

Australian Beach Volleyball Ranking System Generation 2

In 2014/15 Volleyball Australia (VA) implemented the Australian Beach Volleyball Ranking System (ABVRS) and over the past 2 summers has helped deliver a more integrated structure to the sport around Australia. In 2017, the FIVB will be making some significant changes to the Beach Volleyball World Tour which will see new levels of events with new terminology rolled out.

To align with our peak body (FIVB) and to continue the structure and growth of the ABVRS, Volleyball Australia is rolling out The Australian Beach Volleyball Ranking System – Generation 2 (ABVRS – G2) which will see a clearer, more flexible and more inclusive approach to events and the athletes who play.

ABVRS – G2

The aim of the ABVRS – G2 is:

- to capitalise on what has already been successful through the ABVRS
- to align with the FIVB recognising them as our peak body
- to create an inclusive structure available to all Beach Volleyball Delivery Centres*
- to have more detailed information pertaining to each rating level
- to give all VA Stakeholders including member states & sponsors more guarantees and targets to maximise their impact and involvement.
- to maintain or increase flexibility for each Beach Volleyball Delivery Centre to set their own event / competition plans including business plans, regulations and seeding policies

The ABVRS – G2 will allow for a greater flexibility for VA to include events and give delivery centres the choice as to where they would like to focus their efforts based on their own ambitions and business plans. It is also a tool to encourage every delivery centre to engage with VA and create an inclusive approach to the growth of the sport.

It is important to highlight that it is not expected that any current event, tour, series or competition will be able overlay exactly what is being delivered into the new system. The intension of the ABVRS – G2 is to build on a Nationally focused event and competition system which will in turn create a much wider and marketable product for the entire sport. Some changes and compromises may be required.

2016/17

The 2016/17 summer will be played using the ABVRS – G2. Any events already completed will be entered retrospectively. This is a living document and will be updated throughout the season with the expectations for 2017/18 to be released mid-2017.

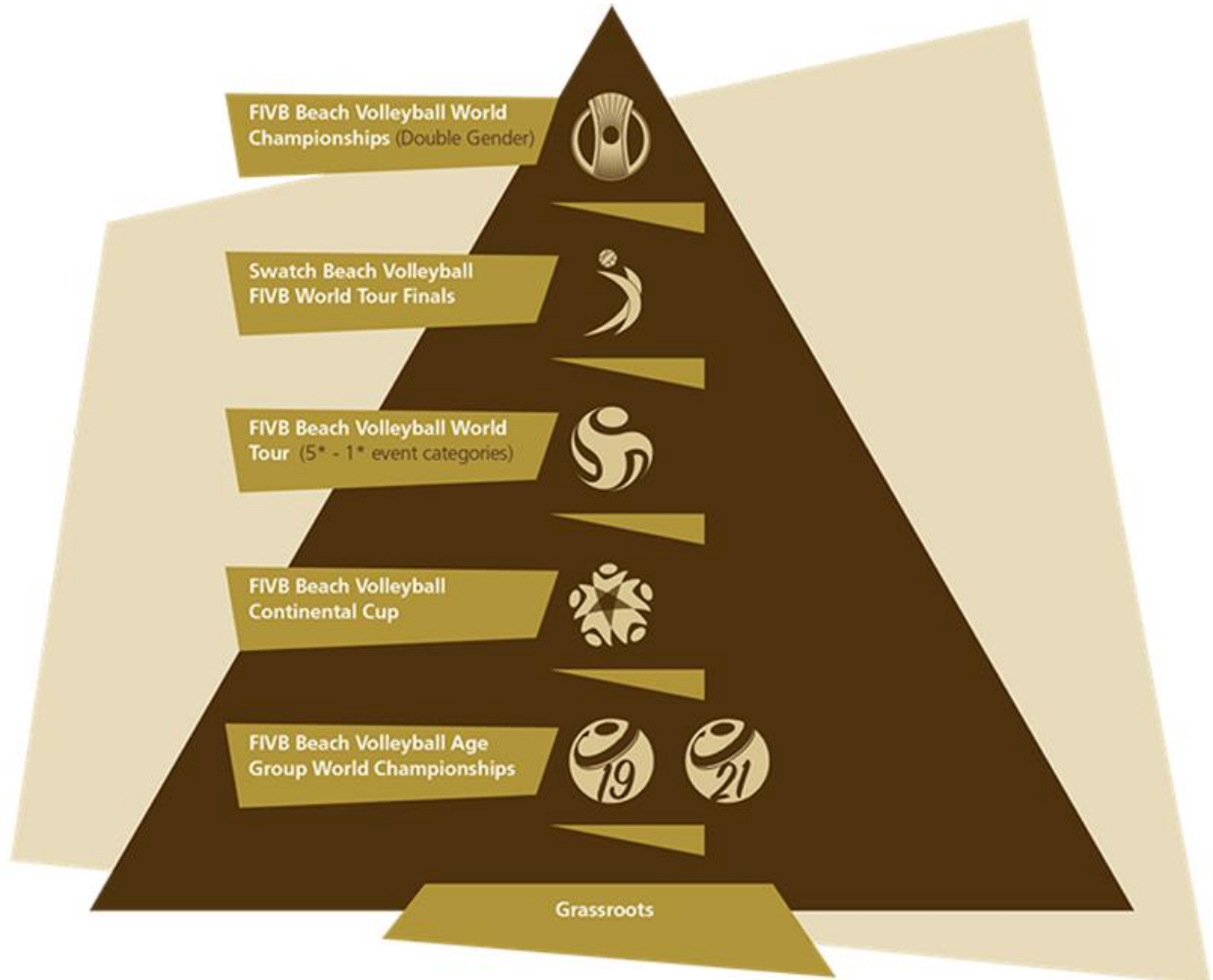
By fast tracking the ABVRS – G2 into the 2016/17 calendar, we will be able to use this year to trial the system and get on the front foot for 2017/18 allowing for a much-improved product into a highly marketable era focusing around the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

