



AUSTRALIAN BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOUR

2016/17

HANDBOOK

Updated 8th February 2017



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	THE 2016/17 AUSTRALIAN BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOUR (ABVT).....	3
1.1	Welcome and Overview.....	3
1.2	Aims & Purposes of the ABVT.....	4
1.3	Amendments (DURING-season).....	4
1.4	Abbreviations.....	4
1.5	Contacts.....	4
1.6	Event Calendar.....	5
1.7	Staff & Committees.....	6
2	COMPETITION.....	8
2.1	Rules & Equipment.....	8
2.2	ABVT State Open Competition Format.....	8
2.3	ABVT Finals Competition Format.....	8
2.4	Event Meetings & Athlete Expectations.....	10
3	ENTRY & QUALIFICATION.....	11
3.1	ABVT Finals Entry Proceedure.....	11
3.2	Event Seeding.....	11
3.3	Withdrawal & Changing of Players.....	12
4	ABVT POINTS & AWARDS.....	13
4.1	The ABVRS.....	13
4.2	Medal Presentation Ceremony.....	13
4.3	Awards, Prizes & Prize Money.....	13
5	ATHLETE RESPONSIBILITIES & SERVICES.....	14
5.1	Player Commitment.....	14
5.2	Refereeing & Coaching.....	14
5.3	Media & Promotions.....	14
5.4	Event Facilities & Services.....	14
5.5	Sanctions.....	15
5.6	Uniforms & Personal Accessories.....	16
5.7	Personal & Event Sponsors.....	16
5.8	Player Duties.....	17
6	Competing Events.....	18
6.1	non-Sanctioned Event Participation.....	18
6.2	Dispensation to compete in an ABVT Event.....	18
6.3	Code of Conduct.....	18
6.4	Players' Grant of Right.....	18
7	REFERENCE TO ABVT POLICES & FORMS LIBRARY.....	21

1 THE 2016/17 AUSTRALIAN BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOUR (ABVT)

1.1 WELCOME AND OVERVIEW

It is with great pleasure on behalf of Volleyball Australia (VA) that we release the 2016/17 Australian Beach Volleyball Tour Handbook.

The Handbook provides a clear articulation of the rules and regulations, and the roles and responsibilities underpinning the delivery of the 2016/17 Tour. The tour is based upon the following principles: use of the Australian Beach Volleyball Ranking System as a means of gaining entry into events, supporting and giving greater recognition to our member state's open events and ensuring that the "look and feel" of each event are consistent so that you the player will experience an event delivery that is consistent across the nation.

We are very excited about the opportunities we have to continue to host international competitions on Australian beaches off the back of some significant events in the past 18 months.

The Australian Beach Volleyball Ranking System once again is a key component of the sport allowing for a wider reach and more events to be included. As a result these events will again be homologated with the FIVB as a combined national tour for Australia.

Once again, the ABVT competition format is aligned with the FIVB tournament rules and regulations and the expectations of players and officials. We will again review this format to ensure it meets all expectations with this review scheduled for April 2017.

We hope that the 2016/17 tour will be one of fierce competition, in an environment that ensures the best teams qualify. We would appreciate your comments and feedback throughout the season so that we can continually improve the quality of our events.



Mathieu Meriaux
Chief Executive Officer



Baz Wedmaier
Head of Beach Volleyball Events

1.2 AIMS & PURPOSES OF THE ABVT

1.2.1 The ABVT has been created to achieve the following goals.

- To provide professionally administered competitions for Australia's elite and developing athletes.
- To provide part of the pathway for athletes to compete at the international level.
- To showcase Beach Volleyball to the greater Australian population.
- To provide exposure and marketing opportunities to VA's commercial partners.
- To fulfil part of VA's Strategic Plan for Beach Volleyball in Australia.

