

USA Volleyball

**NTDP**

National Team Development Program

**BEACH**

**2026**

# 2026 U23 Beach National Team Trials Manual

June 15-16, 2026 // Hermosa Beach, CA

This document outlines the procedures for the USA Volleyball U23 Beach National Team Trials. USA Volleyball will host this event to select athletes to participate in the 2026 NORCECA U23 Continental Tour. This competition will be held June 15-16, in Hermosa Beach, CA.

## Contents

Minimum Requirements.....	3
Trials Entry.....	4
Format.....	5
Deadlines and Registration Information.....	6
Responsibilities of Coaches and Athletes.....	6
Removal of Athlete(s).....	7
Replacement of Athlete(s).....	8
Medalists.....	9
Anti-Doping & Code of Conduct.....	9
Disclaimer.....	10
Athlete Inquiries.....	10
Appendix:.....	11
Tentative Schedule.....	11
Main Draw Bracket.....	12

## 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.
- ★ Athletes must be born on **January 1, 2004, or later**.
- ★ An athlete who is 18 years of age or turns 18 years of age on or before June 15, 2026, must have successfully completed the SafeSport certification.
- ★ Must have a **valid passport** at the time of trials on June 15, 2026. Passport must be valid through February 17, 2027.
- ★ Must complete all FIVB-required paperwork and documents as needed.
- ★ Attend all training sessions as assigned by USA Volleyball in between trials and the competition.
  - Training #1: Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center | Chula Vista, CA | July 26-30, 2026
  - Training #2: TBD
- ★ 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.

## Trials Entry

- ★ The U23 Beach National Team 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 U23 Beach National Team Trials must bear all costs related to their travel, board, and lodging.
- ★ The Main Draw Tournament will consist of a maximum of 16 pairs in each gender as outlined below:



- ★ Fourteen (14) places will be awarded according to a pairs' combined [USAV Beach Ranking](#) as of June 8, 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 [USAV Beach Ranking](#) as of June 8, 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 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 Beach Ranking as of June 8, 2026.
- ★ A drawing will break any ties in the entry of lots.

## Format

- ★ The competition will consist of 16 teams per gender. The Main Draw will consist of round-robin pool play and a single-elimination bracket. All competitions will be played with the **MIKASA Beach Pro BV550C** and will be provided on-site. [FIVB rules](#) will apply, and matches will be played out until Gold/Silver are 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 15-16, 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 following the preliminary inquiry. Pools will be seeded in the following format:

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
1	2	3	4
8	7	6	5
9	10	11	12
16	15	14	13

- ★ All pairs will advance automatically to the 16-team single-elimination phase. 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.
- ★ Matches will be played out for first place only.

## Deadlines and Registration Information

- ★ Deadlines are at **12:00pm PT** on the following dates:
- ★ **March 17, 2026** Registration posted online and opens
- ★ **May 18, 2026** Regular Registration Deadline (\$200 + online fees per team)
- ★ **June 8, 2026** Late Registration Deadline (\$250 + online fees per team)
- ★ **June 8, 2026** Confirmed Entry List released
- ★ **June 12, 2026** Coach Registration Deadline
- ★ **June 15-16, 2026** Main Draw Tournament
- ★ Registration will open on March 17, 2026 and can be found at the following [LINK](#).
- ★ Standard registration per Pair completed by May 18, 2026 deadline will be \$200 + online fees.
- ★ Registration completed from May 11 through June 8, 2026, will be considered late registration, and athletes will be placed at the end of the Reserve List. The registration fee per Pair will be \$250 + online fees.
  - If an open spot remains in the Main Draw at the time of the Pair's late registration, the pair will gain entry at that time.
- Coaches must register at the following [LINK](#) by **June 15, 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, unless previously approved). 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 12, 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 Section of 6.5 of the following:
    - [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 U23 Beach National Team 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 6.4 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 8, 2026, no replacement of athletes can be made.
- ★ Before the Confirmed Entry List release on June 8, 2026, the participating Pair may submit a withdrawal or change of athlete request to Carolina Garbato ([Carolina.Garbato@usav.org](mailto:Carolina.Garbato@usav.org)) AND Chelsea Tupuola ([chelsea.tupuola@usav.org](mailto:chelsea.tupuola@usav.org)).
- ★ Once USAV issues the Confirmed Entry List on June 8, 2026, up until that date 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](mailto:Carolina.Garbato@usav.org)) AND Chelsea Tupuola ([chelsea.tupuola@usav.org](mailto:chelsea.tupuola@usav.org)) to 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 in the Qualification Tournament and/or Reserve List.
- ★ If the withdrawal or 'change of athlete' request is for an athlete/team in the Qualification Tournament, the team shall have enough combined USAV Beach Ranking Points to maintain their Qualification Tournament position. Otherwise, the team shall be placed in the reserve list. However, if the team has enough combined USAV Beach Ranking Points to enter the Main Draw, the team will remain in the Qualification Tournament.
- ★ The list of reserve pairs is constantly updated until the preliminary inquiry of the Qualification tournament. Reserve pairs must be present at the start of the Qualification tournament and both players must sign to register in the tournament to be considered for the potential inclusion in the event due to late withdrawals or no shows.