* - a delivery centre is as any identified group who are delivering the sport of beach volleyball. This can be a commercial centre, individual, affiliated club, SSO or group who actively pursue the growth of the sport regardless of their current affiliation or motivations.

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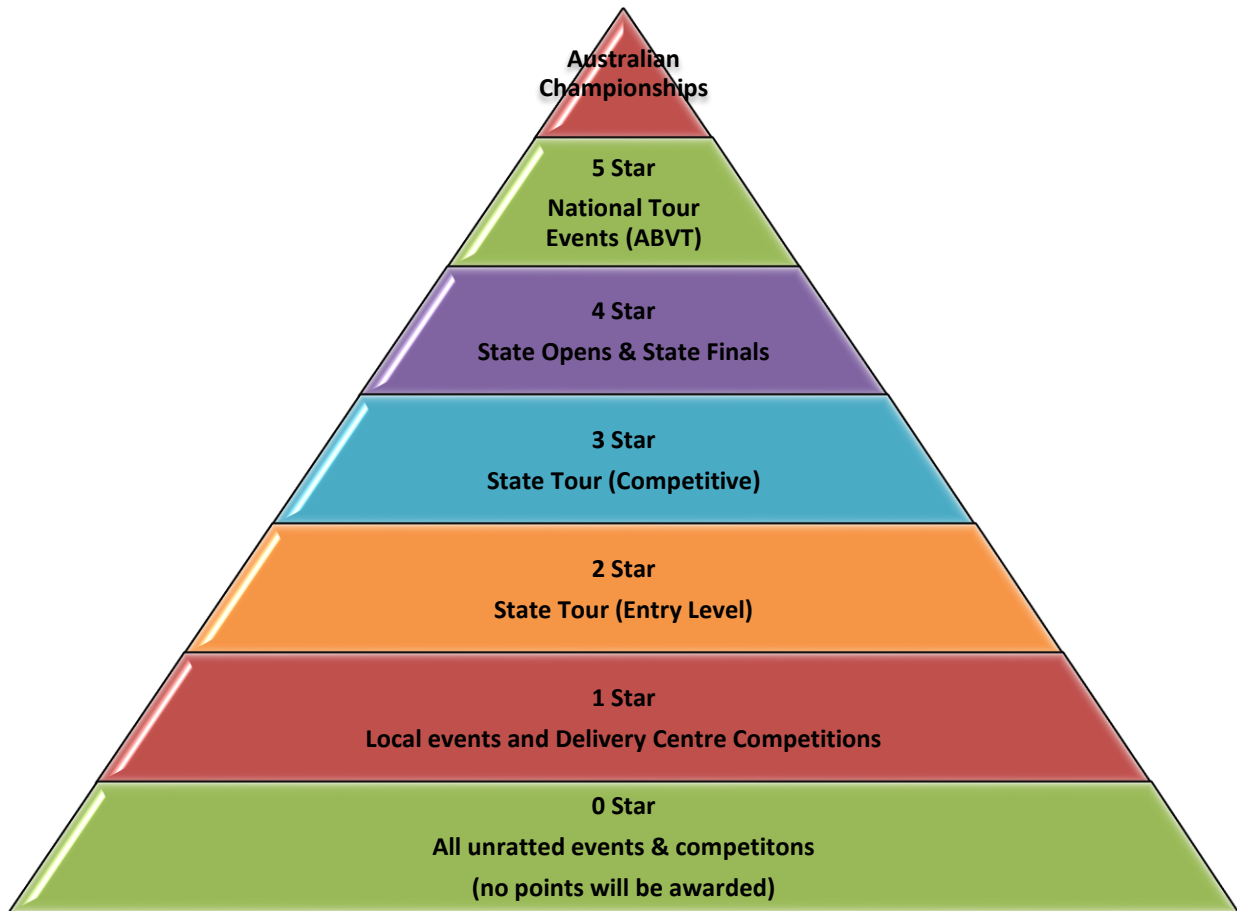


