

USA Volleyball

NTDP

National Team Development Program



BEACH

2026



2026 Youth Olympic Games Trials Manual

June 16 - 18, 2026 - Hermosa Beach, CA

This document outlines the procedures for the USA Beach Volleyball 2026 Youth Olympic Games Trials. Trials winners will earn a spot to represent USA at the Youth Olympic Games. Please note that the United States is **not** guaranteed a bid into the Games — bid allocation is determined by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), not USA Volleyball. Trials will be conducted regardless, and selected pairs should be ready to compete in the event a bid is secured or becomes available.

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Minimum Requirements

- ★ Be eligible to compete for the United States per USAV, NORCECA, FIVB, and IOC regulations/requirements. [LINK](#)
- ★ Be a currently registered member of USAV in good standing.
- ★ Athletes must be born on **January 1, 2009**, or later.
- ★ Hold a valid passport with an expiration date no earlier than **May 14, 2027**
- ★ Must complete all FIVB-required paperwork and documents as needed.
- ★ Attending all training sessions assigned by USA Volleyball after the trials.
 - Training #1: July 26 - August 3, 2026 (Chula Vista, CA)
 - Training #2: September 24-26, 2026 (Dania Beach, FL)
- ★ The first-place winning pairs per gender will be designated as USA's candidates to represent the country at the 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal (October 31 – November 13, 2026).
- ★ Please note that the United States is **not** guaranteed a bid into the Games — bid allocation is determined by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), not USA Volleyball. Trials will be conducted regardless, and selected pairs should be ready to compete in the event a bid is secured or becomes available.
- ★ Representing USA is an incredible opportunity, and we take it seriously. With that in mind, **1st place finishers are required to compete in at least two tournaments together as a pair before the event** — those extra reps with your partner are essential to your development and success as a team.

Team Commitment and Participation Agreement

1. The undersigned team members ("Athletes") hereby agree that, upon winning trials, they will attend ALL mandatory training blocks, specifically:
 - ★ Training Block #1: July 26- August 3, 2026 (Chula Vista, CA)
 - ★ Training Block #2: September 24-27, 2026 (Dania Beach, FL)
 - TBC
 - ★ Training Block #3: This training block will take place ahead of travel in Southern California. Dates are TBD.

2. Accept full responsibility for completing all assigned tasks and projects.
3. Acknowledge that failure to fulfill these training commitments by one or both team members will result in forfeiture of their individual or team position.
4. The first-place winning pairs per gender will be designated as USA's candidates to represent the country at the 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal (10/31–11/13/2026).
 - a. Please note that the United States is **not** guaranteed a bid into the Games — bid allocation is determined solely by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and is outside of USA Volleyball's control. USA Volleyball will communicate bid status as information is received. Trials will be conducted regardless, and selected pairs should remain prepared to compete in the event a bid is secured or becomes available.

2. PASSPORT REQUIREMENTS

Each Athlete hereby:

1. Confirms possession of a valid passport with an expiration date extending beyond six (6) months from date of travel **May 14, 2027**.
2. Agrees to provide proof of passport renewal if current passport is expired.
3. I acknowledge that failure to provide passport documentation to USA Volleyball by the specified deadline will result in team forfeiture of their designated Beach National Team position.

3. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We, the undersigned Athletes, fully understand and agree to all terms and conditions stated above

Trials Entry

- ★ The Youth Olympic Games Trials is open to any athlete who meets the minimum requirements in SECTION 1 – Minimum Requirements.
- ★ Interested athletes can register via the following link: [Athlete Registration](#)
- ★ The participating athletes of the Youth Olympic Games Trials must bear all costs related to their travel, board, and lodging.
- ★ For 2026, USA Volleyball will be following FIVB's Volleyball World Beach Pro Tour Tournament regulations ([FIVB BVB Sports Operations Manual](#)).
- ★ Format is subject to change up to 7 days out from the event June 9, 2026.

