



AUSTRALIAN BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOUR

2015/16 HANDBOOK



Volleyball
AUSTRALIA

as at 10/11/2015

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1 THE 2015/16 AUSTRALIAN BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOUR (ABVT)

1.1 WELCOME AND OVERVIEW

It is with great pleasure on behalf of Volleyball Australia (VA) that we release the 2015/16 Australian Beach Volleyball Tour (the tour) Handbook.

The Handbook provides a clear articulation of the rules and regulations, and the roles and responsibilities underpinning the delivery of the 2015/16 Tour. The tour is based upon the following principles: use of the Australian Beach Volleyball Ranking System as a means of gaining entry into events, supporting and giving greater recognition to our member state's open events, clearly articulating the player pathway from AAA to Open to Grand Slam events and ensuring that the "look and feel" of each event are consistent so that you the player will experience an event delivery that is consistent across the nation.

We are very excited about the opportunities we have to host Olympic Qualification events and international competitions on Australian beaches for the first time since the 2008 World Tour and the Continental Cup and Oceania Championships events at Manly last summer. This summer will see the largest international Beach Volleyball campaign held in the history of Australian volleyball.

There has been some changes to the Australian competition and playing schedules, namely due to the changes to the FIVB World Tour events in the lead up to Rio2016. However the ABVT competition format is aligned with the FIVB tournament rules and regulations and the expectations of players and officials. We will again review this format to ensure it meets all expectations and this review is scheduled for the weekend of the AJBVC weekend in April in Adelaide.

The Australian Beach Volleyball Ranking System is continuing its roll out to include AAA events as well as AVC Tour and World Tour events and is on schedule to take a further reach into AA events in the future. This season will also see support from VA in empowering state associations and promoters, to align their events with the VA grand slam events and for these events to be homologated with the FIVB, as a combined national tour for Australia.

We hope that the 2015/16 tour will be one of fierce competition, in an environment that ensures the best teams qualify. Again we would appreciate your comments and feedback so that we continually improve the quality of our events.



Mathieu Meriaux
Chief Executive Officer



Phil Muller
Director of Sport Participation

1.2 AIMS & PURPOSES OF THE ABVT

1.2.1 The ABVT has been created to achieve the following goals.

- To provide professionally administered competitions for Australia's elite and developing athletes.
- To provide part of the pathway for athletes to compete at the international level.
- To showcase Beach Volleyball to the greater Australian population.
- To provide exposure and marketing opportunities to VA's commercial partners.
- To fulfil part of VA's Strategic Plan for Beach Volleyball in Australia.

1.3 AMENDMENTS (DURING-SEASON)

As Notified

1.4 ABBRIVIATIONS

ABVC	Australian Beach Volleyball Commission
ABVT	Australian Beach Volleyball Tour (or the highest sanctioned national Beach Volleyball Series of events in Australia)
AJBVC	Australian Junior Beach Volleyball Championships
ASADA	Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority
AVC	Asian Volleyball Confederation
FIVB	Federation Internationale de Volleyball
ROC	Round Organising Committee
TOC	ABVT Organising Committee
SSO	State Sporting Organisation e.g. Volleyball Queensland
VA	Volleyball Australia

1.5 CONTACTS

Position	Name	Phone	Email
ABVT: Event Director <i>VA Events Manager (Open)</i>	Verity Hanka	0423 555 761	verity.hanka@avf.org.au
ABVT: Tournament Director & Competition Manager	Blair Harrison	0417 853 486	abvt@avf.org.au
Administration Director	Kasia Stawski	0411 020 400	Kasia.Stawski@avf.org.au
Commercial Manager	Rod Harys	0411 950 864	Rod.harys@avf.org.au
PR & Media Manager	Ross Solly	0400 114 790	rosspsolly@gmail.com