1.3 AMENDMENTS (DURING-SEASON)

As Notified

1.4 ABBRIVIATIONS

ABVC	Australian Beach Volleyball Commission
ABVT	Australian Beach Volleyball Tour (or the highest sanctioned national Beach Volleyball Series of events in Australia)
AJBVC	Australian Junior Beach Volleyball Championships
ASADA	Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority
AVC	Asian Volleyball Confederation
FIVB	Federation Internationale de Volleyball
ROC	Round Organising Committee
TOC	ABVT Organising Committee
SSO	State Sporting Organisation e.g. Volleyball Queensland
VA	Volleyball Australia

1.5 CONTACTS

Position	Name	Phone	Email
ABVT Finals & Tour Director	Baz Wedmaier	0410 425 157	baz.wedmaier@avf.org.au
NSW Open Event Manager	Katja Imholz	0401 853 901	katjaimholz@hotmail.com
SA Open Event Manager	Karla Della Pietra	0430 112 317	events@volleyballsa.com.au
Queensland Open Event Manager	Damien Searle	0411 251 785	events@vq.org.au
WA Open Event Manager	Jason Laverdure	0421 321 031	competitions@volleyballwa.com.au
Victorian Open Event Manager	Allister Lyne	0422 242 308	al@vicbeach.com.au

1.6 EVENT CALENDAR

2015-16 ABVT Calendar

NOMINATION TYPE	ENTRIES CLOSING DATE – All Entries close at 5:00 EDST*	POSITION ALLOCATED & ANNOUNCED
NSW Open, Manly Beach, NSW (17-18th December 2016)	Wednesday 7 th December 2016	
SA Open, Glenelg, SA (14-15th January 2017)	Monday 8 th January 2017	
QLD Open, Surfers Paradise, QLD (27-29th January 2017)	Monday 23 rd January 2017	
WA Open, Scarborough, WA (3-5th February 2017)	Monday 30 th January 2017	
Victorian Open, St Kilda, Vic (11-12th February 2017)	Monday 6 th February 2017	
ABVT Finals, Manly Beach, NSW (24-26th March 2017)		
Australian Entries including National Wildcard Applications:	Monday 20 th February 2017	Friday 24 th February 2017
Australian & International Wild Card Applications:	Monday 20 th February 2017	Friday 24 th February 2017

* - All entry deadlines, procedures and requirements are set by each event promoter. Check directly with them for up to date information and entry details.

1.7 STAFF & COMMITTEES

1.7.1 ABVT Organisational Charts



T.O.C

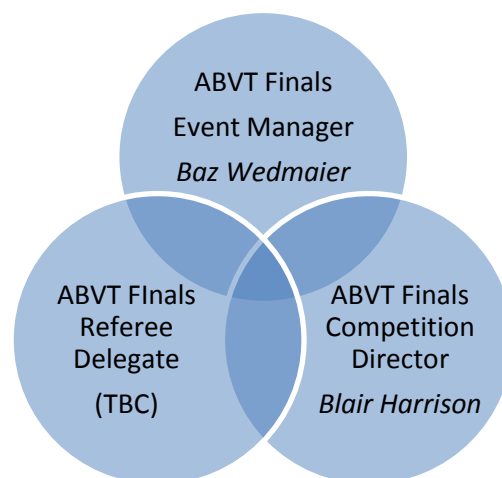
Tour Organising Committee

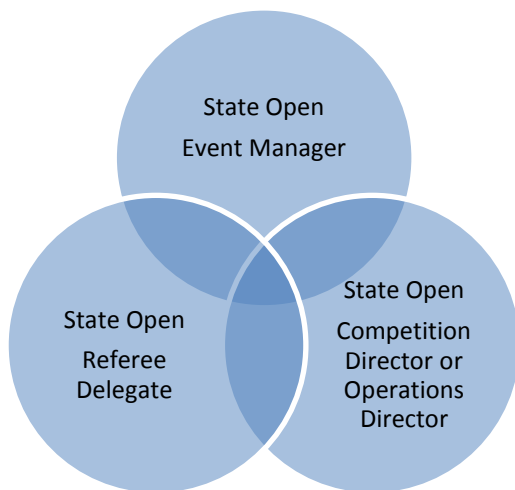
The ABVT Organising Committee (TOC) is the highest authority for the Tour. The TOC can use information supplied and available to them at their discretion to make decisions with regards to all aspects of the Tour. They can invite others to attend their meetings at their discretion.

R.O.C – Finals

Round Organising Committee ABVT Finals

The ROC - Finals act to uphold all FIVB regulations with play and the sporting competition at the ABVT Finals. The ROC - Finals can use information supplied and available to them at their discretion to make decisions with regard to all aspects of the sporting operations, safety (player, public & staff), regulations, sanctions and tournament play including but not limited to entries, wildcard allocations, seeding, competition format and player conduct. The ROC - Finals can invite others to attend their meetings at their discretion.





