



MEN'S

BEACH

COLLEGIATE CHALLENGE

EVENT PLAYBOOK

September 15-18, 2023

Stevenson University



This document outlines the procedures and regulations for the 2023 USA Volleyball Men's Beach Collegiate Challenge. This competition will be held September 15-17, 2023, at Stevenson University.

Version as of September 7, 2023

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EVENT DATE AND LOCATION

The 2023 USAV Men's Beach Collegiate Challenge will be held on September 15-17, 2023, on the campus of Stevenson University in Owings Mills, MD.

VENUE & FACILITIES

There will be four competition courts for the pool phase and the playoffs located at the Stevenson University Beach Courts next to Mustang Stadium.

VENUE ADDRESS

11005 Owings Mills Boulevard

Owings Mills, Maryland 21117



PARKING

Parking will be available in the main lot in front of the stadium.

ATHLETE TENTS

A limited amount of tents will be provided for the general use of the participating athletes. We ask that athletes respect the space and allow all athletes to be able to use these spaces. Personal tents will be allowed if you wish to bring your own.

LOCKER ROOMS

Locker rooms will be made available to athletes for showers on Sunday, September 17th following the conclusion of their matches.

MEALS

Lunch and dinner will be catered and provided by Stevenson University Athletics on Friday, September 15th and Saturday, September 16th. Lunch will be catered on Sunday, September 17th. Catering will take place at the white tent in front of the Athletics Building.

KEY CONTACTS

The following staff will be your primary contacts for the tournament.

| Staff Member | Role | Phone Number |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Melissa Weymouth | Director, Beach Events | 719-228-6841 |
| Carolina Garbato | Senior Manager, Beach NTDP | 719-228-6830 |
| Cody Liner | Boys Lead, Beach NTDP | 719-228-6863 |
| Rachel Brubaker | Coordinator, Beach NTDP | 719-228-0548 |

TECHNICAL MEETINGS

Mandatory attendance is required for at least one (1) representative (Athlete and/or Coach) of each pair for the Technical Meeting. The detailed schedule is as follows:

| Tournament Phase | Date & Time | Virtual Link |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Main Draw | September 14, 5:00pm | Link |

DRAWING OF THE LOTS AFTER THE 1ST PHASE

A Drawing of the Lots for each division will take place after the completion of the 1st Phase of each Division. The detailed schedule is as follows:

| Tournament Phase | Date & Time | Virtual Link |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Main Draw – 2 nd Phase | September 16, Post-Phase 1 | Will take place at venue. |

COMPETITION SCHEDULE

| Tournament Phase | Date |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Main Draw 1 st Phase Rounds 1 & 2 | Friday, September 15 |
| Main Draw 1 st Phase Round 3 | Saturday, September 16 (AM) |
| Main Draw 2 nd Phase Round of 24 & Round of 16 | Saturday, September 16 (PM) |
| Quarterfinals, Semifinals and Medal Matches | Sunday, September 17 |

Finalized seeding and additional detailed information on the competition will be distributed on the USAV website within 1 hour after the completion of the Technical Meeting. The detailed match schedule will be published as soon as possible on volleyballlife.com by the USAV Beach NTDP staff. Notification of published match schedules will be made via email.

PRACTICES

Teams can practice from 12:00 – 7:00pm on Thursday, September 14th.

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

COMPETITION SCHEDULE

The detailed competition schedule will be confirmed after the completion of the Technical Meeting.

MAIN DRAW POOL PLAY

| DATE | START TIME | COURT 1 | COURT 2 | COURT 3 | COURT 4 |
|---------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| DAY 1 FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 15 | 10:00 | A1 | A1 | B1 | B1 |
| | 11:00 | C1 | C1 | D1 | D1 |
| | 12:00 | E1 | E1 | F1 | F1 |
| | 13:00 | G1 | G1 | H1 | H1 |
| | 14:00 | A2 | A2 | B2 | B2 |
| | 15:00 | C2 | C2 | D2 | D2 |
| | 16:00 | E2 | E2 | F2 | F2 |
| | 17:00 | G2 | G2 | H2 | H2 |
| | 18:00 | | | | |
| 19:00 | | | | | |