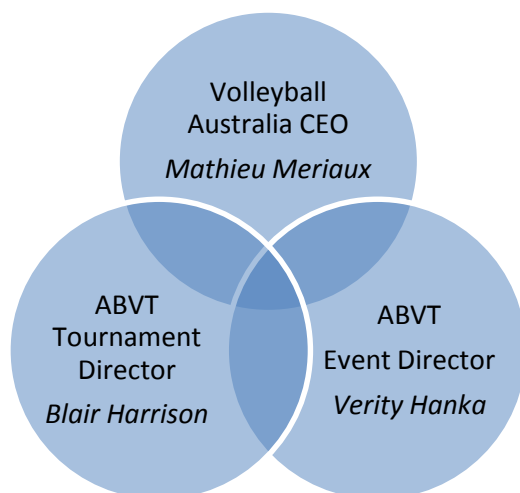
1.6 EVENT CALENDAR

2015-16 ABVT Calendar

NOMINATION TYPE	ENTRIES CLOSING DATE – All Entries close at 5:00 EDST	POSITION ALLOCATED & ANNOUNCED
Australian Championships Surfers Paradise, QLD <i>(23th - 25th January 2016)</i>	Monday 14 th December 2015	Friday 18 th December 2015
Australian Tour Finals Manly Beach, NSW <i>(18th – 20th March 2016)</i>	Friday 17 th February 2016	Wednesday 24 th February 2016
SA Open, Glenelg, SA <i>(9th – 10th January 2016)</i>	9am Monday 4 th January 2016	
QLD Open, Surfers Paradise, QLD <i>(16th – 17th January 2016)</i>	Monday 11 th January 2016	
WA Open, Scarborough, WA <i>(6th – 7th February 2016)</i>	Thursday 10 th December 2015	
VIC Open, St Kilda, VIC <i>(13th – 14th February 2016)</i>	Thursday 11 th February 2016	
NSW Open, Manly Beach, NSW <i>(20th – 21st February, 2016)</i>		
International Wildcards: Australian Championships	Monday 14 th December 2015	Friday 18 th December 2015
International Wildcards: Australian Tour Finals	Friday 19 th February 2016	Wednesday 24 th February 2016

1.7 STAFF & COMMITTEES

1.7.1 ABVT Organisational Chart



T.O.C

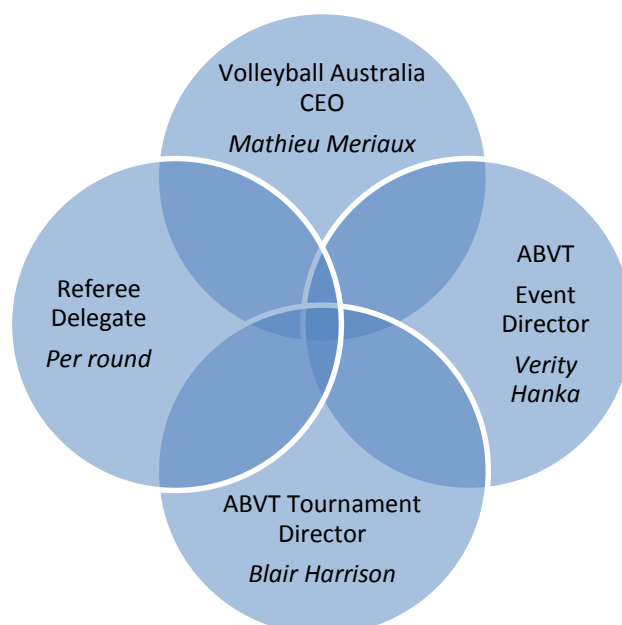
Tour Organising Committee

The ABVT Organising Committee (TOC) is the highest authority for the Tour and at each individual event. The TOC can use information supplied and available to them at their discretion to make decisions with regards to all aspects of the Tour. They can invite others to attend their meetings at their discretion.