R.O.C – Opens

Round Organising Committee ABVT State Opens

The ROC - Opens act to uphold all FIVB regulations with play and the sporting competition at the State Open events which make up the ABVT Rounds. The ROC - Opens can use information supplied and available to them at their discretion to make decisions with regard to all aspects of the sporting operations, safety (player, public & staff), regulations, sanctions and tournament play including but not limited to entries, wildcard allocations, seeding, competition format and player conduct. The ROC - Opens can invite others to attend their meetings at their discretion.

- 1.7.2 The TOC and ROC (Finals & Opens) may rely upon information and advice from other individuals they determine in their sole discretion to be reasonable, but the TOC and ROC members must make any decisions concerning the events sporting regulations, operations and tournament play.
- 1.7.3 If a private company is contracted as the Promoter of any event then the ROC may add one (1) additional member of the relevant ROC to represent the promoters interests.

2 COMPETITION

2.1 RULES & EQUIPMENT

- 2.1.1 The ABVT will be using the FIVB Beach Volleyball Official Rules (current) unless where specifically amended in this Handbook or at the Technical Meeting of a specific event. Copies of the rules can be viewed on the FIVB website www.fivb.com
- 2.1.2 All equipment used will meet all Australian Standards and where possible, will be the same as that used by the FIVB.

2.2 ABVT STATE OPEN COMPETITION FORMAT

- 2.2.1 The Event Organiser for each sanctioned ABVT State Open will be:
- A Volleyball Australia affiliated SSO.
 - A private event provider affiliated to the SSO.
 - A private event provider approved by SSO.
- 2.2.2 Each sanctioned ABVT State Open will have a competition format as advertised by the Event Organiser. This information can also be found on the ABVT Website.

2.3 ABVT FINALS COMPETITION FORMAT

- 2.3.1 The Event Organiser for the ABVT Finals is Volleyball Australia.
- 2.3.2 The ABVT Finals will be rated according to the ABVRS found here - <http://www.beachvolleyballtour.com.au/abvrs>
- 2.3.3 The Australian Tour finals will consist of a 24 team Main draw competition with no Qualification tournament.
- 2.3.4 Qualification will be:
- 4 International wild cards
 - 4 Australian wild cards
 - 10 teams - 1st place & runner up from each State Open.
 - 6 top teams not yet qualified based on the combined individual results of the 5 State Opens.
- Note: If a team qualifies at multiple State Opens, then the extra position/s will be taken by the next ranked team not already qualified based on combined individual results. I.E. not the 3rd place at a State Open
- 2.3.5 Tournament will be played in pools, followed by a single elimination phase.
- Note:** The TOC reserves the right to amend the playing format based on the number of entries received and the playing conditions available during the tournament.
- 2.3.6 An Australian player teaming up with an International Player will be classed as an International Team and need to apply for an International Wild Card
- 2.3.6.1 If an International player has played in more than 50% of State Open Events, they will be classified as an Australian player for the purposes of qualification. They will not be able to apply for an Australian or International Wild Card.

2.3.7 An International player is one who:

- Has not lived in Australia for at least two years.
- Does not have a permanent resident visa.
- Has competed in a Beach Volleyball or Volleyball event/competition for another country in the past 2 years.

2.3.8 A team wishing to apply for any Wild Card must submit a letter to baz.wedmaier@avf.org.au including details on your current playing experience, any national or international rankings, a clearance form from your National Federation (for international players) and any other relevant information to support your inclusion. All applications must be received by the 20th February 2017.

2.3.9 Wild Cards will be appointed at the discretion of the TOC as follows:

- **International Wildcards (IWC)**

Nominations will be accepted from International teams that are seeking an IWC for the ABVT Finals. Nominations will be accepted from teams comprising players of mixed nationality. Where there are more nominations than places available, the following criteria will be used to determine IWC: current World Tour ranking points of respective team members, availability to train with the Volleyroos Beach Volleyball athletes, marketability, and character. The TOC will determine at its sole discretion which teams will be awarded an IWC.

NB: any player with dual citizenship must declare their intended citizenship at the commencement of the season and proceed to nominate teams based on that citizenship for the entire season. If a player has represented their country at an international competition in the last 2 years, then they will be considered a foreign team/athlete. For example, a player may not apply for a position as an Australian citizen in one instance, then as an International Wildcard in another instance.

