FIVB Pro Tour](#), [CEV](#), [Foreign Domestic Tours](#), [Multi-Events Games](#), [Invitational Senior](#) and [Age Group Events](#).
2. For FIVB Pro Tour Events and Foreign Domestic Tours, Volleyball England fully encourages the participation of all eligible teams of the correct sporting standard. For these events players will come under this policy but selection meetings will not be held unless required with reference to Annex A.

Subjective nature of selection decisions

3. Volleyball England does not consider it effective to select players based on hard-edged criteria (for example UKBT results). Such an approach would not take into account factors such as injury or illness which may have prevented performance.
4. Volleyball England recognises that selection decisions should be made on a subjective basis, considering a variety of factors. A list of factors which may be considered in selection decisions is set out in [paragraph 25](#).
5. Subjective selection decisions will be made by the Selection Group, as detailed in [paragraph 11](#).

Purpose of selection decisions

6. The objective of each selection decision is to:
 - 6.1. select the players with the best chance of achieving the highest placed finish at the relevant championship or event; and/or

- 6.2. to achieve any further sporting goals set out in the Volleyball England's Performance Strategy.

Who this policy applies to

7. This policy applies to all players wishing to represent England in beach volleyball.

Events this policy applies to

8. This policy applies to the following events:
 - 8.1. [FIVB Pro Tour Events](#)
 - 8.2. [CEV Tournaments](#) (Excluding Nations Cup 2024)
 - 8.3. [Foreign Domestic National Tours](#)
 - 8.4. [Invitational Events](#)
 - 8.5. [All Age Group Events](#)
 - 8.6. [Multi-Event Games](#)

Other relevant documents

9. Other relevant documents to this policy:
 - 9.1. Sport Wide Performance Plan (TBC)
 - 9.2. [Volleyball England Membership Terms](#)
 - 9.3. [Volleyball England Member Pledge](#)
 - 9.4. VE Selection Appeals Procedure
 - 9.5. National Beach Player Handbook
 - 9.6. [FIVB Beach Volleyball Sport Operations Manual](#)
 - 9.7. [FIVB Beach Volleyball Sports Regulations](#)
 - 9.8. [CEV Beach Volleyball Competition Regulations](#)
 - 9.9. [VE Code of Conduct](#)

Selection Group

10. Selection decisions for all events listed in paragraph 9 above will be taken by a Selection Group comprising of 3 Selectors.
11. The Selection Group will consist of:
 - 11.1. The Beach Performance Director
 - 11.2. The Talent Team Strategic Manager / Delegated Representative

- 11.3. VE Senior Leadership Team Member / Delegated Representative
- 11.4. For Age Group Selections – the appropriate Head Coach / Representative. (Non-voting member).

12. Selectors shall:

- 12.1. be expected to attend any selection trials, unless the Performance Director communicates that attendance is not required.
- 12.2. participate in all meetings of the Selection Group for the relevant competition.
- 12.3. comply with any terms of reference issued to them by Volleyball England
- 12.4. immediately declare any matter which may give rise to a conflict of interest or the perception of a conflict. Any Selector with a conflict of interest will not be given voting rights.

Selection Meetings

- 13. Selection meetings may take place in person or via video conference. Where selection meetings are called on short notice, they may take place via telephone.
- 14. Selection meetings shall be attended by the Selection Group, who may also invite a notetaker and/or observer relevant to the competition.
- 15. The Selection Group may request reports from, or the presence of, any person it considers will assist it, including but not limited to the player's Doctor, VE Talent Team or a coach.
- 16. The selection decisions must be taken by the Selection Group and not by any other person or persons.
- 17. Selection decisions shall be communicated to players promptly in an appropriate manner by the Beach Performance Director or his nominee.

Selection Framework

- 18. Beach Volleyball is a pair sport. While each player can do a great deal to develop themselves as an individual, ultimately, they must be able to realise their potential and perform within a pair. It is acknowledged that in selecting for a pair sport, combinations of players, the balance of a pairing and the ability of players as a duo are also considered alongside individual skill level.