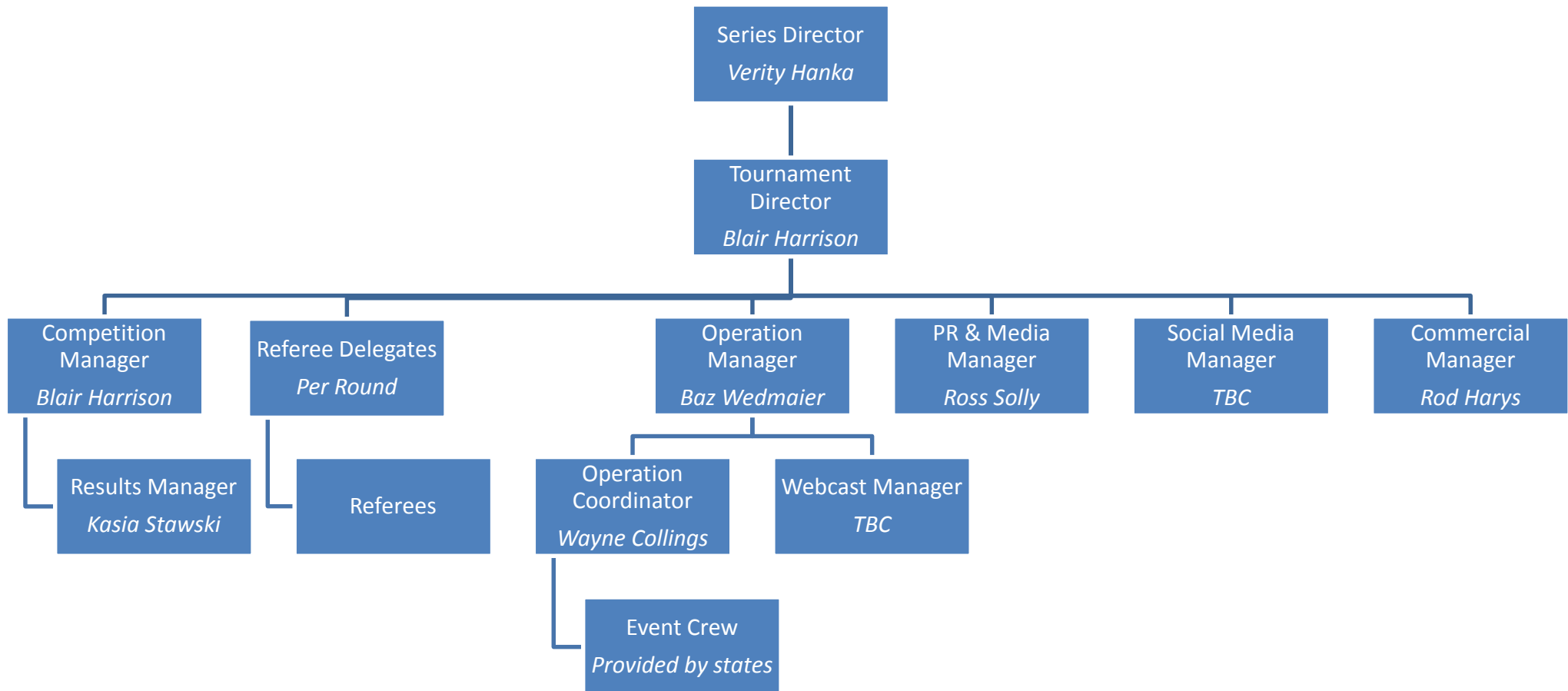
R.O.C

Round Organising Committee

The Round Organising Committees (ROC) act to uphold all FIVB regulations with play and the sporting competition at each and every round. The ROC can use information supplied and available to them at their discretion to make decisions with regard to all aspects of the sporting operations, safety (player, public & staff), regulations, sanctions and tournament play including but not limited to entries, wildcard allocations, seeding, competition format and player conduct. The ROC can invite others to attend their meetings at their discretion.



On the ground operations:



- 1.7.2 The ABVT Organising Committee (TOC) is the highest authority for the Tour and at each individual event. The TOC can use information supplied and available to them at their discretion to make decisions with regards to all aspects of the Tour. They can invite others to attend their meetings at their discretion. The TOC is made up of:
- VA CEO
 - Tournament Director
 - Event Director
- 1.7.3 The Round Organising Committees (ROC) act to uphold all FIVB regulations with play and the sporting competition at each and every round. The ROC can use information supplied and available to them at their discretion to make decisions with regard to all aspects of the sporting operations, safety (player, public & staff), regulations, sanctions and tournament play including but not limited to entries, wildcard allocations, seeding, competition format and player conduct. The ROC can invite others to attend their meetings at their discretion. The ROC consists of:
- TOC members
 - Referee Delegate
- 1.7.4 The TOC and ROC may rely upon information and advice from other individuals they determine in their sole discretion to be reasonable, but the TOC and ROC members must make any decisions concerning the events sporting regulations, operations and tournament play.
- 1.7.5 If a private company is contracted as the Promoter of the ABVT, then the TOC may add an additional permanent member in the role of Technical Supervisor appointed by VA.

2 COMPETITION

2.1 RULES & EQUIPMENT

- 2.1.1 The ABVT will be using the FIVB Beach Volleyball Official Rules (current) unless where specifically amended in this Handbook or at the Technical Meeting of a specific event. Copies of the rules can be viewed on the FIVB website www.fivb.com
- 2.1.2 All equipment used will meet all Australian Standards and where possible, will be the same as that used by the FIVB.

2.2 EVENT & COMPETITION FORMATS

Australian Tour Finals (AF) *30 Rating

- 24 teams per gender (no qualification tournament)
 - o 4 International wild cards
 - o 4 HP wild cards
 - o 10 teams - 1st place & runner up from each State Open.
 - o 6 top teams based on National ranking points (ABVRS) not yet qualified.

Note: If a team qualifies at more than 1 State Open then the extra position/s will be taken by the next ranked team not already qualified from the ABVRS. I.e. 7th, 8th etc.)

Australian Championships (AC) *20 Rating

- 16 team Qualification tournament
 - o 2 International Wild Cards
 - o 2 State Wild Cards
 - o 2 Organiser Wild Cards
 - o 10 top teams based on National ranking points (ABVRS)
 - o QT will be played on the first day of competition. The top 4 will qualify for the Main draw which will begin the next day.

- 16 team main draw per gender
 - o 3 HP wild cards
 - o 8 Australian Main draw entries
 - Team acceptance based on ABVRS
 - ABVRS points are counted up until approx. 21 days prior to the competition commencing (to allow time for teams to book flights/accommodation prior to event. This is because if all points are counted, a team's position on the ABVRS may change the week before the grand slam event and affect team entries)
 - o 4 teams through qualification tournament as above.
 - o 1 International Wild Card
 - o MD will commence on the afternoon of day 1 of competition with the completion of the finals on the third day of competition.

2.2.1 The Australian Championships will consist of a 16 team Main draw competition played in pools, followed by a single elimination phase. MD play will commence on the afternoon of Day 1. Day 3 will consist of the semi, and Grand final matches for each gender.