- **Australian Wildcards (AWC)**

Australian teams (two players of Australian citizenship/permanent residency) may apply for an AWC to compete in the ABVT Finals. Criteria used to assess suitability for an AWC include performance on the previous season of the ABVT, history of participation on the ABVT, marketability, and character. The TOC will determine in their sole discretion which teams will be awarded an AWC.

The AWC's will be allocated as follows:

- **High Performance Wildcards (2)**
These will be nominated by the Volleyball Australia High Performance program with the view to assist developing players on the beach volleyball high performance pathway.
- **Tournament / Organiser Wildcards (2)**
To be appointed via the above mentioned criteria by the TOC

2.3.10 In the event that less than the total allocation of Wild Cards (Australian or International) are accepted in any round, then the remaining position(s) may be allocated at the TOC discretion and awarded to Australian or International teams.

2.4 EVENT MEETINGS & ATHLETE EXPECTATIONS

2.4.1 Athlete Meeting Requirements

- 2.4.1.1 Athletes must attend the Preliminary Inquiry and the Technical Meeting. Non-attendance may result in automatic withdrawal from the competition. Under special circumstances, exceptions may be considered by the Event Organiser.
- 2.4.1.2 If a player/s is wishing to be granted exemption, they must apply in writing to the Event Organiser at least 7 days prior to the first Meeting of the event.

2.4.2 Preliminary Inquiry

- 2.4.2.1 A Preliminary Inquiry will be held before each round. This Preliminary Inquiry is conducted by the Tournament Director before the Technical Meeting and is meant to check the eligibility status of each athlete.
- 2.4.2.2 The Preliminary Inquiry will be carried out at a time and place to be advised by each Event Organiser.
- 2.4.2.3 At the end of the Preliminary Inquiry, the Tournament Director will approve the final list of the participating teams allowed to enter the competition.
- 2.4.2.4 Attendance by both team members at the Preliminary Inquiry is compulsory. Sanctions will apply in the event of non-attendance.

2.4.3 Technical Meeting

- 2.4.3.1 A Technical Meeting will be held after the Preliminary Inquiry. This Technical Meeting is conducted by the Tournament Director.
- 2.4.3.2 The Technical Meeting will be conducted at a place to be advised at each event.
- 2.4.3.3 The Tournament Director will chair the meeting and provide athletes with technical information about the competition. They may give the floor to other relevant people for additional comments, e.g. promoter representative, National Federation Delegate or the Referee Delegate.
- 2.4.3.4 Depending on the type of draw, each event may have more than one Technical Meeting.

2.4.4 Technical Meeting Agenda

- 2.4.4.1 The Technical Meeting will be organised according to the following but not limited to:
 - Results of the drawing of lots (if required);
 - Technical aspects of the competition;
 - Competition program;
 - Medical Support/Services
 - Hydration strategy/emphasis
 - Media activities;
 - Involvement of players in special promotional programs (if required);
 - Information on doping controls (when applied)
 - Match protocol;
 - Information on the Rules of the Game, refereeing instructions, interpretation of the Rules;
 - Any other useful information;

3 ENTRY & QUALIFICATION

3.1 ABVT FINALS ENTRY PROCEEDURE

- 3.1.1 Direct entries will only be accepted from teams who consist of two Australian Citizens and / or non-citizens with permanent Australian residency. Permanent residency verification will be required at the time of the team nomination.
- 3.1.2 Australian entries will only be accepted from Australian players that are full registered members of a SSO. Upon receipt of team entry documents, verification of membership will occur prior to acceptance of the team into the competition draw
- 3.1.3 A team with one or both players who are non-Australian citizens or do not hold a permanent Australian Residency Visa will be classed as an international entry. All international players must submit to the Event Organiser a letter of endorsement from their National Federation approving their participation on the ABVT. This letter must accompany their entry form and entry fee. If an international team comprises of one member being an Australian Citizen / non-citizen with permanent residence, that person must comply with item 3.1.2
- 3.1.4 The entry fees and process for each event will be set by the Event Organiser and be advertised on the ABVT Website.