Eligibility - Minimum Criteria

19. To be eligible to compete for England in international events (including international events held in England) each player must:
 - 19.1. Be a British citizen.
 - 19.2. At all times hold a valid British Passport and be able to travel to events and training camps.
 - 19.3. Be a registered member of Volleyball England.
 - 19.4. Be eligible under the CEV / FIVB Nationality Regulations.
 - 19.5. Be eligible to compete under the Volleyball England Transgender Policy.
 - 19.6. Have England stated as their Federation of Origin.
 - 19.7. Not be subject to any current disciplinary proceedings or ban.
 - 19.8. Not be subject to any period of ineligibility or provisional suspension due to an anti-doping rule violation.
 - 19.9. Have no outstanding financial debt to Volleyball England.
 - 19.10. Follow the VE Code of Conduct.

Nomination Process

20. Communications for specific events and opportunities will come from Volleyball England stating that nominations are open for selection. Players are to self-nominate using the process laid out in the communication.
21. All nominations that meet the minimum eligibility criteria ([paragraph 19](#)) will be considered for selection.
22. In exceptional circumstances, the Beach Performance Director may nominate a player.
23. For the World Pro Tour and Foreign Domestic Tours, teams may self-nominate for entry into specific events throughout the season by emailing talent@volleyballengland.org.

Factors Affecting Performance

24. A player's performance will be presumed to be their best. If there is a medical or other reason why a player cannot perform at their best, the Beach Performance Director must be notified in writing, together with a medical certificate if appropriate. While the Selection

Group may take account of any factor affecting performance, VE is not bound to delay or alter the selection process as a consequence.

Additional Factors for Consideration

25. Additional factors which will be considered:

- 25.1. Adherence to the VE Code of Conduct
- 25.2. Adherence to high performance behavior (as per the Players Handbook).
- 25.3. The attitude and commitment of players to prepare and compete for England.
- 25.4. The performance record of players in pressure situations particularly at international events.
- 25.5. Illness and injury during the lead up period.
- 25.6. Any disciplinary history.

De-Selection

26. Players can be de-selected from their nominations for the following instances;

- 26.1. Anti-Doping violations – Players suspended by VE due to ongoing or concluded anti-doping violation allegations, will not be nominated or considered for selection. If already nominated or selected, they will be deselected.
- 26.2. Injury – If injury issues are identified at the time of or after nomination/selection, a fitness assessment may be required to determine whether the player is capable of performing to the level that they were selected.
- 26.3. Breaches of Conduct – Players in breach of VE or Governing Body policies, code of conducts and player agreements may be deselected.

Appeals

27. A player only has the right to appeal against any decision of the Selection Group in respect of the implementation of the Policy where the player believes that:

- 27.1. there has been a failure to apply the applicable selection/nomination/deselection criteria; and/or
- 27.2. there has been a failure to adhere to the procedure set out in the applicable selection/nomination/deselection Policy.

28. A player does not have a right of appeal against any judgement or discretion exercised in the course of making selection/nomination/deselection decisions, or against the content of the applicable selection/nomination/deselection criteria.

29. The full appeals procedure can be found in the VE Selection Appeals Procedure

Team Staff Appointments

30. For events where Volleyball England supply staff, such as the coaches and support staff, these will be appointed by the Beach Volleyball Performance Director. The decision on the individuals appointed to this role, will be made in communication with, and in the best interest of the players.
31. All appointed staff must be a member of Volleyball England and adhere to all VE, FIVB and CEV policies and procedures.

Amendment to this Policy

32. This Selection Policy may be amended by VE at any time at its sole discretion.

Questions about the Policy

33. Questions about this policy should be directed to talent@volleyballengland.org.

Governing Law

34. This Selection Policy shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of England and Wales.

Jurisdiction

35. Any dispute or claim arising out of, or in connection with this Selection Policy shall be submitted for determination exclusively to arbitration under the auspices of Sport Resolutions (UK) Limited and subject to the procedural control of the English Courts.