2.2.2 The Australian Tour finals will consist of a 24 team Main draw competition with no Qualification tournament. All teams will qualify as above. Tournament will be played in pools, followed by a single elimination phase. MD play will commence on the morning of Day 1. Day 3 will consist of the semi, and Grand final matches for each gender.

- **Australian Teams**

The top ranked Australian teams (two players of Australian citizenship/permanent resident to play in each round of the ABVT will be determined by the total points obtained by each individual player in their best six (6) results in official ABVT events in the last 365 days from the close of entries). Where a new team is formed, each individual's points accrued as above will be added and the team's cumulative total will determine their new entry ranking.

- **International Wildcards (IWC)**

Nominations will be accepted from International teams that are seeking an IWC for any of the rounds of the ABVT. Nominations will be accepted from teams comprising players of mixed nationality. Where there are more nominations than places available, the following criteria will be used to determine IWC: current World Tour ranking points of respective team members, availability to train with Team Australia Beach Volleyball athletes, marketability, and character. The TOC will determine at its sole discretion which teams will be awarded an IWC.

NB: any player with dual citizenship must declare their intended citizenship at the commencement of the season and proceed to nominate teams based on that citizenship for the entire season. If a player has represented their country at an international competition in the last 2 years then they will be considered a foreign team/athlete. For example, a player may not apply for a position as an Australian citizen in one instance, then as an International Wildcard in another instance.

- **Australian Wildcards (AWC)**

Australian teams (two players of Australian citizenship/permanent residency) may apply for an AWC to compete in the ABVT. An AWC may be allocated for one event or for as many events as deemed appropriate by the TOC. Criteria used to assess suitability for an AWC include performance on the previous season ABVT, history of participation on the ABVT,

marketability, and character. The TOC will determine in their sole discretion which teams will be awarded an AWC.

The AWC's will be allocated as follows:

- **High Performance Wildcards**
These will be nominated by the Volleyball Australia High Performance program with the view to assist developing players on the beach volleyball high performance pathway.
- **Tournament / Organiser Wildcards**
To be appointed via the above mentioned criteria by the TOC.
- **State Wildcards**
To be nominated by State Associations. Appointments made via the above mentioned criteria by the TOC.

2.2.3 In the event that less than the total allocation of Wild Cards (Australian or International) are accepted in any round, then the remaining position(s) may be allocated at the TOC discretion including to AWC or IWC teams.

2.2.4 An International player is one who:

- Does not hold a current Australian Permanent resident Visa or is a current Australian Citizen
- Has competed in a Beach Volleyball or Volleyball event/competition for another country in the past 2 years.

Note: The TOC reserves the right to amend the playing format based on the number of entries received and the playing conditions available during the tournament.

2.3 EVENT MEETINGS & ATHLETE EXPECTATIONS

2.3.1 Preliminary Inquiry

- 2.3.1.1 A Preliminary Inquiry will be held before each round in the morning of day 1 and prior to the commencement of the main draw competition. This Preliminary Inquiry is conducted by the Technical Supervisor and / or the Tournament Director, before the Technical Meeting, and is meant to check the eligibility status of each athlete.
- 2.3.1.2 The Preliminary Inquiry will be carried out at a place to be advised 15 minutes prior to the scheduled time of the Technical Meeting.
- 2.3.1.3 At the end of the Preliminary Inquiry, the Technical Supervisor will approve the final list of the participating teams allowed to enter the competition and to attend the Technical Meeting.
- 2.3.1.4 Attendance by both team members at the Preliminary Inquiry is compulsory. Sanctions will apply in the event of non-attendance.

2.3.2 Technical Meeting

- 2.3.2.1 A Technical Meeting will be held after the Preliminary Inquiry no more than 1 hour prior to the first scheduled match time. This Technical Meeting is conducted by the Technical Supervisor and/or the Tournament Director.
- 2.3.2.2 The Technical Meeting will be conducted at a place to be advised at each event.
- 2.3.2.3 The Tournament Director will chair the meeting and provide athletes with technical information about the competition. They may give the floor to

other relevant people for additional comments, e.g. promoter representative, National Federation Delegate or the Referee Delegate.

- 2.3.2.4 Athletes who do not attend the Technical Meeting may not be allowed to participate in the competition. Under special circumstances, exceptions may be considered by the Tournament Director.
- 2.3.2.5 If a player/s is wishing to be granted exemption, they must apply in writing to VA at least 7 days prior to the first Technical Meeting of each round.
- 2.3.2.6 Attendance by both teams members at the Technical Meeting is compulsory (sanctions will apply in the event of non- attendance).
- 2.3.2.7 Depending on the type of draw, each event may have more than one Technical Meeting.