A detailed explanation of the new FIVB Structure can be found here:

http://www.fivb.org/EN/BeachVolleyball/PartnerOpportunities/2017/FIVB_BVB_WT_5_Star_v16.pdf

Proposed Australian Event Structure

Using the same terminology, Volleyball Australia is proposing to create synergies with the FIVB structure making it more user friendly and marketable within the Beach Volleyball and greater community.



Listed events are a guide only of the standard of competition.

The 5 Star event tier is an additional level not currently offered in the Australian Beach Volleyball Event landscape. It has been added to allow for States to work to a higher status for their State Opens, for Event Organisers to create a new event or for Volleyball Australia to develop events creating more High Performance playing opportunities to assist in the pathway of athletes.

The 5 Star level events have a secondary function in helping the development of the FIVB Homologated Australian Beach Volleyball Tour (ABVT) well into the future with a much greater focus on marketing to build the profile of Beach Volleyball in Australia. For 2016/17, the State Opens will form the ABVT and at the time of writing this, there are no planned 5 Star events for 2016/17.

The Australian Championships (ABVT Finals for 2016/17) is a standalone, single event each year managed by Volleyball Australia as the pinnacle of our domestic competitions and events. All other levels can have multiple events at the same level and across the country managed by a wide variety of organisations.

0 Star Tier is to highlight a place for all other identified events & competitions that have either not applied or not meet the expectations to gain an event rating.



Base Points

The Base Points for the ABVRS – G2 remains unchanged.

Placing	Base Points
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

Event Ratings and Multiplier

The Event Ratings and their Multiplier for the ABVRS – G2 will be:

Level	Rating
Australian Championships	20
5 Star	16
4 Star	12
3 Star	7
2 Star	3
1 Star	1
0 Star	0
National Age Group Events	2
State Age Group Events	1

Additional events will have the following multiplier however will **NOT** be used on the ABVRS – G2. They are in place solely to assist with seeding **IF** an Event/Competition Organiser choses to.

Level	Rating
World Championships	40
World Tour (4 & 5 Star)	30
World Tour (1, 2 & 3 Star)	25
Continental Tours & All World Age Group Events	20
All Continental Age Group Events	12

Note the Olympic Games, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, Pacific Games and the like are not included due to the nature of these events.

Event Rating Integrity and Expectations

A critical part of the ABVRS – G2 is to identify what events will gain what Rating. By having a clear set of expectations and guidelines, the ABVRS – G2 will create integrity for all competitions & events across the country. This will in turn create flexibility for all delivery centres allowing each event to still have its own look & feel while achieving a clear structure for differing levels of support & expectations from Volleyball Australia.

In 2016/17, the following is a guide only and VA will work with the States & Event Organisers to ensure the best possible outcome for every event and competitors.

Expectation	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star	4 Star	5 Star	Australian Championships
Use of the VA & Star System Logos for Marketing Purposes	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Competitors to be a member of an SSO	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Use of ABVRS ~	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Meet all VA Risk Assessment, Medical & Safety Requirements *	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Use VA Homologated equipment (e.g. Match Ball)		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Awards, Prizes & Prize Money *			Recommended	✓	✓	✓
Competition Format					Pool Play & Single Elim	Pool Play & Single Elim
Double Gender Pairs (gender specific)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alternative Team Compositions (E.g. 4-a-side, Mixed etc) ^	✓	✓				
Coaching allowed during games *	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Min Number of Teams per gender **				16 or more	16 or more	16 or more
Length of Event	Min 1 day	Min 1 day	Min 1 day	Min 2 days	Min 3 days	Min 3 days
Weekly Fixtures	✓					
Warm Up Court Required per gender					✓	✓
International Player Clearance Required				✓	✓	✓
Date Exclusivity (except for any State Finals events)				✓	✓	✓

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Expectation	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star	4 Star	5 Star	Australian Championships
Spectator Seating *			✓	✓	✓	✓
TV Production					Recommended	✓
Live Streaming				Recommended	✓	✓
Athlete Uniforms				Recommended	✓	✓
Venue Signage *			Recommended	✓	✓	✓
Event Agreement Length	1 year	1 year	1 year	1 year	2 years	2 years
Event / Sponsors Activations				✓	✓	✓
Marketing & Media Plan				✓	✓	✓
Big Screen					✓	✓
VA Support Services *				✓	✓	✓
Deadline for Event Application	2 weeks' prior	4 weeks' prior	4 weeks' prior	3 months' prior	3 months' prior	3 months' prior

Notes: ^ a Mixed event may be allowed above a 2 Star rating upon application
 * as per Hosting Guidelines / MOU produced each year
 ** if an event (gender specific) has less than the required team numbers, it may be relegated 1 Event Rating on the ABVRS
 ~ data can be used by an Organiser for seeding in lead up to the event. An Organiser is responsible to enter results online post event.