MAIN DRAW - SINGLE-ELIMINATION BRACKET

| DATE | START TIME | COURT 1 | COURT 2 | COURT 3 | COURT 4 |
|-----------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| DAY 2 SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16 | 8:00 | | | | |
| | 9:00 | A3 | A3 | B3 | B3 |
| | 10:00 | C3 | C3 | D3 | D3 |
| | 11:00 | E3 | E3 | F3 | F3 |
| | 12:00 | G3 | G3 | H3 | H3 |
| | 13:00 | | | | |
| | 14:00 | | | | |
| | 15:00 | R24 | R24 | R24 | R24 |
| | 16:00 | R24 | R24 | R24 | R24 |
| | 17:00 | R16 | R16 | R16 | R16 |
| 18:00 | R16 | R16 | R16 | R16 | |

MAIN DRAW - SINGLE-ELIMINATION BRACKET

| DATE | START TIME | COURT 1 | COURT 2 | COURT 3 | COURT 4 |
|---------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| DAY 3 SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17 | 8:30 | Q.F. | Q.F. | Q.F. | Q.F. |
| | 9:00 | | | | |
| | 10:00 | | | | |
| | 11:00 | S.F. | S.F. | | |
| | 12:00 | | | | |
| | 13:00 | BRONZE | | | |
| | 14:00 | GOLD | | | |
| | 15:00 | | | | |
| | 16:00 | | | | |

MAIN DRAW

- ★ Consists of thirty-two (32) teams playing in two phases as following:
 - First Phase: Eight (8) pools of four (4) teams playing Round Robing pool play. Top three (3) teams from each pool will advance to the second phase.
 - Second Phase: Knock-out bracket (24 teams) in single-elimination format.
- ★ Seeding for the Main Draw Tournament will be based on each pair's combined [USAV Beach Ranking](#) as of September 11, 2023. A drawing will break any ties in the seeding. In our best effort, teams from the same university will not be placed in the same pool.
- ★ For the first phase, 32 teams will be placed into eight (8) pools with four (4) teams each based on seeding and will be placed per the serpentine principle.

| Pool A | Pool B | Pool C | Pool D | Pool E | Pool F | Pool G | Pool H |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 32 | 31 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 25 |

- ★ For the second phase, the top three (3) teams in each pool qualify for the 24-team playoff. The Drawing of the Lots for the Second Phase will take place at least 15 minutes following the completion of the last match of Pool Play.