2.3.3 Technical Meeting Agenda

- 2.3.3.1 The Technical Meeting will be organised according to the following but not limited to:
 - Results of the drawing of lots (if required);
 - Technical aspects of the competition;
 - Competition program;
 - Medical Support/Services
 - Hydration strategy/emphasis
 - Media activities;
 - Involvement of players in special promotional programs (if required);
 - Information on doping controls (when applied)
 - Match protocol;
 - Information on the Rules of the Game, refereeing instructions, interpretation of the Rules;
 - Any other useful information;

3 ENTRY & QUALIFICATION

3.1 ENTRY PROCEEDURE

- 3.1.1 Entries for ABVRS positions will only be accepted from teams who consist of two Australian Citizens and / or non-citizens with permanent Australian residency. Permanent residency verification will be required at the time of the team nomination.
- 3.1.2 Australian entries will only be accepted from Australian players that are full registered members of their Member State Volleyball Association. Upon receipt of team entry documents, verification of membership will occur prior to acceptance of the team into the competition draw
- 3.1.3 All international players who are non-Australian citizens must submit to Volleyball Australia (VA) a letter of endorsement from their National Federation endorsing their participation on the Australian Beach Volleyball Tour. This letter must accompany their entry form and entry fee.
- 3.1.4 The entry fees for each event in the Tour:
Team (Australian & International)
Qualification Tournament - AUD \$100
Main Draw – AUD \$200
NOTE: Australian Championships - All teams will be required to pay \$100 at the time of entry. Teams who automatically qualify for the main draw at the time of the entry/seedling list being released, will be required to pay the remaining entry fee prior to competing. Teams who qualify for the main draw through the qualification tournament will be required to pay the remaining \$100 at the time of the Main Draw technical meeting.
- 3.1.5 Entries are to be made through the ABVT website – www.beachvolleyballtour.com.au

3.2 EVENT SEEDING

- 3.2.1 For all formats / rounds teams will be seeded by their top 6 individual finishes in official/sanctioned ABVT events in the last 365 days from the close of entries.
- 3.2.2 Australian Wildcard teams will be seeded based on previous ABVT finishes as above or at the discretion of the TOC.
- 3.2.3 International Wildcard teams that have one or both players ranked inside the top 64 players on the current FIVB World Tour rankings will be seeded based on their past FIVB World Tour results and at the discretion of the TOC.
- 3.2.4 Other International Wildcard teams will be seeded at the discretion of the TOC.
- 3.2.5 Seed point ties will be broken in the first instance by the team with the highest ABVT points gained in the last 365 days.
- 3.2.6 If a tie still occurs, the TOC will break the tie by the drawing of the lots. This can be done by the TOC at their discretion before the Tournament commences.

- 3.2.7 The TOC can determine the seeding for any team using their own discretion based on information supplied and available to them.

3.3 WITHDRAWAL & CHANGING OF PLAYERS

- 3.3.1 Any player or team withdrawing from an event must do so in writing to the Event Director & Tournament Director.
- 3.3.2 Teams will be refunded their entry fees if they withdraw prior to entries closing. If withdrawal happens after entries close, all fees paid are forfeited.
- 3.3.3 If withdrawing for medical reasons, or a “special case” exists, a request for full reimbursement may be made to the TOC contained within the withdrawal letter. Proof may be requested.
- 3.3.4 Change of players in a team is only allowed if the TOC believes there is just cause for the change (i.e. medical or special conditions). The team will be responsible for all financial implications. No player changes to teams will be allowed after the commencement of the Tournament.
- 3.3.5 A new team (with a change of player as approved above) does not automatically retain its spot in the tournament, be it in the MD or QT. Any changes to the draw or seeding will be made at the discretion of the TOC and all athletes will be informed.

4 ABVT POINTS & AWARDS

4.1 EVENT POINTS

Placing	ABVT Grand Slam
1st	100
2nd	90
3rd	80
4th	70
5th - 6th	60
7th - 8th	50
9th - 12th	40
13th - 16th	35
17th - 20th	30
21st - 24th	25
25th - 28th	20
29th – 32nd	15
33 rd down	10

4.2 AUSTRALIAN BEACH VOLLEYBALL RANKING SYSTEM

Volleyball Australia for season 2015/2016 will implement the Australian Beach Volleyball Ranking System (ABVRS) as a means for seeding and qualification. This system will rank players Australia wide.

Please refer to the “Australian Beach Volleyball Ranking System Overview” document on the Beach Volleyball Tour Website for event rankings and detailed overview of the system.

4.3 MEDAL PRESENTATION CEREMONY

- 4.3.1 It is mandatory for the top 2 placed teams to participate at the Medal Presentation Ceremony that will take place immediately after the gold medal match. The Tournament Director will advise where the ceremony will be held.

4.4 ABVT ANNUAL AWARDS

- 4.4.1 The Tour Champion will be the player (of each gender) with the most ABVRS points (see part 4.1) at the end of the summer and crowned at the Annual Awards.
- 4.4.2 If more than one player has equal ABVRS Points at the end of the season, the award will be shared.