Entry Formula

- ★ The Main Draw Tournament will consist of a maximum of 24 pairs in each gender as outlined below:



- ★ Twenty-two (22) places will be awarded to the main draw according to a pairs' combined [USA Volleyball Beach Ranking](#) points on June 9, 2026 at 12pm (PST).
- ★ Up to two (2), Wild Cards per gender may be awarded by USA Volleyball. Any remaining unused wild card places will be granted entry according to the [USA Volleyball Beach Ranking](#) as of June 9, 2026.
- ★ Teams interested in applying for a Wild Card should either list or upload a document listing team accolades and accomplishments during registration.
- ★ Any pairs who registered and did not receive entry into the Main Draw Tournament will be seeded and placed on a Reserved List. If a place becomes available, the highest-ranked Pair from the reserve list will be notified and has 24 hours to reply if they accept. If they decline or do not reply within 24 hours, the place will be offered to the next highest team. Teams will be ranked on the reserve list as per the [USA Volleyball Beach Ranking](#) as of June 9, 2026.
- ★ A drawing will break any ties in the entry of lots.

Confirmed Entry List

- ★ For the USA Volleyball Beach Age-Group National Team Trials event, the confirmed entry list will be issued 7 days prior to the start of the tournament. The 2026 Youth Olympics Games Trials Confirmed entry list will be issued on June 9, 2026.
- ★ Twenty-two (22) places will be awarded into the main draw according to the pairs' combined [USA Volleyball Beach Ranking](#) on June 9, 2026.
- ★ Up to two (2), Wild Cards per gender may be awarded by USA Volleyball. Any remaining unused wild card places will be granted entry according to the [USA Volleyball Beach Ranking](#) as of June 9, 2026.

Trials Seeding

- ★ For the Main Draw tournaments, the seeding list will be established one day prior to the respective tournaments and after completion of the respective technical meetings.
- ★ All seeding points will be based on the [USA Volleyball Beach Ranking](#) as follows:
- ★ Main Draw: June 16-18, 2026
- ★ Main Draw Tournament Seeding List will be released on June 15, 2026, following the Main Draw Tournament Technical Meeting.

Format

- ★ The competition will consist of a three-day Main Draw Tournament consisting of up to 24 pairs. The Main Draw will consist of round-robin or modified pool play and a single-elimination bracket. All competitions will be played with the MIKASA BV550C BALL and will be provided on-site. [FIVB rules](#) will apply, and matches will be played out until a gold medal winner is awarded. See Appendix A for the provisional match schedule. USA Volleyball has the right to amend the format and rules.
- ★ The Main Draw Tournament is round-robin or modified pool play followed by a single-elimination bracket. It will be held from [June 16-18, 2026](#)

Teams in the Main Draw are seeded per their combined USAV Beach Ranking at the release of the confirmed entry list. Any ties in seeding will be broken by drawing of lots. Exact pools will be posted online and any necessary draws. Pools will be seeded in the following format:

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D	Pool E	Pool F
1	2	3	4	5	6
12	11	10	9	8	7
13	14	15	16	17	18
24	23	22	21	20	19

- ★ The first, second, and third-finishing pairs in their respective pools will advance automatically to the 18-team single-elimination phase. The fourth finishing pair will be eliminated. Please see the following Section from the [FIVB Age Group WCH's Handbook](#) for how ties in the Pool Phase will be broken.
- ★ Thirty minutes following the final match of pool play in each gender, USA Volleyball will host a drawing of lots. The drawing of lots establishes the seeding of the single-elimination phase. Coaches and athletes are welcome to attend, but attendance is not required.
- ★ The drawing of lots will occur per the FIVB Age Group WCHS Handbook.
- ★ Matches will be played out for first place only.