## Medalists

- ★ The first place-winning pairs per gender will earn the right to represent the U.S. at the **2026 U23 NORCECA Beach Continental Tour** taking place **August 13-17** in **El Salvador**.
- ★ Should USAV receive the 2nd spot per a specific gender in the U23 NORCECA Beach Championships, then USA Volleyball will select two athletes from the Alternates on the U23 Beach National Team that will earn the right to represent the U.S. at the 2023 U23 NORCECA Beach Championships provided they attend the mandatory USAV training blocks prior to departure. The alternate athletes will be chosen by USAV based on an athlete's NTDP participation.
- ★ The top pair (1<sup>st</sup> place finishers) will earn the right to and must attend the mandatory training. Only the first-place finishing pair and the pair of athletes selected by USA Volleyball will attend the second training. All training blocks will be covered by USA Volleyball.
  - Training #1: Chula Vista Elite Athlete Training Center | Chula Vista, CA | July 26-30, 2026
  - Training #2: TBD
- ★ Teams 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 and USAV will offer the spot to a team or athlete of its choosing. The alternate athletes 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.
  - When possible, any changes will be notified to registrants at least 21 days ahead of the event.
  - In the event USAV is unable to host trials due to force majeure, 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](mailto:bntdp@usav.org).
- ★ If you have further questions that the USAV NTDP staff were not able to answer, please contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman at 719-866-5000 or email: [kacie.wallace@usoc.org](mailto:kacie.wallace@usoc.org) or [sara.clark@usoc.org](mailto:sara.clark@usoc.org).

# Appendix:

## Tentative Schedule

### June 15 – Main Draw & Rd of 16

Time	Court 1	Court 2	Court 3	Court 4	Court 5	Court 6	Court 7	Court 8
9:00	WA1	WA1	WB1	WB1	MA1	MA1	MB1	MB1
10:00	WC1	WC1	WD1	WD1	MC1	MC1	MD1	MD1
11:00	WA2	WA2	WB2	WB2	MA2	MA2	MB2	MB2
12:00	WC2	WC2	WD2	WD2	MC2	MC2	MD2	MD2
13:00								
14:00	WR16	WR16	WR16	WR16	MR16	MR16	MR16	MR16
15:00	WR16	WR16	WR16	WR16	MR16	MR16	MR16	MR16
16:00								

### June 16 – Quarterfinals, Semi-Finals, Finals

Time	Court 1	Court 2	Court 3	Court 4	Court 5	Court 6	Court 7	Court 8
8:00	W Q.F.	W Q.F.	M Q.F.	M Q.F.				
9:00	W Q.F.	W Q.F.	M Q.F.	M Q.F.				
10:00								
11:00	W S.F.	W S.F.						
12:00	M S.F.	M S.F.						
13:00	W G							
14:00	M G							
15:00								
16:00								
17:00								

## Main Draw Bracket



1 and 2: 1st/2nd of A1/B1

3 and 4: 1st/2nd of C1/D1

DRAW 1: A2, B2, C2, D2

DRAW 2: A3, B3, C3, D3

DRAW 3: A4, B4, C4, D4

\*TEAMS FROM THE SAME POOL CANNOT PLAY EACH OTHER THE FIRST ROUND (ROUND OF 16)