4.5 PRIZES & PRIZE MONEY

- 4.5.1 The ABVT Grand Slam events will provide a player prize pool of a minimum \$10,000 per event (\$5000 per gender).
- 4.5.2 The breakdown of prize money for each round will be determined by the following method:

Placing	Percentage of prize money on offer (per gender)
1st	40%
2nd	20%
3rd	14%
4th	10%
5th	4%
6th	4%
7th	4%
8th	4%

5 ATHLETE RESPONSIBILITIES & SERVICES

5.1 PLAYER COMMITMENT

- 5.1.1 Each player is required to complete and abide by the ABVT Player Agreement, prior to competing in their first ABVT event of 2015/16.
- 5.1.2 Each team must submit a completed and signed tournament entry form and pay all fees on time. If payment is not received with the entry form, that team's position may be re-allocated at the discretion of the ROC.
- 5.1.3 Each player is required to complete a Player Profile Form upon entering their first event.

5.2 REFEREEING & COACHING

- 5.2.1 Refereeing
 - 5.2.1.1 Where required by the event, athletes will be required to perform the role of a referee at times during an event. A "Duty Team" will consist of a 1st referee and a 2nd referee/scorer.
 - 5.2.1.2 When officials are appointed to a game, duty teams must check with the appointed officials on court as to what role they are required to fulfil (if any).
 - 5.2.1.3 Any person officiating a match (in any role) will be deemed an Official. They will therefore be bound to the VA Officials Code of Ethics.
- 5.2.2 Coaching
 - 5.2.2.1 Coaching is not permitted during matches. Coaches may only liaise with teams outside of the official match protocols and playing time.

5.3 MEDIA & PROMOTIONS

- 5.3.1 Publicity and promotions for the ABVT will be conducted by the sponsors in conjunction with Volleyball Australia.
- 5.3.2 Player participation will be requested in a number of activities, particularly the event launches prior to each round. If your attendance is requested you will be contacted by the appropriate designated representative of Volleyball Australia and given further details on the activity. Your co-operation is requested to ensure maximum exposure and publicity for your profile, the sport and that of the ABVT.

5.4 EVENT FACILITIES & SERVICES

- 5.4.1 Each ABVT event will focus on a centre court facility consisting of seating, PA system, VIP marquee facilities, access to toilets, athlete facilities, appropriate facilities for referees, media, competition management, several outside courts and medical services. Each court will be equipped with chairs for each player, and a protective umbrella for each playing team.
- 5.4.2 VIP Areas are for VIP guests only. Athletes are permitted in the VIP by invite only.
- 5.4.3 Qualified senior first aid personnel will be in attendance at each round to administer any first aid treatment required by competitors, staff or spectators.
- 5.4.4 The ABVT will comply with all conditions of the VA Anti-Doping Policy and the rules and regulations of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA), the FIVB, the World Anti-Doping Agency, and the Australian Olympic Committee, as appropriate. Testing may be conducted at any event and players will be notified via standard ASADA procedures.

Further information can be obtained via

VA website www.volleyballaustralia.org

ASADA website www.asada.org.au

5.5 SANCTIONS

- 5.5.1 All sanctions will be handed down through the ROC Further sanctions or referral to other authorities may be made by the TOC. In addition to the following.
- 5.5.2 Players not completing the official ABVT forms including the entry forms, player commitments and other information requested (including biographical information) may be fined up to AUD\$50 per player, per occurrence and / or not be permitted to compete.
- 5.5.3 Players must familiarise themselves with the strict anti-doping policies and procedures of Volleyball Australia. Breaches of this Policy attract severe penalties, as set out in the Policy. The Policy can be viewed at: www.volleyballaustralia.org
- 5.5.4 All Players not signed in at the conclusion of the Preliminary Inquiry and/or not present at the players' Technical Meeting (without prior exemption from Volleyball Australia) may be fined up to AUD\$50 per player and occurrence and may be excluded from the draw at the discretion of the ROC. Players wishing to be granted exemption must apply in writing to Volleyball Australia at least 7 days prior to the event for which the exemption is sought.
- 5.5.5 Players who do not comply with the uniform regulations (see part 5.6) may be penalised up to AUD\$50 per player for each preliminary match for which there is a breach, and up to AUD\$100 for each finals match, and/or such players may face suspension or expulsion from the ABVT. The only exceptions permitted must be granted in writing by the ROC with the relevant request submitted at least 7 days prior to the event for which an exception is sought.

- 5.5.6 Players/teams who do not fully complete Duty Team requirements as assigned may be penalised up to AUD\$50 per player for each match and/or suspended from future games or events.
- 5.5.7 Players failing to attend scheduled media, medal presentation and promotion obligations, as specified in this Handbook or the ABVT Player's Agreement may be penalised up to AUD\$100 per occurrence per player.
- 5.5.8 The winners and runner up at each event are required to attend the medal presentation ceremony in their playing uniform. No other clothing, uniform, or accessories are permitted.
- 5.5.9 Failure to attend a tournament for which a player is registered without delivery of adequate explanation or withdrawal letter (see part 3.5) will result in forfeiture of paid entry fees, and possible expulsion or suspension from future ABVT by the TOC.
- 5.5.10 The TOC will deal with any issues of misconduct prior to, during or after an event has been completed. The TOC can issue fines of up to AUD\$500 for each offence and /or suspend players for serious offences.
- 5.5.11 All fines are cumulative and payable prior to acceptance into future ABVT Events. If an offence is committed during the Australian Championships, the sanction fee can be deducted from Series Prize Money earned for the Australian Championships.