Human Resources

Expectation	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star	4 Star	5 Star	Australian Championships
VA Technical Supervisor / Assessor				✓	✓	✓
VA Referee Delegate					✓	✓
Competition Manager	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chief Referee			Recommended	✓		
Operations / Court Manager				Recommended	✓	✓
Sports Presentation Manager / DJ / Commentator			Recommended	✓	✓	✓
Appointed Referees *				✓	✓	✓
Line Judges & Scorers *				✓	✓	✓
Ball Retrievers & Court Rakers				Recommended	✓	✓
Photographer			Recommended	✓	✓	✓
First Aid #	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Notes: * - as per Hosting Guidelines / MOU produced each year
 # - this person can have a dual role for 1, 2, 3 & 4 Star events. 5 Star & Australian Championships require a dedicated person

Dispensations may be requested at the time of applying for an event rating.



Applying for an Event Rating

Any event or competition that wishes to be considered on the ABVRS – G2 will need to apply for an Event Rating through Volleyball Australia. To apply, VA will be setting up an online system to allow for a simple and quick process. This will be rolled out through 2017 with a plan to be presented at the ABVT Review to be held mid-2017.

For the summer of 2016/17, this process will remain more manual and will be done in partnership with VA and each Delivery Centre who request it.

Hosting Guidelines will be reviewed and produced each year from a basis of this document to reflect the different levels of services required or available for each rated event. This is also a tool to encourage commercial delivery centres to engage with States, and by extension, VA allowing for a greater reach of our sport.

Event Organisers can apply for a Rating for as few or as many events / competitions as they wish.

Each level of event will gain final approval via the following levels of the sport.

Event Rating	Initial Approval Action	2 nd Approval Action
1 Star	SSO to review applications and has full approval power	N/A
2 Star	SSO to review applications to reject or pass to VA for final approval (rejected applications don't need to go to VA)	VA to award final rating
3 Star	SSO to review applications to reject or pass to VA for final approval (rejected applications don't need to go to VA)	VA to award final rating
4 Star	SSO to review applications and make recommendation to approve or reject (all applications must go to VA)	VA to award final rating
5 Star	VA will seek support from relevant SSO during review	VA to review applications with full approval power
Australian Championships	VA will seek support from relevant SSO during review	VA to review applications with full approval power

Awards & Recognition

All rated events will be included on the ABVRS-G2 and shown on the website. Therefore there will be several annual awards an athlete can receive and presented at the VA Annual Awards with the 2018 Awards Dinner being the 1st chance to do this. The following awards will be presented in both Male and Female. If there is more than 1 player on the same points, the award will be shared.

Australian International Beach Volleyballer of the Year – This will go to the player who has the most FIVB Points as at the 31st December each year.

Australian Domestic Beach Volleyballer of the Year – This will go to the player who has the most points on the ABVRS – G2 as at the 30th June each year.

Australian Junior Beach Volleyballer of the Year - This will go to the player who is Under the age of 23 as at the 30th June each year and who has the most points on the ABVRS – G2 as at the 30th June each year.

ABVT Tour Champions – This will be the player who has the most points on the ABVRS – G2 from their results on the ABVT (2016/17 – NSW Open, SA Open, Qld Open, WA Open & ABVT Finals). This will usually be presented at the ABVT Championships and highlighted at the VA Annual Awards.

Each Delivery Centre can create additional awards for their event/competition/tour at their discretion.



Event Seeding & Competition Regulations

It is critical to know that the results published on the VA Websites are total points covering all rated events. This is not a reflection of seeding.

There is complete flexibility for any Organiser to set their own Competition Regulations for their event / competition to best suit the outcomes they are hoping to achieve. For example, if delivering a social mass participation event, a regulation could be included whereby a team can have a total of no more than XXXX points restricting higher level athletes. Conversely, an event regulation could state that a team must have a minimum of ZZZZ points to enter if a higher level was the aim.

By using the ABVRS – G2, each delivery centre will be able to seed their teams based on their own set of Competition Regulations. For example, seeding could be based on the best 6 results within the past 365 days using points or a Seeding Index.