Deadlines and Registration Information

- ★ Deadlines are at 12 pm PT on the following dates:
- ★ March 17, 2026 Registration posted online and opens ([LINK](#))
- ★ May 17, 2026 Regular Registration Deadline (\$250 + online fees per team)
- ★ June 9, 2026 Last day for late registration (\$300 + online fees per team)
- ★ June 9, 2026 Last day for any partner changes
- ★ June 9, 2026 Confirmed Entry List released (22 teams will gain entry into the Main Draw + 2 wild card)
- ★ June 13, 2026 Coach Registration Deadline
- ★ June 16-18, 2026 Main Draw Tournament
- ★ Registration per Pair will be \$250 + online fees, late registration is available until June 9th for \$300 + online fees.
- ★ Entry into the Main Draw will be contingent upon the pairs USA Beach Ranking Points once the late registration has closed on June 9, 2026.
- ★ Coaches must register at the following [LINK](#) by June 13, 2026. Late coach registration WILL NOT be accepted.
 - Coaches must be a current USAV Member in good standing
 - Be SafeSport trained
 - Successfully completed a USAV background screening

Responsibilities of Coaches and Athletes

- ★ All-female athletes must wear shorts or spandex (1" inseam, min) and a tank top that covers the midriff when arms are at the sides. Hats, visors, sunglasses, and sand socks are considered optional personal attire. In addition, for competitions, pairs must be dressed identically, including matching tops and bottoms (including lengths). Cold weather clothing is permitted in conjunction with the uniform, and tops should fit snugly under any uniform.
- ★ Male athletes must wear matching shorts and tanks. The shorts must be a minimum of 10 inches in length, and the tank tops must cover the midsection. Hats, visors, sunglasses, and sand socks are considered optional personal attire. Cold weather clothing is permitted in conjunction with the uniform and should fit snugly under any uniform.
- ★ During this event, accredited coaches will be allowed to sit in the player's area and interact with the players during official warm-up, time-out, technical time-out and between sets. To receive an accreditation, the coach must register by the June 13, 2026, deadline. [Coach Registration](#):
 - Coaches must:
 - Be a current USAV member in good standing
 - Successfully completed the SafeSport certification
 - Successfully completed a USAV background screening
 - Coaches are permitted to coach pairs in both genders.
 - Pairs are not required to have a coach.
 - A coach may be registered for more than one Pair.
- ★ In general, coaches and pairs must follow the regulations as stated in the Coaches Section of the FIVB manual:
- ★ [Manual Link](#) *(Please note certain sections i.e. team leaders, special hotel and food rates, uniform dress may not apply for this trials event).

Removal of Athlete(s)

- ★ Any athlete confirmed to compete in the USAV Youth Olympic Trials may be removed as a competitor for any of the following reasons, as determined by USAV:
- ★ An injury or illness as certified by a board-licensed physician or medical staff approved by USAV. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician or medical staff approved by USAV, his/her illness or injury will be assumed to be disabling, and he/she may be removed.
- ★ Violation of USA Volleyball's Code of Conduct
- ★ An Anti-Doping violation as stipulated in 8.1
- ★ Any athlete removed from the Pair pursuant to a provision above has the right to a hearing per USAV Bylaws (Article X & XIII) or USOC Bylaws, Section 9.
- ★ Please see section 5 regarding discontinued matches or matches that have yet to be started:
[LINK](#)
- ★ USAV reserves the right to disqualify a pair if one or both athletes fail to fulfill the requirements as listed in this manual.