5.6 UNIFORMS & PERSONAL ACCESSORIES

- 5.6.1 Athletes must wear the official top/singlet provided by the ABVT at all times; during a match, on the field of play, during warm-up sessions, during post-match interviews, during the medal ceremony and during press conferences.
- 5.6.2 Men and Women must provide their own shorts and bikini bottoms. Teams must wear shorts/bikini bottoms of the same colour and style.
- 5.6.3 Upon the request of the TOC, athletes must submit their own shorts/ bottoms for approval during the Preliminary Inquiry.
- 5.6.4 During severe weather conditions the TOC may allow players to use undergarments that do not obscure the official uniforms. These may be composed of tight shirt and/or long tight pants (down to the ankle and not to the knee). These must be consistent in style and colour. Players will be advised through the Referee/Referee Delegate / TD when undergarments will be allowed.

5.7 PERSONAL & EVENT SPONSORS

- 5.7.1 Volleyball Australia is committed to building the profile of the ABVT athletes. To support this campaign Volleyball Australia will endeavour to feature player profiles in any television programming, website content, printed materials and editorial content concerning the ABVT.
- 5.7.2 Volleyball Australia is committed to supporting ABVT sponsors and asks that players be similarly committed to such support. Player sponsors that do not conflict with ABVT sponsors or conflict with rules outlined in this handbook will be permitted to

appear on Players during ABVT events at the discretion of the TOC. Player sponsors that conflict with ABVT sponsors will not be permitted at any time unless advised in writing by the TOC.

- 5.7.3 The tour sponsors for 2015/2016 can be found on the ABVT website.
- 5.7.4 Athletes and coaches should contact VA by emailing abvt@avf.org.au with their sponsorship arrangements prior to the ABVT events to ensure there is no conflict. VA reserves the rights to refuse a player wearing specific apparatus if a sponsor is directly conflicting with one of the ABVT major sponsor or is bringing the sport into disrepute. No religious or political statements are allowed.
- 5.7.5 Once athletes/coaches received confirmation that there are no potential conflicts, they are authorised to have personal sponsor's logos on their shorts/ bottoms located in any position and of any size. There is no limitation in the number of sponsors to be displayed on the shorts/ bottoms.
- 5.7.6 Athletes are authorised to use the following accessories:
- Visor or cap or hat or head band
 - Sunglasses
 - Therapeutic/Medical support braces for knee/elbow (with approval from the TOC)
 - One (1) watch
- 5.7.7 A total of 3 items can be used as follows:
- Temporary tattoos or arm bands
 - Or a combination of the two, may be worn, but only one item on each arm
 - Footwear and/or athletic socks (with ROC approval)
- 5.7.8 Athletes are responsible for presentation, care, security and costs of their own accessories.
- 5.7.9 No conflicting sponsorship to the ABVT naming rights sponsor will be permitted. If uncertain, athletes should seek approval from the VA office/ TOC.
- 5.7.10 Players agree to appear at promotional activations at each ABVT event, at ABVT sponsor tents on-site during events, and for such similar ABVT-related appearances as reasonably requested by the TOC.

5.8 PLAYER DUTIES

5.8.1 Contract Year

- 5.8.1.1 The contract year shall be defined as a twelve (12) month period commencing on the 1st November 2015 or any portion thereof in the event a player signs the player agreement after 1st November 2015 in the applicable contract year.

5.8.2 ABVT Player Agreement

- 5.8.2.1 This Player Handbook shall be subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in the ABVT Player Agreement. To the extent of any conflict between this Player Handbook and the ABVT Player Agreement, the ABVT Player Agreement shall control.

6 COMPETING EVENTS

6.1 NON-SANCTIONED EVENT PARTICIPATION

6.1.1 All players must notify the TOC in writing if they wish to participate in a non-VA sanctioned event. Permission is expressly granted for players wishing to participate in:

- VA beach volleyball competitions and events; Including but not limited to ABVT Grand Slam Events, and Australian Championships
- VA-sanctioned State Association beach volleyball competitions and events; including but not limited to ABVT Open events and state tour events; and
- Non-conflicting FIVB Sanctioned events.

6.2 DISPENSATION TO COMPETE IN AN ABVT EVENT

6.2.1 If a player wishes to participate and compete in any non-ABVT Event, a player shall have the right to seek dispensation to play in such event. In order to qualify for dispensation, a player must notify the TOC in writing prior to nomination for and acceptance into such event. The TOC shall notify a player of its decision regarding authorisation within ten working (10) days of receipt of their written request. Such authorisation will not be unreasonably withheld.