3.2 EVENT SEEDING

- 3.2.1 Each Event Organiser will set the seeding policy for each AVBT Event.
- 3.2.2 ABVT Finals Seeding
 - 3.2.2.1 Teams will be seeded based on the results of the 5 State Open events as recorded on the ABVRS.
 - 3.2.2.2 Australian Wildcard teams will be seeded based on the above or at the discretion of the TOC.
 - 3.2.2.3 International Wildcard teams will be seeded as above or at the discretion of the TOC.
 - 3.2.2.4 Seed point ties will be broken in the first instance by the team with the highest total ABVRS points as at the 17th March 2017.
 - 3.2.2.5 If a tie still occurs, the TOC will break the tie by the drawing of the lots. This can be done by the TOC at their discretion before the Tournament commences.
 - 3.2.2.6 The TOC can determine the seeding for any team using their own discretion based on information supplied and available to them.

3.3 WITHDRAWAL & CHANGING OF PLAYERS

- 3.3.1 Any player or team withdrawing from an event must do so in writing to the Event Director & Tournament Director.
- 3.3.2 Teams will be refunded their entry fees if they withdraw prior to entries closing. If withdrawal happens after entries close, all fees paid are forfeited.
- 3.3.3 If withdrawing for medical reasons, or a “special case” exists, a request for full reimbursement may be made to the TOC contained within the withdrawal letter. Proof may be requested.
- 3.3.4 Change of players in a team is only allowed if the TOC believes there is just cause for the change (i.e. medical or special conditions). The team will be responsible for all financial implications. No player changes to teams will be allowed once seeding is confirmed at the Technical Meeting of the Tournament.
- 3.3.5 A new team (with a change of player as approved above) does not automatically retain its spot in the tournament, be it in the MD or QT. Any changes to the draw or seeding will be made at the discretion of the TOC and all athletes will be informed at the Technical Meeting.

4 ABVT POINTS & AWARDS

4.1 THE ABVRS

4.1.1 Refer to the Australian Beach Volleyball Ranking System information at www.beachvolleyballtour.com.au/abvrs for event rankings and detailed overview of the system including current Australian Rankings.

4.2 MEDAL PRESENTATION CEREMONY

4.2.1 It is mandatory for the top 2 placed teams to participate at the Medal Presentation Ceremony that will take place immediately after the gold medal match. The Tournament Director will advise where the ceremony will be held.

4.3 AWARDS, PRIZES & PRIZE MONEY

4.3.1 All awards, prizes and money will be equally split between both genders.

4.3.2 The breakdown of prize money for the ABVT Finals will be determined by the following method:

Placing	Percentage of prize money on offer (per gender)
1st	40%
2nd	20%
3rd	14%
4th	10%
5th	4%
6th	4%
7th	4%
8th	4%

5 ATHLETE RESPONSIBILITIES & SERVICES

5.1 PLAYER COMMITMENT

- 5.1.1 Each player is required to complete and abide by the ABVT Player Agreement, prior to competing in their first ABVT event of 2016/17.
- 5.1.2 Each team must submit a completed tournament entry form and pay all fees on time. If payment is not received with the entry form, that team's position may be re-allocated at the discretion of the ROC.
- 5.1.3 Each player is required to complete a Player Biographical Form upon entering their first event.

5.2 REFEREEING & COACHING

- 5.2.1 Refereeing
 - 5.2.1.1 Where required by the event, athletes will be required to perform the roles of a duty team during an event. A Duty Team will consist of a 1st referee and a 2nd referee/scorer.
 - 5.2.1.2 When Event Officials are appointed to a game, duty teams must check with the appointed officials on court as to what role they are required to fulfil (if any).
 - 5.2.1.3 Any person officiating a match (in any role) will be deemed an Official. They will therefore be bound to the VA Officials Code of Ethics.
- 5.2.2 Coaching
 - 5.2.2.1 ABVT Finals - Coaching is not permitted during matches. Coaches may only liaise with teams outside of the official match protocols and playing time.
 - 5.2.2.2 Round Events – Coaching may be permitted at lower level events at the discretion of the Event Organiser and confirmed at the Technical Meeting. If no information is provided, the FIVB Rules (current) will prevail.

5.3 MEDIA & PROMOTIONS

- 5.3.1 Publicity and promotions for the ABVT will be conducted by the sponsors in conjunction with Volleyball Australia.
- 5.3.2 Player participation may be requested for promotional activities, particularly any event launches prior to each round. If your attendance is requested, you will be contacted by the appropriate designated representative of Volleyball Australia or the Event Organiser and given further details on the activity. Your co-operation is requested to ensure maximum exposure and publicity for your profile, the sport and that of the ABVT.