Replacement of Athlete(s)

- ★ In the event a qualified and nominated pair (both athletes) is entirely removed pursuant to the "Removal of Athletes" section above prior to the technical meeting, then the next highest ranked Pair not already in the tournament will gain entry.
- ★ After June 9, 2026, no replacement of athletes can be made.
- ★ Before the Confirmed Entry List release on June 9, 2026, the participating Pair may submit a withdrawal or change of athlete request to BOTH Carolina Garbato (Carolina.Garbato@usav.org) and Judit Kolada (judit.kolada@usav.org).
- ★ It is MANDATORY that the participating Pair both confirm the withdrawal/change to proceed with the request.
- ★ Once USAV issues the Confirmed Entry List on June 9, 2026, before that the participating Pair may:
 - Submit through a withdrawal request with the supporting Medical certificate and travel proof (such as flight ticket issued with flight number, etc.) to Carolina Garbato (Carolina.Garbato@usav.org) and Judit Kolada (judit.kolada@usav.org) and submit the withdrawal, disband or 'change of athlete' request.
 - Failure of the Pair to provide proof of a travel itinerary and medical certificate may result in the Pair forfeiting their registration fee.
- ★ If the withdrawal or 'change of athlete' request is for an athlete/team in the Main Draw tournament, the new team shall have enough combined USAV Beach Ranking Points to maintain their Main Draw position. Otherwise, the team shall be placed on the Reserve List.
- ★ The list of reserve pairs is constantly updated until the preliminary inquiry of the Main Draw tournament.

Medalists

- ★ The first-place winning pairs per gender will be designated as USA's candidates to represent the country at the 2026 Youth Olympic Games in Dakar, Senegal (October 31 – November 13, 2026).
 - Please note that the United States is **not** guaranteed a bid into the Games — bid allocation is determined by the IOC, not USA Volleyball. Trials will be conducted regardless, and selected pairs should be ready to compete in the event a bid is secured or becomes available.
- ★ The top pair (1st place finishers) must attend the mandatory training. All training blocks will be covered by USA Volleyball
 - Training Block #1: July 26 – August 3, Chula Vista, CA
 - Training Block #2: September 24 - 27, 2026 (Dania Beach, FL)
 - Training Block #3: This training block will take place ahead of travel in Southern California. Dates are TBD.
- ★ Teams or individual athletes unwilling to attend the USAV mandatory training and/or unable to fulfill any of the USAV, FIVB, and/or host requirements to participate will forfeit their spot. USAV will offer the spot to a team or athlete of its choice. The alternate athlete(s) will be chosen by USAV based on an athlete's NTDP participation

Anti-Doping & Code of Conduct

- ★ Athletes must adhere to all World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), Fédération Internationale de Volleyball (FIVB), and US Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) protocols, policies, and procedures. This includes out-of-competition testing as required by WADA, FIVB, and USADA. [LINK](#)
- ★ Athletes must sign and adhere to the USAV Code of Conduct.
- ★ Media:
 - USAV owns all media rights, including photographs, video, digital television, at the event.
 - The ATHLETE will do his/her utmost to be available for professional interviews by USAV or credentialed media immediately following matches and will use reasonable efforts to organize his/her schedule accordingly. USAV will respect the ATHLETE'S need to train, play, eat, sleep and prepare for coming games during the EVENT when requesting the ATHLETE'S participation in such activities.

Disclaimer

- ★ Suppose any force of nature or force majeure should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document. In that case, these selection procedures will be revised pursuant to the approval of USA Volleyball.
- ★ USAV reserves the right not to take a pair or athlete and/or to select a different pair or athlete, if one or both athletes fail to fulfill the requirements as listed in this manual.
- ★ Due to force majeure (such as COVID-19, a global crisis, etc.). USA Volleyball reserves the right to change the tournament format, athlete selection, and/or change the event date and location.
 - If possible, any changes will be notified to registrants at least 7 days ahead of the event.
- ★ In the event USAV is unable to host trials due to force majeure, all athletes will be chosen subjectively by a committee formed by the two assigned head coaches and USAV Staff.

Athlete Inquiries

- ★ Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete should contact USAV NTDP: bntdp@usav.org.
- ★ If you have further questions that the USAV NTDP staff were not able to answer, please contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman at 719-866-5000 or email: kacie.wallace@usoc.org or sara.clark@usoc.org.