Annex A

Volleyball World ProTour Events, CEV Tournaments (not including age group events), Foreign Domestic National Tours & Invitational Events

Specific Eligibility Criteria

1. Entry will be for a team, not an individual player.
2. All players must meet all Minimum Eligibility Criteria in [paragraph 19](#).
3. Due to the high standard of competition and the negative effect this may have on a player's progression and well-being, a player under the age of 18 will only be considered for eligibility with written support from the Beach Performance Director and if safeguarding protocols are followed. Each request will be looked at on a case by case basis.
4. Noting that Volleyball is a sport which is very demanding in terms of physical load on the body and hence has a relatively high incidence of periods of injury and drop-out, the impact of any physical injury on the Player's ability to compete during the 12-month period prior to the selection. It is the responsibility of any Player to notify the VE Chief Medical Officer of any physical injury that may be impairing their ability to compete.

Country Quota

5. If the amount of teams that wish to compete in a specific event are above the country quota a [Selection Meeting](#) will take place by the [Selection Group](#) to determine the teams to participate. The following criteria will be reviewed:
 - 5.1. The specific event and the strategic plan for the event: this will be determined by the Beach Performance Director.
 - 5.2. National and International rankings and performance against opponents including those on the FIVB World Ranking list.
 - 5.3. The teams technical, tactical, physical, and mental performance and ability as determined by the Beach Volleyball Performance Director / Beach Volleyball Performance Group.

- 5.4. The teams ongoing commitment and application, including communication, adherence to the Team Performance Plans (TPPs), motivation to succeed and use of available resources within a daily training environment to increase performance.
- 5.5. The team's commitment to the level of training necessary to achieve the desired performance.

Team Entry Process

6. Before Volleyball England will enter a team into an event the following criteria must be met:
 - 6.1. All teams that have not previously entered a CEV Senior/Pro-Tour event must have a process meeting with a member of the Talent Team. Please email talent@volleyballengland.org to arrange a date/time.
 - 6.2. All CEV/FIVB mandatory administration must be completed and forwarded to talent@volleyballengland.org for uploading to FIVB VIS. Please see the [National Team Beach Players Handbook](#) for further details.
7. It is the responsibility of teams to ensure all FIVB/CEV timelines and policies are followed. [\(please see paragraph 9 in the main document\)](#).
8. VE take no responsibility for fines created by poor administration from players. All fines must be paid by the team before further entry into a competition will be allowed.
9. Change of players for events may be applied for in line with CEV/FIVB policy. All replacement players must be eligible with ref to this document.

Annex B

All Age Group Events (including YCWG)

Specific Selection Criteria

- 1 When selecting for age group events, the Beach Performance Director will state the strategic plan for the competition. Selection may be based on performance, development, or both. The Beach Performance Director will state if selection is for a player or a team for each event, and if reserves will also be selected.
- 2 All players must meet all Minimum Eligibility Criteria in [paragraph 19](#).
- 3 All players must meet the specific age requirements for the competition or as directed by the Beach Performance Director.
- 4 Factors that will be considered by the Selection Group will include but not be limited to:
 - 4.1. The player's prior experiences from a national or international level, including CEV and NEVZA events.
 - 4.2. A player's technical, tactical, physical, and mental performance and ability as determined by the Beach Performance Director / Beach Volleyball Performance Group.
 - 4.3. A player's ongoing commitment and application, including communication with national coaches, adherence to Individual Performance Plans (IPPs), motivation to succeed and use of available resources within a daily training environment to increase performance.
 - 4.4. A player's commitment to the level of training necessary to achieve the desired performance or their potential.

Annex C

Multi-Sport Games (i.e. CWGs)

Selection shall adhere to the organising committee policies where applicable, or policy stated by Volleyball England.