DRAW FORMAT

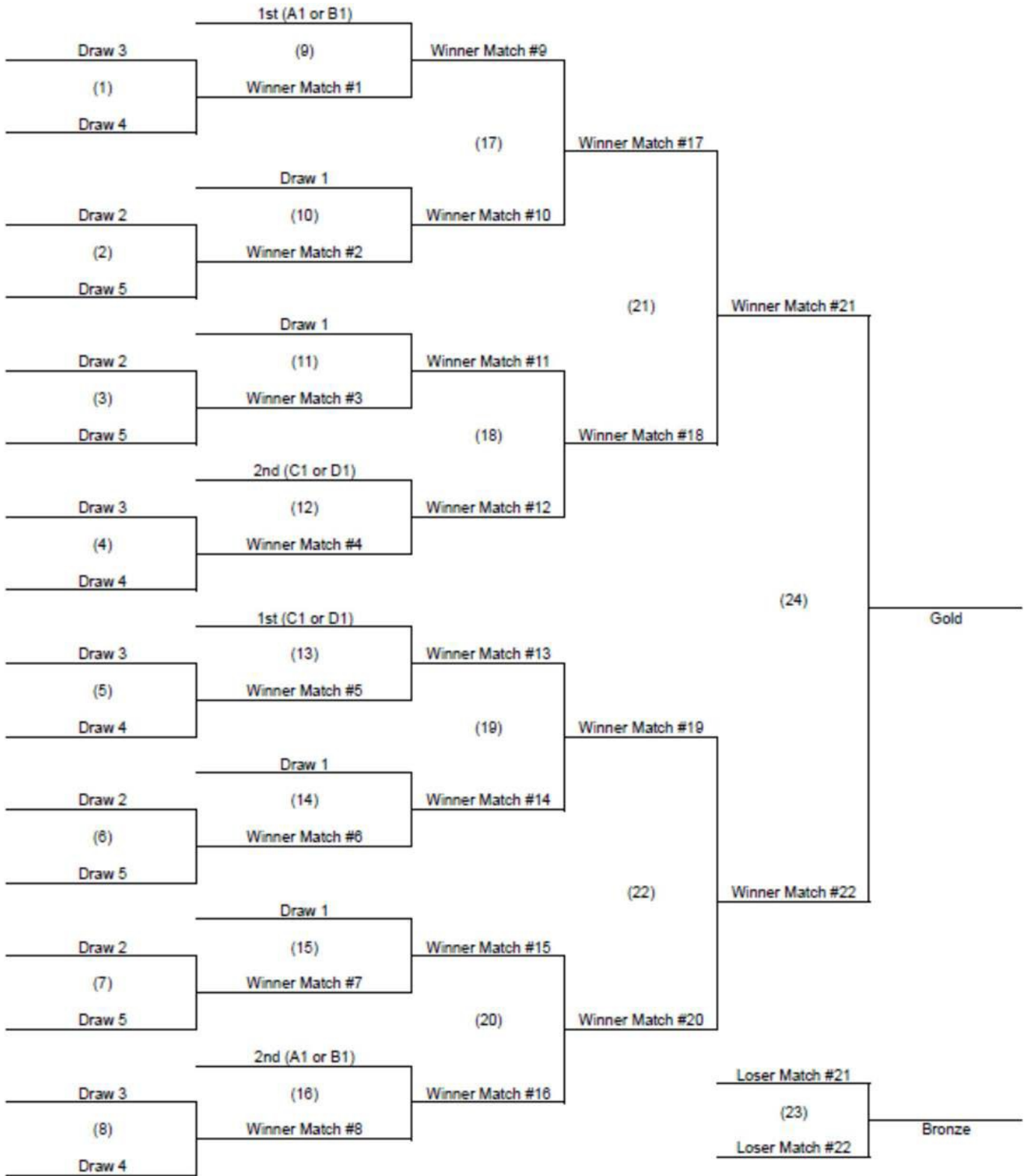
The Drawing of Lots procedure (for the single elimination phase):

- ★ The top three ranked teams from each pool, will advance to the final phase.
- ★ A1 or B1 are decided by best ratio (wins, sets, points*) – highest ratio match #9, lowest ratio match #16
- ★ C1 or D1 are decided by best ratio (wins, sets, points*) – highest ratio match #13, lowest ratio match #12
- ★ Draw 1 = E1 + F1 + G1 + H1
- ★ Draw 2 = 4 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 = 4 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 = 4 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 = 4 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)

* In the first two rounds teams from the same pool can't meet e.g. If Match #9 = B1 vs Winner of Match #1 then Match #1 can't have a team from Pool B

* Points earned from a forfeit don't count in this ratio (The matches won, and sets won do count)



LAST MINUTE WITHDRAWALS

The list of reserve teams is constantly updated until the Technical Meeting. Reserve teams must be present at the Technical Meeting and both players must sign in to register for the tournament to be considered for the potential inclusion in the event due to late withdrawals or no shows.

In case of the withdrawal(s) of team(s) after the completion of the Technical Meeting/Preliminary Inquiry, the regulations of the lucky loser draw shall be implemented to determine the extra qualified team(s). The Lucky loser draw regulation is as follows:

- ★ The lucky loser draw is conducted by the Technical Delegate assigned after the completion of the Technical Meeting/Preliminary Inquiry.
- ★ The lucky loser draw is implemented among the teams from the reserve list, provided they attend and sign in at the Technical Meeting/Preliminary Inquiry as eligible 'lucky losers';
- ★ The first draw is between the two highest seeded teams among the eligible 'lucky loser';
- ★ For each additional available spot, the next highest seeded team must be drawn against the loser of the previous draw;
- ★ This procedure continues until all additional open spots are filled.

In case there are no eligible reserve team(s) physically present at the Technical Meeting/ Preliminary Inquiry, the Host reserve teams as in the Confirmed Entry List will be picked up and the priorities will be given to the teams with higher Entry Points. If there is a tie between the 2 Host country reserve teams, a drawing of lots shall be conducted to determine the priority.

The Tournament is deemed to have started once the seeding has been confirmed at the Technical Meeting/Preliminary Inquiry and no further changes are allowed.

