



U.S. BEACH CLUB **CHAMPIONSHIP**

SERIES PROPOSAL

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Divisions of Play & Age Groups

DIVISIONS

- OPEN Division*^
 - U18/U16 & U14
- NATIONAL Division
 - U18, U16 & U14

*Bid Division for Girls

^Only division for Boys

AGE GROUPS

- Boys
 - U18/U16
 - U14
- Girls
 - U18
 - U16
 - U14



2025-2026 Age Definitions

- 18 and Under Division:
 - Athletes graduating high school in 2026 or later
- 16 and Under Division:
 - Athletes graduating high school in 2028 or later
- 14 and Under Division:
 - Athletes graduating high school in 2030 or later



Beach Club National Qualifiers (BCNQs)

- 2025-2026 Season
 - 6 Beach Club National Qualifiers
 - 2 Zonal Championships (USAV-Owned & Operated)
 - East Coast Championship (Atlantic Zone)
 - West Coast Championship (Pacific Zone)
 - 4 Other Qualifying Events
 - Participation/Finish earns USBC Ranking Points
 - Bids
 - Top 3-Finishing Teams at Zonal Championships earn automatic bids
 - 1st Place-finishers at four other qualifying events earn automatic bids
 - Trickle-down bid is available if opportunity arises
 - Challenges (Non-Qualifying Ranking Events)
 - Additional events that will be sanctioned to earn USBC Ranking Points



Beach Club National Qualifiers (BCNQs)

- Long-Term
 - 10 Beach Club National Qualifiers
 - 3 Zonal Championships (USAV-Owned & Operated)
 - East Coast Championship (Atlantic Zone)
 - Midwest Championship (Border Zone)
 - West Coast Championship (Pacific Zone)
 - 7 Other Qualifying Events
 - Participation/Finish earns USBC Ranking Points
 - Bids
 - Process will remain the same
 - Challenges
 - Challenges will continue to grow in number



Bids & Ranking Points

- Bids
 - Only needed for OPEN Division at National Championship
 - Zonal Championships: Top-3 finishing teams
 - First-place earns waived entry fee to National Championships
 - Other Qualifying Events: First-Place
 - Bids must be accepted, or club is subject to fine
 - Trickle-down bids eligible up to fifth-place
- Ranking Points
 - Earn USBC Ranking Points at each USBC-sanctioned event, BCNQs and Challenges
 - Ranking Points will assist in determining At-Large Bids



2026 U.S. Beach Club National Championship: Age Classification, Divisions & Team Entries

	18 & Under <i>2026 or Later</i>	16 & Under <i>2028 or Later</i>	14 & Under <i>2030 or Later</i>
Girls OPEN	16 Teams*	-	12 Teams
Girls NATIONAL	16 Teams	16 Teams	12 Teams
Boys OPEN	12 Teams		8 Teams

- Additional Teams will be accepted in multiples of 4 dependent on available court space for Girls NATIONAL and Boys OPEN
- Clubs will be permitted one team per Division with the possibility of a second/third dependent on team counts and available court space at least one month prior to Championship.

*Girls OPEN U18/U16 Division will follow the 5 v 5 Duel Format. All other divisions will follow the 3 v 3 Duel Format.



**U.S. BEACH CLUB
CHAMPIONSHIP**

2026 U.S. Beach Club National Championship: Team Qualification

- Girls U18/U16 OPEN Divisions
 - 10 Automatic Bids from BCNQs
 - 6 At-Large Bids for Remaining Spots
 - At-Large Qualification
 - Utilize USBC Ranking Points for selection
- Girls U14 OPEN Divisions
 - 8 Automatic Bids from BCNQs
 - 4 At-Large Bids for Remaining Spots
 - At-Large Qualification
 - Utilize USBC Ranking Points for selection
- All other divisions will be first-come, first-serve registration.
 - Girls NATIONAL U18, U16 & U14 and Boys OPEN U18/U16 & U14