5.4 EVENT FACILITIES & SERVICES

- 5.4.1 Each ABVT event will focus on a centre court facility consisting of but not limited to seating, PA system, music & commentary, public interactions & promotions, VIP marquee facilities, access to toilets, athlete facilities, referee facilities, media, competition management, several outside courts and medical services.

- 5.4.2 VIP Areas are for VIP guests only. Athletes are permitted in the VIP by invite only.
- 5.4.3 Qualified senior first aid personnel will be in attendance at each round to administer any first aid treatment required by competitors, staff or spectators.
- 5.4.4 The ABVT will comply with all conditions of the VA Anti-Doping Policy and the rules and regulations of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA), the FIVB, the World Anti-Doping Agency, and the Australian Olympic Committee, as appropriate. Testing may be conducted at any event and players will be notified via standard ASADA procedures.

Further information can be obtained via

VA website www.volleyballaustralia.org

ASADA website www.asada.org.au

5.5 SANCTIONS

- 5.5.1 Sanctions can be handed down through the TOC or the ROC. Further sanctions or referral to other authorities may be made by the TOC in addition to the following.
- 5.5.2 Players not completing the official ABVT forms including the entry forms, player commitments and other information requested (including biographical information) may be fined up to AUD\$50 per player, per occurrence and / or not be permitted to compete.
- 5.5.3 Players must familiarise themselves with the strict anti-doping policies and procedures of Volleyball Australia. Breaches of this Policy attract severe penalties, as set out in the Policy. The Policy can be viewed at: www.volleyballaustralia.org
- 5.5.4 All Players not signed in at the conclusion of the Preliminary Inquiry and/or not present at the players' Technical Meeting (without prior exemption from the Event Organiser) may be fined up to AUD\$50 per player, per occurrence and may be excluded from the draw at the discretion of the ROC. Players wishing to be granted exemption must apply in writing to Volleyball Australia at least 7 days prior to the event for which the exemption is sought.
- 5.5.5 Players who do not comply with the uniform regulations (see part 5.6) may be penalised up to AUD\$50 per player for each preliminary match for which there is a breach, and up to AUD\$100 for each finals match, and/or such players may face suspension or expulsion from the ABVT. The only exceptions permitted must be granted in writing by the ROC with the relevant request submitted at least 7 days prior to the event for which an exception is sought.
- 5.5.6 Players/teams who do not fully complete Duty Team requirements as assigned may be penalised up to AUD\$50 per player for each match and/or suspended from future games or events.
- 5.5.7 Players failing to attend scheduled media, medal presentation and promotion obligations, as specified in this Handbook or the ABVT Player's Agreement may be penalised up to AUD\$100 per occurrence per player.
- 5.5.8 The winners and runner up at each event are required to attend the medal presentation ceremony in their playing uniform. Unless authorised by VA or the Event Organiser, no other clothing, uniform, or accessories are permitted.

- 5.5.9 Failure to attend a tournament for which a player is registered without delivery of adequate explanation or withdrawal letter (see part 3.5) will result in forfeiture of paid entry fees, and possible expulsion or suspension from future ABVT by the TOC.
- 5.5.10 The TOC will deal with any issues of misconduct prior to, during or after an event has been completed. The TOC can issue fines of up to AUD\$500 for each offence and /or suspend players for serious offences.
- 5.5.11 All fines are cumulative and payable prior to acceptance into future ABVT Events. If an offence is committed during the ABVT Finals, the sanction fee can be deducted from Prize Money earned for that event.

5.6 UNIFORMS & PERSONAL ACCESSORIES

- 5.6.1 Athletes must wear the official top/singlet provided by the ABVT at all times; during a match, on the field of play, during warm-up sessions, during post-match interviews, during the medal ceremony and during press conferences.
- 5.6.2 Men and Women must provide their own shorts/bikini bottoms. Teams must wear shorts/bikini bottoms of the same colour and style.
- 5.6.3 Upon the request of the TOC or the ROC, athletes must submit their own shorts/bikini bottoms for approval during the Preliminary Inquiry.
- 5.6.4 During severe weather conditions (hot or cold) the ROC may allow players to use additional garments that do not obscure the official uniforms. These may include but not limited to a tight shirt, long tight pants or sand socks. These must be consistent in style and colour per player. Players will be advised through any of the Referees, Referee Delegate or Tournament Director when additional garments will be allowed.