POOL PLAY SEEDING

- ★ Teams will be seeded by their USAV Ranking Points as of September 11, 2023
- ★ Teams remaining that do not have USAV Ranking Points will have their seed determined by entry date. FIVB regulations will be followed for moving pairs of the same university to a different pool.
- ★ Exact pools will be posted online following the technical meeting in advance of the event on the [tournament webpage](#).
- ★ Pools will be seeded in the following format:

| POOL A | POOL B | POOL C | POOL D | POOL E | POOL F | POOL G | POOL H |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 32 | 31 | 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 25 |

RESPONSIBILITIES OF COACHES, ATHLETES AND UNIVERSITY STAFF

ATHLETES

Male athletes must wear shorts that are a minimum of 10 inches in length and a top that identifies the university they are representing. If athletes are from different universities, the team must wear matching uniform tops. The attire includes, at a minimum, shorts and tank tops that cover the midsection. The tops should have two (2) different numbers clearly visible that correspond to each player. College logos are permitted on any personal item. Hats, visors, sunglasses and sand socks are considered optional personal attire. In addition, for competitions, pairs must have matching tops and same-colored bottoms. Cold weather clothing is permitted in conjunction with the uniform and should fit snugly under any uniform.

During this event, one accredited medical staff member will be allowed inside designated areas to assist athletes with any medical needs. The accredited medical staff member must register for an accreditation by September 5, 2023, deadline ([ATC Registration](#)) And must:

- ★ Be a current USAV member in good standing
- ★ Be SafeSport Trained
- ★ Successfully completed a USAV background screening
- ★ Provide a copy of current medical license
- ★ Provide a copy of current liability insurance

COACHES

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 September 7, 2023, deadline: [Coach Registration](#)**. Coaches of men's pairs may be a named beach or indoor volleyball coach of the university which the athletes represent or must meet the requirements in Coaches must:

- ★ Be a current USAV member in good standing
- ★ Be SafeSport Trained
- ★ Successfully completed a USAV background screening
- ★ Hold USAV IMPACT certification
- ★ Pairs are not required to have a coach.
- ★ A coach may be registered for more than one pair. Coaches are permitted to enter a match to coach once and should they leave the match they are not permitted to return. It is recommended that coaches stay with one pair for the duration of the match (i.e. from warm up

until the final whistle). Only one coach will be permitted into the playing area beginning with the warmup until the final whistle.

- ★ The coach must wear a uniform which is different from the pair (e.g. polo/ track suit top, showing university name or logo). Should the coach not adhere to the USAV dress code, the referee will make a remark on the score sheet and the Technical Delegate will rescind the coach's accreditation until the regulation is complied with.
- ★ Coaches must wear the accreditation provided during the entire competition and present it to the match officials.
- ★ The Coach should sign the score sheet prior to the match (after the toss) in the Remarks box (or in the Coach's confirmation box, where a modified score sheet is being used), to confirm his/ her status as a member of the team, subject to the Rules of Play. In addition, the coach must leave his/ her accreditation on the score table. Hence for the purposes of this competition, the coach is included under the term's "pair" and "pair member". Should the Coach refuse to comply with this regulation or have no ID, he/ she will be requested to leave the playing area and can have no further involvement in the match.
- ★ The Coach sits at the designated pair seating areas and must remain seated during play, intervals between rallies except when switching courts, during set intervals and while instructing players during time outs. During court switches, the Coach switches with the pair.
- ★ The Coach must not stand during play or talk to the pair members. Should either Referee have to remind the Coach of this fact, he/ she may be subject to the misconduct scale, just like the players. An accredited coach may interact with his/her players only during warm-up, change of set, between rallies, at switch of the court (should not delay) and during time-out.
- ★ The coach can freely give instructions during Time-outs, Technical Timeouts, Set intervals, and during exceptional game interruptions. The coach may also give instructions during court switches (while walking) – however, the match shall not be delayed by this. Existing rules concerning coaching players from outside the playing area still apply.