Appendix:

Tentative Schedule June 16 – Main Draw

Time	Court 1	Court 2	Court 3	Court 4	Court 5	Court 6	Court 7	Court 8
9:00	GU18 A1	GU18 A1	GU18 B1	GU18 B1	GU18 C1	GU18 C1	GU18 D1	GU18 D1
10:00	GU18 E1	GU18 E1	GU18 F1	GU18 F1	BU18 A1	BU18 A1	BU18 B1	BU18 B1
11:00	BU18 C1	BU18 C1	BU18 D1	BU18 D1	BU18 E1	BU18 E1	BU18 F1	BU18 F1
12:00	GU18 A2	GU18 A2	GU18 B2	GU18 B2	GU18 C2	GU18 C2	GU18 D2	GU18 D2
13:00	GU18 E2	GU18 E2	GU18 F2	GU18 F2	BU18 A2	BU18 A2	BU18 B2	BU18 B2
14:00	BU18 C2	BU18 C2	BU18 D2	BU18 D2	BU18 E2	BU18 E2	BU18 F2	BU18 F2
15:00	GR18	GR18	BR18	BR18				

June 17 - Main Draw

Time	Court 1	Court 2	Court 3	Court 4	Court 5	Court 6	Court 7	Court 8
9:00	GR16	GR16	GR16	GR16	GR16	GR16	GR16	GR16
10:00	BR16	BR16	BR16	BR16	BR16	BR16	BR16	BR16
11:00	G Q.F.	G Q.F.	G Q.F.	G Q.F.				
12:00	B Q.F.	B Q.F.	B Q.F.	B Q.F.				

June 18 - Main Draw

Time	Court 1	Court 2	Court 3	Court 4	Court 5	Court 6	Court 7	Court 8
9:00	G S.F.	G S.F.	B S.F.	B S.F.				
10:00	G Finals							
11:00	B Finals							

First Phase, 24 teams will be placed into six (6) 4 – team pools and will play modified pool play. The last place from each pool will be eliminated.

Second Phase, 18 teams based on pool play results, will qualify for the 18-team single elimination play off bracket

This format is subject to change.

	1. 1st (A1 or B1)			
16. Draw 5	3			
1				
17. Draw 5		11		
	8. Draw 2			
	4			
	9. Draw 2			
			15	
	5. 1st (E1 or F1)			
	5			
	12. Draw 3			
		12		
	4. 2nd (C1 or D1)			
	6			
	13. Draw 4			
				17
	3. 1st (C1 or D1)			
	7			
	14. Draw 4			
		13		
	6. 2nd (E1 or F1)			
	8			
	11. Draw 3			
			16	
	7. Draw 2			
	9			
	10. Draw 3			
		14		
	2. 2nd (A1 or B1)			
15. Draw 4	10			
2				
18. Draw 5				

A1 or B1 are decided by best ratio (wins, sets, points*) - highest ratio goes to match #3, lowest ratio goes to match #10

C1 or D1 are decided by best ratio (wins, sets, points*) - highest ratio goes to match #5, lowest ratio goes to match #4

E1 or F1 are decided by best ratio (wins, sets, points*) - highest ratio goes to match #5, lowest ratio goes to match #4

Draw 2 = 3 x 2nd place teams from pool play with best ratio (match points, set ratio, rally point ratio, and if a tie still exists in rally point ratio, a draw will be conducted to break the tie)

Draw 3 = 3 x 2nd place teams from pool play with worst ratio (match points, set ratio, rally point ratio, and if a tie still exists in rally point ratio, a draw will be conducted to break the tie)

Draw 4 = 3 x 3rd place teams from pool play with best ratio (match points, set ratio, rally point ratio, and if a tie still exists in rally point ratio, a draw will be conducted to break the tie)

Draw 5 = 3 x 3rd place teams from pool play with worst ratio (match points, set ratio, rally point ratio, and if a tie still exists in rally point ratio, a draw will be conducted to break the tie)