5.7 PERSONAL & EVENT SPONSORS

- 5.7.1 Volleyball Australia is committed to building the profile of the ABVT athletes. To support this campaign Volleyball Australia will endeavour to feature player profiles in any television programming, website content, printed materials and editorial content concerning the ABVT.
- 5.7.2 Volleyball Australia is committed to supporting ABVT sponsors and asks that players be similarly committed to such support. Player sponsors that do not conflict with ABVT sponsors or conflict with rules outlined in this handbook will be permitted to appear on Players during ABVT events at the discretion of the TOC. Player sponsors that conflict with ABVT sponsors will not be permitted at any time unless advised in writing by the TOC.
- 5.7.3 The tour sponsors for 2016/2017 can be found on the ABVT website.
- 5.7.4 It is the athlete's responsibility to contact VA with their sponsorship arrangements prior to the ABVT events to ensure there is no conflict. VA reserves the rights to refuse a player wearing specific apparatus if a sponsor is directly conflicting with one of the ABVT major sponsor or is bringing the sport into disrepute.
- 5.7.5 No religious or political statements are allowed.

- 5.7.6 Once athletes have received confirmation that there are no potential conflicts, they are authorised to have personal sponsor's logos on their shorts/ bottoms located in any position and of any size. There is no limitation in the number of sponsors to be displayed on the shorts/ bottoms.
- 5.7.7 Athletes are authorised to use the following accessories:
- Visor or cap or hat or head band
 - Sunglasses
 - Therapeutic/Medical support braces for knee/elbow
 - One (1) watch
- 5.7.8 A collective total of three (3) items can be used as follows:
- Temporary tattoos
 - Arm bands
 - Footwear and/or athletic socks (with ROC approval)
- 5.7.9 Athletes are responsible for presentation, care, security and costs of their own accessories.
- 5.7.10 Players agree to appear at promotional activations at each ABVT event, at ABVT sponsor tents on-site during events, and for such similar ABVT-related appearances as reasonably requested by the TOC.

5.8 PLAYER DUTIES

5.8.1 Contract Year

- 5.8.1.1 The contract year shall be defined as a twelve (12) month period commencing on the 1st October 2016 or any portion thereof in the event a player signs the player agreement after 1st October 2016 in the applicable contract year.

5.8.2 ABVT Player Agreement

- 5.8.2.1 This Player Handbook shall be subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in the ABVT Player Agreement. To the extent of any conflict between this Player Handbook and the ABVT Player Agreement, the ABVT Player Agreement shall prevail.

6 COMPETING EVENTS

6.1 NON-SANCTIONED EVENT PARTICIPATION

6.1.1 Players may face sanctions if competing in a non-sanctioned event. Permission is expressly granted for players wishing to participate in:

- VA sanctioned beach volleyball competitions and events
- VA-sanctioned SSO beach volleyball competitions and events
- An event delivered by a SSO Sanctioned private promoter
- Non-conflicting FIVB Sanctioned events.

6.2 DISPENSATION TO COMPETE IN AN ABVT EVENT

6.2.1 If a player wishes to participate and compete in any non-ABVT Event, a player has the right to seek dispensation to play in such event. To receive dispensation, a player must notify the TOC in writing prior to nomination for and acceptance into such event. The TOC shall notify a player of its decision regarding authorisation within ten working (10) days of receipt of their written request. Such authorisation will not be unreasonably withheld.

6.3 CODE OF CONDUCT

6.3.1 All athletes competing in the ABVT are bound by the VA Athletes Code of Conduct and when involved in officiating, the VA Officials Code of Conduct. Players shall report to ABVT Events at such times and places as reasonably designated by the ROC and conduct themselves according to the highest standards of honesty, ethics, fair play and good sportsmanship. Players also agree to abstain from any behaviour or conduct that the ROC determines in its reasonable, good faith business judgment to be detrimental to the best interests of the sport of beach volleyball and/or the ABVT including, but not limited to, publicly expressing or publishing remarks which are, in the reasonable opinion of the ROC, derogatory or contrary to the best interests of the ABVT, its officers, directors, players/members, sponsors and/or promoters.