- ★ The coach (as well as the pair captain) may request a time out by showing the official hand signal and requesting “time out” when the ball is out of play and before the 1st referee’s whistle for service. His/ her contacting official is the 2nd referee should one be appointed. If there is no 2nd referee, then the 1st referee should be contacted. Requests made after or at the same moment of the 1st Referee’s whistle for service, or requests made after the pair has exhausted its time outs in that set, will be regarded as improper requests. Should resumption of the game be delayed by this, the pair will be sanctioned for delay.
- ★ During a medical time out, only players may warm up in the playing area.
- ★ Specific Regulations and Sanctions will be followed from the FIVB Age Group Beach Volleyball Handbook. Regulations regarding athletes can be found in [Section 7](#).

REMOVAL OF ATHLETE(S)

Any athlete confirmed to compete in the USAV Men's Beach Collegiate Challenge may be removed as a competitor for any of the following reasons, as determined by USAV:

- ★ 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
 - <http://www.pairusa.org/usa-volleyball/membership/forms-and-information>
- ★ 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.
- ★ If a pair withdraws without a valid reason before a match (e.g. no show) or during a match (e.g. refusal to continue) they will lose by forfeit.
- ★ All discontinued matches or matches that have not started are to be assessed by the Technical Delegate to determine if the losing pair is marked as Disqualification (DSQ) or Disqualification by Injury (INJ/DSQ).
 - If a pair is disqualified during pool play due to a positive doping test, it will lose all the matches in the pool (played or to be played) by forfeit (see above). It will receive no rank. All of the pair's matches in the Pool will be recorded as a forfeit for ranking purposes.
 - If a pair is disqualified after the pool play (after the Drawing of Lots) of the tournament due to a positive doping test, it will lose the last pool matches played by forfeit (see above). If the single-elimination phase has already started and if they have not played yet they forfeit their match and the opponent will be then moved to the next round. The final pool ranking will be maintained. If the pair already played its match and won the match, the match result will not be changed and this pair will forfeit the next round.

However, if a pair is disqualified from the tournament due to a positive doping test after the conclusion of the drawing of lots but before the commencement of the first match of the single-elimination phase, they will be replaced in the draw directly by the 4th ranked pair in its pool. And the final pool ranking will be maintained. The disqualified pair will receive no final ranking. It should be shown on the bottom of the final standing without rank and "DSQ".

REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETE(S)

In the event a confirmed pair loses one of its athletes, after the release of the Confirmed Entry List and prior to the technical meeting, due to reasons identified in Section 5 above, and/or to a withdrawal request a selection committee consisting of an NTDP representative, the Director of Beach Events, the Tournament Directors, and the University Coach in relation to the pair will select a replacement athlete from among those who are eligible for the University in question that have not already gained entry. The participating Pair/University may:

- ★ Submit through a withdrawal request to USAV bntdp@usav.org to submit the withdrawal, disband or 'change of athlete' request. If the withdrawal, disband or 'change of athlete' request is for an athlete/pair in the Main Draw tournament, the new pair shall be approved by the Selection Committee per the requirements in Section 2.4 to maintain their Main Draw position,
- ★ After September 5, 2022, the participating Pair/University may:
 - Submit through a withdrawal request with the supporting medical certificate and travel proof (such as flight ticket issued with flight number, etc.) to USAV Beach Events (beachevents@usav.org and to bntdp@usav.org) to submit the withdrawal, disband or 'change of athlete' request.
- ★ Failure of the Pair/University to provide proof of a travel itinerary and medical certificate may result in the Pair/University forfeiting their registration fee.
- ★ Should a pair encounter an injury after the technical meeting has taken place, no replacement athlete can be used.

MEDALISTS

- ★ All pairs that medal per gender will have an opportunity to be invited to participate in future Beach National Team Development Programs.
- ★ The ATHLETE will be present for the award ceremony at the event in which his pair finishes among the top 3 pairs, wearing their uniform for the photography and media session.

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.
- ★ Athletes must sign and adhere to the USAV Code of Conduct. Found [HERE](#)

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

- ★ If any force of nature or force majeure should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised pursuant to approval of the USA Volleyball Beach office.

ATHLETE INQUIRIES

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete should contact USAV: bntdp@usav.org.

- ★ If you have further questions that the USAV staff were not able to answer, please contact the USOPC Athlete Ombudsman at: ombudsman@usathlete.org.

**Information is subject to changes. Information current as of February 17, 2023.*