2026 U.S. Beach Club National Championship: Tournament Seeding

- Based on Team's USBC Ranking Points
- Teams earn USBC Ranking Points based on finishes at BCNQs and Challenges
- Tie-Breaker in USBC Ranking Points
 - Ties in USBC Ranking Points will be broken utilizing the respective Teams' USAVP Beach Ranking System, considering each athlete's individual USAVP Beach Ranking Points



2026 U.S. Beach Club National Championship: Tournament Flow

- Guaranteed Match Play
 - Day 1: 3 Matches maximum
 - Day 2: 2 Matches minimum
 - Day 3: 1 Match minimum
- Possible Tournament Format
 - Day 1: Pool Play – Phase 1
 - Day 2: Pool Play – Phase 2 & Crossover Duels
 - Day 3: Bracket play



Club Registration

- Club Directors must register their club as a USAV Beach Club through Volleyball Life
- Club Registration includes:
 - Registration Form on VBL
 - Club Director Agreement Form
 - Aspects Included:
 - Agrees that they accept NO “Out-of-Region” Athlete Participation
 - All participating members (athletes/coaches/club directors) MUST BE FULL MEMBERS of a Region of USAV and AVP
 - Agrees to follow the “Frozen Player” Rule in regards to Player Release/Transfer
 - Team Uniforms



Athlete Registration

- Athletes must complete the USAV Beach Club Designation Form
 - Assigns the respective athlete to a specific Club
 - Once completed, the athlete is a confirmed member of the respective Club
- Athlete Club Designation Form
 - Athlete Region
 - Club Region
 - Must be FULL MEMBER of a Region of USAV and AVP
- New Athletes mid-season
 - Athletes may register and designate their club at any time throughout the BCNC season, only if they have not competed for another Club within the BCNC.



Out-of-Region Athletes

- Not permitted in 2025-26 season
- Amendment
 - Athletes that do not have a club to represent, may register and compete with a club in a neighboring USA Volleyball Region



Frozen Player Rule & Player Release

- Frozen Player Rule
 - Athlete deemed “frozen” when...
 - He/She completes Athlete Club Designation Form AND
 - Participates in a USBC-sanctioned event
 - Athletes eligible to move from Team to Team within a Club
- Player Release & Transfer
 - Athletes may be released and transfer to another club once in a season
 - An approval process will be created and must be followed



Official Team Rosters

- Minimum Requirements:
 - 1 Head Coach
 - 6 athletes for 3v3 Duel Division (8 athletes max)
 - 10 athletes for 5v5 Duel Division (12 athletes max)
- Rostered Athlete Requirements
 - USAV & AVP Numbers
 - Official Roster Jersey Number
- Rostered Coach Requirements
 - USAV & AVP Numbers
 - Role Designation (Head Coach, Assistant Coach)



Official Team Rosters (continued)

- Each USBC event will require a Roster Verification Process and Team Check-In
- Official Roster Submission
 - Submitted Tuesday prior to event
 - No additions or changes are allowed once a Team has completed Check-In
- Duel Lineups
 - Teams will submit initial Duel Lineup on Volleyball Life at Team Check-In
 - Lineups to be submitted and verified by Head Referee and/or Tournament Director before each match at the Tournament Desk
 - Only Club Director/Head Coach may submit Duel Lineups
 - Will follow NCAA Protocol for Player Movement and Lineup Adjustments



Summary of Proposal

- Divisions/Age Groups:
 - Girls U18/U16 & U14 OPEN, Girls U18, U16 & U14 NATIONAL, Boys U18/U16 & U14 OPEN
- Beach Club National Qualifiers
 - At least two (2) BCNQs in 2026: East Coast and West Coast
 - Earn seeding points & automatic bids for 2026 Championship
- U.S. Beach Club Championship
 - 3-Day National Championship with OPEN & National Divisions
 - Girls U18/U16 OPEN follows 5v5 Duel format, all others follow 3v3 format
- Club Administration
 - USAV & AVP Membership
 - Athlete Club Designation with NO Out-of-Region Designations



THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!

USA Volleyball is fueled by the passion and dedication of people like you. Your feedback helps us grow and strengthen our sport — please take the time to review this proposal and share your thoughts!

Feedback and questions can be directed to Cody Liner.

Cody.Liner@usav.org