6.3 CODE OF CONDUCT

6.3.1 All athletes competing in the ABVT are bound by the VA Athletes Code of Conduct and when involved in officiating, the VA Officials Code of Conduct. Players shall report to ABVT Events at such times and places as reasonably designated by the ROC and conduct themselves according to the highest standards of honesty, ethics, fair play and good sportsmanship. Players also agree to abstain from any behaviour or conduct that the ROC determines in its reasonable, good faith business judgment to be detrimental to the best interests of the sport of beach volleyball and/or the ABVT including, but not limited to, publicly expressing or publishing remarks which are, in the reasonable opinion of the ROC, derogatory or contrary to the best interests of the ABVT, its officers, directors, players/members, sponsors and/or promoters.

6.4 PLAYERS' GRANT OF RIGHT

6.4.1 Players hereby grant, assign, and license for the Term of the ABVT Agreement to VA or any of their designated entity(ies) (e.g., sponsors and media partners), the non-exclusive right to use, display or otherwise exploit player's name and/or likeness, including his/her photograph, digital image, motion picture, video, voice, facsimile signature or biographical information ("Licensed Player Identity") in connection with ABVT media and ABVT sponsorships, promotions and/or endorsements (including commercial tie-ins). VA specifically acknowledge and agree that sponsors of the ABVT shall not have the right to utilise the Licensed Player Identity in such a way that the use of the Licensed Player Identity through media, sponsorships, promotions

and/or endorsements (including commercial tie-ins) could be reasonably construed as an individual endorsement by a PLAYER of any product, service, or entity of such sponsor(s).

- 6.4.2 Players hereby grant, assign, and license, in perpetuity, VA or any VA designated entity(ies), the exclusive right to photograph, record, tape, display, publish, promote and broadcast (either live or recorded) Player's performance at any ABVT Event.
- 6.4.3 Players acknowledge that VA owns all right, title and interest in and to and uses in any way of the names, logos, marks and/or insignia of the ABVT. In this connection, players agree that he/she will not use his/her endorsement (which shall include player's name, signature, photograph, picture, likeness or any facsimile thereof), nor grant the use of his/her endorsement to any third party, for the purpose of endorsing any product or company, or entering into a sponsorship or licensing agreement that uses the name, logos, marks and/or insignias of the ABVT without the express written approval of the VA.
- 6.4.4 Players grant to VA or any VA designated entity(ies) all his/her media rights including, but not limited to, television, internet, home video, and film, for any ABVT Event, any ABVT-related appearance, and/or any practice at a ABVT Event (i.e., excluding private practices of players) in which player participates, and acknowledges that any such ABVT Event, any such ABVT-related appearance, and/or any such practice at an ABVT Event shall be the exclusive property of VA and that VA has the exclusive right to exploit such rights on its own behalf in perpetuity throughout the world. VA specifically acknowledges and agrees that sponsors of the ABVT or VA shall not have the right to utilise the media rights granted to VA and VA designated entities in such a way that the use of such media rights could be reasonably construed as an individual endorsement by player of any product, service, or entity of such sponsor(s).
- 6.4.5 Players grant to VA the right to capture, take, create or use player's picture or image (whether still, motion, video, digital or television), alone or together with others, for still photographs, digital images, motion pictures, television or home videos or other broadcast uses. VA may use such pictures or images, irrespective of who takes such pictures or images, in any manner it desires for publicity or promotional purposes for the VA throughout the world, or in conjunction with any uses as provided for herein. The rights to any such pictures taken by VA shall belong to VA in perpetuity. Further, players acknowledge and agree that VA shall own all rights and interests in the film, digital, television and video footage, as well as all still photography, produced or taken at, or in conjunction with, any ABVT Event, any ABVT-related appearance, and/or any practice at an ABVT Event. VA specifically acknowledge and agree that third party sponsors of the ABVT shall not have the right to utilise player's picture or image in such a way that the Licensed Player Identity could be reasonably construed as an individual endorsement by player of any product, service, or entity. In connection with the foregoing sentence, VA agrees to notify third party sponsors of such restriction on use of player's licensed player identity (it being acknowledged that inadvertent failure to notify such third party sponsor shall not be deemed a breach by VA hereunder but player shall have the right to pursue any and all available remedies directly against such sponsor).

6.4.6 Players will autograph such items as reasonably requested by VA. All items to be personalised and autographed will be supplied by VA and may be used by VA as business gifts, promotions or charitable auction items; provided, however, that VA may not sell any such personalised and autographed items for cash without the prior written approval of player.

7 REFERENCE TO ABVT POLICES & FORMS LIBRARY

All forms referenced in this Handbook can be found on the VA website, by contacting the VA office or the ABVT Event Director.

- Medical Report Form
- VA Weather Policy
- Players Code of Conduct
- Officials Code of Ethics
- Coaches Code of Ethics
- VA Anti-Doping Policy
- Athlete Profile & Agreement
- VA Member Protection Policy
- VA Privacy Policy
- VA Social Media Policy
- ABVT Sanctioning Guidelines
- ABVRS Overview