6.4 PLAYERS' GRANT OF RIGHT

6.4.1 Players hereby grant, assign, and license for the Term of the ABVT Agreement to VA or any of their designated entity(ies) (e.g., sponsors and media partners), the non-exclusive right to use, display or otherwise exploit player's name and/or likeness, including his/her photograph, digital image, motion picture, video, voice, facsimile signature or biographical information ("Licensed Player Identity") in connection with ABVT media and ABVT sponsorships, promotions and/or endorsements (including commercial tie-ins). VA specifically acknowledge and agree that sponsors of the ABVT shall not have the right to utilise the Licensed Player Identity in such a way that the use of the Licensed Player Identity through media, sponsorships, promotions and/or endorsements (including commercial tie-ins) could be reasonably construed as an individual endorsement by a PLAYER of any product, service, or entity of such sponsor(s).

- 6.4.2 Players hereby grant, assign, and license, in perpetuity, VA or any VA designated entity(ies), the exclusive right to photograph, record, tape, display, publish, promote and broadcast (either live or recorded) Player's performance at any ABVT Event.
- 6.4.3 Players acknowledge that VA owns all right, title and interest in and to and uses in any way of the names, logos, marks and/or insignia of the ABVT. In this connection, players agree that he/she will not use his/her endorsement (which shall include player's name, signature, photograph, picture, likeness or any facsimile thereof), nor grant the use of his/her endorsement to any third party, for the purpose of endorsing any product or company, or entering into a sponsorship or licensing agreement that uses the name, logos, marks and/or insignias of the ABVT without the express written approval of the VA.
- 6.4.4 Players grant to VA or any VA designated entity(ies) all his/her media rights including, but not limited to, television, internet, home video, and film, for any ABVT Event, any ABVT-related appearance, and/or any practice at a ABVT Event (i.e., excluding private practices of players) in which player participates, and acknowledges that any such ABVT Event, any such ABVT-related appearance, and/or any such practice at an ABVT Event shall be the exclusive property of VA and that VA has the exclusive right to exploit such rights on its own behalf in perpetuity throughout the world. VA specifically acknowledges and agrees that sponsors of the ABVT or VA shall not have the right to utilise the media rights granted to VA and VA designated entities in such a way that the use of such media rights could be reasonably construed as an individual endorsement by player of any product, service, or entity of such sponsor(s).
- 6.4.5 Players grant to VA the right to capture, take, create or use player's picture or image (whether still, motion, video, digital or television), alone or together with others, for still photographs, digital images, motion pictures, television or home videos or other broadcast uses. VA may use such pictures or images, irrespective of who takes such pictures or images, in any manner it desires for publicity or promotional purposes for the VA throughout the world, or in conjunction with any uses as provided for herein. The rights to any such pictures taken by VA shall belong to VA in perpetuity. Further, players acknowledge and agree that VA shall own all rights and interests in the film, digital, television and video footage, as well as all still photography, produced or taken at, or in conjunction with, any ABVT Event, any ABVT-related appearance, and/or any practice at an ABVT Event. VA specifically acknowledge and agree that third party sponsors of the ABVT shall not have the right to utilise player's picture or image in such a way that the Licensed Player Identity could be reasonably construed as an individual endorsement by player of any product, service, or entity. In connection with the foregoing sentence, VA agrees to notify third party sponsors of such restriction on use of player's licensed player identity (it being acknowledged that inadvertent failure to notify such third party sponsor shall not be deemed a breach by VA hereunder but player shall have the right to pursue any and all available remedies directly against such sponsor).

6.4.6 Players will autograph such items as reasonably requested by VA. All items to be personalised and autographed will be supplied by VA and may be used by VA as business gifts, promotions or charitable auction items; provided, however, that VA may not sell any such personalised and autographed items for cash without the prior written approval of player.

7 REFERENCE TO ABVT POLICES & FORMS LIBRARY

All forms referenced in this Handbook can be found on the VA website, by contacting the VA office or the ABVT Event Director.

- Medical Report Form
- VA Weather Policy
- Players Code of Conduct
- Officials Code of Ethics
- Coaches Code of Ethics
- VA Anti-Doping Policy
- Athlete Profile & Agreement
- VA Member Protection Policy
- VA Privacy Policy
- VA Social Media Policy
- ABVT Sanctioning Guidelines
- ABVRS Overview